

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/294
(VOL. IV)

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10000/109/294
(VOL. IV)

BOLZANO SITUATION
NOV. 1945 - AUG. 1946

Spec. Dir.

520

Dr. Comd. en Chef.

Comments on Folio 518.

- 1) On 25 July 1946 a verbal report was received from the Italian Authorities, originating from the Prefect of Bolzano, that S. Tyrolians in PW Camp PISA were being sent to Germany along with German PW. This Division telephoned Maj. Marshall (A) G2 Sec AFHQ and pointed out that PW in question were Italians. Assurance was given them by Maj. Marshall that none of these would be sent to Germany. If any had been sent already, they would be recalled as soon as possible.
- 2) 796 S/Tyrolean, interned in Laterina Camp, should be released in the course of this week. Authority for their release forwarded to the Italian War Ministry on 12 Aug. 46.
- 3) HQ MCOUSA has been asked to release the 400 S/T., on 12 Aug 46. Authority still being awaited. Maj. MARSHALL G.H.Q. contacted on 17 Aug 46, and it is hoped to receive above authority without delay. (Pisa Camp)
- 4) 300 S/T. interned at Rimini. It is contemplated that by 31 Aug all Italian PW/SEP in British custody, less CI suspects, War Crimes Witnesses, and Civil Internees, will have been turned over to the Italian Authority.
Note - GHQ is being asked to clarify the position of the PW, mentioned in para 5. This Division and the War Ministry were not aware that 300 S/Tyrolean were interned at Rimini.

J.E.L.

cc. to Com.

521

*Ref folio 505. please see folio 518
and min 520 for info.*

521A

Auth 29/8 H. 2/8

Chief Commissioner.

1. Your memorandum of July 27 (Page 505) was referred to BOLZANO and to the IPW Section. The replies are at Page 518 and Minute 520.

2. Your assumption that these PW were sent to Germany were Italian personnel serving either in the German or Austrian Armies is correct and you will see that there was considerable confusion after their release at DACHAU.

4) 300 S/T. interned at Rimini. It is contemplated that by 31 Aug all Italian PW/SP in British custody, less CI suspects, War Crimes Witnesses, and Civil Internees, will have been turned over to the Italian Authority.
Note - GE2 is being asked to clarify the position of the PW, mentioned in para 3. This Division and the War Ministry were not aware that 300 S/Tyrolean were interned at Rimini.

J.E.R.

CSO. to Com.

(2)

Ref folio 505. please see folio 518

and min 520 for info.

521A

July 29th H.L. 248

Chief Commissioner.

1. Your memorandum of July 27 (page 505) was referred to, BULZAC and to the IPI Section. The replies are at Page 518 and Minute 520.
2. Your assumption that these ^{who} were sent to Germany were Italian personnel serving either in the German or Austrian Armies is correct and you will see that there was considerable confusion after their release at Dachau, chiefly due to the refusal of the Italian authorities to allow them to cross the Brenner into Italy. In view of the circumstances I think this refusal was probably reasonable. Some of them, however, have got across by other means.
3. You will see from Min. 502 what steps have been or are being taken to release the remaining sub-Tyrolean POW and to turn them over to the Italian authorities.
4. Draft letter to Dr. Dagna is attached.

AUG 21 1946

4000

521B.

FL.

012

and 1520

(52)

*Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.*

21.Aug.46.

26/VIII

26/8/46

497

CSO Ex Comm.

Ref your minute⁴⁹². Please seeminutes ^{493, 494, 496} ~~497~~

you may possibly
wish to take call with you to discuss on
your forthcoming visit.

Aut 19/7 H.S. 18/7

HVL

~~503~~

Ex Comm.

Ref ~~497~~ ⁵⁰² I have had translation
made of (A) and (B) which are at ~~497~~ 500
and ~~497~~ 501. Copies made for Polads
which I will forward after you have
seen & with any comments which you
may have to make. H.S. 18/7

HVL

CSO Ex Comm. ~~507~~

Ref CC's min at Polad ~~497~~ ⁵⁰⁵ ~~497~~ ⁵⁰⁶ for

Signature, please. Aut 19/7 H.S. 18/7

Ex Comm.

Ref ~~502~~ ⁵⁰² I have had translations made of (A) and (B) which are at ~~500~~ 500 and ~~501~~ 501. Copies made for Polads which I will forward after you have seen & with any comments which you may have to make. H.S. 18/7

Mr. [unclear]

Ex Comm. ~~502~~ ⁵⁰⁷

Ref cc's mem at folio ~~505~~ ⁵⁰⁵ folio ~~506~~ ⁵⁰⁶

signature, please. Auto sig H.S. 5/17

519

I.P.W. Sec.

Folio 518 for your comment, please.
 [Signature]

785017

F.C.

49

✓
GND
CC

8/11

49

Polads & B to see. DR/7/2

E. A. Comm.

49

We have proposed is this or what stage
of consideration has it reached?

W. Kelly Jones
Pol. R. (Am) Dec. 10 -

49

It may be the draft which I understand
Dr. Juncos, prefect of Bolzano, is intending
to submit to the new government.

Pinotti

Polad R. 16/3

495

Palad R.

Please see min ⁴⁹⁴ for info. ~~Alk~~ 16/3

496

CSD -

Mr. Pinotti is not certain that this is

What progress has it reached?

W. S. Jones
Pol. Ad. (Am) Dec 10 -

491
It may be the draft which I understand
Dr Innocenti, puppet of Bolzano, is intending
to submit to the new government.

Pinetti Polad B. 16/7

Polad B.

495

Please see memo ⁴⁹⁴ for info. ~~Alb~~ 16/7

496

C.S.O.

Mr. Pinetti is not certain that this is
Innocenti's plan. Are you? If not
could you ask C. L. O. whose plan
it is & how far along the line of
governmental approach it has gotten?

W. S. Jones
Pol. Ad. (Am)
July 17/46
160;

4449

CSO A/C.C.

Signal at 4449 for the info of

CSO Comm, please.

HS. 8/4

ALL 7/4

4449

Inform Dir of Police

HS. 8/4

4449

CSO Ref min 4449 letter at 4449 - signature, please

Aut 7/4

~~4449~~ 4450

CSO A/C.C.

Letter at 4449 for signature, please.

Letter at 431 and mins 432 - 443 refer Aut 2/4

This letter at 4449 was received from C.A.S. for signature on 25/4 but had to be returned for typing even to be completed.

HS. 26/4

HS. 27/4

462

incomplete

Out 7/4

444 450

1
CSC A.I.C.

Letter at 449 for signature, please.

Letter at 431 and minus 432 - 443 refer *QW* 25/4

This letter at 449 was received from C.A.S. for signature on 25/4 but had to be returned for typing even to be cancelled. *H.S.* 26/4

775/27/4

462

To CSC to Comm.

Ref letter at 461 and enclosures at Folios 451-61. So you wish these sending to Council of Foreign Ministers, please *H.S.* 17/5 *QW* 16/5

Concill Polads *W.S.* 16/5

464

to Comm.

To C.S.O. ⁴⁶³ Ref min 444. Polads 17-13' both agree, so letter for signature at ~~444~~ 463 *QW* 25/5. *H.S.* 24/5

463 cancelled *H.S.* 24/4

V.P. CAS

440.

Ref min 439. may action please be taken,
~~please~~ *almost nothing*
 1944

441.

L.G. S/C

Letter was rec'd received and I quit 1st and I
 runs 7m complete staff has been away each week-end on
 an average from Friday to Tuesday in connection with
 local elections. Any way please take all steps to location
 action as much as possible.

1. Van Buren
 D.P.C. A.S.

20/4/46.

482

V.P. CAS

1. Reference min. 433-441.
2. Herewith letter for signature of a/c c addressed to Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
3. The Br. Embassy received the communication direct from the Italian govt. whilst the am. Embassy got the copies from us. Both however informed their govt.
4. The observations of CLO Bologna are at folio 101, file 4512/11/4g herewith

an average from Friday to Tuesday in connection with local elections. Anyway please take all steps to hasten action as much as possible.

Mr. R. C. A. S.

20/4/46.

482

V.P. CAS

1. Reference number 433-441.
2. Herewith letter for signature of a/c c addressed to Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

3. The Br. Embassy received the communication direct from the Italian Govt. which the am. Embassy got the Scopus from us. Both however informed their govt.

4. The observations of CLO Bologna are at folio 101 file 45/12/11/Kg herewith for your information.

R. R. Temple, Maj.
Dir. Foreign Sec
1-495

23/4/46

448

Ex. Comm.

Action has already been taken by the Br. Embassy on a copy of the Ministry of F.A.; letter received direct. B.S. Government have been informed. Comments of CLO. Bologna are in attached file (No 101) with all relevant information to local activity.

Enclosed is suggested reply to Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

24/4/46.

Mr. C. A. S.
R. C. A. S.

4.34

VP CH Section

Ref - mem 433, may Eric Camus please be informed of the action taken? Adelt 3/4

Loas Govt 9/6

(135)

Please see memo 433/4, and forward your comments
Publication, May
Ch. Section.

4 April

(435)

CAS

429-30

1. Ref. for 429-430 & minutes 433-435.
2. The information contained in the a/g. for. was given me by the Prefect of Dolans in an interview on 8 March.
3. The Prime Minister's letter & its enclosure have been sent to Polard & to CLO Dolans for their observations. When these are received, I will minute them up, together with a draft reply to the PM

C. R. J. Langley
 Director
 L. G. S/C

Ex. Comm.

437

Ref - mem 433. action has been taken as of mem 436.

Mr. J. B. Baker
V.P. C.F.S.

15/4/46

138

785017

2. The information contained in the a/g for was given me by the Prefect of Dolbeau in an interview on 8 March.

3. The Prime Minister's letter & its enclosure have been sent to Polak, & to C.L.O. Boleaux for their observations. When these are received, I will re-write them up, together with a draft reply to the P.M.

C.H. J. J. J. J.
Director
L. G. S/C

Ex. Comm.

Ref. J. M. 433. action has been taken as of M. J. 436.

M. J. B. B. B.
P. P. C. S.

15/7/40

438.

A/C.C. Ref. J. M. 433. Please see number 436-7

ack
15/8/40

439.

C.S.O. But the letter is dated 25/3/40

it is now 18/4 Action by 24/4

please

15/8/40

4601

PNd A
B

425

I should like to see Carandini, directed by
his Govt. put in an answer. We should then also
see whether the Times would print the reply.

Can PAd B act?

MS/413

Ex. Com.

426

I understand that (1) Benedicto Crues has

been named by the W. F. A. to send a reply

(2) Bona (editor of Carina d'Informagion: written

and were known in British press circles) is also

replying in a letter to the Times.

427

MS/413

In view of PAd B's comments no action

would seem necessary. J. W. Kelly

Put Ad (B) over

Ex. Com.

428

been used by the W. F. A. to send a reply
(2) Bona (edition of Curious & Informing. London
and were known in British press circles) as also
replying in a letter to the Times.

427) ¹³⁹ ... Navy
In view of Paladini's (B) Comments no action
would seem necessary. J. W. Kelly Jones
Pat. 22 (1944) Mar 21

Ex. 100.

428. Please see 426 in reply to 425. Do you
wish any further action? 24/3
No further action. 24/3.
M. C. B. G. P. E. A. (on 24/3) 24/3.

Ex. 100. 432
C. S. O. Letter at 431, with encls. for your info, please
H. 214 214 7x

Capt H.
C. S. O.

433.
What action is being taken on the
C. S. O. B. G. P. E. A. should of course have copies

25/5/4

120
Some weeks ago we sent a number
of petitions to the Secretariat of the Council
of Foreign Ministers. In my covering letter I
made mention of population figures.

The statistics are for 1940-1945 should
now be sent with a covering letter saying
that they have been compiled after much
study by an expert who has been DC
etc - but that they must still be considered

as approximate

1940-1945 401.

1940-1945 may be of interest beyond,
especially in comparison with 408-411.

HS 24/2.

that they have been compiled after much
study by an expert who has been PC
etc - but that they must still be considered

as approximate

read & changed 421.

Pages 401-405 may be of interest to you,
especially in comparison with 408-411.

BS 24/2.

423

CSO

Thank you.

The Warren report at p. 401-405 does not seem
to have been having on how possible problems in the ALCO
Huge. As a protestant in the penitentiary para, the
government's and meaning of an administrative culture & therefore
not very strict. The documents do show, however, that he
SAC therefore had a fair for political opposition.

1/2/46

424

to Comm.

you asked

Each subject with Dec 220 which is the letter
written by the Swiss Bishop of Geneva to the Times &
mentioned by Col. Miller in his report, for January
1943

425
426
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500

401-405
 Here at 7-11 is an extremely interesting report from the
 same Joint Exploratory Research Agency (was FOIA's)
 on the 11th Adige. Polado will probably like to see.

408-411
 412
 13/2
 This is a list of the different populations
 in the 11th Adige area; it can be seen that out of
 a total population of 227,330, 164,037 (well over
 50%) are German-speaking. This interesting to
 compare these figures with the figures given on
 pp 10-11, which are based on the 1933 census. In
 1933 approx. out of a total population of 357,000,
 222,556 (62.3%) were non-German.

413
 412
 14/2
 A/c.c. Ref in 11-12 above. I think you will
 be interested to see the comparative figures re
 populations and the rest of the report from
 FOIA's at 401-405. I will forward the latter to
 Polado after you have seen. H.L. 14/2

412
 413
 416
 394 + 392 for info. H.L. 14/2

pp 10-11, which are based on the 1936 census. 10 years ago, out of a total population of 352,053, 222,556 (63.3%) were non-Hispanic.

B-413

BS 14/2

A/C.C.

Ref on 4/17 above. I think you will be interested to see the comparative figures re population and the rest of the report from F.O.I.A. 5 at ⁴⁰¹⁻⁴⁰⁵ ~~401-405~~. I will forward the latter to Polado after you have seen. J.S. 14/2

A/C.C.

⁴¹³ ~~413~~

413 7 416
344 + 343 for info. J.S. 14/2

In another file? under Robertson ONO give figures & percentages of populations. How do these compare?
BS 15/2

Atty. H.S. 21/2

at app 4 is Vernon Barker up'd requested by
La.C. at memo. 387. ⁴¹⁹ 18/2 see 387.

4080

378

Also H.S. 8/12

1) Ref see 376 et notes for info.

2) Ref min 370 - Letter is at 365A

H.S. 7/12

386

Ex Comm.

1) 385 for info

2) ref last para of your D.O. at 383. A further letter has come in re this subject from C.S. & is being dealt with now.

H.S. 9/12

387

C&C - When is the V-B article referred to by [induced] seen by E.C. 4/13

Conditia.

H.S. 10/12

388

Thurs S. ref in 387. Can you get hold of this article please. H.S. 11/12

393

→ // Polad A
Polad B.

Folios 389-391 are passed to you for information.

! would be grateful if Polad B could [unclear] K on 1385

Cec When a the V-B article referred to by

at Della. 11/12/72

388.
This is 387. Can you get hold of this
of article please. 11/12/72

393.

→ Polad A
→ Polad B.

folios 389-391 are passed to you for

information.

I would be grateful if Polad B could
forward copy of article referred to on p. 385
by Vernon Battlett. The British Embassy
is unable at the moment to supply it.
12/2.

TVV 12/2 394

400, folios 393-395 for info. B.C. will probably
wish to see.

on Polad (b)'s return I will obtain a copy
of the V-B report referred to in entry 387. The
British Embassy have no trace of it.
14/2

Produced.
see by
8C/14

785017

~~363~~ 363
 app. believe you have already seen a copy of
 326. CA EEC comments are at 327
 333, - Toledo at 331-332.
 Apparently he cannot in actual fact
 implement the suggestion at "A" in 324
 so there is no further action.
 23/

~~364~~ 364

Chief Commissioner.

mem 331-332

Attached is submitted for your ~~approval~~ in reply to 324
 information

fine
 -23/

Long

11/10/61

~~365~~ 365

476 for info - 1 think E.C. will like to see
 369.
 370-
 info. ref

Ex Comm. 1 365 for info. H.S. 4/2.

The letter must exist. DL/2/1

num 3310332

Attached is submission for your information

in up to 324

Long

Long

~~365~~ 366

~~365~~

365 for info - I think 366 will like to see
the 29/11

369.

Ex comm.

1 365 for info. H. 412.

370-
-the ref

The letter must exist. D/L (1)

377

365 A

CP (i) note min 370 for action - chase the letter

(ii) Get copy of referred letter in 376 -> See F 370

372

4000

MINUTE SHEET

358

TO: Office of the Executive Commissioner.

1. With reference to your Minute 325.
2. The most recent developments so far as this Headquarters is concerned as regards the question of citizenship in the Alto Adige ~~is~~ reviewed in Minute 327.
3. Presumably you will now consult Polada for their views as to whether any approach should be made to the Italian Government as suggested at 4A of Folio 324.
4. I consider that this is a matter which should be left entirely to the Italian Government.

MR

*L. Gatti, Brigadier,
The Civil Affairs Sec.*

Tel. Ext. 525.
14 Jan 46.

~~360~~ 360

~~Polad (A)~~
Polad (B)

Folio 324 for info & minute 322 from Lord Goud
S/C. I presume we can take no further action
re "A" of 324 - 328 refers. *65 14/11*

~~361~~ 361

C 50. Agree with V.P. Civil Affairs Section (para 4
of minute 328). AC can take no further action
with regard to Balzano, since it was
considered Allied policy to return the province
completely to Italian jurisdiction in Dec. 31.

J. M. Kelly Jones

Polad (A) Jan. 16/46

~~362~~ 362.
Italian will be very well advised.

Polad (A)
Polad (B)

~~360~~

Folio 324 in vito + minute 32) from local Goud
S/C. I presume we can take no further action
re "A" of 324 - 328 refers. 65 14/11

~~361~~

C50. Agree with V.P. Civil Affairs Section (para 4
of minute 328). A.C. can take no further action
with regard to Balzano, since it is now
considered Allied policy to return the province
completely to Italian jurisdiction on file 31.

J. Miller Jones

Polad (A) Jan. 16/46

~~362~~

I am in Italian zone be very well advised,
in line in tanks. to take the action suggested
by Brit. Div. 3. But I agree not officially A.C.
cannot suggest this. in case of course in Italian
front. we have to advise.

J. Thompson

Polad (B) Jan 21.

4082

4. On folio 238 of this file is a letter of the Italian Prime Minister to the Chief Commissioner which accompanied a decree for the creation of a High Delegate in Bolzano. In it the Prime Ministers mentions that "the Government has already taken important resolutions in favor of the German-speaking population", without specifying anything definitely which would clarify the position. However he does go on to state that "the government proposes to enjoin the Alto Adige, within a short time, with a special legislation, corresponding fully to the interests of the people, protecting with opportune dispositions the traditional values and finally instituting in the region a pattern of administration." The accompanying decree creating the High Delegate is apparently the means considered to achieve that end.

5. While this decree was considered by the Commission, including the Polada, we decided to indicate verbally to the Italian Government that it viewed the proposals ^{very} favorably and that it was a matter for the Italian Government to consider after the turn-over.

6. With regard to the matter of the special commission in connection with the preparation of the electoral laws in Bolzano province, the situation is as follows:

A draft decree was submitted for the consideration of Allied Commission setting up four commissions in each of the provinces of Alto Adige area with powers to determine disputes as to what steps were actually taken under the Hitler Mussolini agreements and to decide on application to re-acquire Italian citizenship. Rules determining citizenship were set forth in the decree.

The Allied Commission in a letter 6/18.7/54 dated 21 December 1945 informed the Italian Government that the draft law as to citizenship had not been carefully considered and that the Allied Commission "considers the present proposal to deprive a number of those who under existing Italian law are Italian citizens of that citizenship as inappropriate. It would not view the enactment of such law with favor nor be prepared to implement it in the Alto Adige."

No reply has been received to this letter and nothing further has been done about the proposed decree; however, Dott. CASARINI of the Italian Foreign Ministry requested an appointment for tomorrow 12 January to discuss the decree.

I informed POLAD A to this effect and the latter said there was no objection to seeing Casardi as long as it was made clear that the Allied Commission had written the letter when the territory was under its jurisdiction and that now the matter is one for the Italian Government to decide. This decision, continued Polad, should be considered in the light of world public opinion.

Special

7. The ~~the~~ Commission obviously has not been established yet. Pursuant to our policy that electorals lists should be compiled in the meantime, this registration is going on. In this respect the last report from the Prefect of Bolzano, dated 11 December 1945, indicates that:

6. With regard to the matter of the special commission in connection with the preparation of the electoral laws in Bolzano province, the situation is as follows:

A draft decree was submitted for the consideration of Allied Commission setting up four commissions in each of the provinces of Alto Adige area with powers to determine disputes as to what steps were actually taken under the Hitler Mussolini agreements and to decide on applicant's to re-acquire Italian citizenship. Rules determining citizenship were set forth in the decree.

The Allied Commission in a letter 6/16.2/45 dated 21 December 1945 informed the Italian Government that the draft law as to citizenship had not been carefully considered and that the Allied Commission "considers the present proposal to deprive a number of those who under existing Italian law are Italian citizens of that citizenship as inappropriate. It would not view the enactment of such law with favor nor be prepared to implement it in the Alto Adige."

No reply has been received to this letter and nothing further has been done about the proposed decree; however, Dott. CASAROLI of the Italian Foreign Ministry requested an appointment for tomorrow 12 January to discuss the decree.

I informed POLAD A to this effect and the latter said there was no objection to seeing Casardi as long as it was made clear that the Allied Commission had written the letter when the territory was under its jurisdiction and that now the matter is one for the Italian Government to decide. This decision, continued POLAD, should be considered in the light of world public opinion.

Special

7. The ~~Special~~ Commission obviously has not been established yet. Pursuant to our policy that electoral lists should be compiled in the meantime, this registration is going on. In this respect the last report from the Prefect of Bolzano, dated 11 December 1945, indicates that:

- (a) out of 92 Communes in Bolzano, 8 Communes have completed the compilation of the general masculine and general feminine lists;
- (b) no lists have so far been approved by the electoral commission;
- (c) all other electoral operations are proceeding normally.

Tel. Ext. 495
11 Jan 46.

R.R. Temple, Major

R.R. TEMPLE, Major
Director Local Govt. S/C

4094

53

letter at 322 in answer to 292 submitted
for signature - 320 refers. H 4/1.

CA Sec.

~~355~~ 355

324 in info. your comments would be appreciated.
Ex. Co. office H 2/1.

~~356~~ 356

TO: Local Government Sub-Commission.

Have you any comments on ^{photo} ~~minutes~~ 324?
Has the Italian Government ever made its promised statement on the Alto Adige
and how does the matter of the Special Commission in connection with the preparation
of Electoral Rolls in Bolzano Province stand?

Ref. Dkt. 525.
16 Jan 46.

MC

M. GARR, Brigadier,
VI CA Section.

~~357~~ 357

TO: CAS

1. Reference your minute 326 and minute 324.
2. The suggestion in minute 324 by Brigadier DUNLOP appears to be an excellent
one and will undoubtedly allay the feelings of the Sud-Tyrolians born in Bolzano.
A specific declaration by the Italian Government that the German speaking people
in this area will not be made subject to a general emigration movement would go
a long way towards the peaceful settlement of the problem.
3. The only statement by the Italian Government on the Alto Adige problem
that I am familiar with is one contained in the speech of Prime Minister DE GASPERI
on 20 Dec 45, an extract of which taken from the newspaper "Il Tempo" of 21 De-
cember 1945 follows:

Have you any comments on Werner's 324?

Has the Italian Government ever made its promised statement on the Alto Adige and how does the matter of the Special Commission in connection with the preparation of Electoral Rolls in Bolzano Province stand?

MC

Tel. Bnt. 525.
10 Jan 46.

M. CARR, Brigadier,
VI CA Section.

~~324~~ 327

TO : CAS

1. Reference your minute 326 and minute 324.
2. The suggestion in minute 324 by Brigadier WHELAN appears to be an excellent one and will undoubtedly allay the feelings of the Sud-Tyrolean born in Bolzano. A specific declaration by the Italian Government that the German speaking people in this area will not be made subject to a general emigration movement would go a long way towards the peaceful settlement of the problem.
3. The only statement by the Italian Government on the Alto Adige problem that I am familiar with is one contained in the speech of Prime Minister DE GASPERI on 20 December, an extract of which taken from the newspaper "Il Tempo" of 21 December 1945 follows:

"Unification of Italy places ourselves in direct contact with Alto Adige. It is not necessary for me here to repeat declarations of program already made by me; but since elsewhere there have been made public solemn and formal requests, I must state with equal explicitly that we cannot admit that the question of the frontier of a State of 45 million Italians should be decided by a small fraction living in a border province, so much so when a good portion of this small minority distinguished itself both before and during the war for its cordial acceptance of Nazism and for its participation to the war on the side of Hitler until the last moment; so that as a result of past options the citizenship itself of many who are still given hospitality on this side of the Brenner is being questioned.

We are ready to make all the concessions which can be done by a democratic State based on the principles of equality, but we expect that our hand stretched out in all loyalty be accepted with the same loyalty, and we trust may we know that in this way think the majority of the population of the province of Bolzano.

With new Austria which is marching towards an autonomous and democratic life we shall be glad to resume diplomatic contacts; however in order that such relations be proficious, it is necessary that no unacceptable claims of territorial character be made."

439

33 342

See see draft at 230 in answer to 2.
 21-22 note. This all seems rather tricky,
 we don't know if we should tell Germans
 all of 21 or not. 23 20/12.

Diego
 343

Ref conversation H. Col. Oliver (Dino Sampson).

Please see John 2 from H.F. & on L. Series, answer
 there at 21-22, I draft reply at 23a.

Is the 16. Govt. able to depict this posthumous,
 who, although Italian by nationality, was called
 up by the Germans in 1942 as being a "Volksdeutscher"?
 EA Co office.

68. 27/12.

344

Legal SC

(after Lt Col Hammingford)

Try our conversation 29 Dec 41. Hammingford
 file. As I understand the position from you,
 the ultimate responsibility rests with the
 is the key to the answer. Any further
 opinion you can give on this matter will be

was a concept taken by nationality was called
up by the Germans in 1942 as being a "Volksdeutsche."
Ex. Co. office. 68. 27/10.

344

Legal Sec

(after let CR Hammingford)

Try our conversation 29 Dec 41. Hammingford
file. As I understand the printer from the
the estimate unexplained nationality of Dr Heide
is the key to the answer. Any further
opinion you can give on the matter will be
welcome.

25th Dec 41

31 Dec 41

Red 4/10

11/10 further action 346

See letter at 23 submitted in answer to 2-40
Germania is now I.G.T. it doesn't matter what
the main nationality is really should we send
the letter at all? 347 13/11

Let's leave this as they once for now. If Pranas sends a
reminder we can like again. 10/11

286 336
 282 ~~282~~ resubmitted to signature.
 2. view of units 285 now CA see pressure
 no further action on ~~283~~ is necessary.
 3. pressure Ca. has been 270 274-280-269

~~287~~ 337 ~~287~~ to signature. will send 292 to Dispen for
 comments. ~~287~~ 4/12.

~~288~~ 338

CAS

Please tell Dispen to keep me fully informed on 1.

Dispen ~~289~~ 339 ~~289~~ (7/20)
 we would be grateful to you co-located on AFH
 letter at ~~292~~ ~~289~~ for info ~~292~~ 7/12.

~~290~~ 340

E.C.

Min 319.
 (a) on receipt of information from our DPRSC super-
 incubation, Virginia Popin, we advised AFH (on 19 Dec 40) for
 permission to clear (on 3,000 forward + Amstern
 from Polysano Province.
 to be disposed.

CAS

Please tell Diaper that we fully informed on 1.

Diaper

We would be grateful to you to forward on AFHQ

letter at

242. ~~242~~ 318

to info

LL 7/12

175 (7/12)

339 339

320 340

E.C.

Min 319.

(a) on receipt of information from our DPSC representative, Virginia Region, we advised AFHQ (on 19 Dec 45) for permission to clear (in 3,000 Germans + Austrians from Bologna Province.

(i) Germans to be used for dispersal.

(ii) Austrians to be used for dispersal.

(b) In a signal from AFHQ d 28 Dec 45, permission was given by AFHQ to move as many as can be moved by 31 January 1946. No provision to be made which would require A.C. Military personnel after 31 Jan 46. Arrangements for dispersal, arrangements to be made direct with Military authorities in Austria & Germany. 2 Dist. being asked to assist.

(c) On 31 Dec 45 we passed their instructions on by signal to our DPSC representative Virginia Region.

Continued
DPSC.

3/1/46

~~245~~ 334

PA

(For meeting on 15/Jan 1981)
(for 2000 report)

~~245~~ 335

(So Ack. saying CO. Diller will be recommended)

(but don't add that dr. Angola will probably

not be recommended!)

See 316

175/10/100

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4099

EX-105

320

Thank you
PStairs to see.

CAS
21 NOV 1945
X 655

NY 25/51

11/11/45

321

FOIA b7

✓
dis
11/11/45

18

Please see for information Folio 13.

Public Relations

306

Your comments on Police 2 would be

Appreciated

307

6/10/11

On journalistic part of Dr. Heide, suggest investigation by PS and APB representative in Belgium. - City Police referred to in last sentence of letter. There was considerable discussion in last EA's meeting. Minutes will indicate present position.

J G B. DPR 17 Nov 1988

308

C.A. Section

→

In Public Safety was anything about this man? ~~Y-10-10~~ 6/11/11.

311

very effective

Y for info - suggest passing to EA see is info. 2/11/11

for 2/11/11

312

CA Section

Y for info. 6/10/11.

EA C.S.

needed thanks you - it also nothing ~~needed~~

CA S. 2/11/11 x sub

Applied 6/11/11

317

A/CLO

is for info - presume CA see a equivalent Bureau

311

1/2 for info - encl. 2/11
passing info see 15 info.

for 10/25/11

312

CA Section

1/2 for info 10/25/11

313

used blank 7/11 - it adds nothing

CA Section

317

1/2 for info - passing 1/2 see in equivalent Bureau
about this 10/27/11

318

CA Section

1 believe you would like to see 1/2. Recommended
was receiving info without. Ex. Com. brought it back with
him 10/27/11

319

L.S. 1/2

Legal-LSA (query not recorded) 4
1/2 (see 1/2) which apparently contains in (containing 1/2)

CA Section

1/2 for info

2/11/11

Ref: 525/122/41

27 AUGUST 1946

My dear Dr. Cappa:

When you called upon us on 27 July you mentioned a report from the Prefect of Bolzano to the effect that a number of Italian prisoners of war had passed through Bolzano on their way to Germany. I told you I was certain that these were probably residents of the Sud-Tyrol who had joined either the German or Austrian armies and were accordingly being treated as German prisoners of war.

