

0067

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/348

0068

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

785017

10000/109/348

BOLZANO SITUATION, PETITIONS
SEPT. 1945 - MAR. 1946

0069

785017

Piled B.

45

I agree that to give a totally wrong
 impression. It leaves us in a quandary
 for a follow up letter must now express
 free the officious which I would gladly
 avoid. In the interests of the lower
 I think we must do some thing. What
 do you think of the draft of positive.

W 30/1 890

W 30/1 890

48

Letter at 49 submitted for signature - 420th attached file 585/2

49 25/2 JH. 25/2

49

CSO compiled by an officer not checked

W 25/2

Sim. Letter amended. 26/2

W 25/2

889

the famous petitions have been received by the Council at last.

48 28/2, JH. 28/2

see 450

54.

785017

for a follow up letter must now express
 further opinions which I would gladly
 avoid. In the interests of truth however
 I think we must do some thing. What
 do you think of the draft of position. ^{10/1}

MS 30/1 890

MS to Comm.

48.

Letter at 49 submitted for signature - 420th attached file 585/2
 MS 25/2. MS 25/2

C80

49.

compiled by an officer not ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the}

See Letter amended. ²⁶/₂

MS 25/2

MS to Comm.

884

The favorable petitions have been received
 by the Council at last. MS 28/2. MS 28/2

See 150

C80 MS 14/3

54.

83 for info - the address this time is right.
 MS 14/3

37 submitted for signature - 35 Refer.

41. 14/12.

41

Copy letter at (40) submitted for signature - this is forwarding petitions from Bolzano to Council of Foreign Ministers. Bolad & has advised upon address a letter.

At (35) Bolad & suggests forwarding these reports & also mentioning para # of letter from Biip Dunlop at 19 which has been done in para 2 of (40). He also suggests waiting for further report on the matter from Biip. Dunlop. Report has not yet come in view of handover & the fact that the peace conference is unmonied for the summer would be gratified if ex. c. would consider forwarding the proposals now.

45 20/1

4/10/51

43.

42 for info. As I stated in min. 41 above we were waiting for a further report on the situation from Biip. Dunlop. However this has not been forthcoming in view of the handover etc. Bolad Bolad (B) ~~sent~~ agreed to the suggestion made of forwarding the petitions now 888 Bolad (B)'s minute at 35 was followed in the wording of para 2; as he also said in December '45 that the petitions should be forwarded now (a month ago),

advised upon address a letter.

At (35) Polad B suggests forwarding these reports also mentioning para # of letter from Sir Dunslop at 19 which has been done in para 2 of (40). He also suggests waiting for further report on the matter from Sir Dunslop. Report has not yet come in view of handover & the fact that the peace conference is summoned for the summer would be gratified if S.C. would consider forwarding the proposals now.

BS 2/11

A/cy

43.

42 for info. As I stated in min. 41 above we were waiting for a further report on the situation from Sir Dunslop. However this has not been forthcoming in view of the handover etc.

As Polad (B) ~~exp~~ agreed to the suggestion made of forwarding the petitions 10888 Polad (B)'s minute at 35 was followed

in the wording of para 2; as he also said in December '45 that the petitions should be forwarded now (a month ago), in view of the non-arrival of Sir Dunslop's letter & the fact that it would probably take a month to get a report CSO & Polad (B) decided to despatch these.

44-
BS 30/11

11.11.11

Whether many be the technical men & does for the covering letter was inadequate & does for a wrong impression. W/23/11

785017

22.
 copy to 13/11
 Ref 21. The word - my wording was bad.
 what meant was that if the signatures
 do in fact represent all the German
 speakers in Cologne then they represent over
 90% of the population. At 14 R.C.V.R.
 says the petition "represent a very high
 proportion of public opinion." (though presumably
 he does not mean 90% - perhaps 75%)
 13/11.

in the mountain
 comes

23 to signature reply to 21. pre.
 24. 15/11.
 25 to signature - fold 6 advised para 5. Signed
 27/11. 27/11.

fold (A)
 fold (B)

Would be grateful to you comments on 33.
 35 R. 4/12.

