

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

ACC

10000/109/287
(VOL. 6)

FRENCH
FRONT
JUNE -

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

FRENCH ACTIVITIES & INCIDENTS, ITAL-FRENCH
FRONTIER
JUNE - AUG. 1946

99/287

6)

Ex Comm.

641.

1) Folios 637-640 for info. please.

See reference to S. MCM. 8/8

your visit at top of X 639. H.S. 9/8

2) Ref your note attached to X 643.

See X 633 for a full report on this meeting. I did not attend this in for you to see before as I knew that you had visited TENDRA since it was written, I presumed (wrongly I fear!) that you would know all about the incident.

3) See X 644 for info.

H.S. 9/8

653.

650. Please see folios 645-652 for info. 646-649 is a memorandum from Gen. Lombardi. (The Gen. hopes for the future. Are not very bright.) 645 is a press report.

S. MCM. 16/8

suppressed (worry I fear!)
that you would know all about the
incident.

3) See 4 644 for info.

H.S. 9/8

653

W.S. Please see folios 645-652 for info.
646-649 is a memorandum from Gen.
Lombardi. (The Gen's hopes for the future
Are not very bright.) 645 is a photo
report.

L. W.C.M. 16/8

4200

785017

Case #1177 620
in answer to memo. 579, 591, 601
Findings on this matter covered by
letter to July 46 to C. L. C. Picmonete
Police 627619

5th paragraph
may be
del & O.T. 1.

Ex Comm. - MC 623.
621-622 for info.
G. W. C. M. 19/7 MS. 2017

Ex Comm. 630
Julius 621-629 for information please
MC 24/7 see 626 G. W. C. M. 23/7 MS. 2417
FC should see 626

1

Ex Comm - ML 623.

620. Folios 621-622 for info.

19/7 MS 2017

Ex Comm

Folios 621-629 for information please

ML 247

EC should see 620 on below ML

23/7 MS 247

MS 247

634. MS 18

620. Folios 631-633 for info. please

2/8

4105

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

28 b14

in et fait retour le 8 juillet 46

Laureville

General 10/7

28 b17

410;

de Comm.

610 Jolios

b15 - b14

~~26~~ 27

for info

General 10/9 H.S. 11/7

10/12/7

PJB: Jolas 592-9 is translation of press report from CLO Penicote lhd info. Jolas is report from CLO. and situation Tenda & Braga. Any comments?

G. m/c m. 2/7.
m. 602

Suggest that any late picked to paper concerned will new de no good, but only lead to underlined backing; any apology to the paper will be much too late. Action is not urgent immediate is worse than useless.

ll. 317 P.R.O.

Ex Comm: 592-600 602-7-9 & m. 11 for info.

G. m/c m. 3/7. J.S. 317

604
French Representation to see Mr. 6/2 1-2.

1
Ex Comm: 606-9 5-605

Jolas 606-9 is a report by St. Kaled 606-7-9 are reports by Major Rannic in an incident in Tenda. The report

used than others.

Ex Comm: 593-600
ble. Talos 7-9 & m. 11 for info.

12.403

11.317 P.R.O.

G. McEwen 3/7. 10.317

604

11/4/72 1-7.

French Representative to see

1

605

Ex Comm: 606-9
Talos 7-4

is a report by Lt. Kaleb
5, 6, 7 are reports by Major Ronnie
in an incident in Tenda. The reports
are forwarded for info.

5/7 11.617

Support

605A

1

11.617

French Representative to see

French Representative

21 605(B)

4201

this file is sent to you for information please. M. 13 & 13 refer.

G. McEwen 11.617
Office of the Executive Commissioner

8/7

582

579

CSC Ex. Comm. file

Reference to memo 579 - this action is being handled by Industry and Utilities - no answer can be obtained at present time - as subject is being investigated.

agilek
U. S. Col. FA
Chief, SMR Office

581

Ex Comm.

- (1) Folio 588 is report from CIO Remonte on Ind. & Utils, 585, 583 are newspaper extracts for info.
- (2) m. 582 refers to folios 574-576.
- (3) Folio 573 for info.

Large m. 6/7 11/817

(590)

French Ref to see 11/817

591

Ind. & Utilities

Have you any further information on m. 582. Folio 573, 574 refer.

Y m/c reporter 1/2/55 12/17

Inde & Buge, 585, 582 are newspaper extracts,
for info.

(2) m. 582 refers to folios 574-576.

(3) Folio 573 for info.

Large m. C/7 MS 817

(590)

French Ref to see MS (817)
page 44 p. 1

581.

Ind. & Buge,

Have you any further information
on m. 582. Folio 573-574 kept.

Y m/c ref. 11/12/17

see 620
on above

Chief Commissioner.

Approved
Attended is submitted for your information
signature

Then the report Lt Kalkh (French) since to get Louie
to hold a meeting at Tendo with the General

& Louie worthy father it.

is 6/17 ✓

[Signature]

4101

563

CSC

What is the P.S. Office referred to on p. 56-9

Ex Comm.

CSC Ref. min 552. This refers to Nation Public Safety
agents. ⁵⁶⁴ ^{SSS 1/2/6}

Aut 12/16 H.S. 21/6

Ex Comm.

SSS-565

My young lady. Please see folio 554 ^{Aut 2/2/6}

1/25/6

CSC

578

Agood report? Please see and

Green Green & say that let Kalk ~~is~~
intended in the present Q.C. entirely

affirms his action in forbidden matters
proposed by Kalk. ~~Ref~~ Copy to Fr. Ref. 1/1

1/2/6

Aut 1/1/6

CAC

578

1. AG and Ref. 577 Pleas original
Lester Green reach way that Lt. Kalk
information ~~in the proposed~~ Q.C. entirely
approve his action in fabricating meetings
proposed by Kalk. ~~Ref~~ Cofy to Fr: Ref 1/1
done 1/1
1/1 2/5/6

578.

Piso V. Dine

from your throw any light on
folio 578-574? (Office of the Ex-Comm.)
1/7 4100

see minute

670

785017

542

to Comm

539-540-541

for info

14/6 MS. 15/6

~~554~~ 554

Chief Conclusion

Approved
Attached is submitted for your signature
information

P 540. Nonrecurrence incident

555

17/41 E.C. Do you wish to pass to Adl Court? Jus

556

C.C.

I recommend not passing it to Adl Court. Please not
Send whenever the original report comes.

17/41

557

F.C. From Dr. Bombassi - I believe.
Jus

P 540. Montecassino incident
SSS
17/16/17/16
E.C. Do you wish to pass to Ital Govt? JWS cc
17/11

C.C.
SSS
I recommended not passing it to Ital Govt. Please not
send wherever the original report came.

SSS 557 17/11/16
F.C.
From Dr. Bombassei - I believe.
JWS cc
20/11

SSS 558
Dr Bombassei break the refab ✓ JWS 20/16
oto by Lamm;
562-17/16/25/16
Folio no 500 - encls for info, please. Also refer to French
TPO in NONCEN/SIC 20/16 JWS 25/16.

Ex. 6. 541

Sir.

Any further action

in this or do you wish

to await reply from

Lo Milan?

[Signature]

No action

[Signature]

541

SUBJECT: Newspaper Reports on Tenda and Briga Situation

TO : French Representative, Allied Commission.

The attached translation of an article written by a Special Correspondent of the "Gazzetta d'Iyalia" and published on 24th May 1946 is forwarded for your information.

[Signature]

[Signature]

Brigadier

No action

NSC 11/16

548

SUBJECT: Newspaper Reports on Tonda and Briga Situation

TO : French Representative, Allied Commission.

The attached translation of an article written by a Special Correspondent of the "Gazzetta d'Iyallie" and published on 24th May 1946 is forwarded for your information.

Please return

13 June 1946.

Supp. Report of 1st and 2nd

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

4087

VPCAS

541

May the Ex. Com. please have your

views on the report opposite?

W. B. Burch 246

P.O. #

542

Have you any comments?

W. B. Burch

CA Section

22 June 1946

543

VPCAS

The incidents were not serious
and I suggest no work call for any
action by us.

W. B. Burch

25.6.46.

544

Office of Ex. Com.

My opinion: please see item 3. No action called for by this item.

W. B. Burch
CA Section

26 June

27/6

545

22 June 1946

CA Section

343

V.I. CAS.

The incidents were not serious
and I suggest no further
action by us.

25.6.46.

E. J. Page Colonel

544

Office of Ex. Com.

Ref. 441. Please see item 3. No action called for by this case.

Probationary
CA Section

26 June

8.1.116

241

Ref. Reports opposite and m. 31, 2, 3 & 4
for info.

26 June 26/6

4087

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A P G 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref. : 581/654/70

27 August 1946

SUBJECT: Situation at Tenda.

TO : G-5 Section,
AFHQ.

1. The attached memorandum issued by General Giacomo LIVERATI recently appointed Commissario Prefettorio of Tenda is forwarded for information and as a matter of interest.
2. In the memorandum the General expresses his views on a satisfactory solution to France and Italy of the Upper Roya Valley problem.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

G. McAlister
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner

Encls. as above.

ALLIED COMMISSION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO--TENDA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1. The Executive Commissioner, Headquarters
Allied Commission, A.P.O. 794, C.M.F.
PAC/CU/1.2.
8th August 1945.
(~~SECRET~~)
AUG 16 1945

SUBJECT :- Situation at BRIGA and TENDI.

1. Herewith a further memorandum received from General LOMBARDI. It is substantially the same as the one submitted a few days ago but with greater detail as far as facts are concerned and with a more elaborate conclusion.
2. General LOMBARDI has also given a copy of the memorandum to Lt. KALCK for onward transmission to higher French authority.
3. The General feels that France will be much better off in the long run if she adopts a conciliatory policy towards Italy and comes to a negotiated agreement on the lines proposed in his memorandum.
4. He also feels that it is in the interests of the Western Allies - and particularly of Great Britain - to ensure that Italy (as a reaction to a peace that the people feel is unjust and hard after their post 1943 efforts and incompatible with the spirit of the Atlantic Charter) does not swing away from Western Europe to become either sympathetic towards or actively collaborate with the rising power of Russia and her Eastern European satellite states.
5. The General is certain that the westward spread of Russian influence will continue and the issue will eventually be determined by war. In this event, he states, France is a dying country and will be of no more use than she was in the last war; Italy, however, is rising and becoming strong and, furthermore, by virtue of her strategic and valuable ally in the coming

Ref: 100/100/1.2

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5. The General is certain that the westward spread of Russian influence will continue and the issue will eventually be determined by war. In this event, he states, France is a dying country and will be of no more use than she was in the last war; Italy, however, is rising and becoming strong and, furthermore, by virtue of her strategic position in the Mediterranean, will be a valuable ally in the coming struggle.
6. The majority of people in the Boyc Valley have apparently recovered from the shock following the announcement of the Foreign Ministers on the subject of TANDA and BRIGA and, for no apparent reason, are very optimistically of the opinion that the decision will be reversed at the Peace Conference. There is a possibility that, if the decision is confirmed, the backward swing of the pendulum of public morale may be far enough to lead to some disorders and trouble at the moment, however, everything is very, very quiet indeed.
7. Attached hereto is a translation of a newspaper report regarding a

CONFIDENTIAL

651
ALLIED COMMISSION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO - TENDA

-----CONFIDENTIAL-----

CONFIDENTIAL

Date

(SECRET).

REPORT (Continued).

7. (Cont) -

service held at Mt. SACCARIELLO on Sunday last. On the same day, some truck loads of people arrived at TENDA from TORINO and district on an expedition organised by the Camera del Lavoro of TORINO. This was understood to be a return visit to that part by inhabitants of BRIGA and TENDA to TURIN on the previous Sunday for the purpose of attending a meeting of protest against the proposed cession of BRIGA and TENDA. The visit was regarded with some apprehension by the local Carabinieri who made arrangements to deal with any eventuality but the day passed without incident and the visitors left the valley at about 4 o'clock having, apparently, done nothing more than enjoy a day in the country.

8. Lt. KILCK reports that people from the VENTIMIGLIA area have been canvassing the population of TENDA to ascertain their reactions to the proposed "zona franca".

Lt. KILCK points out that this was a free customs area before the war, and the produce of TENDA and BRIGA exported to France without customs duty at that time included, amongst other strange things, bananas!

9. The railway tunnel connecting TENDA with LIXONE (which had been used for road traffic of all kinds until the road tunnel - which is higher up the mountain but 5 kilometres shorter - was recently re-opened after extensive repair work) has been closed. This has given rise to considerable discontent amongst the people engaged in the work of the very large

REPORT (Continued).

(SECRET).

7. (Cont) -

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8. Lt. KALCK reports that people from the VENTIMIGLIA area have been compassing the population of TENDI to ascertain their reactions to the proposed "zone franc".

Lt. KALCK points out that this was a free customs area before the war, and the produce of TENDI and BRICA exported to France without customs duty at that time included, amongst other strange things, bananas!

9. The railway tunnel connecting TENDI with LIGONS (which has been used for road traffic of all kinds until the road tunnel - which is higher up the mountain but 5 kilometres shorter - was recently re-opened after extensive repair work) has been closed. This has given rise to considerable discontent amongst the people engaged in the timber industry and road haulage, as many of the very large trucks and trailers used to carry wood from the valley can pass through the railway tunnel but cannot negotiate the hair-pin bends necessary to reach the road tunnel. The result is, that the recent large removal of timber from the valley has, of necessity, decreased to a comparative trickle.

No official reason has been given for closing the tunnel and many rumours are rife - the one given most credence is that Sopno, the engineer in charge of the repair work to the tunnels, has been bribed by the French with the object of preventing further wholesale removal of timber before the area passes to France. It will be remembered that Lt. KALCK was accused in the press some time ago of

CONFIDENTIAL

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ALLIED COMM SSION

(LIAISON)

-CUNEO- TENDA

-O-I-EOT-GARDNER-

To

Ref

REPORT (Continued).

9. (Cont) -

Date

(SECRET).

CONFIDENTIAL

bribing Sogno to slow up work on the road tunnel and Sogno visited the Lieutenant and offered to give him a letter declaring that the accusation was false.

The Carabinieri are rather perturbed as drivers and timber workers are threatening to take action; application has been made through CC.RR headquarters to the Genio Civile for the official reason for closing the tunnel.

WR/JBS.

Copy to:-

W. Ronnis
W. RONNIS,
Major..
A.C., Liaison Officer,
TENDA and BRIGA.

G.S.I., 3 District (Northern Detachment).
c/o 427 F.S.S.
C.M.F.

REPORT (Continued).

9. (Cont) -

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MR/JBS.

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G.S.I., 3 District (Northern Detachment),
c/o 427 F.S.S.
C.M.P.

S. Ronni
S. RONNI,
Major.,
A.C., Liaison Officer,
TENDA and BRIGA.

4003

TRANSLATED COPY. (APPENDIX "B"). Tenda, 5th August 1945.

SUBJECT :- Questions regarding the Commune of Tenda.

The important questions of interest regarding the Commune of Tenda, that have a regional importance, and that may have a repercussion of national and international importance, are as follows:-

1) High Power Stations.

These are all in the Communal territory, and owing to there being very few k/w (which are sufficient for rendering enough power for local and private use) are only of local economical importance in a very small way.

As you know, the power of the G.I.E.L.I. Company's high power station is used both in Italy and France. In Italy, it is used in the industrial plants of Liguria, for the Ligurian Electric Railways, and very little in Piemonte.

A concession of power was made to France - the power of one generator of 8,000 k/w of the SAN DALMAZZO High Power Station which goes to GENOVA. Of this remarkable quantity of power, France for some time past and is still only using a part - usually less than one half, as it is possible to control on the Watt registering apparatus of the High Power Station. Therefore, half of the power on French ~~utopied~~ is lost.

If the High Power Stations will eventually go to France it will provoke a crisis in the industries of Liguria Region, which are already in a bad state owing to the shortage of raw materials and war damages, - it would also be a menace for the Ligurian Railways, owing to the shortage of coal which has already affected the Italian Railways.

We can say, without any exaggeration, that 250,000 labourers would suffer, if the High Power Stations go to France.

Somebody suggested that France cannot immediately use all that great quantity of power, and so it could be sold to Italy for its industries and railways. But, this would make the Italian people very indignant, who would judge the fact of having to pay for the power of their plants very severely, especially when the industries are nearly falling owing to the consequences of the war.

On this matter, you can see that the way of an agreement would be to give a distribution of power that is sufficient to both the countries.

2) Pasturage.

The pasturage in the Communal territory of Tenda, is of about 16,000 acres. This area is let in patches to shepherds and cowmen, natives, and to people from other zones who bring ~~many~~ here about 10,000 cattle and sheep. Among the cowmen, there are some who hail from the vicinities of SALUZZO and SAVIGLIANO, and from other

tal plants of Liguria, for the Ligurian Electric Railways, and very little in Piemonte.

A concession of power was made to France - the power of one generator of 8,000 k/w of the SAN DALMAZZO High Power Station which goes to MANTONA. Of this remarkable quantity of power, France for some time past and is still only using a part - usually less than one half, as it is possible to control on the part registering apparatus of the High Power Station. Therefore, half of the power on French demand is lost.

If the High Power Stations will eventually go to France it will provoke a crisis in the industries of Liguria Region, which are already in a bad state owing to the shortage of raw materials and war damages, - it would also be a menace for the Ligurian Railways, owing to the shortage of coal which has already affected the Italian Railways.

We can say, without any exaggeration, that 350,000 labourers would suffer, if the High Power Stations do go to France.

Somebody suggested that France cannot immediately use all that great quantity of power, and so it could be sold to Italy for its industries and railways. But, this would make the Italian people very discontent, who would judge the fact of having to pay for the power of their plants very severely, especially when the industries are nearly falling owing to the consequences of the war.

On this matter, you can see that the way of an agreement would be to give a distribution of power that is sufficient to both the countries.

2) Pasturage. The pasturage in the Comunal territory of Tenda, is of about 16,800 acres. This area is let in patches to shepherds and cowmen, natives, and to people from other zones who bring ~~many~~ here about 10,000 cattle and sheep. Among the cowmen, there are some who hail from the vicinities of SALUZZO and SAVIGLIANO, and from other parts of the Province. Of the shepherds some are natives of whom some come from France. Nearly all of the herds of cattle (of which some total 100) are from Piemonte.

Grazing period is from the end of May until the end of September, and depends upon the quantity of grass of which this zone is so rich.

If this land will go to France, it will risk what they have been accustomed to having for hundreds of years, and it would repercussions on the economical situation of Piemonte owing to the crop rotation system which produces very little hay. Without this pasturage, cattle would be reduced at a loss for France, because all milk-food before being exported to France would be reduced, and probably cancelled, whilst Italy would much rather appreciate business concerns ~~using~~ the two countries.

to the pasture question, which may seem of a secondary importance, may become of regional ~~importance~~ pre-eminence, so as to touch the national economy and to have international repercussions.

