

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

ACC

10000/104/302  
(VOL. IV)



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10000/109/302  
(VOL. IV)

INFORMATION, VENEZIE GIULIA  
JAN. 1945 - MAR. 1946



785017

Recd. ~~367~~ 367.  
letters at ~~367~~ 368 submitted for signature -  
366 refer. 7/3

AKSO ~~372~~ 372.  
letters at ~~368~~ 368 submitted for signature  
as action on f. 366  
letter at 371 as action on f. 369

AKSO ~~373~~ 373.  
at x 168 or 371  
Hawth revised letters for sig. of approval.  
Pia see 376 in reply to 373 - will take  
action when these letters have been  
signed. 11/2 H.S. 1243

AKSO ~~373~~ 373.  
letter at ~~373~~ 373 submitted for signature 373 a  
376 refer.  
377 for info - action has been taken at  
381 374. H.S. 19/3

MAR 26 1950

Closed for Vol 1

4001



323.

HCH

letter at 321 to set v.g. submitted in  
signature. This encloses copy of Bureau  
letter at 320. I think 320 is now concerned  
than CH See.

Thank you to Bureau at 320 - I don't  
think 300 need 310. 311

HCH 3/1/42 320

at 320 & 321 are reports concerning the attempt  
to arrest Antonio Salvarezzi. As the v.g. Police  
force appear to be coping & as he was never  
arrested, suggest no further action.

3/1/42

330. 328.

HCH

In view of the fact that the Commissioner  
of Expenditure is supposed to have left AFHQ  
(though in fact I don't think they have)  
suggested Col. Timmons (who is going up there  
but has not left) take note (in a  
copy of 333 & 342) 3/1/42

347

C80

335 usual action - none to send it to dispatch  
HCH 3/1/42



785017

force appear to be coping & do we was never  
questioned, suggest no further action.

330-548

13/2

100

in view of the fact that the Commissioner  
of Exports is supposed to have left A.C.N.A.  
(though in fact I don't think they leave)  
supposed Col. Timmons (who is going up there  
but has not left) also with him a  
copy of 335 n 347 4/13

349

050

335 usual action - no need to send it to dialog box

347

Get the citation sent to  
them 60.2 Conf. or C.S. for Leg.  
or send to XIII

... is a doubtful 6/3.

332.

be delegation  
P.C. directs  
to C.S. for  
attention C.O.S. 7/5/21

ack. all to 1.6m

25

10/2/94

Letter of 351 - 554 submitted for signature -  
349 refers. Dr. Lombardi has been asked  
for 20 more copies of 347. 88

4



402

Ref: 591/402/EC

28 March 1946.

My Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter  
5/272 dated 4 March 1946, the contents of which I have noted.

Yours very truly,

*Brigade*  
ELBERT E. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

Dr. Alcide de Gasperi,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs,  
Italian Government,  
ROME.

*see MK03*

4069



785017

Ref. : 591/384/20 ✓

20 March 1946.

SUBJECT: Venezia Giulia.

TO : G-5 Section  
AFHQ

Ref telephone conversation of 19 March (22.11.46-11.11.46) speaking) and further to this HQ's letter 591/275/20 of 11 March.

Herewith a translation, in English, of letter forwarded by the Prime Minister from the citizens of Trieste.

For the Chief Commissioner

Capt. A. W. K. 1324/1  
Brigadier,  
Executive Commissioner.



400  
Pines, 24 January 1946

To the Right Honorable, Alcide De Gasperi  
Head of the Italian Government

Rome

To His Excellency the United States Ambassador  
U.S.A. Embassy

Rome

To General Morgan - Supreme Commander of the  
Mediterranean

Caserta

The efforts made by the Italian Government for an equitable solution of the problem of the Venezia Giulia are well known to everybody, but particularly to us who are so actively concerned in the issue and who, constantly attacked by the Yugoslav radio, are anxiously awaiting an authoritative word of encouragement about a better future for us.

The present is one of the many suits which are being made to you, and is at the same time an account by which thousands of human beings wish to give you more details about the sorrowful plight of the population - Italian and non-Italian - of the zone controlled by the forces of Tito.

Saying that life here has become impossible is no dramatic utterance. It is a sad reality, without any exaggeration due to either political or nationalist partisanship.

Since October last, with the exception of bread and one kilogram a month of peas, no foodstuffs have been distributed to the population of Trieste and surrounding territory, islands



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Saying that life here has become impossible is no dramatic utterance. It is a sad reality, without any exaggeration due to either political or nationalist partisanship.

Since October last, with the exception of bread and one kilogram a month of peas, no foodstuffs have been distributed to the population of Trieste and surrounding territory, islands included. Nothing can be found on the market, be it black or white, and shops are empty. Until a short time ago, Trieste was the only source of supplies, and all tried to go there in search of food. But now even that source has come to an end, as permits to go there - which were granted with great difficulties up to a short time ago - are no longer refused although without

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exception. Besides, an ordinance has been enacted during these days which nearly forbids the importation of all rationed commodities, from shoes to flour. Starvation is now a threat to every family.

No such threat, however, exists for those who hold top ranks in the administration of the city, and who, together with the whole Yugoslav Army, feed on all that UMSNA send for the population. What they cannot store up in their houses they sell at exorbitant prices, and purchasers are liable to deportation for illegal procurement of rationed commodities. The UMSNA gift parcels have been distributed during these days to a restricted number of workers against payment of 520 lire.

Since nothing can be bought it is not the case to talk about high cost of living except with regard to taxation and public services. Income taxes are now from five to eight times higher, and a consumption duty has been levied on all commodities without distinction, from flour to wine and sheep, with tariffs varying from 15 to 30 per cent, and to 50 per cent for toilet products. The tax on radio-listening has been raised to 60 lire per year, electricity costs 12 lire per Kw. telephone from 4000 to 6000 lire per year according to classes, a tramway ticket 7 lire, etc.

The textile shops are empty, and their owners cannot procure materials both because they have no Italian money unless they get



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The textile shops are empty, and their owners cannot procure anything both because they have no Italian money unless they get it from the black market at the cost of 140-1500 Yugoslav occupation lire for every 1000 Italian lire, and because all imports into the "B" zone are now forbidden. The few goods available in these shops are blocked, and can be sold only to holders of coupons granted by the local authorities, and at a price fixed

4566/.



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by the latter which allows the shopkeeper a gross profit of 10 per cent. Four per cent of that profit is paid as income tax, and the remaining 16 per cent should serve the shopkeeper to cover all other expenses, such as taxation, light, rent, personnel, and possibly to maintain himself and his family. The number of coupons granted by the local authorities is always so small, that shopkeepers hardly sell for one coupon a day. Those who do not abide by the aforesaid regulations, or close their shops to avoid bankruptcy, are arrested, sentenced to imprisonment, and deported for hard labour, whilst all their property is confiscated. The seizure of all private property is the chief aim of the local authorities.

Such is our economic situation in all its gravity, but still sadder circumstances today spoil our existence.

The program of denationalization and persecution, which the troops of Tito started in the earlier days of occupation with the aid of a few disgraced Italians whom they bribed with money and promises of brilliant careers, has been ever more intensified. If at first such program was limited to robbing out all Italian houses of streets and private firms, and to deporting hundreds of men charged with having cooperated with the nazi-fascists - even if 80 per cent of them were only guilty of being Italians - today all that is Italian, both things and men, is utterly eliminated.

Since May, for instance, about 900 men - workers, clerks and



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Since May, for instance, about 800 men - workers, clerks and managers - have been eliminated from the dockyards of Carnar and replaced by Slavs. The same has happened in the Mineral Oil Refinery, in the Torpedo Manufactory, in the Municipal offices of Trieste, Abbazia and other minor centres, in public offices etc. Teachers known as fervent Italians or who could not teach Croat



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have been eliminated from the schools. About two months ago, the teaching of Croat in secondary schools was made compulsory. That ordinance induced the students to go on strike, and the thing ended with the arrest of students and teachers. It should be noted that active participants in this denationalization program are some Italians, as Professor Pietro Marras, the teachers Viviani Alvise and Malturo, and Dr. Ezio Franchi who was the Director of the local daily "La Voce del Popolo" (The People's Voice) and who tried his best to impair with his articles the prestige of the Italian Government and that of the Allied troops and Allied Commanders who in his opinion are all fascists, since they protect the fascist. He used to call new fascists all that was neither Yugoslav nor Russian. At present, the director of that paper is Dino Faragone, a worthy successor of Franchi.

Denationalization, however, is not all. The number of deported persons increases day by day. About some of them, vague informations can be obtained from witnesses who often are the Yugoslav soldiers themselves, whilst about others, informations are given occasionally by the above-mentioned local newspaper. The deported are either executed immediately (a latest instance is the execution of Mr. and Mrs. Giovanelli who owned a pastry-shop in the former Corso Vittorio Emanuele), or tried for alleged crimes, and after being publicly sentenced to a few years



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For instance, the trial which lasted until the 21 st. instant against Fauro Fantini and his son Ferruccio together with a group of well-known boys, ended with a verdict of guiltiness for all the accused, who were sentenced to terms varying from one-and-



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half to eight years of hard labour, whilst the property of the Fantini's was confiscated. Apart from the fact that these unhappy brothers are only guilty of having refused to take part in the anti-Italian movement, the punishment inflicted to them is not in itself desperately serious except for the fact that, once they are sent to Yugoslavia, they are sure never to return to their homes. Their innocence appeared so evident even in the course of the trial, that the advocate publicly asked which were the charges brought against his clients so that he might know how to defend them. The people's judges, however, knew beforehand what they had to do. Their task is to eliminate all those who might represent an anti-Yugoslav movement in a future plebiscite. From the sentence, published on the local daily, the real charge emerges along with other trifling accusations: "Ordegnando against the administration of the Yugoslav Army in this territory".

Such is the end of our brothers, and such will be the end of all of us if no solution of this problem is urgently reached or we are not asking for a better life, but for the possibility of living. More than once, in fact, Yugoslav agents have promised to slay us all as soon as the disputed zone will be definitely assigned to them; and it appears quite possible that they will do so when one considers what they are doing now as mere occupants.

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Numberless cases could be quoted about what is happening in this wretched corner of the world.

Whilst we were typing this letter, we have received the following informations which are a further proof of what we have stated above:

1) having been announced that a Commission for the demarcation of frontiers is expected to arrive in this zone, the local

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authorities are instructing the Committees of the single factories to organize a demonstration which shall be held at the right moment, and which shall be attended by all workers waving red and Yugoslav flags. (All workers, of course, shall have to participate or they will lose their jobs). Meanwhile, some women, upon instructions of the same authorities, are going around warning all citizens to hoist only Yugoslav flags if no such consequences are desired.

C) Agents are circulating and warning that all those who will attempt to contact the Commission will be eliminated.

There is only one prayer rising from all hearts: Italy, Allies, deliver us! If for six years the nations have fought to free the world from the Nazi-fascist tyranny, why should this new tyranny be allowed to prevail? The horrors of Buchenau and the other German camps are utterly reproduced in Yugoslavia. If such horrors were condemned in Germany, why should they survive in Yugoslavia?

Let all nations send their representatives to ascertain what is happening here, but if such representatives will limit their enquiry to questioning either the local or the Yugoslav authorities - as it has been done so far - they can be sure they will never know anything. They will find persons paid to plead for Yugoslavia, and a crowd demonstrating in favour of the same, but they must care to find out how such demonstrations are



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Let all nations send their representatives to ascertain what is happening here, but if such representatives will limit their enquiry to questioning either the local or the Yugoslav authorities - as it has been done so far - they can be sure they will never know anything. They will find persons paid to plead for Yugoslavia, and a crowd demonstrating in favour of the same, but they must care to find out how such demonstrations are organized. They must install themselves in our city, unarmed, the safety of all citizens, and then question the latter both separately and collectively. All ironclaving or short sighted persons will then hear and see the truth. It is necessary to adopt the twelve points of President Truman, which he has recently re-affirmed in his message to Congress, and which lay down

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that no territorial changes can be effected without first enquiring about the will of the population concerned. This must be done if it is true that the nations have been fighting for liberty. The Allied troops should come here to guarantee the safety of all citizens and hold a plebiscite, and then the real wishes of the population will emerge. As long as those wishes are discussed at the diplomatic tables of London, Washington or Paris, the nations will do nothing to fulfil them. If Italy is to lose this city as a result of her losing the war, the Allies will not keep faith to their promise of liberty if they will sacrifice this city by granting it to a State which is not even able to govern its own people, and which itself needs to be ruled and civilized. Let the nations' representatives visit Belgrade and ascertain in what terror that population is living, let them come here and question those who have fled from that city. The Yugoslavs themselves - even some of those enlisted in the Army of Tito - fly terrorized into the woods and organize fighting units called "Crusades" to overthrow that tyranny. If Italy is to lose this territory, why should we bear the same terror which reigns in Yugoslavia? Why should we not be left free to choose our own destiny? This would be real freedom, and not that of being allotted to foreigners as if we were slaves.

In the early days of May 1945, when the Yugoslav Army



for liberty. The killed troops should come here to be buried. The safety of all citizens and hold a plebiscite, and then the real wishes of the population will emerge. As long as those wishes are discussed at the diplomatic tables of London, Washington or Paris, the nations will do nothing to fulfill them. If Italy is to lose this city as a result of her losing the war, the Allies will not keep faith to their promise of liberty if they will sacrifice this city by granting it to a State which is not even able to govern its own people, and which itself needs to be ruled and civilized. Let the nations' representatives visit Belgrade and ascertain in what terror that population is living, let them come here and question those who have fled from that city. The Yugoslavs themselves - even some of those enlisted in the Army of Italy - fly terrorized into the woods and organize fighting units called "Crusades" to overthrow that tyranny. If Italy is to lose this territory, why should we bear the same terror which reigns in Yugoslavia? Why should we not be left free to choose our own destiny? This would be real freedom, and not that of being allotted to foreigners as if we were swine.

In the early days of May 1945, when the Yugoslav Army was approaching, everybody in this city awaited those troops as liberators, but now that we have gone through a very sad experience, we cannot bear to have those troops here any longer.

The same Croatia, the same slaves of this zone who at first had thanked God for the arrival of their fellow countrymen, today



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implore deliverance.

any time among friends some Croat or Slav is heard to say:

"Never before I felt to be so Italian as I feel today!" or

"It would have been better for us if Abyssinians or cannibals had come here instead of the Yugoslavs!" or "In this way, the Allies will make us all fascists."

That is how things stand here today!

At first, when the cruelty of the troops of Tito was still unknown, all those who could do so began to speak Croat, but now everybody speaks Italian again quite obstinately, with the exception of a group of persons who have come here from the Yugoslav mountains to replace those who have abandoned this zone because of the responsibility to live. We cannot all do the same as the latter, for it would imply the loss of most of our homes and properties.

The people of Fiume now make at a loud voice: - Why should justice be denied to this part of the world? Do we differ from other human beings? Or should we give up our lives at a high price and overthrow this tyranny with our arms?

In this hour the people of Fiume expect a great deal from the big responsibilities for world peace, and does not want to be deluded.

On behalf of the signatories

Donat. A. Nicolo



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In this hour the people of Fiume expect a great deal from the Big Men responsible for world peace, and does not want to be deceived.

On behalf of 308 signatories

Doct. A. Piccolo

N.B. - Owing to the severe control to which the frontier of this zone is subjected, it has been thought necessary to omit all signatures to this letter, in order to avoid sorrowful consequences.



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3475  
Rome, 24 gennaio 1946

ALL'ON. LE ALDORE DE GARDINI - Capo del Governo Italiano

R O M A

AL SIGNOR AMBASCIATORE DEGLI STATI UNITI - Ambasciata S.U.

R O M A

AL SIGNOR GENERALE BOLAN - Comandante Supremo del Mediterraneo

C A S E R T A

Gli sforzi del Governo italiano per la causa italiana sono ormai noti a tutti, su per tutto a nessuno come a noi, parte interissima, che attese alla radio attendiamo con il cuore in gola una parola autorevole circa un futuro sperabile nel momento della nostra situazione.

