

2205

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/436

MONTHLY REP
OCT. 1944 - AUG

2208

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

785017

10000/109/436

MONTHLY REPORTS, AMG 5TH ARMY
OCT. 1944 - AUG. 1945

Executive Commissioner

7.

Fifth Army Report for June is at 75-0-01.
 Contains little information you do not already know, it gives a
 good picture of that part of Italy which the area covers. This is
 the only report which has complied strictly to all instructions given
 on the subject of Monthly Reports & is well written & concise.

Re: JH. 23/7/45 SM 1417 111 127
 A swan song? DSV (237)

All documents in
 this file now considered
 "Confidential" not
 Secret

DM
 5000

Chief of Staff.25.*Excellent*

In connection with report of 5 Army ANG in addition to the points mentioned by J/Cdr. Mason in Minute 24 there are the following:-

1. Armed robbery in Florence Province - page 28.
PATRICK
2. Reference is made to conditions at the Reception Centres - page 26. There was a very strong criticism of the bad conditions in reception centres in the Florence area from an outside source which I sent up to CA Sec. Did DONS show you this?

Enlight.
Major,
Office, Chief of Staff.

36*A good report.*

01. What action was taken on para 11. PT I?
02. What does "how many volunteers will join up for combat service in the new Liberation Army" mean? (Y up 30)
03. Call this to attention of Liaison Force Sub-Com. (X up 30)

✓ 4.

I have not seen the report mentioned in para (2).

Brig Upjohn presented to
COS on 16/11.

MR/15/1/100

Action being taken on 36 above. *Sh. 16/1/55*

C.S.O.*45*

Another interesting report. Passages of special interest have been marked.

C.O.S. (44735).
13.2.45

Sh. 14/12
MR/3/3

4494

54.

Executive Commission

2209

785017

36

Stock action was taken on June 11. Pr I ?

3 Call this to attention of Lead Forces sub-Com. (X on p. 30)

Ms. A.9.2.17.5.1

1 phenol to
Bis up to then
CO₂ on 16/11.

Action being taken on 36 above.

C.S.O.

— Public interesting report, Passages of special interest have been marked.

C.O.S. (Cvt 735),
15.2.45

4594

Executive Commission

AME 5th Army Report for February can be seen at 53. As usual this is a good report. Passengers of interest have been marked.

511013

Excellent. D.V. (16/3)

Chief of Staff.

25.

1. In addition to the points raised by Capt. Norden in Minute 22 the following points are worth noting.
 - a. The portion sidelined on page 18 regarding trade. I will find out whether Economic Section have any comment on this.
 - b. The remarks re the Genio Civile on page 17.
 - c. Good reports on the Carabinieri on page 16.
 - d. The remarks on Refugees on page 15. If this is true, it does not look as if Refugees are going to be a problem this winter.
 - e. The remarks regarding schools on page 14. This is in sharp distinction to the report from Sardinia, where the education is handicapped by lack of material.

26

Lt. Col.
C.S.O.
to J.O.S.

16 Dec 44.

24

A good report. I should like Educ. Sub. Com.

Remarks in (C-)

18/17/44

see 25

Capt Norden presumably of the Carabinieri report

34

C.O.S.

1. Pl. see Fifth Army's December report which is extremely well set out and exacting as we 499888 reports submitted to simplify editing of the Abbridged monthly report.
2. Points of interest are marked as follows:-
 - a) Political Encl. 31
 - b) Lack of Transportation Encl. 30

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- c. Good reports on the Carabinieri on page 16.
- d. The remarks on Refugees on page 18. If this is true, it does not look as if Refugees are going to be a problem this winter.
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16 Dec 44.

LL

Lt. Col.
C.S.O.
to C.O.S.

24

A good report. I should like Educ Sub. Com.

Remarks on (C-1)

18/17/44

see 25

Capt. [unclear] [unclear] of the Carabinieri report

K

34

C.O.S.

- 1. Pl. see Fifth Army's December reports which is extremely well set out and exactly as we 499th report submitted to simplify editing of the Abbreviated monthly report.

2. Points of interest are marked as follows:-

- a) Political Encl. 31
- b) Lack of Transportation Encl. 30
- c) Rehabilitation of Industry Encl. 30
- d) Other oil [unclear] Encl. 29
- e) Electric power situation critical Encl. 29
- f) Bonifia Project progressing Encl. 28
- g) CC.RR's excellent work Encl. 28
- h) Forgery Encl. 27
- i) Refugees Encl. 27
- l) Mine Clearance Encl. 26

C.O.S. (Extr. 735) 5.1.45.

HMASon 7/44.

TO: C.O.S.

1. Report of FIFTH Army AMT is submitted for month of November. This report deals very little with operational affairs and is more domestic than usual. It has not lost any interest thereby.

2. Principal points are the following :

Folio 20. Bread Ration: The usual complaint about the non-implementation of the 300 gram bread ration. It is said that public morale has lowered appreciably.

Folio 19. Relations with Allied troops: It is said that the population is becoming less friendly with the Allies, but this is not an abnormal reaction comparing areas just liberated with those in back areas when the initial enthusiasm dies down. Public morality is deteriorating, though ~~not~~ in comparison with NAPLES it has a long way to go.

Restaurants etc in FLORENCE: It is said that the hotels, restaurants and clubs in FLORENCE, used chiefly by the British, is a sore subject.

Local Government: A complaint is implied that no report was received following a visit of an officer from the Local Government Sub-Comm. I will check up on this.

Folio 17. Salt: Reports from other areas for the month of November all stress the salt shortage. Here is mentioned its effect on the slaughtering of hogs.

Folio 16. Carabinieri: Mentions heavy demands on Carabinieri Reale assisting in the control of movement. The Liguria Detachment is in dire need of clothing.

Passes to Army areas: There is a jibe at the lack of geographical knowledge of some of the Sub-Commissions of HQ AC. I think Agriculture Sub-Comm was the chief offender. An instruction is in course of preparation in a further endeavour to clarify beyond all possible doubt which Provinces are in the Army Area and which are outside it.

Folio 15. Medical Supplies: The new Italian organisation ENDIMEA has simplified the distribution of medical supplies which situation continues satisfactorily. 499

Red Cross: There is high praise for A.R.C. representatives.

Blankets: At the request of AMT the Prefect of FLORENCE has purchased 20,000 blankets, half to be distributed to civilians and half to patriots.