As I wrote on another paper, in full
 the F.O. that A.C. were forwarding the
 petition direct to the Secretariat of the
 Council of Foreign Ministers. I think that
 it would stand her down now. I
 suggest that in the covering letter we
 stick to the wording of para. 1 of
 Brig. Dunlop's letter on folio 15 or. Perhaps

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the portion of public opinion - which presumably
he does not mean 90% - perhaps 75%
Edw. 13/11.

24.

23 to signature reply to 2. pre.

in the meantime
commences

Ed. 13/11.

Belgium:

in reply to 20 224

26.

35 to signature - Polad B advised para 5. Signed

205 27/11

Ed. 27/11.

17-

Polad (A)
Polad (B).

34.

Would be grateful to you comments on 33.

35 Ed. 4/12.

As I wrote on another paper, in fact
the F.O. that A.C. were forwarding the
petition direct to the Secretariat of the
Committee of Foreign Ministers. I am in fact
in what should be done now. I
suggested that in the covering letter we
draw attention to the wording of para. 1 of
Brij. Daulpis letter on folio 15 or. Perhaps
better. first ask him for the further
report which he promised on the subject.

36

J. G. Gopkins

Dec. 6 '45

I concur with Polad (B)

J. G. Gopkins

Pol Ad (Am) Dec. 12/45

785017

C.S.O.

We should if possible when forwarding these papers make quite clear approximately what proportion of the total population they signify is represented. While every common-sense way put forward for this, there seems to be more uncertainty than for this in many cases.

785017

C.S.O. the total population of Bolzano Province is roughly 300,000. The total German-speaking population is 230,000 (roughly). The proportion of German-speakers in each community is unknown, but the signatures represent well over 90% of the total population.

80 15/100.

885

C.S.O. 17 for signature per 80 16/100.

20. 18. 19. 1. enclosed we wait for the report.

80 24/100. 8/18.

What proportion of the total population they
 signatures represent. This even document
 was put forward petition, there were a
 more minority than petitioners in some.

778/13/11

C.S.O. the total population of Bolzano province is
 roughly 300,000. The total German-speaking
 population is 230,000 (roughly). The proportion of
 German-speakers in each commune is unknown,
 but the signatures represent well over 90% of
 the total population.

80 15/10.

886

C.S.O. 17 in signature for 80 14/10.

29/10 24/10. 20.

Ref 19. I suggest we wait for the report.

80 24/10. 1/11.

(21) X: I am very doubtful about this!

Deputy Executive Commission

J. Hopmann

Nov. 13

785017

Mary A
 Paul B

Do you wish to forward these
 petitions to London?

Σ 24/9.

6

By all means, I think these petitions
 should be forwarded to the Council
 of Foreign Ministers in London. Will
 Palad (B) do it through the Foreign
 Office or shall I through the U.S.
 delegation in London?

J. William Jones
 Pal. Ad. (Am) Kyoto 25/45

7

After discussion with Mr. Jones
 I have telegraphed to F.O. asking what
 should be done with these.

8

J. W. Jones
 25/45

0078

785017

Do you wish to forward these
petitioners to London?

Σ 24/9.

6

By all means, I think these petitions
should be forwarded to the Council
of Foreign Ministers in London. Will
Palad (B) do it through the Foreign
Office or shall I through the U.S.
delegation in London?

J. Wellen Jones
Pal. Ad (Am) Reg 25/45

7

after discussion with Mr. Jones

I have telegraphed to F.O. asking what
885

should be done with these.

8

Not out. 10

Ex. Com.

Min 687 for inf.

File

12/10.

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57
Ref: 628/7/50 ✓

29 March 1946

SUBJECT: Release Petitions.

TO : Field 'A'
Field 'B'.56
I enclose for your information a copy of letter dated 26 Feb 1946 from the Council of Foreign Ministers.

For the Chief Commissioner,

A. W. Knisely.

Resident
Executive CommissionerCopy to: C-2, ASIA
C.A. Section
20 10 Holston

884

PA. 2
Q. 100

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Whitchall 3191

COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

LANCASTER HOUSE

LONDON, S.W. 1.

26th February, 1946.

MAR 28 1946

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 14th February, (585/46/EC) enclosing a letter to the former Civil Affairs Officer at Brixen from the Vice Burgomaster forwarding a number of additional petitions for reunion with Austria received from the inhabitants of the Commune of Brixen and other Communes in the district.

