

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

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10000/109/330

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REPORTS, LIAISON OFFICER, BOLOGNA
AUG., SEPT. 1945

Examine

1. Attached report from Carl Welton

at 3.

2. I like his suggestion at X in his para (ii)

3. His job to see that the sentence underlined in para (vi) is longer appropriate.

4. The para on Public Safety in para 2 is satisfactory as far as it goes.

5/11/8.

5.

189

C.S.O.

(See 4) ✓ 1. Please b.f. at next En Com meeting.

2. Please take - (ii) with En Com Sec.

3. Please bring copy of Directive 1520s for discussion.

with Brig Tenant

has evidence.

para (1)

3. His job to see that the sentence understood in para (v) no longer applies.

4. The para on Public Safety in para 2 is satisfactory. as far as it goes.

5/11/8.

5.

189

C.S.O.

(See 4) ✓ 1. Please b.f. at next Ex Com. meeting.

2. Please take up (11) with Est Sec.

3. Please bring copy of Director's L.O. for discussion with Brig Tennant.

4. Please see informant will concerned of his residence. If he do so (or) in the Bulletin going to No.

(6) R.C.S.

17/3/8.

⑦

Min 5(1) 4/3

Ref: 610/NO.

1 Sept 45.

Subject: Formation of Liaison Groups.

To: Establishment Section.

The Liaison Officer in Bologna has reported that, when the Region was handed over to the Italian Government and the Liaison Group formed, some difficulty was experienced owing to the re-assignment of personnel, particularly by G-1(A) without consideration to the needs of the Group. In future as soon as it is known that a Region is being handed over and a Liaison Group formed the HQ/TO of the latter should be set up and G-1(A) and G-1(B) informed.

E. TALBOT

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,

187

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By Excl. Hq
4/9
PA 4/9
PA 1/9

610 Liaison Office,
Bologna.

29 August 1945

My dear Brigadier,

Thank you very much for your letter of 19th August; your kind remarks have been passed on to the officers here. May I add that it was a pleasure to have Mrs Lush and yourself here with us.

The Group here is now set up and functioning under some difficulties, caused by lack of experience; these snags can be avoided by other Groups when formed, and I make the following suggestions:

- (i) When a Region closes down, all correspondence is either destroyed or sent to archives, this leaves the Liaison Group rather "naked"; not only are we without former papers when dealing matters raised by Italian Authorities but the various Sections at AC HQ write, referring to previous correspondence, which, of course is not available. As a minimum, current files should be left with the Group together with all recent directives. In fact all correspondence might be left for at least a month after the hand over. Incidentally letters are still being received from HQ addressed to Emilia Region; the news of the disbanding of the Region not having been received.
- (ii) As soon as it is known that a Region is being handed over to the Italian Government and a Liaison Group formed; the WH/TO of the latter should be set up and G-1(B) and G-1(A) informed. Some difficulty has been experienced in Bologna owing to re-assignment of personnel, particularly by G-1(A), without any consideration for the needs of the Group. I had to send an officer to Rome to straighten the matter out. 187
- (iii) It seems essential that officers with knowledge of the area and with local contacts should be kept with the Group. Without such local contacts it is almost impossible to obtain the necessary information; particularly, this refers to Public Safety.
- (iv) An officer or at least a N.C.O. should be left to deal with Finance; I have nominated Major May as a Sub-accountant and, with the services of an experienced N.C.O., he can do the job. The work of the latter is a full time job. It would be preferable for an officer with

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- (ii) As soon as it is known that a Region is being handed over to the Italian Government and a Liaison Group formed; the WE/TO of the latter should be set up and G-1(B) and G-1(A) informed. Some difficulty has been experienced in Bologna owing to re-assignment of personnel, particularly by G-1(A), without any consideration for the needs of the Group. I had to send an officer to Rome to straighten the matter out.
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- (v) Many Italians are being sent to Bologna from Northern Regions for "A.M.G. approval" for the release of various materials in spite of the fact that they are authorized by the principal Italian organization in the Region, i.e. UPIC, Inspectors of Alimentation, Agriculture, etc. It does not seem to be understood that A.M.G. has ceased to function in Emilia, and the approval of the Italian authorities is now sufficient.

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All these things are growing pains, however, and no insurmountable difficulty has been experienced.

So far as conditions in the Region are concerned this is a preliminary report.

Politics. Fairly quiet; no political demonstrations of note to date. There is undoubtedly a tendency to swing to the right - slightly; many so called Communists are transferring their allegiance to the Socialist party. With the bulk of the population the Communists are losing ground by their own stupidity.

Public Safety. No particular deterioration in conditions except that there is an increase in armed banditry in the south of the Region. The riots, which many people expected, have not occurred. There has been about the same numbers of murders and kidnappings, but the CC.P.R. have shown commendable zeal and initiative in some cases and their morale seems to be improving. Much more is necessary however.

Supply. No difficulties encountered. The stockpiling of wood is not going ahead fast enough and the shortage of coal and POL is stressed by all.

Public Health. Good.

Apart from that nothing to report at present; a full official monthly report will be submitted in due course.

Contact has been made with Brigadier Tennant, O.C. 217 Area. He was most helpful and I anticipate no difficulty there.

I hope this is not too long a report but with the impending change further north I thought you would prefer as much as possible.

Yours obediently,

W. J. H. Walters

Brigadier M.S. LUSH, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ Allied Commission.

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Brigadier V.S. LUSH, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ Allied Commission.

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COPY.

August 1945.

My dear Walters:

A line to thank you and your staff for the kindness and hospitality shown to my wife and myself in BOLOGNA. We are most grateful.

I did not leave you a copy of the directive for IO's because I think there will be one or two amendments. But I hope to let you have the complete copy soon and you can then discuss with your Area Commander. In fact you know enough already to be able to do that forthwith. I think you will enjoy your new job and find it full of interest. Remember how much we can all do by maintaining even the most unofficial contacts with Italian authorities and others. We are, after all, pretty good representatives of democracy and all we can give in that line will help the Italians.

Drop me a line DO from time to time and do not forget what I said about your being the prototype of liaison groups in the North. We want to learn all we can from you.

With all our thanks,

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) M. S. DUSE.

Lieut.Colonel T.W.J. Walters,
AC Liaison Officer,
BOLOGNA.

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SEE F. 3

1551