I have caused this report to be investigated and find that my assumption was correct. On 22 July some 180 Sud-Tyrolean left Italy for Berlin, Germany, and passed through Bolzano on 23 July. They were prisoners of war who had served in the German or Austrian armies. With the exception of four men they were all discharged within 48 hours by the authorities at Berlin and transport to Italy was arranged. At the German-Austrian frontier (GATZ) the transport was refused clearance to return to Italy by an Italian Liaison officer. Since then a number have managed to enter Italy by other means.

There are in other prisoner of war camps in Italy under Allied authority some 1,500 Sud-Tyrolean prisoners of war. If these the authority for the release of 700 in LAVERGNE camp was forwarded to the Italian War Ministry on 12 August. It is hoped to obtain authority for the release of the remaining 700 and, in fact, all Italian prisoners of war or surrendered enemy personnel less security suspects, war crimes witnesses and civil internees by 31 August.

Very truly yours,

/s/ ROBERT S. STANT
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

Dr. Paolo Cappa,
Undersecretary to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government.
RSC

Copy to Chief Commissioner.
1, 17, Section.

522

PA
100
100

ALLIED COMMISSION

OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER

BOLZANO

REF: 1010/27/17.

SUBJECT: Italian Prisoners of War.

TO: The Executive Commissioner,
HQ, Allied Commission, Rome.

DATE: 13 August 1946.
SPT/ST.

AUG 15 1946

Ref. your letter No. 585/479/30 of 31st July 1946.

- 1) I have caused inquiries to be made regarding the statement of Prefect Dr. INGHOUET that a number of Italian prisoners passed through Bolzano on their way to Germany. I attach hereto two copies of the result of these inquiries which is comprehensive. (Feeq A)
- 2) I confirm the assumption of the Chief Commissioner contained in para. 3 of your letter as closely the prisoners served either in the German or Austrian Army and were being treated as German prisoners of war accordingly.
- 3) I do not consider this the right way to treat them and recommend that instructions should be issued to the camps to separate the South Tyrolians concerned to avoid similar chaotic conditions which followed their release in Germany.
- 4) Many were furnished with a nulla osta of the Prefettura of Bolzano. These have been invariably returned by the Camp Commandant with the remark that only AFHQ can act in this matter. With this I do not agree.
- 5) I further do not agree with the interpretation contained in para. 2 of the attached report from the GIC Special Agent, Herbert RUTVO, which has little bearing on the subject.
- 6) Although it may appear desirable to discharge some 188 South Tyrolians within two days of their arrival in Germany, it must take longer to make adequate arrangements for their transportation and clearance through other frontiers before they can arrive at their final destination. In this case you will see that very few did so arrive.

S. M. Wilson Colonel

5/8

REF: ACIO/BA/27.

SUBJECT: Italian Prisoners of War.

TO : The Executive Commissioner,
HQ, Allied Commission, Rome.

DATE: 12 August 46.
SPT/50.

AUG 15 1946

506

Ref. your letter No. 585/479/50 of 31st July 1946.

- 1) I have caused inquiries to be made regarding the statement of Prefect Dr. INVERNIZZI that a number of Italian prisoners passed through Bolzano on their way to Germany. I attach hereto two copies of the result of these inquiries which is comprehensive. (Encl. A)
- 2) I confirm the assumption of the Chief Commissioner contained in para. 3 of your letter as clearly the prisoners served either in the German or Austrian Army and were being treated as German prisoners of war accordingly.
- 3) I do not consider this the right way to treat them and recommend that instructions should be issued to the camps to repatriate the South Tyrolians concerned to avoid similar chaotic conditions which followed their release in Germany.
- 4) Many were furnished with a nulla osta of the Prefecture of Bolzano. These have been invariably returned by the Camp Commandant with the remark that only AFHQ can act in this matter. With this I do not agree.
- 5) I further do not agree with the interpretation contained in para. 2 of the attached report from the CIC Special Agent, Herbert HIRVO, which has little bearing on the subject.
- 6) Although it may appear desirable to discharge some 188 South Tyrolians within two days of their arrival in Germany, it must take longer to make adequate arrangements for their transportation and clearance through other frontiers before they can arrive at their final destination. In this case you will see that very few did so arrive.

S. W. Sullivan, Colonel

S. W. SULLIVAN, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO.

Encl. 2.

See 11-519, 520, 521 & B

4087

52

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS
MILAN DETACHMENT, ZONE 3
Bolzano SUB-SECTION, APO 812
U.S. ARMY

2 August 1946.

SUBJECT : Italian POW

TO : C I C, A C C, BOLZANO.

Reference is made to Headquarters Allied Commission letter dated 31 July 1946, reference 585/478/22.

1. On 2 August 1946 this Agent interrogated Father Sitzman of the Papal Assistance Office for POW (*Kapitliche Hilfswerke fuer Kriegsgefangene*) and the following information was obtained :

a) On 22 July 1946 a transport of approximately 500 POW, consisting of 183 South Tiroleans (see Inclosure I) and 300 Germans and Austrians, left Pisa for Dachau, Germany, and passed through Bolzano on 23 July. On arrival in Germany the South Tiroleans, with the exception of 4 officers and non-coms of an SS unit, were all discharged within 48 hours, and ~~their~~ transport to Italy was arranged. At the German - Austrian border (Mittenwald) the transport was refused clearance to return to Italy by an Italian Liaison officer (name unknown) and the group returned to Mittenwald (Germany). From there 25 boarded an English Red Cross train and entered Italy without any further trouble. Others have been reported as having made their way into Austria and then into Italy through the mountains. Two other groups of approximately 25 each have been refused entry at the Brenner.

b) Information from the Italian Consulate at the Brenner reveals that on 1 August 1946 183 names were sent from the Consulate in Bolzano, authorizing entry for those listed. In the meantime, between 27 July and 1 August, the original group was widely scattered from Mittenwald and throughout Austria. Announcement has been made in the Austrian press and radio that all those South Tiroleans on the original 22 July transport from Pisa may now lawfully enter Italy. So far only 10 have presented themselves at the Brenner.

2. Paragraph 3 of the a/a letter states " that the Chief Commissioner was certain that no Italian prisoners had been sent to Germany and believed that these were probably residents of Bolzano province who had joined either the German or Austrian Armies and accordingly were being treated as German POWs. " The inclosed list, furnished by the *Kapitliche Hilfswerke*, gives the names, ranks, birth data, and date of induction of 183 Tiroleans who were sent from Pisa to Dachau. The crux of the problem lies in the interpretation of the citizenship of these Tiroleans. According to AMG Regional Order # 17, the deciding point for determining the citizenship of captives is " Where is their legal domicile ". The final paragraph of the inclosed AMG (Bresenzone) letter to all Siadici, dated 12 Sept. 1946, classifies all the a/a POW definitely as Italians :

4586 A.

516

" Soldier workers, students, and others for a short time went by orders or by force or will to Germany (etc) in the years 1938 - 1945 and did not change their legal residence from Bolzano province - they are - per se - residents of Bolzano Province and Italian residents and entitled to all privileges and responsibilities of such. The place of recognized legal residence is a final proof. "

3. Comments : This incident furnishes evidence that immediate action is necessary by Allied authorities to prevent recurrence of the same confusion in the case of the remaining 1400 Tiroleans; 720 at Laterana, 250 at Pisa, 350 at Rimini. The Prefect of Bolzano has publicly declared that the final decision concerning all POW rests with the Allies. However, at Pisa there are still 250 Tiroleans who have needed only a clearance from the Italian Ministry of the Interior since January 1948 in order to be discharged. (Source - Rhepetische Hilfswerke, quoting Capt. James of the Pisa POW Camp). The 720 POW at Laterana, all of whom were previously at Taranto, are still under Italian guard, while those who escaped during the Taranto disorders and presented themselves to the Bolzano Separation Center, have long since obtained Allied discharge papers.

4. Conclusions : Since the German capitulation the Allies have applied an exceedingly liberal release policy concerning South Tiroleans, as is shown by the records of the American and British units which were responsible for discharges at the Bolzano Separation Center from July 1945 through May 1946. With the great majority of Tiroleans in Italian POW camps released previous to 1st Jan. 1946, it seems hardly conceivable that Allied objections are solely responsible for retaining the last 1600 Tiroleans. It is far more likely that Italian authorities, taking advantage of the as yet unsettled status question, are raising doubts as to the citizenship of the Tiroleans and creating an exceedingly unpleasant situation for Allied authorities.

The Prefecture system of demanding a " Nulla Osta " from local Italian authorities as a prerequisite for discharge for Tiroleans has up until now done nothing to facilitate the release of the remaining POW. In fact, the practice of asking Carabinieri to read information, upon which the granting or the denial of the nulla osta depends makes a prisoner's chance for freedom hinge solely on personal prejudices of his former neighbors.

5. Recommendations : A clear cut statement from responsible Allied authorities is necessary, and the application of the same procedure as was followed in Germany when the entire group of 163 Tiroleans was discharged within 2 days of their arrival at Dachau, after 14 or 18 months imprisonment in Italy.

Robert Ritvo
ROBERT RITVO
Special Agent.

1085

515

Note:

- 1) The names indicated with a small cross are issued with a Nulla Osta of the Prefecture.
- 2) The list is not complete; some 15 names are missing
- 3) All of them have been declared free by the Allied Officer in Dachau, applying Decree 34 of the Supreme Command at Frankfurt; only four of them who had a higher rank than Unterscharführer were kept back for some short time
- 4) The Prefecture allows those who could show a "Nulla Osta" to cross the frontier; all the others hope to get the regular permission to pass the Brenner

785017

1. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
+ 5. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
+ 5. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
7. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
8. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
9. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
10. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
+ 11. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
12. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
13. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
14. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
+ 15. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
16. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
+ 17. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
18. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
19. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
20. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
+ 21. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
22. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
23. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
24. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
25. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
26. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
27. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
+ 28. [illegible]	22.7.40.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

52

No.	Name	Rank	From	To	Comments
+57.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+58.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+59.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+60.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+61.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+62.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+63.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+64.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+65.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+66.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+67.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+68.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+69.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+70.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+71.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+72.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+73.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+74.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+75.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+76.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+77.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+78.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+79.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+80.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+81.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+82.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+83.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+84.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+85.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+86.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+87.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+88.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+89.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+90.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+91.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+92.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+93.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+94.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+95.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+96.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+97.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+98.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+99.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST
+100.	THOMAS, JAMES	ANALYST	10.3.33.	10.3.33.	ANALYST

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Page 6

No.	Name	Rank	Begin in	End	Discharge
151.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
152.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
153.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
154.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
155.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
156.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
157.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
158.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
159.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
160.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
161.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
162.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
163.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
164.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
165.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
166.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
167.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
168.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
169.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
170.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
171.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
172.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	
173.	THOMAS HARRIS	Major	01.06.57	01.06.63	

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

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12. 3. 21	13. 3. 21
14. 3. 21	15. 3. 21
16. 3. 21	17. 3. 21
18. 3. 21	19. 3. 21
20. 3. 21	21. 3. 21
22. 3. 21	23. 3. 21
24. 3. 21	25. 3. 21
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30. 3. 21	31. 3. 21
32. 3. 21	33. 3. 21
34. 3. 21	35. 3. 21
36. 3. 21	37. 3. 21
38. 3. 21	39. 3. 21
40. 3. 21	41. 3. 21
42. 3. 21	43. 3. 21
44. 3. 21	45. 3. 21
46. 3. 21	47. 3. 21
48. 3. 21	49. 3. 21
50. 3. 21	51. 3. 21
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54. 3. 21	55. 3. 21
56. 3. 21	57. 3. 21
58. 3. 21	59. 3. 21
60. 3. 21	61. 3. 21
62. 3. 21	63. 3. 21
64. 3. 21	65. 3. 21
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70. 3. 21	71. 3. 21
72. 3. 21	73. 3. 21
74. 3. 21	75. 3. 21
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82. 3. 21	83. 3. 21
84. 3. 21	85. 3. 21
86. 3. 21	87. 3. 21
88. 3. 21	89. 3. 21
90. 3. 21	91. 3. 21
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AMG/GEN/642

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
BREMEN, GERMANY

SUBJECT: Aliens etc.

TO: ALL BIRMA.

12 Sept. 1945

There are various classes of aliens in Bolzano Province.
1- ENEMY ALIENS - i.e. citizens of an enemy state who have come here:

- a) long time residents who formerly were not "enemy" aliens and who are quite harmless - i.e. normal resident aliens.
- b) those enemy aliens who came into the Province in the last year (and in the last months, driven in by the invasion from the North and from the South and who are eventually exportable).

2- Those SOUTH TYROLIANS who in 1939 opted to become German citizens and moved to Germany. They are German citizens in Italian law.

3- These SOUTH TYROLIANS who in 1939 opted to become German citizens and did not move to Germany but got German naturalization certificates:

Under Regional Order No. 17 they are not classified as enemy aliens and can remain here in Bolzano Province as usual - but eventually will require to declare before a Commission that they wish to vote and not to be Italian citizens and so sign for this

4- Those SOUTH TYROLIANS who in 1939 opted to become German citizens but who did not move residence and did not receive German naturalization certificates. They are definitely Italian citizens.

The deciding point in all doubtful cases is - "where is their legal domicile".

If - by communal lists they are legally domiciled in the Province - they are Italian citizens and are entitled to

508

from the North and from the South and who are eventually exportable).

2- Those SOUTH TYROLIANS who in 1939 opted to become German citizens and moved to Germany. They are German citizens in Italian law.

3- Those SOUTH TYROLIANS who in 1939 opted to become German citizens and did not move to Germany but not German nationality certification certificates:

Under Regional Order No. 17 they are not classifiable as enemy aliens and can remain here in Bolzano Province as usual - but eventually will require to declare before a Commission that they wish to vote and pay as be Italian citizens and so sign for this

4- Those SOUTH TYROLIANS who in 1939 opted to become German citizens but who did not move residence and did not receive German naturalization certification. They are definitely Italian citizens.

The deciding point in all doubtful cases is - "where is their legal domicile".

If - by communal lists they are legally domiciled in the Province - they are Italian citizens and are entitled to remain here.

A point of decision is (and this is important):

1- If under age and went with their families in 1939 to Germany and if returned to Bolzano Province since then, - they established legal residence in Bolzano Prov. and they are home-side residents.

2- Soldiers, workers, students and others who for a short time went by order or by force or will to Germany (etc) in the years 1939 - 1943 and did not change their legal residence from Bolzano Prov. - they are - per se - residents of Bolzano Province and Italian residents and entitled to all privileges and responsibilities of such. The place of recognized legal residence is a final proof.

506

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A P O 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref. : 585/479/21

31 July 1946

SUBJECT: Italian POWs.

TO : C.L.O.
Bolsano.

1. The new Undersecretary to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Dr. Cappa, called to pay his respects to the Chief Commissioner on July 27th.
2. In the course of their conversation, he mentioned that Prefect Innocenti from Bolsano stated that a number of Italian prisoners passed through Bolsano on their way to Germany and added that this had made a very painful impression in Bolsano. The prisoners were stated to have been transferred from a former Italian POW camp at Pisa.
3. Dr. Cappa was told that the Chief Commissioner was certain that no Italian prisoners had been sent to Germany and believed that these were probably residents of Bolsano who had joined either the German or Austrian armies and accordingly were being treated as German POW's.
4. Will you investigate this report and advise me if this assumption is correct.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE:

M. CALL

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

see 17-507

4077A 24/7/46
20

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 794

27 July 1946.

JUL 29 1946

MEMORANDUM TO: Executive Commissioner.

1 The new Undersecretary to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Dr. Cappa, called to pay his respects on July 27th.

2 In the course of our conversation, he mentioned that Prefect Innocenti from Bolzano stated that a number of Italian prisoners passed through Bolzano on their way to Germany and added that this had made a very painful impression in Bolzano. The prisoners were stated to have been transferred from a former Italian POW camp at Pisa.

I told Dr. Cappa that I was certain that no Italian prisoners had been sent to Germany and believed that these were probably residents of Bolzano who had joined either the German or Austrian Armies and accordingly were being treated as German POW's.

Will you investigate this report and advise me if my assumption is correct. Although I did not so express myself to Dr. Cappa, I still do not see why residents of Bolzano, even though members of the German Army, are being transported to Germany unless they are part of labor units and are not intended for repatriation.

*Probably correct.
(from 1942 file)
RHS
JUL 27*

W. H. Stone

WILLIAM W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

see 506

4376

(130)

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

Route
504

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref. : 535/477/23

19 July 1946

SUBJECT: HUNTER/LEADER VULNERABILITY

TO : Polad A
Polad B

Attached is forwarded for your information copy of a letter from OLD BOLLAND together with copies of enclosures (A) and (B) mentioned therein.

502

498-501

BY COMMAND OF HON. GENERAL SMITH:

W. W. HIND SMITH

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Encls. as above.

4070

21A

585 54
502
ALLIED COMMISSION
VICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER
BOLZANO

SECRET

REF: AC10/BZ/16.

DATE 12 July 1946.
SWH/EG.

JUL 17 1946

Dear Bigazzi.

I forward herewith a declaration (A) made by the S.T.V. (Sudtiroler Volkspartei) over the signature of their President and their Secretary General respectively together with a copy of the Prefect's reply. (B)

Yesterday the Central Committee of the S.T.V. (some 30 members) met and fully confirmed this declaration which, I think, is an achievement.

Sufficient copies are enclosed for distribution should you consider it necessary.

Dr. INNOCENTI leaves for Rome to-day to discuss many problems with his Government.

For ever

Duty

RM: ACLO/R2/15.

DATE 12 July 1946.
SWZ/69.

JUL 17 1946

Dear Bijadur.

I forward herewith a declaration (A) made by the S.T.V. (Sudtiroler Volkspartei) over the signature of their President and their Secretary General respectively together with a copy of the Prefect's reply. (B)

Yesterday the Central Committee of the S.T.V. (some 30 members) met and fully confirmed this declaration which, I think, is an achievement.

Sufficient copies are enclosed for distribution should you consider it necessary.

Dr. INNOCENTI leaves for Rome to-day to discuss many problems with his Government.

Yours ever,

Dust

See 17-476

Encl's.

To Brig M.S. LUSH, C.B., M.C.,
Executive Commissioner

HQ, Allied Commission ROMÉ.

4086

g
(25c)

Translation

A
501

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF BUREAU OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE
SUBJECT: THE SUDANESE PARTY

1. Point No. 1 of the program of the Sudanese Party which emphasizes its representatives to defend before the public the right of self-determination - including all the Sudanese - under its program is to have the Sudanese people decide on the future of this territory. It will not then constitute a part of the program of the party.

2. Independently from the above, from today the Sudanese Party will offer its full collaboration to the representatives of the Government for a better solution of all local problems in the same way as the other parties. With this object in view the Sudanese Volkspartei will immediately examine the autonomy plan worked out by the representatives of the Government in order to make known to the public their views on the question.

Our reasons easily understandable the Sudanese Volkspartei has so far not been in a position to bring the question of autonomy to a public discussion in the Party. However, the latter is aware of the fact that the majority of the Sudanese population would prefer an autonomy limited to the Province of Sudan and to the bi-lingual business of French, although not denying the many interests in common which unite this province to French.

In view of this the Sudanese Volkspartei requests the representatives of the Government to express to the public its desire that their cultural and economic interests will be guaranteed in a large measure to the population.

3. The Sudanese Volkspartei expects itself to try and relax the tension in the minds of the Sudanese population and urge the Government to give the most generous solution possible to the problem which must affect the Sudanese population and especially to those relating to the Sudan.

4. The formation of the Sudanese Party will be able within a few days the Sudanese Volkspartei to obtain their approval to an order of the day which aims at a concrete change in the political direction of the Party with a view to pacifying the two studied groups.

Ernst Grosse
Georgie Raffiner

Translation

B
500

1 July 1948

Dear Signor Amore,

As agreed I am sending you a copy of the Declaration which you and Dr. Raffalier in your capacities as President and General Secretary of the Hungarian Volkspartei, presented me with today.

It is I think superfluous to repeat to you that, as indeed we agreed, from now onwards given the new policy of your Party, there should not be any public meetings held which are of a separatist nature or other similar manifestations.

With kind regards,

1 encl.

To Signor Aron Amore,
President of the S.V.P.,
Budapest.

4 luglio 1946.

Ore 15.

DICHIARAZIONE DEL SUEDTIROLER VOLKS PARTEI NELLE PERSONE DEL SUO PRESIDENTE E SEGRETARIO GENERALI.

1°) Il punto tre del programma del partito Suedtirolese che autorizza i suoi rappresentanti a sostenere dinanzi agli alleati il diritto di autodeterminazione - con esclusione per: di ogni mezzo illegale - per la sua pratica importanza nel momento in cui avrà luogo la decisione definitiva sulla appartenenza stabile di questo territorio e non costituirà, pertanto, ulteriormente parte del programma del Partito.

2°) Indipendentemente da quanto sopra, il Suedtiroler Volks Partei, fino da questo momento offre la sua piena collaborazione al Rappresentante del Governo per la migliore soluzione di tutti i problemi locali, alla stessa stregua degli altri partiti.

A questo scopo il Sued-Tiroler Volks Partei prenderà subito in esame il progetto di autonomia elaborato dal Rappresentante del Governo, per fargli conoscere ufficialmente le proprie idee in proposito. Per ragioni facilmente comprensibili il Suedtiroler Volks Partei non era fino ad ora in condizioni di portare la questione della autonomia in una pubblica discussione del Partito; però il Partito è a conoscenza, che la maggioranza della popolazione sudtirolese preferirebbe un'autonomia limitata alla Provincia di Bolzano ed ai comuni mistilingui di Trento pur non disconoscendo però i molteplici interessi comuni che legano questa provincia al Trentino.

Per questa considerazione il Sued Tiroler Volks Partei prega il Rappresentante del Governo di esprimere allo stesso questo suo desiderio per modo che alle popolazioni di cui sopra siano garantiti in larga misura i loro interessi, culturali ed economici.

3°) Il Sued Tiroler Volks Partei si impegna di adoperarsi per una diminuzione degli animi della popolazione sudtirolese e prega il Governo di dare ai problemi che più da vicino toccano la popolazione sudtirolese e principalmente quello attinente alle operazioni, la soluzione più generosa possibile.

4°) La Direzione del Partito Suedtirolese riunirà fra pochi giorni la Giunta Centrale (una trentina di membri) per portare alla approvazione della stessa un ordine del giorno che mira ad un cambiamento concreto nell'indirizzo politico del partito ai fini della pacificazione dei due gruppi etnici.

costituirà, pertanto, ulteriormente parte del programma del Partito.

2°) Indipendentemente da quanto sopra, il Suedtiroler Volks Partei, fino da questo momento offre la sua piena collaborazione al Rappresentante del Governo per la migliore soluzione di tutti i problemi locali, alla stessa stregua degli altri partiti.

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Per questa considerazione il Sued Tiroler Volks Partei prega il Rappresentante del Governo di esprimere allo stesso questo suo desiderio per modo che alle popolazioni di cui sopra siano garantiti in larga misura i loro interessi, culturali ed economici.

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per copia conforme.

F.to : Erick Axenz
: Giuseppe Raffener.

see HTH 4081

Copy.

4 luglio 1946.

13

498

Egregio Signor AMONN,

Come intesi Le mando copia della dichiarazione che oggi Lei ed il Dott. Raffelner mi hanno rilasciato quali Presidente e Segretario Generale del Sudtiroler Volkspartei.

Stimo superfluo ripeterLe - come peraltro eravamo già intesi - che d'ora innanzi, tenute anche conto dei nuovi orientamenti del Vostro Partito, non dovranno tenersi riunioni pubbliche a carattere separatista od altre manifestazioni del genere.

Con molti cordiali saluti,

No.1 allegato.

Al Signor Erich AMONN,
Presidente del S.V.P., Bolzano

su 473

498

490

ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER
BOLZANO

REF: Ex. Commission DATE:

①. Bond Scheme for Automation — 13

②. Proposals re Citizenship — 13

Deuces et Suite Tam 123.

④. Dual Language — 8

③. ... changing Italianized name in 15 original form — 7

⑤. ... Gamm Speaking Secretaries (Training of 6 units, 2 each, 12 units) — 6

⑥. Civil Political Rights (S.V.P.) — 4

4.3.1.1

131

REF:

for Ex. Commission

DATE

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

785017

(1) Bond scheme for Austria — 18

(2) Proposals re Citizenship — 15

Deuces etc since Jan 14

(3) ... Dual Language — 8

(3) ... changing Italianized names in original form — 7

(4) ... German speaking secretaries: (Trinity of books & 2 vols mentioned) — 6

(5) ... Civil Political Rights (S.V.P.) — 5

(6) ... School Organization — 4

(7) ... Re-employment for all Offenders — 2

(8) ... of ... — 1

PA 11/8

See to 491-497

Notes:

489

- ① No security police. ✓
- ② No funds to start with. (Some time before taxes come in & amount reqd. to run region is unknown)
- ③ The combined Province means that with Bologna will finance poor Trento.
- ④ Why not name it - Tyrolene Region.
or
Retican (alpine) Region. 4500
- ⑤ 1 force emigration for the North.
2 the road & national rail to the mountains etc. 24/6

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

785017

ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER
BOLZANO

REF:

DATE

48/1
BROAD LINES OF THE PROPOSAL FOR A LAW ON THE AUTONOMY OF THE
TRIDENTINA REGION

The project of law about a "Constitution for the Tridentina Region" has been drawn after consideration of the following essential ideas:-

The State accepting the requests of the local population and of their representatives, on one side given, within the limits of the Italian political unity, a special autonomy to the Tridentina Region, and, on the other side, guarantees, under this constitution, to safeguard the ethnic minorities (German) living in the Region itself. Abolishing the Provinces of Bolzano and Trento, these two territories will form one Region which, for historical and economical reasons centuries old, is already at present bound by common interests.

The autonomous administration of the Tridentina Region is vested (except for some matters in which the State is concerned and competent within its sovereignty: i.e. Army, Justice etc.) in organizations freely appointed by the local population and specifically in: the Regional Assembly, with its Committee for the minorities, and in the Government of the Region, formed of a President and a Regional Giunta. It is competent on these organizations to care not only for the active administration of the affairs in which the local people are concerned, but also, and first of all, to issue decrees on matters which the State completely leave to their competence.

These matters are many and various: agriculture, public waters, elementary education, secondary schools, assistance and benefic institutions, industries, commerce, saving banks, rules for smaller public offices, administration of regional properties etc.

The Regional local activities are completely free from any control by State authorities except that the State keeps the power to intervene in eventual offences which the decrees passed by the Regional Assembly could commit against the Constitution of the State itself and to the fundamental laws concerning the political rights of all the citizens.

The Regional laws do not need to be approved by the head of the Italian Government to be legally valid. The Assembly will be called and will decide in accordance with the rules fixed by themselves. Also the Regional executive power (President and Giunta) is formed and acts under the control of the Assembly, without State interferences.

Also the activities of smaller official organizations, first of all those of the Communes, will be supervised and controlled by the Regional organizations, which, in any case, must permit them to act as freely as possible.

The executive power controls the smaller organizations through two sections of the Giunta, one in Trento and one in Bolzano. The latter will be competent for Bolzano Province and for the Unterland at present included in Trento province. The division facilitates local problems and a better

...autonomous, on one side gives, within the limits of the Italian political unity, a special autonomy to the Tridentina Region, and, on the other side, guarantees, under this constitution, to safeguard the ethnic minorities (German) living in the Region itself.

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The executive power controls the smaller organizations through two sections of the Giunta, one in Trento and one in Bolzano. The latter will be competent for Bolzano Province and for the Unterland at present included in Trento province. The division facilitates a quicker application of the laws to local problems and a better consideration for the special needs of the two ethnic groups in Alto Adige.

On the financial side the autonomy is applied with the State putting at the disposal of the Region a large percentage of the taxes and giving to the Region permission to obtain advantage from local resources, especially from the use of public waters, given to the Region for 99 years.

As to Administrative Justice, with the new constitution two organizations are formed: the Constitutional Court and the Regional

487

Administrative Tribunal. In the former the Supreme Judge will decide, on request made either by the State or by the Regional Assembly, whether the decrees and laws (issued either by the State or by the Region) are in accordance with the Constitution of the Tridentina Region. This Court will be formed by 50% of the Judges appointed by the State, and by 50% of the Judges appointed in the Region, and the President will be selected amongst them. The latter is a judicial organization which will decide whether the administrative authorities have committed offences against laws or interests of individuals. This Tribunal is formed of Judges selected by the Regional Assembly, with consideration also of the German speaking group, under the Presidency of a State official.

In the Region a representative of the State will be present to supervise the state offices but he will not interfere with activities under regional control, unless the Regional organizations are unable to function regularly when he would be obliged to give temporary instructions waiting for the appointment of new members of the organizations.

The presence in this Region of different speaking groups, different from the Italian majority, in consequence of some constitutional rules which guarantee to the groups the safety of their linguistic and cultural rights and interests. In this regard the Tridentina Region Constitution and Autonomy are different from autonomies already given by the Italian State to other parts of its territory. It can be said that in this autonomy the safety of the ethnical minorities is considered in a most original way.

The matter regarding the rights of the minorities are those concerning the free use of their own language and the development of their culture, not only on the private side but also in their contacts with public authorities and in general in public life.

Whilst as in other sectors of life all citizens will have to cooperate in the same way, in regard of language and culture each group will be able to follow and enjoy its own particular need and wish.

The safeguard of minorities is guaranteed first in the Regional Legal Assembly. In the Constitution there is an article for which if in the Assembly unanimous accord is not reached on matters regarding the rights of minorities, the decisions will be left to the voting of a special committee in the Assembly itself, the "Committee for minorities" formed by the same number of Italian and German speaking representatives (50% Italian, 50% German) and in case this Committee should fail in reaching a decision, this will be taken by the President of the Committee itself. The President will be in turn every two years, Italian or German.

In case a certain decree is considered against the rules for safeguarding the minorities, an appeal can be made to the Constitutional Court.

To ensure that in the Assembly it will be always present representatives of both ethnical groups in the right proportion with the number of the population, the elections will be made in different ethnical colleges in which each group will be free to vote on

consideration also of the German speaking group, under the Presidency of a State Official.

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In case a certain decree is considered against the rules for safeguarding the minorities, an appeal can be made to the Constitutional Court.

To ensure that in the Assembly it will be always present representatives of both ethnical groups in the right proportion with the number of the population, the elections will be made in different ethnical colleges in which each group will be free to vote out of a rigid territorial college. The subdivision of colleges on ethnical basis does not prevent the electors from an absolute liberty they can, in their college, vote for a member of any party or Italian political group, also if he is of the other language. Also in the other regional organizations (Giunta, Administrative Tribunal etc) it is guaranteed (as it has been already said) the presence of representatives of the ethnical minorities.