I am arranging to bring these petitions to the notice of the Delegations of the Governments members of the Conference of Deputies.

Yours faithfully,

W. D. McAfee

The Acting Chief Commissioner,
Headquarters, Allied Commission
Italy.
A.P.O. 394.

See 51

883

(CAPT K)

0081

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Whitehall 3191

6287
COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
LANCASTER HOUSE
LONDON, S.W. 1.

6th March, 1946.

Dear Sir, 47

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 27th February (628/47/EC) enclosing a list of the Italian, German and Latin speaking population in the Province of Bolzano which has been compiled by an officer of the Allied Commission.

I am arranging to bring this list to the notice of the Delegations of the Governments members of the Conference of Deputies.

Yours faithfully,

W. D. H. A. P.

The Executive Commissioner,
Headquarters,
Allied Commission,
Italy,
A.P.O. 394.

29
(M/355) See Min 541

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52

Ref: 628/52/EC.2. March 1946.

Dear Sir,

50

I have to acknowledge your letter of 14th February and notice that you are arranging to bring these petitions to the notice of the Delegations of the Governments members of the Conference of Deputies.

I would point out, and would ask you to convey the information to the Delegations, that I write from the Allied Commission in ITALY, and not AUSTRIA.

Yours sincerely,

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Secretariat,
Council of Foreign Ministers,
Lancaster House,
LONDON, S.W.1.

MSL/JG.

882

PA. 2/3
JB

R

0083

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Whitehall 3191

628 9
COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
LANCASTER HOUSE
LONDON, S.W. 1.

14th February, 1946.

FEB 25 1946

Dear Sir:

40
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 22nd January, 1946, reference 525/52 enclosing petitions for reunion with Austria received from the inhabitants of the province of Bolzano, Italy.

I am arranging to bring these petitions to the notice of the Delegations of the Governments members of the Conference of Deputies.

Yours faithfully,

W. D. H. Aps

?
The Executive Commissioner,
Headquarters, Allied Commission,
Austria.

(MISS)

See Min 51-
Folio 52.

881

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

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Ref: 623/47/30

24 February 1946

SUBJECT: Bolzano Petitions.

TO : Secretariat of the Council of Ministers
 o/o Foreign Office
 London S.W.1.

46

1. I refer to my letter 585/46/33 of 11 February 1946.

2. Attached please find a list of the Italian, German and Latin-speaking population in the Province of Bolzano, which has been compiled after much study by an ⁸⁸¹⁶⁵⁰ of this Commission, who has been Provincial Commissioner in Bolzano for several months.

3. Although these figures must of course be considered as approximate, it is thought they may be of assistance to you when you study the petitions forwarded in my 585/32 of 22 January 1946.

For the Chief Commissioner,

40

W. B. LUSH

Brigadier
 Executive Commissioner

Copy to: G-5 AFHQ
 Polad 'A'
 Polad 'B'
 G.A. Section
 A.G. LG Bolzano.

See 53

880

PA
 27/2
 E.A.

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47A

ITALIAN, GERMAN and LADINIAN SPEAKING POPULATIONIN THE PROVINCE OF BOLZANO

<u>COMUNES</u>	<u>ITALIANS</u>	<u>LADINS</u>	<u>GERMANS</u>
Appiano	1709		4742
Badia	21	1668	4
Barbiano	196	15	1016
<u>Bolzano</u>	57339	112	13514
Braies	13	5	570
Brennero	980	3	1025
Bressanone	4184	75	5119
Brunico	2020	90	3821
Caines	4		191
Caldaro	1200		3170
Campo Trens	243	3	1926
Campo Tures	174	8	2522
Castelbello Ciardes	67		1712
Castelrotto	483	602	2627
Cermes	158		513
Chienes	142	24	1184
Chiusa	760	19	3139
Cornedo Isarco	485		1666
Corvara Dadia	7	473	4
Curon Venosta	238	1	2067
Dobbiaco	528	2	1778
Falzes	4		1121
Fle'	343	18	1327
Fortezza	859	40	238
Funes	153		1730
Gais	49		1475
Gargazzone	241		312
Glorenza	126		635
Laces	420		2544
Iagundo	698		1832
Laion	120	20	1680
Laives	4209	4	1372
Lana	1176	24	3312
Lasa	200		2098
Luson	20		1110
Malles Venosta	581	12	3603
Marebbe	55	1997	16
Marlengo	888		1351
Martello	12		818
Meltina	1		1010
Merano	18485		7320
Monguelfo	495		1374
Moso	320		1711
Nalles	133		962
Naturno	304	1	1799
Naz Sclaves	141		915
Nova Ponente	151		2341

