

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

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10000/109/344  
(VOL. I)

WALDE  
JULY -

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

10000/109/344  
(VOL. I)

WALDESIANS IN PIEMONTE  
JULY - NOV. 1945

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C.S.D. Please see 102. State we ask H.A. Piemonte  
if they are checking this little seed.

60 12/10

4

Ex. Com. P. 1-2 - you may be interested  
to see. I will pass to Piemonte Region.

Final 18/10

Mr. Lusk 10/10/60

CO/ 5222 10/24/60

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 623/8/10

7 November 1945

SUBJECT: Waldensians in Piemonte

TO : Polad (A)

1. Reference your letter of 13 October 1945 on the above subject.

2. The following answer has been received from AM2 Piemonte:

"It is reported that the matter referred to has been investigated. People belonging to this religious cult are being treated on the same basis as everyone else. They are receiving the same rations and have the same problem that all Italian have who live in this area."

"The American Embassy may be assured that they are not being persecuted in any way, and that their general condition is as good as could be expected."

R. CANNONSON

Chief Staff Officer  
to Executive Commissioner

679



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623  
HEADQUARTERS  
PIEMONTE REGION  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
APO 394



REFERENCE: PR/312.1

2 Nov 45

SUBJECT : Waldensians in Piemonte.

NOV 1945

TO : Executive Commissioner,  
Hq. Allied Commission. ✓

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1. Reference letter 623/5/EC, subject as above.
2. It is reported that the matter referred to has been investigated. People belonging to this religious cult are being treated on the same basis as everyone else. They are receiving the same rations and have the same problem that all Italians have who live in this area.
3. The American Embassy may be assured that they are not being persecuted in any way, and that their general condition is as good as could be expected.

ERM/JRG.

*Eugene R. McPhee*  
EUGENE R. MCPHEE,  
Colonel, Ordnance,  
Regional Commissioner.

*See 8*

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(MISS JAMPSON)

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

Dispatched  
HQ Piemonte Reg A-13  
Date 11/6/72  
To \_\_\_\_\_

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSIC

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

5

23 October 1945

Ref: 623/5/100

SUBJECT: Waldensians in Piemonte

TO : Regional Commissioner,  
Allied Military Government,  
Piemonte Region

1. Please see attached copy of letter which was sent to the American Embassy here by the Department of State from the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, addressed to the President of the United States.

2. Could you please give me any facts you may have in your possession concerning the fate of the Waldensian people.

B. SANDSON

Chief Staff Officer  
to Brigadier  
Executive Commissioner

Copy to: Polad (A)

See Folio 1

677

B/V  
3/10  
RA  
23/10

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Ex. Comm

(2)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
Office of Political Adviser (A)

October 13, 1945

OCT 18 1945

To: Executive Commissioner's Office  
Subject: Communication Concerning Waldensians  
in Piemonte.

New File

I take pleasure in transmitting herewith a copy of a communication which was transmitted to the Embassy by the Department of State from the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, addressed to the President of the United States concerning the fate of the Waldensian people, who live in the Alpine Valleys west of Turin near Pinerola and Torre Pellice. This report may be of interest to AMG, Piemonte Region.

*Robert H. McBride*

Robert H. McBride  
Assistant Political Adviser (A)

17 OCT 1945

Enclosure:

Copy of letter.

RMCB/jb

675

Long 3124

(Miss Sampson)



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COPY

(1)

SYNOD OF THE  
REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF NORTH AMERICA

Clerk  
REV. R. C. FULLERTON  
New Alexandria, Pennsylvania

July 5, 1945

The Honorable Harry S. Truman,  
President of the United States,  
Washington, D. C.

The Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America respectfully request from you a word of direction to the commanders of our forces and administrators in Italy, and if necessary a word of request to the other Allied forces in behalf of the Waldensian people who live in the Alpine valleys west of Turin (near Pinerola and Torre Pellice) who, we understand, are in distress. This small group of Primitive Christian people are so few that they may be overlooked to destruction.

Historically these people have survived since about A.D. 1000 and possessed the Scriptures in their own tongue much before the Reformation, and were no part of the Protestant Reformation.

We probably do not need to remind you, Sir, that the whole English speaking world would be distressed if our administration of any kind in Italy would result in the destruction of the Waldensian people through any oversight or failure to call their distress to your attention.

Neither do we need to call to your attention that these are the historic descendants of the very people concerning whom the great poet, Milton, wrote the historic sonnet, which begins:

"Avenge, O Lord, Thy slaughtered saints whose bones  
Lie scattered on the Alpine mountains cold,  
Even those who kept thy truth so pure of old  
When all our fathers worshipped stocks and stones."

A directive or a word from you, Sir, may save much people that their blood be not on our arms by neglect.

Sincerely,

R. C. Fullerton (s)

R.C. Fullerton, Clerk 674

See file 2