Naturally the language and cultural rights of the minorities are safeguarded by special laws. The German speaking citizens can use their language in all public offices and talking to all authorities in the Region and must be answered in the same language. These rules

are in addition to the others regarding the formation of Regional Organizations and 3. those already issued by the State (D.L.L. no. 775 of 27-10-1945 regarding schools, D.L.L. no. 82 of 22-12-1945 on the language to be used in public offices, now completed by the one about denomination of places and streets) and other decrees to be shortly published.

Also in the publication of regional laws the text will be in Italian and German, though when doubts might arise, the true one will be the Italian.

A special decree of the Tridentina Region Autonomy will be made to favour and help on the school and culture side, the language of the Ladinians of the Dolomites. These groups, in fact, could not be considered as minorities in respect of Italians as they (as their name clearly shows) have their origin from the Latin speaking population as other groups in Italy. Owing to particular conditions of living the Ladinians, obliged for many centuries to stay in their Alpine home, far from other people, kept in their language and in their customs some peculiar characteristics. For this the Italia State, far from neglecting these peculiarities, will help in keeping them, in harmony with the needs of modern life.

This Tridentina Autonomy is clearly more liberal and up to date than the dispositions issued in the old constitution Austrian-Tyrolean, under which the Tridentina people lived a long time under the Austrian Monarchy.

This must be pointed out, bearing in mind that, whilst the autonomy of the old "County of Tyrol" was within an Empire unified for dynastic reasons, the new Tridentina autonomy is within a State which, being Italy as she is, has a popular constitution.

Whilst in the Tyrolean County the autonomous organizations were under the control of the Emperor, who appointed all the highest regional authorities and had the right to approve all the laws, in the new Region, as we said, laws and organizations will be formed in a democratic way and be free and independent from any interference.

Also regarding the linguistic and cultural right the new constitution is better than the Austrian-Tyrolean one, which, though establishing with the article 19 of the law no. 142 of 21-12-1867 the equal national rights of each ethnical group of the Empire, gives no rules, though it included a good number of Italian speaking people. Abuses and preferences followed in various periods, chiefly in places where Italians were a minority.

Under all the points the project appears to be in accordance with the democratic principles and the needs of regime which, as it is the present Italian one, is respecting the equality of all people and a free system of life.

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1st Section - Optants who did not emigrate.

Art. 1 - Those persons who, being Italian citizens, have under the law of 21 August, 1939 n.1241 and the German - Italian agreement of 1939 and following years, opted for German citizenship but did not receive it, their options will not be enforced unless they declare to desire it within two months.

The option is definitely cancelled if they do not confirm it within the fixed time.

Art. 2 - Those who, being Italian citizens living in Italy, opted for German citizenship, received it with regular inscription as citizens of the German Reich, but did not transfer themselves to Germany, if within two months declare their wish to cancel the option and renounce the German citizenship, or any other citizenship they eventually obtained after their option, will be considered Italian citizens, having so cancelled their option.

Art. 3 - The declarations mentioned in Articles 1 and 2 must be submitted in writing, signed by the person concerned, and given to the offices of the Comune if the person lives in the Provinces of Bolzano, Trento and Belluno, and to the Prefecture of Bolzano if he lives elsewhere.

The term of two months fixed for the presentation of the declaration is from the date of the publication of this decree for people living in the territory of the State, if they are not Prisoners of War, or internees, and from the day of their release for Prisoners of War or internees who are in Italy; from the day of their return to Italy for people living outside.

The optants of article 1 who declare their wish to confirm the option, and the optants of Article 2 who do not apply for the cancellation of the option, will not be considered Italian citizens.

Art. 4 - Contrary to the terms of articles 1 and 2 the following optants are not Italian citizens:

(a) those who had important appointments with the

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Art. 3 -

The declarations mentioned in Articles 1 and 2 must be submitted in writing, signed by the person concerned, and given to the offices of the Commune if the person lives in the Provinces of Bolzano, Trento and Belluno, and to the Prefecture of Bolzano if he lives elsewhere.

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dangerous or fanatical.

(b) Those who, with sentence without appeal, have been condemned by Italian judicial authorities or by Allied Courts, as criminals, or guilty of serious crime, which proves them to be dangerous.

(c) Those who, after the 8th of September 1943, though without being prosecuted and tried, have committed atrocities against, or denounced, or persecuted Italian citizens or Allied military personnel, or persecuted people for racial reasons.

(d) Those who in the period of the propaganda for the options and in activities in the period 23rd of June 1938 - 5th May 1945, have shown themselves to be friends of the Nazi policy.

Art. 5 -

The exclusion from Italian citizenship, as in Art. 4 is declared by a decree issued by the Ministry of the Interior and a special Commission in Bolzano will decide on the cases. It will be formed of a judicial official (grade V or above) as president, 5 Italian speaking citizens and five German speaking ones, appointed by the Ministry of the Interior, after they are recommended by the Prefect of Bolzano. A substitute president and 6 substitute members will be appointed the same way. This Commission will give their decision by voting. They will have the same power as a regular court for the interrogation of witnesses and for enquiries to be made in the public administration. It will be helped by secretary and staff appointed by the Prefect of Bolzano.

Art. 6 -

From the commencement of the procedure to deprive an optant of Italian citizenship, he must be informed of it within 1 month after the period of two months fixed in Art. 3 has expired.

The notification will be made by the President after the decision has been taken by the Commission, or on request by the Prefect of Bolzano, and given to the Civil Condition Office of the Comune where the optant lives, or in inscribed and, in case of doubt, or when the optant does not live in the provinces of Bolzano, Trento and Belluno, to the office of Bolzano.

The Sindaco will be responsible to ensure that a copy is given to the person concerned, or when he cannot be traced, to relatives of the person in question.

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Art. 6 -

From the commencement of the procedure to deprive an optant of Italian citizenship, he must be informed of it within 3 months after the period of two months fixed in Art. 3 has expired.

The notification will be made by the President after the decision has been taken by the Commission, or on request by the Prefect of Bolzano, and given to the Civil Condition Office of the Commune where the optant lives, or in inscripted and, in case of doubt, or when the optant does not live in the Provinces of Bolzano, Trento and Belluno, to the office of Bolzano.

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Art. 7 -

The Commission mentioned in para 5 gives its decision on citizenship after listening to the person concerned, when he so wishes, and after regular enquiries.

Reasons must be given for the decision and the Prefect of Bolzano must be notified of it and will in turn notify the Ministry of the Interior.

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The Ministry will in turn decide whether or not to approve the decision. Without consideration either on judicial or administrative side.

If the charges of the prosecution are proved clearly unfounded, the Commission can, if so declared unanimously, recall the notification of Art.6 and file all the papers without any action.

2nd Section - Optants who did emigrate.

Art. 8 -

Those persons who, being Italian citizens, opted for German citizenship, in accordance with the agreement mentioned in Art.1 received it and, before or after the option, went to live in Germany, if they wish to come back to live in Italy again, are allowed to fix their residence in Italy, and to obtain back Italian citizenship in accordance with the rules fixed in the following articles.

Art. 9 -

They must ask the Ministry of the Interior's permission to live in Italy and to have Italian citizenship.

Their application must contain, clearly expressed, the declaration of cancellation and renounce of Art.2, must be written in the form fixed in Art.3 and submitted to the Prefettura of Bolzano or to the Diplomatic and Consular representatives for Italy in foreign countries, within two years from the dated of the signature of the Peace treaty with Italy.

Art.10 -

On these applications a decision will be given by the Ministry of the Interior on advice by the Commission mentioned in Art.5.

The Commission, to give its judgment, will enquire, especially on the judicial aspect, of the behaviour of the optant before and after the option.

The Ministry issues a decree authorizing the optant to fix again his residence in Italy and to have Italian citizenship, or the application is rejected.

The decision of the Ministry is a final one and no appeal can be made either on judicial or administrative

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- Art. 10 - On these applications a decision will be given by the Ministry of the Interior on advice by the Commission mentioned in Art. 5. The Commission, to give its judgment, will enquire, especially on the judicial aspect, of the behaviour of the optant before and after the option. The Ministry issues a decree authorising the optant to fix again his residence in Italy and to have Italian citizenship, or the application is rejected. The decision of the Ministry is a final one and no appeal can be made either on judicial or administrative grounds. Rules will be decided for the return to Italy of optants allowed to re-enter.
- Art. 11 - Eventual doubts whether German citizenship was obtained and how, and the transfer took place or not will be discussed, and a decision issued by the Commission vide Art. 5.

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It will not be considered as a transfer the living out of people who went to foreign countries not to fix there their residence, but as students, tourists, soldiers or obliged to go abroad to work. Those persons who went for a short time to obtain some judicial advantage from it will be considered as transferred.

3rd Section - General Rules -
 legal terms, executive terms.
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Art. 12 -

The effects of Articles 1 and 2 are extended to sons under 21 years of age who are under "patria potestate" and to the wife when not judicially separated, of the optant. The declarations will be valid if submitted by the guardian for the persons under 21 subject to guarde and for people who cannot come.

It is considered valid the wish of the wife, also if she is not judicially separated, contrary to the husband's. Effects will be made to conciliate them to avoid troubles to the family.

Same principles will be applied in regard of Art. 9.

The effects of exclusion from Italian citizenship are valid also for the wife and sons under 21 only when this is decided by the Ministry. of the Interior or advise by the Commission of Art. 5.

The Prefects of the Provinces concerned order, with a decree the cancellation from the lists of Italian citizens, if they have not already been cancelled, of people who, in accordance with Art. 3, 4 and 12 are not to be considered Italian citizens or are excluded from being so. For them and for their sons, the articles 1 and 3 of the law No. 555 of 13 June, 1912 are not valid.

Art. 14 -

All the procedure for the enquiries etc. of the above articles and the permission to have the Italian citizenship fixed in this decree are not subject to any tax.

Art. 15 -

All the optants, German citizens of Art. 2 who do not xxx

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All the procedure for the enquiries etc. of the above articles and the permission to have the Italian citizenship fixed in this decree are not subject to any tax.

Art. 15 -

All the optants, German citizens of Art. 2 who do not submit the application mentioned in the same article, must within two months from the expiring of that term, declare to the Prefecture of their Province to be German citizen, this to enable the authorities to check the list of the Italian citizens, and to respect all the rules decided for Aliens living in Italy in accordance with existing laws and decrees.

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In addition to punishments fixed in other laws, the contraveniens will be punished with.....(to be fixed).

Art.16 - After an year from the publication of this decree a special census of the population will be made in the provinces of Bolzano, Trento and Belluno.

Art.17 - Will be punished with the condemnns fixed in the Art.194 of the C.P. when no other charge is preferred, the optants who after the loss of Italian citizenship will declare themselves Italian citizens or will use documents which show them as such.

Art.18 - This decree is not valid for territories still under AMG control.

Art.19 - The present decree is valid on the 1st day of the month following the month of its publication on the Gazzetta Ufficiale dello Stato.

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Optants for Germany.

As known, the optants of 1939 had the character of a plebiscite among the German speaking population of the Province who asked for German citizenship at a 85% rate. Of 238,633 people of the Alto Adige, 199,040 opted for Germany. Of these circa 77,772 had already emigrated on the 8th of Sept, but since the beginning of the war already the emigratory flux to Germany had considerably lowered. After the 8th of Sept there was the inverted movement, the return to Italy, favoured by the German Authorities occupying the country, a movement which still continues by clandestine crossing the border.

~~Emigrants~~ The working of the dispositions and the agreements for the optants in 1939, the option was completed with the corresponding loss of Italian citizenship, following the communication from the German Government that the German naturalization is completed as well as the registration in the registers of citizens. Since the communication and the registration of these naturalizations became at a certain moment much slower, there is being carried out the settlement of the archives which have gone lost during the war period in order to know who really has lost the Italian citizenship and who not. For those who have lost it there is a plan to give them the possibility to ask again for Italian citizenship. A Commission, appointed by the Prefettura and composed to a great deal by German speaking elements (8 of 13) has provided for a project of legislative power which, now nearly finished, will soon be sent to the competent offices in the Government. It is foreseen that the examination will be carried out by special bodies who will judge on the activity of the single cases in order to exclude from regaining the Italian citizenship only those who doubtlessly have given proof of heavy compromise with the German invader. As far as it can be foreseen, there will be a revision too for the optants transferred into Germany accepting thus a strong wish of the German speaking population in order to facilitate the return into the Province of those who in 1939 were forced to leave.

In the meantime the German speaking population who have opted will be treated with very large liberality.

The Communes had difficulties in re-lodging these people who had emigrated and then returned to Italy, but these difficulties have been eliminated now. From this registration in the Ufficio Anagrafe dipende the issue of ration cards and the right to ask the Housing Office for accommodation, inserting into the Prefettural decree of the 4th of April 1946 which settles the immigration into Bolzano and Merano, a disposition which with an extra circular has been declared to be useable in the other Communes. This disposition says that the optants for Germany and German naturalized people are indeed having the rights of the Italian citizens, i.e. for their

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To the same end there is another decree issued by the Prefettura on the 30th April 1946 for the discipline of distribution of work in the Province. This decree too says that the labourers who opted for Germany (even if naturalized, but still resident in ~~the~~ Province)

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have to be treated in the same way as Italian citizens. It follows - and this has been specifically confirmed in the instructions of the decree - that for the issue of the labour book the naturalized optants must not be considered aliens; for this issue of the work book the Comune of residence is now competent and as for the Italians too and no longer the *Ispettorato del Lavoro*. Thus simplifies the procedure of issuing the book (for aliens a *viato* from the Ministry of Interior is needed) to be asked for at the *Ispettorato* through the *Questura*) thus improving the bad conditions still now existing for the interested aliens.

The Ministry of Treasury has issued a transitory disposition which will be definitely settled when the position of the single interested people will be cleared, that is the pension will still *maximal* be paid to the optants for Germany and this being on the agreement of 1933 where it is said that such payment should be stopped from the 1st Jan 1944.

The optants for Germany have not been considered aliens in the question of sequestrating enemy property following the war laws. Nothing has been sequestered from them.

Lastly the Ministry of the Treasury so that they will not carry on different ways in regard of optants for the repayment for war damages. Instructions are waited.

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The two languages.

With D.L.L. No. 825 of the 22nd Dec 1945 the introduction of a two-language system in the Alto Adige, beginning on the 1st of April 1946, was decreed.

Being on this decree in Bolzano Province the use of the German language in political, administrative and judicial offices is allowed. In the Communes of the Province the public printing may be put in German language, except the verdicts and notices from the judicial authorities. The registers of civil estate have to be in Italian language with German translation.

In order to carry out this decree the Presidency of the Council of Ministers has given instructions to all central administrations in order that the personnel of the public offices in Bolzano Province have knowledge of the German language. This knowledge of the language has to be more perfect and more thorough in those offices where there is more contact with the public and to this end authority was given to provide for extra employments if necessary with legislative procedure.

The Prefettura has contacted all public offices in the Province in order to see that there is the right personnel able to answer verbally and in writing to the questions of the citizens who speak German. A Vice-Prefect, a bilingual inspector is in charge to carry out the control in the various offices.

In addition to this, the Prefettura instructing the Communes, the Enti and the public offices, in order to carry out the a/m decree, is extending widely the principle of the bilingual system. The nominations of the various places, the boards in the streets, the public notices, manifests, nominations of offices etc. have to be put in two languages. It is ordered too that the Communes provide for the inscription and public notices in restaurants etc. in two languages and that advice will be given to commercial firms that they have to carry out similar directives, because evidently there are no specific orders and the question is, to a great deal, left to the discretion of the private.

Art. 2 of the decree on the bilingual system gives to the Government the right to issue directives for carrying out the dispositions contained therein after exposing it to a special Commission appointed by the President of the Council. The Procuratore Generale at the High Cassation Court, three State Councilors, one professor of the University, two mayors and seven persons belonging to this region five of whom of the German ethnic group, have been asked to take part in this Commission. It is thought that this Commission in addition to the original task given to her by the a/m decree, will be called to give once advice in all questions concerning the Alto Adige.

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In the meantime, to prepare those studies which will have to be accomplished in the specific sector of the judiciary activity by the s/m Commission, on initiative of the Prefettura, a Commission has met in Bolzano composed of 16 members five of whom senators and eleven lawyers and notaries (among whom five local people) in order to formulate a series of proposals inspired by a largely liberal spirit for the use of the German language in the civilian and penal cases for which the decree on the bilingual system orders the use of the Italian only for verdicts and other jurisdictional publications. The text of these preliminary works in question have already been sent to the Presidency of the Council in Rome.

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 Changing of all Italianized Names into the Original
 Form

With the R.D.L. no. 17 of 10 January 1926 the German surnames of the inhabitants of Trento and Bolzano Provinces HAD to be changed into Italian, with Prefectural Decree 10, originally Italian, they had been translated into German or altered with the addition of a German part (Art. 1); COULD be translated into Italian on application made by the people concerned when they were originally German. (Art. 2).

Of the last Article the Italian authorities of the time took advantage to help the policy then followed of Italianizing the region, and they made a large propaganda to persuade the Alto Adige population to change their surnames.

This Prefecture has pointed out to the Presidenza del Consiglio the opportunity to authorize, on application made by people concerned, the changing of the surnames into German again, so that also in this regard the legitimate wishes of the concerned could be met, letting them have the right, in accordance with the democratic present regime, to use their family name and the Presidenza del Consiglio has authorized the change and given the rules for it.

It is so authorized the reconsideration of all the cases of changing of names occurred at the time when the Art. 2 of the law 1926 was published.

With a circular to the Communes and through the local Press people interested have been invited to submit, when they so wish, application of change. It has already been disclosed the publication of decrees in this regard.

The Presidenza del Consiglio will examine the opportunity to issue a Legal Decree to change into German also surnames changed in accordance with Art. 1 of Law 1926 (surnames originally Italian changed into German during the period of the Austrian domination).

of the inhabitants of Trento and Bolzano Provinces had to be changed into Italian, with Prefectural Decree if, originally Italian, they had been translated into German or altered with the addition of a German part (Art. 1); COULD be translated into Italian on application made by the people concerned when they were originally German. (Art. 2).

Of the last Article the Italian authorities of the time took advantage to help the policy then followed of Italianizing the region, and they made a large propaganda to persuade the Alto Adige population to change their surnames.

This Prefecture has pointed out to the Presidenza del Consiglio the opportunity to authorize, on application made by people concerned, the changing of the surnames into German again, so that also in this regard the legitimate wishes of the concerned could be met, letting them have the right, in accordance with the democratic present regime, to use their family name and the Presidenza del Consiglio has authorized the change and given the rules for it.

It is so authorized the reconsideration of all the cases of changing of names occurred at the time when the Art. 2 of the law 1926 was published.

With a circular to the Communes and through the local Press people interested have been invited to submit, when they so wish, application of change. It has already been disposed the publication of decrees in this regard.

The Presidenza del Consiglio will examine the opportunity to issue a legal Decree to change into German also surnames changed in accordance with Art. 1 of Law 1926 (surnames originally Italian changed into German during the period of the Austrian domination).

ADMINISTRATION IN THE COMMUNES - German Speaking Secretaries

476 c

All the Communal Administrations are given in charge to German speaking Mayors; Italian Mayors are only in communes with a majority of Italian speaking population and in few others where, though the majority is German speaking Italian Mayors were appointed in agreement by the two Ethnical groups and the Allied Authorities. Many Mayors and members of the Communal Councils are also members of the Sudetendeutsche Volkspartei, the separatist party.

Some has been done in all the public offices. Favour is given for new vacancies to the appointment of German speaking people so that a balance can be obtained in the number of Italian and German employees in proportion with the number of people of the two groups.

To complete this projects instructions are being given to have Communal Secretaries who can speak both languages. As 30 of the Secretaries at present are already German and Italian speaking many others are required. In agreement with the Ministry of the Interior a special school has been opened in Bolzano for Communal Secretaries of German speaking groups. It is necessary for them to be admitted to the school to have the licence of the Inferior school (normally to be admitted to these schools in Italy it is necessary the high school licence).

The training will last ~~40~~ months, in addition to which two months will be spent in the Communes for practice.

Meanwhile a decree will be issued to give rules for the regular appointment of these secretaries when they have passed the examination. In agreement with the Ministry of the Interior all the Secretaries at present in Alto Adige who cannot speak German will put at disposal of the Ministry itself for transfer to other provinces. To fill the vacancies the secretaries will be appointed when they pass their examination at the end of the training.

To have a large choice in a large number of these secretaries so that the best can be obtained the age limit for the admission to the training is 45 years. The training will be completely free of charge.

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The training will last ~~16~~ months, in addition to which two months will be spent in the Committee for practice.

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To have a large choice in a large number of these secretaries so that the best can be obtained the age limit for the admission to the training is 45 years. The training will be completely free of charge.

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

The German speaking group is given the greatest freedom on the political side, in accordance with the principles of freedom of thinking and acting.

The Sudtiroler Volkspartei, which is formed of a large part of the German speaking population, carries out its activities, as the frequent meetings of propaganda for annexation to Austria, and this in addition to the fact that para. 3 of its programme states its wish to see the country annexed to Austria, so that it is clear that the meetings have a character of rebellion and offence against the Italian state. The Party publishes a weekly newspaper "Volksbote" and a daily official one "Gefamitter" in which papers the polemic against Italy is expressed without severity of judgement, but no repressive action has been taken in their regard.

Other parties have been formed by the local population without any objection, viz. Sudtiroler Sozial Demokrat Party and the Sudtiroler Demokratischen Verband.

Numerous are the Sport and Culture Clubs for German speaking people. Many papers in German are being published on religious, cultural ("Schlern") and other arguments.

The cinema, when in possession of regular permit of importation, can give shows in German. At Merano comedies and operettas in the theatres are performed in German.

This is the truth today.

All this will have to change

therein lies discontent, resentment

change.

Yeh.

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3/2

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See 30/6

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SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

One of the servers in which wide application has been given to the provisions intended to meet the desires of the local population is that of school organization.

In May 1945 a German Section was set up in the Provveditorato agli Studi; the head thereof was the priest Prof. Ferrari, who was given the post of vice-provveditore, and who belongs to the German speaking group. This section concerns itself with the administration of the local elementary and "medie" German schools.

At the beginning of the 1945-1946 school term, 396 German elementary schools were opened, with three inspectors, 18 headmasters and 830 teachers.

The following high-schools (scuole medie) were also organized:-

1.	Liceo Scientifico (Scientific Lyceum)
1	Istituto Magistrale
1	Ginnasio
2	Medie inferiori
1	Industrial School
2	Communal Technical Schools
2	Schools of "Avviamento Commerciale"
1	School of "Avviamento Industriale"
1	Industrial Technical School
7	Scuole Civiche

These 19 high schools have 15 headmasters and 27 teachers. In spite of the fact that a great number of the w/a personnel opted for Germany in 1939, and were subsequently naturalized as German citizens by the German Government, they have been employed so as to make it possible to open the German schools pending revision of the option question.

Moreover, all South Tyrolean teachers and professors working for Provveditorati of other Provinces, were posted in schools of this Region, and 500 so-called auxiliary masters were employed, i.e. persons not provided with necessary degrees (about 250 had no degree at all).

A special school organization for the German ethnical group was decided in agreement with the exponents of the German schools which, through the revision of the Ministry of Instruction, was legalized by the Decree issued on 27 Oct 1945, no. 775 "on the teaching in the elementary schools in the Province of Bolzano".

According to said organization in the elementary schools the mother tongue of various pupils is taught to some by masters having the same mother tongue.

It will be decided which language group a child belongs to, upon a statement thereof being submitted by the father. In uncertain cases the matter will be decided by a mix communal Committee. The latter form has never been adopted as statements

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- 1 Ginnasio
- 2 Medie Inferiori
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- 2 Communal Technical Schools
- 2 Schools of "Avviamento Commerciale"
- 1 School of "Avviamento Industriale"
- 1 Industrial Technical School
- 7 Scuole Civiche

These 19 high schools have 15 headmasters and 67 teachers.

In spite of the fact that a great number of the a/m personnel opted for Germany in 1939, and were subsequently naturalized as German citizens by the German government, they have been employed so as to make it possible to open the German schools pending revision of the option question.

Moreover, all South Tyrolean teachers and professors working for Provveditorato of other Provinces, were posted in schools of this Region, and 500 so-called auxiliary masters were employed, i.e. persons not provided with necessary degrees (about 250 had no degree at all).

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It will be decided which language group a child belongs to, upon a statement thereof being submitted by the father. In uncertain cases the matter will be decided by a mix communal Committee. (The latter form has never been adopted as statement on the part of pupils' families have always been accepted).

The teaching of the second language is also carried out by masters whose mother-tongue is said language.

The putting into practice of a/m provisions during the present school term has suggested certain improvements.

The Provveditorato, in accordance with the Provveditorato, has submitted to the Ministry of Instruction a revised scheme, which is being favourably taken into consideration by said Ministry.

According to said plan, mixed Communal Committees for the ethnic discrimination of pupils will be appointed; special examinations Committees will be called upon in the case of pupils

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wanting to pass from one ethnical school to another; the institution of schools of the language of one or other than that of the majority will be compulsory in all places where there are more than 5 pupils belonging to said language-group; teaching of religion will be carried out by the ecclesiastical authorities of the diocese in accordance with the old traditions of the region; it is admitted that the post of Provveditore may be filled by a German speaking official in that case the Vice-Provveditore being of the Italian group; the proportion between inspectors and headmasters of the two ethnical groups has been fixed; reference will be given to local elements; also in kindergartens pupils will be taught in their mother tongue; the two ethnical groups will have equal rights in the use of school premises and lodgings for the teachers.

Particular problems connected with this new scheme of school organization are being examined - i.e. the position of about 80 teachers who had given up teaching in consequence of the options for Germany and who have not been replaced. The position of the same will be definitely cleared after the revision of options; pending which an application has been forwarded to the Ministry of Instruction to the effect of enabling them to receive economic treatment corresponding to their years of service.

Another suggestion has been made to the Ministry of Instruction to the effect of placing on the official roll those South Tyrolians of the German group who have been temporarily employed for the German Schools.

Moreover a request has been made to the competent authorities to the effect of allowing temporary teachers to enjoy the rights of lodging in the Province of Bolzano, such as are allowed by teachers on the official roll, see Decree No. 1152 dated 2 Jul 1929. This is being done so as to help the position of teachers of the German schools who, as has already been said, are nearly all in temporary employment.

A suggestion has been made to the President del Consiglio that the kindergartens which used to be run in Alto Adige by the "Opera Nazionale Assistenza Italia Redenta" be transferred to the Provveditorato so that they may be organized on the bi-lingual plan thus leaving German and Italian kindergartens proportionate in number to the figures of the two ethnical groups.

A special organization has been decided upon for the local German high schools. The decrees issued in regard by the Ministry of Instruction, which meanwhile has authorized the running of said schools guaranteeing their validity during the present school term.

Said decrees establish absolute equality between the degrees obtained in the German and corresponding Italian schools; all state educational taxes will be payable by pupils of the German schools in an equal proportion to those payable in similar Italian schools; also the personnel which had been dismissed following

of the Italian group; the proportion between inspectors and headmasters of the two ethnical groups has been fixed; reference will be given to local elements; also in kindergartens pupils will be taught in their mother tongue; the two ethnical groups will have equal rights in the use of school premises and lodgings for the teachers.

Further problems connected with this new scheme of school organization are being discussed - i.e., the position of about 80 teachers who had given up teaching in consequence of the options for Germany and who have now been reinstated. The position of the same will be definitely cleared after the revision of options; pending which an application has been forwarded to the Ministry of Instruction to the effect of enabling them to receive economic treatment corresponding to their years of service.

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Said decree establishes absolute equality between the degrees obtained in the German and corresponding Italian schools; all state educational taxes will be payable to pupils of the German schools in an equal proportion to those payable in similar Italian schools; teaching personnel which had been dismissed following the closing down of local German high schools after the annexation to Italy of Alto Adige, will be re-instated.

FORESTRY PERSONNEL

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During the period of the German administration after the 8th September, 1941 it was sent away from the Province the greatest part of the Italian Forestry Personnel and in their place were put local people who were employed by the German organization depending on the Ministry of Forestry in Germany.

Last February, when the Forestry Personnel once removed were already back in the Province, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry ordered the discharge of the local personnel who had stayed on during all the time.

This discharge determined the dissatisfaction of the local population who thought better to have forestry personnel who can understand their language, to defend their woods and trees.

It was certainly wrong the fact that to cover an appointment for which it is necessary to contact the inhabitants of zones of woods, chiefly uncultured country men who cannot speak any other language than their own, should be agents without knowledge of German.

Having this been pointed out to the Presidenza del Consiglio, also in relation to the dispositions concerning the use of both languages in Alto Adige, it has been obtained that the Ministry of the Agriculture and Forestry employ again nearly all the forestry personnel in question, except some elements compromised for political reasons.

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Prisoners of War of the Alto Adige.

During the Nazi administration of the Province (High Commissioner for the Prealpine zone of operations), after the 8th of Sept 1943, the Germans called under the arms nearly all valuable men incorporating them or in the army or in some regiments of the police which were changed afterwards in SS-Regiments.

Immediately after the liberation the Prefettura intervened at the Allied Military Government asking for the release of these POW's being in Allied hands and this independently from their option or for Germany or for Italy.

In June and July 1945, the Allied Military Authorities, in agreement with the Prefettura, released POW's of the Alto Adige providing for the liberation of many POW's who were in concentration camps of the Po Valley, after having received lists with names from the Prefettura.

In Oct 1945 the Provincial Commissioner of the A.V.S. informed gave notice that it was no longer possible to take these requests into consideration and from that time the action for liberation of the a/w prisoners was stopped.

However, the return to their homes of the prisoners kept in allied camps in Italy, is urgently needed by the families residing in this Province, after one year after the end of the war and the Prefettura has made the necessary steps at the competent Ministries in Rome in order that with rapid and simple procedure to be agreed to by the Allied Commission, these POW's were released for whom there were no obstacles because of Nazi activity. To this end it was suggested to leave it to the Prefettura to collect the requests of the families in order to be sent with a visto and provided the necessary instructions have been received, to the Commands of the Camps.

With telegramme of the 21 May the Foreign Ministry has authorized such a procedure and since the Prefettura had in the meantime made the necessary investigations regarding hundreds of requests, they are already providing that the requests will immediately be sent to the various Camp Commands.

The issue to be followed is not to distinguish between options for Germany or not. The principal point is the call under the arms in the Alto Adige in order that return to their homes is ensured to those who have still the house and the family here. However, for the liberation of those who were called under the arms in Germany where they had emigrated after the options, and for the permit to stay in the Alto Adige, no favourable consideration is being given.