3) Timber.

The area of forest of high-trunked trees, is of about 14,000 acres. This wood, some of which is soft and a smaller part of which is hard, is used for building and also by carpenters.

Some of these forests were regularly transected some years ago: some of the timber has been taken to Piemonte, but there is still quite a lot of it in the Communal territory owing to the break-up of roads which was done by the Germans.

The quantity still to be removed from the Tenda Communal area is, of about 880,000 cubic feet, whilst the quantity still to be removed from the Briga area is higher.

Since the opening of the tunnel, the daily cartage goes from about 3,500 to 4,200 cubic feet.

Local interests also represent regional interests on this matter, because of the terrible shortage of wood for construction use, and so all the difficulties in the reconstruction of war-damaged buildings.

If the forests were to be blocked by France for the time being, Italy will suffer a terrible loss because of the general impoverishing of the Alpine forests done by the Germans during the past years.

Connected to this, there is the question of the rope-railways of the zone, of a total length of about 35 Miles - all private property, and for that reason they cannot be requisitioned. If something will happen, the thing would have repercussions on everybody's life and on the Italian public opinion.

4) Inhabitants.

The population consists of:- Elements of definitely patriotic sentiments.
" " pro-French sentiments.
" " no tendency.

It is impossible to state the percentage on the proportion of the three tendencies because of the opinion not being static - even in a family it is possible to find all three tendencies.

Generally, we can consider the real Italians to be those who intend to leave the zone, who number 100 which means that there are over five hundred people. We do not know the exact figures for Briga, but we think that they are of about the same number. The other two tendencies represent Italian people who intend to perform illegal business, or who for reasons of having

5) Strategical situation (continued).

France wants to reach the water-shed line on the border with Italy, and if possible, to go further beyond this line on the mountain passes.

We can understand the idea regarding the Ge. Valley and the Stura Valley zone which is called the zone of the "Caccia Reali", but not the high Roya Valley question, because France has already got a very vast Alpine territory and the small zone in Italian hands can only be of small importance.

Someone says that France wants to defend herself from invasion from the Balkans and from the Soviets, that could go towards the west; but anyone even with a slight knowledge of strategy can understand that if a next war will be fought between the west and the east it will be much different from the old wars, and the Alps will not probably be taken into consideration even if forts will be built on the mountains. Take into consideration how the Maginot line did not help France in the north.

6) Conclusion.

Besides the question regarding the Comune of Tenda which may be the same for the Comune of Briga and which could have been considered in a much greater way, there are several others which make you understand the importance of the annexion to France of the High Roya Valley and which make you understand the national importance of the matter and the possibilities of an international repercussion.

This annexion could assume the importance of an apple of discord very grave to both countries, whilst it would be useful or much better, if an agreement could be made between the Latin countries that are joined by an historical tradition that cannot be broken in such a way, without reflecting.

The Italian intellectuals and the major part of the people would consider it a mistake of France, if she will annex the zone completely, because knowing the Italian Character of the zone that cannot be destroyed would be a reason of revenge.

What is the solution?

We can only think that the possible solution to the present situation is by making in the High Roya Valley, that means the land from the pre-war border to the water-shed of the Tenda Pass, a "Zona Franca": similar to the Aosta Valley autonomy and to the pre-war administration of the town of Fiume; this, would save the Italian Character of the zone and would guarantee an administrative and commercial independence that would satisfy Italy and France. The military problem could be resolved by destroying all the fortifications, also on the east side of the watershed.

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Regarding the High Power Stations, it should be possible to reach an agreement between Italy and France as to the use of power.

Pasturage and timber - We could have the same agreement that would be useful to both the countries and also to the natives.

France would benefit of the local labourers for work in her territory, and would benefit also by the temporary immigration that has already given her several advantages, on country work and on artisan's work, incrementing with clever specialists the French industrial activity.

A special joint-commission can provide to reach the agreement by special conventions to assist both Italy and France, and saving the interests of the natives and of the local administration.

4030

644
In this way we will surely see a good will of the two countries to become friends; that would represent an aantage to Western Europe in an uncertain situation that will raise with the keeping to the clauses of the Peace Treaty with Italy.

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

785017

8904

643
"La Nuova Stampa" (Ind).

Turin, 5th August 1946.

FOR BRIGA and TENDA. An austere meeting at Monte SACCARELLO,
Mondovì - 5th Aug 1946.

A meeting was held organised by the Italian Alpine Club (CAI), of fellows from the local sections of the CAI of Turin, Cuneo, Genoa, Savona and Imperia, numbering over 3,000 people a large part of whom were ex-alpine troops, ex-partisans, and people from the Argentina, Tanaro and Roya Valleys. These people met on Monte SACCARELLO where the new border will lie, if the Roya Valley will be given to France. The Sindaco of Briga, Commissario of Tenda, all Priests, Partisan leaders, ex-gerulce men, labourers and country people, were all present at the meeting.

Near the great statue of Christ, S.E. Roussel - Bishop of Ventimiglia, celebrated Mass, and then made a speech asking for a peace with justice.

On. FAZIO, Deputy for Cuneo, stated the definite indisputable Italian character of Tenda and Briga, proving how no historical, geographical, linguistic, ethnic, economical or military reason, may justify a cession to France of the zone. Colonel BERNARDINI, ex-Officer Commanding the 1st Alpine Regt, and Ingegnere RUFFI, held a speech - Ing. RUFFI brought a message from the Susa Valley.

The patriotic demonstration was much different from the normal Alpine meetings, and there were no songs or cheers, but intense ~~emotional~~ ^{combustion} and trembling hope.

At the end of the meeting a telegram was read, that the Committee for the Italian character of the zone representing all from the Roya Valley, had sent to Premier De Gasperi, who would soon be going to Paris.

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ALLIED COMMISSION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO - TENDA

L-O-L-C-O-L-A-H-GARDNER-R-A

1. See distribution below.

On 4th. August 1946.

2. PAC/CO/4.1.

AUG 1946

SUBJECT: Newspaper extract.

1. The following item was seen in "Il SUDARIN" (Liberal), Cuneo, of the 30th. July 1946:
"Local news. During the last few days, a remarkable number of Italian Citizens from other nearby places are appearing in the Communal Offices of Tenda and Briga to have their names included in the Census.

The thing could be wrongly interpreted by "propaganda on the other side of the Alps, therefore we state that no permits have been granted in this matter: both the Villages are Italian enough without the vote of imported Italians.

2. The Commissario at Tenda and the Vice-Questore both confirm that a number of applications have been received from persons who want to settle in the Valley but maintain that they are from people who, for political or economic reasons prefer to live under French rule, and that most of them are unpatriotic Italians who hope to make a profit from their Country's misfortunes by speculating in goods in short supply in France.

E. Rondier
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 Major,
 A.C., Liaison Officer,
 BRIGA and TENDA.

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WR/VB.

DISTRIBUTION:-

Executive Commissioner, HQ. A.C., A.P.O. S-794, CMF.
 G.S.I., 3 District (Northern Detachment) c/o 427 FSS., CMF.
 O.C., 115 P.S.S., CMF.

S. R.
 Major.
 A.C., Liaison Officer,
 BRIGA and TENDA.

lu

1087

July

(check file)

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

C.S.O.

Send to Naga
Ronnie & ask
for Jack about
fore 1. MS/7/8

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

581 ~~8~~ Translation 643

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the French Represent.

APO 394

No. 340

Rome, 3rd August 1946.

NOTE FOR BRIGADIER LUSH
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

AUG 1 1946

^{the} On 21st of July Mr. BRUSASCA, Secretary of State for Industry, made a violent speech at S. Dalmazzo di Tenda to 150 straggers of the Region.

On the same day, some agitators circulated in Briga and Tenda, offending the local population.

On 13th and 14th July Italian partisans caused damage to the Fort of CHABERTON and to the uplands of Moncenisio. In addition they have been trying to provoke new incidents, and for this reason the local French Authorities have taken safety precautions.

The French Government asks for your intervention with the Italian Government with the purpose to settle this agitation to which Mr. Brusasca has given an official character.

THE CAPTAIN MURON DE VILLEPOISSE
French Representative to the
Allied Commission

See 17-641

P.A. 17/8/46

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642

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the French Representative
APO 394

N° 340

Rome le 3 Août 1946

NOTE POUR LE BRIGADIER LUSH
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

Le 21 Juillet Monsieur BRUSASCA, Secrétaire d'Etat à l'Industrie, a prononcé à SAN DALMAZZO de TENDE, devant 150 personnes étrangères à la région, un violent discours. Dans la même journée des manifestants ont circulé en camions à BRIGUE et TENDE en injuriant les populations locales.

Les 13 et 24 Juillet des partisans italiens ont effectué des destructions au Fort de CHABERTON et au Plateau du MONT CENIS. Ils paraissent en outre chercher à créer des incidents dont l'éventualité a amené les autorités locales françaises à prendre des mesures de sécurité à la frontière.

Le Gouvernement Français demande votre intervention auprès du Gouvernement Italien en vue de mettre fin à une agitation à laquelle Mr. BRUSASCA a donné un caractère officiel.

Le Capitaine Héron, De Vil etfosse
Représentant Français à la Commission
Alliée
P.O. Le Capitaine LUQUET
Adjoint "Guerre"

1. 64

D. Bombasse. Espeak

Ms 5/8

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ALLIED COMMISSION
(LIAISON)

~~CUNEO - TENDA~~

~~L. O. LT. COL. A. H. GARDNER R. A.~~

To: Executive Commissioner, Headquarters,
Allied Commission., APO S-794., CMF.
Re: PAC/CU/2.

640
AUG 7 1946
Date: 4th. August 1946.

SUBJECT:- Memorandum prepared by the Commissario of Tenda.

1. Herewith, for information, copy of a memorandum prepared by Generale G. Lombardi in connection with certain matters in the Roya Valley.

W. Ronnie
W. Ronnie,
Major,
A.C., Liaison Officer,
TENDA and BRIGA.

WR/VB.

COPIES TO:- G.S.I., 3 District (Northern Detachment), c/o 427 FSS.,
O.C., 315 F.S.S., CMF.

4031

1.A. 12/6/46

See m-641

(H/COA M.)

Tenda, 30/7/46.

(TRANSLATED COPY)

SUBJECT:- Questions regarding the Comune of Tenda.

In the last days I have been interviewed by:
an Officer representing the Intelligence Service from San Remo,
a Br. General of the Allied Commission from Rome,
some American and British Journalists of the New York Herald Tribune
and of the Manchester Guardian, from Rome, Via Ludovisi;
on the important questions of life regarding the Comune of Tenda and
I have made a resumé of the situation:

1) HIGH POWER STATIONS.

I was asked what is the effect on Italy of the cession to France
of the High Power Stations that are near San Dalmazzo and near the
border.

On this matter I have insisted that:
both the high power stations are producing electricity that the CIELI Co.
gives to the Industries of Liguria Region, specially to Genova and
Savona and to the Electric Railways;

at the high power station of San Dalmazzo a dynamo of 8000 k/w is
producing electricity for France, sending power to Menton, but there is
a small request, that is a few hundred k/w, some days a maximum of 4000;
this means that about half of the power at the disposal of France is
not requested;

the possibility of France taking the zone would mean serious situation
for Industries in Liguria Region and for the Electric Railways with
terrible consequences to over 150000 labourers and thereby compelling
the use of coal on the Railways (that is very scarce);
on the other side France could not use this Electricity not having plants
or Industries for the purpose;

I was also told that France would then export Electricity to Italy
against payment for the amount requested by the Italian Industries.

On this matter I have insisted that:
a thing like that would make indignant the biggest part of the Italians,
and their difficulties would be added to ~~by~~ the necessity of buying from
France's Electricity to keep the Industries and Transport alive; do
not forget that both of these are severely damaged by this depreciated
war.

I have stated that the solution in the possibility of an agreement
between the two Countries regarding an equitable distribution of power
that is considered necessary by both of them.

2) Pasturage.

The Municipality of Tenda lets, at the moment, pasturage for an area
of 5350 ettari (13614 acres) which feeds about 10000 cattle. Leaseholders
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2) Pasturage.

The Municipality of Tenda lets, at the moment, pasturage for an area of 3350 ettari (13814 acres) which feeds about 10000 cattle. Leaseholders are shepherds and caummen, some natives and some from other places out of the Comune. Among these there are some that come from Saluzzo vicinity, some from Fossano vicinity, and from other places of the Province. Cattle herds of about one hundred each all come from the other side of the water-shed (Italy), sheep are from the place and a very few from France.

Grazing goes from the end of May to the end of September and depends on the quantity of grass of which this zone is so rich.

On this matter I have insisted that:

if this cattle should have to leave the zone because of the change of the

-2-

border before the usual time and go back there it comes from, it would provoke a terrible crisis for the Piemonte economical situation because this cattle would have to be fed with the winter stock of fodder. The question would assume a sort of a Regional Character of a certain importance.

3) TIMBER.

Very big forests of timber for building and for carpenters are the property of the Comune of Tenda. Big quantities of this timber were sold some years ago and brought across the water-ched but a big part of it is still awaiting for transport. This quantity is of about 880000 cubic feet of which 470 cubic feet are taken every day to the Cuneo zone.

On this matter I have insisted that:

to defend the interests of the Comune, and of the Companies which have bought the wood, and of the country, it should be necessary to allow time of about two or three months to give at least time to bring away the timber ready for removal; then in the event of France blocking the forests, Italy would lose a lot because high-stalked wood for rebuilding is very scarce;

attached to the timber question, there is the question of the rope-railways for removal of timber from up the mountains to the valleys, they are all private property so that they are all to be saved by taking them to pieces and taking them away. If France will not allow the removal of the rope-railways, probably there will be some sabotage to destroy these plants.

4) PEOPLE RESIDENT IN THE COMUNE OF TENDA.

On this matter I have insisted that:

among the population there are:

Elements of definitely patriotic sentiments,

" of pro-French sentiments,

" of apathetic sentiments of no tendency;

it is impossible to state any per cent on the proportion of the three tendencies because of the danger in which the single people would find themselves if any other tendency should win;

there are some reasons of a certain competition between the pro-Italians and the pro-French and for that reason there is the possibility of some trouble of a certain competitive importance that will be repressed with the Police and the local Carabinieri Detachment;

the inhabitants that intend to leave the zone, and of which we are preparing a list, will be taken away on lorries of the Prefettura of Cuneo and of the Italian War-Departement. With these lorries will be removed also luggage and furniture;

for difficulties of roads and the small quantities of lorries, the

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it will be necessary for the authorities to care for the families in which there are old people and babies and of which the men will be without work; in other words they will be in absolute need; it will be necessary for the employers of clerical staff to provide assistance to employees who find themselves in need; the Red Cross will be informed by the Municipality to assist with

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-3-

clothing, beds and food to relieve the people.

5) STRATEGICAL SITUATION.

France is trying to move the border to the water-shed of the Alps. It seems that France wants to defend herself that way from the probable invasion of the Balkans and from the Soviet movement towards the West.

On this matter I have stated that:

If a new war shall break out, east against the west, the war will surely be much different from the last wars and the mountains will not have any importance even if with forts; think at what happened to the Maginot Line in the north and to the forts of the Alps in the south.

CONCLUSION.

All these questions are of national and may become of international importance. It would be a mistake if France continues in the political programme of annexing the high Roya Valley.

As a solution I proposed to make a "Zona Franca" (free customs zone) of this Valley. This way both the Countries could reach an agreement.

Also the pro-French people would be in the best economical situation.

(G. Lombardi).

Alps in the south.

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(G. Lombardi).

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

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XXX 794

46
1 August 1946.

Chief Commissioner.

1. I visited TENDA on 27 July in company with Lt.Col. CRUXER, CLO TURIN, and Major RONNIE, LO TENDA and BEIGA.

2. TENDA is a very small village in the valley surrounded by the heights which form the area under dispute. It is approached up the valley through LIMONE and finally through a road tunnel 4 kilos long or a railway tunnel 9 kilos long which run through the range of hills which the French claim as strategically necessary to them. If the decision of the Council of Four is ratified, the southern end of the road tunnel will probably be in French territory and the northern end in Italian territory.

3. In TENDA I met General LOMBARDI, lately appointed Commissario Extraordinario for the area by the Prefect of CUNEO in place of the late Sindaco who had displayed lack of racial impartiality. General LOMBARDI struck me as a sensible stable official. He acknowledged the delicacy of his mission and stressed that his job was to maintain order before and during the transfer of territory - if it came about. He still hoped that the decision of the Council of Four would be modified. At the same time he was, he said, submitting to his Government a number of points on which decisions would be needed regarding the transfer of the territory. He quoted such problems as the move of the people who opted to quit their homes, the transfer of property and title, the maintenance of the power stations. He was hopeful that he could maintain order and was certain that there would be no sabotaging, e.g., of power stations. I left impressed by his good sense.

4. I then met Lt. KALK, the French Liaison Officer, who though he appeared offhand and lacking in official courtesy, gave the impression of having common sense and expressed a degree of impartiality. He repeated the views of General LOMBARDI that it was doubtful if there would be any acts of sabotage and said that the few demonstrations which did take place were inspired by a few agitators who worked not on the real residents but on recent immigrants from Calabria and the South and was strong in his condemnation of the press on both sides. "Without the journalists" he said, "we should have peace".

5. He seems to be working in close cooperation with Major RONNIE and the two get on well together.

6. Lt. KALK lives at TENDA. His duties do not extend outside this area and do not cover for instance the other disputed areas of MONTE CRISTO and the LITTLE ST. BERNARD.

7. Major RONNIE lives in TENDA five days a week and goes down to CUNEO at intervals. I think this is a sensible arrangement. There is literally

MS 9/8

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nothing for either officer to do in TEND and const residence there is apt to give one the wrong perspective.

8. I feel very strongly that both officers should be removed. There is no need for them in the area and their presence must embarrass the Comandante Extraordinario. Moreover, it is illogical to have two officers in TEND and BRIGA and none in either MONTE GENISIO, where I am told the situation is less stable, or in the LITTLE ST. BERNARD areas. It might be found advisable to send a British or US officer (not French) to these areas at the time of actual transfer to act as observers, but not before.

9. The actions of so-called intelligence officers and NOO's in this area is most embarrassing. Recently, Major ROMAN reports, a motor car flying the British flag arrived in TEND from the French side carrying two British officers who allegedly came from SAN REMO and were presumably members of the FSS in LIGURIA. They interrogated General LOMBARDI who had no option but to reply. Parts of the reports of the FSS General Security Report for period ending 15th July (compiled by a Sergeant of the FSS) are most misleading and baseless. I would advocate:

- (a) that Major ROMAN be empowered to inform the Prefect that General LOMBARDI need receive or reply to no one who is not sponsored by the Liaison Officer (Major ROMAN);
- (b) that FSS cease activities in this and the disputed areas or send responsible officers (not NOO's) to collaborate with the Liaison Officer in their investigations.