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Nova Levante	119		975
Ortisei	178	2041	125
Parcines	241		1254
Perca	19		738
Plaus	16		180
Postal	465		257
Prato Stelvio	289		3434
Racines	130	1	2508
Ponte Gardena	111	4	132
Rasun Valdaora	527	10	3260
Renon	703	17	4552
Rifiano	37	2	650
Rio Pustria	210	18	2214
S. Candido	708	5	1729
S. Genesio	49	2	1919
S. Leonardo in Passiria	257		3402
S. Lorenzo in Sebato	135	156	1892
S. Martino Badia	20	2006	6
S. Cristina	84	982	32
Sarentino	230	34	4520
Scena	79		1739
Selva Gardena	253	1015	7
Selva Molini	2		1421
Senales	26		1097
Sesto	30		998
Silandro	568		2135
Sluderno	102		942
Terento	19		1048
Terlano	1150	12	860
Tesimo	66		1676
Tires	87	4	612
Tirolo	183	16	1166
Tubre	248		770
Ultimo	36		3926
Vadena	646		54
Val di Vizze	229		1352
Valle Aurina	50		4353
Valle di Casies	66		1333
Vandoies	173	89	1831
Varna	631	30	1286
Verano	9	1	584
Villabassa	202	7	896
Villandro	2		1330
Vipiteno	1090	15	231878
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>111.610</u>	<u>11.683</u>	<u>164.037</u>

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

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Ref: 585/46/EC.

// February 1946.

SUBJECT: BOLZANO Petitions.

TO : Secretariat of the Council
of Ministers,
c/o Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

I refer to my letter 585/EC of 22 January 1946.

1. I enclose in original a letter to the former Civil Affairs Officer at BRIXEN (BRISSANONE) from the Vice-Burgomaster forwarding a number of additional appeals from inhabitants of the Comune of BRIXEN and other Communes in the district. It will be noted that the signatories in many cases claim to represent a very high proportion of the inhabitants while in others the percentage is not given. While it is true that in the mountain communes particularly near the frontier there is a very high proportion of public opinion in favour of reunion with AUSTRIA, it must be born in mind that in other communes, particularly in the larger ones, the proportion is far lower. In the town of BOLZANO for example there is probably a considerable Italian majority. Even in the town of BRIXEN itself there is an Italian-speaking minority of nearly 20%. Taking the overall position it is probable that approximately about one-third of the inhabitants of the Province are in favour of remaining under Italian administration.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Acting Chief Commissioner,

877

Copy to: G-5, AFHQ
Folads (A) and (B).
CA Section,
AC GIO, BOLZANO.

See 47. r 56

9/11/2 10/11/2

1/2
2/2

0088

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785017

34/10/46

585 80

42

TELEPHONE:—
ROME 481-398.

BRITISH EMBASSY,

ROME.

29 1946

28th January 1946

Dear Maurice.

Will you please look at the letter to the Secretariat of the Council of Foreign Ministers dated January 22nd, signed on your behalf by Colonel McCleary, forwarding petitions from Bolzano Province about reunion with Austria. I take it that these are the petitions originally received last August which it was decided had best be disposed of by sending them direct to the Council of Foreign Ministers. I was under the impression, however, that at that time you had laid it down that in forwarding them some indication should be given of the extent to which the signatories represented public opinion in the various communes. This was presumably due to your feeling that, although every commune might have sent in a petition, it would give quite a false impression of the feelings of the whole province unless some kind of figures could be given.

2. I presume that paragraph 2 of the letter of January 22nd is an attempt to do this, but my own feeling is that it does not give altogether a fair picture of the situation and in fact suggests that those inhabitants who favour remaining with Italy, who probably represent rather more than one third of the whole Province, are of negligible importance.