Some ten proposals have already been sent through the Liaison office of the Allied Commission. Those proposals don't

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Some ten proposals have already been sent through the Liaison Office of the Allied Commission. These proposals don't affect about 700 POW's (mostly of Police bodies kept in Laterina near Arezzo). For these proposals will be directly sent to the War Ministry by telegram. The Ministry of War will examine each case in accordance with the Allied Commission in Rome. For these POW's in Laterina too it has already been telegraphed favourably for many tens of cases.

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

785017

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

AFD 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref : 585/33

29 May 1946

SUBJECT: Political Report - Bolzano.

TO : Polad "A" HQ Allied Commission
Polad "B" " " "

The following is an extract from a report received from the
CLO Bolzano Province, and forwarded to you for information.

"POLITICAL SITUATION"

1. Basically the political situation remains the same, and there was very little general activity on either side, until about the last ten days of April, when it was obvious that the question of the Alto Adige was going to be discussed, and its future most probably decided, at the Council of Foreign Ministers in Paris, which commenced a new session within recent days.
2. Both parties threw bricks at each other through their party newspapers - Italian "Alto Adige", South-Tyrolese "Dolomiten". In many cases both sides lost any appreciation of the truth and the most insignificant incidents were distorted and incorrectly reported.
3. In view of the recent decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers that the Province of Bolzano, with the exception of certain minor frontier adjustments, will remain in the framework of the Italian State, particulars of the various Party Propaganda during the month of April will not be dealt with in detail in this report, but certain outstanding instances follow:
4. a) On the 15th April 1946, with the permission of the Government of Bolzano, a demonstration by the Sudetende Volkspartei was held at Brunico.

This resulted in exchange of blows and some shots at several places in the Pusteria Valley (Pusterthal) during the day, and unfortunately one death occurred.

The death was that of a man of 35 years of age, and the post-mortem revealed that his death was due to natural causes. There were no marks of violence on the body and there is no doubt that he died as the result of over-excitement, during one of the frenzies.

copy to : 747/EC

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It is felt that the Italian elements in the Province were not without blame in this matter.

For some time now there has been a strong rumour in the Province amongst the Italian elements that the Province of Bolzano is going to remain within the framework of the Italian State, but that there would be certain minor adjustments in the vicinity of S. Candido.

It would appear from this report that the inhabitants of the S. Candido district do not want to leave the framework of the Italian State.

In addition to this newspaper article there appeared on the walls of buildings in the S. Candido area notices written in German to the same effect.

This so incensed the local inhabitants especially the more politically-minded that the demonstration on the 5th April was held.

The demonstration commenced in Brunico at 1400 hrs and lasted until about 1900 hrs, during which time the local SVP leaders made speeches, demanding the return of the South-Tyrol to Austria. They in fact made five points which they set out in a motion which was presented to the Prefect.

The fourth point in the motion dealing with Senator Tolomei is rather like climbing a mountain before you reach it, as this man is not in the area, and it is understood he does not intend to return; but at all SVP public meetings Tolomei comes in for his full share of abuse.

The story of Tolomei is that he was, during the early part of the Fascist Regime, the head of the "Centro Studi Alto Adige", the duty of which was to Italianise the Alto Adige after it had been given to Italy in 1919.

When the Germans were in charge of the Alto Adige he was sent to Dachau Concentration Camp for the work he had done in Italianising Alto Adige.

Tolomei is now living in Rome and it would appear is quite happy to remain there. As far as is known in this Office, there are no suggestions that Tolomei ever abused the position he held under the Fascists.

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- 3 -

Although the official demonstration ended about 1300 hrs there were fights up and down the Valley until after midnight, as the demonstrators were returning home and encountering Italians on the way. Several people were hurt but none seriously. The most seriously injured was the Maresciallo of C.I.R. of Monguelfo who was kicked in the groin by a South-Tyrolean - since arrested - whilst he, the Maresciallo of C.I.R., was endeavouring to stop a group of South-Tyroleans attacking one Italian.

- b) The Andreas Hofer League has taken a new lease of life in recent days, and appears to have some very constructive ideas.

The head of the League is Hans Egarter who is very pro-Ally and was the chief of the South-Tyrolean underground movement during the war. This was not a very large movement but it is known that they did some excellent work.

The main theme-song of the League at the present moment is that all Fascist and Nazi elements be cleared from the area - in whatever capacity they may be - before there is any talk of party-politics.

Egarter is a South-Tyrolean and has sentimental attachment to Austria. It would be true to say that Egarter would prefer to see South-Tyrol annexed to Austria, but he is not fanatical about this, and is quite prepared to abide by any decision that is made by the Council of Foreign Ministers.

The propaganda that has been put out by the League whilst stressing the importance of first ridding the area of the Fascists and Nazis is rather ambiguous as to its ultimate objects. This may well have been done on purpose to enable Egarter to support the side that wins and as a result will not be able to be termed a "turn-coat".

The local reaction to this propaganda at the moment is that neither the South-Tyroleans nor the Italians trust Egarter. He has undoubtedly much to learn in the gentle art of propaganda, as one big mistake he made was to have his propaganda printed only in the German language, when his avowed main object at the moment is to be politically impartial, until the Fascists and the Nazis in the area have been eliminated.

- c) A new political party has been formed, known as the Partito Social-Democratico Sud-Tirolese, the president of which is Lorenzo Unterkircher.

- 4 -

Unterkircher is 53 years of age, of South Tyrolean extraction and took a commercial degree at the Accademia Commerciale Superiore, Trento. He is reported to be well-balanced person and one of the more moderate members of the Bolzano Socialist Party. He opted for Italy in 1939 and his political activities have always been anti-fascist and anti-nazi.

The Party is composed of members that have broken away from the Italian Socialist Party, and their main object would appear to be local autonomy within the framework of the Italian State.

5. The reaction of the South-Tyrolean ²⁸ ~~are~~ the results of the announcement of the meeting of the Foreign Ministers that the South-Tyrol shall remain within the framework of the Italian State, is that they cannot bring themselves to believe it, and what their real reaction will be when they fully appreciate the significance of the decisions is not known.
6. It is felt that generally speaking there is no fear of violence being resorted to in a large scale, but it is known that there are a few extremists who will resort to some form of violence, if given the opportunity.
7. Whilst compiling this report, it has been reported that during the night of the 2nd - 3rd of May 1946, a bomb weighing about 12 kilos was found at the Prefettura, Bolzano. A more detailed report on this will be submitted when the full facts come at hand.
8. If left alone, it is believed that the South-Tyroleans will accept the decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers in London quite calmly, but they may be infected, I repeat may, by the events in Austria.
9. It has been reported to this Office, that when it was heard in Austria of the decision of the Foreign Ministers respecting Alto Adige, a general strike was declared on the 2nd May. In Innsbruck the French Military Government ordered a curfew commencing at 2100 hrs on the 2nd May, and armed cars patrolled the streets. It is also reported that during the night of the 1/2nd May the Church bells of Innsbruck tolled until 0300 hrs. These reports were received from the Brenner Frontier control and no further steps have been taken to confirm these."

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE,

H. D. McM
1st Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

785017

466

Ref: 280/46/52

27 May 1946

Subject: South Tyrol Party.

To: The Secretary,
Council of Foreign Ministers,
Lancaster Gate,
London.

431-1161

1. The enclosed correspondence has reached the Allied Commission and is forwarded to you for the information of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

2. The President of the South Tyrol Volkspartei has, of course, been informed that the request made in the penultimate paragraph of his letter and marked "X" cannot be met.

For the Chief Commissioner:

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

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ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref: AGLO/BZ/46.

Date: 10 May 1946
SM/59.

SUBJECT: South Tyrol Party.

TO : The Executive Commissioner,
EC, Allied Commission, BOLZANO.

The attached correspondence has reached me from the President of the South Tyrol Volkspartei and is forwarded to you for such action as you care to take in the matter.

I have told the President I cannot of course meet his request marked X in his letter to me.

I have seen the English papers and it appears that a statement has been made by the Deputies, but I do not think this can be accepted as a firm decision regarding the future of the South Tyrol.

Much depends on it as, when once a firm decision has been made, the policy of the South Tyrol Volkspartei will have to be reconsidered and nobody appreciates that more than the President.

His Party is, however, desirous of voicing protests and all that is possible to obtain annexation to Austria pending the promulgation of the final decision. This appears to me to be logical.

/s/ S.V. MILLER
Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO.

1 encl.

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

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SÜDTIROLER VOLKSPARTEI

Bozen, May 9, 1946

To
 Col. S.W. MILLER M.C.,
 Chief Liaison Officer
 Allied Commission,
 B.O.Z.E.N.

Dear Sir,

With reference to our conversation of to-day, I beg leave to make some additional observations which I summarize below:

The position taken by the four foreign Ministers at the Conference of Paris concerning the question of the South Tyrol has stirred our population to its very depths and they feel a great resentment against it, which is comprehensible.

The demonstrations held on May 5th at Bozen, Meran and Brixen have shown clearly and incontestably to everyone participating, that it confuted flatly the assertion put forward by some quarters, that the demand for a reincorporation into North Tyrol and Austria was the work of mischievous Austrians only (who do not exist at all). It showed clearly that this is the unanimous, united will and wish of all the people of South Tyrol. Otherwise it would be quite inexplicable how at Bozen alone 20,000, at Meran and Brixen about 15,000 in each district could have assembled in each meeting to protest strongly against the position taken by the Big four foreign Ministers. Please consider that invitations for the meeting at the Castle of Sigonsgraben were already issued, before even the question of the South Tyrol was discussed at the Paris conference. The directorship of our Party, considering the difficulties of transports, reckoned with a participation ranging from 7 to 8,000 people and no more. That after the publication of the decisions reached by the Big four foreign Ministers there should appear at the meeting nearly three times the number of people expected, is certainly a sufficiently clear proof of the real mood prevailing in the country.

The directorship of the South Tyrolean Party is convinced that this meeting had to be held in order not to let prevail an impression here and elsewhere, that the South Tyrolean People had anyhow abandoned all hope of seeing their demands accepted. Keeping silent would certainly have produced, corroborated and confirmed such an erroneous belief as already mentioned, to wit, that the demands put forward was not the will of the people of South Tyrol, but that only a few propagandists and agitators were clamouring for a reincorporation of the South Tyrol into North Tyrol and Austria.

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- 2 -

If the meeting would not have taken place it would certainly have meant the end of the South Tyrolean Party, being followed consequently by the springing up of illegal actions. This because on the one hand one would never have forgiven to the Party the grave omission of not having given the people a chance to express its own opinion and will in such a grave hour concerning their very future, on the other hand it would have meant an unwillingly sustaining and assisting of radical elements who might not have felt any scruples to take advantages of the situation, employing illegal means for their own ends.

It has come to my knowledge that part of the Authorities are of the opinion that after the position taken by the Big four foreign Ministers at Paris the South Tyrolean Party is no longer authorised to uphold and to continue to resent the peoples' demand for self-determination, as such an attitude could be interpreted as being a treasonable action.

Here I beg leave to remind the reader that already at the beginning of May last year the South Tyrolean Party submitted to the Allied Authorities a request with the demand to grant them the right to claim for the South Tyrolean people the right of self-determination and to employ henceforth all their activities for its attainment. This right was granted them by the Allied quite explicitly viz. to direct their activities to the attainment of the right of self-determination.

Furthermore, on the occasion when a pact was agreed upon between the C.L.N. and the South Tyrolean Party (May 31st, 1945) the former Prefect Dr. De Angelis also recognised our right to represent in this question the will of our people.

Therefore we are of the opinion now that this right can not be taken away from us until a decision has irrevocably been reached in one sense or another. It is our firm conviction that a definitive decision has not as yet been taken, the Big Four being concerned mainly with a preliminary examination and taking of position; they have moreover never issued an official communique, the public being informed of its decisions by Press and Radio. Moreover the Austrian Government has been invited subsequently to take again position regarding our question. We have also information at hand that the Austrian Government is nowise of opinion that the decision was a final one. We have also been corroborated in this opinion by the various viewpoint expressed in the press amongst others, especially the English press, which comments most unfavourably on the position taken by the Big four foreign Ministers in regard to the question of the South Tyrol. Until the time when the peace-conference will take place, many things may change and we are of opinion that only then, when the final decision at the peace conference has been taken, need we consider ourselves freed from our duty to strive strenuously for the attainment of our aim which is the right of self-determination for our people.

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

785017

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- 3 -

We believe that the least one could and should expect is to concede to a people in this historic hour a chance to express their own feelings and wishes openly. In any case it would be difficult to bring another conception into unison with the basic principles on which should be built a new world.

To avoid in the near future troubles and unsafe conditions in the country, we would be very much obliged to you, dear Sir, if you could let us have a written statement from which emerges clearly the importance to be ascribed to the declaration of the Big four foreign Ministers in regard to the question of the South Tyrol. We cannot as yet accept the opinion that the decision taken should really be a final one, as we are convinced that in this case, viz. a for us unfavourable decision, Italy would have been requested to guarantee to our people, a minority, its protection and our regional autonomy.

You know, dear Sir, that the directors of the South Tyrolean Party have contributed with all the means at their disposal to maintain order and discipline in our country and it succeeded very well, considering the great excitement and embitterment prevailing in the country, but that it can never desist from voicing the opinion of its people until a final decision has been taken, save by injuring its very own interests and deserting the very task for which it strove all the time to be a true representant of its people of the South Tyrol.

I beg to remain, Sir, yours respectfully,

In absence of Mr. Erich Azzoni

/s/ Dr. Friedl Volgger.

Seal: Suedtiroler - Volkspartei.

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RESOLUTION

The people of the South Tyrol have been stirred to their very depths on learning the news of an apparently planned decision which would deprive them of their right to decide in a state of freedom upon its own destiny in accordance to their own will.

Nevertheless and despite this news the South Tyrolese hold themselves in strict keeping discipline and order because

they cannot believe and absolutely refuse to put any faith in a news which would be so fully in contradiction to the ever repeated principles and proclaimed principles, beginning with the Atlantic Charter and which were to serve as the foundations of a new world order.

They cannot believe that particularly at the beginning of the Peace-treaties there should stand the violation of those very principles which ought to create a new and better world.

They cannot believe that to the South Tyrolese will be denied those rights which have been granted also to the peoples inhabiting the colonies.

They cannot believe that because being only a small people justice and right should be applied differently. Measures or measures of a people cannot change justice and right.

Therefore the South Tyrolese people proclaim before the whole world:

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They cannot believe that particularly at the beginning of the Peace-treaties there should stand the violation of those very principles which ought to create a new and better world.

They cannot believe that to the South Tyroleans will be denied those rights which have been granted also to the peoples inhabiting the colonies.

They cannot believe that because being only a small people justice and right should be applied differently. Ingress or expulsion of a people cannot change justice and right.

Therefore the South Tyroleans people proclaim before the whole world:

"their firm resolution to claim consciously, with all their powers at their disposal, for their unalienable right of self-determination and never to abandon this claim till its fulfillment".

They raise insistently their cry for justice once again towards the responsible statesmen.

"To recognise their right of self-determination which alone can guarantee them a life of happiness in freedom thereby sustaining in the South Tyroleans people their unshakable faith in the victory of their ideals, in the victory of liberty and justice for which you are fighting.

4341

(SIGNED)

REPORT

Mass meetings were held at Dossau, Meran and Brilon on Sunday May 5th by the North Tyrolean population as a protest against the planned partition of the South Tyrol with Italy.

To avoid any frictions which very likely would have occurred if the meeting had been held in Bozen itself, it was held instead at the picturesque old Castle of Sigmundskron. It was the biggest meeting which South Tyrol had ever seen. The number of people who participated was, after careful calculations he claimed to have reached at least between 20,000 to 25,000 people. It has come to our knowledge that the local prefecture in transmitting to Rome details about the meetings, gave the number with only 6,000, scarcely amounting over in all some 1/4 of the participants. The people, composed of all classes of the population, arrived in masses from Bozen and the surrounding country and from the so-called "Innland", to which joined themselves groups of deputations from all the valleys of the South Tyrol comprising the farthest and highest mountainous and villages, from the Vinadign to the Brenner and to Innsbruck. Many came in their homeown local costumes headed by their local head (there were 21 bands in all).

The people stood in curved ranks in the big court-

It was the biggest meeting which South Tyrol had ever seen. The number of people who participated was, after careful calculations he claimed to have reached at least between 20,000 to 25,000 people. It has come to our knowledge that the local prefecture in transmitting to Rome details about the meeting, gave the number with only 6,000, thereby passing over in silence 3/4 of the participants. The people, composed of all classes of the population, arrived in masses from Rome and the surrounding country and from the so-called "White Land", to which joined themselves groups of deputations from all the valleys of the South Tyrol comprising the Fiemme and highest Brennero and villages, from the Vinschgau to the Brenner and to Innsbruck. Many came in their homegrown local costumes headed by their local band (there were 24 bands in all).

The people stood in several ranks in the big courtyard, in the adjacent fields and meadows and on the slopes as well as on the roofs, walls-tops and half-crumpled garretles.

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After the opening of the meeting by the General Secretary Dr. Bachman, Dr. Lathrop spoke about the well known claim of the Interland demanding to be recognized to Norway, with which was substituted the planned meeting of her, where the will of the people was not allowed to express itself, the question of Trans having provided the projected assembly. Dr. Lathrop in his speech especially put stress on the demand of the Interland to be incorporated to Norway, clearly demonstrating the historical, economical, ethical and human reasons which all of them are supporting the claim put forward; his speech was greeted by unanimous approval, indicated by long lasting applause, Dr. Edith Asen, chairman of the South Norwegian Peoples Party, stepped on the speaker's platform. He began by unfolding and explaining the programme of the South Norwegian Peoples Party, following it up with a survey of the situation and revealing the apex of the speech when he demanded for the North Syril the right of self-determination, of freedom and independence with the North Syril. His speech was interrupted often by intense exclamations and at the end of it all the people sang as a chorus hymn, the well known song of "Andreas Hoer" their hero who died for the liberty of the Syril. Dr.

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explaining the programme of the South Tyrolean Peoples Party,
following it up with a survey of the situation and reading
the text of the speech when he demanded for the South Tyrol
the right of self-determination, of freedom and indepen-
dence with the North Tyrol. His speech was interrupted often
by intense acclamations and at the end of it all the people
sang as a chorus, the well known song of "Address Ho-
nor their hero who died for the liberty of the Tyrol. De-
mander as the last speaker for the country board of Directors
of the South Tyrolean Peoples Party especially stressed the
fact that the South Tyrolean People deeply cannot believe
that to them would be denied the most elementary right of every

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human being, to wit: the right to decide his own destiny, the right of self-determination. The voice of the meeting, he said, must be heard, must reach all those who are responsible for deciding on our destiny. He then passed to the exaggerated rumors about the bad economic conditions existing at present in Austria and asked the assembled people whether in case that Austria's conditions should get worse or become even catastrophic they still would favour a re-incorporation with that country to which all those tens of thousands replied as with one big voice: "Yes". Subsequently the speaker read to them a resolution taken (the contents of which we beg leave to annex) and which was accepted unanimously by the assembly. The whole meeting was held in a most praiseworthy disciplined and orderly manner from beginning to its end, without any acts or expressions of hostility or hate neither against Italy nor the Italians. In contrast to this orderly behaviour of the participants of the demonstration, many of them, on their way home, were insulted at the entry roads to Buzen by Italian groups with cries and shouts such as: crucchi, death to the crucchi, and the like offending phrases.

On the same day was held at Brizon in the morning hours the yearly customary procession in honour of St. Cassian, patron of the town, which likewise was frequented by such a big mass of people from the valleys of the Rusterthal and Kl-

ly the speaker read to them a resolution taken (the contents of which we beg leave to omit) and which was accepted unanimously by the assembly. The whole meeting was held in a most praiseworthy disciplined and orderly manner from beginning to its end, without any acts or expressions of hostility or hate neither against Italy nor the Italians. In contrast to this orderly behaviour of the participants of the demonstration, many of them, on their way home, were insulted at the entry roads to Bozen by Italian groups with cries and shouts such as : crucchi, death to the crucchis, and the like offending phrases.

On the same day was held at Brison in the morning hours the yearly customary procession in honour of St. Cassian, patron of the town, which likewise was frequented by such a big mass of people from the valleys of the Isertal and Kiack as was never seen before. The number of the participants at the procession and those South Tyrolese assisting were cal-

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culated to have been at least 15,000. As during the procession and the sermon held it emerged clearly that a petition was being resubmitted to God's services, at the conclusion of the procession an enormous crowd gathered at the Hauptplatz (Square of the Cathedral) and when some of the bands began to play the popular "Arbeitslied" song, there developed a grandiose demonstration, accompanied by ceaseless acclamations and calls in favour of: "Justice for South Tyrol and the likes. Dr. Volgger then spoke to the assembled people, especially underlining the fact that no hate exists in the hearts of the South Tyrolean People against the Italian people but they claim the right to be treated with the same considerations as the Italians are expecting for themselves in regard to the Venezia Giulia. We do not demand anything else, the speaker continued, as that country which belonged and belongs to us always, and also the natural right of self-determination. These words were applauded with visible jubilation to which were added calls, asking Dr. V. Guggenbuehl to address them also. The latter in his speech put into especial relief that the claim put forward by the South Tyrolean People for self-determination and reunification to Austria was the pivot on the granting of which hung the decision of real justice at the peace conference, to have faith and not to waver in their firm belief in justice and that then surely will shine the light

to the assembled people, especially underlining the fact that no hate exists in the hearts of the South Tyrolean People against the Italian people but they claim the right to be treated with the same considerations as the Italians are expecting for themselves in regard to the Venezia Giulia. We do not demand anything else, the speaker continued, as that country which belongs and belongs to us always, and also the natural right of self-determination. These words were welcomed with visible jubilation to which were added calls, asking Dr. V. Cugenburger to address them also. The latter in his speech put into especial relief that the claim put forward by the South Tyrolean People for self-determination and reintegration to Austria was the pivot on the granting of which hung the decision of real justice at the peace conference, to have faith and not to waver in their firm belief in justice and that then surely will shine the light of freedom also upon our country again. His speech was interrupted often by thousandfold calls for "justice for South Tyrol" "South Tyrol to Austria" "Austria as far as Salurn" "Tyrol for the Tyroleans" and the like. Dr. V. Cugenburger concluding

road to the people a resolution taken and which we mentioned already and which was accepted (as was the case in the afternoon at Bonn) unanimously amidst the greatest acclamations and applause.

Also on the same day, May 5th at Meran was held the customary religious procession of the month of May which has its origin from a pledge given in grave times of war 150 years ago. This procession offered a welcome occasion to all the people of the "Burggrafenamt" (county of Meran) to assemble in a never before seen number and to beseech God to save them from a fearful disaster. About 9,000 people took part at the procession and at its conclusion well over 16,000 people were assembled at the Schiplatz around the statue of the Holy Virgin Mary. As soon as the religious ceremony was over, the former deputy (M.P.) of the Tyrolean County Council Josef Mens from Wurling held a speech making a strong appeal to the four great powers to recognize and to grant to the South Tyrolean People the right of self-determination and to reopen the gates of their homeland to the 80,000 exiled South Tyrolean who were expelled from their country. He concluded by saying that the South Tyrolean would never cease to demand their right of self-determination. Subsequently Franz Innerhofer of Bozén (Merano) addressed a few words of thanks to the assembled people, who had come from the most distant places and highest mountains in their alps of the Burggrafenamt; he appealed

disacted. About 9,000 people took part at the procession and at its conclusion well over 16,000 people were assembled at the Semplats around the statue of the Holy Virgin Mary. As soon as the religious ceremony was over, the former deputy (M.P.) of the Tyrolean County Council Josef Hans Fros Karling held a speech making a strong appeal to the four great powers to recognize and to grant to the South Tyrolean people the right of self-determination and to reopen the gates of their homeland to the 80,000 exiled South Tyroleans who were expelled from their country. He concluded by saying that the South Tyroleans could never cease to demand their right of self-determination. Subsequently Franz Innerhofer of Obermais (Merano) addressed a few words of thanks to the assembled people, who had come from the most distant places and highest homesteads of their alpine of the Burggrafenamt; he appealed in the name of the South Tyrolean people to the responsible statesmen begging them not to drive an otherwise peace-loving and disciplined people into the arms of despair by denying them their very human desire and demand for the right of self-determination.

ation.

And continues acclamations the resolution of the same content as the ones taken at Hagenau (Hosen) and Brizen was unanimously accepted and the demonstration then terminated by all the people singing together the "Internationale" song, the famous Holy Heart Jesu song of the Unity, and their beloved song of "the Homeland of the Tyrolese".

Therefore at least 40,000 assembled South Tyrolese, representing the whole population of the South Tyrol, have pledged themselves openly by their free and unshakable will in those three mass meetings of Hosen, Brizen and Sevan, never to abandon their demand for self-determination till the day of its

fulfillment.

more than 60,000 assembled Youth Tyrolers, re-
presenting the whole population of the South Tyrol, have plain-
ed themselves openly by their free and unshakable will in these
three mass meetings of Bozen, Brison and Meran, never to aban-
don their demand for self-determination till the day of its
fulfillment.

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

Ref: 585/444/33

17
23 April 1946

My dear Dr. Prunas,

I have to thank you for your courtesy in sending to the Chief Commissioner under cover of your letter of 23 March, copies of the two communiques issued by the Italian Government on 5 and 8 March as to its policy with regard to the Alto Adige.

I have sent copies of these documents to the United States and the British Ambassadors who have in turn informed their respective Governments.

Yours very truly,

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Acting Chief Commissioner.

Dr. Renato Prunas
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Italian Government
Rome.

Copy to ~~Mr. Prunas~~
C. C.
Polad A.
Polad B.
C. R. Section

4033 *PA* 4

144E

Ref: 585/1/EC.

9 April 1946.

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SUBJECT: BOLZANO - Elections.

TO : Ministry of the Interior,
ROME.

1. The Allied Commission Liaison Officer in BOLZANO has advised me of a political disturbance that took place in BRUSICO on 6 April 1946 and states that the situation is in hand.

3/4/46

2. For your information a copy of the telegram is enclosed.

W. W. HEND. SMITH

Brigadier,
Acting Chief Commissioner.

Incl.

A
3/4/46

1343

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: ACLO/BZ/108/123

Date/Time of Origin: APR 061415

Message Centre No: H/1724

Date Time Recd: APR 070915A

Precedence: IMPORTANT

FROM: CLO BOLZANO SIGNED COLONAL SW MILLER

TO: HQ ALCOM FOR EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, INFO: CIVIL AFFAIRS 320T ROME

APR 8 1946

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Questura authorised ~~Volkspartei~~ VOLKSPARTEI meeting BRUNICO yesterday
Political speeches interrupted and carabinieri intervened. After
meeting fighting occurred between single groups. 1 South Tyrolean
dead. During evening further incidents occurred and CC RM fired
and HIT 1 South Tyrolean in leg. CC RM brigadiere injured. Si-
tuation is in hand.

AC DIST

ACTION EX COMMISSIONER
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CIVIL AFFAIRS
P SAFETY SC
FILE 2
FLOAT

ACTION

HEADQUARTERS

7 APR 1946

*See N 445 to 447
9 7448*

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Questura Authorized ~~xxxxxxxx~~ VOLKSEKRETARI meeting BRUNICO yesterday
Political speeches interrupted and carabinieri intervened. After
meeting fighting occurred between single groups. 1 South Tyrolean
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and HIT 1 South Tyrolean in leg. CO HK brigadiere injured. Sit-
uation is in hand.

AC DIST

ACTION EI COMMISSIONER
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CIVIL AFFAIRS
P SAFETY SC
FILE 2
FLOAT

ACTION



*See M445 to 447
4 7448*

RESTRICTED

4033

MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI
Il Segretario Generale.

ROUGH TRANSLATION

5/438

Rome, March 25th, 1946.

Dear Admiral Stone,

I beg to enclose herewith copies of two communiques issued respectively on the 5th and 6th of March, concerning the policy adopted by the Italian Government in order to give a fair and advantageous solution to cultural and executive problems in the Alto Adige zone.

May I call your attention to the meaning of these communiques, which are, I believe, a further example of the Italian Government's thoroughly democratic attitude in dealing with all matters concerning this zone.

As far as self-government problems are concerned in particular, it should be underlined that the policy followed by the Italian Government has been hampered by the attitude of local political milieu, evidently affected by Austrian propaganda. While the Italian Government are determined to carry out their settled plans and are willing to co-operate with local well-meaning people in order to promote better conditions in this border zone, I wish you would kindly draw the attention of the Allied Authorities to the unfavourable consequences brought about by the Austrian attitude and by the failure on the part of the Government of Vienna in taking an international standing as to their claims, thus delaying the wished-for provisions in favour of German-speaking minorities.

Believe me, dear Admiral Stone,

2 encl.

Very sincerely yours

(sgd) R. FRIGERI

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
ROME

NO DIST - 1 Apr 46
Action - C.A. Sec
Info - C.C.
E.C.
Polad 'A'
Polad 'B'

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

EC 43

AUTONOMY OF THE ALTO ADIGE

Translation

A few days ago the President of the Council had a discussion with the prefect of Bolzano, Dr. Innocenti, regarding the more important problems of this province.

As may be remembered, as far back as last July the Government decided that the exigencies of this bilingual area should come under the protection of a suitable regime of local self government, and more recently the Hon. De Gasperi charged the Prefect of Bolzano with the forming of a Commission composed of representatives of the various linguistic groups, to decide on a scheme of self government. The representatives of the German group, however, organized by the "Volkspartei", refused to join the Commission. Notwithstanding this impediment, the Hon. De Gasperi, determined to fulfill the task entrusted to him by the Government, sent the Prefect of Bolzano to elaborate a scheme of self government availing himself of local discussions which always let transpire the aspirations of the region.

The President of the Council then discussed with the Prefect of Bolzano the work preceding the elections. It appears however that the drawing up of the lists is hindered by the unsolved problem of the citizenship of a large number of the inhabitants of the Alto Adige.

The Hon. De Gasperi, in agreement with the Ministry of the Interior, has therefore promised to come to a decision in the matter.

Translation

EC 429

FOR THE PROVINCE OF BOLZANO

The President of the Council of Ministers in the presence of the Minister of the Interior, received Counsellor of State Dr. Innocenti, Prefect of Bolzano who made a report on the political and administrative situation of the province, with special emphasis on certain delicate problems. The President of the Council paid special attention to the advisability of putting into practice as soon as possible the law already in force regarding the two languages. With this object in view he gave instructions for the forming of the Commission which must prepare the rules for the application of the said law.