Folio 14. Salt: This further reference to salt deals with a factory at VOLTERRA which is not working satisfactorily and may be due to the Manager.

Education: The University of FLORENCE is offering short courses in Italian language, history and art for Allied troops.

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Education: The University of FLORENCE is offering short courses in Italian language, history and art for Allied troops.

Opening of FISA University by SCAO: The University was re-opened on 25 Nov.

Folio 13.

Requisitioning of Schools: Re-opening of schools retarded by requisitioning.

Mine Clearance: Satisfactory comment on the progress of mine clearance.

Patriots: Reception Centres for homeless patriots established at FLORENCE and LUCCA. Clothing shortage.

14 Dec 44.
Office, Chief of Staff.

Ed. G. G. G.

folio to 1st para - civilian movement. Col Bayne
obviously feels rather strongly on the subject.

11/11

8

TO: Acting Chief of Staff.

Please see minute 7 above. In addition the following points are
worthwhile noting:

- (a) The political situation in FLORENCE has improved and the Committee
are being "much less obstructive" (page 4). I agree fully with
the remarks in the next two paragraphs. It might be worth asking
at the SIZNA conference the latest news of the experiment at LUCCA.
- (b) The last paragraph of Economics & Supply (page 3) confirms the
distress which we expect to find in the more heavily industrialised
areas in the North.
- (c) Public Safety (top of page 2). The situation regarding civilian
movement has generally speaking improved but the only people who
can prevent the carriage of civilians in W.D. vehicles are the
Military Police in the Army areas. If they were to conduct a
few successful prosecutions this practice would stop immediately.

14 Nov 44

14/11 word 2

Pub. Safety fare

2

to be brought

4993

(G.I.)

10

Capt Warden R till office (Ref 9 above)

11.9.44. first

18/11

C.S.O.,
Office, Chief of Staff.

For Supp. Sec.

2216

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 US ARMY

222/7

20 August 1945

AUG 27 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO : Hqs. Allied Commission

Herewith, Monthly Report for the month of July.

26 AUG 1945

18/80
EUGENE MAXIME HUME,
Brigadier General, GSC.,
Ass't. Chief of Staff, G-5.

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For Adv
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4993

(Amended)

PA 24/8/45

28/8

2217

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

(80)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 US ARMY

EEH/hdp

Monthly Report for Month of July 1945

Part I.

1. Allied Military Government was established in all the remaining columns in the French Italian Border area by 10 July.
2. Approximately 450 tons of fruit per day was being railed out of the Bolzano area by the end of the month.
3. A mass killing of 54 political prisoners took place in Schio, Vicenza Province, on 6 July. A large number of persons believed to know something of the matter have been arrested, among these three persons believed to have been parties to the killing. One has made a full confession.
4. Details are being completed to hospitalize 5300 sick and wounded Italians, ex-slave laborers and ex-prisoners of war from Germany, in the Karapo area. Six hundred sick and wounded per week will be moved commencing about 1 August.
5. Approximately 145,000 refugees have been moved from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and France back into Italy through refugee channels during the month.
6. Thirty-eight officers and 74 enlisted men were secured from the 35th Division to augment the staffs in the various refugee camps. This personnel fulfills the commitment of AFM, in February 1945.
7. Fifteen Captured Enemy Material dumps have been turned over to G-5 Section for exploitation. Inventories are being completed and material from other dumps is being consolidated in these fifteen before reporting to AFM and requesting release to the Allied Commission.
8. Some 500 civilian vehicles have been turned over to G-5 for repair and distribution to Regions from the Chedi Prisoner of War Camp.
9. Five hundred million dollars worth of art treasures were returned to Florence from the Bolzano area completing two months work in recovering them from the hiding places of the Germans, inventorying and packing.
10. At midnight 15 July 1945 all of the Army area west of the western boundaries of the provinces of Bolzano, Trento, Verona, Mantova and Reggio was turned over to 12 District and control of the Allied Military Government in that area passed to the Allied Commission.

Part II.

a. Political Reaction and Popular Opinion

The political reaction has remained substantially the same. The Committees of National Liberation are strongly organized and tend to a Reddish complex. In general the more radical elements are content to remain somewhat in the background and wait until conditions are more favorable for their political aspirations.

b. Local Government

Allied Military Government was established during the early part of the month in all the border areas along the French Italian border that had formerly been occupied by French troops. All French troops have been withdrawn from Italy, with the last troops leaving on 10 July.

A ceremony was held at Fende in connection with the turnover of the area. As the French troops marched out of town in one direction, truckloads of food, accompanied by Carabinieri, came into town from the other direction and Allied Military Government was formally re-established.

c. Economics and Supply

The Allied Military Government warehouses and railroad were closed during the early part of the month and thereafter supplies came into the Army area from Genoa and Forli direct to the provinces. At the same time the Allied Commission transportation companies were distributed to the Regions except two companies that have remained with Allied Military Government, Fifth Army.

Approximately 300 tons of fruit per day was railed from the Bolzano area south. Arrangements were made to rail fruit into Austria in exchange for copper sulfate and other needed commodities and approximately 150 tons per day was railed to Austria during the last week of July.

d. Public Safety

On the night of 6 July 1945 approximately 15 masked men, armed with tommy guns, forced their way into the jail at Schio, Verona Province and segregated the prisoners into three rooms. The political prisoners were put into two large rooms on the first and second floors of the jail. The jailer, his wife, and the balance of the prisoners were locked up in another part of the jail to keep them out of the way. At a prearranged signal, the masked men opened fire on the 73 prisoners killing 47 (14 women) and wounding 26. The masked men then fled their escape. Four of the wounded later died bringing the total killed to 51 persons, among them a girl of 16 and a man of 70.

(79)

Ninety persons have been arrested and questioned in connection with the Bodo murders with two-thirds being detained for further questioning. Names of seven persons implicated are known to the JID Agents and three have been arrested. Of these three, one has made a full confession.

A General Court has been scheduled for the latter part of August to try the cases. This has been done to insure that the trials will be held by Allied Military Courts rather than in the Italian Courts.

e. Public Health & Welfare

Arrangements were completed to move sick and wounded Italian ex-prisoners of war, ex-slave workers, etc., from Germany to hospitals in the Breno area. A first estimate of 10,000 sick and wounded has been reduced to a known 5,300 plus an unknown number in the area occupied by the French. The sick will be moved by rail using a shuttle service taking sick and wounded German Prisoners of War back to Germany and returning with Italians, 300 patients twice weekly.