3. I presume that it is now too late to do anything about it but if any further opportunity arises of putting a more balanced picture to the Council of Foreign Ministers, I think we should take advantage of it.

Brigadier M.S. Lash, C.B.E., M.C.,
Executive Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
ROME.

Yvo.
McCleary

See No. 43-45

(MISS S)

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

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40

Ref: 585/23

22 January 1946

SUBJECT: Bolzano Petitions.

TO : The Secretariat of the Council of
Foreign Ministers
c/o the Foreign Office
London.

1. Enclosed are numerous petitions which have been received from the inhabitants of the province of Bolzano, Italy, requesting their reunion with Austria. These are forwarded for your consideration.

2. Nearly every commune in the province is included in these petitions, and they represent a very high proportion of public opinion in the case of the mountain communes.

For the Chief Commissioner

F. H. McCLEARY

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

AFHQ, G-5

Copy to: Polad (A)
Polad (B)
CA Section
Chief Liaison Officer, Bolzano.

875

See M. 41F 46A
23/1
B
C

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

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585

JKD/sa

39

HEADQUARTERS
VENEZIA REGION
Allied Military Government
APO 394.

21 Dec 45

DEC 28 1945

TO : HQ Allied Commission
Office of Executive Commissioner
SUBJECT : South Tyrolean Interests - Bolzano
FILE No. RXII/850-13.

37

1. Ref your 585/35/EC or 16 December.
2. I shall be touring in Bolzano Province next week and shall be seeing Provincial Commissioner and the Provincial Officers. I should prefer to defer my further report until after that visit. I hope that this meets with your approval.


Regional Commissioner.

874

CIA BS.

P

(MISS O)

PA 29/12

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

38

37

Ref: 585/35/33

16th December 1945

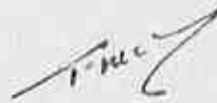
SUBJECT: South Tyrolean Interests - Bolzano

TO : Regional Commissioner
Venetia Region

19

1. Reference your RUII/25.11 of 20 October 1945.
2. We would be most grateful if the report promised in para 4 of your letter could be forwarded at your early convenience. The petitions will shortly be sent to the secretariat of the Council of Foreign Ministers in London, but before doing so we would like to have your further report on the whole question.

For the Chief Commissioner:



Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Copy to:
Polad (A)
Polad (B)

873

BU
21/12PA
18/12

0092

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

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585 40

33

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

872

G-5: 093 NEI

30 November 1945

DEC 3 1945

SUBJECT: Bolzano Petitions.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference your letter 585/25/EC.
2. It is not desired that the petitions be sent to this Headquarters at this time.
3. It is desired, however, that you contact the American and British Embassies, who will advise where the petitions are to be sent.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

A. L. Hamblen
for A. L. HAMBLIN
Brigadier General, GSC
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

872

see 34 to 38

R
(miss. 5)

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

25

Ref: 585/25/40

28 November 1945

SUBJECT: Situation in Bolzano

TO : G-5, AMHQ

1. Reference your G-5: 093 of 19 November 1945.
2. Our 585/25/40 of 15 November 1945 was sent in reply to your G-5: 093 Bolzano of 10 November 1945.
3. In this letter it was stated that many petitions had been received by this Headquarters and were being held here pending a decision from the Foreign Office as to where they should be sent.
4. In the above quoted letter it was stated that some of the petitions had been forwarded to the British Embassy in Rome. This, in fact, is not the case; they are all being held in this Headquarters.
5. If you prefer, the petitions can be forwarded to you for whatever action you may think necessary.

For the Chief Commissioner:

W. S. LUSH

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Copy to:
Polad (A)
Polad (B)
CA Section
RC, Venetia Region

See 33.

871

PA
25/11
CR

0094

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585 70

Ex Com.

687

24

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

RB/oc

G-5: 093

19 November 1945

NOV 23 1945

SUBJECT: Situation in Bolzano.

22

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to our letter, subject as above, reference G-5: 093 of 10 November 1945.