Questa è una delle tante preghiere che giungono a loro On.le Ministro, Signor Ambasciatore e Signor Generale, e nel contempo una religione che migliaia di creature umane intendono inviare affinché loro sappiano essere più precisamente in quale procellosa, incombente tempesta si dibattano gli abitanti della zona occupata dalle truppe di Rito, siano essi italiani o non.

Dire che la vita è diventata impossibile non è frase da tragedia-commedia; è una dura realtà del momento priva di ogni esagerazione sia a fine di partizione politica che nazionalista.

Gli sforzi di vittoria in pace e tutto il rimanente della nostra circostanza, Italia sospesa, non è stato distribuito nessun aiuto alla popolazione se non il pane e, banalmente, qualche chilogrammo di piselli. Sembra ormai, farina o d'altro neppure l'ombra.



C A S E R T A

Gli sforzi del Governo Italiano per la causa siciliana sono ormai coti a tutti, ma certamente a nessuno come a noi, parte interessata, che accostati alla radio attendiamo con il cuore in gola una parola autorevole circa un futuro sperabile agli ordini della nostra situazione.

Questa è una delle tante prechiere che giungono a loro On.le Ministro, signor Ambasciatore e signor Generale, e nel contempo una del ricche che migliaia di creature umane intendono inviare affinché loro supplano se non più precisamente in quale procellosa, inconfusa tempesta al dibattito gli abitanti della zona occupata dalle truppe di rito, <sup>e</sup> siano essi italiani o non.

Dire che la vita è diventata impossibile non è frase da tragico-commedia; è una dura realtà del nostro grido, di ogni emigrante che a fine di partecipazione politica con nazionalista.

Dal mese di ottobre in pieno e tutto il rimanente della zona circostante, isole comprese, non è stato distribuito nessun alimento alla popolazione se non il pane e, mensilmente, qualche chilogrammo di piselli. Denari, vestiti, farina ed altro neppure l'ombra. Sul mercato, nero e bianco sono aia, nulla si trova più per sfamarsi. I negozi sono vuoti. L'unica fonte di approvvigionamento era fino ad ora Trieste, ove ognuno cercava di recarsi per poter acquistare qualche chilogrammo di generi alimentari, ma ora anche questa fonte è

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proibita in quanto, il numero dei permessi per recarsi colà, che le autorità del luogo già rilasciavano difficilmente ora è stato ridotto quasi a zero ed inoltre un'ordinanza apparsa in questi giorni vieta o quasi l'importazione di generi continenti - tutto dalle scarse alla farina -. La fase impera ormai in ogni famiglia.

Non si può dire però altrettanto per coloro che occupano i posti preminenti, nell'amministrazione della città, i quali con l'intera Armata jugoslava si passano di tutto quanto l'UNRRA invia per la popolazione e ciò che la capienza dei loro ventri e delle loro case non può incassare, la vendono loro stessi a borsa nera a prezzi proibitivi per ogni tasca, col rischio poi di essere deportati per acquisto illecito di generi razionati.

In questi giorni sono stati distribuiti i pochi doni dell'UNRRA ad un limitato gruppo di operai ed al prezzo di lire 520.

Non è il caso di parlare di care-vita in quanto non esiste fonte di copere, ma è il caso di parlare in tema di tasse o servizi pubblici. La tassa di ricchezza mobile è stata aumentata da cinque ad otto volte, il dazio consumo è stato applicato su tutti i generi indistintamente dalla farina al vino, alle scarpe con tariffe oscillanti dal 12 al 30% ed al 50% sui generi di profumeria fortunatamente non vi è nulla da copere. La tassa per le radiomobili è di 600 lire annue, la luce è 12 lire il kw., il telefono da 4000 a 6000 lire annue a seconda delle categorie, una corsa tranviaria a 7 lire ecc.

I negozi d'abbigliamento sono vuoti, i loro proprietari non possono acquistare merci sia perché non dispongono di lire italiane, salvo comprare a borsa nera con le lire jugoslave di occu-



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I negozi d'abbigliamento sono vuoti, i loro proprietari non possono acquistare merci sia perché non dispongono di lire italiane, salvo comperarle a borsa nera con le lire (queste di occupazione al prezzo di 1400-1500 per 1000, sia perché recentemente è stata vietata l'importazione nella zona B di qualsiasi merce. Quella poca esistente nei negozi stessi è bloccata e possono vederla solo con buoni rila ciati dalle locali autorità e con un prezzo da loro fissato che rende al commerciante un guadagno del venti per cento lordo, da cui deve detrarre il 4% di tassa sull'entrata e con il



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rimanente 116 per cento pagava tasse, luce, affitto e dipendenti e, se possibile vivere con la sua famiglia. Da notarsi che in promozione al numero dei buoni che le autorità rilasciano è solito quando raggiungono una vendita al giorno. Coloro poi che non si attengono alle predette norme, oppure chiudono l'esercizio per evitare la bancarotta, vengono arrestati, condannati, deportati ai lavori forzati e tutti i loro beni mobili ed immobili confiscati. La confisca dei beni della popolazione è la prima meta delle autorità che con ogni mezzo tendono ad espropriare tutto.

Quanto è la situazione economica in tutta la sua gravità, ma ben altre cose ancor più gravi angustiano la nostra esistenza.

L'opera di snazionalizzazione e di persecuzione intraprese sin dai primi giorni d'occupazione da parte delle truppe di Tito ed aiutati da un eccelso gruppo di snaturati italiani venduti- si loro per pochi soldi e scelte promesse di gloriose carriere, sono andate via via aumentando. Se nei primi giorni si limitarono a cancellare tutti i nomi delle vie e delle ditte private scritte in italiano, (allo scopo basterebbe visitare Abbazia, vero cialtoro,) ed a deportare centinaia di persone sotto l'accusa di aver collaborato con i nazi fascisti, anche se l'80% di questi non avevano altro commesso che il voler essere italiani, ora tutto ciò che è italiano viene eliminato completamente siano cose che uomini.

Alcune prove inconfutabili. Dal maggio ad oggi dai cantieri navali del Carnaro sono stati eliminati circa 900 tra operai, impiegati e dirigenti e sostituiti con personale slavo. Idem dicasi per la Raffineria Olio Minerali, per il Silurificio, per i Municipi di Piume, Abbazia e centri minori, altri uffici pubblici



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portato agli studenti ad uno sciopero che si è concluso forzatamente con l'arresto di studenti e professori. A questo proposito è bene ricordare che ~~ma~~ a quest'opera di snazionalizzazione partecipano attivamente gli italianiissimi, di razza s'intende non d'animo, proff. Marras Pietro, i maestri Viviani Alvise e Melituro, n.s., e il dott. Erio Franchi sin ora direttore del quotidiano locale "La voce del Popolo", ironia del titolo, che si adoperava con tutte le sue forze a compilare articoli che menavano il prestigio del governo italiano. Nelle truppe alleate, dei comandanti alleati che secondo lui sarebbero tutti fascisti perchè proteggono o comunque non jugoslavo o russo è neofascismo. Ora a dirigere il detto giornale è stato chiamato Dino Farazona, degno successore del Franchi.

Ma la snazionalizzazione della nostra città non basta: il numero dei deportati è sempre maggiore. Di alcuni d'essi si sa la sorte per sentito dire da testimonii che spesso sono gli stessi soldati jugoslavi, o per altri, in centesima parte, si ha notizia dal sopracitato giornale locale. I deportati o sono rimpatriati immediatamente, (per ultimi ad esempio i confinati Giovanelli) o sono partiti di una pacifica via in ex Corso Vittorio Emanuele), oppure vengono processati per reati pretesi e dopo averli pubblicamente condannati a qualche anno di lavori forzati, vengono deportati in Germania e quindi fatti sparire dalla circolazione.

A prova di ciò si può citare, il processo conclusosi il 21 corr. a carico di Mauro Fantini ed il di lei figlio Ferruccio con un gruppo di altri giovani conosciutissimi. Processo conclusosi con la condanna di tutti a pena varianti da un anno e mezzo a otto di lavori forzati e la confisca dei beni per coloro che ne possedevano (i Fantini). A parte che questi nostri diseredati fratelli non hanno nessuna



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La la smascherazione delle nostre città non basta: il numero dei deportati è sempre maggiore. Di alcuni d'essi si sa la sorte per sentito dire da testimonii che spesso sono gli stessi soldati jugoslavi, e per altri, in contesa parte, si ha notizia dal cosiddetto giornale locale. I deportati o sono sinistrieri immediati, (per alcuni ad esempio i coniugi Piccinelli genitori di una partigiana in ex Gorio Vittorio Emanuele), oppure vengono processati per reati pretesi e dopo averli pubblicamente condannati e qualche anno di lavori forzati, vengono deportati in Jugoslavia e quindi fatti sparire dalla circolazione.

A prova di ciò si può citare, il processo conclusosi il 21 corr. a carico di Mauro Fantini ed il di lui figlio Ferruccio con un gruppo di altri giovani concettissimi, processo conclusosi con la condanna di tutti a pene varianti da un anno e mezzo a otto di lavori forzati e la confisca dei beni per coloro che ne possedevano (i Fantini). A parte che questi nostri dimenzati fratelli non hanno nessuna colpa se non quella di non aver voluto partecipare attivamente al movimento pro-Jugoslavo ed anti-italiano, la condanna in se non sarebbe ro così gravi da disperare, se non si supesse che una volta condotti in Jugoslavia per scontare la pena, essi purtroppo non tornavano più perché servivano la sorte di tutti gli altri. La loro infelicità è apparente evidente anche in sede di processo, ove, pubblicamente, l'avvocato difensore chiede di quali colpe fossero imputati i suoi clienti,



- 5 -

onde poter imbastire una difesa. Ma i giudici popolari sapevano già quello che dovevano fare; eliminare con qualsiasi accusa tutti coloro che possono rappresentare una corrente contraria a quella jugoslava in caso di futuro plebiscito. A prova di questo si allinea la sentenza pubblicata sul giornale locale, ove appare evidente, dopo alcune altre accuse di prammatica, la vera accusa: "propaganda contro l'esistenza sovietica nel territorio dell'amministrazione della Jugoslavia".

E così finiscono i nostri fratelli e finiranno tutti in questa situazione non verrà urgentemente risolta. Non è questo il caso di desiderare vita migliore, ma semplicemente vita. Non è infatti la prima volta che elementi jugoslavi si proiettano di sterminare tutti non appena la zona entrerà in loro definitivo possesso, e di questo non v'è da meravigliarsi se si valuta quello che fanno ora da semplici occupatori.

I casi che si potrebbero esporre su quanto accade in questo territorio angolo della terra sono innumerevoli.

In questo momento; mentre si sta dall'altro lato la presente, giungono le seguenti notizie che una volta ancora comprovano quanto detto:

- 1) - Essendo stato annunciato l'arrivo in questa zona di una Commissione incaricata di studiare la definizione di confini, le autorità locali stanno organizzando affinché i comitati delle varie fabbriche, a momento opportuno, organizzino l'uscita della massa operaia con



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7  
1  
pubblicata sul giornale locale, ove appare evidente, dopo alcune altre accuse di propaganda, la vera eccezione: "propaganda contro l'esistenza del movimento nel territorio dell'amministrazione dell'Armata Jugoslava."

E così finiscono i nostri fratelli e finiremo tutti in questa situazione non verrà urgentemente risolta. Non è questo il caso di desiderare vita migliore, ma semplicemente vita. Non è infatti la prima volta che elementi jugoslavi ci promettono di sterminarci tutti non appena la zona entrerà in loro definitivo possesso, e di questo non v'è da meravigliarsi se si valuta quello che fanno ora da semplici occupatori.

I casi che si potrebbero esporre su quanto accade in questo martoriato angolo della terra sono innumerevoli.

In questo momento; mentre si sta dall'altro lato la presenza, giungono le seguenti notizie che una volta ancora comprovano quanto detto:

1) - Essendo stato annunciato l'arrivo in questa zona di una Commissione incaricata di studiare la definizione di confini, le autorità locali stanno organizzando siffatti comitati delle varie fabbriche, a momento opportuno, organizzano l'uscita della massa operaia con bandiere rosse e jugoslave per una dimostrazione. (Sempre gli operai dovranno parteciparvi salvo perdere il posto di lavoro). Nel contempo donne incaricate dalle stesse autorità circolano per la città avvertendo di esporre solo bandiere jugoslave a scanso di disprezzo.

2) - Appositi incaricati circolano spargendo la voce che coloro che tenteranno di avvicinare detta commissione in arrivo, saranno senz'altro eliminati.



57  
- 6 -

La preghiera che si eleva da tutti i cuori è unica: l'Italia, Alleati, liberatoci! Se nel mondo si è combattuto per sei anni per liberare i popoli dalla tirannide nazi-fascista, perché ora si permette questa tirannide? I campi di Dachau ed altri sono riprodotti fedelmente in Jugoslavia. Se non si sono tollerati quelli germanici perché si approvano quelli jugoslavi?

Quì possono venire i rappresentanti di tutte le nazioni ad accertare ciò che accade, ma se si limiteranno come vin'ora a chiedere chiarimenti alle locali autorità, o meglio a quelle jugoslave, stiano certe non sapranno mai nulla. I popoli per parlare a loro favore si sono e la massa per fare le dimostrazioni filo-jugoslave, o'è, ma bisogna interessarsi ed accertarsi come. Bisogna insistersi qui in città, garantire l'incolumità della gente, e dopo interpellare il popolo sia direttamente che in massa, ed allora gli increduli ed i sornioni sentiranno e vedranno. E' necessario vengano applicati i dodici punti del Presidente Truman, ribaditi recentemente nel suo messaggio al Congresso, ove si dice che nessun cambiamento territoriale potrà effettuarsi senza prima aver interpellata la popolazione interessata. Questo bisogna farlo veramente si è combattuto per la libertà dei popoli. Tengono le truppe alleate a garantire l'incolumità personale e poi inducono un plebiscito, ed allora si vedrà il desiderio della popolazione. Fino a quando questi desideri vengono discussi sui tavoli diplomatici di Londra, Washington o Parigi, non si possono i desideri del popolo, ma si trattano solo affari. Se l'Italia deve perdere queste città perché ha perso la guerra, non fa però parte del la tanto decantata libertà che gli Alleati hanno promesso al mondo,



monte in Jugoslavia. Se non si sono tollerati quelli germanici perché si approvano quelli jugoslavi?

Quipossano venire i rappresentanti di tutte le nazioni ad accettare ciò che accade, ma se si limiteranno come sin'ora a chiedere chiarimenti alle locali autorità, o peggio a quella jugoslava, stiamo certo non sapranno mai nulla. I partiti per parlare a loro favore si sono e la massa per fare le dimostrazioni filo-jugoslave, c'è, ma bisogna interessarsi ed accertarsi come. Bisogna insediarsi qui in città, garantire l'incolumità della gente, e dopo interpellare il popolo sia separatamente che in massa, ed allora gli increduli od i germici scadranno e vedranno. E' necessario vengano applicati i dodici punti del Presidente Truman, ribaditi recentemente nel suo messaggio di Congresso, ove si dice che nessun cambiamento territoriale potrà effettuarsi senza prima aver interpellata la popolazione interessata. Questo bisogna fare se veramente si è combattuto per la libertà dei popoli. Vengano le truppe alleate a garantire l'incolumità personale e poi indicano un plebiscito, ed allora si vedrà il desiderio della popolazione. Fino a quando questi desideri vengono discussi sui tavoli diplomatici di Londra, Washington o Parigi, non si eseguono i desideri del popolo, ma si trattano solo affari. Se l'Italia deve perdere queste città perché ha perso la guerra, non fa però parte della tanto decantata libertà che gli Alleati hanno promesso al mondo, questa di voler sacrificarle ed ucciderle domandole ad uno Stato che non è neppure in grado di governare le proprie terre e che necessita lui stesso d'essere colonizzato per civilizzarsi. Si vada a Belgrado e si accerti con quale terrore la popolazione vive; si vengano in queste zone ed al loro e si interpellino i fuggitivi di colà. Gli stessi jugoslavi, e non mancano gli appartenenti all'esercito tyrlico, si ritirano nei boschi terrorizzati e si organizzano in reparti detti



- 7 -

"Crociati" per liberarsi da questa tirannide. Se l'Italia deve dunque perdere queste terre, è lecito che queste subiscano lo stesso terrore del popolo jugoslavo? Si lasci almeno che questa parte di popolazione scelga da se il suo destino! Questa sarebbe libertà non quella di vendere le popolazioni ed no ad all'altro come si trattasse di suini.