The hospitals in Breno occupied by German hospital units will be cleared and turned over for this work. In addition two Italian Field Hospitals, total bed capacity 500, are set up. The personnel used are Italian and Swiss Red Cross and additional personnel will be moved into Breno as hospitals are turned over. A total bed capacity of 3500 is expected by 17 August.

f. Refugees

The numbers of refugees received during the month in Northern Italy from Austria, Germany, France and Switzerland are as follows:

Brenner Route	115,000
Chiasso	23,000
Domodossola	2,200
Bordighera	150

The Brenner rail route opened on 1 July with trains running directly from Innsbruck to Verona with approximately 3000 refugees per day. On 23 July the figure was increased to 4500. This figure was based on one train of southerners and two of northerners per day.

The erection of the camp at Pascentino, near Verona, has progressed very slowly, most of the work being done by Czech Displaced Persons on an "ad hoc" basis. Before the end of the month 100 German Prisoners of War had been secured for construction work and the building of the camp was progressing more satisfactorily. Throughout the month refugees have been detained and fed at this camp and sent on to their ultimate destination with a minimum of waiting.

The movement from Switzerland of 37,000 internees has continued smoothly. Five trains of 1000 each were received weekly at Chiasso, thence to Como. After 15 July this route ceased to be within the Army area.

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On 9 July the railroad bridge across the Po was opened and a direct rail line from Verona to Bologna was established.

Thirty-eight officers and 74 enlisted men were secured from the 35th Division by G-1 Fifth Army for staffing the Assembly Centers (handling 3,000 refugees per day) and the control camps (handling 1,000 refugees, mainly Allied nationals). This personnel fulfills the commitment of AFHQ in February 1945 and now staffs the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission with 50% American personnel. Previously it had been 99% British. These men are used in the Verona, Bolzano, Bologna, Milan, Torino and Genoa areas to operate camps. Prior to securing these men British personnel, hopelessly overloaded, were attempting to do the job.

g. Political

The Diplomatic Internee Camp at Salsomaggiore continues in full operation. Six Japanese diplomats were sent from the camp for movement to the United States.

Many of the servants, chauffeurs, etc. were dismissed from the camp as they were not needed or were not of any importance from a security point of view.

h. Industry & Commerce

The work of taking over, inventorying, and warehousing Captured Enemy Materials as it is turned over to G-5 by the various services is progressing rapidly in the Bolzano area. No dumps found are reported to G-4 Fifth Army. An AFHQ cable requires that that Headquarters receive inventories and state whether the material is wanted for any other military requirement before any surpluses are turned over to the Allied Military Government or the Allied Commission. However a conference with Army Quartermaster resulted in the maintenance of the system already in effect except that G-5 dumps are to be considered as Quartermaster dumps until a final release is obtained from AFHQ on the contents thereof.

Fifteen dumps have been turned over to G-5, 7 Quartermaster dumps and the balance Engineer, Ordnance, etc. No distribution will be made until the inventories are consolidated and reported to AFHQ and the contents of the dumps released by AFHQ at which time consignment of the dumps to the Allied Commission will be made.

Some 500 civilian passenger cars have been released to G-5 by Ordnance from the Goetz Prisoner of War Camp. These cars are being moved to Brescia to the Officina Meccanica Plant for repair, using the best to be repaired with parts cannibalized from the wreckers. They will finally be distributed to Regions and Provinces. Payment for the repairs will be made by the Italian agencies which are allotted the vehicles.

i. Fine Arts

The completion of the work of locating, tabulating, crating, moving and restoration of the art treasures of Italy to Florence occurred on 22 July, when Brigadier General Humph presented the art treasures to the city of Florence at a ceremony held in the Piazza Signoria. The treasures were conservatively valued at five hundred million dollars.

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1. General

At midnight on 15 July 1945, the IV Corps area and the Army area west of the western boundaries of the Provinces of Reggio, Mantova, Verona, Trento, and Bolzano were turned over by the Army and IV Corps to No. 2 District and control of the Allied Military Government in that area was relinquished by this Headquarters to the Allied Commission.

EDC.3 ECKING HULE,
Brigadier General, GSC.,
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5.

2222

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811 161

Ex. Comm.

5682

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
G-5 SECTION
APO 464 US ARMY

222/7

13 July 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

JUL 16 1945

TO : H.Q. Allied Commission

Herewith, Monthly Report for the month of June.

Edgar Evershine Hunt

EDGAR EVERSHINE HUNT,
Brigadier General, SSC.,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

DISTRIBUTION:

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see 177

PA 31/7

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
G-5 SECTION
APO 464 US ARMY

EEH/hdp

Monthly Report for month of June 1945

PART I.

1. At the close of the month the zone in N.W. Italy occupied by the French was being cleared of French troops under the agreement reached at Caserta by Allied Officials. (It has since been entirely cleared).

2. An average lift of 1500 tons per day was maintained in Army area for the month. The use of rail movement during the latter part of the month greatly facilitated the distribution of foodstuffs and essential agricultural items such as binder twine.

3. The Army Wage Scale was increased to allow 50% of Cost of Living Bonus on 1 June 1945. Labor relations continue reasonably satisfactory.

4. The turnover of highway maintenance to Regions was accomplished on 1 June 1945. Lack of transport has hindered the actual work but efforts are being made to release sufficient trucks to the Regions to enable them to carry on the program successfully.

5. The rate of killings and political murders in the Army area has been on the decline during the month with a few reported from outlying districts. Generally the local police agencies are becoming more efficient and slowly returning to normal.

6. An average of approximately 4000 refugees per day were moved through the Brenner Pass into Italy. An additional 1000 per day began moving from Switzerland into Italy on the last day of the month. The movement through the Brenner is now by rail from Innsbruck through Verona to the Po River and then to Bologna.

7. Large amounts of seized German accounts and German funds have been taken over by the Finance Division during the month. In addition five shipments of monies and valuables were delivered to the A.F.A. Agency in Milan as well as 13 sacks of valuables delivered to Rome.

8. An analysis of arms handed in by the Partisans in the Fifth Army Area shows that 188,956 arms and approximately 50 tons of ammunition and explosives have been turned in to Allied Authorities.