M. S. LUSH

MSL/XB.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

ALLIED COMMISSION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO - TENDA

TO: COL A H GARDNER

To: Executive Commissioner, HQ. A.C., 21st July 1946.

A.P.O. 794, C.M.F.

Rd PAC/CU/1.2.

SECRET AUG 1 1946

SUBJECT :- Public Meeting at San Dalmazzo di TENDA

1. At 10.30 hours today, Sunday 21st July 1946, in the open space before the railway station at San Dalmazzo di TENDA, mass was celebrated by the Priest of Briga in the presence of a crowd of several hundred people.
2. Addresses were afterwards given by On. BRUSASCA, Under Secretary of State for foreign affairs, Conte ALBERTO di BRIGA, and an Italian Captain who had been a partisan commander. The addresses were intended to make clear the Italianity of TENDA and BRIGA. Conte ALBERTO read to the meeting two telegrams - one to the "BIG FOUR" (copy translated attached hereto) and one to the Italian Government. There were no incidents.
3. Trucks containing men and women and carrying Italian flags were observed in TENDA after the meeting had closed, and the French Liaison Officer reports that one person in a truck called out "Death to France" when he was seen standing on the balcony of the hotel in which he lives. He also states that there was an argument between the Questore and pro-French elements at TENDA before the meeting at SAN DALMAZZO, during the course of which one CALLO, a leading member of the pro-French members of the population, was told that good order at TENDA during the day was his responsibility. The L.O. has been unable to obtain confirmation of this statement; furthermore, he did not see the Questore in the valley during the day and is assured by the Carabinieri that he was not present. It may well be that further casual enquiry will elicit the fact that there was an argument between some members of one of the police organisations and the philo-French. The French L.O. also contends that there were not more than four

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4. The French L.O. also contends that there were not more than four people from TENDA and BRIGA at the meeting and that it was composed mainly of men engaged on public works (who are strangers to the valley) and people imported from outside. The L.O. ~~apocryphally~~ observed the meeting (from a discreet distance) and the French L.O. did not attend. The L.O. however, does not pretend to know all the inhabitants of the valley by sight.
5. From information received after the meeting it is clear that it was intended that the L.O. was to have been invited to attend with the Italian officials and meet On. BRUSASCA officially. In view of the instructions received by C.L.O., Piemonte, from the Executive Commissioner regarding contacts with Italian politicians it is perhaps fortunate that a clerk at the Municipio failed to deliver the invitation.

see 1963H / before copy attached

ALLIED COMMISSION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO - TENDA

TO LT. COL. A. H. GARDNER, A

To:

Ref:

Date:

SECRET.

REPORT (Continued).

5. -ation and thereby saved the L.O. the embarrassment of making excuses for his non-appearance on the platform.
6. The On. BRUSASCA was the leading Christian Democrat elected to the Camera del Deputato for the Provinces of Alessandria and Cuneo. On Saturday he visited a Tuberculosis Sanatorium near LIMONE, and after the meeting at San DALLA220 on Sunday, he went to ~~BRIGIA~~ the hydro-electric station, and later went to BRIGIA where he was officially welcomed at the Municipio. There were no incidents at BRIGIA.
7. The On. BRUSASCA and the members of his party left TENDA in the direction of Cuneo at about 1700 hours.

HR/JBS.

Copies to:-

G.S.I., 3 District (Northern Detachment), c/o 487 FSS, C.M.P.
O.C., 318 F.S.S., C.M.P.

W. R. HONNIE
W. HONNIE,
Major.,
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WR/JBS.

W. Ronvie
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 Major..

A.C., Liaison Officer,
 TENDA and BRIGA.

Copies to:-

G.S.I., 3 District (Northern Detachment), c/o 427 FSS, C.MF
 O.C., 315 F.S.S., C.MF

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

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COPY a telegram read by Conte LIBERTO di BRIGA
to the meeting at San Dalmazzo on 21st July 1946.

The population of Tenda and Briga, and of the whole high
Roys Valley, who met in popular assembly, state their strong
will already shown by the plebiscite and complete participation
in the first democratic polls held on the 2nd day of June in the
time of the reconquered liberty, to remain Italian as it always
was; and reminds the representatives of the big Allied Powers
of its history thousands of years old - the dialect spoken by the
people - its economy that tightens it indissolubly to Piemonte
and Liguria to which ethnically and geographically it belongs;
affirms that any attempt to separate it from its natural background
would be surely its economical decline; and, inveterately
to be able to continue in the future as it was in the past - not
the state of discord between two near peoples but the place of useful
agreement and the meeting of two daughters of the same civilization.

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

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A L L I E D C O M M I S S I O N
(L I A I S O N)

~~C U N E O - T E N D A~~

~~L. O. LT. COL. A. H. GARDNER R. A.~~

To See distribution below. *ME*

Date 19th July 1946.

Re PAC/CU/4.1. *24/1*

SUBJECT :- Newspaper extracts. *JUL 22 1946*

1. The attached translated copies of extracts from the local newspaper "Il SUBALPINO" of Cuneo, dtd 16th July 1946, are hereby forwarded for information. *4073*

S. R. R.
W. RONNIE,

Major.,

A.C., Liaison Officer,
TENDA and BRIGA.

NR/JBS.

DISTRIBUTION:-

Executive Commissioner, HQ. A.C., A.P.O. 794, C.F.
G.S.I., 3 District (Northern Detachment) c/o 420 F.S.S.,
O.C., 315 F.S.S., C.F. *See M-430*

"I" SUBALPINO" (Liberal).

Cuneo, 16th July 1946:

Lies of the "NICE-MATIN" regarding Briga and Tenda.

The Carabinieri of the municipality of Tenda and Briga, who, are not 300 strong as stated in the "NICE-MATIN", but very few, are doing their utmost to explain the stupid incidents that agents are provoking to make understood that, in the high Roya Valley there are two political tendencies.

The manoeuvres are very artless when you think that a few days ago, somebody threw concentrated ammonia in the cinema of Tenda, to make believe that somebody was using tear gases and organising some terroristic manifestation by throwing pellets.

These episodes are very much used by the propagandists on the other side of the Alps, naturally masking them "ad usum delphini". In the contested villages, somebody asks why for so many years, France has never had any revenge of this type. But, some time ago, there were not the high power stations "punctum dolens" - these are the things that are a part of the contestation which George Bidault wants.

We have been ensured that no important incidents have ever happened in the zone, but the truth is, that the population not ill-treated as stated by the "NICE-MATIN", but well treated like all the communes in the mountains that have suffered for the war and reprisals, have received an extra ration of bread that others have never received.

This is to contradict the voice of the lying newspaper of NICE, that said that there was a new border at LIMONE HEMONTE to cut off the arrival of food for the people of BRIGA and TENDA.

"II BALFINO" (Liberal).

Genoa. 16th July 1946.

The high power stations. A letter from Engineer RUFFI to an Electrical Company.

Engineer RUFFI Aldo, wrote from Turin to Engineer MULLER Rodolfo, a director of the "Compagnia Imprese Elettriche Liguri", GENOVA, because he is still fighting for the Italian sentiments of Roya Valley where a brother of his who was killed in the European War, is buried:-

"Dear Muller,

Things are looking black, and I am writing to you because I want you to speed up your reply to my letter of the 5th, which I hope you received. I want to know what you have done to defend our question and if you have the possibility of writing on the GENOVA newspapers explaining the possibility of unemployment - that is if we shall lose the high power stations in the event of us being cheated. Today, Major COISSON returning from Rome, gave me that good news that you had left for PARIS to defend once more the justice of our question and to save the interests (in danger) for the dispute of the Roya Valley.

We are fighting at loggerheads and the battle is bitter. We understand that the pro-French under the direction of the small Lieutenant of TENDA have prepared a petition to send to the Big Four, hoping to change their opinion after the manifestation of TENDA, BRIGA, and SAN DALMAZZO, when the Commission came.

When you return from PARIS you will find this letter, and please reply. Anyhow, I still hope that if we do have to fight, your help will be useful because the French do not care for the population like they do for the high power stations.

I am sure you will fight like you did, when these Gentlemen came, and we discovered they were cheats!"

ALIED COMM SSION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO - TENDA

COLL COL A H GARDNER R A

To Executive Commissioner, HQ. A.C., 19th July 1946:

Re PAC/CU/1.2. APO. 794, CWF.

SUBJECT :- Situation at TENDA and BRIGA.

~~SECRET~~

1. With reference to a paragraph referring to TENDA and BRIGA in the 315 F.S.S. General Security Report for the period ending 15th July 1946, which reads as follows, "A most reliable informant states that plans are being made to embarrass the eventual French occupation of the area. So far responsible citizens are advocating moderation, but at the same time a secret organisation is definitely being formed for this purpose. A plan is being formed to sabotage the electrical plants in the area, rather than let them fall in the hands of the French", it is a fact that similar rumours had come to the notice of responsible Italian authorities and local partisan groups have been addressed by the Vice-Questore of Cuneo (who lives and has his office at SAN DALMAZZO di TENDA) and General LOMBARDI, the new Commissario at TENDA.

2. There is no evidence whatsoever to support these rumours, and in addition to appealing for calm and discipline the partisans have had pointed out to them (amongst other things) one very important fact, i.e., that in the event of French occupation it will take about a year at least for sufficient high tension cables, etc., to be erected to divert any morepower from the hydro-electric plants to FRANCE, and any action in the way of sabotage would merely rob PISMONTI and LIGURIA of their facilities and cause serious disorganisation and unemployment to Italians in those areas.

3. Another paragraph refers to wall-writing at BRIGA and TENDA, and states "several of the more pro-French propagandists have disappeared from circulation". This presumably refers to the arrest at TENDA of four men for writing slogans on the walls at night: three of

fourth man two days

SUBJECT :- Situation at TENDA and BRIGA.

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2. There is no evidence whatsoever to support these rumours, and in addition to appealing for calm and discipline the partisans have had pointed out to them (amongst other things) one very important fact, i.e., that in the event of French occupation it will take about a year at least for sufficient high tension cables, etc, to be erected to divert any more power from the hydro-electric plants to FRANCE, and any action in the way of sabotage would merely rob PIEMONTE and LIGURIA of their facilities and cause serious disorganisation and unemployment to Italians in those areas.
3. Another paragraph refers to well-writting at BRIGA and TENDA, and states "several of the more pro-French propagandists have disappeared from circulation". This presumably refers to the arrest at TENDA of four men for writing slogans on the walls at night: three of them were released on the following day and the fourth man two days later. The facts of this case were fully reported by the L.O. to F.S.S. and G.S.I. 3 District.
4. Another paragraph states "It is also proposed to establish a road block at LIMONE in order to prevent any supplies from ITALY reaching BRIGA and TENDA when the latter become French territory." One of the reasons for the appointment of General LOMBARDI to his present position was to have a capable man on the spot to deal with problems arising before and at the time of the take-over by the French, and he is particularly anxious to keep ~~connections~~ open, arrange for the completion of contracts etc., and watch the welfare ~~of the~~ and economic - of the Italian people. There is a road block ~~working now~~

(upon it)

See in 630

See in 630

ALIIED COMM'SSION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO - TENDA

L O LT COL A H GARDNER R A

To

Date

Re

REPORT (Continued).

at LIMONE to prevent black market operations and the entry of speculators, politically undesirable people, etc.

W. Rowe
W. ROWE,

Major.,

A.C., Liaison Officer,
TENDA and BRIGA.

WR/JBS.

Copies to:-

G.S.I., 3 District (Northern Detachment) c/o 427 F.S.S., CHF.
O.C., 315 F.S.S., CHF.

4071

581 ~~at~~
CONFIDENTIAL ~~SECRET~~

Copy of telephoned SITUATION REPORT.

- 19th July 1946 -

JUL 22 1946

On. BRUSASCA, an Under Secretary of State for foreign affairs is making a tour of inspection in the valley, today.

The communes are accepting registrations of people who want to leave the zone in the event of French occupation. So far, 59 families have registered at BRIGA, and 100 people at San DALMAZZO. The figure for TENDA is not yet known.

A road block has been posted as from 18.7.46 at the LIMONE end of the road and rail tunnels for the purpose of preventing black market activities and the entry of undesirable persons, etc.

W. Ronner
W. RONNER,

Major.,

A.C., Liaison Officer,
TENDA and BRIGA.

WR/JBS.
19th July 1946.

DISTRIBUTION:-

Executive Commissioner, HQ. A.C., A.P.O. 794, CNF.
G.S.I., 3 District (Northern Detachment),
c/o 427 F.S.S., CNF.
O.C., 315 F.S.S., CNF.

See to 630

4020

(1/10/46)

622
501
ALLIED COMM SSION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO - TENDA

TO COL A H GARDNER

Executive Commissioner, HQ. A.C., C.M.F. Due 16th July 1945.

PAC/CU/1.2.

SECRET

JUL 19 1945

SUBJECT :- Situation at TENDA and BRICA.

1. Generale LOMBARDI Giacomo, who has been appointed Commissario Prefettizio del Comune at TENDA in the place of the late Sindaco, Signore DURERO, (see previous reports), has stated that he is interested in the "moral and economic protection" of the valley generally and particularly (in the event of occupation by the French) in:-

- (a) the evacuation of state employees,
 - (b) the completion of contracts regarding timber already cut and awaiting removal,
 - (c) the interests of Italians wounded in the war,
 - (d) the gradual changeover from Italian to French police (in order not to leave the valley without an organised body to maintain law and order);
 - (e) the necessity to guarantee the retention of property rights in houses, shops and other buildings and fixed assets, particularly with regard to people who will leave the zone,
 - (f) the protection against reprisals of people who have been strongly and openly pro-Italian.
2. The Generale points out that time will be needed to effect changes, and hopes that any decision arrived at during the Peace Conference will allow for this aspect of the situation.

3. There is a feeling amongst the owners of the teleferiche that they would rather destroy their systems than leave them without the benefit of property in the things they

JUL 19 1946

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

SUBJECT :- Situation at TENDA and BRIGA.

1. Generale LOMBARDI Giacomo, who has been appointed Commissario Prefettorio del Comune at TENDA in the place of the late Sindaco, Signore LUKERO, (see previous reports), has stated that he is interested in the "moral and economic protection" of the valley generally and particularly (in the event of occupation by the French) in:-

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- (f) the protection against reprisals of people who have been strongly and openly pro-Italian.

2. The Generale points out that time will be needed to effect changes, and hopes that any decision arrived at during the Peace Conference will allow for this aspect of the situation.

3. There is a feeling amongst the owners of the teleferiche that they would rather destroy their systems than leave them without guarantees with regard to their right of property in the things they have constructed and worked.

4. The Generale has spoken to Lieut. KILCK, the French Liaison Officer, on these matters, and Lieut. KILCK has expressed his intention of going to Paris at the end of the month to bring them to the notice of the responsible French authorities.

5. With regard to paragraph 1(b) in Weekly Intelligence Summary No. 9, dated 5th July 1946, issued by G.S.I., 3 District, I have no evidence to support the statement that the partisans are engaged in reorganising with a view, (when the French arrive,) to the recurrence of last year's activity.

621
ALLIED COMM SSION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO - TENDA

TO: COL A H GARDNER R A

To
Ref

Date

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

REPORT (Continued).

5. (Cont). Gen. LOMBARDI has addressed the partisans of TENDA (and intends to do the same at BRIGA) urging calm and quiet and discipline.
6. I have received a strong impression from my contacts with the Prefect, the Questore, the Major of CC.RR, and other responsible Italian authorities, that all are doing their best to maintain order and quiet in the valley during this difficult interim period, and to avoid any troubles or disorder now or in the event of French occupation.
7. As A.C., Piemonte Region has closed down, I am sending my situation reports direct to HQ. A.C., with the usual copies to G.S.I., 3 Dist., and 315 F.S.S. As long as there is an A.C. Officer in Turin, I will continue to telephone a daily situation report in order that anything important can be passed immediately by signal or telephone to Rome. I will adhere to this procedure until I receive instructions from Headquarters.

WR/JBS.

Copies to:-

S. L...
Major.
A.C., Liaison Officer,
TENDA and BRIGA.

REPORT (Continued).

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WR/JBS.

Copies to:-

C.L.O., A.C., Piemonte Liaison Group.
G.S.I., 3 District.
O.C., 315 F.S.S.

S. Romis
S. ROMIS,
Major.,
A.C., Liaison Officer,
TENDA and BRIGA.

406

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

581 88

619

Tel: 489061
Ext: 31.

LAL/ea

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
Industry and Utilities Branch

~~619~~

16 July 1946

OTB/AG/PWU

SUBJECT: Dispute Regarding Public Works

TO : Chief Liaison Officer, A.C.
Piemonte Region
Liaison Group

1. Reference your letter 28 June, file PR/ED/50.
2. This Headquarters has examined projects M-120.9 and M-120.8 under which this work was authorized. These are archived in the files of Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission as M-2232 and M-2231, respectively.
3. Neither the files of the Sub-Commission nor the above projects make reference to any verbal agreement between the contractors, the Head of the Genio Civile, or Lt. Holzer.
4. It has not been possible to make a check of the old Piemonte Public Works and Utilities files due to the fact that practically all of them are reported to have been destroyed by fire.
5. We have discussed the matter with the Ministry of Public Works and they have offered to ask the Genio Civile in charge of the area for a report, if your Headquarters so desires.
6. It appears to us that this is purely a matter between the Railways and the contractor, and he should secure a letter from the Chief of the Genio Civile outlining the agreement in the event that he is faced with some future litigation as a result of the Italian State Railways attempting to enforce collection of their claim.
7. Since there is no documentary evidence available to Allied Commission of the arrangement sanctioned by Lt. Holzer, we must either accept the statements of the Genio Civile and the contractor, or contact Lt. Holzer in America, for verification.

4001

for 13 R

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8. One question to be determined is whether Lt. Holzer, in his capacity as a Piemonte A.M.G. officer, could actually sanction the agreement. This is the only action that in any way involves Allied Commission or A.M.G. in the transaction.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

Louis W. Laumelin
LOUIS W. LAUMELIN
Major, C.E.
Acting Deputy Director

cc: Executive Commissioner, A.C.
File 581/AD

581 46

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

616

8 July 1946

REF: PR/CLO/50

SUBJECT: Situation at Briga and Tenda.

TO: Office of Executive Commissioner, HQ ALADM, APO 734

The week-end 6/7th July at Tenda and Briga has passed off quietly and the situation remains peaceful.

Saturday afternoon at Cuneo, the Provincial capital, was proclaimed a period of mourning for the loss of Tenda and Briga. All shops were closed and processions of partigiani etc. organised. Speeches were made by the Sindaco and others and a resolution passed for transmission to the Italian Government protesting against the proposed cession of the Communes to France. The demonstration was quite orderly and no incidents disturbed the day.