Ai primi di maggio 1945, quando l'armata jugoslava si avvicinava, tutti attendevano questi prodi come liberatori, ma ora abbiamo vissuto/troppo dura esperienza per poterli tollerare ancora a lungo una

Gli stessi croati, gli stessi slavi di queste zone mentre nei primi giorni avevano sospirato di sollievo per l'arrivo dei loro, oggi pregano ed implorano liberazione. Spesso tra amici si sente qualche croato o slavo ad esclamare: "Non ci sono mai sentito tanto italiano come ora", oppure: "meglio se fossero venuti gli abissini od i cecili", od ancora "Con questa prova gli alleati ci faranno diventare tutti fascisti".

A questo punto siamo arrivati!!!

È un fatto che in quei primi giorni, quando ancora non si conosceva la barbarie dell'esercito di Tito, tutti coloro che potevano appena masticarlo cominciarono a parlare in croato, ma è altrettanto fatto che ora tutti esparlano ostinatamente l'italiano, tranne naturalmente quella massa di gente portata dalle montagne jugoslave in questa zona per sostituire tutti coloro che hanno abbandonato la zona vista l'impossibilità di vivere. Ma tutti non si può andare poiché ciò equivale a rinunciare alla maggior parte delle proprie case e dei propri beni.

Il popolo ora chiede a gran voce a lei, Onorevole, e lei



Ai primi di maggio 1945, quando l'armata jugoslava si avvi-  
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vista l'impossibilità di vivere. Ma tutti non si può andare poichè  
ciò equivale a rinunciare alla maggior parte delle proprie case e dei  
propri beni.

Il popolo ora chiede a gran voce a Lei, Onorevole, a Lei  
Signor Ambasciatore, a Lei Signor Generale: perchè in questa parte  
del globo non si vuol render giustizia? Siamo forse creature meane  
differenti dalle altre? Oppure dovremo giungere a vender cara la no-  
stra vita ed abbattere questa dittatura noi stessi con le armi in pu-

ano?



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Questa è l'ora che il popolo attende molto dai Grandi responsabili e non vuole rimanere deluso.

per 385 firmatari :

Dott. A. Piccolo

N.B. - Si è ritenuto necessario il non far firmare a tutti onde non mettere gli stessi in pericolo data la difficoltà di varcare la frontiera della zona essendo questa controllatissima.



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... e ritenuto necessario il non far riprendere a tutti once non  
mettere gli stessi in pericolo data la difficoltà di varcare  
la frontiera della zona essendo questa controllatissima.

4802



391.

380

TRANSLATION

IRISHING MESSAGE

REGGIO CALABRIA 740 19 16 890

STUDENTS OF REGGIO CALABRIA VINDICATE THE ITALIAN NATIONAL CHARACTER OF  
TRIESTE IN THE NAME OF LIBERTY AND JUSTICE.

COMMITTEE OF LYCHUR STUDENTS TOWARD CARPANELLA.

ADRIAL STONE  
RONE.

(10)

DISTRIBUTION 24/46

2 Comm. Action  
C Comm. INE

4851



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

## III COMING MESSAGE

D ROMA REGGLOCAL 740 19 16 850 --\*

**Originator's Reference:**

Date of Time of Origin:

Message Centre No:

[illegible]

## Precedence

FROM

TO : D'AMMIRAGLIO STONE ROMA --

STUDENTI REGGINI RIVENDICANO ITALIANITA TRIESTE IN  
NOME LIBERTA E GIUSTIZIA -

COMITATO STUDENTESCO LICEALE TOMMASO CAMPANELLI

546

*f. Caponi* *bus*

12/1/51



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

TO : D AMMIRAGLIO STONE ROMA

STUDENTI REGGINI RIVENDICANO ITALIANITA TRIESTE IN  
NOME LIBERTA E GIUSTIZIA

COMITATO STUDENTESCO LICEALE TOMMASO CAMPANELLO

10 MAR 1966

1965

DE CARPINO  
(Carano 1965)

4830

TR UNO ORE 1030/16/3MASIA

RC 1 ORE 1930160346 VITTORI+



785017

591 AD  
HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
13 CORPS

380

TELEPHONE No.

Date 13 March 1946

REFERENCE No.

124/37/38/143

SUBJECT

Residual of employment.

TO

Headquarters,  
Allied Commission.

FROM

Office of the Executive Commissioner.

- 334
1. Reference was made to 591/353/37 dated 5 March 1946.
  2. Copy of the enclosed letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs was brought to the attention of Colonel Higgins, Chief Finance Officer, on General Stone's request.
  3. After knowing the contents of the letter etc. that the Commission wish to receive it was been decided that this letter should not be forwarded to the Allied Commission through A.M.G. channels. In view of the fact that other letters etc. of correspondence should be taken up through Military channels and not through Headquarters.

H. R. Robertson  
Cdr.

H. R. Robertson,  
Colonel,  
Army A.C.C.

(11555)

M 434.3A  
see 4031



785017

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIE MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
13 CORPS

Date 12 March 1946

TELEPHONE NO.

REFERENCE No.

SUBJECT

TO

FROM

371 41  
379  
368

Headquarters of Italian employees by Japanese.

Headquarters,  
Allied Commission.

Office of the Executive Commissioner.

1. Reference your letter 371/353/A dated 3 March 1946.

2. It is requested it is not possible to investigate the matter of dismissal of Italians from their jobs in the 13th Corps area it is suggested you take this matter up through current diplomatic channels.

3. The letter from the Comitato Nazionale d'Informazioni di Anversa is returned as requested.

378  
E. A. E. ROBERTSON, Jr.  
Colonel,  
Acting S. C. A. C.

(Amended)



378

(COPIA)

COMITATO POPOLARE CITTADINO

ABBAZIA

Abbazia, il 27 dicembre 1945.

Segreteria  
N.2090/45

Oggetto) DISPENSA DAL SERVIZIO.

Con il pagamento dello stipendio, accessori ed indennità fino a tutto il 31.12.45, nella misura dovuta alla data della liberazione, tutto il personale in pianta stabile già alle dipendenze del Comune di Abbazia si intende vacante di ogni avere verso questa amministrazione la quale, pertanto, d'ora in avanti non considererà più il personale predetto come a disposizione.

Spiacenti che l'avvenuta trasformazione del sistema amministrativo degli Enti ed Istituzioni locali non consenta il riassorbimento che di parte soltanto del personale in parola nella nuova amministrazione popolare, e però inteso che restano salvi ed impregiudicati i diritti da voi acquisiti in dipendenza del servizio precedentemente prestato presso la cessata Comune. La consistenza di tali diritti potrà essere determinata a suo tempo in via diplomatica a seguito della regolazione dei rapporti nonché della generale definizione delle questioni tuttora pendenti tra lo Stato italiano e quello successore.

MURAZ AL FASCISMO

LIBERTÀ AI POPOLI

IL PRESIDENTE

IL SEGRETARIO



Con il pagamento dello stipendio, accessori ed indennità fino a tutto il 31.12.45, nella misura dovuta alla data della liberazione, tutto il personale in pianta stabile già alle dipendenze del Comune di Abbazia si intende vacante di ogni avere verso questa amministrazione in quale, pertanto, d'ora in avanti non considererà più il personale predetto come a disposizione.

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|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| MORALE AL FASCISMO     | LINDELLA' AL POPOLO |
| IL PRESIDENTE          | IL SEGREARIO        |
| F.to) Tomasio Leonardo | F.to) Manis         |

Amore) Gracchi Narodno Oslobodilacki Ogor - Opavja.

4017



376-377

Files transferred to File 376-377:

376 :- FR 62413 dtd 9 Mar. 46.  
From: AFM.

377 :- Letter dated 15. Mar. 46.  
From: AFM.



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

## HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION.

A.P.O. 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner.

375

Ref. : 591/275/80

11 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Venesia Giulia.

TO : GOC XIII Corps.

I enclose a copy of a letter 5/239 dated 25 Feb 45 received from the Prime Minister forwarding a letter received from a number of citizens of Fiume.

I forward herewith nineteen copies of this letter which I recommend should be handed to the visiting Commission.

For the Chief Commissioner

(Sga)

C. B. BRADSHAW

Brigadier,  
Executive Commissioner.

COPIES TO: G-5 AFHQ  
Chief Com.  
Polad "A"  
"B"  
Ch. Sec.  
Exec. Sec.

See 481

4842



369-374

Copies transferred to file 650/EC:

369 - Ref: 6/1060/492 dtd 7. mar. 46.  
From: Minister of Foreign Affairs.

370 - Ref: F.62178 dtd 7. mar. 46.  
From: Sacmed AFMS.

371 - Ref: 591/371/EC dtd 14. mar. 46.  
To: COS, AFMS.

373 - Ref: 1703 dtd 8. mar. 46.  
To: AFMS.

374 - Ref: 591/374/EC dtd 14. mar. 46.  
To: Minister of Foreign Affairs



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

785017

368

Ref. : 591/368/80

8 March 1946

SUBJECT: Dismissal of Italian employees  
by Yagpalava.

TO : SCAG AND Venezia Giulia

366

1. Attached please find copy of letter 5/272 dated 4 March  
1946 from Dr. de Gasperi.2. Could you please investigate the matter and let us know  
whether Italian employees are in fact being dismissed from their  
jobs in Zone B.

364

3. Would you please return the letter from the Comitato  
Popolare Cittadino.

For the Chief Commissioner

See 7-378

H. H. 2

Brigadier,  
Executive Commissioner.

See to 867 372

4041



591  
Admiral Stone

5/272

Rough translation

MAR 5 1946

Rome, March 4th, 1946

Dear Admiral Stone,

As I had the occasion to bring to your notice, one of the most serious abuses to which the Italian citizens in "Zone B" of the Venezia Giulia are subjected, is the ever increasing number of dismissal of Italian personnel from municipal, governmental employs, etc.

I have now before me the text of a letter of dismissal sent by the "Comitato Popolare Cittadino" (City Popular Committee) of Abbazia - an emanation of the Yugoslav Occupation Authorities - to a group of Italian employees of that Commune. It is permissible to assume that they are being eliminated because of their refusal to adhere to the "Federativa Yugoslava".

In the final passage of the letter, a copy of which is herewith enclosed, it is stated that all rights acquired by said employees by virtue of their services with the Commune of Abbazia, will be determined through diplomatic channels "after the final settlement of all questions now pending between the Italian State and its successor".

It is hardly necessary, dear Admiral Stone, that I should call your attention to the above statement in which the Yugoslavs affirm that Yugoslavia is to be considered as a successor State. Such assertion is openly contrary to the conditions binding the military occupation of "Zone B", conditions which are explicitly confirmed by article 7 of the Belgrade agreement, signed on June 9th, 1945.

Believe me, dear Admiral Stone,



As I had the occasion to bring to your notice, one of the most serious abuses to which the Italian citizens in "Zone B" of the Venezia Giulia are subjected, is the ever increasing number of dismissal of Italian personnel from municipal, governmental employs, etc.

I have now before me the text of a letter of dismissal sent by the "Comitato Popolare Cittadino" (City Popular Committee) of Abbazia - an emanation of the Yugoslav Occupation Authorities - to a group of Italian employees of that Comune. It is permissible to assume that they are being eliminated because of their refusal to adhere to the "Federativa Yugoslava".

<sup>370</sup>  
In the final passage of the letter, a copy of which is herewith enclosed, it is stated that all rights acquired by said employees by virtue of their services with the Comune of Abbazia, will be determined through diplomatic channels "after the final settlement of all questions now pending between the Italian State and its successor".

It is hardly necessary, dear Admiral Stone, that I should call your attention to the above statement in which the Yugoslavs affirm that Yugoslavia is to be considered as a successor State. Such assertion is openly contrary to the conditions binding the military occupation of "Zone B", conditions which are explicitly confirmed by article 7 of the Belgrade agreement, signed on June 9th, 1945.

Believe me, dear Admiral Stone,

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) DE GASPERI

Admiral Ellery W. Stone  
Chief Commissioner  
Allied Commission  
R O M E

M. F.  
See 267-368394-602

4/14/42

(miss)



Ministro degli Affari Esteri

5/2/72

Roma, li 4 MAR 1945 1945.

Caro Ammiraglio,

ho già avuto occasione di segnalare che uno dei soprusi più gravi, cui sono attualmente esposti i cittadini italiani della zona B della Venezia Giulia, è quello dei licenziamenti sempre più numerosi di personale italiano dagli uffici statali, comunali ecc.

Ho ora sotto gli occhi il testo di una lettera di licenziamento inviata dal Comitato Popolare Cittadino di Abbazia, emanazione delle Autorità jugoslave di occupazione, ad un gruppo di dipendenti italiani di quel Comune, eliminati - a quanto è lecito ritenere - per non aver voluto aderire alla Jugoslavia Federativa.

Nella parte finale della lettera, che le accludo in copia, è detto che l'entità dei diritti acquisiti da detti dipendenti in servizio al servizio precedentemente prestato presso il Comune di Abbazia, sarà determinata in via diplomatica "dopo la definizione generale delle questioni tuttora pendenti tra lo Stato italiano e quello successore".

E' appena necessario che io richiami la Sua attenzione sul fatto che l'affermazione da parte della Jugoslavia di ri-



prusi più gravi, cui sono attualmente esposti i cittadini italiani della zona e della Venezia Giulia, è quello dei licenziamenti sempre più numerosi di personale italiano dagli uffici statali, comunali ecc.

Ho ora sotto gli occhi il testo di una lettera di licenziamento inviata dal Comitato Popolare Cittadino di Abbazia, emanazione delle Autorità jugoslave di occupazione, ad un gruppo di dipendenti italiani di quel Comune, eliminati - a quanto è lecito ritenere - per non aver voluto aderire alla Jugoslavia Federativa.

Nella parte finale della lettera, che ho accolto in copia, e dello che l'entità dei diritti acquisiti da detti dipendenti in servizio al servizio precedentemente prestato presso il Comune di Abbazia, sarà determinata in via diplomatica "dopo la definizione generale delle questioni tuttora pendenti tra lo Stato italiano e quello successore".

E' appena necessario che io richiami la Sua attenzione sul fatto che l'affermazione da parte della Jugoslavia di riconoscere lo Stato successore è in aperto contrasto con le condizioni alle quali deve considerarsi vincolata l'occupazione militare di quella zona e che sono esplicitamente confermate anche dall'art. 7 dell'accordo firmato a Belgrado il 9 giugno 1945.

Mi creda, caro Ammiraglio,

All'Ammiraglio Sirery W. Stone  
Capo della Commissione Alleata

R O M A

*Agony 4.3.45*



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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

~~SECRET~~

CONFIDENTIAL 363

Ref: 591/RE ✓

2 March 1946.

SUBJECT: VERGERIA GIMLEA.

TO: O.O.C.,  
XIII Corps.

362  
With the agreement of the U.S. and U.S. Ambassadors, I  
am forwarding a letter with enclosure <sup>(10 copies)</sup> received from the Ministry  
for Foreign Affairs, which I recommend should be handed to the four  
Delegates on their forthcoming visit to VERGERIA GIMLEA.

For the Chief Commissioner:

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,  
Executive Commissioner.

Indls.

Copy to: U.S. Embassy. (2) (Copies of letter and enclosure referred to have  
British Embassy (1) been sent to you by the Ministry for Foreign  
Affairs.)  
G-5, AFHQ. (6)

4540



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

ADMIRAL STONE

5/252

Rome, February 22nd, 1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

In relation to the imminent visit to the Venezia Giulia of the Experts Commission, I felt it desirable to sum up in the enclosed "aide-memoire" the main questions which were the subject of negotiations with the Allied Authorities, in the matter of the civil administration of the Venezia Giulia (Zones "A" and "B"), and to underline the most important alterations brought about in the region by the military occupation.