9. The Internee Camp at Salsomaggiore is in full operation with a total of 177 European and Oriental diplomats interned.

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PART II.

a. Political Reaction and Popular Opinion

The political reaction remains the same. The CIN remains actively interested in the control of the government. They have cooperated with Allied Military Government after a directive was issued by this Headquarters making the position quite clear with regard to their relations with AMG and the local government officials.

b. Local Government

Allied Military Government has been carried on throughout the zone in N.W. Italy occupied by the French forces, substantially without interference on the part of the French. General Hume participated in the conference in Caserta that led to the agreement of the French to withdraw and he and other officers of this section have followed closely the steps taken to carry out this agreement. On 23 June an explosion occurred at Susa as a result of which two French soldiers were killed and several others hurt. As a result the French took locally certain steps which might be deemed as technically within the realm of military government but which they would undoubtedly argue were necessary for their military security. No protest was made by AMG and the incident now appears to be closed. The cause of the explosion has not been definitely ascertained.

c. Economics and Supply

An average lift of 2500 tons per day was maintained the first week in June with the cooperation of Fifth Army Transportation and PHS trucks. During the second week the average tons per day was maintained at 1500, and the balance of the month 1100 tons per day was maintained.

Movement of food supplies was aided by the use of rail in the latter part of the month. In addition to food, POL and binder twine was railed and distributed to the provinces in Army area. A bid was accepted to rail 250 tons per day of fruit from Bologna/Forli area to the south and also 300 tons per day to rail wheat from Forli to Milan on 23 June.

d. Labor

Labor relations remain generally satisfactory. Unemployment continues to increase due to many ex prisoners of war and slave laborers returning from Germany. A number of new labor contracts were presented to the Regional Labor Officers and were acted on by the Regions in line with policy laid down in existing memoranda. All contracts provided for wage increases.

Social Security is functioning satisfactorily. Reports indicate that the heads of the Social Security Agencies at Rome and for North Italy at Milano are coming to an agreement on policy and personnel.

The Army Wage Scale was increased to allow 50% of the Cost of Living Bonus as of June 1. The Army is now considering giving the full Cost of Living Bonus and is also considering taking away all food rations from civilian workers. The labor demands of the Army continue to decrease. The use of POW's has relegated civilian labor supply to a position of relative unimportance to the Army.

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e. Public Works and Utilities.

The turnover of highway maintenance to Regions was accomplished on 1 June 1945 but due to transportation shortage the actual work is behind schedule. The Army Engineer took a personal interest in securing trucks and obtained a release from G-4 Fifth Army for 125 trucks to be distributed to the Regions for maintenance of military highways. G-4 requested that the Regions furnish data on the trucks taken from the Genio Civile by the enemy so that an effort could be made to return the same trucks. Three regions have replied and these replies were forwarded to the Army Engineer.

During the month many requests were received for material from captured enemy dumps and in some cases releases were secured. Toward the end of the month on account of the increased demands of military units it became necessary to certify that engineering materials requested could not be obtained from other sources.

f. Public Safety.

The CCRR in all the Northern Regions are gradually being drafted into the various communes. Generally their morale is improving and they are beginning to function smoothly. The clothing situation of the CCRR remains very serious. Although occasional supplies are received they are not nearly sufficient and the lack of clothing and equipment seriously affects the efficiency of the force.

The Questure are showing signs of improvement, with a fairly large number of Agents being suspended from duty. The efficiency and morale of the force depends to a great extent on the officials at its head. In many instances the Questore was appointed by the local CLN and later a career official had to be appointed in his place. Others appointed by the CLN have been fairly successful in the job and have been allowed to remain.

Nearly all Finance Guards and CCRR are now at their posts along the Swiss and French Frontiers. Their clothing will need to be greatly increased in view of the high altitudes in which they work. Lt. Col. Murgia, head of the Royal Finance Guard Mission to the Army, appears to be efficient and is trying hard to bring conditions back to normal. He is applying for the Finance Guards to be more heavily armed, especially in the frontier regions, where he says bands of men are attempting to smuggle goods across the frontier. He claims these bands are armed with "tommy guns" and that his men would come off second best in an encounter with them. In view of the fact that large numbers of arms have not been handed in by Partisans, there may be some truth in what he reports.

The killings of a wholesale nature previously reported have abated somewhat during the month although they have not stopped entirely. The murders are mainly of a political nature and investigations are hindered, partly because the people are in sympathy with the killers and even more so because of fear of possible reprisals.

On 30 June the Army Control Line was moved to the Eastern Boundary of Venezia Giulia Region.

4986

g. Public Health and Welfare.

The general health of the civilian population remains excellent. As arranged last month the Regional Public Health and Welfare teams are in charge of their areas with liaison being maintained with AMG 5 Army. All welfare activities are functioning well and conditions appear practically normal.

h. Refugees.

The refugee centers were processing approximately 2000 refugees per day coming through from Germany and Austria in the early part of the month. At the close of the month a daily average of 5000 refugees were processed through the Brenner Pass into Italy. An additional 1000 refugees per day were processed from Switzerland through Como starting on 30 June 1945.

A new camp was established 13 Km northwest of Verona to handle the Brenner traffic. The rail lines were opened from Innsbruck to Verona and thence to the Po River. The new camp is established as a feeding and rest stop on this route.

Pick-Up Points for refugees have been established on most of the main highways under control of Regions to utilize casual Army vehicles in the movement of refugees. At each point there is an English speaking civilian to determine the destination of the casual vehicle and to issue the driver the necessary authority to carry the proper number of refugees and their baggage to the ultimate destination of the vehicle. This plan was coordinated with the Provost Marshal, G-1 and British Increment of Fifth Army.

i. Finance.

Banks functioned normally and gradually improved their position. Many transfers of funds were made from Bank of Italy branches in Milan and Bolzano to other branches by AMG transport. The printing plants at Novara and Bergamo were permitted to resume operations and about a billion lire in new currency was delivered from these sources to the Bank of Italy, Milan, further relieving the money situation.

Five shipments of various foreign currencies, uncollected US checks, vaglia and other valuables, seized enemy booty, were delivered to the A.F.A. Agency, Milan, as well as 13 sacks of valuables taken from the Republican Fascist Ministry of Foreign Affairs for delivery to Rome.