I attach for information translation of a memorandum received from the Liaison Officer of the Carabinieri at Tenda. This officer has been posted to Tenda which is normally commanded by an M.C.O., because the Carabinieri Command thought it desirable that there should be somebody there of Officer status who could be contacted if necessary by Major Ronnie and Lieut. Kalk. Hence the term Italian Liaison Officer.

Sum - 617

P.G. Glick

P.G. GLICK,
Lt. Colonel, CL,
Chief Liaison Officer.

PA 13 17

(1/2000 m.)

TRANSLATED COPY.

615

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DI ALESSANDRIA
TENDA DETACHMENT.

PRO MEMORIA No. 10.

Tenda 2nd July 1946.

SUBJECT :- Situation of Italian Citizens of Italian sentiments
in the Roya Valley.

It is a few days since the Italian citizens of Italian sentiments, who would leave the Roya Valley if this zone will pass under French ruling, are calling for assistance at our Carabinieri Detachments of Briga, Tenda, and San Dalmazzo and at the Questura Border Office.

These people want to remain Italians and do not intend to pass under France because they are afraid to be persecuted by the pro-French people of the zone.

Among the Italian citizens, there are many who, loving the country, have done a pro-Italian activity - these people are much more afraid of persecutions and they expect seizure of properties, afraid of being dismissed from jobs, and of being cut off from any activity.

Poor people, that cannot leave the zone make sad the situation and are applying for assistance from Italian authorities and are waiting measures.

I have notified the Italian authorities and will let you know any further news.

(Giuseppe RAGO) Italian Liaison Officer.

4064

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

3 July 1946

REFERENCE: PR/CLO/50

SUBJECT: TENDA & BRIGA.

JUL 5 1946

TO: Executive Commissioner, HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794.

1. I forward herewith copies of reports received from Major Rommie at Tenda with regard to the arrest of five young men for writing pro-French wall slogans.

2. The arrests, under the circumstances, although possibly legal, appear to have been in these days of slogans writing rather unnecessary. It may be that the Questore is quite right when he states that he regards this as an incident which might have provoked a breach of the peace and that he is determined to prevent such breaches of the peace.

3. The incident, however, is not of great importance and I merely forward the report for information.

4. Similarly, I am forwarding a copy of Lieut. Falok's letter to Major Rommie as indicative of this young officer's naturally pro-French reaction to the matter.

5. Lieut. Falok is working in a very co-operative way with Major Rommie and I have nothing against him if he would confine his activities to official liaison duties and not 'liaise' too closely with the civilian population, or that part which is known to be pro-French.

F.C. Green
F.C. GREEN,
Lt. Colonel, CL,
C.I.O.

2. The arrests, under the circumstances, although possibly legal, appear to have been in these days of slogan writing rather unnecessary. It may be that the Questore is quite right when he states that he regards this as an incident which might have provoked a breach of the peace and that he is determined to prevent such breaches of the peace.

3. The incident, however, is not of great importance and I merely forward the report for information.

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5. Lieut. Kalcik is working in a very co-operative way with Major Romnie and I have nothing against him if he would confine his activities to official liaison duties and not 'liaise' too closely with the civilian population, or that part which is known to be pro-French.

F.C. Green

F.C. GREEN,
Lt. Colonel, CL,
C.I.O.

*See M.
14.3.24*

4003

612

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SITUATION REPORT - 1st July 1946

At 2 a.m. 5 men were discovered writing pro-French slogans on walls in the village.

They were soon taken off and were arrested.

Slogans were "Vive France", "Vive De Gaulle", "Away with the strangers", etc.

Some American journalists were in the town taking photographs yesterday.

Nothing else to report.

EB/JIS.

1st July 1946.

DISTRIBUTION:-

C.I.O., A.F., Piemonte Liaison Group.
O.S.I., 3 District.
O.C., 315 P.S.S.

W. Lane
Major.

A.O., Liaison Officer,
THSDA and 315 P.S.S.

Allegations were "Vina France", "Vina Picoulet", "Vina
with the strangers", etc.

Some American journalists were in the town taking
photographs yesterday.

Nothing else to report.

W.S./JPS.

1st July 1945.

DISTRIBUTION:

W. Lane

Major.

Lt. Col. Liaison Officer,
CINCPAC and CINCPAC.

C.L.O., L.C., Piemonte Liaison Group.
G.S.I., 3 District.
G.C., 315 P.S.S.

611

CONFIDENTIAL

SITUATION REPORT - and summary

The Gestapo visited Tenda yesterday afternoon, and conferred with the Vice-Consul, and the U.S. Lieutenant of Tenda and Borgo and Heligoland regarding the arrest of the 5 men for mail writing.

At 3 P.M. they all came to see me to assure me that the action taken was legal and that they intend to take steps against anyone - pro-French or pro-Italian - who engages in any activity likely to provoke an incident, and they are taking all steps to avoid any opportunity for the French Press to charge them with discrimination.

4 of 5 are liberated at 11.00 P.M. - other one sent to court.

SR/MS.

End July 1948.

DISSEMINATION:-

W. R. R.
W. R. R.

Major,
A.C., Liaison Officer,
Tenda and Helig.

C.O., 1.0., Piemonte Liaison Group.
C.O., 3 District.
C.O., 315 F.S.S.

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4 of 5 are liberated at 11.00 p.m. - other one sent to court.

ENDS.
END JULY 1946.

DISTRIBUTION:-

W. R. R. R.
Major,
L.C., Liaison Officer,
THIRD ARMY AREA.

C.L.O., L.C., Elements Liaison Group.
S.S.I., 3 District.
O.D., 215 F.S.S.

ALLIED COMM SSION

(LIAISON)

~~CUNEO - TENDA~~

~~COL. A. H. GARDNER~~

To: C.L.O., A.G., Piemonte Liaison Group. Date: 2nd July 1948:

Re: PAC/CS/3.1.

SUBJECT: Arrests at Tenda.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 1) Reference attached report, received from Lt. SALICK on 2nd July '48, the facts of the arrests referred to therein, and the subsequent visit to Tenda of the Questore of Innes have been brought to the notice of the C.L.O. in daily situation reports.
- 2) It is true that there are a few pro-Italian slogans written on the walls at Tenda. A copy of "the statement of identity of the Valle Boys signed by the two Sindacos" was personally handed to the C.L.O. in Turin by Officer reporting.
- 3) During the visit of the Questore yesterday, he told us that the arrested men had signed a declaration admitting their offence and stating that the Carabinieri had acted properly in the execution of their duty.
- 4) I cannot confirm or deny the statement that the declaration was obtained by force, and have made no enquiry on this point.
- 5) The Questore made a statement that the arrests were legal and were justified in the special circumstances in order to avoid provoking an incident on the part of pro-Italians.
- 6) No mention was made of the provocation to pro-French at Tenda.
- 7) Lt. SALICK, stated that he had been approached by pro-French elements in Tenda, who stated their intention of holding a demonstration this

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT : Arrests at Tenda.

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

- 1) Reference attached report, received from Lt. KILICK on 2nd July '46, the facts of the arrests referred to therein, and the subsequent visit to Tenda of the Quastore of Ganes have been brought to the notice of the C.L.O. in daily attention reports.
- 2) It is true that there are a few pro-Italian slogans written on the walls at ~~Tenda~~ ^{Enge}. A copy of "the statement of identity of the Felle Roys signed by the two Sindaco" was personally handed to the C.L.O. in Turin by Officer reporting.
- 3) During the visit of the Quastore yesterday, he told me that the arrested men had signed a declaration admitting their offence and stating that the Carabinieri had acted properly in the execution of their duty.
- 4) I cannot confirm or deny the statement that the declaration was obtained by force, and have made no enquiry on this point.
- 5) The Quastore made a statement that the arrests were legal and were justified in the special circumstances in order to avoid provoking an incident on the part of pro-Italians.
- 6) No mention was made of the prosecution to pro-French at Briga.
- 7) Lt. KILICK, stated that he had been approached by pro-French elements in Tenda, who stated their intention of holding a demonstration this evening; he advised them not to do so.
- 8) A copy of a G.C.R.R. report and statements made by the accused have been received from the Lieutenant of Carabinieri; these are in the process of translation and will be forwarded as soon as they are completed.

W. R. R. R.
W. R. R. R., 1000
Major,
A.C., Liaison Officer.

RR/113.

Copies to:- G.S.I. 3 District.
O.C., 215 F.S.S.

(COPY.).

TRANSLATION.

REPORT

FROM : Lieutenant MAURICE French L.O. Tenda.

TO : Major. RUBIN, ALLI & COMMISSIONER LIAISON OFFICER, CUNEO TRABA.

Subject : Arrestation made by Carabinieri on 30th June 1968.

The purpose of this note is not to protest against arrestations made by the Carabinieri, but only to give my point of view and my personal feeling.

We, all agreed, to advise the population of Tenda and Briga to keep calm and dignity with a view to avoid unnecessary incidents. To the Italian Lieutenant of the Carabinieri who came to see me a few times I declared that I would do my very possible to help keeping quietness as far as my advice would be listened to. I care to stress once more on the fact that as being only an observer and L.O. I should disobey my Government's orders if I should interfere as an executive in the local administration of Tenda and Briga.

The five young men of Tenda arrested on the 30th June, for having written on walls "Vive la France", obeyed their own feeling to which nothing worse may be reproached but enthusiasm and youth. At the same moment special correspondents of Italian Press reports that they have verified a general gloom and tears in all peoples eyes. Is it tears, it is true they can be interpreted most variously. If they are "sorrow tears" the French vocabulary contains one expression which says "pleurer de joie".

On the other hand, to remain impartial, it would have been necessary to arrest people responsible of pro-Italian slogans at Briga; then, to rub out statement of Italianity of the Falls Roya signed by the two Sindacats (not elected but representing the Prefect).

The Lieutenant of the Carabinieri came to my office on the 1st of July at 3 p.m. and informed me that four of the young men would be released on the same day. As to the fifth one, Joseph VASSALLO, he would remain at the disposal of Italian authorities of Borgo San Dalmazzo which would decide upon him. I didn't reply anything, on the same morning. I had expressed the wish to see these young men released as soon

and my personal feeling.

We, all agreed, to advise the population of Tenda and Brigade to keep calm and dignify with a view to avoid unnecessary incidents. To the Italian Lieutenant of the Carabinieri who came to see me a few times I declared that I would do my very possible to help keeping quietness as far as my advice would be listened to. I care to stress once more on the fact that as being only an observer and L.O. I should disobey my Government's orders if I should interfere as an executive in the local administration of Tenda and Brigade.

The five young men of Tenda arrested on the 30th June, for having written on walls "Vive la France", obeyed their own feeling to which nothing ~~error~~ may be reproached but enthusiasm and youth. At the same moment special correspondents of Italian Press report that they have verified a general bloom and tears in all peoples eyes. Is to tears, it is true they can be interpreted most curiously. If they are "sorrow tears" the French vocabulary contains one expression which says "pleurer de joie".

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The Lieutenant of the Carabinieri came to my office on the 1st of July at 9 p.m. and informed me that four of the young men would be released on the same day. As to the fifth one, Joseph VASSALLO, he would remain at the disposal of Italian authorities of Borgo San Dalmazzo which would decide upon him. I didn't reply anything, on the same morning, I had expressed the wish to see these young men released as soon as possible.

I am just informed that the four young men have been released after having compelled to sign a document stating that they had not been ill-treated. These methods are worthy of the Gestapo; this is all what I should say. I am absolutely certain that these people and more especially J. VASSALLO, have been molested by the Carabinieri.

(COPY.).

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If Italian authorities believed to be to arrest people under such childish and insidious pretenses, I think that the purpose pursued by them doesn't justify such means and methods.

We must not forget that the Italian law which Italian authorities seem to pleased to talk about, is nothing but the Fascist law. On the other hand, between a systematic application of the "written law" and "anarchy", there is the right of peoples to dispose of themselves, the liberty of speaking, the liberty of writing, the liberating of thinking.

(Signed)

Lieut. KALCA.

Copy sent to Commandant de Villeforee,
French Representative,
Allied Commission,
ROME.

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

785017

(Signed)

Lieut. KALOU.

Copy sent to Commandant de Villeforce,
French Representative,
Allied Commission,
ROME.

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(COPY).

COMMANDEMENT DES FRANÇAIS EN ITALIE

LIASON AERIE DE LA
COMMISSION ALLEE

SAISON 4 CHASSE

No 025 10.

THOR, 10 2 juillet 1948

NOTE POUR ACHETER LE LIASON AERIE

Officier de Liaison de la Commission ALLEE à THOR.

OBJET : Arrestation opérée par
les carabinieri la
30 Juin 1948.

Cette note n'a pas pour objet de protester
contre les arrestations opérées par les carabinieri, mais seu-
lement pour donner mon point de vue et mon sentiment personnel.

Tous nous sommes mis d'accord pour conseiller
le calme et la dignité à la population de Tende et de la Brigue,
afin qu'aucun incident inutile ne soit provoqué. Au moment
italien des carabinieri qui est venu me voir plusieurs fois, j'ai
fait savoir que j'étais tout à fait disposé à aider au ma-
tien du calme dans la mesure où mes conseils pourraient être
écoutés. Je tiens à préciser une fois de plus que mon rôle
est purement un rôle d'observateur et de liaison, je désolèr-
ais aux ordres reçus de mon gouvernement en intervenant
dans l'administration de Tende et de la Brigue.

Les cinq jeunes gens de Tende arrêtés le 30
Juin pour avoir porté sur les murs plus la France ont obéi
à un sentiment naturel on ne peut reprocher que l'enthousiasme
et la jeunesse au moment même où les études s'achevaient de la
propre Italiane consistaient, d'ailleurs, la tristesse générale
et les larmes dans tous les yeux. Il est vrai que pour ce qui
est des larmes on peut les interpréter l'une façon fort différen-
te. Il y a des larmes de douleur; il existe dans le vocabu-
laire français une expression qui dit "pleurer de joie".

OBJET : Arrestation opérée par les carabinieri le 30 Juin 1945.

Cette note n'a pas pour objet de protéger contre les arrestations opérées par les carabinieri, mais seulement pour donner mon point de vue et mon sentiment personnel.

Tous nous sommes mis d'accord pour conseiller le calme et la clémence à la population de Tende et de la Brigue, afin qu'aucun incident inutile ne soit provoqué. Le Lieutenant Italien des carabinieri qui est venu me voir plusieurs fois, j'ai fait remarquer que je ferai tout mon possible pour aider au maintien du calme dans la mesure de mes conseils pourrions être écoutés. Je tiens à préciser une fois de plus que mon rôle est de préciser un rôle d'observateur et de liaison. Je dois être à l'écoute des ordres de mon Gouvernement en intervenant uniquement dans l'administration de Tende et de la Brigue.

Les cinq jeunes gens de Tende arrêtés le 30 Juin pour avoir écrit sur les murs contre la France ont écrit à un correspondant anglais qu'ils ne peuvent reprocher que l'attachement et la jeunesse au combat même où les ennemis se déchaînent de la Croix Italienne combattent, disent-ils, la tristesse générale et les larmes dans tous les yeux. Il est vrai que pour ce qui est des larmes on peut les interpréter d'une façon fort différente car il y a des larmes de douleur. Il existe dans le vocabulaire français une expression qui dit : pleurer de joie.

D'autre part pour être impartial il aurait fallu arrêter les responsables des inscriptions pro-italiennes de la Brigue, effacer les proclamations de l'italianité de la Brigue, et arrêter par leur ordre nommée par le Préfet et non pas élue par la population.

Le Lieutenant des carabinieri est revenu me voir le 1^{er} Juillet à 9 heures du soir pour faire connaître que quatre des jeunes gens seraient relâchés le jour même. Avant qu'aucun des jeunes gens soient relâchés le jour même, il avait insisté à la dissolution des autorités Italiennes de Tende. Les autorités qui décideraient. Je n'ai rien répondu au Lieutenant puisque le matin même je lui avais fait savoir que les cinq jeunes gens soient relâchés ou non plus tôt.

(COPY.).

J'apprends maintenant que les quatre jeunes gens ont été relâchés après avoir été obligés de signer une déclaration par laquelle ils affirment n'avoir reçu aucun coup. Ce procédé est signe de la Gestapo. C'est tout ce que je dirai.

Je suis d'un façon évidemment certaine que ces jeunes gens, et en particulier Joseph Di Gallo, ont été molestés par les carabinieri.

Et les autorités italiennes pensent avoir opéré des arrestations sous des prétextes et avec des applications qui sont aussi puériles qu'insultantes, je crains, que le but poursuivi, avant d'être soit-il, ne justifie en rien les moyens et les méthodes employés.

Il ne faut pas oublier que la loi italienne, dont les autorités italiennes se plaignent tant à nous parler, est simplement la loi fasciste et que d'autre part entre l'application systématique de la loi durite et l'anarchie, il y a le droit des gens à disposer d'eux-mêmes, la liberté de parler, la liberté d'écrire, la liberté de penser.

(Signed) LEO X. KILGUS.

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

July 1946
581

HQ ALTON CITY ACHD

117300001946

CLO HENRY HENRY

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RESTRICTED

YOUR LETTER DATED 24TH MAY 1946 HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND THE MATTER IS BEING
HANDLED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE ALTON CITY ACHD IN THE
MEETING ROOMS AT 10.30

Copy to:- French Representative.

NOTE

Office of the Executive Commissioner

RECEIVED 117300001946
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HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

29 June 1946

REF: PR/CLO/50

SUBJECT: Tenda and Briga.

TO: Executive Commissioner, HQ AC APO 794.

JUL 2 1946
CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Brigadier Luah,

Further to my report of to-day's date Major Romie phoned this morning and stated that public order is normal in Tenda and Briga.

A French motor car containing three journalists and a French gendarme arrived at Tenda at about 1800 hrs yesterday and visited Briga and San Dalmaszo distributing French newspapers.

Lieut. Kalk, French L.O., is of opinion that such visits may provoke incidents and is getting in touch with authorities at Nice to prevent, if possible, further similar visits.

A certain amount of pro French wall writings have appeared during the night.

A CIER road block has been instituted at the Limone end of the Tenda tunnel to prevent entry to Tenda from Italy of undesirable elements and to search for arms persons going to Tenda.

I attach a copy of the Gazzetta d'Italia which purports to report an incident in the office of the Sindaco of Tenda. I have read this to Major Romie who states that it is a definite journalistic invention. He did in fact call on the Sindaco whom he found in the despairing condition described in the paper. The Sindaco made the remarks attributed to him but it was he who added "I expect a French detachment here at any time and am getting ready to leave". Major Romie made no reply. Major Romie informed me that there was no one else in the office at the time but the Sindaco and the interpreter, one or other of whom must have given the story to a reporter later.

I have advised Major Romie to stay away from the Sindaco and other Italian officials who may be emotionally affected at the present time and to confine his activities to reporting objectively what he sees.