I wish to draw your particular attention to the question, and I shall appreciate it greatly if you will bring the considerations outlined in the "aide-memoire" to the notice of the Experts Commission so that they may keep them in mind when formulating their recommendations.

Believe me, dear Admiral Stone,

Very sincerely yours,

(sgd.) DE GASPERI

Admiral Eilery W. Stone

Chief Commissioner



Dear Admiral Stone,

In relation to the imminent visit to the Venezuela Office of the Experts Commission, I felt it desirable to sum up in the enclosed "Aide-Memoire" the main questions which were the subject of negotiations with the Allied Authorities, in the matter of the Military Administration of the Venezuela Guilla (Zones "A" and "B"), and to underline the most important allegations brought about in the region by the Military Occupation.

I wish to draw your particular attention to the question, and I shall appreciate it greatly if you will bring the considerations outlined in the "Aide-Memoire" to the notice of the Experts Commission so that they may keep them in mind when formulating their recommendations.

Believe me, dear Admiral Stone,

Very sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) DE CASATERRI

ADMIRAL MILITARY W. STONE  
Chief Commissioner  
Allied Commission

= R O L E =

One Enclosure

At Capital 44 delegations

*Copy to  
by  
363*

*see file*

4334



195



*Ministero degli Affari Esteri*

Rough translation

A I T S A M B A S I A

On the occasion of the forthcoming visit to the Venezia Giulia of the Experts Commission contemplated by the London Conference, the Italian Government has the honour to request that the Experts' attention be drawn to the following circumstances:

1. - In relation to articles 18 and 19 of the Armistice and to the special provisions concerning such part, the Italian Government respectfully expects that the whole of the territory of the Italian State be submitted, with no distinctions, to the same occupation regime, without any discrimination being made between some of the Kingdom's provinces and some others.

2. - In view of the special situation which became prevalent in the Venezia Giulia provinces during the last phase of the recent conflict, the Italian Government has drawn the Allied Government's attention to such situation (letter by Marchese Visconti Venosta to Admiral Stone, dated August 15th, 1944), especially pointing out the dangers thereof to the security and peace of these populations particularly at the time of the collapse of the German resistance.

3. - The Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission took due note of said information (letter by Admiral Stone to Marchese Visconti Venosta, dated August 19th, 1944) and assured the Italian Government, at the same time, that "the Allies would not lose sight" of such situation. Similar assurances were given to the President of the Council of Ministers (letter of September 22nd, 1944, by Admiral Stone to Onorevole Bonomi). The Italian Government confirmed its concern, on November 21st, 1944, in a letter of Marchese Visconti Venosta to Admiral Stone.



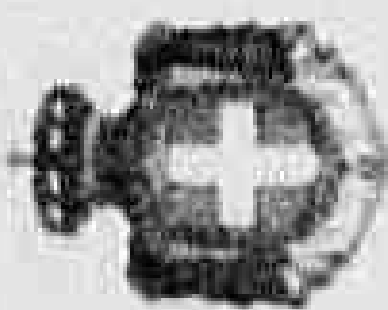
On the occasion of the forthcoming visit to the Venezia Giulia of the Experts Commission contemplated by the London Conference, the Italian Government has the honour to request that the experts' attention be drawn to the following circumstances:

1. - In relation to articles 18 and 19 of the armistice and to the explicit permitting such part, the Italian Government rightfully expected that the whole of the territory of the Italian State be submitted, with no distinctions, to the same occupation regime, without any discrimination being made between some of the Kingdom's provinces and some others.
2. - In view of the special situation which became prevalent in the Venezia Giulia provinces during the last phase of the recent conflict, the Italian Government had drawn the Allied Government's attention to such situation (letter by Marchese Vincenti Velasco to Admiral Stone, dated August 15th, 1944), especially pointing out the dangers thereof to the security and peace of these populations particularly at the time of the collapse of the German resistance.
3. - The Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission took due note of said information (letter by Admiral Stone to Marchese Vincenti Velasco, dated August 15th, 1944) and assured the Italian Government, at the same time, that "the Allies would not lose sight" of such attention. Similar assurances were given to the President of the Council of Ministers (letter of September 22nd, 1944, by Admiral Stone to Onorevole Bonoli). The Italian Government confirmed its concern, on November 2nd, 1944, in a letter of Marchese Vincenti Velasco to Admiral Stone.
4. - During the last stage of the German resistance, the Italian partisans of Trieste rose in arms and started liberating the city. Right after the Germans' surrender to the British Armed Forces and the occupation of Trieste by Tito's troops, when the Yugoslavs announced on May 8th, 1945, the establishment in said city of a "National Government of Federal Slovenia" as well as the appointment of a commander of the city in the person of a Yugoslav general, the Italian Government, in a note by Minister De Gasperi, dated May 9th, 1945,

4433

p.t.o.





Minister of Foreign Affairs

to the British and American Ambassadors, pointed out that such actions and initiatives were to be considered "absolutely arbitrary and illegitimate". At the same time, said note recalled all various declarations which had been approved in those days by the Italian Government, all of Ministers and requested, in particular, "that the Italian Government, as the principal and more legitimately concerned party, be enabled to follow the developments of the Julian situation, a situation which ought in no way be compromised or prejudiced".

4. - Following negotiations between the Allied Powers and Yugoslavians - the complete contents of which are unknown to the Italian Government - the occupation regime contemplated in the Morgenthau-Novich agreement of June 9th, 1945, was established, quite in contradiction with the assurances previously given. By such regime - stipulated in force in the Yugoslav Julian at the present time - the so-called "Zone A" (territory to the west of the Morgan Line), was entrusted to the administration of an Allied Military Government, whereas "Zone B" (territory to the East of the Morgan Line) was assigned to Yugoslav occupation and administration. Since then the Italian Government has constantly and systematically brought to the Allied Governments' notice - through communications either to the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission or to the Allied Ambassadors - the main shortcomings of such peculiar occupation regime.

5. - In its communications the Italian Government especially stressed the following viewpoint: owing to the fact that the Yugoslav Authorities are occupying and administering "Zone B" as military occupation authorities by virtue of the Morgenthau-Novich agreement of June 9th, 1945, stipulated with the Supreme Command of the Allied Powers with whom Italy had previously signed the armistice. Notwithstanding the Italian territory in its entirety, the Italian Government deemed it to be within its right to consider the Allied Governments responsible for any action involving the course that Italy



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

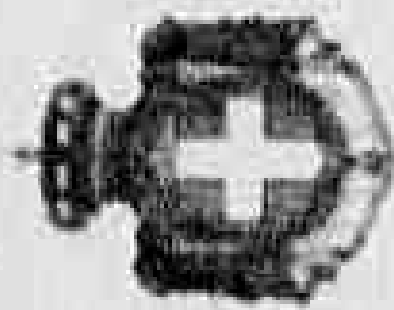
to the British and American Ambassadors, pointed out that such notions and initiatives were to be considered "absolutely arbitrary and illegitimate". At the same time, said note recalled all various declarations which had been approved in those days by the Italian Council of Ministers and requested, in particular, "that the Italian Government, as the principal and more legitimately concerned party, be enabled to follow the developments of the Italian situation, a situation which ought in no way be compromised or prejudiced".

4. - Following negotiations between the Allied Powers and Yugoslav - the complete contents of which are unknown to the Italian Government - the occupation regime contemplated in the Morgan-Jovanovich agreement of June 9th, 1945, was established, mainly in conformity with the assumptions previously given. By such regime - called in Force in the Venetian Giulia at the present time - the so-called "Zone A" (territory to the West of the Morgan line), was entrusted to the administration of an Allied Military Government, whereas "Zone B" (territory to the East of the Morgan line) was assigned to Yugoslav occupation and administration. Since then the Italian Government has constantly and systematically brought to the Allied Governments' notice - through communications either to the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission or to the Allied Ambassadors - the main shortcomings of such peculiar occupation regime.

5. - In its communications the Italian Government especially stressed the following viewpoint: owing to the fact that the Yugoslav authorities are governing and administering "Zone B" as military occupation authorities by virtue of the Morgan-Jovanovich agreement of June 9th, 1945, stipulated with the Supreme Command of the Allied Forces with whom Italy had previously signed the Armistice Pact covering the Italian territory in its entirety, the Italian Government deemed it to be within its right to consider the Allied Governments responsible for any action exceeding the powers that International Law confers upon military occupation authorities and, consequently, to concentrate directly to said Governments in such matters. A letter dated November 15th, 1945, by Minister De Gasperi to Admiral Stone with regard to the consequences in Yugoslavia, dated of December 3rd, 1945, concerning "General Order n. 19" abrogating the consequences of the Italian citizenship for appointments to public employments).

E.O.  
12837





*Ministero degli Affari Esteri*

7. - As to "Zone A", the Italian Government, though aware of extraordinary difficulties inherent to the task entrusted to the Trieste A.M.D., deems it its duty to point out that the Venezia Giulia Allied Authorities have run that territory not as though it were a part of the Italian State, but rather considering the zone as an autonomous region with no bonds whatever with the Home Government. In this connection the Italian Government wishes to recall the complete set of "General Orders" issued by the Venezia Giulia A.M.D., as published in the original of said A.M.D., "The Official Gazette". It also recalls the repeated statements by the Head of the A.M.D. and by his collaborators to the effect that they were administering the territory entrusted to them as if it were a region of which "one does not know to whom it will be ultimately assigned."

8. - In particular the alterations brought about by the A.M.D. in its subjected territory are recorded hereunder:

- a) In "Zone A" any external mark is forbidden which may recall Italian sovereignty (for instance the showing of the Italian national flag on public buildings and on floating craft);
- b) No Italian authority or administrative organ is created in the region;
- c) Administrative organs, quite unknown to Italian internal institutions, have been created;
- d) Non-Italian citizens have been accorded the right to exercise public functions requiring - according to Italian laws - the possession of Italian nationality;
- e) A new school system quite different from the one established in Italy has been created. The new system is characterized by a number of Slav schools quite superior to the needs of the Slavs born in the region. Moreover in text books for Italian schools, all



7. - As to "Zone A", the Italian Government, though aware of extraordinary difficulties inherent to the task entrusted to the Prince A.A.D., seems to have the duty to point out that the Venezia Giulia Allied Authorities have not that territory not as though it were a part of the Italian State, but rather considering the same as an autonomous region with no bonds whatever with the King Government. In this connection the Italian Government wishes to recall the same plate set of "General Orders" issued by the Venezia Giulia A.A.D., as published in the organ of said A.A.D., "The Official Gazette". It also recalls the repeated statements by the Head of the A.A.D., and by his collaborators to the effect that they were administering the territory entrusted to them as if it were a region of which "one does not know to whom it will be ultimately assigned."

8. - In particular the allegations brought about by the A.A.D. in its subjected territory are recorded hereunder:

- a) In "Zone A" any external mark is forbidden which may recall Italian sovereignty (for instance the raising of the Italian national flag on public buildings and on floating craft);
- b) No Italian Authority or Administrative organ is recognized in the region;
- c) Administrative organs, quite unknown to Italian Internal Institutions, have been created;
- d) Non-Italian citizens have been accorded the right to exercise public functions requiring - according to Italian laws - the possession of Italian nationality;
- e) A new school system quite different from the one established in Italy has been created. The new system is characterized by a number of Slav schools with superior to the needs of the Slavs born in the region. Moreover in text books for Slavish schools, all passages have been eliminated regarding the people of Trieste that they too have a country of their own.
- f) A special Police has been established which is wholly independent from the Italian central organs.
- g) The entry of Italian nationals in zone "A" is conditioned to the concession of a special permit (which, for instance, was refused to an Italian driver who had been invited to hold in

4336



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Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Trilateral Committee of Yugoslav, Italian, and Slovene  
only, there exists practically no limitation to the transfer of persons  
from Yugoslavia to Zone "A" and from the latter to "Zone A" and  
to the rest of the Region.

Accordingly, due to the ease to which access to Trieste  
is secured, thousands of Yugoslav nationals have succeeded in penetrating  
the "barricade" there, most of whom are employed by Yugoslav political  
or military organizations. About 1000 Yugoslavs had their names registered  
in the population records of Trieste.

H) A periphrastic Anglo-American-Yugoslav Commission functioning  
in "Zone A" (War booty Committee) and contrary to the Association's  
aim and at variance with the criteria applied in the other occupied  
Italian regions, Yugoslavia pretends to exercise in "Zone A" a war  
booty right, the cessation of hostilities notwithstanding.

9. - The Italian Government has expressed its viewpoint on almost  
all these subjects and in several cases it has also remonstrated.

The Italian Government recalls particularly the letter  
dated November 27th, 1945, as far as Zone "A" is concerned; the letter  
dated January 15th, 1946, addressed by Minister De Gasperi to  
Admiral Stone and the letter dated January 23rd, 1946, addressed to  
the Secretary General of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs again to  
Admiral Stone as far as Zone "A" is concerned; E.S.C.

Whilst referring to the aforementioned letters, the Italian  
Government takes this occasion to reaffirm that the changes  
listed above have determined formal and substantial alterations of  
the general character of the region which constitutes "Zone A".

10. - As far as the regime obtaining in "Zone A" is concerned, the  
Italian Government believes it has supplied the Allied Governments  
with information sufficient to prove that the Yugoslav authorities



Belongs to a number of the growth of Englishmen, Albanians, Montenegrins, and other groups living in the territory of the transfer of property, these groups practice no limitation to the transfer of property from Yugoslavia to some "an" and from the latter to "Zone A" and to the rest of the Kingdom.

Among other, due to the state in which access to Trieste is secured, thousands of Yugoslav nationals have succeeded in establishing themselves there, most of whom have employed by Yugoslav political and military organizations. About 1000 Yugoslavs had their names registered in the population records of Trieste.

17. A paralytic Anglo-American-Yugoslav Commission functioning in "Zone A" (War booty Committee) and contrary to the Administrative Regulation and its variance with the criteria applied in the other occupied Italian regions, Yugoslavia pretends to exercise in "Zone A" a war booty right, the resumption of hostilities notwithstanding.

8. - The Italian Government has expressed its viewpoint on almost all these subjects and in special cases it has also reconsidered.

The Italian Government recalls particularly the letter dated November 27th, 1945, as far as "Zone A" is concerned; the letter dated January 15th, 1946, addressed by Minister de Gasperi to Admiral Stone and the letter dated January 23rd, 1946, addressed by the Secretary General of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs again to Admiral Stone as far as "Zone A" is concerned; a.m.o.

Whilst referring to the aforementioned letters, the Italian Government takes this occasion to reaffirm that the changes effected above have determined formal and substantial alterations of the general character of the region which constitutes "Zone A".

10. - As far as the regime obtaining in "Zone B" is concerned, the Italian Government believes it has supplied the Allied Governments with information sufficient to prove that the Italian authorities behave in the said region not as Occupation authorities but indeed as if the territory submitted to them were annexed by the Yugoslav State.

11. - In particular the Italian Government refers to the reports of August 28th and September 27th, 1945, sent by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the Allied Commission. Two very lengthy lists of illicit acts perpetrated by the Yugoslav authorities in Trieste, at Gorizia and in the islands of the Quarnero are detailed in said memorandum: deportations, arbitrary arrests, voiding of the acts of special and popular tribunals, expropriations and expropriations of every kind; inhuman treatments and executions with cruel methods





# *Ministero degli Affari Esteri*

("manifestations"), as well as a score of acts and provisions aiming at modifying the ethical and cultural character of the region as far as possible: mass immigration and the encroachment by individuals having from Yugoslavia, the "displacement" of the names of streets and of squares as well as those of commercial signboards, the removal of monuments and memorial tablets, the alterations of the inscriptions on tombstones, the tampering with and the destruction of archives. Aside, from the aforesaid measures, the Italian Government refers to the letter by Minister De Gasperi to Admiral Stone, dated 5th and 9th of September 1945, relative to a bogus placardite engineered by Yugoslav propagandists who circulated in the whole of the Venezia Giulia prearranged forms petitioning for the annexation of the region to the Yugoslav Federal State, the request for signatures being often accompanied by all sorts of intimidations and threats. The Italian Government recalls also the letter dated January 15th, 1946, addressed by Minister De Gasperi to Admiral Stone, concerning the so-called administrative elections which took place in "Grosseto" (south of the Arno river), elections which were gradually transformed into political elections and were previously into a plebiscite attempt for the annexation to Yugoslavia.