Regions report the following totals seized as enemy accounts in banks, under Category "A".

Liguria Region	37,298,009 Liro
Piemonte Region	37,054,749 Liro
Venezia Region	6,402,273,755 Liro

(The R.F.O. has not been able to compile the total for Lombardia Region.)

The Province of Bolzano continues to be the high spot. Of the above total from Venezia Region, 6,206,521,676 Liro came from Bolzano Bank accounts and in addition Major C.R. Curtis working in that Province reported cash collections of 805,624,955 Lit. and 38,590,666 Liro in cashable vaglia and assegni from enemy sources. On the return of Major Curtis to his own Province of Belluno, Lt. Col. C.J. King Jr., and an interpreter, were sent to Bolzano with instructions to work the offices of German military organizations, such as, Tdtd, Hospitals, Storehouses, etc. As a result of this work 415,000,000 Lit

additional funds in the shape of metropolitan lire and vaglia were seized and turned over to the P.F.O.

j. Partisans.

An analysis of arms handed in by the Partisans in the Fifth Army area has been taken and it has been found that 188,956 arms have been handed in composed as hereunder:

Rifles	126,883	<u>Ammunition</u>	
Automatic Rifles	4,754	Small Arms Rounds	826,350
Sten Guns	732	Box & Cases - Small	
Sub Machine Guns	964	arms ammunition	923
Machine Guns	5,471	Mortar Shells	17
Mortars & Cannons	729	Artillery Shells	106
Pistols	2,218	Mines	121
Hand Grenades	26,748	Bayonets	72
Armoured Cars	5	General Ammunition	33 tons
Field Pieces	13		
Ack Ack Guns	318		

Approximately 83 tons of clothing has been obtained from Alcom composed of jackets, trousers, boots, and blankets. This and about 9000 uniforms manufactured under contract in Florence and approximately 3000 new pairs of boots have been put in a warehouse in Milan, and should be sufficient to take care of the needs in 5th Army area.

Partisan Centers have been opened in all the Regions under 5th Army control and have been operating satisfactorily. The need for these centers is becoming less urgent and it is estimated that they will all be closed by the 15th of July.

A stand-down parade was held in Bolzano on 22 June 1945, the salute being taken by Brigadier General Hume. About 500 men were on parade and were the last group to be officially disbanded as they have been used for local policing.

k. Agriculture.

Permission was received from AFHQ to open the Italian-Austrian Border for migration of sheep and cattle into the Alps for summer grazing. Ten thousand sheep and goats and four thousand head of cattle were started moving across the border in the last week of June. The settlement of the French controversy had opened the French Frontier to such migrants earlier in the month.

l. Political.

The Internee Camp at Salsomaggiore is now in full operation with the internees from Montecertini and Florence moved into the camp during the last week in June. One hotel now houses 52 Orientals and the other hotel houses 125 European diplomats. An additional twelve diplomats from Sicily are expected to be moved to the camp during the middle of July. The Provost Marshal Fifth Army has been designated as having guard control.

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
G-5 SECTION
APO 464 US ARMY

EEH/hdp

222/7

21 June 1945

JUN 27 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : H.Q. Allied Commission.

Enclosed herewith Monthly Report for the month of May.

EDGAR LRSKINE HUME,
Brigadier General, GSC.,
Senior Civil Affairs Officer
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

DISTRIBUTION:

H.Q. 15 Army Group, G-5
A.M.G. Eighth Army
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May/45
4th Army

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
G-5 SECTION
APO 464 US ARMY

Report for the Month of May, 1945

1. Operations in May were a continuation of the fast-moving and territory-occupying phase which started in the latter part of April with the breakthrough in the Apennines. They culminated in the surrender of the German Armies in Northwest Italy on 2 May, and finally in the total surrender of Germany on the 8th of May. The Fifth Army's area thus included the Compartments or Regions of Venetia Tridentina, Liguria, Piemonte and Lombardia and large parts of Venetia and Emilia.

This rapid development confronted AMG 5th Army with the urgent task of moving Regional and Provincial teams into their respective capitals with the least possible delay. Staging areas for these teams were set up in Bivigliano, Bologna, Modena and Mantova to aid in the movement of the various teams to their posts and to establish military government.

Shortly after the first of May a new phase of AMG had begun, that of establishing military government in cities and communities which had not experienced the ravages of war and which saw briefly the rush of a victorious Army hard on the heels of a flying enemy. New problems of this phase were faced in places that had already organized a "new" government, with the Committees of National Liberation well established and advocating definite ideas of governing in their own way.

2. Partisans were well organized and were initially instrumental in the liberation of their various communes. They took great pride in their part in bringing about the collapse of German tyranny in Italy, and in helping to establish government with the local Committee of National Liberation. Many problems arose in disarming these bands. In those areas where the Army swept through and quickly demonstrated power, the Partisans responded at once to the order to disarm and return to civil life. The war had passed them and there was no real need for them to fight to protect their land. Partisans of Bologna, Modena, Mantova and Verona were examples of this favorable reaction.

In other sectors in which complete liberation was slower there was another and more difficult problem. The Partisans were loath to surrender their weapons until the surrendered German troops were disarmed and removed from such areas. Also there were Fascist groups organized for resistance and until they were tracked down the Partisans were disinclined to part with their arms. Milan, Turin, Trento, and Bolzano provinces were examples of this problem.

There was accordingly issued by the Commanding General, IV Corps, in collaboration with the Chief of Staff of the Italian Army, an order that Partisans should be disarmed and their weapons turned in on or before the 7th of June. This order was in general well obeyed. By the end of May a steady stream of weapons - mostly rifles - was coming in from the Partisans to the collection centers. The June report will show the totals turned in up to the deadline.

3. Crime has been a major problem during this month, several murders having been reported. The defeat of the Fascist and Nazi powers accelerated the volcanic outbursts of accumulated hatred of years. The oppressed were tempted to become the oppressors, and old grudges were in some instances paid off by private killings.