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CONFIDENTIAL
Dec 19 11 13 AM '44

F. G. Green

F. G. GREEN,
Lt. Colonel, G.I.,
Chief Liaison Officer.

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AO-IALO (Press)

Tu 129 June 1946.

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British Consul.
USA Consul.

REVIEW OF THE TURIN DAILY PRESS.

The "Popolo Nuovo" (Chr. Dem.) under the title "Everything for Peace" points out that in spite of the efforts made by Premier De Gasperi the decisions taken by the Foreign Ministers wrong Italy: Italian territories, Italian people, Italian interests of moral and economic character are going to be sacrificed. Specially the Concessio flat with its water reservoirs is necessary to Italy's industry and its loss is a very heavy blow to our Country. But for Molotov, who maintained that Italy should be allowed to avail herself of the power plants on Concessio, the victors would have prevented Italy from using her plants. Anyhow it is clear that it will be no easy task to avail us of power coming from plants which are outside our national territory. As to Tenda and Briga, the people of both towns had clearly expressed their Italian feelings. All this was of no use, as well as our sacrifices of blood and money for the Allied cause. Nobody pays attention to Italy's voice. The four Foreign Ministers have not gone to Paris in order to listen to the longing for peace expressed by ruined peoples. The Big ones have other things to do. Walter Lippman has hit it when he wrote on the Figaro: "To speak brutally, the Foreign Ministers meet and deal with the idea of peace in front of their eyes and the idea of war within their brains" Under such circumstances nobody remembers the principles of the Atlantic Charter, Italy's co-belligerency, Roosevelt's declaration "that it has been proved in a decisive way that this war was not waged by the Italian people out of their own choice."

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The "Opinione" (lib) under the title "Small frontier changes" points out that the first frontier change concerns the Piccolo San Bernardo and Chelvasia, which have no defensive strategic importance for France but a very great offensive importance against Italy. The second frontier change includes the lake and flat of Moncenisio: the few frontier line should come to Turin in the Susa Valley. This frontier would mean the impossibility of defending Turin against any aggression."

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Page 2)

The third frontier change includes the Monginevro area, Mount Chaberton so as to open a new way towards Turin. The fourth frontier change includes Penda, Briga, Hunting-Fields and the Resia Pass.

The same paper under the title "The grief of the frontier population" reports that people in the Briga and Penda area are utterly despaired owing to the decision taken by the Foreign Ministers on their lot. Some people are preparing to leave: two big minarary plants have been taken to Cuneo, there are 30000 cubic metres of timber to carry away but there are no vehicles. Other people do not know what to do: they are poor and are afraid of leaving their homes, on the other hand who will feed them? Until now food came from Cuneo, the French sent only bottles of soent. The mayorm of the two towns are doing their best to appease minds so that most people remain at home to hide their tears.

The "Unità" (com) commenting of the Paris Conference, says: "They are still speaking of hatred, but we will not listen to them. Hatred means Chauvinism and those who led us to ruin taught us to hate. The French have been hard on us and they have not shown a peaceful spirit. They wanted to remind us of Mussolini stabbing them on their back, although Italy is now a democratic Country which needs understanding, peace and solidarity. Still we shall not talk about hatred nor consider things under the point of view of nationalism. We know that the Italian territory is sacred for us because we have shed so much blood in order to obtain again the esteem of peoples and freedom. We shall raise our voice and maintain our rights. Piedmont is aware of the loss of Italian territory, Piedmont which fought gallantly in the Liberation War? This should be a warning to us: it is not by carrying on a policy hostile to a big power and fawning on other powers that we shall succeed in defending our rights and independence. The Press which defies UNSS does not serve Italy, but interests opposite the interests of the Italian people.

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The "Opinione" (lib) under the title "What the loss of the Moncenisio lake means to us" says that since the electricity produced by the plants in the Susa valley mostly depends on the Moncenisio lake, the French will have the control on our power plants. They will be able, if they want, to direct the waters to France and bereave us of them. If this should happen, 60% of industry in Turin and the entire industry in the Susa Valley would be paralyzed.

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The only thing we could do would be to take away all plants but this would require years. Therefore it is hoped that both parties may come to an agreement in order to conciliate their interests.

The "Popolo Nuovo" (Chr. Dem.) Under the title "Moncenisio To France and Industries without power" says that the decision by the Foreign Ministers to accept French claims has surprised public opinion and astonished people living in the areas which are going to be annexed to France. People hoped that the treaty of peace would not be so hard, but now there is no doubt that we are going to be imposed a punishing peace. People at Tenda and Briga will suffer, but the whole Piedmont region will suffer with them inasmuch as industry will be deprived of a great deal of power supply. France insisted on her strategic reasons but she actually gets hold of important power plants; those in the Briga and Tenda area supply industry in Liguria at the rate of 70%, those which depend on the Moncenisio lake supply 30% of industry in Piedmont. They say that Italy will be allowed to get power supplies, but we do not know how long it will last. In case a difference should arise between Italy and France, the French might cut off our power supplies and do our industry much harm.

The "Gazzetta d'Italia" (Ind) under the title "They have sold us!..." says the town Mayor of Tenda publishes the following article:
 May 23, 45 hrs. of the 28th Tenda learned that it had been given to France. The following morning - says the reporter - I found the streets and the squares of the little town deserted, an Italian flag appears at one of the windows of the Town-Hall. I am received by the mayor Mr. Durero, who sits at his desk. He raised his eyes to look at me and then lowered them in silence covering his face with both hands. His grey hair are ruffled, his features are tired and drawn. I believe that he did not close his eyes all night.
 "So, they have sold us" he says after a long pause. Then he raised his head and, as if in an excess of pain he begins to speak rapidly:
 "I am waiting for a communication from Rome, and then I shall leave. I leave my home, and my fields but I do not know what to do with my children. I do not know how to tell her that I

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"I am waiting for a communication from Rome, and then I shall leave. I leave my home, and my fields but I do not know what to do with my mother. She is 86 years old and I do not know how to tell her that I must leave. Tenda. You see, this is the rubber stamp of the Commune, I shall take it with me as also that flag. He shows me a flag which is hanging on the wall. Across its colours it bears the following words: Tenda's workers Association.

Somebody knocks at the door and an English major of the A.M.G. enters followed by an interpreter. The Mayor does not give him time to speak. "You have sold us" - he shouts - "after all your promises!"

Page 4)

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The interpreter translates to the major who remains silent. He knows by aivism the diplomacy of the colonial style which is one of allowing the animal to complain out loud after having taken away its feathers. "It may be" -he finally answers- "that a French detachment will arrive at Tenda; I can do nothing about it, I advise you to leave." Don Antonio, the young parish-priest of Tenda says: "If I think of the imprisonment that I suffered as Partisan, if I think of Col. Stevens and of the "saquisards"... he stops on time. The man I met are of all ages, but there is the same shadow of pain on their faces. "I cried for over an hour" says a burly fellow in shirt sleeves.

Another one replies: "The last word has not yet been spoken. The Government will do its best, peace has not yet been signed". Then the voices are lowered: "What are the "others" doing? "They are quiet" says somebody- "The French lieutenant has ordered them to be calm."

In the street, I pass a group of young girls. I hear that they speak of hair-shaving. In this manner will the French punish them for having exposed the Italian flag at the window. Everybody fears that the French will come to protect the electric-power plants from eventual Italian "saboteurs". This is rather unlikely. It is much more probable that at other persons will arrive: the filo-French "fuori-usciti".

Pondering on all I had seen and heard, I arrived at the cemetery, where Italian names, Piedmontese names are engraved on the tombstones. All this has no importance; it does not count that Tenda and Briga have taken part in the Italian elections with a percentage of about 90%; it does not count that Italian labour has built electric-power plants, tunnels, bridges, rail-roads etc..

The high principles and the Atlantic Charter do not count and neither do the promises. There only remains the law of the strongest.

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The "Sempre Avanti!" (soc) under the title "Diplomacy of Louis XIV-h" publishes the following editorial:

For nearly five years, the broad-casting stations controlled by the Allies have weaved the praise for democracy and have deplored dictatorship. To all those who loved their Country, peace and brotherhood, it seemed that a golden period would have arisen after the war. They faced every sacrifice so as to allow the putting into effect of the principles of the now buried Atlantic Charter. Human kind is once more cheated in its hopes and offended in its suffering. War had united the heterogeneous elements of which the world is formed. The end of the war has found the peoples more divided than before. It is the eternal experience which repeats itself once more despite those principles to which everybody turns in the gloomy hours of their history.

John Bull enticed the hopes of the Arabs, Hindous, and Jews making them believe that their expectations would be realized after the victorious conclusion of the war. Men from all parts of the world rallied under

his flags. France lavished her best smiles on Italy so as to strengthen the common Latin origin and recently she welcomed the "Mostra della Resistenza Italiana". Russia's main preoccupation is to exploit the victorious contribute of her arms to her best advantage. She wants to burst out of the Straits and obtain a free circulation in the world through the Mediterranean. To be sure that the Dardanelles will not be closed, she is cornering Allies for to-morrow. Therefore she supports the Yugoslavian cause. The Adriatic shore is an excellent naval basis for offence and defence.

The suffering Nations are unarmed and divided. Italy is still a place of arms, everybody keeps its eyes on her. The control exercised upon her represents, for the ones, a guarantee of their own rich colonies, for the others the certainty of an ensured influence.

They seem like dogs, waiting in ambush to bite off the biggest morsel, nobody wants to be the second.

To-day the morsels swallowed by France, are Tenda, "Tria", Moncenisio, San Bernardo, an area of the Bardonnacchi territory which has not yet been defined and the Maddalena Pass. May be with this they want to rehabilitate the injustices committed on the 10 of June 1940 with the danger thrust in the back? How many injustices are still covered by democracy? Furthermore the mutual compensations are weighed over many times. They bargain on the skin of the others. The diplomacy of the "four" is the one of Louis XIVth. From the walls of the Luxembourg, full of despotic souvenirs, only these words are issued: "Le monde c'est nous quatre".

Meanwhile tragic flares are bursting out around the "four": they think that they do not owe anything to anybody. They think that the world of oppressed people will never be able to rebel. They are not aware that the people's right to life can no longer be restrained and that they cannot be eternally trodden upon. They seem to be unaware that there is a silence over the world which forebodes a more terrible storm: the Jewish diplomacy is feeding it.

They must leave their golden palace of the Luxembourg in order to learn what is the frame of mind of this Europe which is still covered with blood and dominated by fear. Its confusion cannot last long. Europe must free herself of to-day's perplexity. She is pushed to this by the exigencies of life itself. The it will be clear to everybody that it is no

not be closed, she is cornering Allies for to-morrow. Therefore she supports the Yugoslavian cause. The Adriatic shore is an excellent naval base for offence and defence.

The suffering Nations are unarmed and divided. Italy is still a place of arms, everybody keeps its eyes on her. The control exercised upon her represents, for the ones, a guarantee of their own rich colonies, for the others the certainty of an ensured influence. They seem like dogs, waiting an ambush to bite off the biggest morsel, nobody wants to be the second.

To-day the morsels swallowed by France, are Tenda, Triest, Monconisio, San Bernardo, an area of the Sardonecchi territory which has not yet been defined and the Maddalena Pass. May be with this they want to rehabilitate the injustices committed on the 10 of June 1940 with the danger thrust in the back? How many injustices are still covered by democracy? Furthermore the mutual compensations are weighed over many times. They bargain on the skin of the others. The diplomacy of the "four" is the one of Louis XIVth. From the walls of the Luxembourg, full of despotie souvenirs, only these words are issued: "Le monde c'est nous quatre".

Meanwhile tragic clares are bursting out around the "four": they think that they do not owe anything to anybody. They think that the world of oppressed people will never be able to rebel. They are not aware that the people's right to life can no longer be restrained and that they cannot be eternally trodden upon. They seem to be unaware that there is a silence over the world which forecasts a more terrible storm: the foolish diplomacy is feeding it.

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Their diplomacy holds no difference with one of all despots, they are also called "big". In their regard history will have the same expressions as Lenin had for the diplomacy which made the Truce of Versailles, Saint-Germain and Trianon.

In front of these facts, it is no longer possible to believe in the good intentions of the Country where the Red Flag has become a national symbol. The Communist comrades must understand this: although experience teaches that policy is not a benevolent institution, it is not lawful to turn it into a game of imperialism.

Page 6)

Once again, it is the coalition of the sordid selfishness of the victors which triumphs in order to weaken the reason of justice.

Side by side with the activity which is carried on at the Luxembourg there is another not less disgraceful one: the progressive enslaving of the Italian economy through the forestalling of our industrial plants. They want to turn us into a "colonial people". This is the putting into effect of the so much praised plan of liberation of peoples from misery, want, and slavery.

It does not matter, Italians have still dignity. It will bear today's pain and one of tomorrow Italy's calvary is not finished. From her body other marvels will be born which will be much more bloody than the ones asked for by honest Shylock.

However, the world cannot be dominated in the long run with such systems. The diplomacy of pure Louis XIVth style still teaches something else to the proletariat of all countries. The same capitalist economic structure will favour the progressive side-spreading of another diplomacy: the one of the oppressed, of the true proletariat, of the true Socialists against the one of the usurpers and hypocrites.

The "Nuova Stampa" (ind) under the title "A mistake" says that the decision taken by the Foreign Ministers to give France pieces of Italian territory, means not only that a misdeed has been committed but also that a mistake has been made. When the time comes they will get aware of this, France will perceive what means to offend the Italian national feelings. Owing to the new frontier line, Piedmont which is one of Italy's doors, is at the mercy of the foreigners. The Italians wanted to keep on good terms with foreigners, they wanted to live brotherly with them, in a European Union. After this hostile and mean deed this will be extremely difficult. How could the Italians forget the wrongs received from the East and West? If France should be in danger again we think it will be difficult for her to rely on Italy's solidarity.

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The "Popolo Nuovo" (Chr. Dem.) reports that Arturo Toscanini, as soon as he heard of the decisions taken at the Paris Conference to the disadvantage of Italy, determined to defer his journey to Paris with elements of the Scala Orchestra.

The management of the Theatre issued the following statement on the matter: "The renunciation of the Concert which was due for next Sunday to the benefit of the French Red Cross is not caused by any feeling of offended nationalism, but intends to point out the grieved mind of the Italians".

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Page 7)

The "Nuova Stampa" (ind) reports that De Nicola was elected provisional Chief of the State. It is not yet known whether he will accept this post.

The same paper reports that Minister Tagliatti stated to the correspondent of the "Nuova Stampa" that the decision taken at Paris is "a wrong one, a serious mistake under all view points. There is no ethnical or political reason which justifies this mutilation of the Italian territory. We did not expect new democratic France to impose this silly humiliation on new democratic and Republican Italy."

The paper further reports that next Monday all ex-veterans, internees and Partisans will demonstrate because the state administration has not given them any work, as was determined by the Government.

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

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401x

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

4 July 1946

CONFIDENTIAL

REFERENCE: PR/CLO/50

SUBJECT: TENDA & ERIGA

TO: Executive Commissioner, HQ ALOM, APO 794.

1. I enclose herewith copy of our weekly extract of the Piemonte Regional Press, which I think will be of interest.

2. No doubt similar articles are appearing in the Rome Press, but these articles, I think, coming as they do from the Region largely affected by the cessation to France of the disputed territories convey the mental atmosphere prevailing in the Region.

3. All appears fairly quiet at both Eriga and Tenda and also at Moncenisio.

4. Major Fornie phoned this morning that pro-Italian writings have appeared on the walls during the night. An Italian film unit was in the area yesterday recording sentimental shots, the pealing of the church bells, the sound of the Church organ and short speeches by the Sindacos etc, etc. He has been informed that several families are getting ready to leave the valleys before the French incursion. Telephone communication from Tenda was interrupted for a few hours but has been resumed.

5. I visited Moncenisio yesterday afternoon (the Italian trust refused to leave the Italian lake at my bidding). The people express their feelings of unfairness that the plain should be ceded to France and there are written notices on the walls to the effect that Moncenisio is Italian and must remain Italian. Outwardly, however, all is calm. A local lake guard to whom I spoke told me that he intended to leave if the French came. He added that he was a partigiani and fought the Germans for Moncenisio and he could not bear to see Moncenisio, where he was born, occupied by the French. "That good are certificates from Maraball Alexander if we are to be treated like this?" he asked.

This latter aspect of the Partigiani struggle for Moncenisio is also being used at Susa, where a demonstration was held to protest against the proposed annexations. The demonstration was quite orderly and apart from expressed heartaches and sorrow the general population seem quite resigned.

7. I attach also for information copy of a letter just received from the Brigade Commander of Carabinieri at Torino.

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P. C. Green

P.C. GREEN,
Lt. Colonel, CL,
C.I.O.

See A 589-590

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(Specimen)

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AC-LALO (nas)

TURIN 1st July 1946

CLO
ACLO (Tenda)
G II I RUJ
315 PSS
British Consul
USA Consul

REVIEW OF THE REGIONAL PRESS.

The "Lotto Nuove" (Soc) 29 June 1946 under the title "A People of Dead?"

says: We do not yet know what the conditions of peace will be, but it seems that they will be very hard and unfair for a poor people which has suffered for over twenty years under Fascism. Now, an unfair and humiliating peace for Italy would only be a continuation of Fascism and the chains from which we freed ourselves would be riveted back by the victors; we will no longer call them the liberators, the paladins of freedom and democracy: there is no democracy where the sense and respect of freedom is lacking.

It will be Fascism, which, from abroad, will weigh upon Italy under another name. Tyranny will continue and the hard burden will be suffered by the poor classes. Capitalism and the middle classes, directly responsible for Fascism and its wars, will escape from the rendering of accounts and will continue to exploit the people. This is the prospect and panorama of the proletarian defeat.

Now, we must ask ourselves if the democratic Italian Republic can undertake its historical and political way under the weight of defeat and brutal peace due to Fascism and Monarchy. Still, if we want to live, we must find a way out of the maze.

Peace which is imposed upon us is capitalistic and of the middle classes and we know that it is of no use denouncing it to them. We can get over our sores only by raising our hopes towards Socialism: opposing to cold capitalistic solidarity the human union of all the working forces.

Only Socialist Italy can launch a firm and brotherly voice across the borders that can be socialistically received.

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The "Binarrio" wrote 29 June 1946, under the title "Vae Victis" publishes an article which says:

Noe to the conquered peoples! This is what every Italian thinks in this moment; that a hard and punishing peace seems to be about to be imposed upon us by the so-called Allies. All of them - English, Americans, French and Russians - rush against Italy as so many dogs to satisfy their hunger, and they excite the smaller dogs, their minions, to take part at the feast.