The bulky interchange of correspondence concerning the same question of deportees is also recalled here and in particular the memorandum by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the Allied Command, dated 5th July, 1945, 25th August and 26th October, 1945; the letter by Minister De Gasperi to Admiral Stone dated 5th and 10th November 1945; the memorandum dated September 10th, 1945; the letter by Minister De Gasperi to Admiral Stone dated 27th September 1945 a.s.c.

In said communications, besides detailing the names of the deportees and the circumstances concerning their arrest and the treatment meted out to them, the Italian Government has repeatedly expressed its viewpoint concerning this question which lies so much at heart to Italian public opinion, a viewpoint which is here reaffirmed and summarized as follows:



by emphasizing the ethnical and cultural character of the region as for instance: mass immigration and the concentration by individuals having free Yugoslavia, the "flavoured" of the names of streets and of squares as well as those of commercial signboards, the removal of monuments and memorial tablets, the alteration of the inscriptions on tombstones, the tampering with and the destruction of archives. Aside from the above-mentioned, the Italian Government refers to the letters by Minister De Gasperi to Admiral D'Amico, dated 5th and 9th of September 1945, relating to a large planisphere engineered by Yugoslav propagandists who circulated in the whole of the Venezia Giulia prearranged some petitioning for the annexation of the region to the Yugoslav Federal State, the request for signatures being often accompanied by all sorts of intimidations and threats. The Italian Government recalls also the letter dated January 15th, 1946, addressed by Minister De Gasperi to Admiral Stone, concerning the so-called administrative elections which took place in Trieste (north of the Dragonja river), elections which were gradually transformed into political elections and were precisely into a deliberate attempt for the annexation to Yugoslavia.

The bulky interchange of correspondence concerning the police question of deportees is also recalled here and in particular: the memorandum by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the Allied Commission, dated 5th July, 1945; 20th August and 5th October, 1945; the letters by Minister De Gasperi to Admiral Stone dated 6th and 10th November 1945; the memorandum dated December 16th, 1945; the letter by Minister De Gasperi to Admiral Stone dated 27th September 1945 a.s.o.

In said communications, besides detailing the names of the deported and the circumstances concerning their arrest and the treatment accorded to them, the Italian Government has repeatedly expressed its viewpoint concerning this question which has so much at heart the Italian public opinion, a viewpoint which is here reiterated and is summarized as follows:

- It does not lie within the powers of the Occupation authorities to deport citizens of the occupied country;
- Such deportations are therefore illegal acts by themselves, irrespective of any subjective evaluation of the persons against whom said acts have taken place;
- The deportations had the outcome of considerably altering the

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*Ministero degli Affari Esteri*

athetical character of the Venezia Giulia (besides the deserters and of thousands of Italians have left the Italian towns to take refuge beyond the frontier to escape being deported themselves.)

Finally the Italian Government, through competent organs, has also proclaimed the illegality and blamability of the various consequences of the issuing by the Yugoslav authorities of "green" or of a special currency, the amount thereof is unknown and just as which does not even touch social matters, which private citizens have been compelled to accept not only as circulating medium but also in compulsory exchange for Italian money.

By that means huge amounts of Italian lire, totalling several thousand millions, have materially been taken away from the population and there is every reason to believe that they have been employed by the Yugoslavs, particularly for propaganda purposes and to buy up foodstuffs and other commodities in "Zone B" and in Italy herself.

12. - As far as the aforementioned memoranda and the letters are concerned, the Italian Government regrets that requests for further proof of the alleged facts have several times been made by the Allies. The Italian Government desires formally to reiterate its previous statement (letter to Minister Do Langher to Admiral Stone dated 25th and 27th October 1943 E.S.B.) viz. that all and every Italian Authority being excluded from the Venezia Giulia, they have no means of carrying out direct enquiries, let alone real and true investigations.

In this connection the Italian Government has proposed either the creation of an allied organ, or even a neutral one, vested with the task of investigating the situation in "Zone B"; or that the Allied Governments be represented, at least as observers, in the administration of said region. These proposals have however



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

ethnical character of the Venezia Giulia (besides the 3,000,000 of thousands of Italians have left the Italian lands to take refuge beyond the borders to escape being deported themselves.)

Finally the Italian Government - through competent organs - has also provided the illegality and hinted at the useless consequences of its turning by the borders authorities of "gangs" of a Yugoslav character, the amount thereof is unknown and part of which does not even have a real nature, which private citizens have been compelled to accept not only as expediting action but also as compulsory exchange for Italian money.

By that system huge amounts of Italian lire, totaling several thousand millions, have certainly been taken away from the population and there is every reason to believe that they have been employed by the Yugoslavs, particularly for expansive purposes and to buy up foodstuffs and other commodities in "Zone A" and in Italy herself.

12. - As far as the aforementioned agreements and the letters are concerned, the Italian Government reminds that requests for further proof of the alleged acts have several times been made by the Allies. The Italian Government desires formally to remind that its previous statement (Letters by Minister De Gasperi to Admiral Stone dated 27th and 27th October 1943 C.S.C.) was that all and every Italian Authority being excluded from the Venezia Giulia, they have no means of carrying out direct enquiries, let alone real and true investigations.

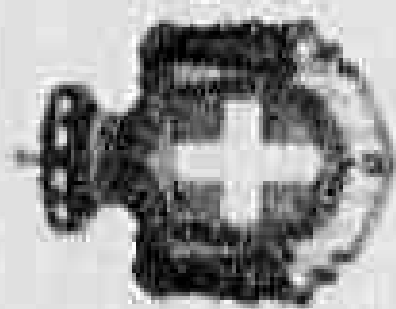
In this connection the Italian Government has proposed whether the creation of an Allied organ, or even a neutral one, vested with the task of investigating the situation in "Zone B"; or that the Allied Government be represented, at least as observers, in the administration of said region. Those proposals have however remained up till now without result. Moreover, the Italian Government wishes to remark that as a consequence of the state of total violation which weighs over the region and the constant fear of the reprisals, several outbreaks are being kept hidden by the victims themselves and by their families.

The Italian Government believes however <sup>that</sup> it has supported, with the reports previously mentioned, sufficient elements for judgement to define the regime of the Yugoslav occupation of the Venezia Giulia as a high-handed regime of terror through which the features of Italian rule of the Venezia Giulia, in general, have been



2014

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



*Ministero degli Affari Esteri*

14. - In dettaglio the above facts and circumstances, the Italian Government express their trust that said facts and circumstances shall be taken into due consideration by the Committee of Experts and that the latter will not lose sight of them when formulating the recommendations it is called upon to prepare in view of the completion of the Peace Treaty with Italy.

Rome, February 21st, 1946

4832



variously and painfully altered.

14. - In detailing the above facts and circumstances, the Italian Government expects their trust that said facts and circumstances shall be taken into due consideration by the Commission of Experts and that the latter will not lose sight of them when formulating the recommendations. It is called upon to prove, in view of the compilation of the Peace Treaty with Italy,

Rome, February 21st, 1946

4832



2014  
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Ref: 591/354/80

354  
March 1946.

SUBJECT : Dismissal of Employees from Roman.

TO : SAC A.E.C. Venezia Giulia.

1. Attached please find copy of letter 5/242 dated 26 February 1946 from Dr. de Casperi.

2. Your comments would be appreciated.

For the Chief Commissioner.

335  
[S] N. W. HIND SM:431  
MAR

Brigadier  
Executive Commissioner



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

353

Ref: 594/353/20

5 March 1946.

My dear Prime Minister,

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter 5/242 dated 26 February 1946 and to inform you that it has been forwarded to the appropriate authorities. Any reply which they may make will of course be transmitted to you.

Yours very truly,

*H. N. W. HIND SMITH*  
MBF

1  
Deputy  
Executive Commissioner

Dr. Alcide de Gasperi  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Italian Government  
ROME.

See 380

4330



785017

351/352.

Folios 351 + 352 transferred to file 650/EC.

351 - Ref: 591/351/EC d/d 5. mar. 46.

To: Minister of Foreign Affairs.

352 - Ref: 591/352/EC d/d 5. mar. 46.

To: COS, AFMA.



4299.

591 41

Ex Comm 50

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
13 CORPS

13C/AMC/208/111

26 February 1946  
MAR 1 1946

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Activities in Venezia Giulia.

TO : Headquarters,  
Allied Commission. ✓

ATTN : Executive Commissioner.

1. Reference your letter 591/530/51 dated 23 February 1946 referring to our letter 13C/AMC/208/123 dated 20 November 1945.

2. Paragraph 4 of our letter stated that the matter was one beyond our competence and should be taken through appropriate diplomatic channels.

3. It is felt that the letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs comes under the same category as the previous letter and as in that case it will be better for it to be taken up through diplomatic channels.

*H. P. P. Robinson*  
H. P. P. ROBINSON,  
Colonel,  
Acting S.C.A.O.

4338

(14338)



59/ 165  
Il Ministro degli Affari Esteri

347  
Rough translation

5/239

Rome, 25 February 1946

MAR 1 1946

346  
Dear Admiral Stone,

A considerable number of citizens of Fiume have addressed to me, as well as to the Ambassador of the United States and to General Morgan for their information, the letter of which I am enclosing a copy.

As this letter contains ~~are~~ up-to-date and, in my opinion, truthful picture of the situation in Fiume, I shall be much indebted to you, dear Admiral Stone, for your kind interest in having the Commission of Experts, which is going to visit the Venezia Giulia, apprised of the said informations.

Believe me, dear Admiral Stone,

Encl.

Very sincerely yours,

(sgd) DE GASPERI



A considerable number of citizens of Piume have addressed to me, as well as to the Ambassador of the United States and to General Morgan for their information, the letter of which I am enclosing a copy.

As this letter contains **are** up-to-date and, in my opinion, truthful picture of the situation in Piume, I shall be much indebted to you, dear Admiral Stone, for your kind interest in having the Commission of Experts, which is going to visit the Venezia Giulia, apprised of the said informations.

Believe me, dear Admiral Stone,

Very sincerely yours,

Encl.

(sgd) DE GASPERI

Admiral Ellery W. STONE  
Chief Commissioner  
ALLIED COMMISSION  
R O M E

*RC DIST - 1/10/47*  
*ACTON - EX CORR*  
*INFO - CHIEF CORR*  
*RECEIVED*  
*10/10/47*  
*RECEIVED*

*See 375*



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

785017

DECLARATION

ALCIDE DE GASPERI, Head of the Italian Government.

NOTE.

AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, U.S.A. Embassy.

NOTE.

GENERAL BORGES, Supreme Commander of the Mediterranean.

NOTE.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

346

Finse, 24 January, 1945.

The efforts of the Italian Government for the Venezia-Giulia cause are now well-known to everybody, but certainly no one, absolutely no one at such a time, who are the interested parties, and who have been attacked by the radio, were seriously await for the word of a person in authority regarding a future improvement of our situation.

This is one of the many requests that will reach the President of the Council of Ministers, the U.S. Ambassador, and the Supreme Commander of Mediterranean, together with a report that thousands of men intend sending, so that they may know exactly the extent of the terrifying situation in which the inhabitants of the area occupied by the troops of Tito, be they Italian or not, are finding themselves.

To say that life has become impossible is no exaggeration, and is deprived of any national, political, or partisan aim; it is the absolute truth.

No food whatsoever has been distributed to the population, with the exception of bread and a few choices of peas monthly, both in Finse and the rest of the surrounding area, including the islands, since the month of October. No fish, no flour, nothing at all. The shops are empty. There is nothing left to buy even in the blackmarket. The only place where, until recently food could be found, was Trieste, but the number of permits to go there have been practically reduced to zero, besides which an order was issued forbidding the importation of contingent goods, (everything from shoes to flour). Starvation now reigns supreme in every family.

This cannot however be said for the persons who occupy prominent places in the administration of the city, who, together with the whole Jugoslavian Army, browse themselves with everything that U.S.R.S.A. sends over for the population, and the surplus, that is all that they cannot manage to eat or store up in their houses, they sell at blackmarket prices, but at such a high rate that it is impossible for anyone to buy them, besides the risk of being deported for the illicit buying of rationed goods.

Recently gift packages of U.S.R.S.A. have been distributed to a limited number of workmen for the price of Lira 500.

To speak of the high cost of living is absurd as there is nothing to buy, but as far as taxes and public services are concerned, we would like to mention a few facts. Income tax has been increased from five to eight times.

4321



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

-2-

Custom duty has been imposed on all goods ranging from fish to wine and shoes, with tariffs varying from 25 to 30%, and 50% on perfumery articles, but fortunately there is nothing to buy. Wireless taxes have risen to 600 Lire yearly, light to 12 Lire the KW., telephone from 4,000 to 6,000 Lire yearly; a tram ticket costs 7 Lire, etc..

Clothing-shops are empty, and the owners cannot buy goods because they do not possess Italian Lire, unless they buy them on the blackmarket, with the Yugoslavian occupation Lire at the rate of 1,400-1,500 for 1,000, and also because the importation of any kinds of goods in the B zone, has been forbidden.

The small amount of wearing apparel still existing in the Italian shops has been blocked, and can only be sold with coupons given by the local authorities at a price established by them, which affords the seller a gross profit of 20%, with which he must pay his taxes, light, rent, employees, and keep himself and his family. It is to be noted that, in proportion to the number of coupons given out by the authorities, it is considerable if one sale a day is effected. Those who do not conform to this rule, or else close the shop up to avoid bankruptcy, are arrested, charged and deported to hard labour, and all their property is confiscated. The confiscation of the property of the population is that the authorities are aiming at, as they employ all means in their possession to this end.

This is as far as the economic situation is concerned. But graver things render our existence impossible.

Denationalization and prosecution, which began with the entrance of Tito's troops, and with the help of a small group of Italians who were promised glorious advancements, has increased daily. During the first days they cancelled all the names of the streets and of the firms which were written in Italian, (it would be sufficient to visit Abbazia), and deported hundreds of people, accusing them of Nazi-Fascist collaboration, even though 80% of these people had committed no other crime than that of wanting to be Italian. Now, everything which is Italian, be it man or vocabulary, or anything, is completely eliminated.

Here are some examples. From the Carnaro Shipping Yards, 900 directors, employees and workmen, have been substituted by a Yugoslavian Staff. The same may be said for the Mineral Oil Refinery, the Silarificio, and the Town Halls of Fiume, Abbazia, and other small towns, as well as many other public offices. In the schools too personnel considered to be good Italians, and who are not capable of teaching the Croate language, which is now a compulsory subject, are eliminated. The compulsory use, and teaching of the Croate language, caused a strike among the students of the High School, which came to an end with the arrest of the students and the teachers. It is to be noted that in this work of denationalization, the following Italians, (Italians in name only), take active part: Professor Pietro Marras, Viviani and Maitanro d'Alvise, (M.E.), and Doctor Erio Franchi, who was till recently, director of the local daily newspaper, "La Voce del Popolo", (the title seems ironic), and who did all he could to write articles lowering the prestige of the Italian Government, the Allied Forces, and the Allied Commanders, who, in his opinion, are Fascists, because they protect the Italian reaction of Trieste. Everything that is Italian, or anything but Yugoslavian or Russian, is, according to Erio Franchi, Neo-Fascist. The present director of the above mentioned paper, is Dino Faragona, who follows Franchi's footsteps in admirable fashion.

Evidently the denationalization of our cities is not sufficient, and...



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

785017

-3-

It grows, and the number of persons deported, increases day by day. What their fate is, we can only know by hearsay of witnesses, who are sometimes the Yugoslave soldiers themselves, and we sometimes get news through the newspaper, "La Voce del popolo". These deported persons are either killed at once, (as for example, Giovannielli and his wife, owner of a pastry shop in the ex Borgo Vittorio (Squadrato), or else they are tried for non-existing crimes, and after being publicly condemned to several years of hard labour, they are deported to Yugoslavia, where nothing more is heard or known of them.