Furthermore to meet the exigencies of the civic administration in a practical way and with the intention of guaranteeing the use of their language to German speaking citizens in the orbit of administrative intercourse as well, the President gave orders that the Prefect of Bolzano should immediately appoint for Italian citizens speaking German, a special course for the conferring of the temporary licence for communal secretary. Legislative measures will be issued concerning this which, while awaiting for the result of the above-mentioned course, will permit the sindaco of the bilingual communes in that province to obtain the collaboration of secretaries possessing the requisite knowledge of the two languages.

From "THE TIMES" of 18 February 1946.

SOUTH TIROL

To the Editor of the Times.

Sir,

The report is being spread by Italian circles that the South Tyrolese received National Socialism with open arms and that a great many South Tyrolese have been National Socialists. For this reason, it is declared, they are unworthy of being accorded the right of self-determination and with it the possibility of their reunion with their motherland Austria. This report is false, because the Italians are representing the 1939 option of the South Tyrolese in favour of emigration to Germany as synonymous with the adoption of the doctrines of National Socialism. In reality it was only the deep-rooted yearning to escape from the Italian yoke, under which they had been suffering for 20 long years, that drove them to adopt the desperate expedient offered by the Hitler-Mussolini pact.

It is impossible to estimate the spiritual torment and the subsequent material misery brought upon the people of South Tirol by this fatal Hitler-Mussolini pact of June 23, 1939. It was the climax of the Fascist policy of oppression and it should not, in justice, afford the pretext for robbing the people of South Tirol of their right of self determination.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

JAHANNES GEISLER, Prince-Bishop
of Brixen,

Brixen-Bressanone, South Tirol.

See M. 424. 425. 426 427 to 434

422

PA
2/3

Confidential

SWM/lc

ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO

Tel. 1893

Ref : ACLO/B2/15.9

12th February, 1946

Dear Hopkinson,

The attached letter has been sent to me for information by the South Tyrolian Volkspartei and I send a translation to you.

I had written to Brig. LUSH about the possible arrival of certain Commissions before this letter reached me.

Please let me know if I am flooding you with paper. I sift a great deal and try to send you only such particulars as I believe you want to know. To keep such information for a week or so in order to mass it, would, I think, deprive you of ~~the~~ much that is valuable in keeping you up to date.

Yours sincerely,

S. M. Lush

Mr. H. HOPKINSON,
British Political Advisor,
HQ, Allied Commission, CMF.

Copy to : Brig. M.S. LUSH, CB, MC,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ, Allied Commission, CMF - in continuation
of my letter ACLO/B2/12 dated
11 Feb. 46. (Thank you for your
letter 585/EC dated 8 Feb. 46
received to-day)

See M. 417

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

translation

9 Feb 1946.

To the
Estate Councillor and
Acting Prefect of Bolzano
Dott. Silvio IMMOGENTI,
Bolzano.

Excellence,

After the yesterday's meeting of the Giunta of our party we regret very much that we have to inform you that we cannot comply with your kind invitation to present a list of persons to be nominated for the commission to study the regional autonomy of Venetia Tridentina.

After a long discussion our Giunta has come to the unanimous conclusion that the proposal of persons to the above mentioned purpose would mean a removal from the political line followed by our party till now. We have constantly refrained from discussing solutions of our problems based on autonomy and that is because the South Tyrolian population does not see the solution of its problems in an autonomy. To leave the political line followed till now would mean a contrast to the will of the people. And the present moment would be a very unfortunate one for such a change since the future of our country is going to be decided and the whole population is anxiously waiting that they will be given the right of self-decision which was refused to them in 1919.

We ask your Excellency not to consider our decision a refusal to cooperation. Don. De Gasperi during the interview granted to our President and to the Secretary General on 21 Jan 1946, has not mentioned the nomination of a commission for the study of autonomy in Venetia Tridentina. It has been spoken about a project of law on the citizenship of the op about a quick return of 100,000, about immigration from the local administration and other problems of our country. De Gasperi said then he would not solve all these problems without giving us before the chance to be heard and that he would the nomination of an advising local commission which would deal with the 4/5 urgent problems and not with the study of autonomy. If such mentioned commission would come, we should

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

comply with your kind invitation to present a list of persons to be nominated for the commission to study the regional autonomy of Venezia Tridentina.

After a long discussion our giunta has come to the unanimous conclusion that the proposal of persons to the above mentioned purpose would mean a removal from the political line followed by our party till now. We have constantly refrained from discussing solutions of our problems based on autonomy and that is because the South Tyrolean population does not see the solution of its problems in an autonomy. To leave the political line followed till now would mean a contrast to the will of the people. And the present moment would be a very unfortunate one for such a change since the future of our country is going to be decided and the whole population is anxiously waiting that they will be given the right of self-decision which was given to them in 1919.

We ask your Excellency not to consider our decision a refusal to cooperation. I don't know Gasperi during the interview granted to our President and to the Secretary General on the 11 Jan 1946, has not mentioned the nomination of a commission for the study of autonomy in Venezia Tridentina. It has been spoken about a project of law on the citizenship of the country about a quick return of FGF's, about immigration from the local administration and other problems of our country. I. Gasperi said then he would not solve all these problems without giving us before the chance to be heard and that he would the nomination of an advising local commission which would deal with the various problems and not with the study of autonomy. If such mentioned commission would come, we should very glad to give you the names of our representatives.

We are always disposed to give you our cooperation in solution of the various problems in our country. If only the right of self-decision claimed by our people will not be prejudiced.

It was a painful surprise for us to hear from your office that the project of law on citizenship of the country be only extended in some dispositions and that it would again submitted for approval. This cannot be, because we know that the infamous Nazi-fascist agreement would be signed, the agreement which was in contrast with all the of humanity, of democracy and of liberty of people.

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-2-

This agreement had the scope to give our people the mortal stroke and therefore, our party is fighting against the complete annihilation of its complete annihilation. If the projected law should come into force, our population would surely think that the new democratic Italy too does not intend to resign to the politics of dissemination installed by the previous regime. Instead of contributing to a peaceful life of the two ethnical groups, thus would create an abyss.

We repeat again that we regret very much not to be able to follow your invitation and to propose names for the commission to study the autonomy of Venezia Tridentina, but we are convinced that you with your high political comprehension can appreciate the reasons which force us to act in this way and not otherwise.

With our highest regards ...

For the South Tyrol Party:

The President

Signed Erich Auer

The Secretary General

Signed : Dr. Josef Roffner.

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

that you with your high political comprehension can appreciate the reasons which force us to act in this way and not otherwise.

With our highest regards ...

For the South Tyrol Party:

The President

Signed Ulrich Amon

The Secretary General

Signed: Dr. Josef Waffner

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

785017

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PERSONAL and SECRET

SWM/lc

ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO

Tel. 1793

Ref : ACLO/B2/16.8

11th February, 1946

FEB 14 1946

413 410

Dear Hopkinson,

I am sorry for the delay in answering your letter of January, 22nd, 1946, but I wanted to produce as fair an estimate of this changing population as possible.

Absolute accuracy cannot be guaranteed, but I believe the enclosed figures to be very near the true census as on January, 31st, 1946.

You and I know quite well that many things have happened since the plebiscite of 31st January, 1939, including emigration, immigration and a war, which goes far to account for the difference in the German speaking and the Italian speaking population of 1939 compared with the figures of 1946.

Yours sincerely,

Shawcross

Mr. H. HOPKINSON,
British Political Advisor,
HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, GMP.

M 412-3-417 46

See M. 17 18

Copy to : Executive Commissioner,
HQ, Allied Commission,
GMP.

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(1105)

ITALIAN, GERMAN and LADINIAN SPEAKING POPULATIONIN THE PROVINCE OF BOLZANO

<u>COMMUNES</u>	<u>ITALIANS</u>	<u>LADINS</u>	<u>GERMANS</u>
Appiano	1709		4742
Badia	21	1668	4
Barbiano	196	15	1016
Bolzano	57139	112	13514
Braies	13	5	570
Brennero	980	3	1025
Bressanone	4134	75	5119
Brunico	2020	90	3821
Caldes	4		191
Calidaro	1200		3170
Campo Trens	243	3	1926
Campo Tures	174	8	2522
Castelbello Ciardes	67		1712
Castelrotto	433	602	2627
Cermes	158		513
Chienes	142	24	1184
Chiusa	760	19	3139
Cornedo Isarco	485		1666
Corvara Badia	7	473	4
Curon Venosta	238	1	2067
Dobbiaco	528	2	1778
Falzes	4		1121
Fié	343	18	1327
Portesaa	859	40	238
Funes	153		1730
Gale	49		1475
Gargassone	241		312
Giovenza	126		635
Laces	420		2544
	608		1832

Bvaies	13	5	570
Brennero	980	3	1025
Bressanone	4134	75	5119
Branico	2020	90	3821
Caines	4		191
Calidaro	1200		3170
Campo Trens	243	3	1926
Campo Tures	174	8	2522
Castelbello Ciardas	67		1712
Castelrotto	483	602	2527
Cermes	158		513
Chienes	142	24	1184
Chiusa	760	19	3139
Cornedo Isarco	435		1665
Corvara Badia	7	473	4
Curon Venosta	238	1	2067
Dobbiaco	528	2	1778
Falzes	4		1121
Pi�	343	13	1327
Porteazza	859	40	238
Punes	153		1730
Gais	49		1475
Gargazzone	241		312
Glorenza	126		635
Laoa	420		2544
Lagundo	698		1832
Lai�n	120	20	1580
Lai�ves	4209	4	1372
Lana	1176	24	3312
Lasa	200		2098
Luson	20		1110
Malles Venosta	581	12	3603
Marebbe	55		16
Marlengo	888	1997	1351

Martello 12 918
 Melitina 1 1119
 Merano 13485 7320
 Monguelife 495 1374
 Moso 320 1711
 Nalles 113 962
 Nsturno 304 1799
 Nas Scia vea 141 915
 Nova Ponente 151 2341
 Nova Levante 119 975
 Ortisei 178 125
 Paredines 241 1254
 Perca 19 738
 Plaus 15 180
 Postal 465 257
 Prato Stelvio 289 3434
 Racines 130 2508
 Ponte Gardena 111 132
 Rasun Valdaora 527 3260
 Renon 703 4552
 Rifiano 37 650
 Rio Pusteria 210 2214
 S. Candido 703 1729
 S. Genesio 49 1919
 S. Leonardo in Passiria 257 3402
 S. Lorenzo di Sebato 135 1892
 S. Martino Badia 20 6
 S. Cristine 84 32
 Sarentino 230 4520
 Scena 79 1739
 Selva Gardena 253 7
 Selva Molini 2 1421
 Senales 26 1097
 30 998

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Nova Ponente	111	915
Nova Levante	151	2341
Ortisei	119	975
Paréines	178	125
Perca	241	1254
Plaue	19	738
Postal	16	180
Prato Stelvio	465	257
Racines	289	3434
Ponte Gardena	130	2508
Rasun Valdaora	111	132
Renon	527	3260
Rifiano	703	4552
Rio Pusteria	37	650
S. Candido	210	2214
S. Genesio	708	1729
S. Leonardo in Passiria	49	1919
S. Lorenzo di Sebato	257	3402
S. Martino Badia	135	1092
S. Cristina	20	6
Sarentino	84	32
Scena	230	4520
Selva Gardena	79	1739
Selva Molini	253	7
Senales	2	1421
Sesto	26	1097
Silandro	30	998
Sluderno	568	2135
Terento	102	942
Terlano	19	1048
Tesimo	1150	260
Tires	66	1676
Tirolo	87	612
	183	402.7166

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Tubre	248	770
Ultimo	36	3926
Vadena	646	54
Val di Vizze	229	1352
Valle Aurina	50	4353
Valle di Casles	66	1333
Vandoies	173	1231
Varna	521	1286
Verano	9	504
Villabassa	202	896
Villandro	2	1130
Vipiteno	1090	2317
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>111,610</u>	<u>164,037</u>

The figures of Italian citizens German speaking includes a certain number of south tyrolean who, in accordance with the present law must be considered aliens and should not be included in the total figure. They are about 15,000 and are to be struck off the Population Census.

Varna	173	89	1831
Vergano	621	30	1286
Villabassa	9	1	584
Villandro	202	7	896
Vipiteno	2		1330
	1090	15	2317
<u>TOTAL</u>	111610	11.683	164.037

The figures of Italian citizens German speaking includes a certain number of south tyrolese who, in accordance with the present law must be considered aliens and should not be included in the total figure. They are about 15,000 and are to be struck off the Population Census.

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SECRET



F.O.I.A.S., 406
52 Via Veneto
Rome.
Feb. 12, 1946

FEB 13 1946
The Executive Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
ROME.

Subject: ALTO ADIGE

In accordance with directions
from the British Embassy, I enclose
herewith a copy of a report on
Italian State documents relating to
Alto Adige examined by this Unit.

John G. G. G. G.
O/c, F.O.I.A.S. 106

Enc.

See to 107 & 108

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INT ALLIED INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, ITALY

Report on Ministry of Interior Documents
relating to Alto Adige

F.O.I.A.S.,

Rome

8th Feb. 1946

A convenient point of departure for a study of the Alto Adige problem is a census taken on April 21, 1935 with a view to determining the extent of the non-Italian element (known as Alloglotti or Allogeni) in the population of various North and North-Eastern districts of Italy. As far as Alto Adige (+) is concerned, the census figures are as follows:

Prov. of Bolzano

Total population present at moment of census 303,306

Alloglotti
constituting 65.5% of the population 201,594

No of families:

All (i.e. natives and Alloglotti) 61,269

Alloglotti
constituting 67.3% of all families 41,256

No of component members of families, male and female, excluding servants, boarders & guests:

All (i.e. natives and Alloglotti) 259,175

Alloglotti
constituting 71% of the total members of all families 183,920

Mixed-language district of Egna (Trento) comprising the communes of Egna, Bronzolo, Capriana, Cortaccia, Fondo, Luserna, Magré all'Adige, Montagna, Ora, Rumo, Salorno, Sant'Orsola, Termeno, Trodena and Valdagno di Trento:

Total population 27,448

Alloglotti 13,948 (50.3%)

No of families:

All

6,299

Alloglotti

3,060 (48.5%)

Component members of families:

All

26,806

No of families:

All (i.e. natives and Alloglotti) 61,269
 Alloglotti 41,256
 constituting 67.3% of all families

No of component members of families, male and female, excluding servants, boarders & guests:

All (i.e. natives and Alloglotti) 259,175
 Alloglotti 183,920

constituting 71% of the total members of all families

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of Egna, Bronzolo, Capriana, Cortaccia, Fondo, Luserna, Magré all'Adige, Montagna, Ora, Rumo, Salorno, Sant'Orsola, Termeno, Trodena and Valdagno di Trento:

Total population 27,448
 Alloglotti 13,948 (50.8%)

No of families:

All 6,299
 Alloglotti 3,050 (48.6%)

Component members of families:

All 26,806
 Alloglotti 13,013 (48.5%)

Mixed-language district of Tarvisio (Udine) comprising the

communes of Tarvisio, Malborghetto, Valbruna, Paluzza, Pontebba and Sauris:

Total population 17,308
 Alloglotti 5837 (33.7%)

No of families:

All 4,003
 Alloglotti 1,434 (35.8%)

(+) For the purpose of this report the designation Alto Adige will comprise the so-called plebiscite areas, viz the entire province of Bolzano and the mixed-language districts of Egna (Trento), Tarvisio (Udine) and Cortina d'Ampezzo (Belluno). Moreover, in these areas only the German-speaking population will be considered.

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Component members of families:

All	14,947
Alloglotti	6,537 (43.7%)

Mixed-language district of Cortina d'Ampezzo (Belluno) comprising the communes of Cortina d'Ampezzo, Colle S. Lucia, Sappada and Livinallongo del Col di Lana:

Total population	9,194
Alloglotti	1,173 (12.8%)

No of families:

All	2,117
Alloglotti	285 (13.5%)

Component members of families:

All	8,441
Alloglotti	1057 (12.5%)

Grand totals all plebiscite areas:

Total population	357,256
Alloglotti	222,556 (62.3%)

No of families:

All	73,688
Alloglotti	46,035 (62.4%)

Component members of families:

All	309,369
Alloglotti	204,527 (66.1%)

Some three years later the foregoing figures were used in the preparation of lists of Alloglotti who were considered to be entitled to exercise an option to become German citizens and emigrate to Germany or to retain their juridical status as Italian citizens and remain in Alto Adige. A total of 266,985 persons as qualified to opt was listed. The figure, it will be seen, is higher than the census total of all Alloglotti in Alto Adige, and as minors were excluded from opting, it looks as though criteria differing from those adopted for the purpose of the census had been used in deciding who had the right to opt. The results tend to confirm this view, as

1037 (12.3%)

Alloglotti

Grand totals all plebiscite areas:

Total population	357,256
Alloglotti	222,555 (66.3%)
No of families:	
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Area	qualified to opt	opted for Germany	failed for Italy	failed to opt
Prov. Bolzano	229,500	166,488	27,712	35,300
Enga (Trento)	24,853	13,015	3,802	7,636
Tarvisio (Udine)	5,603	4,576	337	690
Cortina d'Ampezzo (Belluno)	7,429	1,006	-	6,423
	266,985	185,085	31,851	50,049

Still another set of figures is needed to complete the statistical aspect of the Alto Adige question, viz the actual numbers of Alloglotti who were transferred to Germany or German-occupied territory. These figures are given in the following table which is arranged on an occupational basis (German nationals are shown separately):

Departures from plebiscite areas of German citizens and of Alloglotti who opted for Germany from the inception of the transfer scheme to July 1943

	Alloglotti	German nationals
Artists and professional people	424	30
Public servants	1,248	23
Tradesmen	90	6
Industrialists	6	1
Partners	669	37
Clerks	3,026	551
Industrial workers	10,640	395
Agricultural labourers	11,357	142
Artisans	1,173	180
Sundry classes (pensioners, students, servants, etc.)	11,888	447
Members of families not gainfully employed	31,456	6,904
	77,772	6,901

N.B. The compilers of the returns from which the above table was built up point out that the grand total may be approximately 3,000 less than shown because certain Alloglotti who were evacuated under collective passports re-entered Italy and were evacuated a second time individually.

There would seem to be no reason to doubt the accuracy of the figures shown in this table.

Departures from plebiscite areas of German citizens and of Alloglotti who opted for Germany from the inception of the transfer scheme to July 1943

	Alloglotti	German nationals
Artists and professional people	424	30
Public servants	1,248	23
Tradesmen	90	6
Industrialists	6	1
Farmers	669	37
Clerks	2,026	651
Industrial workers	10,640	396
Agricultural labourers	11,357	142
Artisans	1,171	180
Sundry classes (pensioners, students, servants, etc.)	11,888	447
Members of families not gainfully employed	44,466	6,904
	31,466	6,904
	77,772	8,901

N.B. The compilers of the returns from which the above table was built up point out that the grand total may be approximately 3,000 less than shown because certain Alloglotti who were evacuated under collective passports re-entered Italy and were evacuated a second time individually.

There would seem to be no reason to doubt the accuracy of the departure figures, which cover practically the whole period the Transfer Agreements were in force, as they have been prepared from monthly returns rendered by an Italian High Commissioner charged with the implementation of the Agreements. They may also almost be considered as final, for it is a fair presumption that with the virtual lapse of the Agreements after the armistice, the departures of "optants", which had already been dwindling for several months, ~~and~~ must have been reduced to a mere trickle.

Judged by results, this first attempt in modern times to solve an ethical problem by means of mass migration of the people concerned must be regarded as a failure, for out of a

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total of 185,000 persons who opted for transfer to Germany there still remained 108,000 to be transferred four years after the Agreements had been in force. The chief factors which militated against the success of the scheme were the cumbersome machinery for liquidating the estates of the departing optanti, the vicissitudes of the war, and the inglorious end of fascism.

An examination of the documents belonging to the Ministry of the Interior (Uffizio III) clearly reveals the incidence of these factors and their weight in determining the attitudes of the parties concerned. The aim of the Italian authorities was crystal-clear and consistent throughout, viz to get rid of as many Allogliotti as possible. Applications from optanti who wished to defer their departure received short shrift and generally speaking, if in the past the lot of the Allogliotti was hard, it now amounted to little short of persecution. Even appeals from Italian officials on the spot to reduce the tempo of evacuation in the interest of local economy were disregarded. The Italian Government were adamant and seized every occasion to outsmart the German authorities and to push ever more optanti across the border.

The Germans for their part at first punctiliously observed both the letter and the spirit of the Agreements. It was, of course, in their interests to do so, at least in the earlier stages, as the Allogliotti constituted a fruitful source of man-power and recruits for the German armed forces. Requests for the rate of departures to be slowed (Himmeler in July 1940 approached Alfieri, then Italian ambassador in Berlin, with such a request) were probably motivated by temporary difficulties connected with the re-settlement of the optanti. It was not until late 1942 that German reluctance to honour the Agreements became discernible. The German war machine was then virtually intact, but Italy was staggering under military reverses, and relations between the two countries imperceptibly and inevitably reflected the changed situation. It no longer seemed necessary to the Germans to carry out an agreement the end result of which would have meant a loss of territory when all the other party to the agreement could do would be to register a routine protest at their default. The optanti were accordingly encouraged in their dilatory tactics, even Tyrolean separatism was countenanced, and the rate of departures began to fall.

A few words regarding the attitude of the optanti are called for here. The Allogliotti, as already mentioned, opted almost to a man for German citizenship, but disillusion soon

of evacuation in the interest of local economy were disregarded. The Italian government were adamant and seized every occasion to outsmart the German authorities and to push ever more optanti across the border.

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A few words regarding the attitude of the optanti are called for here. The Alloglotti, as already mentioned, opted almost to a man for German citizenship, but disillusion soon set in. The outbreak of hostilities, in particular, dampened their ardour considerably, especially those of military age. Furthermore, with a war in hand, Germany had now more pressing problems to solve than the re-settlement of a hundred thousand or so persons of doubtful German proclivities. Lughubrious reports from disappointed Alloglotti began to trickle back to Alto Adige causing despondency among those still to emigrate, many of whom actually applied for the revocation of their option. The propertyless classes especially displayed reluctance to wind up their estates and cross the frontier and the suspicion is justified that many of them never had any intention of so doing. They seized the occasion of the plebiscite to discard

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their Italian nationality out of innate antipathy towards the Italians, but calculated that the fortunes of war would result in the annexation of Alto Adige to a resurgent Austria or at worst to a Greater Germany. It is at any rate symptomatic that Senator Giannini complained to Ciodius in August 1940 that up to then only 1,608 applications for liquidation of estates had been received by the appraisal committees.

As the war dragged on the optanti became more and more convinced that their best policy was to play for time and in this they were encouraged by the German authorities - Gauleiter Hofer is reported to have stated in public in August 1942 that if any Allogliotti left the district it would be those who had opted for Italy.

Enough has been said to show that German obstructionism was one of the chief causes conducing to the failure of the transfer scheme. There was, however, another factor of equal importance which retarded the operation of the plan, viz the inadequacy of the administrative machinery for liquidating the estates of the optanti. On paper the system devised seemed impeccable, but in actual practice it proved almost unworkable. Appraisal committees, one German and one Italian, were set up at various points to value the estates of the optanti and refer their findings to a central committee, which in turn approved the valuations - it also acted as a board of arbitration when the sub-committees failed to agree, which was more often than not - and reported them to a corporation (Ente Nazionale per le Tre Venezie) empowered to buy up the estates at valuation and make the same involved available to the German authorities. The system might have had a chance, after a period of trial and error, to prove its worth given a reasonable degree of co-operation by the German sub-committees. This co-operation, however, was completely lacking, chiefly because the German committees were largely composed of the optanti themselves, and so the liquidation of the estates was held up at the very outset. An objective appreciation of a report made in September 1941 by the Ente revealed that the number of applications for the liquidation of estates received up to 31.8.41 was 23,048 and that to clear off these alone would take four years under the system then in force, while the total number of estates requiring to be wound up was estimated to be round about 60,000. Moreover the Ente was losing heavily on re-sales of the properties in consequence of manipulation of the market by speculators and the absence of a comprehensive re-population scheme, and was rapidly heading for financial disaster.

These then were the two chief factors responsible for the virtual failure of the transfer scheme, and it says much for

in a few cases. There was, however, another factor of equal importance which retarded the operation of the plan, viz the inadequacy of the administrative machinery for liquidating the estates of the optanti. On paper the system devised seemed impeccable, but in actual practice it proved almost unworkable. Appraisal committees, one German and one Italian, were set up at various points to value the estates of the optanti and refer their findings to a central committee, which in turn approved the valuations - it also acted as a board of arbitration when the sub-committees failed to agree, which was more often than not - and reported them to a corporation (L'Ente Nazionale per le Tre Venezie) empowered to buy up the estates at valuation and make the same involved available to the German authorities. The system might have had a chance, after a period of trial and error, to prove its worth given a reasonable degree of co-operation by the German sub-committees. This co-operation, however, was completely lacking, chiefly because the German committees were largely composed of the optanti themselves, and so the liquidation of the estates was held up at the very outset. An objective appreciation of a report made in September 1941 by the Ente revealed that the number of applications for the liquidation of estates received up to 31.8.41 was 21,010 and that to clear off these alone would take four years under the system then in force, while the total number of estates requiring to be wound up was estimated to be round about 60,000. Moreover the Ente was losing heavily on re-sales of the properties in consequence of manipulation of the market by speculators and the absence of a comprehensive re-population scheme, and was rapidly heading for financial disaster.

These then were the two chief factors responsible for the virtual failure of the transfer scheme, and it says much for Italian pertinacity that it was possible, despite these handicaps, to evacuate as many as 77 thousand odd Alloglotti.

Broadly speaking, the documents examined have proved to be essentially of an administrative nature and merely illustrate the working of the Agreements. They lead to few conclusions capable of materially influencing a political assessment of the Alto Adige problem, although what they certainly do is to induce speculation as to what might have been the outcome of this attempt to solve the problem if the war had not intervened.

A summary of the relevant material selected from the documents is appended.

W. Morrison
4.11.46

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JOINT ALLIED INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

ROME, ITALY

BRIEF SUMMARY OF MICROFILMED DOCUMENTS

Job No. 4 - Negative Frame Nos. 02520 to 02525

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OFFICE III - SACCS I & II

Alto Adige

- 23 Jan 1939 Minutes of the meeting in Berlin between German and Italian authorities when agreement was first reached on the Alto Adige problem.
- 1 Oct 1939 From Prefect of Bolzano to Interno pressing for evacuation of German-born clergy.
- 21 Oct 1939 Printed copy of "Norme per il Rimpatrio di Alliegi Tedeschi dall'Alto Adige in Germania".
- 12 Nov 1939 Prefect of Bolzano to Buffarini reporting pressure by Germans on inhabitants to opt for German nationality.
- 7 Jan 1940 Memo regarding relief pending transfer to paupers who have opted for German nationality.
- 7 Feb 1940 From Prefect of Bolzano to Ministry of Interior regarding revocation of options in the interest of local farming.
- 9 Feb 1940 Memo for "Il Duce" regarding request from mining company that departures of workers who have opted for Germany be staggered. Duce says that they must go.
- 1 Mar 1940 Communications from Ufficio per l'Alto Adige to Commissariato per la Colonizzazione (both Sections of Min. of Interior) giving figures for alliegi residing in Alto Adige (M.B. communication cancelled before dispatch).
- 10 Apr 1940 From Italian Consul-General at Innsbruck to Interno regarding wrongful application of transfer agreements to Italian residents in Tyrol.
- 1 Apr 1940 Italian Consul Innsbruck reports passage of 200 optanti p.d. Reich-bound. Many incidents. 500 optanti sent to Dachau for demonstrating.

1 Oct 1939	reached on the Alto Adige problem. From Prefect of Bolzano to Interior pressing for evacuation of German-born clergy.
21 Oct 1939	Printed copy of "Norme per il Rimpatrio di Alliegiati Tedeschi dall'Alto Adige in Germania".
12 Nov 1939	Prefect of Bolzano to Buffarini reporting pressure by Germans on inhabitants to opt for German nationality.
7 Jan 1940	Memo regarding relief pending transfer to paupers who have opted for German nationality.
7 Feb 1940	From Prefect of Bolzano to Ministry of Interior regarding revocation of options in the interest of local farming.
9 Feb 1940	Memo for "Il Duce" regarding request from mining company that departures of workers who have opted for Germany be staggered. Duce says that they must go.
1 Mar 1940	Communications from Ufficio per l'Alto Adige to Commissariato per la Colonizzazione (both Sections of Min. of Interior) giving figures for alliegiati residing in Alto Adige (N.R. communication cancelled before dispatch).
10 Apr 1940	From Italian Consul-General at Innsbruck to Interior regarding wrongful application of Transfer Agreements to Italians resident in Tyrol.
1 Apr 1940	Italian Consul Innsbruck reports passage of 200 optanti p.d. Reich-bound. Many incidents. 500 optanti sent to Dachau for demonstrating.
1 May 1940	Min. Interior allows exception to obligation of German citizens to liquidate estates in Alto Adige in the case of a person connected with the Italian Royal Family.
7 May 1940	Memo for Duce re proposed amendments to RIL No. 1888 of 13/12/39 specifically laying down obligation of German optanti to dispose of their estates and of 'Ente Nazionale per le 3 Venezie' to acquire them.
8 May 1940	From Ministry of Finance to Ministry of Interior regarding financial arrangements for the buying up of the estates of the optanti.
15 May 1940	From Ministry of Communication to Interior regarding travelling facilities to intending settlers in Alto Adige.
22 May 1940	Telegram announcing departure of 300 lunatics who have opted for German nationality.
5 Jun 1940	Memo for Duce re pressure put on Ladins by German authorities of Val Badia to opt for Germany.

Job No. 4

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Alto Adige con't.

11 Jun 1940 Memo by Esteri declining to accept German proposal to extend until end of hostilities the right to opt of Allogeni resident in enemy countries. Printed copy of draft bill for conversion into law of ENL No. 843 of 14/6/40 concerning conveying charges.

1 Jul 1940 From Prefect of Belluno re problems connected with the evacuation of clergy who have opted for German nationality. List of such clergy. (98 dependents). President of Italian Delegation replying to criticism of slowness in appraising estates of Allogeni.

11 Jul 1940 Alfieri (Italian Ambassador Berlin) reports interview with Himmler, who asked for present rate of transfer of optanti (4-500 a month) be slowed down but denied that Reich intended transfers to cease. From Delegation to Interior regarding liquidation en bloc of all hotels in Merano owned by Allogeni and enclosing schedule of them.

21 Jul 1940 Telegram from Alto Commissario per l'esecuzione degli Accordi explaining delay in getting Allogeni across the border.