While France aims to obtain those scarce resources which are of vital importance for us, Americans and English take the little that the Italians had succeeded in putting away abroad by dint of hard work and sacrifices, and they impose upon us the expenses for their troops in Italy. Russia limits herself to send to Italy a delegation of scholars with the task of acquainting themselves with the progress which we have made in mechanics, and once her men have made a thorough survey, they pop up with the pretence of obtaining machinery and manufactured goods as war damage compensation. To all this we must add some small ships which they accept as if doing us a favour. Yugoslavia did not dare so much because she has already seized all machinery existing in the zone she had occupied. Now, she only pretends to enter our territory as master and send away the few Italians who did not fall under her decimations. Her intention is to find room for the very great Yugoslavian majority which cannot live elsewhere.

The "Universal Democracy" has decided that Italy must pay the penalty for the second world war, everybody is after her to exterminate and smother her.

Of what use has our prolonged sacrifice been? To-day, they ignore the fact that means and men sacrificed themselves for the common cause, that the people offered a continual passive resistance against the Nazi and that the Partisans actively participated for victory?

Italy is considered a defeated enemy country?

Vae Victis! and the Brennus of every nation throw the sword of revenge upon the scales with which they intend to weigh Italy's faults. However, they forget that in the history of the nations, there is and always has been a terrible and inexorable Nemesis.

"Il Lavoratore" (Soc) Novara 27 June 1946 writes:

Who does not remember Col. Stevens? We do not fight against the Italians, but against Fascism..." To-day, however, they make Italy, which suffered Fascism, supported and helped by the British Conservatism, pay for the war which was won also by the contribution of the twenty months of Italian partisan co-belligerency.

Col. Stevens, do you want us to say that we never had faith in you?

The "Risale" (Soc) Vercelli 28 June 1946, under the title "Peace, when shall you have the olive?" publishes the following article:

We know that our poor voice from the province will certainly not arrive to the heights of international policy where the fate of our country is being decided. However, we are glad if our voice reaches the hearts of our readers.

When, young and deluded, we returned from the first world war, we believed that so much bloodshed would have been granted at least a lasting peace. We were too simple minded: at Versailles, they granted the conditions for another war, which happened, more terrible than the first one. Thus, in 30 years, 44 millions of dead bodies.

Now they are around a table for a new peace. Which peace? Still without the olive and without justice, miserable truce, for another war for which they are already planning explosive material. What scorn for such manslaughter! What scorn for the peoples who wage war, who pay for war and who always hope that a universal brotherhood may arise from so many sacrifices.

However, no longer simple minded, we are not surprised by the fact that they tread upon the ethnic principle which is the most sacred in support of a lasting peace: we are no longer surprised as to the mockery of the "Atlantic

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However, no longer simple minded, we are not surprised by the fact that they trod upon the ethnic principle which is the most sacred in support of a lasting peace; we are no longer surprised as to the mockery of the "Atlantic Charter" and its "four liberties", mermaid songs to allure and obtain the help of the just and human. We are no longer surprised, because we know how true are the invectives that our really "Great Ones" launched against the plutocrats' world.

Yes, as long as capitalism exists, as long as the moral principle will be the overbearance of power, the preying of weak nations with the excuse of "protecting" them, the exploitation of people in the name of civilisation, as long as the greed of conquest and imperialism will be free, we will never have peace and war will always return disguised as a necessity, and they will always find the lying ethic to justify it.

The poisonous head of the snake must be crushed; as long as the snake is alive it is an illusion to defend ourselves from it by closing it in a basket, as it will always be set free by those who make their fortunes with wars, and who are aware that wars weaken the nations, throwing them back in conditions which oppose their renewal.

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There is no watchman for this snake. In 1914, the second International was crumbled and to-day, something is happening which confirms the uselessness of simple proposals. We are grieved by the USA and France, but still more by an England which is led by a Labourist Government which bows to the game of competition for economic influences; we are also grieved by a Russia which accepts and approves the "veto" to the small Nations at the UNC.

Behind these attitudes, there is only imperialism, the god of all wars, and this tells us that as long as capitalistic order lives and persists also the Socialist governments remain slaves of its unfortunate rule. We will find our safety only when a new social order has become universal, only when Socialism, which is the substance of goodwill and justice shall have triumphed the world over, will war be set aside for ever.

The "Corriere della Sera" (Soc) Biella 27 June 1946, under the title "The iron ball chained to the feet" publishes as follows:

The Italians have waited and acted. Nothing could be more tragic than an act of the democratic world which would not acknowledge the will and action of our People.

Everybody must have noticed the importance of the wire sent by our Government to the four Secretaries of Foreign Affairs in Paris to inform them that no Italian Government could give its signature to a peace treaty which undermines the basis of our existence as a Nation.

Some people will lay stress upon the economic and ethnic point of view of the mutilations that they want to impose upon Italy. We point out the serious danger that the imperialistic game played at our expense, can represent for the weak Italian democracy.

We are not sentimentalists, we know that history builds itself on the path of the game of economy and power interests and we socialists remember that the actual phase of the capitalistic society is a phase of imperialism. Therefore we should like to present the Italian problem to the greedy "small Big ones" under an aspect which is certainly new for them, although the Chairman of the Labour Party mentioned it with noble words at the Labourist Congress; do the Allies want to strengthen democracy in Italy? Are they convinced that Western Europe cannot do without a democratic Italy for the success of the mediation between East and West which is the main basis for a lasting and fertile peace? If the Allies want peace and reconstruction, they cannot crush the Italian Republic under a "dictat" which would be deadly for the democratic spirit of our people, and which at the same time would be contrary to a lasting and universal stability.

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TRANSLATION.

For your information I transcribe what has been confidentially reported to me:-

"The decision of the four foreign Ministers to assign BRIGA and TENDA to France has evidently created in the minds of the French across the border the conviction of being able to already dispose of this piece of contended Italian soil as part and parcel of their own home.

In fact since the 28th June last there have presented themselves at the border French motor cars without the "CARNET DE PASSAGE EN DOUANE" (Motoring papers required for the purpose of International travel) with Journalists on board without passports or even Frontier Cards.

To have found the Carabinieri at their posts, who with dignity, not lacking in courteous firmness demanded the observance of International conventions, greatly annoyed the French press representatives who in correspondence published by the daily edited in NICE "LE PATRIOT DE NICE ET DU SUD-EST" the 30th June last on the front page with a three column heading expressed themselves in the following terms:-

"THE FRENCH SPEAK TO THE FRENCH : OUR POSITION IS SERIOUS..... COME IN HASTE. But at the frontier of TENDA and BRIGA Italian Carabinieri increase the difficulties. About ten Carabinieri immediately get round our car as soon as it halts at the frontier.

Salutes, perfect correctness. Too much of it not to hide something. The chief of the border post (is he, in fact, the actual chief?) conducts us to his office. Asks for our documents. Will he let us pass without difficulties? We have our suspicions. In the lower valley at

FOURMAY we were told:- they will cause you trouble There immediately takes place a conversation from which it appears that this gentleman (in fact the head of the post could well be him) cannot allow our car to proceed.

We try every way to get him to alter his decision - this lasts a couple of hours - we offer to take along with us one, two or three Carabinieri but its all a case of "nothing doing".

With an undefinable smile our questioner entrenches himself within the regulations, regulations which give one the impression as being most appropriate this day".

I desire to make it clear that the operations of control at the border are carried out in perfect understanding between Carabinieri, Guardia di Finanza and Customs Inspectorate.

But beyond the border there is a desire to make believe that the populations of BRIGA and TENDA are subjected to arrogant impositions by pro-Italians and that they are crying out for the prompt arrival of French authorities. In other words they aim to create or at least

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out difficulties? We have our suspicions. In the lower valley at TONNAN we were told:- they will cause you trouble

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We try every way to get him to alter his decision - this lasts a couple of hours - we offer to take along with us one, two or three Carabinieri but its all a case of "nothing doing".

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"That they send us as soon as possible a French commission -

as soon as possible the fascists....."

"It is all the man has time to say - a soldier has come to ask us to join the others in full view -

"One is not allowed here to speak in whispers"

And in order to obtain there aforesaid result all means are fair.

In fact, the placing of a road-block by the Carabinieri further down the valley from the Colle di Tenda towards LIMONE to stop contraband

- 2 -

of butter and cereals has been interpreted as a step to obstruct supplies to the populations of TENDDA and B.UGA.

Likewise, the arrest of five would-be pro-French which took place at TENDDA the night of the 1st. instant because caught writing anti-Italian inscriptions on the walls, a thing which might have been the cause of a disturbing public order owing to legitimate reaction on the part of pro-Italians, constituted, according to propaganda, a proof of the ill-treatment to which the French of TENDDA are subjected.

On the other hand, the Giudicial Authorities of Cuneo, duly informed, have confirmed the legality of the steps taken by the Carabinieri.

In addition, from concordant statements made by those responsible, it turns out that they were acting by order of some French journalists who had turned up at TENDDA from NICE during the last few days furnished with regular passports.

Of such happenings, in themselves of little importance, I believe it is well one should be in possession of the real facts and so avoid the press and foreign radio and perhaps also responsible French bodies from putting them forward for public judgement or to the Italian Government altered in substance and aggravated in facts.

THE COLONEL
COMMANDER OF THE BRIGADE F.I.

Giuseppe BUTTI.

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COMMANDER OF THE BRIGADE f.f.

Giuseppe BUTTI.

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580

Headquarters Allied Commission

AFC 784

Public Relations Branch

To: Executive Commissioner's Office

Subject: Italian comments at Tenda

Date: 30 June 1946

1. Italia Nuova of 30 June 1946 carries an article from it's special correspondent at Tenda, DEMETRIO GARZIA, in which he describes the distress of the inhabitants at the decision to hand Tenda and Briga over to France.
2. At one point he writes: " It makes one think back on the famous stroke with which Colonel Gardner, who then watched over the area, cut the white, red, and green ribbon to open the way to traffic under the tunnel reopened by Italian skill and Italian labour. The British officer said that with that stroke he had reunited Briga and Tenda to the mother country. But after him there has been another who has thought to separate them again with another stroke, after substituting for the soldier a tightlipped major of the military police."
3. I think you already know the old story of Col Gardner's indiscretion referred to; the tightlipped major is Major W. Ronnie, a British PA officer.
4. Col Bye tells me that the Torino press carried yesterday an alleged interview with Major Ronnie which may be referred to in the Rome press, but that there is no truth in the story and that a full report is on its way here from the CGO and from Major Ronnie.

L. MONTAGUE,

Lt. Col., G.L.,
PRO.

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361
HEADQUARTERS
Police Liaison Group
ALLIED COMMISSION
Piemonte Region

577

~~SECRET~~

CONFIDENTIAL

REF : PR/SEC/L/1. 29th. June, 1946.

Subject: Tenda and Briga.

JUN 29 1946

To : EXECUTIVE COMMISSION, ALLIED COMMISSION,
R O M E.

Dear Brigadier Lush,

I shall be phoning later this morning regarding the state of Briga and Tenda but am writing this to go by plane which is leaving this morning.

1. Public order so far is satisfactory.

2. There is naturally much jubilation among the pro-French and corresponding depression among the pro-Italian elements. Major Ronnie states that women were yesterday standing in the streets of Tenda and crying.

3. No incidents have however occurred. At Briga a number of pro-Italians decided not to go to work and spent the day sitting and drinking in bars and singing patriotic songs. The Sindaco passed the word quietly to the barkeepers to go "easy" with the supplies of wine. As a precaution extra CC.PR. were drafted to Briga.

4. Lt. Kalk, the French Liaison Officer suggested to Major Ronnie that they call a meeting of the Giunta - which has three pro-French and three pro-Italian members - in order that Lt. Kalk could assure them that on the "take over" there would be no incident of recrimination against the pro-Italians. Major Ronnie referred the matter to me and I gave definite orders that no meetings of any kind would be called by the Liaison Officers.

5. Major Ronnie informs me that the Prefect of Cuneo contemplated changing the Sindaco of Tenda who has been, in his opinion, too partial in his administration and has given great offence to the pro-French.

I shall be phoning later this morning regarding the state of Briga and Tenda but am writing this to go by plane which is leaving this morning.

1. Public order so far is satisfactory.
2. There is naturally much jubilation among the pro-French and corresponding depression among the pro-Italian elements. Major Ronnie states that women were yesterday standing in the streets of Tenda and crying.
3. No incidents have however occurred. At Briga a number of pro-Italians decided not to go to work and spent the day sitting and drinking in bars and singing patriotic songs. The Sindaco passed the word quietly to the barkeepers to go "easy" with the supplies of wine. As a precaution extra CC.RR. were drafted to Briga.
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5. Major Ronnie informs me that the Prefect of Cuneo contemplates changing the Sindaco of Tenda who has been, in his opinion, too partial in his administration and has given great offence to the pro-French.
6. The Prefect is not worried about public order at present but is concerned as to what might happen at the time of the actual transition. I understand that he is making two suggestions to the Italian Government at Rome.
 - (a). The provision of a number of Allied Troops (30-40). to keep order in the interim period.
 - (b). The institution of Allied Military Government in the two Communes during the interim period.
7. I am maintaining contact with Moncenisio which is reported by the Press to have been ceded also, to France, and will report any changes.

P. Green 4040
P.G. Green, Lt. Col.
Chief Liaison Officer.

see 578

576

581 A

CONFIDENTIAL

ARMED COMMISSION
FIDELITY REVIEW
LIAISON GROUP

28 June 1946

REF : 10/10/50

SUBJECT: Dispute regarding Public Works.

TO : Hq Adcom APO 794 (Executive Commissioner)

515

1. I attach hereto copy of a report received from Major E. MOORE, Liaison Officer at Tenda and Brign re a dispute which has arisen over the work done in the Tenda railway tunnel.

2. It is extremely improbable that any reference to the verbal agreement alleged to have been made by Lieut Nolan will be found in the file dealing with this matter. I suggest that the matter will have to be left to the good sense of the Italian Courts, if the dispute eventually reaches there.

3. Seeing that an AGC Officer is apparently involved in the dispute however, the report is submitted for information and any action deemed necessary.

1947
S. G. G. M. M. M.

H. L. L.

P. G. G. M.
Lt Col., G. L.
Chief Liaison Officer

1. I attach hereto copy of a report received from Major W. MC NEE, Liaison Officer at Fende and Brigs re a dispute which has arisen over the work done in the Fende railway tunnel.

2. It is extremely improbable that any reference to the verbal agreement alleged to have been made by Lieut Holmes will be found in the file dealing with this matter. I suggest that the matter will have to be left to the good sense of the Italian Courts, if the dispute eventually reaches there.

3. Being that an MSG Officer is apparently involved in the dispute however, the report is submitted for information and any action deemed necessary.

H. Green

P. O. GREEN
Lt Col., CE
Chief Liaison Officer

4010

(over)

575

ALLIED COMMUNICATION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO - TENDA

COL. A. M. GARDNER - A

To: J.A.G., I.C., Piemonte Liaison Group. Date: 27th June 1953.

Re: MAJOR/15:

SUBJECT: Dispute regarding repair of the railway tunnel at Valle di Tenda.

574

1. Herewith is enclosed copy of a letter received from SOGNO Bros. Enterprise regarding the repairs carried out by this firm to the railway tunnel connecting LIGON and YEMOL (added as present by rail traffic only pending completion of repairs to the highway tunnel).

2. Subsequently, at my invitation, Engineer SOGNO visited this office to explain more fully his difficulty. It appears that the State railway is claiming 12,000 lire from him for use of a stretch of rail for moving material etc., and SOGNO states that there was a verbal agreement made between himself, the Head of the Genio Civile, and a Lieutenant Colonel (who, apparently, was a Piemonte Liaison Officer) that this stretch of line should be used without payment. SOGNO also stated, at the time, given instructions that the railway line was to be considered as under the control of the Genio Civile and not the State railway. The Head of the Genio Civile can confirm this arrangement and has advised SOGNO not to pay the amount demanded. It is possible that legal action will be taken.

3. Lieut. COLTIER, I understand, is in America, and I GAO asked me to write a letter to the railway company to the effect that their claim is to be withdrawn and the instructions given and verbal agreement made by me respected.

4. As I personally know nothing of this matter, have no means of knowing whether the statements made are true, and all records are

SUBJECT : Dispute regarding repair of the railroad tunnel at
Calle de Pando.

574

1. Generala transmitted copy of a letter received from SINGO from
interior regarding the repairs carried out by this firm to the
railway tunnel connecting LIMA and YANU (area at present by
road traffic only pending completion of repairs to the highway
tunnel).
2. Subsequently, of my invitation, Engineer SINGO visited this office
to explain more fully his difficulty. It appears that the state
railway is claiming \$7,000 lire from him for use of a stretch of
rail for loading and unloading etc., and SINGO states that there was a
verbal agreement some between himself, the Head of the Santa Rita,
and a Lieutenant (name), apparently, was a Planchado (an
Officer) that this stretch of line would be used without payment.
SINGO says that, after that, at the time, given instructions that the
railway line was to be considered as under the control of the
Santa Rita and not the state railway; the Head of the Santa
Calle can confirm this arrangement and has advised SINGO not to pay
the amount demanded. It is possible that legal action will be taken.
3. Lieut. VELAZQUEZ, I understand, is in America, and SINGO asked me to
write a letter to the railway company to the effect that their claim
is to be withdrawn and the instructions given and verbal agreement
made by him respected.
4. As I personally know nothing of this matter, have no means of
knowing whether the statements made are true, and all records are
probably in the archives at the Headquarters, I was originally unable
to take any action, but told SINGO I would report the facts to
Headquarters.

SINGO stated that Colonel BULLERBY, P.A.D., contacted him, telling him,
he also interested and he intended giving him to discuss the matter.

Copies of this report, together with copies of the letter from SINGO
referred, are atached for Headquarters (C.O.) and P.A.D., Lima.

574

W. R. [Signature]

4038

Major,
A.C. Liaison Officer.

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

COPY.

To : STATE RAILWAY DEPARTMENT - WORKS SECTION

TORINO - 574

On the 24th of September 1945, with an ordinance of the Allied Government No. H. 120/9, between the SOGNO Bros. Enterprise, residing in TORINO and the Special Office of the GENIO CIVILE, there has been stipulated a contract for the repairs of the Railway tunnel of the COLLE DI TENDA, north entrance, LIMONE PIEMONTE side.

At the presence of the Works Director Ing. Mario Boggiano, of the viability office, the Allied Commanding Officer has disposed that the Sogno Bros. Enterprise availed itself of the little barracks, of the Waggon and spinner, paying for the a/m things a rent of lease monthly, whilst for the use of the rails, nothing would have been debited.

Ascertained by the Works Direction that the a/m terms have been verbally fixed of common agreement between the Allied Command and the Enterprise, I invite this Administration to respect what has been decided in the above mentioned way.

Ing. Mario Boggiano

Via Alba 51 - Cuneo.

p hone No. 9-48

Lieutenant HOLZER.