As proof of this, we can quote the trial which was concluded on 21 inst., against Mario Ventini and his son Ferruccio, with a group of very well-known young men, trial which was concluded in sentencing them all to, from one and a half to eight years of hard labour, and the confiscation of all their property, should they have any. These unfortunate people were blameless. They merely refused their active participation to the pro-Yugoslavian and anti-Italian movement. The sentences would not be so grave, were it not well-known that once they are taken to Yugoslavia, they will never return. The judges are well aware of what is required of them. They must eliminate all those who represent a contrary influence to the Yugoslavian cause in case of future elections.

We quote the sentence published in the local newspaper, where the real charge is clear: "Propaganda against the existing movement in the Territory of the Administration of the Yugoslavian Army".

This is the war in which our brothers are being done away with, and the way we shall be done away with if this situation is not solved at once. We are not asking for a better life, but for life itself. The Yugoslaves have promised to exterminate us all, once the arch enters into their complete possession. This is not surprising, considering the things they are doing now that they are merely the occupying forces.

The things we could mention, and which take place in this martyred corner of the earth, are innumerable.

While this letter is being typewritten, the following news has come through, which proves what we have just stated.

1) The arrival of a Commission charged to study the definition of the boundaries has been announced, and the local authorities under the local factories to organize a demonstration with Red and Yugoslavian flags. (If the workers do not attend, they will lose their jobs.)

The authorities have ordered the women to do the rounds of the city, and warn everyone to expose Yugoslave flags only, if they value their lives.

2) The population is also informed that whoever tried to get anywhere near to the Commission, will be deported at once.

The prayer which comes from the bottom of our hearts, is one: "Italy, Ally, Set us free! If the world has fought for six years to free the people from the Nazi-Fascist tyranny, why is this tyranny permitted now?"



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

344

The Gypsies of Germany, and others, are I think represented in Yugoslavia. If those in Germany were not tolerated, why are those in Yugoslavia approved?

The representatives of all Nations may come here, and ascertain themselves of what is going on. But if they limit themselves to obtaining information from the local authorities, they may rest assured that the truth will never be known. Many are paid to speak as per instruction, and the mass of the people are compelled to take part in the filo-Yugoslavian demonstrations. It would be well to find out just how it is done. Why not settle here, in the city, and question the people separately and in mass, and make the true state of affairs come to light. It is necessary that President Roosevelt's twelve points, which he confirmed in his recent message to Congress, be applied. If the war has been fought for the freedom of the people, this must be done. Let the Allied troops come here, and let there be safety for the people, and then let the voting take place, and then, only, will the true wish of the people come to light. If these things are discussed on the diplomatic tables of London, Washington, or Paris, the real desire of the people cannot be known. If Italy must lose her cities, because she has lost the war, it does not tally with the so much advertised liberty, which the Allies have promised. That the people of these cities be sacrificed and killed, and given over to a nation who is incapable of governing its own land, is unthinkable. It would be well to go to Belgrade to realize in what terror the population lives. The Yugoslavians themselves, and even some of those who are part of Tito's Army, hide in terror, and have formed an organization called "The Crusaders", hoping to get away from this tyranny.

If Italy must lose these cities, is it right that the population should undergo, and be subjected to the same treatment as the Yugoslavians? Let them choose their own destiny.

This indeed would be true freedom, but not the sale of the population to one or another as if they were pigs!

At the beginning of May 1945, when the Yugoslavian Army was crawling near, everyone was awaiting them, as liberators. But now we have lived through too hard an experience to tolerate them any longer.

The Croats, and Yugoslavians themselves, in these areas, invoke freedom. We often hear them say: "I have never felt myself so Italian as I feel now," or "It were better had the Centaurs or the Abyssinians come", or again "With this the Allies are turning us all into Fascists".

You see at what point we are being driven!!!

It is a fact that in those first days, when we did not yet know the meaning of Tito's Army, all those who could babble it, began to speak the "new language", but it is also a fact that now we all speak Italian, with the exceptions of the people brought from the mountains to substitute all those who have forsaken the area for lack of living possibilities.

The people are crying to you, President of the Council of Ministers, in Italy, to you Ambassador of the U.S.A., and to you General Morgan: Why is not Justice being done in this part of the world? Are we any different from the other populations? Or are we expected to give up our lives and throw over this dictatorship with our arms?



-5-

This is a time when the people expect much from the Great ones in authority, and will not be disappointed.

For 388 people who have signed.

(F.to Dott. A. Piccolo).  
(signed as above).

N.B. It has been deemed wiser not to have everybody sign, so as not to place them in a dangerous position, owing to the difficulty of passing the frontier of the Zone, as this is rigidly controlled.



Il Ministro degli Affari Esteri

Rece,

Caro Ammiraglio,

Un numeroso gruppo di fiumani ha diretto a me, e per conoscenza all'Ambasciatore degli Stati Uniti e al Generale Moreau, la lettera di cui accludo copia.

Poiché tale lettera contiene un quadro aggiornato e molto veridico della situazione a Fiume, La prego, caro Ammiraglio, di volere interessarsi affinché le notizie di cui si tratta vengano portate a conoscenza della Commissione degli Esperti che si recherà nella Venezia Giulia.

Mi creda, caro Ammiraglio

*Agony*



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Mi creda, caro Ammiraglio

*Ammy*

AMMIRAGLIO ELLERY W. STONE  
Capo della Commissione Alleata

R.O.M.A.

4321



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

Folios 342 to 336  
Translation sent  
to GS see 275



31 Dmistro degli Affari Esteri

5/242

Rough translation

Rome, February 26th, 1946

MAR 1 1946

Dear Admiral Stone,

Repeated reports concerning the situation which is being created in the town of Piume, move me to bring to your notice a further information which has just reached me from that town: during the last weeks the Yugoslav Authorities have taken over the direct management of the "Raffineria di Olio Minerale Società per Azioni" of Piume, which belongs to a semi-governmental Italian concern. The new administration of the firm has decided the dismissal of over one hundred persons on its pay-roll who for many years were employed by ROMSA but who refused to adhere to the Yugoslav Federative.

Such a measure is in flagrant contrast with the attributions pertaining to the Military Power occupying the region and I should consequently be grateful to you if you would call also this information to the attention of the Allied Commission which is about to visit the Venezia Giulia.

Believe me, dear Admiral Stone,

(sgd) DE GASPERI



created in the town of Piume, move me to bring to your notice a further information which has just reached me from that town: during the last weeks the Yugoslav Authorities have taken over the direct management of the "Raffineria di Olio Minerale Società per Azioni" of Piume, which belongs to a semi-governmental Italian concern. The new administration of the firm has decided the dismissal of over one hundred persons on its pay-roll who for many years were employed by ROMSA but who refused to adhere to the Yugoslav Federative.

Such a measure is in flagrant contrast with the attributions pertaining to the Military Power occupying the region and I should consequently be grateful to you if you would call also this information to the attention of the Allied Commission which is about to visit the Venezia Giulia.

Believe me, dear Admiral Stone,

(sgd) DE CASPERI

Admiral Ellery W. STONE  
Chief Commissioner  
Allied Commission  
ROME

*ALL DIST - 1 Memo*

*ACTION - EXEC COMMA*

*- CHIEF COMMA*

*- POLAD D*

*- ROMSA D*

*4/2/54  
LCH/34C*

*See 252.254*



Ministro degli Affari Esteri

5/242

Roma, 12 26 Febbraio 1945.-

Caro Ammiraglio,

A seguito delle mie ripetute segnalazioni circa la grave situazione creatasi nella città di Fiume, desidero trasmetterle un'ulteriore notizia testè giunta da quella città: la Autorità Jugoslava hanno provveduto nelle attive manovre a prendere la gestione diretta della 'Raffineria di Olii Minerali Società per Azioni' di Fiume, che è propria di enti parastatali italiani, e la nuova amministrazione dell'azienda ha disposto il licenziamento di oltre un centinaio di dipendenti, che prestavano da lunghi anni la loro opera presso la R.O.M.S.A., ma che si sono rifiutati di aderire alla Federative Jugoslava.

Tali misure sono in flagrante contrasto con le attribuzioni spettanti alla Potenza militare occupante la zona ed io Le sarò pertanto grato se vorrà portare anche questa notizia a conoscenza della Commissione Alleata che si accinge a visitare la Venezia Giulia.

Mi creda, caro Ammiraglio,

*Agui*



creazione creatasi nella città di Fiume, desidero trasmetterle un'ulteriore notizia testè giunta da quella città: le autorità jugoslave hanno provveduto nelle settimane scorse a prendere la gestione diretta della "Raffineria di Olii Minerali Società per Azioni" di Fiume, che è proprietà di enti parastatali italiani, e la nuova amministrazione dell'azienda ha disposto il licenziamento di oltre un centinaio di dipendenti, che prestavano da lunghi anni la loro opera presso la R.O.M.S.A., ma che si sono rifiutati di aderire alla Federative jugoslava.

Tali misure sono in flagrante contrasto con le attribuzioni spettanti alla Potenza militare occupante la zona ed io le serò pertanto grato se vorrà portare anche questa notizia a conoscenza della Commissione Alleata che si accinge a visitare la Venezia Giulia.

Mi creda, caro Ammiraglio,

*guy*

ALL'AMMIRAGLIO ELLERY W. STONE  
Capo della Commissione Alleata  
R O M A

6619



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

785017

33/532

folios 372-383 transferred to file 650/EC.

Ref: 5/241 dated 26 Feb. 46.

From: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



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

330

Ref: 591/330/83

23 February 1946

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Activities in Venezia Giulia.

TO : SCAD AMI Venezia Giulia.

247 Jul III

1. Reference your 13a/182/203/129 of 20 November 1945, para 1.
2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs have sent a further letter, 6/803/386 dated 18 February 1946 (copy attached) on the above subject.
3. Your comments would be appreciated.

For the Chief Commissioner,

B. SANDSON

Brigadier  
Executive Commissioner

PA 12 BU  
5/3  
H. H. F.



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

Subject: Clandestine enrolments in Gorizia.

1. Reference is made to comm 2 of Allied Commission's note 591/18/EC dated November 23th, 1945, concerning the clandestine enrolments which have taken place in Gorizia.

2. A further report which has reached this Ministry is transcribed hereunder:

"On October 5th, 1945, some individuals belonging to the Gama have started, during the afternoon, to personally distribute written enrolment inflections containing the order to proceed to the Tolmino (Gorizia) assembling center.

Some of the persons so approached complied to the request whereas others did refuse.

On that occasion other individuals made the rounds of the town of Gorizia carrying out propaganda for enlistment in the Slovene Division "Gorica".

The leader of this propaganda is a former corporal in the Italian Air Force, by the name of Peteani, who came purposefully from Mostar (Croatia) together with another unidentified former member of the Italian Air Force, who is likewise engaged in propaganda activities.

Those who complied to the request, numbering 4 or 5, all belonging to the Italian Air Force, left for Yugoslavia a few days later for a pilot's secondary training course. They were absent for about one month and returned thereafter to their homes.

They are still unemployed and although belonging to poor families of unskilled tradesmen they are now spending freely. They move in pro-Slav quarters.



263 (HHS)  
1. Reference is made to comm 2 of Allied Commission's note 591/18/EC dated November 29th, 1945, concerning the planned enrollment which have taken place in Gorizia.

2. A further report which has reached this Ministry is transcribed hereunder:

"On October 6th, 1945, some individuals belonging to the Gama have started, during the afternoon, to personally distribute written enrollment injunctions containing the order to proceed to the Tolmino (Gorizia) assembling center.

Some of the persons so approached complied to the request whereas others did refuse.

On that occasion other individuals made the rounds of the town of Gorizia carrying out propaganda for enlistment in the Slovene Division "Gorica".

The leader of this propaganda is a former corporal in the Italian Air Force, by the name of Peteani, who came purposefully from Mostar (Croatia) together with another unidentified former member of the Italian Air Force, who is likewise engaged in propaganda activities.

Those who complied to the request, numbering 4 or 5, all belonging to the Italian Air Force, left for Yugoslavia a few days later for a pilot's secondary training course. They were absent for about one month and returned thereafter to their homes.

They are still unemployed and although belonging to poor families of unskilled tradesmen they are now spending freely. They move in pro-Slav quarters.

The general opinion is current that they belong to the "Gama".

Rome, February 18th, 1946



1011  
1/4/46

(11556)



785017

591

327

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
13 CORPS

9 February 1946

FEB 13 1946

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Activities in Venezia Giulia.

TO : Office of the Executive Commissioner,  
Headquarters,  
Allied Commission.

321

1. Reference your letter 591/321/42 dated 31  
January 1946.

324-326

2. Attached please find copy reports received  
from Headquarters, Venezia Giulia Police Force,  
regarding SCHIAVONI Antonio.

H. P. P. ROBINSON  
Col.

H. P. P. ROBINSON,  
Colonel,  
A/SCAG.

Encls:

See M. 328

4916

PA  
1412  
E



COPY

12 Nov 45

This night at about 130 hrs guard SCHIAVUZZI Antonio, on guard duty at the entrance of the caserma, heard the bell ring and a knocking on the door.

He went from the guard room to the door and opened the small window in the door to see who it was, but a hand covered the window.

He immediately closed the window and went upstairs to the first floor and from a window he saw in Via Bologna 3 individuals one of them armed with an Italian Beretta machine gun mod. 38 on his shoulder waiting near the door of the caserma. The second stood near to him, unarmed.

The third just came down from the lorry which was on the street, near the entrance to the caserma.

When the three individuals noticed Schiavuzzi they left immediately and went towards the public gardens.

Schiavuzzi in the meantime, had informed, the duty NCO corp. MARCHESE Angiolino, of the matter but being unarmed he was not able to do anything to stop the men.

The lorry was tied up with a chain and padlock and therefore they have not been able to carry it away.

It may be considered that the individuals did not have the intention of stealing the lorry but rather to enter the caserma and get hold of Schiavuzzi, following the incident which had occurred previously and which was reported in my confidential report No. 1.

In consideration of this, the guard on the entrance have been raised in strength to two men and 1 NCO i/c.

sgd: Di Pasquale.



COPY

Confidential Report

8 Nov 45

Yesterday guard SCHIAVUSZI Antonio, born in Umago on 15 Oct 1924, single, Uniform Branch Trieste Zone informed his commandant that on 7 inst, a certain GIVONVICH Mario living in Umago, brother of his brother-in-law, informed that his father has been arrested in Umago by order of certain TOMIC Rado, chief of the Yugoslav committee in that Commune.

Reason for the arrest is that Schiavuzzi is a member of VHP.

The arrested has been carried into the Prison of PISINO, yesterday.

Schiavuzzi further informs that some days ago he met TOMIC who comes often to this town by car in the Tito uniform with badges showing that he is a political commissario.

He is a farmer of Istria (Pinguente) and lives with his parents in Rozazzo (Umago).

Sgd: Podesta'

9 Nov 45



0 0 324  
COPY

Persuant to report dated 8th Inst. it is informed that guard SCHIAVUZZI's father who was arrested in Urago and carried to the Pisino prison has been released and warned by TOMIC chief of the Yugoslav committee, to get his son to resign from VPP and come back to the Comune to avoid some further trouble.

Schiavuzzi has been informed of this through his sister who came to Trieste for the purpose of informing him.

Sgt: Podestati



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

Ref: 591/322/80

January 1946

Dear Dr. Prunas,

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter 5/74 dated 26 January 1946 and to inform you that its contents have been passed to the appropriate authorities for action.

Yours very truly,

Brigadier  
Executive Commissioner

Dr. Renato Prunas,  
Secretary General  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Rome.

M. 323

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

Ref: 521/321/ED

31 January 1946

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Activities in Venezia Giulia.

TO : SCAG 488 XIII Corps.

1. Copy of letter 5/74 dated 26 January 1946 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is attached.

2. Would you please investigate the alleged incident and report to this HQ.

N. W. HIND-SMITH

Brigadier  
Executive Commissioner



785017

591

320

TRANSLATION

MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

5/74

Rome 26 January 1946

Dear General:

It is referred to me that in Trieste, during the night of the 12th November 1945, about one o'clock, three armed men tried to capture the ex-carabiniere Schiavuzzi Antonio, born in Lago (Istria), while he was on orderly-duty at the barracks in Via Cologna.