2. It is requested that a reply be furnished as soon as possible.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

R. Barrett

R. BARRETT
Lt. Colonel

See 25

879

(MISS 5)

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 585/23/40

15. November 1945

SUBJECT: Situation in Bolzano

TO : G-5, AFHQ

1. Reference your G-5 093 Bolzano of 10 November 1945.
2. This Headquarters has received a number of petitions from Bolzano. Some of these have been forwarded to the British Embassy in Rome where it is understood they are being held, pending a decision from London as to where they should be sent.
3. Other petitions are being held in this office until the decision referred to is made when we will forward them to the appointed authorities.
4. A further report on the matter has been promised us; we will forward you a copy upon receipt.

For the Chief Commissioner:

F. H. McCLEARY

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Copy to:
Polad (A)
Polad (B)
CA Sec
RC V.R.

869

See folio 25

0098

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

785017

585 90

(20)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 312

G-5 099 Bolzano

10 November 1945

SUBJECT: Situation in Bolzano

NOV 13 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394.

1. It is understood that you have received a number of signed petitions from German speaking communes in Bolzano in favour of return of that province to Austria. Signatories are alleged to have requested that the petitions should be forwarded to the Council of Foreign Ministers in London.

2. It is requested that this Headquarters be informed of what action you have taken and how you have disposed of these petitions.

P. G. A. Parsons

P. G. A. PARSONS,
Brigadier, G.S.,
Deputy Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5.

Copy to SAC3- your IRS 4279 of 9 Nov. refers.

RECEIVED
12 NOV 1945

868

See 23

(NINE SAMPLES)

(1 - copy copy)

0097

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

785017

Label across flap.
Sealing Envelope.
S SERVICE

HEADQUARTERS
VENEZIE REGION
Allied Military Government
APO 394

20 October, 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
Att'n: Executive Commissioner

OCT 23 1945

SUBJECT : South Tyrolean Interests - Bolzano

FILE NO : RXII/325.11

1. Reference your 585/EC of 17th October.

2. I think it is fair to state that the petitions sent forward to you represent a very high proportion of public opinion in the case of the mountain communes.

3. All evidence would seem to indicate that there has been a marked development of feeling. The German speaking inhabitants have become more Pro-Austrian. The Italian speaking have become more pro-Italian.

4. I am making a further report to you on this matter in another letter.

[Signature]
Regional Commissioner

JKD/lgc

*HA - 19 answers 17
He is now waiting
for the report*

B/A 9/11

*See 20. 21
22
PA 13/11*

(MISSISSAUGA)

0098

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

785017

Ref: 585/30

17 October 45

SUBJECT: South Tyrolean Interests -- Bolzano

TO : Regional Commissioner
AMG Venezia Region

1. Reference your RXII/025.11 of 21 September and your
RXII/250.12 of 11 October 1945.

2. The question of the ultimate destination of these
petitions is still under consideration. However, in the meantime,
it would be appreciated if some indication can be given as to
the approximate portion of the total population the signatories
represent.

See folio 19
F. H. McCLEARY 866

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

61V
25/10
Noted 10/10

0099

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

785017

58540
EXC
MISSIONER
6957
(16)

HEADQUARTERS
VENEZIE REGION
Allied Military Government
APO 394

11 October, 1945

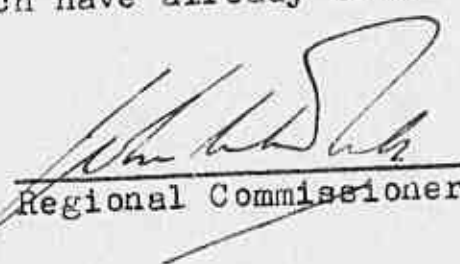
TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission

SUBJECT : Annexation of Bolzano Province
to Austria.

FILE NO : RXII/850.12

4
Further to my RXII/025.11 dated
21st September.

I enclose herewith four additional
petitions from communes in Bolzano Province
on the lines of those which have already been
forwarded to you.


Regional Commissioner

Encl. (4)

JKD/lgc

865



(CSO)

785017

/zm

583
F. Commissioner

HEADQUARTERS
VENEZIE REGION
Allied Military Government
APO 394

4726

4

21 SEP 1945

TO : HQ A.C.