4037

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

581 *ab*

573

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED COMMISSION
FIMKINTE INCHEN
LIAISON GROUP

28 June 1946

JUN 28 1946

REF : *EV/RY/50*

SUBJECT: Tenda - Disputed Zone

TO : Hq Allied Commission APO 794.
(Exec. Commissioner)

572

1. I forward herewith for information copy of a report received from Major BOWEN, Liaison Officer at Tenda regarding the re-opening of the road tunnel between LIMONE and TENDA.

H. Green 4030

F. G. GREEN
Lt Col., GH,
Chief Liaison Officer

(1/10/46)

ALLIED COMMUNICATION

(LIAISON)

CUNEO - TENDA

~~COL. A. H. GARDNER R.A.~~

To: C.L.O., A.C., Piemonte Liaison Group. Date: 27th June 1946:

Ref: PAC/CU/15.

SUBJECT :- Road tunnel - LIMONE to TENDA.

1. It was rumoured last week-end that the road tunnel (LIMONE - TENDA) would be opened on Tuesday, 25th inst., but it would be necessary to obtain a permit to use the tunnel from the Prefect.
2. I telephoned the Capo di Gabinetto but he said that he knew nothing about the re-opening date or about permits issued by the Prefect.
3. In conversation on 25th with Engineer SOGNO, the contractor responsible for the work, I was told that the tunnel was almost ready but would not be opened for political reasons. I enquired the nature of these reasons and was told that lorries with trailers are not allowed to use the road tunnel but can pass through the present (railway) tunnel. The Prefect, in case Briga and Tenda become French, is anxious to bring out all the timber possible and to maintain the present heavy traffic of enormous lorries and trailers carrying huge loads of timber he must keep open the railway tunnel for road transport.
4. I have not discussed this information with the Prefect, but will watch the situation for a few days and report further.

D. Romer
D. ROMER,
Major.,
A.C., Liaison Officer.

HR/JBS.

570

SUBJECT :- Road tunnel - LIMONE to TENDA.

1. It was rumoured last week-end that the road tunnel (LIMONE -TENDA) would be opened on Tuesday, 25th Inst., but it would be necessary to obtain a permit to use the tunnel from the Prefect.
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4. I have not discussed this information with the Prefect, but will watch the situation for a few days and report further.

MR/JBS.

Copies to:-

315 P.S.S., CMF.
G.S.I., 3 District (Northern Detachment) c/o 427 P.S.S. CMF.

D. Romme
D. ROMME,
Major.,
A.C., Liaison Officer.

4033

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

Tel : 478427

29 June 1946

SUBJECT : E.O. Conditions in Tenda
and Briga.

JUN 28 1946

TO : Executive Commissioner
~~then VP. SA. Section.~~

1. Information received by 'phone at 10 a.m., 29th June 1946 shows that Public Safety conditions in Tenda and Briga are normal.

Population very depressed but no signs of disturbances.

A report on the situation is being forwarded this morning by plane by the C.L.O. Piedmonte.

E. J. Rye
E. J. RYE, Colonel
Acting Director.

2/10/ac

4034

PA

~~SECRET~~ 570

Ref: 581/EE. ✓

CONFIDENTIAL 25. June 1946.

In considering the future of Liaison Groups I have constantly pressed AMHQ to abolish the French Military Liaison Officer at TERDA. Both you in your letter of May 29th and your predecessors have constantly pointed out his irregularities (to put it mildly) of Lt. Falk. I do not think we shall get rid of the Liaison Officer until the Peace Treaty is signed but if you can bring even some definite evidence of Lt. Falk's irregularities, proven up to the hilt, then I think we have a good case to get him changed.

I am glad Ronnie is doing well in TERDA and he ought to be able to give you a good line to follow.

M. S. LUSH

Lt. Col. Green,
Allied Commission,
Chief Liaison Officer,
PIERRETE.

MSL/JO.

4033

581

564

Personal

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

29th May 1946

EXTRACT

Major Ronnie has taken over at Tenda and Lt. Col. Gardner has returned to Turin. The latter, before he left, sent us two reports regarding the French Liaison Officer - I am enclosing copies of these with this letter as I feel that you should see them personally and I should like to have some instructions on the points raised.

I think I should say that I do not think these reports are written in a peevish vein and; if anything, I feel that Gardner has been very restrained but I do agree that it is essential that some curb should be placed on the activities of the French L.O. and that Major Ronnie should know exactly how he stands in the matter. My personal opinion is, although I understand higher authority has already decided to the contrary, that there is no need for liaison officers either French or British at Tenda and that the presence of the French L.O. there has merely unnecessarily aggravated what might have been a very minor matter. Regarding the alleged leakage of confidential information to the French L.O. from either 2 (now 3) District or from the French Zone 1 at Turin: I am forwarding a copy of Gardner's report to R. 3 District for information.

/s/ Illegible

4032

COPY

568

ALLIED COMMISSION
(Liaison)
T E N D A

L.O. Lt. Col. A.H. Gardner .A.

TO: Chief Liaison Officer A.C. PIEMONTE

27th May 1946

Ref. PAC/CU/3/3

SUBJECT: French Liaison Officer - TENDA.

1. Major Ronnie took over at TENDA & BRIGA to-day, and I left the COMMINI immediately I had introduced him to the officials.
2. During the introduction to the French L.O. the following points were discussed:

That the French L.O. had dispensed with his orderly and substituted a Sgt. Major - he now has the following staff - (Military personnel)

Sgt. Major
Cpl. Clerk
Pte. Driver
" Cook

I advised him his instructions were to have a staff consisting of a Clerk - Driver - Orderly and Cook.

He said he would effect the change when his Sgt. Major returned from ROME!

No travel orders were issued by me for the Sgt. Major to proceed to ROME and I had no knowledge of his trip. The French L.O. stated He had sent his W.O. to MILANO and that travel orders were issued from there.

I again pointed out that he came directly under the orders of the Allied L.O. at TENDA - who in turn is under the orders of the C.L.O. of A.C. PIEMONTE (at TORINO) and that apart from the correct procedure of orders, through the usual military channels - there were also two such things as courtesy and etiquette!

3. Please may Major Ronnie have the following points clarified?
 - (a) The channels of communication of the French L.O., now he comes under A.C. - to whom does he submit reports - and are copies sent to the Allied L.O.?
 - (b) Does he and his staff have the complete run of ITALY - or do they request travel orders from the Allied L.O. TENDA and give reasons for their journeys?

/S/ A.H. GARDNER
Lt. Colonel R.A.

4031

0 7 2 8

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

567

copy

ALLIED COMMISSION
(Liaison)

T E N D A

L. O. Lt. Col. A. H. Gardner R.A.

CONFIDENTIAL

Date: 25th May 1946

TO: Chief Liaison Officer A.C. PIRK OWIE

Ref. PAC/CU/3/3

SUBJECT: French Liaison Officer - TENDA.

1. Major Ronnie is due to take over from me on Monday morning, (27 May 1946) and I would like to place on record, in his interest, certain observations. Naturally, it is difficult to obtain absolute proof of the activities and procedure adopted by another Nation, but I would not place this on record unless I was certain of the facts.
2. Information sent by me to you - presumably for onwards transmission - is passed back to the French L.O. TENDA - before it can possibly reach ROME. Copies of letters are frequently sent to the 315 F.S.B., at their request, and to prevent them having a P.S.S. Sgt. in TENDA; this in turn is, I believe, passed to 2 District. You also pass information to 2 District, and arrangements were made by Col. Jordan when he was C.L.O. that I could pass information direct to G.O.C. of 2 District when requested and Col. Arnold, when he was C.L.O. also instructed me to advise 2 District direct on some matters. Whether information is passed back through the French L.O. of 2 District (a Col. Curie ?) or the French Consul in TORINO - I do not know - but I do know he gets this information in the very early stages. A good example is his second letter to the Sindaco of TENDA regarding the bridges between "the tunnels and the border" when a copy was sent to me after I had complained about lack of information on the subject. Col. Curie ? visited TENDA with Major-General HEYDEMAN on the day before this letter was written!!!
- When a request was made by A.C. HQ. as to whether the PREFECT had made a public speech on his visit to TENDA, I received the request for information on 24 April 46. General Heydeman had mentioned this to me on 19 April 46, and the French L.O. advised me he had heard about this alleged speech from the French Consul in TORINO on 20 April 46!!!!
3. The French L.O. makes frequent trips to TORINO & MILANO, apart from trips to NICE, MONTAN (where he has his radio transmitting set) and LYONS - he has the run of the two Countries.
4. Never, on any occasion, has information sent in by the French L.O. been passed back to me.

4030

5. The Allied Officer at TENDA - a neutral observer - is at a great disadvantage compared with the French L.O. - and the French L.O. is supposed to be under the orders of the Allied L.O.

6. The French L.O. is not a L.O. in the true sense of the term - he is fighting tooth and nail to get the Communes of TENDA & BRIGA for FRANCE and he is completely unscrupulous in the manner in which he does it - and - has admitted this to me in private conversation.

7. These points were brought out many times in A.M.C. days - and I have also brought them to the notice of previous C.L.Os - Colonels Jordan and Arnold.

8. Since writing the above paragraphs, the French L.O. has been to see me - stating he is leaving MILANO at 0900 hrs on Monday, 27 May 46, by plane, a seat having been reserved for him by Col. Curie, French L.O. of 2 District. This was a statement - not a request.

I advised him it would not be practicable for him to go on Monday as I should want to introduce him to Major Ronnie on the handover I also requested his silence until Monday on the change of Allied L.Os, as I am endeavouring to keep the move as quiet as possible and advising no one unless it is essential.

/S/ A.H. GARNER.
Lt. Colonel. R.A.
Liaison Officer

Copy to: 315 P.S.S.

8626

581 81

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

21 June 1946

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REF: PR/CLO/50

SUBJECT: Movement of French Troops at Moncerenisio.

TO: Headquarters, ALLIED COMMISSION.

1. Reference to previous correspondence on this subject: contact has been maintained but no further incidents of like nature have been reported to date.
2. I attach hereto, however, copy of a report received from the O/C Legion of Carabinieri di Torino regarding a visit paid to Susa by three French officers who entered Italy via Randonecchia on the 14th June on what appears to be a very flimsy excuse.
3. Quite apart from the fact that, as the writer states, the French must be aware that all French bodies have been removed to France from Susa, it is hardly likely that a Colonel would have been despatched on such an enquiry in company with two subordinate officers and there can be little doubt that for some reason the French are showing unusual interest in this part of the world.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

H. Green
P.C. GREEN,
Lt. Colonel, CL,
Chief Liaison Officer.

PG/EC

~~SECRET~~

See 562-34

(1/1000 N)

10/8/46

58197

560

Translation

MI

REURTEL TELETYPE UNIT DATED 1945 - MAY 25 TORINO

OFFICIAL SECRET

H.50/36 R.F.

Torino, 19 June 1945

SUBJECT: Visit of French Gendarmerie Officers to Susa

TO : Ident. Col. Frederico GREGG,
Chief Police Liaison Officer,
Corteo 20,
Torino.

7
We inform you confidentially that on the afternoon of the 14 inst., after obtaining the permission of the P.S. Office on the frontier of Bardonecchia, a colonel, a captain and a lieutenant of the French Gendarmerie visited Susa armed with the object - according to their own statement - of recovering the bodies of some French soldiers who died in the valley during the French occupation.

On their arrival in the city the French officers paid a brief courtesy visit to the commandant of that company of C.S. They returned to France the same evening.

It seems improbable that the object of the visit of the French officers is as stated by them, since they took a very superficial interest in ascertaining whether their military were buried in the cemetery and also because they could not be ignorant of the fact that all the bodies of French soldiers resting in Susa and in the valley, had been taken to France some time ago.

It is more probable that the French officers had returned to Italian territory either on a pleasure trip or to carry out a rapid survey of the valley of Susa.

IL V. DIRIGENTE GENERALE DEL D.M. DELLA P.S. RE
Italiano Altero

SECRET

See 7-58

4021

COPY

ML

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DI TORINO

UFFICIO SERVIZIO

N. 50/26 di prot. R.P.

Torino, 19 giugno 1946

OGGETTO: Visita a Susa di ufficiali della gendarmeria francese.

AL TEN. COLONNELLO Frederick GREEN
- Chief Police Liaison Officer -
- Corso Oporto n. 20 -

TORINO

A titolo di notizia riservatissima alla Vostra Persona comunico che nel pomeriggio del 14 corrente - in seguito ad autorizzazione del l'ufficio P.S. di confine di Bardonecchia - un colonnello, un capitano ed un tenente della gendarmeria francese si sono recati disarmati a Susa per interessarsi, a loro dire, del ricupero delle salme di alcuni soldati francesi morti nella valle durante l'occupazione francese.

Al loro arrivo in città' gli ufficiali francesi hanno compiuto una breve visita di cortesia al comandante di quella Compagnia CC.MR. In serata hanno fatto ritorno in Francia.

Non sembra che il motivo del viaggio degli ufficiali francesi possa essere quello da essi edotto poiché' essi si sono interessati molto ufficialmente di stabilire se al cimitero fossero tumulati loro militari e perché' non potevano ignorare che - già' da tempo - tutte le salme dei morti francesi giacenti in Susa e nella valle sono state traslate in Francia.

A titolo di notizia riservatissima alla Vostra Persona comunico che nel pomeriggio del 14 corrente - in seguito ad autorizzazione del l'ufficio P.S. di confine di Bardonecchia - un colonnello, un capitano ed un tenente della gendarmeria francese si sono recati disarmati a Susa per interessarsi, a loro dire, del ricupero delle salme di alcuni soldati francesi morti nella valle durante l'occupazione francese.

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Es più' probabile che gli ufficiali francesi si siano recati in territorio italiano o per fare una gita di piacere o per compire una rapida ricognizione nella valle di Susa.

IL T. COLONNELLO COMANDANTE INT. DELLA LEGIONE
- Italo Albero-

4020

SECRET

EX-COMM

~~SECRET~~

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON GROUP
PIEMONTE REGION

Ref. : PR/CLO/50

Subject : Movement of French Troops alleged at Moncenisio (Torino)

To : HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

Further to your telegram No. 3588 and my reply No. PR/CLO/50 of today's date, I hereto attach, for information, copy of a report by Captain Bolter of this Liaison Group, who, at my orders, personally investigated the conditions at Moncenisio in the light of the report received through the Italian Government.

The report is self-explanatory and needs no further comment by me.

Contact will be maintained and any further incidents will be reported immediately.

P.G. GREEN

Lt: Colonel - GL

Chief Liaison Officer -
PIEMONTE.

PGG/ml

Further to your telegram No. 3586 and my reply No. PR/CLO/50 of today's date, I hereto attach, for information, copy of a report by Captain Bolter of this Liaison Group, who, at my orders, personally investigated the conditions at Moncenisic in the light of the report received through the Italian Government.

The report is self-explanatory and needs no further comment by me.

Contact will be maintained and any further incidents will be reported immediately.

H. Green

F.G. GREEN

Lt: Colonel - GL

Chief Liaison Officer -
PIEMONTE.

FGG/EL

DEL 561

CONFIDENTIAL

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(check me)

ARMED COMMISSION

PIEMONTE LIAISON GROUP

SUBJECT: Movement of French Troops alleged at Moncenisio (Torino).
TO: The Chief Liaison Officer, Piemonte Group, A.C. —
DATE: 10 June, 46
REF: PR/L/PS/52

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1. Acting on your instructions I visited the Susa Valley on the morning of the 10 June, 46 and made enquiries regarding the alleged movement of troops in the vicinity of Moncenisio.

3. From discreet and careful enquiries which I made in the area I ascertained the following facts.

On the morning of the 4 June, 1946 four civilians were stopped near the frontier by the CC.RR. guards. It is alleged that the civilians were French soldiers who stated that they had been authorised to make a survey of the old fortified zone which contained many mines. They added that the mines would be lifted by the French Authorities and that the work would take about 15 days. In the near future a group of 60 workmen would come into the area to be followed later by a further 150 men. These groups of workmen would consist in the main of German Prisoners of War.

The CC.RR., guards explained that the mines were in Italian territory and until they had the necessary authority no permission could be given for the French to undertake the work.

The Frenchmen then returned across the Frontier Zone.

At 10 a.m., on Friday the 7th. June, 1946 another party of Frenchmen were stopped at the Frontier Post by the CC.RR. The party consisted of one French Army Lieutenant, one armed soldier, two civilians and seven German Prisoners of War.

The Lieutenant explained to the CC.RR., guards that they had come to commence the lifting of the mines in the area. During the conversation which the CC.RR., had with the officer it appears that the Frenchmen were under the impression that the Moncenisio area had been ceded to France. The CC.RR., replied that they had received no notification of this order and that the area was still Italian territory. The officer accepted the explanation and took his party back into France. Since that date no further entry has been made.

The first incident was reported in the Turin newspaper

3. From discreet and careful enquiries which I made in the area I ascertained the following facts.

On the morning of the 4 June, 1946 four civilians were stopped near the frontier by the CC.RR. guards. It is alleged that the civilians were French soldiers who stated that they had been authorised to make a survey of the old fortified zone which contained many mines. They added that the mines would be lifted by the French Authorities and that the work would take about 15 days. In the near future a group of 60 workmen would come into the area to be followed later by a further 150 men. These groups of workmen would consist in the main of German Prisoners of War.

The CC.RR., guards explained that the mines were in Italian territory and until they had the necessary authority no permission could be given for the French to undertake the work.

The Frenchmen then returned across the Frontier Zone.

At 10 a.m., on Friday the 7th. June, 1946 another party of Frenchmen were stopped at the Frontier Post by the CC.RR. The party consisted of one French Army Lieutenant, one armed soldier, two civilians and seven German Prisoners of War.

The Lieutenant explained to the CC.RR., guards that they had come to commence the lifting of the mines in the area. During the conversation which the CC.RR., had with the officer it appears that the Frenchmen were under the impression that the Moncenisio area had been ceded to France. The CC.RR., replied that they had received no notification of this order and that the area was still Italian territory. The officer accepted the explanation and took his party back into France. Since that date no further entry has been made.

4. The first incident was reported in the Turin newspaper "Gazetta Sera" No 34 of the 7-8 June. A cutting giving the report is attached.

5. I made further enquiries regarding any further alleged troop movements on the French side of Moncenisio but could find no evidence to support the allegation that there were 200 French troops endeavouring to cross the border. It is understood from information received that there are no French troops in the frontier town of L'Islebourg and that there are only scattered detachments in the entire valley of the River Arc. This valley skirts the Italian border from Moncenisio to Briançon.

549
- (2) cont.

re: Alleged Movement of French troops at Moncel-sur-Meuse.

6. The original incident and the subsequent occurrence were immediately reported through channels to the Brigade Headquarters of the Turin CC.BR., who in turn passed on the information to the Comando Territoriale at Turin. It is the opinion of the writer that the original report has been grossly exaggerated in its passage to Rome and that the true facts are as stated above.