In signaling to you the above fact, that confirms to which extreme the action of the Yugoslav "activists" of Trieste can arrive, I should be very grateful if you will interest on the matter the Allied Authorities of this city.

I remain,

Il segretario Generale

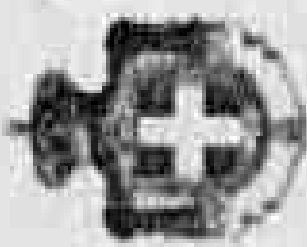
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Ministro degli Affari Esteri

IL SEGRETARIO GENERALE

Roma,

20 GEN 1944

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5/74

Caro Generale,

Mi è stato riferito che a Trieste, nella notte del 12 novembre s.s., verso le ore 1, tre individui armati avrebbero tentato di catturare l'agente Schimanski Antonio, da Umanogo (Istria), ex carabinieri, mentre trovavasi in servizio di piantone alla caserma di via Colonna.

Del segnalato tale fatto, che viene a confermare a quelli estremi giunga l'azione dei cosicetti "attivitisti" jugoslavi a Trieste. Le sarei grato, caro Generale, se Ella volesse interessarne le autorità militari alleate in quella città.

Suo, cordiale saluto  
IL SEGRETARIO GENERALE

*R. Rinaldi*

Brigadier H.S. 1158  
Executive Commissioner  
Allied Commission



Caro Generale,

Mi è stato riferito che a Trieste, nella notte del 12 novembre s.d., verso le ore 1, tre individui armati avrebbero tentato di ostacolare l'agente Schiavuzzi Antonio, de Vago (Isirio), ex carabinieri, mentre trovavasi in servizio di vigilanza alla caserma di via Colombo.

Nel segnalare tale fatto, che viene a confermare a quali estremi giunge l'onione dei cosiddetti "attivitisti" Jugoslavi a Trieste, Le sarei grato, caro Generale, se Ella volesse interessarne le autorità militari alleate in quella città.

Suo, cordiale saluto  
R. R. R.

R. R. R.

Brigadier A.S. LUSH  
Executive Commissioner  
Allied Commission

See 120

4000



JAN 22 1946

JAN 24 1946

A REPORT TO THE COMPTONVILLE FOR ACTUAL

SITUATION IN SLOVENIA

I.

The situation in Slovenia at the war beginning (Spring 1941).

1. a) The communist party in Yugoslavia was declared illegal. Its activity during 20 years was illegal and secret. Every now and then its work came to light through posters, wall inscriptions as well as by occasional murders of faithless and disloyal members who knew too much. Simultaneously legal associations were founded, disguised under innocent slogans, to attract young idealists who were too ready to believe. Communist students of Ljubljana University founded a legal Slovenian club, the first met in Slovenian youth association. However, the number of communist members was very limited and of no great importance. On the contrary, the communists had a long years' experience in founding and leading their illegal organizations. Their secret nets were spread out all over the country by leaders who were educated in Soviet Russia.

Moscow Komintern was considered by Yugoslavia since ever as an highly important basis for the penetration into the Central and South-west Europe as well as the starting point to attack the centre of the Catholic Church - the Pope. The bad and strained relations between the Croats and Serbs were welcomed by the Yugoslav communists as a suitable place on which to carry out the political and social revolution.

b) Slovenian Catholics, particularly those assembled in religious and cultural associations noticed quickly the plans of atheistic Communism. They did not ignore their leaders. They started therefore without any reluctance the ideological fight against the faults of Communism. For this struggle they prepared themselves by systematic study of the ecclesiastical social sciences resumed in Pope Pius XI's letter "Quadragesimo anno" of May 15th, 1931 as well as in the letter "Divini Redemptoris" of March 13th, 1937. This was done in conformity with the serious appeal of Pope in the said letter of 1937 "ad certamina Dei causa certanda". The Pope saw in Communism a danger for all nations, a danger which surpasses all Church persecutions up to the



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2. The beginning of war between Germany and Yugoslavia (6.IV.1941) was regarded by the Communist Party as the most welcome and suitable moment to start a revolution. The Communists aimed therefore at the creation of the greatest possible chaotic conditions in the country.

a) Both the discipline and the attack force of Yugoslav Army were undermined from the very beginning of the "mobilization by the Communists. Leaflets with the inscriptions: "Arms off!", "Don't fight for Capitalism!", "Don't fly!", "We not servants of capitalists!" were distributed to soldiers. Simultaneously they developed a great propaganda amidst the national youth to create a voluntary corps. Thus the



youth, not yet subject to military service, but nationally enthusiastic, was removed from their homes and the Communists remained at home preparing the revolution.

b) At this time the Pact between Hitler and Stalin was still in force. Slovenian Communists cooperated with Nazis who occupied a great part of Slovenia. Leading Communists acted as confidants of German occupation forces. Gestapo and other German paramilitary organizations helping to arrest catholic and national Slovenians in Upper Slovenia. For his pro Nazi services f.i. the Communist Luker from Trzinje-Neumarkt, was rewarded with the post of commissioner in Koper; another Communist came from Kranj-Preinburg got a factory manager post the proprietor having been removed by Nazis.

c) In the Province of Ljubljana - the part of Slovenia occupied by Italians - the Slovenian Communists developed a great propaganda for Hitler's Germany against Italians. They spoke of a great food shortage and great unemployment in Italy and praised Germany for having a good ration organization and the best work and wage conditions. A special committee in Under Slovenia went to see the Nazi district leader and to ask him to occupy their land; another armed manifestation with a swastika cross, organized and led by Communists went to Trebnje to expel the Italian forces. Naturally, the attack ended with a bloody retreat. The Nazi persecutions of Slovenian intelligence suited the Communist Party (clergymen, teachers, lawyers, influential promoters etc who were removed by force from their homes and whose fortunes were confiscated). The Communists criticized the Italian Government in the province of Ljubljana and reproached it for letting the Church work freely and for giving asylum to priests and laics who have been expelled by Nazis.

## II.

### Liberation Front first steps against Slovenians.

1. Every movement aiming at the liberation from the yoke of the occupier or at the safeguarding of the fellow-countrymen, was extraordinarily sympathetic to all Slovenians irrespective of their political considerations. There was no one against such an idea. It would be not a difficult task to create a common liberation movement. What is then the reason that this idea failed and that a civil war during



c) In the Province of Ljubljana - the part of Slovenia occupied by Italians - the Slovenian Communists developed a great propaganda for Hitler's Germany against Italians. They spoke of a great food shortage and great unemployment in Italy and praised Germany for having a good ration organization and the best work and wage conditions. A special committee in Ljubljana went to see the Nazi district leader and to ask him to occupy their land; another armed manifestation with a swastika cross, organized and led by Communists went to "reclaim" to expel the Italian forces. Naturally, the attack ended with a bloody retreat. The Nazi persecutions of Slovenian intelligence suited the Communist Party (clergymen, teachers, lawyers, influential processors etc who were removed by force from their homes and whose fortunes were confiscated). The Communists criticized the Italian Government in the Province of Ljubljana and reproached it for letting the Church work freely and for giving asylum to priests and laics who have been expelled by Nazis.

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The sole reason for the failure is the communist uncompromising standpoint which aimed at one single and permanent goal i.e. political and social revolution in Yugoslavia.

2. After the German attack on Soviet Russia, June 22, 1941, the Communists began to organize the "Liberation Front" in Slovenia. Many not informed were misled by the national and liberation disguise. The fact that the "Liberation Front" was a communist concern and not a national movement comes out clearly of the following facts:

a) In the first Executive Committee of the Liberation Front



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there were 12 Communists out of 18 members, thus having the absolute majority and decision vote in all problems.

b) The Liberation Front was not subordinated to K.M.'s Secretary of War and Supreme Commander in Chief Draža Mihailović who did not capitulate with his troops and who first organized the military resistance on the Yugoslav territory. The communist leadership in Liberation Front kept aloof the King and his Government and took at the very beginning of the Liberation Front a revolutionary attitude against Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

c) The Communist Party only entered the Liberation Front as an organized unit and as a leading organ, the rest entered the Front as single individuals only.

d) Liberation Front was organized on a pure communist system. There were two organs, namely the Liberation Front and the Communist Party, however, all important posts in the organization system of the Liberation Front were occupied by Communists. The Committee's Secretary of Liberation Front was always simultaneously member of the Communist Party.

3. The consequence was that those strata of the population who were for the King and refused to give the national leadership over to the International Communist Party which was numerically small, did not join the Liberation Front movement. Liberation Front was joined by single individuals of the three democratic parties (Slovenian People's Party, Yugoslav National Party and Socialist Party) or by some little party groups. The parties' head offices and the great majority of party members soon discovered the national disguise of the communist revolution. They organized illegally under the supreme command of General Draža Mihailović their own defence forces, i.e. Slovenian Legion, Sokol Legion and "Fellows" who were later acting under the name of National Legion.

4. Legions loyal to the King supposed that every organized action against the victorious occupier was premature and, owing to brutal cruelties and reprisals, which would be carried out on the little Slovenian nation extremely dangerous. Therefore they intended to build up their organization, to gather arms in greatest secrecy and wait the mo-



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4. Legions loyal to the King supposed that every organized action against the victorious occupier was premature and, owing to brutal cruelties and reprisals, which would be carried out on the little Slovenian nation extremely dangerous. Therefore they intended to build up their organization, to gather arms in greatest secrecy and wait the moment to receive order from the Royal Government in London to attack in conformity with Great Allies the occupation Forces. It is most comprehensible that broad masses of the population ignored the existence of these illegal detachments.

5) The Communist Party and the Liberation Front took a hostile attitude against the King loyal legions as because they presented a great obstacle to their revolutionary goal. They directed their arms not against occupiers, Fascists and Nazis, but against their own countrymen, particularly officers, who remained loyal to their officers' oath and commanded the legions organized by them. Thus the first victim of the Liberation Front was neither a Fascist nor a Nazi but a young engineer Vamer, an ideal nationalist and a very able organizer of anticomunistic Slovenian "Chetniks" who were loyal to the King.



On this day, December 7th, 1941 started the series of murderous attacks carried out by Liberation Front and reached the top in September 1943 the date on which 120 King's loyal officers, were shot by the Italian artillery helped by the Liberation Front. The legions thus received a deadly hit from which they slowly recovered.

### III.

#### The attempt of political and social revolution of the

#### Communist Party and Liberation Front and their consequences.

1. Following Lenin's doctrine a revolution which wants to be successful has to have an interior foe in the country to fight against him with greatest terror, to conquer him and to show its irresistible force. If there is not adversary it must be found out. The Communist party in the Liberation Front adheres loyally to this rule of its teacher.

a) Soon after the creation of the Liberation Front a firm attack against the "White Guard" was launched. The "White Guard" was alleged to betray its nation, to jeopardize its freedom and which is more dangerous than the occupier itself. Therefore it has to be ruthlessly destroyed. This struggle against the "White Guard" has been the most sacred and important task of the partisans and Liberation Front detachments. At first everybody was astonished and ignored the significance of the "White Guard" (a name borrowed by the Communist Party from the time of bolshevik revolution). Nobody knew or heard anything about an armed counter-organization. The anticommunist reaction was based peculiarly on an ideal field. This fact must be stressed.

b) Since the Autumn 1941 the Communists held numerous meetings under disguise of Liberation Front. The meetings were attended "voluntarily" by the population of the "liberated" territory. The communist viewpoint was more and more openly propagated at the starting point to a better world to general satisfaction.

The attendants soon understood the real meaning of liberty principles of the Liberation Front i.e. of the communist doctrine. Therefore they refused to join in masses the Liberation Front, as it was expected by the leaders. They kept off and were reproached as traitors



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The attendants soon understood the real meaning of liberty principles of the Liberation Front i.e. of the communist doctrine. Therefore they refused to join in masses the Liberation Front, as it was expected by the leaders. They kept off and were reproached as traitors and "White Guards". The wireless Liberation Front propaganda and press spoke about general enthusiasm of the population for the Allied powers.

The atheistic viewpoint was genuinely hidden from the faithful population. It was more openly discussed at the party meetings and education lectures for political commissioners. There are many witnesses proving that the partisans were first directed to tell beads in the families. Soon they would openly fight against the faith and throw God out of the human society.

2. The anticommunist majority of the population was before long systematically instructed about the communist propaganda of the Liberation Front. The Catholics headed this intellectual struggle and still



more the catholic students, the young catholic workers as well as the country youth which organized the Catholic Action and studied seriously years and years the social problem and the communist viewpoint in the light of the Pope's messages as having been stated in "Quadragesimo anno" and "Divini Redemptoris". The catholic youth was so well instructed when discussions were held, that the leaders of the Communist party ordered their members to avoid further exchange of opinions. Thus the Communist Party was compelled to recognize its great and numerous minority in the struggle. It passed over to other means, to terrorist deeds. Very honest and influential men fell as victims.

3. a) The victims were represented by the well organized communist propaganda as traitors, sometimes even before the murder was carried out. In the Spring 1942 fell in Ljubljana some high school students and priests as victims and in the country some priests particularly those who instructed their faithful in the communist errors. Thus 17 priests in 1942 and 12 priests in 1943 were murdered charged with treason. Besides priests members of Catholic Action were murdered by the Communists. They did not even recoil from murdering women and girls. The Communists aimed at the intimidation of the population not to give an armed resistance to Communism and at the removing of all leaders. As the population took the law in its own hands, the Communists started the same method in the Nazi-occupied Upper Slovenia. There the population was not at all instructed on the self defence. In September 1942 fell as victims two influential proprietors Vrank and Verjan. The latter victim Broder, former Member of Upper House, happened to escape. None of the three could be represented by the Communists neither as traitor nor organizer of an armed selfdefence.

b) By means of little traffic troubles and unimportant shootings at the Fascist occupation troops, that had no influence on the course of the general military events, the Communists caused by their terrorist acts terrible reprisals of Italians and Nazis in Upper Slovenia: hundreds of hostages were shot, entire localities were burned, removal of about 30,000 people to infamous and horrible concentration camps where many died, was carried out. Although the Pope's intervention shooting and burning stopped, but the concentration camps were not given up. The intention of the Communist Party and of the Liberation Front was to cause now and then a new start of Fascist and Nazi reprisals and thus compelling the population to take to the



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#### 4. The consequences.

a) Young men thus threatened fled not to the partisans, because they refused the communist leadership. They formed illegal and armed detachments who were twice harassed by occupation troops and by the partisans. To keep up such a situation was before long not possible. The first self-defence units were organized in both eastern part (Gorjanci) and western part of Slovenia (St. Mark in Upper Slovenia).

b) The mayors who were so often looted and plundered by partisans if young men of their district were forcibly mobilized and



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punished by hard occupation measures, demanded repeatedly protection of life and property from occupier. According to the existing laws the mayors were obliged to take care of order, security and peace in their districts. However, according to the rules of international law it was the duty of the occupier to take this care. For this purpose he is entitled to create a national militia. The mayors permanently demanded from occupier to execute this task by their own occupation troops. If they would be unwilling or they would not carry out the necessary measures, then the occupier has to grant the mayor a national militia or to organize his own police.

In July 1942 the Italian occupation forces allowed, for the territory of the Ljubljana Province, the creation of Village Guards. They were given arms and munition in small quantities as well as the official name Voluntary Anticomunistic Militia. They were not allowed to have a single Slovenian commanding officer to carry out a complete organization. The occupier was afraid that a united leadership might raise the arms against Italians. The Village Guards were under the secret leadership of the Yugoslav Slovenian Military Council and which was closely in contact with Commander in Chief General Mikešlovic.

5. a) The main goal of the Communist Party has been to carry out the communist revolution and not primarily to fight against the occupier. The Communists started a bitter attack against Village Guards and those who helped or only sympathized with them. In their propaganda the Communists and the Liberation Front did not mention that their violent and brutal attacks against the antirevolutionary and anticomunistic minded population were the reason which compelled the people to take arms and to save their lives. For this purpose the people took arms from those who possessed them. Should be better perhaps to allow the Communists to proceed to a general plunder and to slaughter all anticomunistic Slovenians and without trying to defend themselves with the arms which were in the hands of occupation forces.