The largest number of murders occurred in the first days following German collapse, and in cities where Partisans staged revolts, such as in Milan and Turin. *But, the murders for revenge and for political motives continued throughout the month to a lesser degree, throughout the Army area.*

4. The food situation was not as acute as was anticipated in the provinces liberated prior to the capitulation of the Germans. Beginning the tenth of May supplies were drawn from Allied Commission food depots, and delivered directly to the provincial capitals, placing the responsibility for delivery on the communes, or the Consorzio Agrario Provinciale. Milan and Turin were placed on first priority, and with the aid of civilian transport the minimum ration has been maintained for these cities. *throughout all Italy*

5. Political activity has been an intricate and delicate problem in the French-Italian border areas. French troops occupied the border regions of Italy, in Piemonte and Liguria and some difficulty was encountered in establishing military government in these areas. The Senior Civil Affairs Officer made several tours of the area with General de Sevin, French Air Force, Senior French officer at the Allied Commission, to investigate the political situation. The Allied military strength of the three border provinces of Aosta, Torino, and Cuneo was augmented by one hundred thirty military government officers recruited from combat units, to make a strong show of Allied authority where French are present. A separate report on the French-Italian border affair will be submitted, covering its final adjustment in June.

6. Public health remains satisfactory throughout the Army area. As a precautionary measure, all refugees coming from the north are being sprayed with DDT powder as they pass through AMG Refugee Centers.

7. Twenty-seven Refugee Centers have been put into operation, chiefly along the Brenner-Verona-Modena axis of evacuation; the remainder are located in Brescia, Milan, Turin, Genoa, and Bologna. The borders were closed early in the month; however an exception was made for the transfer of approximately 12,000 refugees from Austria and 1300 children from Switzerland, for whom special arrangements were made and by the end of the month arrangements were made to take 2000 per day from Austria.

PART II.

a. Political Reaction and Popular Opinion.

Occupation of North Italy found the Committees of National Liberation strongly organized and these Committees exercise the most powerful political influence in Italy. They (in general) have a Reddish complexion, and tend to reflect the same type of political thought which is wide-spread among the Partisans. New Prefects are almost invariably the nominees of the local Committee of National Liberation and their administration has in general been both able and moderate.

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8 Transport was provided as far as possible for by back
loading army vehicles. & Many thousands were moved
in this way. During the month about 90,000 Italians have
been returned to their homes ^{in the North - Bologna, Padua, etc.} ~~in the North~~ South of Italy, while many more have returned to their homes in the North.

One of the greatest problems which developed on the developed cessation of hostilities with the rapid advance of the Armies in Italy & the conclusion of hostilities in Europe was the uncontrolled movement, mainly across the Austrian-Italian frontier, of refugees, displaced ^{& stateless} persons and ex Italian Prisoners of War from Germany & other Prisoners of War camps. This movement started before the full complement of control camps & assembly centers could be set up. Army transport, returning empty from carrying. The situation was eased by back loading Army transport with

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The Committee of National Liberation have quite generally been anxious to show their power in establishing the government and ruling the population without the approval or guidance of Allied Military Government. It has been necessary in most provinces to have a frank and firm interview with the Committee on the subject, making it clear that the local Italian Government functions only under the Allied authorities. A directive has been issued by 5th Army AMG, making this quite clear. The problem has diminished with time.

There is a definite movement in Bolzano to restore the province to Austria to which it belonged in 1917. There have been as yet no violent irredentist demonstrations. The Provincial Commissioner in Bolzano is using every effort to prevent open agitation of the question.

b. French-Italian Border Situation.

In the three border provinces of Aosta, Torino and Cuneo there has been a tense political situation between the French and the Italians. The Partisans liberated this area from the Germans and were in possession before the French arrived to occupy it. The arrival of French Army detachments in the border provinces largely eclipsed the Partisans, and pro-French agitation began at once.

Perhaps the most critical area was the Tenda Valley, running south from Tenda Pass through French territory, and giving Italy a jump-off point against Nice. In the town of San Dalmazzo di Tenda an organization was set up known as the "Committee for the Re-attachment of Briga and Tenda to France." This Committee is alleged to have had the backing of the French troops although no instance in which any French soldiers or officers openly supported this committee has been observed. The committee was extremely active. It was seemingly made up of a small number of local pro-French residents augmented by others brought in from the Nice area. The committee, among other things, ordered all Italian flags taken down and French flags displayed in their place. They distributed a printed form which they called a ballot and which is supposed to indicate a desire on the part of its signers to have the area returned to France. Significantly, no provision was made for an anti-French vote, and the ration-card of one who abstained from voting was so endorsed. The term "plebiscite" is seemingly being avoided.

In all the towns of the Tenda area, the French have ordered shops to accept French currency at the rate of exchange of two lire for one franc. Under the date of 8 May the Director of the Bank of Italy in Cuneo wrote that French currency is being forced on the bank in exchange for lire above mentioned.

May ended with an apparent deadlock in the Tenda Valley. General Doyen, commanding the French troops in that area, had received orders from General De Gaulle to resist the establishment of Allied Military Government. Although the Supreme Allied Commander had directed that Allied Military Government be established up to the border, the Fifth Army was using every effort to avoid an open clash. The successful settlement of these difficulties however must be told in the June report.

c. Local Government.

On 25 May 1945, at the Palazzo Verge, Vercelli, Pietro Nenni addressed a meeting called by the local Socialist leader, Giovanni Savoia, after Savoia had

been warned by the Provincial Public Safety Officer that such a meeting would be in direct violation of Proclamation No. 3, and that any party leaders attending the meeting would be arrested. Both Nenni and Savoia were taken into custody after the meeting and charged and arraigned for violation of Proclamation No. 3, Article IV, Section 1. Nenni was taken to Piemonte Regional Headquarters where he pleaded not guilty. The case was referred for trial before a Superior Court in Torino on 28 May 1945 and the defendant was released upon his personal recognizance, conditioned only upon his pledge to make no political addresses in the meanwhile.

The following morning Nenni, in the presence of the head of the Committee of National Liberation of Northern Italy presented the Regional Commissioner with his written regrets and a promise that similar incidents would not be repeated. On the advice and concurrence of the Commanding General, IV Corps, Nenni was released and he departed for Rome. An order of nolle prosequi was entered in the case.

d. Economics and Supply.