29 Jul 1940 Statement by Senator Giennini to Clodius that only 1600 estates for liquidation for a total value of 325 million lire cleared up to date and that transfers of persons have dropped heavily.

21 Aug 1940 Italian Consul Innsbruck reports considerable building activity in Tyrol-Vorarlberg for the housing of incoming optanti.

27 Aug 1940 Report by an Italian Commissario alleging German ill-treatment of and discrimination against Italian optanti.

28 Aug 1940 Report by Italian Commissario describing reluctance of German optanti to leave for Reich.

21 Sep 1940 Memo for Duce regarding possibility of Italians (about 1700) in Kernten transferring to Alto Adige and taking over estates of departing "optanti". Report by Italian Commissario in general situation in Alto Adige.

25 Sep 1940 From Prefect of Trent to Interior regarding application for German nationality from persons outside the plebiscite areas.

8 Nov 1940 Memo for Il Duce from Federale of Belluno reporting

9 Nov 1940

12 Nov 1940

22 Nov 1940

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22 Nov 1940 Memo for Il Duce from Federale of Belluno reporting bellicose attitude of German "optanti".

3 Dec 1940 Report by Italian Commissario generally on situation in Alto Adige and particularly on deterioration of relations between Germans and Italians.

7 Dec 1940 Printed copy of draft bill converting into law and amending R.M. of 13/12/39 which provides for the application of the basic law No. 1241 of 12/8/39.

15 Feb 1941 From Prefect of Bolzano to Ministry of Justice asking for instructions as to method of entering change of nationality in public records.

Memo concerning controversy as to actual moment when Aliogeni who opted for Germany lose their Italian nationality.

20 Feb 1941 Memo for Ufficio per l'Alto Adige for Under-Secretary regarding German propaganda in Bohemia and Moravia to induce Italians irrespective of place of birth to opt for German nationality.

11 Mar 1941 Memo concerning controversy as to actual moment when Aliogeni who opt for Germany lose their Italian nationality.

Job No. 4

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Alto Adige con't.

1 Apr 1941 From Ministry of Justice outlining procedure to be followed in recording change of nationality.

10 May 1941 From head of German delegation in Bolzano to Buffarini re wearing of Tyrolean Eagle badge by German "optanti".

26 May 1941 Summary of disputes which have occurred in connection with the execution of the transfer agreements.

10 Aug 1941 From Esteri to Interior reporting that Berlin Police were intending travellers to Germany not to discuss Alto Adige.

20 Aug 1941 Agreement between German and Italian authorities regarding acquisition of German and loss of Italian citizenship.

23 Aug 1941 Note from Prefect of Bolzano to Ministry of Interior that number of German optanti who died up to 5/8/41 was 3203.

26 Aug 1941 Extract from letter from Prefect of Bolzano to Interior disclosing tension between German and Italian optanti.

20 Sep 1941 "Appunto" on report by Ente per la "Venezia" on state of appraisal and liquidations of 21048 applications for liquidation of estates received up to 31/6/41. Under present system it would take over 4 years to clear these alone and it is anticipated that total number of estates to be sold off eventually will number about 50,000. Ente is losing heavily on re-sales.

10/Oct 1941 Summary of disputes which have occurred in connection with the execution of the transfer agreements.

17 Oct 1941 Memo for the Duce re German propaganda in Luserna (Trento) to induce inhabitants to opt for Germany.

18 Oct 1941 Nominal roll of German citizens in Alto Adige who have applied for Italian nationality and covering note from Direz. Gen. Demografia e Rasse.

19 Dec 1941 Ruling by Min. Justice re application of Transfer Agreements to German Aliogeni and citizens detained in Italian prisons.

28 Jan 1942 Report by Podestà of Merano on local situation.

30 Jan 1942 Summary of disputes which have occurred in connection with the execution of the transfer agreements.

4 Feb 1942 Report by Italian Commissario Capo mentioning in-

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18 Oct 1941 Report by Podestà of Merano on local situation. Summary of disputes which have occurred in connection with the execution of the transfer agreements. Report by Italian Commissario Capo mentioning increased reluctance of German Optanti to honor their undertakings to emigrate. Departures practically nil. From Alto Commissario Bolzano to Interior enclosing copy of Propaganda leaflet - recent history of Alto Adige (Nazi version).

19 Dec 1941 Departmental Memo (Interno) notifying that Duce has allocated 180,000 lire for publication of 3 volumes of documents proving "Italianità" of Alto Adige.

28 Jan 1942 Summary of disputes which have occurred in connection with the execution of the transfer agreements. Summary of disputes which have occurred in connection with the execution of the transfer agreements. Memo by Ente per le tre Venezia' regarding emigration from certain valleys in the Trentino.

30 Jan 1942 Summary of disputes which have occurred in connection with the execution of the transfer agreements. From Esteri to Interior enclosing copy of report from Italian Consul in Kienfurt in which it is stated that Germans are deporting Slovenes to make room for incoming optanti from Alto Adige.

4 Feb 1942

6 Feb 1942

6 Feb 1942

4 Mar 1942

1 Apr 1942

22 Apr 1942

2 May 1942

17 May 1942

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Alto Adige con't.

23 Jun 1942 Letter from President of Italian Delegation enclosing old and new forms for renunciation of Italian citizenship.

31 Jul 1942 From Alfieri (Italian Ambassador in Berlin) to Buffarini-Guidi enclosing copies of letters exchanged between him and Von Kibbenroep with a view to keeping up rate of departures of optanti for Germany.

29 Jul 1942 Communication from Minister Finance to Minister Interior extending facilities in connection with the payment of death duties to families of German optanti killed in action while serving with German A.F.

18 Aug 1942 Commando RPOC Merano reports Wofar stating at private meeting that if any optanti left the district it would be those who had opted for Italy.

1 Sep 1942 Departmental message from Buffarini-Guidi confirming that date for emigration of optanti extended to 31/12/43.

29 Aug 1942 From Alto Commissario Bolzano to Interior reporting that optanti serving with German A.F. disregard order to wear civilian clothes when re-entering Alto Adige on leave.

2 Sep 1942 Anonymous communication for Duce reporting increased tension between Germans and Italians in Alto Adige.

29 Sep 1942 From Alto Commissario Bolzano to Interior denying German accusations as to Italian propaganda against emigration of "optanti".

20 Jan 1943 From Prefect of Trent reporting that Allegent transferred to Reich from S. Gröden (non-plaisante area) clamouring to return to Italy.

19 Feb 1943 From Alto Commissario in Bolzano to Interior enclosing report on clandestine repatriations from Germany.

20 Mar 1943 From Esterl to Interior regarding abolition of German and Italian Alti Commissariati for Alto Adige.

26 Mar 1943 From Min. Justice to Interior regarding 135 cases where married Allegent living apart opt for opposite nationalities. The party who opts for Germany

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20 Mar 1943 From Esteri to Interno regarding abolition of German and Italian Alti Commissariati for Alto Adige.

26 Mar 1943 From Min. Justice to Interior regarding 155 cases where married alleged living apart opt for opposite nationalities. The party who opts for Germany can obtain divorce while the party remaining in Italy would still be legally bound according to Italian law. Min. Justice rules that no remedy available.

25 Apr 1943 Prefect of Bolzano to Interior re pensions to dependents of alleged killed while serving in German A.F. (693 to date).

30 Apr 1943 Memo for Duce regarding purchase of estates of departing optanti for speculative purposes.

7 May 1943 Letter from Senator Maraschini to Interior emphasizing that inhabitants of Val Gardena do not intend to honor their option for German nationality.

14 May 1943 From Delegation to Interior. Resumé of appraisal and liquidation situation. 47,945 returns of estates received up to 14/5/43.

1 Jun 1943 Agreement between SS Gruppenfuhrer at Bolzano and the Prefect of Bolzano (in his capacity as head of Italian Delegation) regarding re-entry of ex-allogeant serving with German A.F.

Job No. 4

Alto Adige cos't.

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7 Jun 1943 From Prefect of Bolzano to Interior with copies of censorship intercepts disclosing propaganda activities of Gauleiter Hofer.

26 Jun 1943 From Prefect of Bolzano to Interior enclosing copy of statement by German Consul-General of Bolzano in which he, the Consul, confirms "il confine è e sarà sul Brennero".

14 Jul 1943 From Esteri to Interior opposing German claim that estates belonging to Jews are Reich property.

15 Jul 1943 Copy telegram from Italian Ambassador in Berlin regarding suppression of German Alto Commissariato for implementing the Transfer Agreements.

23 Aug 1943 Letter from Senator Merselechi to Interior pointing out that inhabitants of Val Gardena are Ladins and not Germans.

23 Aug 1943 Memo for Min. Interior giving results of application of Transfer Agreements up to 31/5/43 as regards appraisal and liquidation of estates of Allogeni and German citizens.

15 Sep 1943 Communication from Italian Delegation in Bolzano reporting suspension of activities consequent upon German occupation of Bolzano.

6 Dec 1943 Capo dell'Ufficio per l'Alto Adige suggests to Minister that in view of the approach of the deadline (21/12/43) for transfer of optanti and the fact that the Germans virtually control the districts affected the Italian Govt should discontinue the financing of the Italian services engaged in implementing the transfer agreements.

15 Dec 1943 Memo re handing over of Delegation's files to German occupying authorities.

29 Dec 1943 Telegram from head of Alto Adige Office (Min. Interior) to Economic and Financial Delegation at Bolzano to suspend activities.

4 Jan 1944 Min. Interior (Cabinet) countermands instructions to Delegation to suspend activities.

6 May 1944 Memo reporting transfer of Delegation records to Merano.

6 Mar 1945 Communication from Min. Interior re finances of Delegation.

Memo stating that Germans desire Delegation to con-

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Memo reporting transfer of Delegation records to Merano.

Communication from Min. Interior re finances of Delegation.

Memo stating that Germans desire Delegation to continue work on reduced scale.

Lists of Alto-Atsaini who acquired Austrian or German nationality prior to the agreements (301 in all). Departmental Note (6 "Segnalazioni") re German reprisals against allogeni who have opted for Italian citizenship.

Progress return signed by Capo dell'Ufficio Alto Adige (Min. Interior) of transfers of German citizens and optanti up to and including July 1943, and giving figures for results of plebiscite.

38 monthly returns Aug 1940 to July 1943 from Prefetto of Bolzano giving figures of departure of German citizens and optanti broken down according to occupation.

Table showing position as regards appraisal and liquidation of estates of Allogeni and German citizens on July 31, 1943.

23 Aug 1943

13 Sep 1943

6 Dec 1943

15 Dec 1943

29 Dec 1943

4 Jan 1944

6 May 1944

8 Mar 1945

Job No. 4

Alto Adige con't.

- 6 -

Table showing month by month up to July 1943 the number of estates of Allogeni and German citizens appraised and liquidated. Departures of optanti for Reich also given.

3 Tables giving resumé of position as regards appraisals on 31/8/43.

Report from Vipiteno regarding German propaganda methods.

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

785017

4010

Distribution:

British Foreign Office
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392
Essential (maximum)
A.C.

Dear Brigadier General

I send this in
the belief it will
interest you.

Yours sincerely

D. J. S.

Adams.

7 Feb 66.

Pass to P. D. D.

11/11

4000

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

535
29/1/62
5
Excerpt from the article "The organ" of the
"Dolomiten" of Febr. 5th, 1946.

De Gasperi in his interview granted to "Giornale del Mattino" surpassed by far the hitherto used measure of incorrectnesses and disfiguring, emphasising autonomy of administration and the nationale statute, published in "Autonomia" of Jan. 12th, under the heading: "Plain regional autonomy from Ala to the Brenner within the limits of republican and democratic Italy".

Thus Bolzano Province is planned to be joined to Trento Province, in the hope that, owing to their minority, the South-Tyrolians will not be able to insist on their linguistic, cultural and economical interests. The same "Autonomia" of Jan. 12th pictures the autonomy given to Aosta-Valley. It is stated therein, that "all residents of Aosta are convinced to be treated much worse now than during the worst Fascist times. The police and the whole administration have remained Italian. The Italian employees are impudent enough to laugh at the Aosta autonomy publically. Demands for work are denied to Aosta-people, giving the preference to South-Italians, who thanks to the immigration policy pursued by the government overcrowd the valley".

The South-Tyrolians fear that the promised autonomy for the South-Tyrol will result the same as that for Aosta, notwithstanding the fact that an "expert for minority problems" has been delegated to Bolzano by ~~the~~ De Gasperi as prefect. Tolomei too was an expert in minority questions.

De Gasperi refers to the new school, language- and citizenship-laws and to the local commissions convoked for proposing modifications, which would result necessary during the application of the new laws. Why were they not created before those laws were issued?

The law concerning bilinguality does not contain any coercive legal dispositions, but only "admits" the use of the German language, abandoning it to the good and free will and arbitrary interpretation of the local authorities to realise this law.

The "Volksbote", in its Jan. 12th issue, contained an explanation how many faults are admitted by the new school-law and how arbitrarily it can be carried through, delivering up the German teachers to starvation, due to the hunger salary paid to them, while the Italian teachers receive a far better appointment.

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The law concerning citizenship of those who voted for Germany which is told to have already been issued, is kept a strict secret. We do not know, why? Publication of this law would contribute very much to appease the South Tyrolians, as voices were heard stating that the settlement of this question will be used for transferring most part of the landed propriety, as well as of the rural as of the civic population, to Italian owners, denying citizenship to the votants for Germany and confiscating their proprieties. De Gasperi cannot wonder that the South Tyrolians, after a 25 years-experience under Italian dominion, the preference to Austria, basing on an experience of 600 years under Austrian regime. This is the answer to De Gasperi's question

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why the Allies should give more credit to the Austrian standpoint than to the Italian. De Gasperi's counter argument stating that the Trentins were very much oppressed under Austria, is not quite exact, for, if De Gasperi would proceed to a plebiscite south of the Salurn Klause in Trentino, whether the population of that area wants to join to the aspirations of the South Tyrolians, he would wonder what would result of such a plebiscite.

It is true that now much less Germans and much more Italians are living in Bolzano now than in 1919. But why De Gasperi does not explain this and feigns as if this be due to a natural process? He omitted to mention that 25 years of severe denationalizing policy forced the South Tyrolian away from their native country, system which reached its culminating point with the shameful Nazi-fascist migration-agreement. Why should the industry zone which were built up to the only Fascist purpose to denationalize this area, without any economical profit, be a reason for adjudging it to Italy? Why should the will and desires of 250,000- not 150,000, as De Gasperi asserts - South Tyrolians be ignored, because Italy constructed an extensive military bunker- and road system in the Brenner area? De Gasperi's assertion saying that no example for an Italian invasion into the North can be found in History, is very problematic. What happened in 1915? Would the Italian troops not have advanced towards the North if they had not been stopped at the frontiers for four years?

De Gasperi's allusion to a Naziist danger in Austria can be ignored, as the Allied occupation troops in Austria will know a little more about it than we do, who live within the Italian borders. And what is about the new Fascist danger stated by for and as well as by national statesmen, politicians and journalists and about the "quasiquanism?"

The most heavy dissonance is represented by De Gasperi concluding declaration. He asks how the frontiers of a country can be influenced by the vote of an ethnic minority living at the frontier? This frontier had been designated as irrational by the very author, this frontier has cut a state- and cultural union more than six hundred years old. This frontier does not take into consideration very old economical relations, which are of vital importance for the country. Why did De Gasperi not mention that all agricultural products of the South Tyrol, i.e. wine, fruit and wood, were forwarded to Austria and that Italy always has been supplied with wood from Austria without any difficulties? The same can be done with electric current, of course, as Renner proposed, if Italy SHOULD need this current in the next few years? Most part of the electric current was consumed by Italy for preparations for

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The most difficult to be understood is De Gasperi's assertion stating that Italy up to now had not a chance to react against a press campaign and lying propaganda about the South-Tyrol. If the great Italian state with all its press and broadcastings, speeches of prime ministers and other high functionnaires was helpless, what can a little ethnical minority, ~~Kiener~~ imprisoned

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in a mountainous country, do for defending her rights?

We want to present a proposition to Mr. De Gasperi: to proceed to a plebiscite, not only in the Ladin and Italian areas of this country, but in the whole South-Tyrol, a plebiscite under Allied control. But we must energetically protest against a plebiscite under the control of the ancient Fascist and now democratic Italian functionaries who are still living and exercising their authority they had during the Fascist era. If De Gasperi's opinion is that such a plebiscite could be badly influenced by the presence of many Reich-Germans who are still going around in this country, we must object that this people has been registered by the Allied as well as by the Italian authorities, being continuously controlled; most of them have been already removed. But our opinion is that this question will be settled by the peace conferences.

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785017

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question

2

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref: AGLO, /16

C. S. MILLER,
Chief Liaison Officer,
Rome.

375

2nd February, 1946.

1946

Dear *Hopkinson*

Thank you for your letter of 18th January, 1946 asking for my comments of Vernon Bartlett's report.

1. To begin with the Italian Government authorized the free use of the German language from November last. Since then a decree has been drawn up by the Prefect (at the request of the Government authorizing an extensive use of the German language in official correspondence, on sign boards, streets etc., but the decree has not yet been released by Rome.

2. In 1925 Mussolini forbade the official use of the German language and names on such tomb stones were either italianized or written in latin.

3. It is not true that Italian control was complete under Allied Military Government. Far from it. AGC in Bologna has been effective, just and impartial and many public utterances to this effect have been made by both ethnical groups.

4. In October, 1945 there were few British troops in this Region but there was an abundance of Italian troops. Since then the Italian Folgore and Carabinieri Divisions have been withdrawn and British troops of 60 Sub-Area arrived here during October-November, 1945. To-day many of the British troops have gone and there is a move by General Negroni to bring back the Italian troops to this Province.

5. Dr. De Angelis was an official under the Fascist Regime and at the age of 35 was nominated "Grense Ufficiale della Corona d'Italia" - a rare compliment.

He was nominated as Prefect by GIL, Milan and resigned his post from the date of the hand-over of this Province to the Italian Government.

I have no reason to believe he formed a Council such as that referred to. He did however appoint Dr. Mellesius (who had served under Prefect Mastromattei) as his Vice-Prefect.

The only Secret Police are the "Contraspionaggio" who are concerned with the prevention of illegal entries into this country.

Dear

Hopkinson

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5. Dr. De Angelis was an official under the Fascist Regime and at the age of 35 was nominated "Granade Ufficiale della Corona". Italian - a rare compliment.

He was nominated as Prefect by CLE, Milan and resigned his post from the date of the hand-over of this Province to the Italian Government.

I have no reason to believe he formed a Council such as that referred to. He did however appoint Dr. Perguzzar (who had served under Prefect Desironzatti) as his Vice-Prefect.

The only Secret Police are the "Contrabbandieri" who are concerned with the prevention of illegal entries into this country. To the best of my knowledge their work was satisfactory.

6. In this Province there are 73 South Tyrolean Mayors and 16 Italian Mayors and at no time have complaints reached me casting doubt on their prior screening or suggesting favoritism of any kind.

4000

See M 386 879 45.....2/.....

(100)

- 2 -

7. From information received from many official sources I believe that about 22,000 Italians have "immigrated" since 3rd May, 1945 of whom some 16,000 are returning to the homes they vacated after 9th September, 1943.

Neither I, nor any other officials, know anything about the alleged "premises" nor do I believe it to be true.

8. Dr. De Gasperi has recently said that the electrical production of Bolzano equals 14% of the country's production. The figures are in fact

Bolzano	-	9%
Trento	-	3%

which is rather a different thing.

9. The Austrian frontier has been controlled by AFHQ. I assume the statement "Tyrolans temporarily in Austria" refers to optants who removed themselves to Austria and are still there. Their repatriation cannot take place until their citizenship has been established.

I understand a Commission is about to assemble in Bolzano to this end.

10. I hope these comments will be useful to you. Far from Italianising the Province, reforms and proposals for improving the living conditions of the South Tyrolean people have been asked for and submitted to the Italian Government.

If some of these proposals could only be approved, and promulgated, and if an assurance could be given to the German speaking population that no forceful emigration is intended, it would ease the minds of many persons who, at present, are fearful of the future.

Yours

John J. ...

8. Dr. De Gasperi has recently said that the electrical production of Bolzano equals 14% of the country's production. The figures are in fact

Bolzano	-	94
Trento	-	34

which is rather a different thing.

9. The Austrian Frontier has been controlled by ANFO. I assume the statement "Tyrolians temporarily in Austria" refers to citizens who removed themselves to Austria and are still there. Their repatriation cannot take place until their citizenship has been established.

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If some of these proposals could only be approved, and promulgated, and if an assurance could be given to the German speaking population that no forceful emigration is intended, it would ease the minds of many persons who, at present, are fearful of the future.

Yours

De Gasperi

Copy to : Executive Commissioner, ✓
HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, CMT.

1427

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

785017

PERSONAL

383

Ref: 585/BO.

2 February 1946.

382

See 395

Thank you for your letter of 24 January. I am so glad that you have returned safely after a good leave.

I have thought it better not to see DE ANGELIS. There is so much dynamite in the Alto Adige question that it is better for the matter to be dealt with at a high level, that is, between the Foreign Office and ourselves. Once we begin calling in others interested, however valuable their information may be, we shall be fishing in troubled waters.

As I have told you in a separate letter I do hope that I shall be able to hear from you regularly so that I may know the facts on the Alto Adige question. The facts here are that the Prime Minister, as Minister for Foreign Affairs, summoned the four Ambassadors the other day and presented to them a memorandum giving the full Italian case on this question: he requested that the memorandum should be sent to the Ambassadors' Governments.

You seem to have been having trouble with my office on the question of the soi-disant Austrian Consul. I have only just seen the correspondence and will deal with the matter officially.

Colonel S.W. Miller, MC,
Allied Commission
Chief Liaison Officer,
BOLZANO,

MSL/JG.

See A 386

4008

MS 4/2

505
ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO

382
PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Bolzano, 24 Jan 1946.
SWM/eq.

1946

TO : Brig M.S. LUSH, CB, MC,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ Allied Commission, ROME.

Ref : ACLO/B7/1.

My dear Brigadier

I take this opportunity to wish you a happy New Year and to send you a short letter by the hand of an official visiting Rome to-morrow.

I returned to Bolzano last Saturday after a happy leave in England.

As you know, Signor DE ANGELIS has resigned as Prefect of Bolzano and comes to Rome as Chief Delegate to the Socialist Party there in addition to being a Minister without Portefeuille and working daily with the Ministry of Interior. He is taking his secretary with him.

He said yesterday he would like to see you and if you could kindly receive him, I think he has a few interesting things to tell.

I believe he has pledged his party's support (and that of the Communists) to the political programme of the South Tyrol Volkspartei. (excluding, of course, their desire to return to Austria.) This pledge will ensure a number of votes from this part of the world and in the event of a leftist success, I think, DE ANGELIS will be a candidate for the highest post in a new Government.

I understand, his party are not quite sure of him yet, but they will be before the elections are finished. (I hope you do not mind my opinions.)

The new Prefect has not yet arrived and there is much to do if progress is to be shown to the Peace Conference.

-2-

As you know, none of the proposed reforms have been put into effect and though Signor DE GASPERI promised much in his recent speech, I feel he would be in a stronger position at the Peace Conference if he could point out actual reforms introduced into this Province.

I am surprised the attached report (A) has caused so little comment here.

As to (B), this was announced in the German News at 6 p.m. yesterday (Bolzano Station) and, if true, a Boundary Commission will probably turn up here eventually.

I am sure you will agree that such reports will encourage the South Tyrol People in their belief that the future of the Alto Adige has not yet been finally settled.

I hope you and Mrs. LUSH are fit and well.

With my kindest regards

Yours sincerely,

Sh. M. Allen

380 (A)

Rome, 22nd Jan.

The news (American source) regarding plebiscite which should decide for the Alto Adige and the Val d'Aosta has caused great surprise to the Italians who are pointing out that such news cannot give any peace to the Italian people and on the contrary worry them. Such news are dangerous because they give impossible hopes and can cause misunderstandings between Italy and other nations with whom the Rome Government is going to make arrangements and agreements which could help Europe in a new spirit of co-operation.

The President De Gasperi has pointed out the intentions of Italy for the question of the Alto Adige and has announced what is being done for the autonomy of the Province, and expressed the consideration which must be given after a serious examination of the problem.

The President has also said that, in case some strategy reasons exist for the solution, they should be in favour of Italy who was attacked by Germans many times through the Brenner pass.

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

SEDE E UFFICI:

Viale Beatrice di Savoia n. 26

TELEFONI:

Direzione 10-50 - Redazione 18-11

• 18-83 - Amministrazione 18-56

Alto Adige

QUOTIDIANO DEL COMITATO DI LIBERAZIONE TAZ

A. II - N. 20 - C.C.P. 14/2254

Le inserzioni si ricevono in Bolzano presso la Società per la Pubblicità in Italia (S.P.I.), piazza del Grano n. 3, tel. 28-50; ed in Merano, Cassino Municipale, tel. n. 18-70

Mercoledì, 23 gennaio 1945

ALTO ADIGE E VAL D'ADIGE

Una nota di Roosevelt su notizie a sorpresa

ROMA, 22. — La notizia da fonte americana, pubblicata che Roosevelt decise le sorti della Val d'Adige ha suscitato una sorpresa nei competenti italiani ove viene fatto rilevare che non possono certamente rinfacciare il popolo, anzi lo disorientano. Esse sono dannose in quanto assurdamente speranze e possono determinare malintesi limitate all'Italia, con le quali il governo per aderire ad accordi che assommano alla Europa in un clima di collaborazione.

Il presidente De Gasperi, per quanto riguarda ha messo in evidenza il punto di vista dell'Italia come il stato amico militare di un autogoverno, unico alto alleato, riconoscendo necessari i sentimenti che sono il risultato di un affetto esau-

Il presidente De Gasperi ha sottolineato che nessun essere ragioni strategiche in una eventuale situazione, queste dovrebbero essere adottate dall'Italia che dalla porta del Brennero subì più incursioni dei popoli germanici.

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

785017

Alto Adige

DEL COMITATO DI LIBERAZIONE NAZIONALE

D' SOZZANO

ABBONAMENTO
Semestrale
L. 280. Si re-
ministrano
per la Pubbl
di Bol

Mercoledì, 23 gennaio 1946

Prezzi inserzioni commerciali: 1.50 il giorno - 10.00 il mese - 30.00 il trimestre - 80.00 il semestre - 150.00 l'anno. Per le inserzioni di lungo corso, su richiesta, si applicano sconti. Per le inserzioni di tipo pubblicitario, si applicano tariffe speciali. Per le inserzioni di tipo pubblicitario, si applicano tariffe speciali. Per le inserzioni di tipo pubblicitario, si applicano tariffe speciali.

Una co

ALTO ADIGE E VAL D'AOSTA

Una nota di Roma su notizie a sorpresa

ROMA, 22 — La notizia da fonte americana riguardante i plebisciti che dovrebbero decidere le sorti dell'Alto Adige e della Val d'Aosta ha suscitato una sorpresa negli ambienti competenti italiani ora viene fatto rilevare che simili notizie non possono certamente rinfacciare il popolo italiano, ma anzi lo disorientano. Essi sono soltanto le quanto dimissionarie e possono determinare malintesi con le nazioni limitrofe all'Italia, con le quali il governo di Roma sta per addegnare ad accordi che assolvono alla ricostruzione europea in un clima di collaborazione.

Il presidente De Gasperi, per quanto riguarda l'Alto Adige, ha messo in evidenza il punto di vista dell'Italia e ha rivelato come si stiano aperte trattative di un autogoverno per le provincie altoatesine, riconoscendo necessari simili provvedimenti che sono il risultato di un attento esame della situazione.

Il presidente De Gasperi ha sottolineato che se mai dovessero essere raggiunti i punti strategici in una eventuale soluzione della situazione, queste dovrebbero essere adottate in difesa dell'Italia e della porta del Brennero, e non più di una volta, come si è visto nel caso dei plebisciti del 1919.

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

Adige

RAZIONE AZIONALE D' BOLZANO

ABBONAMENTI: Anno L. 1000
Semestrale L. 520. Trimestrale
L. 280. Si ricevono presso l'Am-
ministrazione e presso la Società
per la Pubblicità in Italia (S.P.I.)
di Bolzano e Merano

edi, 23 gennaio 1946

Prezzi inserzioni: competenza, morte, nascita, laurea, onorificenze,
L. 10 al mm. - Finanziari, legitti, nato, emigrati L. 30 al mm. - Necrolo-
gie L. 12 al mm. - Cronaca L. 20 al mm. - Attualità economica L. 5 la parola

Una copia: LIRE QUATTRO

GE E VAL D'AOSTA

ota di Roma ie a sorpresa

notizia da fonte americana riguardante
ero decidere le sorti dell'Alto Adige e
nasce una sorpresa negli ambienti
si tiene fatto rilevare che simili notizie
ra rinfacciare il popolo italiano, ma
se sono dannose al quanto alimentano
sono determinate malintesi con le na-
za, con le quali il governo di Roma sta
ordi che assolvono alla ricostruzione
collaborazione.

Esperi, per quanto riguarda l'Alto Adige,
il punto di vista dell'Italia e ha rivelato
misura di un autogoverno per le pro-
ponendo necessari simili procedi-
mento di un attento esame della situa-

Esperi ha sottolineato che se mai do-
strategiche in una essenziale soluzione
dovrebbero essere adottate in difesa
del Brennero solo più di una volta
germanici.

TRANSLATION from "DOLOMITEN", issue of January 1946

FOUR POWERS COMMITTEE TO CHECK ON CONDITIONS
for preparation of peace treaty with Italy

London, 24 Jan.

A committee of representatives of the four powers accompanied by experts will leave London in these days to study conditions on the Italian-Jugoslav border in order to start the preparation for the draft of the peace treaty with Italy. Another of these committees will go also to South Tyrol.

1453

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

785017

Volant

Tagblatt der Südtiroler

Einzelnummern: 100.000 Exemplare. Die 10.000 Exemplare der 1. Auflage sind L.
Einzelnummern durch besondere Tarif. Die Steuer
wird durch den Verleger. — Anzeigenverteilung: außerhalb
der Provinz: nur bei allen Filialen der Società Pubbl. Ital.

Per via
postale
contro
Dati

Nr. 20

Donnerstag, 24. Jänner 1945

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No. 785017

Magblatt der Südtiroler

NOTIZENGABE: WACHSEN MIT L. STREIFEN MIT L. GANGLÄGE (20) L. EINZELGELEIT. — 5 i k v. — GUTER ZUSAMMENHAANG 11/12. — ABEND EINGABE MIT DER ABGABE GEGENSTÄNDLICHEN BEWISSES. HILFEN. FRÜHSTÜCK. MORGEN. NACHMIDD.