Without any war necessity enormous damage representing hundreds of millions was inflicted by the communist partisans to the small Slovenian people: almost all school buildings, public asylums, churches, castles, public institutions, were burnt or destroyed and levelled with the earth - all done under pretext of keeping the buildings from the use of Home Guards. Some villages whose population would not join the communist partisans were burnt and the people removed from their homes. A destruction of national goods without any reason.



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b) It would have been an easy task for Italian troops to grant the anticommunist minded majority of Slovenians peace and security, but they did not want it. The troops were strolling about in the Province, disturbed the people, but took no steps and no action against the rioters. They repeatedly prevented the security actions of the Village Guards and helped thus willfully the communist revolution. General Ruggero said in Autumn 1942: "We want not to remove the Partisans".

The partisans were also directly helped by Italians. In a Village Guard victory was to be expected, the partisans were given arms and munition by Italians. Thus every serious Home Guard action was checked. Many witnesses might prove it. Is a matter of fact two wagons of munition and arms were handed over to partisans near the railway station



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Drenov Grič (on the railroad Ijubljana-Vrhnika) and near railway station Straza (on the railroad Novo mesto-Topolce). What the Italians intended by that Colonel Rossi explained himself: "We will allow no party to gain or to get strong; to keep the balance we will furnish both parties with arms, munition and even with clothing". The distressed position of the Slovenian people to which it came through resorting to self-defence, served the Italian and German cynical policies not to allow the civil war to end but to allow the fratricidal struggle to develop.

IV.

#### Evolution after the Italian capitulation September 1943.

1. After the Italian capitulation the Nazi occupation of the Ljubljana Province being imminent the Secret Village Guard H.Q. was prepared to make a compromise with the partisans aiming at one sole resistance movement against Nazis. Therefore single units were given special orders. The Italian General Cerutti joined in Novo mesto the partisans with his whole division, arms and munition. The Communist Party now felt strong and rejected every compromise with Village Guards and Chetniks, demanding complete surrender by them. Nevertheless some Village Guard troops were misled by false assertion that a compromise have been already contracted between both parties, thus some innocently seduced Village Guards, who joined the partisans having not the faintest idea of trickery were merciless slaughtered. As answer to the appeal some of the Village Guards and the Yugoslav Chetnik officers who were captured, were shot immediately at Cerarice and others subsequently at Kocervje on October 12th, 1943. Without any loyal proceedings many hundreds of captured Village Guards were shot. Half opened mass graves in Jelendol, Mosel and Velike Jaske proved much the criminal attitude of Communists. The greatest part of Village Guards dispersed in those critical days. They gathered again soon and accepted certain routes in the offensive against the Italian and German troops. The partisan troops under communist command who considered the time being apt to carry out the revolution successfully and to seize the power.

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2. a) General Rupnik, who was appointed as President of the Ljubljana Province, organized in conformity with the approval of the Nazi occupation authorities, out of the remnants of Village Guards the Slovenian Home defence. This Slovenian self defence organization had the same task as it had before the Village Guards in conformity with the rules of international law.

b) The knownest reproach that Slovenian self defence took the oath to Hitler, was done in all the Communist Party through its propaganda in allied countries. The facts are following: The German Command demanded the oath from Slovenian self defence and proposed to the Slovenian staff the form of it. Both the staff and the Slovenian officers refused to take the oath according to this form because it would be an oath to Hitler. They alleged that they were still bound by the oath taken to King Peter and Yugoslavia. Therefore they could not fight against anyone as they would and could fight in conformity to



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their oath against the enemies of their country only. Then another form of oath was made according to which the Slovenian selfdefence was bound to fight in their own country only against Communists and their helpers (i.e. partisans who were not members of the Communist Party but helped the Communist Party to seize the power). So that Hitler's name should appear in the oath, the German Command added: "at the side of the German forces under Hitler's supreme command", provided these German forces would protect the population from the communist revolution.

It comes out clearly that so Slovenian Home Guard can take the oath to Hitler and did not place himself under his command nor could be engaged in a struggle outside his Slovenian land. They were not bound still in conformity with the oath, to fight against western Allied forces who were so eagerly expected as liberators by the Slovenian population. The Slovenian Home Guard acted exclusively at being compellorily disguised Yugoslav Army of King Peter shaped similarly as the Village Guards. Simultaneously they were deeply convinced that the appeal of King Peter to join Tito's army was not seriously and sincerely meant.

3. In "liberated" areas, the Liberation Front organized district elections without delay after the "liberation". It was broadcasted and such reports were repeated in good faith by foreign broadcast - that these elections were "the first free elections in the history of the Slovenian people" with 100% participation and that all proposed candidates were unanimously elected. The world believed that the entire Slovenian nation stands closely behind the communist liberation Front and that a small minority of paid traitors only stood aside. Many eyewitnesses may prove that such is the real picture of the first "free" held elections: A communist group assembled all grown up persons of a locality. A speech was then made on the liberty which had been gained and on the free elections which will take place and at which only those reliable "nationalists" might participate who have observed well of the Liberation Front (i.e. Communist Party). The voters were surrounded by the armed soldiers of the Liberation Front. The speaker presented then the candidates put forward by the Liberation Front (i.e. Communist Party), without any collaboration of the voters. These voters who did not approve of the proposed candidates were told to raise their hands. Under such "circumstances" the elections were held unanimously. The elections of the representatives were held later, publicly and orally, the candidates being put forward officially by



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4. The three democratic political parties of Slovenia assembled at the end of 1941 in the so-called Slovenske Savaze. They laid down a common frame-programme. On October 20th, 1944 they assembled again as National Committee (Narodni odbor) and issued a proclamation in which democratic, justice-just, socially advanced and up to date principles were laid down. All this was done, quite naturally, secretly and illegally. The National Committee organized simultaneously out of illegal armed detachments and more toward the Slovenian National Army as an essential part of the Yugoslav Army loyal to the King. The Home Guard, with a few exceptions considered themselves as silent members of the National Army till the occasion should come to act as open members.



These were the circumstances at the arrival of Marshal Tito's Army composed of Greek, Bulgarian, Albanian, Romanian and Italian communists and of only small number of Yugoslavs from Serbia and Montenegro. A still smaller number of native Slovenians were incorporated in Tito's army which brought in the "liberty". The Slovenian National Army withdrew before the great and better armed superior forces under its own command across the State boundary to the Allied, because the expected Allied Power's intervention was not carried out. With the National Army almost 20,000 civilians left their homes. As democratic minded and anti-war activists were not sure of their lives and fortune under totalitarian power of the Communist Party and Liberation Front. The actual circumstances in Slovenia, consisting in numerous death sentences, secret liquidations (communist expression for murder) and expropriation of property, prove clearly that they were right.

The role of clergy in anti-communist struggle

1. Both the Bishop and clergy of the Ljubljana diocese adhered to the Pope's letter "Divini Pacis" and tried to carry out in best will and conscience and to put into effect its admonitions and principles to spare the Nation the terrible devastations of atheistic communism. The activity of the clergy was divided in two directions: a) to enlighten the nation and b) to extend and deepen the religious life.

a) The faithful were instructed by preachers and Bishop's pastoral letter in January 1943, in conformity with the Pope's letter "Divini Pacis", on the real character of Communism and on its atheistic goal. The atheistic Communism praised as a new Gospel and a proclamation of a new salvation, represents a system full of errors and sophisms and is in open contradiction to the human reason and to God's Revelation. (Div. Red. nr. 14). The Communism conceals its real goal to those not being in secret by approaching the Catholics in inviting them to humanitarian and charity collaboration. It approaches with a certain clerency and compliance the more religious nations to make them believe their respect for liberty of conscience and free exercise of Divine service. "Make care and pay attention that your faithful are not deceived", the Pope warned the Bishops and went on: "As Communism represents an essential evil, there can be no cooperation with it for any."



The part of clergy in anti-religious struggle

1. Both the Bishop and clergy of the Vojvodina diocese adhered to the Pope's letter "Unigeniti Redemptoris" and tried to carry out in best will and conscience and to put into effect its admonitions and principles to spare the nation the terrible devastations of atheistic communism. The activity of the clergy was divided in two directions: a) to enlighten the nation and b) to extend and deepen the religious life.

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Pope Pius XI issued such self defence appeal against the Communism not only for Catholics but for all those who have faith in God. This task was considered by the Holy Father so important that he asserted: "However noble and good another task for the Church might be, it must give place to the necessity of saving and keeping the foundation of faith and of Christian civilization". (Piv. Red. 52). The broad activity of the Catholic Church against the atheistic Communism was inspired by the Pope and the priests of the Vojvodina diocese, the patron of the Catholic Church.

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These instructions were followed both by parishioners and priests. They started the struggle against Communism in full trust in God.

b) Besides this appeal a religious activity ran to deepen the religious life and the priests were ordered to preach in the sense of the Pope's wishes.

2. The Communist Party broadcast the bitterest reproaches in their great propaganda against the Pope and clergy, which echoed badly abroad. Against the following main reproaches we oppose the following facts:

a) "The clergy organized the White Guard and had thus the principal fault in a civil war."

As it was stated, the need for self defence came out of the people. The organization was carried out by military experts. The clergy was asked only about the moral point of view of an armed resistance. This question was answered by explaining the moral viewpoint on self defence. Now and then the clergy gave advice by instructions and explanation on the danger of the atheistic Communism in the sense of Pope's letters, what is the clergy's task in their pastoral office. We admit and we don't deny that the sympathies of the clergy were on the side of the Village Guards and not on the side of the Communist partisans.

b) "The clergy with arms took part in the struggle and some captured partisans were murdered by the clergy's own hands."

This is the fact: Some priests were ordered to Village Guards and later on to Slovenian Home Guards as well as to the "Upper Slovenian self defence" on strict petition of the soldiers to evacuate the pastoral office. It happened once only that a priest used his gun during an attack, to save the lives of some other soldiers. It is a valiant assertion that priests were shooting.

Another fact is that the Communist partisans were in their activity directed particularly against the priests. "However they came, they searched the 'priests of the White Guard'. After the Italian capitulation some military priests were captured of whom two were sentenced to death. In May 1945, 14 priests were carried off without a trace left. The fact makes believe that they were 'liquidated' besides so many thousands of the Slovenian national army."

c) "Both the bishops and the great majority of the clergy collaborated with occupation forces to the disadvantage of the Slovenian

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c) "Both the bishops and the great majority of the clergy collaborated with occupation forces to the disadvantage of the Slovenian people and therefore made themselves guilty of treason."

Collaboration with Nazis was considered the first crime arguing that Slovenian refugees withdrew to German territory.

It is to be replied as follows:

The Nazis expelled out of 153 parishes both from diocese Ljubljana and Maribor about 600 priests who were not allowed to carry one single piece of clothing with. Before and after the expulsion they were arrested, looted at and inhumanly maltreated. The entire ecclesiastical and private fortune was confiscated. Both the boys' seminary and the Bishop's secondary school were confiscated with their entire inventory, the professors and the students having been sentenced to leave the house within two hours. All possessions of the Ljubljana



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diocese and the Church' religion found were confiscated with the purpose of "strengthening the German power", with no compensation. In the face of this brutal attitude and complete plunder, both the bishops and the clergy did really closely cooperate with the Nazis against his own folk? No normally thinking man can believe this. Such insinuations are so ridiculous that they cannot be believed.

The Bishop protested directly against such attitude of the occupation forces through the Holy See. He never sought contact with the representatives of the occupation authorities. On the contrary, the occupier in fact sought the contact with him. Of course that the Bishop's and parish offices have to come often in contact with occupation authorities in administrative matters in conformity with the existing law prescriptions, however, not in the least to the disadvantage but on behalf of the nation.

Another contact both both of Bishop and clergy with the occupation authorities existed in numerous false traditions on behalf of the arrested, of those sent to concentration camps and condemned Slovenians (often to death sentenced Communists!). All the Ljubljana population can prove the invulnerable masses of people who came daily with their petitions to Bishop and his office to intervene. What a burden represented such work for clergy who were ready to let them humiliate only to be successful in their intervention for the benefit of their faithful.

Social contact with the representatives of occupation forces was maintained by the Bishop within the limits of necessity to make possible the interventions and to return a greeting. In a snapshot was taken at such occasion and the photos dispersed, this cannot be regarded as Bishop's war-crimeal collaboration.

# VI.

## Summary.

The Communist Party in Slovenia organized the Liberation Front in the first line to come to power under disguise of the liberation of the nation from the enemy occupation with the help of non communist minded population and to carry out the political and social revolution. This is proved by the public expression of gratitude to the Communist Party for the Liberation Front organization, which in the first days after the occupation of Ljubljana by Tito's army was broadcast and published in the two newspapers. It is clear that the Liberation Front was a puppet of Communist Party and not, as it was falsely true

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It is pure Communism in Slovenia that reigns now in politics, economics and culture.

From political viewpoint a terror exists which is no inferior to Nazi and Vashist terror. Against the Nazi terror the whole world rose to destroy it. The branch office of the infamous GPH in Slovenia, OZNA works to render all political adversaries harmless and silent. Never in the history of Slovenia so many people were imprisoned. The methods used by the Nazis and Vashists in concentration camps and forced labor, are under the very "democratic" government of the Communist Party in full blossom. People who came out of the communist concentration camp at Starnišče (near Ptuj - Pettau) related it was worse than at Dachau.

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From economic viewpoint the people were in 5 months reduced to poverty. Some examples only: Germany gave for 1,000 Yugoslav Dinars (of which international value was not bad) in 1941, 50 RM, the communist Government gave 50 RM for 30 Tito Dinars. A Slovenian who had in 1941 1,000 Dinars, got 30 Tito Dinars only i.e. 3%. And the prices rose enormously: postal rate for the interior 2 Din, in 1941 1 Din; a box of matches 4 Tito Dinars, in 1941 half a Dinar; newspaper 2 Tito's Din, in 1941 1 Din.

Manufacturers, wholesale merchants, saving banks, banks, cooperatives and similar were put to trial charged on cooperation (i.e. charged with having exploited even under occupation and thus given the employees and workers the possibility of earning their living) and sentenced. The sentence ran to the confiscation of property and loss of civil rights (thus having deprived people of their right to vote).

A supererogated mass is easy to govern as every piece of bread comes from the hands of the Communist Party Government. These not reliable enough and those who criticized are deprived of their one piece of bread. Another employment nobody can find. Therefore: be silent and patient.

The culture is coordinated, no paper or book is allowed to be published if not favourable to communist viewpoint. And there are no opposition printing presses. All were confiscated.

From the religious viewpoint the Communist Government does not conceal any more its atheistic goal: numerous priests (243) were murdered, others (169) put in jails and in concentration camps, 89 disappeared without trace - in total 491. The catholic press is completely suppressed. In the communist press which alone is allowed, heavy attacks against the clergy without any possibility of selfdefence are launched, seminaries are confiscated, the religious instruction set aside and made difficult, sometimes entirely suppressed, all monastery schools suspended, Church property confiscated and so on.

Slovenia, this beautiful little piece of earth, that borders on the North on Germany, and on the South and West on Italy, is an example for other countries and nations to demonstrate how a communist minority coming to power rules over a great majority of a nation in the name of "liberty" and keeps it in slavery in the "very democratic" sense.

October 1945.

W. J. Kelly



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October 1945.

*W. J. Kelly*

4031



*Ministero degli Affari Esteri*

JAN 21 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

Subject: Yugoslav activities in the Venezia Giulia.

1. Reference is made to the Allied Commission's note 591/EC, dated December 12th, 1945.

2. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs beg to inform the Allied Commission that it has not been possible to ascertain whether the reports from Fiume as to what happened to the Vital Statistic records of that city are absolutely correct.

3. Further information will be sent as soon as available.

Rome, January 18th, 1946

*Remaunin*



(Ann 5)

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Office of the Executive Commissioner

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Ref: 391/105/50

3 January 1946

SUBJECT: Yugoslav activities in Venezia Giulia.

TO : The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

1. A reply would be appreciated to this Headquarters' letter 391/50 of 12 December 1945 on the above subject.

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RECEIVED  
NOV 28 1945

L. Brigadier  
Executive Commissioner

see 306

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