All the provinces in Emilia Region were able to supply a bread ration from their own flour stocks. Salt, sugar, lard and milk were supplied to these provinces. Most of the provinces of Lombardia and Piemonte Regions had at the time of occupation by the Allied Forces at least a week's supply of flour, with the exception of the mountainous provinces and the cities of Milan and Turin. The minimum bread ration has since been maintained, with the aid of civilian transport for the deficient provinces. With rail transport available as far east as Cremona, it is possible that the bread ration may be increased in June to 200 grams. Belluno and Vicenza provinces required flour in addition to sugar, salt, milk and lard and received deliveries on 16 May. Emergency supplies were sent into La Spezia from stockpiles at Torre del Lago and at present that province is drawing directly from the Allied Commission warehouse in Leghorn. The other three provinces of Liguria Region are receiving these supplies from Allied Commission warehouse in Genoa.

Transportation has been the limiting factor in the supplying of food and movement of personnel. Fifth Army Transportation Section took over control of all transportation and by the end of the month movement of supplies was built up to 2500 tons per day and still increasing. Over 3,100 carabinieri and their equipment were transported from Florence to their provinces requiring as much as a six-day turnabout in some cases. Regional and Provincial teams were aided in their moves to their various capitals by this transportation. Refugees are being transported by backlog of trucks as far as possible.

In order to best utilize additional trucks, other than Allied Commission trucks, from Fifth Army and Peninsular Base Section a large warehouse was established in Modena on 26 May. This warehouse is stocked with the extra Allied Commission trucks over and above those necessary for the minimum 450 tons per day commitment for Milan and Turin and by Army and Peninsular Base Section trucks on backhauls of Prisoners of War.

As of 31 May the transportation plan was briefly as follows: A minimum of 450 tons per day were drawn from Ferli and Caserta and moved to Cremona Railroad for shipment to Milan and Turin. All available trucks were stockpiling the Modena warehouse. As supplies became available in Modena all Allied Commission transport were used to make deliveries North and West to provinces in the Army area. Emilia Region and other nearby provinces were authorized to draw direct from Modena.

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Enough POL supplies were made available from Army dumps to supply the most urgent needs of the provinces during the month.

Over two million cigarettes were issued to Partisans which exhausted the supply in Army warehouses. Future supplies will be obtained directly from tobacco warehouses through the tobacco monopoly and the Finance Sub-Commission.

e. Labor.

Labor relations remain generally satisfactory. Unemployment continues to increase. Many prisoners of war and "slave laborers" are returning from Germany and causing additional problems. There is a state of unrest through the area. Insecurity as to work and pay is the chief item of concern.

Supply exceeds the demand. Army policy continues to be the utilization of prisoner of-war labor whenever possible.

f. Public Works and Utilities.

Arrangements have been made with all Regional Engineers to have the Cantoniere system re-established to take over all highway maintenance in the Army area at the request of the Army Engineer. The Army has agreed to furnish transportation and materials for military roads until such time as transportation can be made available to the Cantonieri. Regional Engineers took over as of 1 June 1945.

Rehabilitation projects on roads, bridges, public buildings, hospitals, schools, and private houses have been planned and submitted for approval. Much engineer material is on hand in engineer dumps in the Army area and the supply problem is not critical.

g. Public Safety.

The Rear Army Security Control line has now been moved forward to the following line and is now known as the Security Control Line: "River Piave from mouth to road - river crossing G 6474 thence by road to Vittoria Veneto B 6712 to Piave di Cadore B 7562 to Steffane di Cadore B 8875 thence due North to Italian-Austrian Frontier." This line generally follows the line separating the Fifth and Eighth Armies. The restricted and economic lines have been suspended as of 28 May 1945. Entry to Army Area from the South is thus unrestricted.

A prohibited Frontier Zone has been established to a depth of 25 Km extending along the French, Swiss and Austrian Frontiers. Within this zone the 10 Km rule applies. Elsewhere travel is not restricted, apart from the normal restrictions which govern the crossing of the Security Control Line.

A total of 6812 carabinieri have been moved into Army area since the advance started in the latter part of April. These carabinieri were moved through the cooperation of the Economics and Supply division of AMG Fifth Army.

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In nearly all provinces it was found that the Committees of National Liberation had appointed local men as Questore and Vice-Questore. Some were found to be reasonably good and have been allowed to carry on at least temporarily.

At Valdagno, in the province of Vicenza, complete political records in excellent condition were found. These had been removed from Rome by the Republican Fascist Government. They are being guarded until proper disposition can be made of them.

Curfew regulations are no longer in operation unless required by the local military authorities. No difficulty has been experienced.

On 19 May a crowd of about 1000 persons, some of whom were armed, the majority being youths from La Spezia and surrounding districts, marched to the main square in La Spezia and demonstrated against the King and the Italian Government. They took down Italian flags from various buildings and finally went to the Prefettura where they were addressed by the Provincial Commissioner and the Prefect and then dispersed. At about 1500 hours on the same day a crowd of about 200 persons went to the carabinieri caserma at Luvico, a fraction of La Spezia, entered the caserma, disarmed the carabinieri present and took down the Italian flags. There is no doubt that both demonstrations were of communistic origin and were carried out by irresponsible young members of the organization. No further incidents have been reported. The carabinieri in La Spezia have been strongly reinforced.

The Chief of the Public Safety Division, Colonel Bye, must shortly go to the hospital for a long period of treatment. A competent replacement is badly needed and a request for one is herewith renewed.

h. Public Health.

The health of the population is excellent. No epidemic diseases have been reported in the Army area.

The various welfare agencies are functioning normally in almost all sections and their needs are few. The most important welfare activity concerns the handling of ex-internees from Germany and this is well under control through representatives of the Displaced Persons Section and by Special officers assigned to assist in this problem.

i. Refugees.

The war in Europe produced homeless dispersed families and slave laborers on a huge scale with the result that millions of people are out of place. These . . . will have to be moved or allowed to move back to where they can stay and go to work. Soldiers, prisoners of war, axis diplomats, refugees from bombed areas, victims of civil war in the Balkans, camp-followers of the German Army, slave-workers from German war factories, persons of no nationality - all present peculiar and unique problems. Many of the estimates of refugees in different localities are exaggerated but there is undoubtedly a very large nomad population which is trying to get home via the Fifth Army area.

While in general this movement is south and west, there is a counter-current of great strength seeking to flow north into the Army area. This is composed of persons who want to come to assist refugees. G-5 in this month received requests from mission of many various nationalities. number of these wanted to establish separate facilities and separate transport for their own people. It has been the policy of AMB Fifth Army to simplify procedure, avoid multiplicity

of agencies, and to pass refugees to the rear of the Army area as rapidly as possible where they can be dealt with by the proper agency of the Allied Commission away from the complications of German surrendered personnel and redeploying Allies.