7. Any further information which may be obtained will be passed on to the writer from the Susa valley and reported to you immediately.

C. P. Ballester, Capt.

E.P. Bolter, Capt.
Police Liaison Officer.
A.C. Piemonte.

ERB/epb.

Copies to/-

G.S. I. 3 District, C.M.F.
315 P.S.S., C.M.F.

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

785017

C.P. Bolter, Capt.

E.P. Bolter, Capt.
Police Liaison Officer.
A.C. Piemonte.

EPB/epb.

Copies to/-

G.S. I. 3 District, C.M.P.
315 P.S.S., C.M.P.

402.

EXTRACT FROM "GAZZETTA SERA"

Nº 34 of the 7-8 June, 1945

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ALCANTARA

Stato alla scoperta di, mulla-10m 94m 100 m...

Mercoledì pattuglie francesi erano in territorio italiano

Misteriose manovre al confine del Moncenisio

Moncenisio, 7 giugno. La Val Cenisia è in allarme. Giustificato o no, l'allarme è dovuto allo scatenarsi di alcuni elementi francesi con scopi non ben definiti.

I francesi giunsero mercoledì da Lanslebourg nella mattinata. Erano 11 di cui 4 in divisa militare. Valtarono a lungo le caserme dell'ospizio, presero illesi e s'informarono dai margini, delle particolari condizioni della zona e dell'ubicazione di alcuni forti. Passagiarono, insomma, in lungo e in largo prendendo appunti. Proprio come se fossero in casa loro. E ciò fino a quando furono fermati da una pattuglia di carabinieri appostata sulla strada dall'accantonamento. I francesi dissero che la ragione del loro sconfinamento era di accertare la possibilità di operare sul colle, in territorio italiano, dei prigionieri tedeschi, sospetti di minare.

sui confini. Infatti il sindaco del Moncenisio, recatosi sul posto, ha potuto accertare che la linea di confine non è sorvegliata direttamente. I carabinieri della zona, anzi, che al casello n. 17 situato sulla linea di confine, sono accasernati nella villetta prima dell'ospizio e si limitano a fare, saltuariamente, pattuglie verso il confine. Complessivamente priva di vigilanza è la zona del Piccolo Moncenisio. Il comando dell'Arma di Sisa, al quale è stata fatta presente la situazione, ha risposto che il casello n. 17 è inabitabile perché mancano i vetri alle finestre e la luce. Ha aggiunto anche che tutte le richieste fatte alle autorità competenti affinché gli fornissero i mezzi per fare eseguire

Ancora nessuna conferma del prestito americano

Roma, 7 giugno

Nessuna conferma da parte ufficiale è stata finora data alla notizia diffusa alla stampa, secondo la quale l'Impero Export Bank, avrebbe deciso di non concedere alcun prestito all'Italia.

Mercoledì pattuglie francesi erano in territorio italiano

Misteriose manovre al confine del Moncenisio

Moncenisio, 7 giugno. La Val Cenesia è in allarme. Giovedì 6 o 7, l'allarme è dovuto allo sconfinamento di alcuni elementi francesi con scopi non ben definiti.

I francesi giunsero mercoledì da Lantèsbourg nella mattinata. Erano lì di cui 4 in divisa militare. Vi si erano a lungo le caserme dell'impiego presso rilievi e a informazioni dal margine, delle particolari condizioni della zona e dell'ubicazione di alcuni forti. Passaggiarono, insomma, in lungo e in largo per il paese. Proprio come se fossero in casa loro. E ciò fino a quando furono fermati da una pattuglia di carabinieri, appositamente uscita dall'accantonamento. I francesi dissero che la ragione del loro sconfinamento era di accertare la possibilità di operare sul colle in territorio italiano, dei prigionieri tedeschi scortati da militari francesi a cui era affidato l'incarico di rinviare nella zona del piccolo Moncenisio le mine sepolte dai tedeschi. Il comandante la pattuglia dei carabinieri fece osservare che nulla di tutto ciò era di loro competenza e che senza un'aperta autorizzazione del ministero italiano nessuno poteva prendere iniziative del genere.

Lo sconfinamento dei francesi non è ostacolato da nem-

ici controlli infatti il sindaco del Moncenisio recatosi sul posto, ha potuto accertare che la linea di confine non è sorvegliata direttamente. I carabinieri della zona analizzarono il caso n. 17 attuale che al casello n. 17 attuale sulla linea di confine, sono avvisati nella villetta prima dell'esplosione e si limitano a fare, saltuariamente, pattuglie verso il confine. Complessivamente priva di vigilanza è la zona del piccolo Moncenisio. Il comando dell'Arma di Sisa, al quale è stata fatta presente la situazione, ha risposto che il casello n. 17 è inabitabile perché mancano i vetri alle finestre e la luce. Ha sottolineato anche che tutte le richieste fatte alle autorità competenti affinché si fornissero i mezzi per fare eseguire

lavori necessari sono rimaste senza risposta. A nome del Comitato per la difesa degli interessi del Moncenisio, il signor Franchi ha provveduto sollecitamente a stanziare i fondi necessari affinché siano messi i vetri alle finestre del casello di confine mentre la Sisa ha messo a disposizione il materiale per gli impianti idrici.

Ancora nessuna conferma del prestito americano

Roma, 7 giugno. Nessuna conferma da parte ufficiale è stata finora data alla notizia diffusa alla stampa, secondo la quale l'importazione di armi e munizioni da parte di Portici avrebbe deciso di non concedere alcun prestito all'Italia.

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Ex Comm 54b
7354

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12th June 1945.

JUN 18 1945

C.I.O., Piemonte Division Group,
ALLIED COMMISSION.
PAC/CU/7.1.

SUBJECT :- Incident at TENDA.

1. At 1730 hrs Wednesday 12 June 1945, information was received by L.O. TENDA, from French Sergeant-major, that he had received instructions from Colonel Guret, French Liaison Officer, 3 District, during his visit to TENDA that morning, to report to L.O. an incident at TENDA on previous evening. L.O. had met and talked with French Sgt-major at 11.30 hrs, but the H.C.O. had not mentioned the matter and explained later that he did not want to talk in front of the English H.C.O. and interpreter.
2. Immediate enquiries were made by the L.O. and it was learned from the Liaison Officer of C.O.R.R. that about 11.30 p.m. 11th June 1945, a person or persons unknown introduced a form of beer gas into the local cinema in which a dance organised by the Unione Sportiva Tondese was being held - there were only about 25 people present at the time and they were all obliged to leave. Carabinieri suspect but cannot produce evidence in support of their theory, that someone from Briga was responsible because of alleged bad feeling existing between the two towns citing, as an example, the fact that the ex-leader of the Briga Partisans, whilst sleeping in his lorry at TENDA was assaulted, at 20135 03.00 hrs on Monday 10 June 1945, by some men of TENDA. The incident at the dance-hall may have been in retaliation for this incident.
3. About 01.00 hrs 12 June 1945, 3 men of Briga (who had attended the dance previously referred to) became involved in an argument with alleged Pro-French elements at Tenda, and later, a truck with about 15 people from Briga arrived at TENDA and inflicted several blows

...that he was not

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

SUBJECT: Incident at ZEMBA.

1. At 1730 hrs Wednesday 12 June 1946, information was received by D.O. ZEMBA, from French Sergeant-Major, that he had received instructions from Colonel Curet, French Liaison Officer, 3 District, during his visit to ZEMBA that morning, to report to D.O. an incident at ZEMBA on previous evening. D.O. had met and talked with French Sgt-Major at 11.30 hrs, but the N.C.O. had not mentioned the matter and explained later that he did not want to talk in front of the English N.C.O. and interpreter.
2. Immediate enquiries were made by the D.O. and it was learned from the Brigadiere of CC.RR that about 11.30 p.m. 11th June 1946, a person or persons unknown introduced a force of about 25 into the local cinema in which a dance was being held by the United Sportsive Teneuse was being held - there were only about 25 people present at the time and they were all obliged to leave. Carabinieri suspect but cannot produce evidence in support of their theory, that someone from Briga was responsible because of alleged bad feeling existing between the two towns citing, as an example, the fact that the ex-leader of the Briga Partisans, whilst sleeping in his lorry at ZEMBA was assaulted, at 03.00 hrs on Monday 10 June 1946, by some men of ZEMBA. The incident at the dance-hall may have been in retaliation for this incident.
3. About 01.00 hrs 12 June 1946, 3 men of Briga (who had attended the dance previously referred to) became involved in an argument with alleged Pro-French elements at Zenda, and later, a truck with about 15 people from Briga arrived at ZEMBA and inflicted several blows on a man of alleged Pro-French views. I am told that he was not injured and went to his home. Afterwards the men sang songs in the main street and went back to Briga. No action was taken with regard to these incidents by the CC.RR and they made no report of the matter to me; it was only by closely questioning the Brigadiere that I obtained as much information as is now available.
4. It was alleged by the French D.O. that the CC.RR had fired shots into the air; this was denied by the Brigadiere at ZEMBA but I learned that the Brigadiere from Briga had been at the ZEMBA Cinema (off duty) until about 01.30 hrs. In reply to a telephoned enquiry he stated that at 02.00 hours, at Briga, one of his men notified him (discharged his sten-gun in the air).

11 June 1946
[Signature]

546

REPORT (Continued).

5. The Brigadiere at TANDA had learned that a demonstration had been planned for the evening of 11th June 1946, by the local Socialist Party against the CC.RR. The demonstration did not take place, but this morning he invited the leader of the party to the Casernes and asked for an explanation. He was told that the demonstration was planned against the Sindaco and not against the CC.RR, for political reasons.
6. The Brigadiere states, in confidence, that the trouble-makers from Briga are invited to TANDA by the Sindaco to stir up anti-French trouble, and that as long as the present Sindaco remains, there is a danger of incidents.

WR/JBS.

W. R. R. R.
W. R. R. R.,
Major.,
A.C., Liaison Officer.

Copy forwarded for information, to:-

✓ HQ. A.C., A.P.O. 794.

315 P.B.S., O.M.F.

3 District (for information onward transmission to Colonel Guret,

REPORT (Continued).

5. The Brigadiere at TAMBA had learned that a demonstration had been planned for the evening of 11th June 1946, by the local Socialist Party against the CC.RH. The demonstration did not take place, but this morning he invited the leader of the party to the Casernes and asked for an explanation. He was told that the demonstration was planned against the Sindaco and not against the CC.RH, for political reasons.
6. The Brigadiere states, in confidence, that the trouble-makers from Briga are invited to TAMBA by the Sindaco to stir up anti-French trouble, and that as long as the present Sindaco remains, there is a danger of incidents.

WR/JRS.

S. R. R. R.
M. R. R. R.
Major,
A.C., Liaison Officer.

Copy forwarded for information, to:-

- ✓ HQ. A.C., A.F.O. 794.
- 315 F.B.S., O.H.P.
- 3 District (for information onward transmission to Colonel Curet, French Liaison Officer, 3 District).

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Ex Comm

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

C.I.O., Elmonte Liaison Group.

12th June 1946.

PAC/GU/3.3.

JUN 17 1946

SUBJECT :- Letter received by A.C. French L.C. from Pro-French elements at Tenda.

539

1. Herewith copy of a letter received on 10th June by Lieutenant E. LAURE, French Liaison Officer at Tenda, from Pro-French elements in the area (the signatures are not shown but I understand that three of them were members of the Comité during the time of the French occupation).

S. R. R. R.
W. R. R. R.
Major.
Liaison Officer.

WJ/228.

Copies to:-

✓ HQ. A.C., A.P.O. 794.
C.S.I., 3 District, c/o 427 P.S.S., U.M.P.
315 P.S.S., Arin.

PRO/CO/3.3.

JUN 17 1948

SUBJECT :- Letter received by A.C. French S.O. from Pro-French elements at Suda.

539

1. Herewith copy of a letter received on 10th June by Lieutenant L. LADRE, French Liaison Officer at Suda, from Pro-French elements in the area (the signatures are not known but I understand that three of them were members of the Committee during the time of the French occupation).

WR/JDS.

B. Raper
H. ROBINSON,
Major,
Liaison Officer.

Copies to:-

✓ HQ. A.C., A.P.O. 794.
G.S.I., 3 District, c/o 427 P.S.S., U.S.P.
115 P.S.S., Durin.

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(4/22/48)

C O P Y

SECRET

537

COMMANDEMENT MILITAIRE FRANCAIS
EN ITALIE

TENDE, le 10 Juin 1946.

Liaison aupres de la
Commission Alliee

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TENDE & LA BRIGADE

Le Lieutenant L. KALCK
Officier de Liaison

A Monsieur le Che. de Vaisseau
DE VILLEFOSSE, Représentant
Français aupres de l'A.C. en Italie.

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir ci-joint une
lettre adressée à Monsieur Georges RIDAULT Ministre des Affaires
Etrangères, par les dirigeants du Parti Socialiste de Tende.

Copie de cette lettre a été remise au Major ROMANIE,
représentant de l'A.C. à Tende.

Sgt. L. KALCK

Translation

FRENCH MILITARY COMMANDEMENT
IN ITALY

Tende, 10th June 1946.

Liaison with the Allied Commission

TENDE AND BRIGA

From Lieutenant L. KALCK
Liaison Officer.

To Che. de Vaisseau DE VILLEFOSSE
French Representative with the
Allied Commission in Italy.

Lieutenant L. KALCK
Officer de Liaison

A Monsieur le Cne. de Vaisseau
DE VILLEPOSSÉ, Représentant
Français auprès de l'A.C. en Italie.

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir ci-joint une
lettre adressée à Monsieur Georges BIDAULT Ministre des Affaires
Étrangères, par les dirigeants du Parti Socialiste de Tende.

Copie de cette lettre a été remise au Major RONNIE,
représentant de l'A.C. à Tende.

Sgt. L. KALCK

Translation

FRENCH MILITARY COMMANDMENT
IN ITALY

Tenda, 10th June 1945.

Liaison with the Allied Commission

TENDA AND BRICA

From Lieutenant L. KALCK
Liaison Officer.

To Cne. de Vaisseau DE VILLEPOSSÉ
French Representative with the
Allied Commission in Italy.

I beg to send a letter enclosed herewith. This letter has
been written by the leaders of the Socialist Party of Tenda for Mr.
George BIDAULT, French Foreign Minister.

A copy of this letter has been given to Major RONNIE, A.C.
Liaison Officer in Tenda.

see 540

401

LETTER A ISSUED TO MR. G. CAMPBELL

The Italian Press has published articles, in which availing itself of the fact that the inhabitants of Tenda have taken part in the recent political elections, this population has showed itself of pro-Italian feelings. No, neither the Italian Press nor anybody else, after the results of this election of Tenda can affirm the Italianity of the zone. It is a fact at last ascertained after the visit of the Inter-Allied Commission, that the actual population of Tenda is sub-divided of pro-Italian and pro-French. The pro-French inhabitants of Tenda wanted to take part in the political election under the flag of the Socialist Party, to show once and for ever that the valuation of the Inter-Allied Commission was a mistake in pretending a slight majority of pro-Italian in Tenda.

Taken for granted that the pro-French have chosen the Socialist Party and the pro-Italian the Demo-Christian Party, gives the following results from the votes obtained :

Socialist Party : Votes 691 + 50 contested = 741
 Demo-Christian Party : Votes 591

The Socialist Party are 60% - Demo-Christian Party 40%
 Hence it remains demonstrated that the actual structure of the population of Tenda according to the result of the elections is as follows :

- 1)- PRO-FRENCH : The true people of Tenda and living in Tenda 60%
 Farmers - Workers - Trade-men, etc.
- 2)- PRO-ITALIAN :
 (a) Ex Officers - Ex U.O.C. of the Italian Army with their families, who for difficulty of transport and subsided by the Italian authorities have not left Tenda 5%
 (b) Clerks - workers - contractors of the wood enterprises - ex fascists whom with requisitions on the woods have cooperated to the Nazi-Fascist war.
 (c) Direct dependant of the Italian State and Para-Statal Offices (Carabinieri-Finance Guards-Public Safety Agents - Clerks of the State Railways - Statal Professors - etc..... 13%
 (d) People of Tenda..... 10%
 For a total : a + b + c + d = 43%

Of this 40% of pro-Italians, the 30% (a + b + c) is relatively a foreign to Tenda, being clear that they came to live in Tenda or for the cause of the war against France or for reasons of belonging to the Statal Offices, and that within a year or to the maximum 2 years, even if Tenda zone and would go back

... of Tenda wanted to take part in the political election under the flag of the Socialist Party, to show once and for ever that the valuation of the inter-allied Commission was a mistake in sentencing a slight majority of pro-Italian in Tenda.

Taken for granted that the pro-French have chosen the Socialist Party and the pro-Italian the Demo-Christian Party, given the following results from the votes obtained :

Socialist Party : Votes 631 + 30 contested = 741

Demo-Christian Party : Votes 591

The Socialist Party are 60% - Demo-Christian Party 40%

Thence it remains demonstrated that the actual structure of the population of Tenda according to the result of the elections is as follows :

1)- PRO-FRENCH : The true people of Tenda and living in Tenda 50%
Farmers - Workers - Trade-men, etc.

2)- PRO-ITALIAN (a)
Ex Officers - Ex P.O.O. of the Italian Army with their families, who for difficulty of transport and subsidised by the Italian authorities have not left Tenda 5%

(b)-Clerks - workers - contractors of the wood enterprises - ex fascists whom with requisitions on the woods have cooperated to the Nazi-Fascist war.

(c)-Direct dependent of the Italian State and Para-Statel Offices (Carabinieri-Finances Guardia-Public Safety Agents - Clerks of the State Railways - Statel Professors - etc..... 13%

(d)- People of Tenda..... 10%

For a total : a + b + c + d = 40%

Of this 40% of pro-Italians, the 30% (a + b + c) is relatively a foreign to Tenda, being clear that they came to live in Tenda or for the cause of the war against France or for reasons of belonging to the Statel Offices, and that within a year or to the maximum 2 years, even if Tenda would remain Italian, they would abandon the Tenda zone and would go back to their families and to their real residences.

Therefore in consideration that in the actual political elections of Tenda, have voted the 30% of persons not living temporarily in Tenda, it is clear that of the usual inhabitants of Tenda who have voted, the 80% have voted for the Socialist Party, and I as the last Sindaco of Tenda, degraded by the strength of the fascist laws, and only true representative of the will of the inhabitants of Tenda, I can clearly affirm that the inhabitants of Tenda own at any time accept in referendum to demonstration of their decided will, to return and to belong to their Province that is Nice and to France, and I'm certain that this referendum will be at least the 80% of votes for the return of Tenda to France.

P.2.0.

Enclosure 1 - The document which is above enclosed, an article of the
"The New York Times", dated 1941, concerning the activities of the
which have been listed in the Section of the National
Party is enclosed.

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