Donnerstag, 24. Jänner 1946

23. Jahrgang

ten Teil unteren Vollschichten anzuordnen. Hinsicht auf die Wädrungsänderung besaß er nun wolle die eine politische Bedeutung zuschreiben, die die in Wirklichkeit nicht besteht; die Schwachstellen, die sich der Durchführung entgegenstellen, seien ausschließlich technischer Art. Man sei, Cernikow sagte abschließend fest, zu einem nicht bestritten werden, daß der Staat in den letzten 2-3 Jahren Moneten infolgedessen für den Wiederaufbau gearbeitet habe.

Die Vertriebsleistung der Camille wurde auf 11 Jahren vorläufig.

Ein Virex-Remission

allein Erfolge bei Vorbereitung des Friedensvertrags mit Italien

London, 24. März

Eine von Fachleuten begleitete, aus Vertretern der vier Großmächte bestehende Kommission wird in nächster Zeit von London abreisen, um für den Beginn der Arbeiten zum Entwurf des Friedensvertrages mit Italien Erhebungen an der italienisch-jugoslawischen Grenze zu pflegen. Auch nach Südtirol geht eine solche Kommission ab.

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

585 ~~4514~~ 4514 377A
int. sec.

Ref : 6/18.2/GA

3 February 1946

FEB 7 1946

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

This Commission has carefully reviewed the memorandum submitted by Dr. Sorrentino of the Office of Studies and Legislation in the Presidency of the Council of Ministers dealing with the draft law as to citizenship in the Alto Adige which was sent to the Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission under cover of Dr. Sorrentino's letter of 16 January 1946.

It considers the arguments presented in the memorandum to be with merit from a juridical point of view but still believes that the enactment of such a law would be unwise as a matter of policy.

Yours very truly

/s/ Henry W. Stone

HENRY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Copy to 6 Com /
to Com /

Dr. Alcide DE GASPERI
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
R O A E

(CAPT 13) 202 212

PA
42992 712
K

585 376
ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Bolzano, 31 Jan 1946.
JWA/61.

TO : HQ ALLIED COMMISSION, Rome,
for Civil Affairs Section.

Subj. : Treatment of German/Austrian Nationals.

Ref. : ACLO/BZ/29.

1) With reference to para.7 of letter HQ A/C, Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission DPR/53/G-II(DP) of 22 Jan 1946.

2) The "Repatriation Scheme" originally sent out from this office has been found in the light of experience to need amendment.

3) You will therefore kindly destroy the original scheme and substitute the attached.

4) The Separation Centre is working well and endeavours are being made to arrange for trains direct with the MRS. I think this will be successful.

W. Miller
W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer.

1 Encl.

Copy to: Director of Displaced Persons and
Repatriation Sub-Commission (att.scheme)
Ref. DPR/53/G-II(DP) of 22 Jan 46.

Executive Commissioner (att.scheme)

Capt ARCHER, 23 DP Camp (att.scheme. Please speak to me
about trains in the next few days.)

G-5 AFHQ (att.scheme)

See M.378 371-375
119 9/12

COPY

~~SECRET~~
HQ, 60 Sub Area
CMF

509/12/6

21 Jan 46

The Treatment of German/Austrian Nationals and other
Aliens in the Provinces of BOLZANO and of TRENTO

1. PREAMBLE

The Provinces of BOLZANO and TRENTO at the moment present a special problem from the Security and Displaced Persons angle in view of the thousands of GERMAN/AUSTRIAN nationals and other aliens who have drifted into the area. Many of these persons are civilians who were brought into the area since 2 Sept 1939 to work for the German Wehrmacht who have never been screened or discharged. In addition many ex-German military personnel, all GERMAN/AUSTRIAN nationals, are roaming around in civilian clothes having evaded capture by the Allied authorities and having failed to present themselves as SSP. Therefore, in order to coordinate the various directives on this subject and in order to make clear the different responsibilities of this HQ and the Displaced Persons Commission, the following instructions are issued for the guidance of all concerned.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THIS HQ

a). Arrestable categories.

This HQ is responsible for the arrest and transport to internment of all GERMAN/AUSTRIAN nationals resident in Sub Area who fall within the following categories:-

(1) all those who come within the list of Arrestable Categories as set out in Appx 'A' attached. These persons will be arrested and a recommendation for internment forwarded to GSI(B), HQ 2 District. However in view of the peculiar position of this bi-lingual area, where the Germans forced many South Tyrolese to work as interpreters and translators for the GIs work, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ when it is found that a South Tyrolese was pressed into GIs work, only occupied a minor position and is no threat to security, such persons will be placed under town arrest until a further directive on the position of minor GIs employees can be issued.

(ii) all GERMAN/AUSTRIAN members of the German Armed Forces who have never presented themselves for discharge or who are escaped SSP. These will be treated as recruits POW and dispatched to MIA. South Tyrolese members of the German Armed Forces, provided that they are not Wanted Persons will be discharged, while all non GERMAN/AUSTRIAN members of the German Armed Forces will be passed to their national screening commissions.

See 376

4431

- 2 -

- (iii) deserters from the German Armed Forces who fought with the partisans will be evacuated to Rimini, with a note stating that they have fought with the partisans.
- (iv) GERMAN/AUSTRIAN civilians or ex-service personnel who were brought into ITALY since 2 Sept 1939 and who worked in a prominent position for the German war effort will be treated as POW.
- (v) all GERMAN/AUSTRIAN members of the German armed forces with Discharge Certificates from competent Allied HQs including those issued by the 88 US Inf. Div, will be treated as Displaced Persons.

b). Method of Operation.

- (i) The USRR under the direction of PS/CIC will serve Yellow Report Forms on all GERMAN/AUSTRIAN nationals with instructions to report at the Separation Centre Bolzano on the date set down in the writ. The Separation Centre will receive a copy of the Yellow Report Form and will inform the USRR if persons do not appear on the appointed day.
- (ii) The Security Screening Boards of the PS/CIC, assisted by personnel from the Questura and O.S., will review all GERMAN/AUSTRIAN nationals reporting at the Separation Centre. They will be the principal agents of this HQ and will decide on the arrest of all persons who come within the above categories, or on their discharge to 23 Displaced Persons Camp for compulsory return to GERMAN/AUSTRIA. All doubtful cases will be referred to the Intelligence Officer of this HQ for decision.
- (iii) When the Screening Boards find that a GERMAN/AUSTRIAN national is of no security interest but is a case for repatriation they will pass the person to the Separation Centre staff who will give the person a Green Report Form, which will clearly indicate the date on which the D.P. is to report at 23 Displaced Persons Camp for repatriation. The Questura Agent with the Screening Boards will amend the Permesso di Soggiorno to the date given on the Report Form. All D.P.s will be allowed a period of seven days and no more in which to settle their affairs. In exceptional circumstances an extra seven days or longer may be granted by the Separation Centre Staff with the permission of the Screening Boards. One copy of the Green Report Form will be sent to the Questura and another to 23 Displaced Persons Camp. All D.P.s who do not report at the Separation Centre for interrogation or at 23 Displaced Persons Camp for repatriation will be arrested automatically.

c). Exceptions for Repatriation.

Persons who come within the categories set out below and who are of no security interest will be exempt from compulsory repatriation as far as this HQ is concerned. They will be given a document by the Separation Centre which will state that as far as the Allied Military Authorities are concerned there is no objection to their continued residence in the provinces of BOLZANO and TRENTO. 4190

- 3 -

- 573
- (i) All South Tyrolese who opted for GERMANY in the 1939 election.
 - (ii) GERMAN/AUSTRIAN nationals resident in ITALY before 2 Sept 1939.
 - (iii) All GERMAN/AUSTRIAN nationals whose pre-war domicile is proved to be in one of the Russian occupied zones and who do not wish to return.
 - (iv) Exceptional cases of hardship if repatriation is imposed as for example pregnant women, persons with dependants too sick to be moved or who are waiting for permission to return to foreign countries where they were domiciled before the war, all cases of this type will be referred to the Intelligence Officer of this HQ for his decision.
 - (v) Any appeal against repatriation ordered by the Screening Boards will be reviewed by the Officer i/o 23 Displaced Persons Camp who will pass on such cases as he sees fit to the Intelligence Officer of this HQ.
 - (vi) If the Screening Boards consider it advisable on Security grounds that persons in the above categories should be repatriated, they will be passed to 23 Displaced Persons Camp.

d). 23 Displaced Persons Camp.

- (i) 23 Displaced Persons Camp will on no account repatriate a D.P. without a Green Report Form from the Screening Boards at the Separation Centre. All aliens appearing at the Camp without these forms will be referred to the Separation Centre.
- (ii) 23 Displaced Persons Camp will be responsible for receiving and repatriating all D.P.s passed to them by the Screening Boards.

/s/ Capt. Clarke for
Colonel,
Commander.

DISTRIBUTION.

GSI, Hq 2 District
CIC Zone 3
51 FS Section
311 FS Section
PPSO Bolzano
Separation Centre
"G"
"A"
Spare
File
War Diary

Appx "A" to 509/12/G of 21 Jan 46

312

Arrestable Categories.

(a) German and Austrian nationals (Civilians)

German and Austrian nationals will not be arrested and interned merely on the grounds of their nationality, but only if they are considered to constitute a threat to Allied Security. However any civilians found within the provinces of BOLZANO and TRENTO, whether German or Austrian nationals, who have held positions of authority in the Nazi party and its organizations will be deemed to present a danger to Allied Security, arrested forthwith, and recommendation of the case for internment will be forwarded to CSI(b) this HQ.

The following German or Austrian civilians will be considered to present a danger to Allied Security:-

(1) Persons who are or have been at any time officials, agents or employees, whether paid or unpaid, of any of the following organizations or offices:-

- (a) The Geheime Staatspolizei (Gestapo) including the Grenzpolizei
- (b) The Sicherheitsdienst des Reichsfuehrers and any formations or units under its direct control
- (c) Any office, branch or department of the Reichsicherheitshauptamt (RSHA) not specified above and any formations, special units or organizations under its command.
- (d) OKW Amt Auslandsmachtverhaeltnisse und Abwehr, including the Amtgruppe Ausland
- (e) The Geheime Feldpolizei
- (f) The Ribbentrop Bureau
- (g) SS Totenkopf Verbände

(2) Persons who hold or have held in the past any of the ranks specified below or any superior rank in the same organization and women (except where otherwise specified), who hold or have held an equivalent rank in a corresponding women's organization.

- (a) Allgemeine or Waffen SS; Unterscharfuehrer
- (b) SS Helferinnen; Untersuehrerin
- (c) SA (Sturm Abteilung); Sturmfaehrer
- (d) NS (Hitler Jugend); Stammfaehrer
- (e) MDM (Bund Deutscher Maedel); Maedelringfaehrerin
- (f) MSKK (NS Kraftfahr Korps); Staffelfuehrer
- (g) NSPK (NS Flieger Korps); Sturmbannfaehrer
- (h) RAD (Reichsarbeitsdienst); Arbeitsfaehrer
- (i) RADWD (Reichsarbeitsdienst); Stabschefuehrerin
- (j) OT (Organisation Todt); Stabsfrontfaehrer
- (k) NSDAP; Gemeinschaftsleiter
- (l) Other subsidiary or associated organizations of the NSDAP not specified above; the rank corresponding to Oberabschnittsleiter in the Party or to Major in the Army
- (m) Schutzpolizei, Gendarmerie, Wasserschutzpolizei, Feuerschutzpolizei und Luftschutzpolizei; Oberst
- (n) Verwaltungspolizei; Regierungsdirektor
- (o) TESO (Technische Nothilfe); Landesaefuehrer

321
(p) Field Security/Counter Intelligence Corps are responsible for taking into custody persons who are to be placed in internment, but will be assisted in that task wherever possible by Provost, Public Safety and other agencies which find such persons in the course of their duties. When arrests are made by other agencies the local intelligence staff will be informed at once.

b). Aliens of Nationality other than German or Austrian.

Such persons should be arrested and interrogated only if their names appear on the GIS Wanted Lists held by FSS/CIC agencies or if there exist reasons for believing that they are indulging in activities which may prove of interest to FSS/CIC agencies.

385 / 370
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AND 394
DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION SUB-COMMISSION

DPB/53/B-II (DP)

22 January 1946

SUBJECT: Repatriation - Germans from Bolzano Province.

TO : C.A. Section, A.C.

1. I spent night 17/18 January at Bolzano - attended a conference on the above subject at A.C. Representative H.C.

Major Harrison A.C. Representative, Public Safety A.C. Representative, Capt. Clark 'I' 2 District attached 60 Sub-Area were present.

2. State of "Separation Camp" under 2 District is at present :-

(1) 2 "Tribunals" functioning :

- (a) One Italian Representative and one American Security.
- (b) One Italian Representative and one British Security.

(ii) Numbers seen daily 50 - hope to raise to 100 when more German speaking security available.

(iii) Of above about :

- (a) 20% are sent to Rimini as German SEP for processing.
- (b) 50% resident Bolzano Province ex-SEP discharged and sent home locally.
- (c) 30% to D.P. Camp as civilian for transit to Germany.

(iv) Appeals against decision classed para (iii) (a) & (b) heard by Capt. Clark and referred when necessary to 2 District. Appeals against decision on para (iii) (c) at present under discussion but decision on appeals would appear to be now an Italian Government matter. Original referees was P.C. Province. I understand Col. Miller is taking up on return. Col. Miller was expected on the 18th of January.

D.P. Commander is forwarding any appeals from D.P. Camp to A.C. Representative (Col. Miller) as an interim measure.

3. D.P. Camp Commander has been having trouble over trains to Germany. It has been now arranged he will indent for trains through 60 Sub-Area on movements 2 District.

State of Separation Camp under District is at present :-

(1) 2 "Tribunals" functioning :

- (a) One Italian Representative and one American Security.
- (b) One Italian Representative and one British Security.

(11) Numbers seen daily 50 - hope to raise to 100 when more German speaking security available.

(111) Of above about :

- (a) 20% are sent to Rimini as German SEP for processing.
- (b) 50% resident Bolzano Province ex-SEP discharged and sent home locally.
- (c) 30% to D.P. Camp as civilian for transit to Germany.

(12) Appeals a first decision classes para (111) (a) & (b) heard by Capt. Clark and referred when necessary to 2 District. Appeals against decision on para (111) (c) at present under discussion but decision on appeals would appear to be now an Italian Government matter. Original referee was P.C. Province. I understand Col. Miller is taking up on return. Col. Miller was expected on the 18th of January.

D.P. Commander is forwarding any appeals from D.P. Camp to A.C. Representative (Col. Miller) as an interim measure.

3. D.P. Camp Commander has been having trouble over trains to Germany. It has been now arranged he will indent for trains through 60 Sub-Area on Mondays 2 District.

Numbers D.P. Camp Bolzano at present some 200.

4. Main difficulty is those Germans whose homes are in Russian occupied Zone and in Zones now not included in Germany.

5. 2 APW Control Camps at present staff Bolzano D.P. Camp. One Officer command the Camp and the other is responsible for Liaison with "Separation Camp" - 60 Sub-Area - A.C. Representative (Col. Miller) - French Authorities Innsbruck and American Authorities at Munich.

See 376

..n

445

- 2 -

369/

6. I consider that the Italian Government requires help at the moment and that the Control Camps should be left in situ until work is finished - in about 6 weeks to 2 months.

7. I attach a copy of the "Repatriation Scheme" as originally sent out by Bolzano Province.

/s/ C.B. FINLAY
Colonel,
Director.

Copy to:- G-5 AFHQ. (2)
A.C. Rep. Bolzano Province.
D.P.R.S.C. Bolzano Province.
Executive Commissioner, A.C.

144

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

785017

4481

Copy to: G-5 APHC.
(2)
A.C. Rep. Bolzano Province.
D.P.R.S.C. Bolzano Province.
Executive Commissioner, A.C.

Director.

Ref: 585/30

January 1946

348

Dear Dr. Prunas,

Thank you for your letter 16/25910/56 of 8 November on the subject of Dr. Heiss, political editor of the newspaper "Volksstimme".

I have been informed that Dr. Heiss is very much in favour of the annexation of Alto Adige to Austria and that, although never a member of the National Socialist party, was in very close touch with Dr. Seyss-Inquart, Governor of Austria during the Nazi Regime. He was called up to the German Forces in 1942 as he was a "Volksdeutscher". There is no proof of the fact that he was an official in the Racial Laws Bureau of Berlin. I understand that he conducts, through the medium of the newspaper "Volksstimme", an unceasing fight for the return of the province of Bolzano to Austria.

Yours sincerely,

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Dr. Renato Prunas,
Minister Plenipotentiary,
Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

PA
1946
11/16

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
APT

Close Type

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Ry: S85/EC

367

Dear Dr. Prunas,

Thank you for your letter 16/25910/66 of 8 November on the subject of Dr. Heiss, political editor of the newspaper "Dolomiten".

I have been informed that Dr. Heiss is very much in favour of the annexation of Alto Adige to Austria and that, although never a member of the National Socialist party, was in very close touch with Dr. Seyss-Inquart, Governor of Austria during the Nazi Regime. He was called up to the German Forces in 1942 as he was a "Volksdeutscher". There is no proof of the fact that he was an official in the Racial Laws Bureau of Berlin. I understand that he conducts, through the medium of the newspaper "Dolomiten" an unceasing fight for the return of the province of Bolzano to Austria.

Yours sincerely

M.S.L.

Brip

Dr. Renato Prunas,
Minister Plenipotentiary,
Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

see 1124-27

785017

585

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
58721/36235/1.6.1

Rome, 25 January 1946

Dear Admiral,

I greatly appreciated the information you sent me in your letter dated January 24th, about the situation in the Bolzano Province and the opinion expressed on such a matter by Brigadier Junip.

I am happy to confirm that the Italian Government, faithful to the traditions of democratic Italy, tending to respect the rights and claims of the minorities, has no intention whatever of expelling such German speaking citizens as remained there permanently even if they voted for German citizenship.

I already made such a statement in the name of the Government in the speech which I held at the Consulta Nazionale on January the 1st, and in which I solemnly stated that we would expel no person in good faith on this side of the Brenner nor would we compel such people to wander beyond it.

Believe me, my dear Admiral,

Sincerely yours,

A. De Gasperi

Admiral Henry J. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome

EC DIST - 29 Jan

ACTION - CA Gen

INTO - CC

EC

POKAD A

B

1984

X Letter cannot be traced in
6. Gen's office. Copy being
obtained from him. He affd.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

3 January 1946

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

In connection with the Bolzano situation, I am taking the liberty of quoting below some views of Brigadier Dunlop, whom I believe you met recently, which you may find of interest and which you might care to adopt.

"I believe one single action that could be taken by the Italian Government to calm the Bolzano situation would be to reassure the German-speaking population that no forced emigration is intended.

"As you know, as a result of the Hitler-Mussolini agreement and as a result of the great deal of misrepresentation that accompanied that agreement very many German-speaking inhabitants 'opted' to go to Germany (or Austria). In fact as a result of war problems only a relatively small proportion did so move. The others still remain in Bolzano Province. Now, though we have said that such people should be regarded as Italian citizens - I am generalizing in this statement and I appreciate that there are various categories - the Italian Government has never said so itself. The result is that there is real apprehension among the Sud Tiroler that the Italian Government may now try to turn these optants out of their homeland.

"If the Italian Government could say quite simply, that it was not their intention to turn out of Bolzano any Sud Tiroler born there, whether he opted for Germany in 1939 or not, then, I believe that a very constructive step would have been taken towards a local peaceful settlement."

Sincerely yours

KLEIGH W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Dr. Alcide De Gasperi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome.

See 365

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

AC/14057/PS

11 January 1946

JAN 12 1946

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter 2978/79 of 7 December 1945 in which you raise the question of the methods by which members for the Volkspartei in Bolzano are obtained :-

Inquiry has now been made, the President of the Organization has been interviewed and it would seem beyond doubt that a strict policy is followed whereby former SA, SS, Gestapo or members of similar organizations are barred from membership.

However it is possible that in isolated local cases some persons of doubtful antecedents may have been admitted.

It was further stated that foreign residents are not admitted as members of the Volkspartei.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR,
Chief Commissioner.

Eob. Cavaliere Don Renato PIERAS
Ministro Plenipotenziario
Segretario Generale
Ministero degli Affari Esteri
ROMA.

Copy 6 6 b.m.
Ex 6.

From: Brigadier General, USA, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

Dear Admiral:

Please accept my sincere thanks for your hospitality today and for the most interesting discussion. I hope you will pardon the manuscript of this letter; I am writing it on the eve of my return north.

I believe one single action that could be taken by the Italian Government to calm the Bolzano situation would be to reassure the German speaking population that no forced exigration is intended.

As we know, as a result of the Hitler-Mussolini agreement and as a result of the great deal of idleness in the area, accompanied that agreement, very many German speaking inhabitants "opted" to go to Germany (or Austria). In fact as a result of our problems only a relatively small proportion did so move. The others still remain in Bolzano Province. Now, though we have said that such people should be regarded as Italian citizens, I am generalizing in this statement and I appreciate that there are various categories. The Italian Government has never said so itself. The result is that there is real apprehension among the ad Tyroler that the Italian Government may now try to turn those optants out of their homeland.

If the Italian Government could say quite simply, that it was not their intention to turn out of Bolzano any ad Tyroler born there, whether he opted for Germany in 1939 or not, then, I believe, that a very constructive step would have been taken towards a local peaceful settlement.

There are other points of less importance, such as the restriction of the arrival in the province of Southern Italian in search of work, the employment of local inhabitants as far as possible in governmental administrative positions in the province.

These, however, are to my mind secondary to the important one of guaranteeing to the ad Tyroler his continued peaceful existence in his patrimonial lands. If that could be stated simply and sincerely, my own belief is that it would have a big effect.

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

ALAN K. BULLOCK.

proportion did so more. The others still remain in Bolzano Province. Now, though we have said that such people should be regarded as Italian citizens, I am generalizing in this statement and I appreciate that there are various categories. The Italian Government has never said so itself. The result is that there is real apprehension among the old Tyroler that the Italian Government may now try to turn those citizens out of their homeland.

If the Italian Government could say quite simply, that it was not their intention to turn out of Bolzano any old Tyroler born there, whether he opted for Germany in 1939 or not, then, I believe, that a very constructive step would have been taken towards a local peaceful settlement.

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These, however, are to my mind secondary to the important one of guaranteeing to the old Tyroler his continued peaceful existence in his patriarchal lands. If that could be stated simply and sincerely, my own belief is that it would have a big effect.

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

JOHN R. MONTAG.

Dear Admiral Ellery E. Stone, RAN,
Chief Commissioner,
HQ. Allied Commission.

Copy to En Com ✓

See M 325-328-340.

331 + 332 + 333
334

4480

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO FM
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 535/322/EC

5 January 1946

SUBJECT: Reich Germans in Bolzano Province.

TO : G-5 AFHQ.

1. Reference your G-5 : 533.7-45 of 30 November 1945.
2. In telegram no. 051452 of 31 December 1945 permission was given by your Headquarters to move as many Germans and Austrians to Munich and Innsbruck respectively as possible by 31 January 1946. There are some 3,000 in Bolzano Province.
3. Acceptance and dispersal arrangements are being made direct with the military authorities in Austria and Germany; 2 District have also been asked to assist.
4. These instructions were forwarded on 31 December 1945 to this HQ's representative in Venetia Region.

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Copy to: C.A. Section.

See M. 323

4484

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

5854

351

[Handwritten signature]

Ref : 6/18 B/CA

21 December 1945

DEC 21 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter 3/2196 of 6 Dec forwarding a resolution by the Association of the Friends of the Alto Adige. The document in question has been carefully read and its contents will be borne in mind.

Yours very truly

101 copy to Stone

MILBY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Dott. Alcide DE GASPERI
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
M O N E

Copy to: 6 km
666

4483

(MISS 5)

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
54215/504 19.3/1.6.1

Rome, 18 December 1945

My dear Admiral,

You know the political instructions of this Government for what concerns the respect of the interests and traditions of the German speaking populations of the Alto Adige Communes.

According to such instructions, a legislative regulation, a copy of which I enclose has been issued, tending to regulate the use of the German language in the Bolzano province, for what concerns the political, administrative and legal authorities.

It has been decided that the regulations for the enforcing of this decree will be issued later on, in a regulation to be issued after its discussion by the Council of Ministers, after hearing a Commission appointed to this end, in which will participate an adequate representation of the German speaking populations of the above mentioned Communes.

Of course, the carrying out of the said regulations implies the reorganization of the administrative and legal offices in the Communes of the Bolzano province; where German speaking officials must be sent; the transfer of the offices staff can take place only when the territory will have been handed back to the Italian administration. Therefore, the enforcing of the regulation has been postponed to a later date, when the territory has been handed back.

The Consulta Nazionale has approved the draft of the said law.

Will you kindly give the necessary orders, my dear Admiral, to have the said decree enforced in the Bolzano province by an M.O. ordinance, as soon as it has been published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale.

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

A. De Gasperi

Admiral Henry V. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome

E.C. DIST - 20 Dec.

Action : C.A. Dec (2)

Inf : C.C.
E.C.

Poland 'A'

" 'B'

4252

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

349

~~310~~

From: Lt. Col. F. H. McLeary, Chief Staff Officer.

Ref: 585/EC.

17 December 1945.

Dear Signor de Angelis,

~~100~~
328

I am writing on behalf of Brigadier Lush to thank you for your letter Prot.n. 876 of 5 December 1945. I assure you that here we fully appreciate the importance of keeping a capable man in Bolzano and there is no intention of transferring Col. Miller from your Province.

Yours sincerely,

F. H. McLeary

Signor E. de Angelis,
Il Prefetto di Bolzano,
BOZANO.

PA
17/12
~~310~~

AFB o/o ASG 773450

7th December 1945

Anton HEISS: born in Bolzano on March 1st 1911, actually resident in Bolzano, Via Giardini 18, lawyer, graduated in Innsbruck, voted 1930 for Austria, but omitted to get registered in an Austrian Commune and so he remained Italian citizen till to day. On December 1925 he went to Switzerland and from there to Austria, where he collaborated with the newspaper "Innsbrucker-Nachrichten".

In 1926 he returned to Bolzano as correspondent of several Berlin newspaper.

Though Italian citizen he was expelled by the Fascist Authority after the famous trial against the 25 South Tyroleans in Verona. He went to Vienna, collaborated with several papers and founded an own news agency. During the years 33 - 34 we find him in Bolzano again, where he works for the "Solanen". In the following years he worked in Berlin in the news agency "Zeitungsdruck Traf Reichach". From there he moved again to Vienna and it is reliably reported that he held a position in 1939, after the annexation of Austria, in the Press Office of the Governor Seyss-Inquart. During the last war he had different jobs as journalist in Cracow, Warsaw and Amsterdam. Nevertheless he pretends that he never was member of the National Socialist Party.

In 1942 he was called up to the German Forces being a "Volksdeutscher" (German by origine).

In 1943 we find him again in South Tyrol, but in it not clear in what position. He claims to have organized a resistance movement against the Germans and to have helped Italian partisans. At any rate after the liberation in May 1945 he took over the daily "Solanen" as editor in chief and after

22/11/55
5

The returning of the former director R. Fesch from concentration Camp Dachau, was kept as special writer for the leaders of this paper.

From the very moment South Tyrol passed under Italian administration in 1920 A.M. has conducted an unceasing fight for the freedom of his home-country and its return to Austria. As Hitler utterly disliked this movement for higher political reasons and was prepared to sacrifice this Province to Mussolini, it is unlikely that A.M. got much support for his aspirations in Germany. It is possible that he found more understanding in Austria and it may be that Seers-In, part of whom A.M. speaks with kind of respect, had an other political line than Berlin. A.M. is far from being a Nazi. On the other hand he has never concealed his feelings of hatred against Italy, which oppressed the population of South Tyrol for more than 30 years in the most brutal manner and he looked around for help from where ever it might come.

It goes without saying that A.M. will not cease his fight, even if the South Tyrolian question should be decided in favour of Italy.

BOLZANO PROVINCE
VENEZIE REGION

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

A. P. O. 394

ALLIED PUBLICATIONS BOARD
BOLZANO and TRENTO PROVINCE

SUBJECT: Political editor of "Dolomiten".

DATE 7th December 45

Refer.: Your letter of 20th Nov. 1945

DEC 13 1945

TO: H Q Allied Commission,
Office of the Executive Commissioner,

REF. R XII BZ

APO 394

In reply to your letter which reached me only end
of November please find attached the desired report.

I myself am in constant fight with this gentleman
since July of this year, but I cannot deny him honesty
of conviction and sincere patriotic feelings.

F. M. Gasbarra
GASBARRA
PRESS OFFICER

Alleged: 1

785017

Translation

The Minister for Foreign Affairs
2/11/6

Rome, 6 December 1945

GEC 1718

My dear Admiral,

The Association of the Friends of Alto Adige asked this Ministry to forward to the Allied Commission a copy of the order of the day unanimously passed on November 10th by the above mentioned Association that met in Florence.

In its order of the day, the Association of the Friends of Alto Adige expresses its point of view regarding the present situation in Alto Adige. While forwarding the enclosed document, I bring to your attention the fact that also in this case, the Italian milieu concerned inspired themselves from democratic and liberal ideas tending to maintain a just frontier for Italy and at the same time make it possible for both populations of the said zone to live peacefully together.

Believe me, my dear Admiral,

Truly yours,

S. De Gasperi

Admiral Ellery A. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome

4/0

See folio 321

E.C. DIST. IS the

Action : C.A. Sec. (2)

Info : C.C.

Polad 'A'

" 'B'

E.C.

4218

Translation

Order of the Day

2440
331

To settle the question of Alto Adige, unanimously agreed at the meeting of November 14th, 1918, held at the end of the 'Great Alliance' unity, (Pactato della Arte della pace).