21 Sept 1945

SUBJECT : So. Tyrolian Interests, Bolzano

FILE NO : RXII/025.11

1. I am sending you herewith a file of petitions which have been sent forward to me by the Provincial Commissioner of Bolzano.

2. As the Provincial Commissioner says, practically every Commune in Bolzano has now put in a petition of this nature. The signatories are all in deadly earnest and all ask that their appeals shall be sent to the meeting of the Foreign Ministers in London.

3. It appears to be ever more and more desirable that the Italian Government make a definite announcement on the degree of autonomy which they would be prepared to grant to the Alto Adige.

4. I am afraid that even now the delay in making such a pronouncement has done harm, and will render more difficult a solution of the problem.

864
[Signature]
Regional Commissioner

Encls. (3 files)

(CSO)

BOLZANO PROVINCE
VENEZIE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
A. P. O. 394.

SUBJECT: So. Tyrolian Interests, Bolzano

DATE: 19 Sept. 1945

WEM/am

TO: HQ Venezia Region, AEG

REF: R XII/BZ/123

I have received delegations of So. Tyrolians from many communes thruout the province of Bolzano, who wish to make sure that their views and interests are placed before the London Conference.

I have assured them all that the Conference has full information about the position of ethnical matters but to satisfy them and in fact, in justice to them on democratic grounds, I forward herewith a sheet of these petitions.

The first two sheets in English are examples and represent practically the contents of all of them.

If you deem it advisable to forward the documents to London, please do so, otherwise please dispose of them as you see fit.

William E. McBratney
WILLIAM E. McBRATNEY
Lt. Col., G.R.,
Provincial Commissioner

1 Encl. (Folio)

863

HQ. VENEZIE REGION

Doc No

93000

Date Rec'd

20 SEP 1945

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

785017

BOLZANO PROVINCE
VENEZIE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
A P. O. 394.

2

SUBJECT: So. Tyrolean Interests Bolzano

DATE: 19 Sept. 1945

TO: HQ. Venezia Region, A.M.G.

REF: R XII / BZ / 123

2391. I have been inundated with delegations from the towns of this Province. Each delegation presents me with a petition of their aims and aspirations to be separated from Italy with the fervent plea to forward it to the London Conference.

In justice to the situation I have to assure them that I will send the petitions to my higher superiors for appropriate action but that the Conference is doubtless fully informed of the ethnical-political situation in this province.

Attached are a sheet of petitions, the first leaf of which is a condensation of the majority of the contents of all.

I think now the majority of citizens have made representations to me on the matter. They are deeply serious.

If Bolzano remains as an Italian province, it will take all the skill and good will of the Italian Government to keep these So. Tyrolean folk placid. They are a hard-working, law-abiding people but while slow to anger they may manifest their feelings by acts against what they deem their "oppressors", if the latter still continue to oppress.

William E. McNamara
WILLIAM E. MCNAMARA
Lt. Col., G.R.,
Provincial Commissioner

Encl.: 1 folio

HQ. VENEZIA REGION

862

9301C
20 SEP 1945

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

785017

BOLZANO PROVINCE
VENEZIE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
A. P. O. 394.

SUBJECT: So. Tyrolian Aims and Aspirations

DATE: 18 Sept. 1945

TO: HQ Venezia Region A.L.R. PADOVA

REF: R XII / BZ / 123

Again, and for the third time, I place before you a folio of petitions by So. Tyrolian communes for their release from Italian control.

These petitions were given to me by personnel representatives of many communes who came to see me - some from great distances and at considerable trouble and labor.

The sense of the petitions is the same as those previously sent to you. They represent the solemn and serious thought of the people involved.

As a test I asked the last delegation that I received - about 20 men - if they perchance were joined to Austria, - would they be willing to be part of a state economically bankrupt, calling for food and assistance and perhaps under temporary French predatory rule and they unanimously cried - "yes"!

I think I have, now, heard from about all the communes of Bolzano whose population is predominantly So. Tyrolian and I am impressed with their deadly seriousness whatever the justice of the matter may be.

William E. McBratney
WILLIAM E. McBRATNEY
Lt. Col., S.R.,
Provincial Commissioner

Encl: 1 folio

HQ. VENEZIE REGION

9302c
20 SEP 1945

861