After hearing the reports on the present situation of Alto Adige, the Association acknowledged and decided what follows:

- 1) The government of the Austrian Republic does not seem entitled to present in the peace conference any proposal for the annexation of territories belonging by right to Italy. Italy didn't declare war on Austria; nor did she invade her territory or bomb her towns. Austria fought till the end for the German cause, and for this reason only, after the collapse of fascism, the Italian army and Italian pilots found themselves compelled also to fight against German soldiers who, going to the very end of despairing, to have defended once independence doesn't imply being indebted to anyone, and still less to Austria.
- 2) The Austrian Government, in the person of the Chancellor, Dr. Schoner, repeatedly and solemnly acknowledged that Alto Adige belonged to Italy.
- 3) The assigning the Brenner frontier to Italy by the S. G. Main Treaty, the Allied powers not only acknowledged the enormous sacrifices supported by our country during the first world war, but also recognized that there could be no better natural frontier than the Brenner Alps between Italy and Germany. All Italian thinkers, poets and statesmen from Dante onward placed our frontier there. With Garibaldi and Maribelli, the great heroes of American democracy, from Lincoln to Wilson, and great masters of all nations including the Germans themselves acknowledged that our frontier was there.
into a duchy
- 4) Italy made during the last middle ages on the ridge of the Alps didn't correspond to a real geographic region; it was but an artificial construction, German at first, then Austrian, created to give the Germans a political and strategic appendage on the Italian side, by giving them the natural route leading to our country. Its reconstruction could but bring about war and greater conflict, for it would facilitate and encourage the German advance towards the south of the German side. For two thousand years, it occasionally tried to reach the plains of the Po and the Adriatic, by crossing the chain of the Alps. Only a frontier that corresponds to the will of Italy can succeed in separating and at the same time linking Italy and Germany.
- 5) Alto Adige isn't a geographic region, but together with the Trentino, it forms the Venetian Pre-Alps, which is a sub-region of the Veneto region. While the Trentino which has the largest population is now largely Italian, Alto Adige in a bilingual zone, where in 1939, as a legal population amounting to 277,720 inhabitants, the Italians amounting to 30,000 formed one third of the population.

- 2) The Austrian Government, in the opinion of its Chancellor, Dr. Schusner, repeatedly and solemnly acknowledged that Alto Adige belonged to Italy.
- 3) When assigning the frontier to Italy by the 1919 Paris Peace Treaty, the Allied Powers not only acknowledged the enormous sacrifices supported by our country during the First World War, but also recognized that there could be no better natural frontier than the greater Alps between Italy and Germany. All Italian thinkers, poets and statesmen from Dante onward placed our frontier there. The Italian and German peoples, the great masses of European democracy, from Lincoln to Wilson, and George Washington of all nations including the Germans themselves acknowledged that our frontier was there.
Italy's duty
- 4) Tyrol made / during the last middle ages on the ridge of the Alps isn't corresponded to a real geographical region: it was but an artificial construction, created at first, then Austrian, created to give the Germans a political and strategic appendage on the Italian side, by giving them the natural gate leading to our country. Its reconstruction could but bring about new and greater conflicts, for it could facilitate and encourage the German - towards the south of the German side. For two thousand years, it continuously tried to reach the plain of the Po and the Adriatic, by crossing the chain of the Alps. Only a frontier that corresponds to the will of Italy can succeed in separating and at the same time linking Italy and Germany.
Italy's duty
- 5) Alto Adige isn't a geographical region, but together with the Trentino, it forms the Germanic Provinces, which is a sub-region of the Veneto region. While the Trentino which has the largest population is completely Italian, Alto Adige is a bilingual area, where in 1939, as a local population amounting to 277,120 inhabitants, the Italian amounted to 30,000 formed one third of the population.
- 6) The German and Italian speaking population of Alto Adige is for the greatest part formed by the modification of the language of the two Italian, i.e. Italian spoken in the region. To large areas, as for instance the Venetian, the modification of the language took place at the beginning of the last century only. The Germanic Provinces has a definitely Italian character, not only because the Alto Adige is geographically speaking an Italian land, but also because it is the result of the patient working of two lands by the generations of our parents, before the Germanization took place. Italian culture had a prominent part in the development of the civilization of Alto Adige. The old popular customs and traditions of our Italian Alps are still strong in the Alto Adige valleys. The contribution of our art has always been most considerable. Our language is as widespread as the used to be during the last centuries.
- 7) Improvement of the economy and prospects. Alto Adige is only a supplement of the Alpine Provinces of Austria, so that its annexation to the Austrian Republic

- 2 -

should be of as particular use to the whole Republic, and should be most particularly to the Alto Adige region. The latter region comprises the protection and neighbouring plains. For this reason, Italy has to establish systems (considering the whole mountainous region) it is possible for climbing (typical to live; this is why in 1961, the political chamber of Germany asked for the separation of Alto Adige from Tyrol and it being definitively linked to Austria and the German Republic).

8) During the twenty five years that went by since the retreat on of the Italian frontiers, Italy, having lost some areas, and having been extremely and entirely isolated, turned into a state that was in almost complete isolation from the rest of the world. Italy, having lost its most important industrial sector, is left with the great industrial country of the German Republic. It is difficult to detach without very serious consequences for the political system as well as for the national economy. The industrialization of the valley depends on a great part from the hydroelectric energy produced by the large Italian power plants established in the German Republic.

9) The line drawn into the international field is rather simple and clear: our internal policy, we must remember that the Alto Adige problem is in many ways similar to that of other states in whose borders are German minorities. The Germans established at the cost of the German Republic, from Poland towards the east, beyond their own frontiers. In the same way, Germany also got rid of 3,000,000 Germans living in her borders and some altered as undesirable. To safeguard peace, we must maintain integrity, power with a democratic regime drive back, after the war, 10,000,000 Germans into German territory. In Alto Adige, about 250,000 German-speaking citizens, i.e., barely the fifth part of the German Republic, and now logically and completely, asked for Germany in 1935, and therefore, and now logically so, Italy would have the right to ask for the fulfilment of the pledge freely accepted by Germany, at a time when justice was not of her, and on the basis of which Italy is entitled to demand that the people who voted for Germany leave the national territory. But faithful to our humanistic tradition, we don't want to demand this and we don't want, for international reasons, to force and for the internal security of Germany it is inadvisable to send away all those who do not wish to be German. Italy, however, for international and for the internal security of Alto Adige, a state that we shall welcome all those who wish to be Italian and to remain in the area and the autonomous region created by the Italian Government.

10) Among the international elements to be excluded must be included: a) the leaders of the local and national movements, including the group leaders of the various districts, municipalities and country divisions. b) war criminals and all those who have committed crimes against humanity, to the detriment of Italian citizens, prisoners of war, people deported for political reasons, and so on.

9) The task which must be the international field is either which simply non-
 sense our internal policy. I must remember that the Alto Adige problem is
 in many ways similar to that of other states on shared borders and other
 problems. The Germans established as the last of the German state away
 from Poland towards the east, beyond their own frontier. In the same way,
 Germanization was not at 2,000,000 Germans living in the borders and some
 Germanization was not at 2,000,000 Germans, as their national integrity,
 showed an undeniable. To safeguard peace, as their national integrity,
 peace with a democratic regime were back, after the war, 10,000,000 Ger-
 mans into German territory. In Alto Adige, about 200,000 German-speaking
 citizens, i.e., nearly the whole of the German-speaking people from Poland
 and Czechoslovakia, moved for Germany in 1933, and therefore, and more loudly
 so, Italy could not have the right to ask for the fulfillment of the pledge
 freely accepted by Germany, at a time when Austria was not of war, and an
 the basis of which Italy is entitled to demand that the people who voted for
 Germany leave the national territory. But fulfilled to our national democratic
 tradition, we don't want to demand that our people, however, for international
 relations and for our national security, we consider it is indispensable to
 send away all those who did to a danger for our national relations
 and for the internal peace of Italy. I state that we shall welcome
 all German-speaking people who intend to accept the laws and the customs of
 the Italian Government.

10) Under the administrative elements to be expelled must be included: a) the
 leaders of the local Nazi movement, including the group leaders of the
 various districts, municipalities and county divisions. b) war criminals
 guilty of political and racial violence towards Jews or others, to the
 damage of Italian citizens, prisoners of war, people devoted for political
 reasons, etc. etc.

11) We consider it is necessary to expel all the persons, and of whom are
 former Nazis or military people, residing in Alto Adige, and represent the
 most dangerous and active anti-Italian elements to the most trouble internal
 order.

12) It is necessary to dissolve at once all political organizations
 and associations that are obviously inspired by fascist or anti-Italian
 elements from across the border, according to the rules followed by the
 Allied Governments.

13) After carrying out this necessary and urgent operation, we consider it would
 be advisable to give to the German-speaking inhabitants of Alto Adige full
 freedom of language in administration, justice schools and religious life,
 on the condition that our Italian-Italian minorities, who must be ~~protected~~
 against the danger of Germanization, will keep their rights.

14) With the decentralization of the Italian State, all the facilities, bur-
 cratic simplifications, organizational and administrative liberation granted to Ger-
 many must be extended to Alto Adige, keeping, as far as it is possible and
 compatible with programs, local administrative and jurisdictional status, deeply
 rooted in the life of the province.

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

785017

Revolution

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

12/21/79

New, 1 November 1945

DEC 17 1945

My dear Admiral,

I wish to send you, for your information and documentation, a photo copy of a note from the Guinean Section of the Volkspartei. From the said note, it appears that all young people, from 17 years on, can become members of the said party, regardless of their 'present' residence, and on the condition that 'they haven't been particularly conspicuous members' of the NS, SA or Gestapo. It therefore appears that the Suddeutscher Volkspartei to increase the number of its members, and make them appear as very numerous, doesn't hesitate in enlisting people who formerly belonged to the SA and were specifically implicated in the Gestapo, as well as people who are now living abroad and probably acquired a foreign citizenship.

I shall greatly appreciate it if you bring this matter to the attention of the allied authorities concerned.

Believe me, my dear Admiral,

Sincerely yours,

J. [unclear]

Mr. IRVING W. STONE
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

J. S. S.

Encls. 2/3

E.C. DIST. 11 Dec

Action: C.A. Sec (C)

Info: C.C.

E.C.

~~See 329~~

See 359

427.

(107 C)

Translation

Sudtiroler Volkspartei

Bozener, 12 September 1945

To : Mr. Anton Aichner
Trento - Via Corvara 26
(Villa Maria)

My dear Mr. Aichner,

With reference to your visit to the
local N.F.P. Committee, in Bozener, Alto Adige, I am,
we inform you that it is quite possible for you to become
a member of the N.F.P.

All inhabitants of Sudtirol, over 17,
who haven't been conspicuous as members of the SS, SA or
Gestapo can become members, regardless of their present
place of residence. If possible, come personally to be
registered, for you must sign the members list.

The local committee of the Sudtiroler Volkspartei
for the town of Bozener

Trans. e/c



505 41
Il Prefetto di Bolzano

Prot. n. 7078
RAT/md

Bolzano, 5.12.1945

DEC 8 1945

Brigadier M.S. Lush, C.B., C.B.E., A.C.,
HQ Allied Commission,
Via Veneto,
Rome.

Dear Brigadier,

Upon my return to Bolzano I wish to thank you for the kind assistance you and your officers have given me during my recent visit to Rome.

Referring to our conversations, I again wish to point out that I am convinced that it is extremely important that in the period immediately preceding and following the restitution of the Province, a very capable man, well acquainted with the problems of the Province like Col. S.W. Miller, should remain in Bolzano. The above period will namely certainly be the most delicate.

I would therefore greatly appreciate your kindly taking again into consideration my proposition.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

sincerely yours

Angelo
(B. de Angelis)

Dear Brigadier,

Upon my return to Bolzano I wish to thank you for the kind assistance you and your officers have given me during my recent visit to Rome.

Referring to our conversations, I again wish to point out that I am convinced that it is extremely important that in the period immediately preceding and following the restitution of the Province, a very capable man, well acquainted with the problems of the Province like Col. S. E. Miller, should remain in Bolzano. The above period will namely certainly be the most delicate.

I would therefore greatly appreciate your kindly taking again into consideration my proposition.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

Sincerely yours

[Signature]
(R. de Angelis)

See M 344 + 315

T F 346

1110

(505)

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

RC VENEZIE REGION

8666

23 Nov 45

ROUTINE

SECRET PD

PLEASE EXPEDITE ANSWER TO OUR SIGNAL EIGHT TWO EIGHT ZERO PD

PAREN TO ROGER CHARLIE VENEZIE REGION FROM HQ ALCOM CITE ACHAC PAREN

GEORGE DASH FIVE AFHQ PRESSING

Office of Executive Commissioner

285

B. SAMPSON

785017

585
CONFIDENTIAL

Resolution.

30 Nov 45
SWM/lc

The President of the Sudtiroler Volkspartei.

123/2

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 28th November, 1945 forwarding a Resolution taken by your Central Committee on November, 23rd, 1945.

1. I have studied this Resolution, and feel I must draw your attention to the fact that during the past weeks a considerable number of petitions and reports have been received and acted upon by me.
2. The Resolution refers chiefly to subjects which, from time to time, I have assured both you and your Secretary General are under consideration in Rome.
3. In view of the political crisis, (and even if it were not so), you will appreciate that TIME must be given to these problems, and quick decisions cannot be expected.
4. I reassure you that your interests are safeguarded. I feel the time is not ripe to discuss these subjects again on my level, neither do I consider any good result would be obtained from sending the Resolution to Rome.
5. Soon, I hope to arrange a meeting between you all to put into effect certain measures which, with good will and determination by all parties, should bring about the happier conditions you so earnestly desire.
6. In the above circumstances I cannot at present approve a meeting of your Congress.

S. W. Miller, Colonel.
S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Provincial Commissioner.

Copy to : Executive Commissioner,
HQ, A.C., Rome.
Political Advisor,
HQ, A.C., Rome.
Regional Commissioner,
HQ, Venetia Region.

for information.

(7/13/53)

53596

~~2~~ COPY

Südtiroler Volkspartei

Bozan, 28th Nov. 45

To : Colonel S. W. MILLER, MC,
Provincial Commissioner
of the A.M.S.

BOLZANO

Sir,

We beg to forward to you a resolution taken
by our Central Committee on November 23rd, 1945 and
to ask of you to fix us an appointment at your con-
venience in order to can talk about the matter.

We remain, Sir, Yours very respectfully

The Südtiroler Volkspartei

/s/ Dr. Joseph Raffeiner

Annexed:

1 letter.

Bolzano, 23rd Nov. 45

COPY

SÜDTIROLER VOLKSPARTEI

As the result of the meeting of the Central Committee held on this day, the 23rd November, 1945, the leaders of the South Tyrolean People's Party issue the following declaration:-

The reports of the District leaders reveal that throughout the country an ever increasing alienating and embitterment are manifesting themselves among the people of South Tyrol, for the following reasons:-

The people feel that the Gulf between the announcement and promises of the Italian Government on one side and the practice of the existing administration on the other is ever widening. The spirit of fascism, and the men, are still working and manifest themselves in all walks of life, including numerous newspaper articles devoid of all understanding and goodwill for the South Tyrolese. The promises of autonomy made by the Government and the measures announced in a vague manner for the solution of the South Tyrolean question have not contributed towards the appeasement of the people, as they first of all are looked upon as an attempt to withhold from them the self-determination which they demand.

The Central Committee points out that the past concluded on the 31st May, 1945 between the South Tyrolean people's Party, without prejudice to the right of self-determination, and the Parties represented in the Provincial Committee of National Liberation, as a basis for the peaceful existence side by side of the two ethnic groups, has not produced the intended results. They can only be obtained by setting up a true democratic administration in the country.

For this reason the annulment of the Nazi-Fascist Transfer Agreement of 1939, which continues to poison the relations of the two ethnic groups. It is equally inadmissible that the South Tyrolese should be represented in the administration and in key positions in proportion to their numerical strength, and that energetic measures be taken against any further immigration of alien elements, which, apart from endangering the peace, security and normal economic situation, represent a continuation of the policy of denationalisation pursued during the period of Fascism.

The Central Committee, now as ever, sees in the right of self-determination the only possible solution of the South Tyrolean question on a democratic basis and, at the same time, the surest guarantee for lasting friendly relations between the two neighbouring peoples, not only in the interests of the ethnic groups living in South Tyrol but also in the interests of a lasting peace.

The Central Committee, is convinced that this is the standpoint of the South Tyrolean people, who are almost entirely represented by the South Tyrolean People's Party. In order however to give the people the

ment and the measures announced in a vague manner for the solution of the South Tyrolean question have not contributed towards the appeasement of the people, as they fear of all are looked upon as an attempt to withhold from them the self-determination which they demand.

The Central Committee points out that the pact concluded on the 31st May, 1945 between the South Tyrolean people's Party, without prejudice to the right of self-determination, and the Parties represented in the Provincial Committee of National Liberation, as a basis for the peaceful existence side by side of the two ethnical groups, has not produced the intended results. They can only be obtained by setting up a true democratic administration in the country.

For this reason the annulment of the Nazi-Fascist Transfer Agreement of 1939, which continues to poison the relations of the two ethnical groups. It is equally indispensable that the South Tyrolean should be represented in the administration and in key positions in proportion to their numerical strength, and that energetic measures be taken against any further immigration of alien elements, which, apart from endangering the peace, security and normal economic situation, represent a continuation of the policy of denationalisation pursued during the period of Fascism.

The Central Committee, now as ever, sees in the right of self-determination the only possible solution of the South Tyrolean question on a democratic basis and, at the same time, the surest guarantee for lasting friendly relations between the two neighbouring peoples, not only in the interests of the ethnical groups living in South Tyrol but also in the interests of a lasting peace.

The Central Committee, is convinced that this is the standpoint of the South Tyrolean people, who are almost entirely represented by the South Tyrolean People's Party. In order however to give the people the opportunity to voice their opinion in a democratic manner on the whole political situation, the Central Committee passes the following:-

RESOLUTION :

The Central Committee instructs the leader of the Party to seek from the Allied Military Government the authorisation to hold a Congress of the South Tyrolean People's Party.

Bolzen, 23rd November, 1945.

The President

/s/ Erich Amonn

South Tyrolean People's Party

the Secretary, General

/s/ Joseph Raffelme

BOLZANO PROVINCE
VENEZIE REGION

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

A. P. O. 394

SECRET

SUBJECT: Prefect of Bolzano.

DATE 23 Nov 1945.
SWM/gg.

TO: The Regional Commissioner, Brig J.K. DUNLOP,
Hqtrs Venetia Region AMG, Padova.

REF: R XII BZ 242/2.

- 1.) It is possible that a decision regarding the future of the Alto Adige will shortly be announced.
- 2.) As you know, the Prefect, Dr. DE ANGELIS, has recommended that a special Italian Delegate should be appointed for this theatre and I believe he expects this appointment himself.
- 3.) Should this happen, then a South Tyrolian Prefect would be desirable and I recommend the following gentlemen in order of priority:

<u>N a m e :</u>	<u>R e m a r k s :</u>
a) Dr. Karl von BRAITEMBERG, President of the Cassa di Risparmio.	He is an upright and highly respected man, quiet and hard- headed, acceptable to both parties. He knows law and would make an excellent Prefect.
b) Dr. Walter von WALTER, President of the Chamber of Commerce.	He is a hardheaded business-man of the highest reputation. He is popular and would be acceptable to both parties. In this case however - he is the brother in law of Dr. Erich ARONIS, President of the Volkspartei and his other brother in law is also Vice-Pref- ect - his appointment perhaps would make it too much a family party.
c) Dr. Johann MENZ, Vice-Sindaco of Merano.	Dr. DE ANGELIS thinks highly of this gentleman and considers him a worthy successor should the post become vacant.

-2-

322

He is a landlord of an excellent stock, is popular and would be acceptable to all parties. My opinion, however, is that he would not make a good Prefect. (You have seen him).

4.) Should it be the policy to appoint another Italian Prefect, then I recommend the following :

<u>Name :</u>	<u>Actual position :</u>
a) Avv. A. MORETTI	Sindaco of Merano
b) Dr. OHNESTINGHEL	Sindaco of Bressanone.

Copy to: Brig M.S. LUSH, *cc. me.*
Executive Commissioner,
Allied Commission, Rome. ✓

W. Miller, Colonel
W. MILLER COLONEL
MERANO
MERANO PROVINCE

785017

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

Text of Decree No. 6588



Nov 1945.

NOV 28 1945

As the use of both German and Italian language is essential to build up friendship between the two ethnical groups of this Province, pending decision, I order :

1) Free use of Italian and German language in civilian and public relations.

2) Names of towns and roads will be written in both languages on boards or in notices. The Italian name will be in the first place, letters have to be of equal size.

3) The Italian and German denomination of Communes will be decided by Sindaci with the assistance of a Commission composed by the Sindaco and 4 members 2 of whom have to be German speaking and chosen by the Sindaco on Proposal of the Giunta Comunale. Doubtful cases will be submitted to the Prefettura.-

4.) State administrations and public offices will issue all documents etc. in both languages.

Notice boards on public buildings to be written in two languages.

5.) Shops etc. will have their denominations and all notices in both languages except their private names and secondary indications for which the language may be chosen.

6.) Administrations and public offices have to arrange that within one year's time all the correspondence (written and verbal) can be carried out in both languages in order that answer can be received in the language in which request has been made.

7.) In order to study and to examine the instructions necessary to carry out this decree, a special "Commissione Giuridica per la Bilinguità" appointed by the Prefect and composed of a President and 6 members (3 Italian, 3 German speaking) will be formed. President will be the First President of the Court of Bolzano and members will be elected by Lawyers and Judges.

8.) To receive employment in public offices or to be promoted to responsible grades, it will be necessary to speak both languages.

9.) Prefettura gives order to Sindaci to give instructions for the institution of schools in both languages. Provveditore agli Studi will study programmes and notify Sindaci all instructions he deems necessary. A Commission will take care of this (3 Italian and 3 German speaking members). Prefettura will provide for the necessary funds.

10.) Para 2-3-4 and 5 will be carried out within 6 months. Sindaci have to notify Prefettura that above instructions have been complied with. - - -

Handwritten notes:
Visto
M. ...
19 ...
(1945 5)

Handwritten: - 7/12/47

Prot. n. 6588
DA/ez

Bolzano, 17.11.1945

Poiché l'uso parificato delle lingue italiana e tedesca costituisce la base della libera convivenza dei due gruppi etnici nella Provincia, in attesa di disposizioni di legge che regolamentino la materia in forma definitiva,

decreto

Art. 1 - L'uso della lingua italiana e tedesca nella Provincia di Bolzano è libero e parificato sia nei rapporti civili che in quelli pubblici, salvo il disposto degli art. 5 e 6.

Art. 2 - I nomi delle città e delle vie saranno scritti, sia nella lingua sia nelle indicazioni stradali di qualsiasi genere, nelle due lingue italiana e tedesca.

Le scritte in italiano sarà posta prima e sopra le scritte in tedesco. Le due scritte avranno carattere e grandezza uguali.

Art. 3 - La toponomastica italiana e tedesca dei Comuni sarà fissata nelle due lingue a cura dei Sindaci, con l'assistenza di una Commissione costituita dal Sindaco e da quattro membri dei quali due di lingua tedesca scelti dal Sindaco su proposta della Giunta comunale. I casi di toponomastica dubbi saranno sottoposti al preventivo esame delle Prefetture.

Art. 4 - A cura delle Amministrazioni statali e parastatali della Provincia, come pure degli enti pubblici aventi sede nella Provincia stessa, gli affissi, annunci, moduli, circolari e avvisi di qualsiasi specie destinati alla Provincia saranno stampati nelle due lingue. Le iscrizioni apposte sugli edifici pubblici saranno nelle due lingue con le norme di cui all'ultimo capoverso dell'art. 2.

Art. 5 - Le insegne dei negozi, le targhe, le scritte, i cartelli e gli avvisi di qualsiasi genere sia finali che mobili riguardanti attività private, saranno redatti obbligatoriamente in italiano e in tedesco nelle diciture principali, mentre per i dati propri e per le diciture a carattere più minuto sarà facoltativo l'uso di una delle due lingue.

Art. 6 - Le amministrazioni, gli enti e gli uffici pubblici di qualsiasi natura dovranno organizzarsi in modo da poter provvedere entro un

Art. 2 - I nomi della città e delle vie saranno scritti, sia nelle terzine sia nelle indicazioni stradali di qualsiasi genere, nelle due lingue italiana e tedesca.

La scrittura in italiano sarà posta prima e sopra la scritta in tedesco. Le due scritte avranno carattere e grandezza uguali.

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Art. 5 - Le insegne dei negozi, le targhe, le scritte, i cartelli e gli avvisi di qualsiasi genere sia fissi che mobili riguardanti attività private, saranno redatti obbligatoriamente in italiano e in tedesco nelle diciture principali, mentre per i nomi propri e per le diciture a carattere più minuto sarà facoltativo l'uso di una delle due lingue.

Art. 6 - Le amministrazioni, gli enti e gli uffici pubblici di qualsiasi natura dovranno organizzarsi in modo da poter provvedere entro un anno dal presente decreto a corrispondere regolarmente, sia per iscritto sia verbalmente, nelle due lingue. Al più tardi entro il termine di tale periodo, essi dovranno rispondere ai richiedenti nelle lingue in cui sono interpellati.

Art. 7 - Allo scopo di studiare e proporre al Governo italiano le norme necessarie a regolare l'uso delle lingue tedesca nell'esercizio del diritto in genere e in particolare nei Tribunali è istituita presso la Prefettura una "Commissioner Juridica" per la lingua bilingua, nominata dal Prefetto e costituita da un Presidente del Tribunale di Bolzano e da tre membri scelti fra i magistrati e gli avvocati delle due lingue su proposta del primo Presidente, interpellati i partiti politici.

Art. 8 - La conoscenza completa delle due lingue è considerata requisito per una concessione preferenziale sia per concorrere a incarichi pubblici di qualsiasi specie sia per ottenere promozioni in tali

incarichi.

Art. 9 - La Prefettura dispone che a cura dei Sindaci siano istituiti presso ogni comune corsi diurni sia serali di lingua italiana e tedesca.

Il Provveditore degli studi è incaricato di preparare e comunicare ai sindaci i programmi di tali corsi comunali come pure la loro durata e requisiti dei titoli che saranno rilasciati dopo l'esito favorevole dell'esame finale. Allo scopo di predisporre tale programma, è istituito presso il Provveditorato degli Studi una Commissione presieduta dal provveditore e costituita da sei membri dei quali tre di lingua tedesca.

I contributi necessari a sostenere le spese dei corsi comunali di insegnamento saranno disposti dalla Prefettura.

Art. 10 - Le disposizioni di cui all'art. 2, 3, 4, e 5 del presente decreto dovranno essere applicate entro e non oltre 6 mesi a cura dei sindaci. Entro tale termine i sindaci dovranno assicurare alla Prefettura che le amministrazioni e gli enti pubblici eventi sede nel Comune hanno provveduto all'esecuzione delle norme indicate. Le inadempienze da parte di privati saranno soggette alle disposizioni previste dal regolamento di Pubblica Sicurezza.

Il Provveditore.

JKD/zm
CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
VENEZIE REGION
Allied Military Government
APO 394

TO : HQ. Allied Commission

17 Nov 45

SUBJECT : Bolzano + Future Administration

NOV 20 1945

FILE NO : RXII/850.12

1. There has been considerable discussion, both within Allied Commission conferences and also, to some extent, in the press, on the subject of special terms, or some form of autonomy for the Province of Bolzano, or for an area loosely known as "the Alto Adige".

2. I write to bring to your notice the fact that the area of German ethnic groups also extends into the neighbouring Provinces of Belluno and Trento. In Belluno, the three Communes of Cortina d'Ampezzo, Livinalunga and Colle S. Lucia were Austrian before 1919 and include considerable numbers of Germanic stock.

3. The position in Trento is not so simple in as much as the whole Province was Austrian before 1919. Yet the centre and lower part of the Province are definitely Italian. On the Northern margin, however, there are a group of Communes, Valdagno di Trento, Ora, Montagna, Trodena, Egna, Salorno, Magre all'Adige, Cortaccia, Termeno and Fondo, wherein there are many German speaking inhabitants.

4. In none of these Communes is the situation so clear cut as in the Northern Communes of Bolzano for there has been a considerable admixture of people in the last twenty years. The matter is however one which should certainly be borne in mind.

John A. Dunlop
Regional Commissioner

P. J. J.

NOTE - RECEIVED FROM CIVIL SEC 1750

20/11

17/11/45

17/11

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

309 *LB*

Ref: 585/6/EC

20 November 1945

SUBJECT: Political Editor of "Belositen", Dr. Weiss

TO : Allied Publications Board Representative
Belgium

1. Please find attached letter No. 16/25910/66 of
8 November 1945 from the Italian Ministry of Foreign
Affairs.

2. We would be grateful for your comments on the
journalistic past of this gentleman.

D. SANDSON

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Encl: 1

See File

See 341

440.3 BU
27/11
Noted

264
305
Rough Translation

no 16/25910/66

Rome, November 2th, 1945

NOV 15 1945

Dear General Lush,

According to a confidential report, the new political editor of the newspaper "Dolomiten" of Bolzano, Dr. Heiss, who is conducting a violent and intransigent campaign in favour of the annexation of Alto Adige to Austria, would not only be one of the German speaking elements who chose to acquire of their own volition, the German citizenship and moved to the Reich, but would also have been an official of the Racial-laws bureau in Berlin.

I should be very grateful to you if you would have the above report checked. Should it prove correct, Dr. Heiss' situation - according to the Italian laws as applied to Italian journalists - would be absolutely incompatible with his present activities in the Press and in the political field. I feel I do hardly need to point out that, even in conformity with the Alto Adige Allied Military Government's ruling in the matter, persons who acquired German citizenship by naturalization and moved to Germany, are considered as being German nationals by full right and should as such be gradually evacuated from the region.

I shall greatly appreciate hearing from you on this subject and I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours

(signed) R. PRUNAS

1345
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Very sincerely yours

(signed) R. PHUNAS

Brigadier M.S. LUSH
Executive Commissioner
Allied Commission H.Q.
R O M E

Recd today by General
14/11

See M 3+4

TF 27
4:00

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

D.G.A.P. Uff. Vº

Roma, 10 NOV 1945

304

Caro Generale,

secondo è stato riservatamente riferito, il nuovo redattore politico del Giornale bolzanese "Dolomiten", dr. Heiss, il quale sta conducendo una violenta ed intransigente campagna per l'annessione dell'Alto Adige all'Austria, non solo sarebbe uno degli alleati i quali a suo tempo conseguirono la cittadinanza germanica e si trasferirono nel Reich, ma sarebbe stato anche per vario tempo funzionario dell'Ufficio per le leggi razziali a Berlino.

Le sarei molto grato se Ella potesse far controllare tale notizia che, se dovesse risultare confermata, renderebbe la situazione del Dr. Heiss del tutto incompatibile con la sua attività politica e giornalistica, secondo le leggi italiane applicate ai giornalisti italiani. Mi appare tra l'altro appena necessario rilevare che, anche secondo le decisioni del Governo Militare Alleato in Alto Adige, i naturalizzati tedeschi i quali si trasferirono a suo tempo in Germania sono considerati cittadini germanici di pieno diritto e dovrebbero anzi, come tali, essere progressivamente allontanati dalla regione.

In attesa di ricevere Sue cortesi notizie in proposito, Le porgo, insieme con i miei ringraziamenti anticipati, la espressione della mia migliore cordialità.--

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Brigadier
M.S. LUSH
Executive Commissioner Allied Commission

R O M A



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