To accomplish this policy 27 refugee camps have been set up in a chain extending from the Brenner and its sister passes, through Bolzano, Verona, Modena, Bologna, and so to the south via Forli and Grizzana, and also in some of the provincial capitals.

j. Finance.

Banks as a general rule were found in good condition and were reopened as soon as financial statements and lists of blocked accounts could be furnished. By 14 May the banks in all the provincial capitals had been reopened and by 25 May all banks in the Fifth Army area had been reopened with the exception of a few in the outlying border communes.

A considerable number of metropolitan lire notes from captured or surrendered German units have found their way into the hands of Allied soldiers who have attempted to convert them into AM lire by buying money orders or purchasing assegni or vaglia at local banks. Instructions were given to all Regional Finance Officers and Provincial Finance Officers to instruct all banks that the exchange for soldiers of AM lire for metropolitan lire in denominations of 1000 lire is forbidden. Banks must hold 1000 lire AM notes and must not re-initiate them into circulation except in emergencies. Fifth Army also issued orders that troops must turn in captured booty and cannot have in their possession bills of 500 and 1000 metropolitan lire.

In the early part of May elements of the 88th Division seized and guarded a treasure of gold bullion and coins in the vaults of the Banca d'Italia at Fortezza. This stock consisted of 153 kgs and 55 boxes of a total weight of Kg. 23,802,379 or approximately 23 tons. Arrangements were made to remove the gold from Fortezza and on 17 May a truck convoy with a reconnaissance platoon and guards from the 88th Division transported the stock to the Banca d'Italia in Rome. The same convoy also delivered the world famous collection of coins, valued at 12 million dollars, property of the King of Italy.

k. Mine Clearance.

A number of German maps and plans have been obtained showing the exact positions of mine fields and booby-trapped houses in Genoa, with the nature of each explosive charge and also the method by which it can be detonated. The heaviest concentration in this province is at Chiavari. Surveys are being conducted in the other provinces of Liguria to determine the locations of mine-fields.

Eighty students are attending a mine removal school in Genoa and 60 of these are expected to qualify for this work.

l. Partisans.

The program of disarming the Partisans has been continuous during April and May. Two methods have been followed: one, using stand-down parades with the arms turned in after the parade and certificates issued to the various band leaders and selected Partisans; the other, collecting the arms through the local

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Partisan leaders by a designated time. Disarmament can never be complete, but many thousands of arms have been collected since the German surrender.

It is estimated there are 22,500 needy Partisans in the IV Corps area alone that will be supplied with food and clothing. For this need 83 tons of clothing has been allotted for movement to Milan and will be transported as soon as possible.

In many cases Partisans have joined the local police forces under the direction of the Public Safety Officer with favorable results.

m. Agriculture.

The wheat harvest on small patches in the high gravelly ground around Mantova and Verona was beginning as the month ended and harvest will be in full swing throughout the territory by mid-June. The harvest of oil seed, rapeseed, flax, millet and other types was under way as the month ended and marketing of these oil seeds will be underway late in June. No marketing program or official price has been announced.

Rice replanting, i.e., setting the rice shoots from the beds into rows in the water, was under way in large volume. In the past years workers have migrated from the Modena area to the rice fields in the Novara and Vercelli areas for the rice planting season. Arrangements have been made to transport some 6000 workers by military transport to these areas and the plan is now in operation.

Rains late in the month over most of the Po Valley helped the new corn crop very materially but came too late to be of much benefit to the wheat crop which in some areas was well toward maturity.

Distribution of agricultural supplies locally produced was under way in all provinces but the distribution of imported supplies, such as binder twine, sulphur and copper sulphate, was still hampered by lack of transportation. Salt is badly needed for livestock, butter making, and cheese making but at the end of the month there seemed a possibility of some relief in this field.

The release of captured animals through the Fifth Army Remount Service was nearing completion at the end of the month, with a preliminary report showing that some 18,000 Army branded and classified animals had been distributed to the farmers in the 30 provinces within the Fifth Army territory. An additional estimated 5000 horses which were indiscriminately distributed in the early days of the month are being rounded up, branded and classified, and will be redistributed.

n. Meritorious Service Plaques and Visit of Admiral Stone.

On 29 May 1945 at a brief ceremony in the principal piazza at Salerno the War Department Meritorious Service plaque was presented to Company "G", 2675th. Regiment, and the Fifth Army Meritorious Service plaque was presented to the British contingent A.M.G. Fifth Army in the presence of the Army Commander, Lt. General Truscott, the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, Rear Admiral Stone, General Mascarenhas, Commanding General of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force, General Hux, Colonel Fiske and others.

On the occasion of this trip to the Army area Admiral Stone also visited Milan and other areas and thus was able to get a first hand impression of the problems of A.M.G. in the Army area.

CONCLUSION:

The end of the month of May saw the Military Government of North Italy well in hand. Within the area administered by Fifth Army the Regions were functioning, thus effecting a necessary decentralization of Army control. Communication on technical matters passed freely and directly between the Allied Commission and the Regions. The Army A.M.G. beside exercising general supervision which was greatly facilitated by the Army signal system, gave special attention to the French border problems, to the movement of refugees of every type, and to the handling of civilian supplies by Army transportation. As the month closed, "six by sixes" were still the main means of haulage, Army signal wire and radio the chief means of communication, and political murders were symptoms of the violent changeover in government which was effected by the defeat of the Axis. But already the progress in repair of railways and the restoration of civilian telephones and telegraphs promised the return of a normal economy. There were signs that the general populace was tiring of killings and anxious for peace and work. Italy was almost convalescent.

Edgar E. Hume
EDGAR ENGINE HUME,
Brigadier General, GSC.,
Senior Civil Affairs Officer,
Fifth Army.

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

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0811

HEADQUARTERS IV CORPS
Civil Affairs Section
APO 304

SECRET
Auth: SCAO IV CORPS
Initial: Swc
Date: 16 June 45

SECRET

(class. under
wcoo for the act)

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

HTV/PP 3513

16 June 1945

Ex-2 JUN 1945
Comm.

TO : Commanding General, IV Corps, APO 304, U.S. Army

1. The operation of G-5 Section IV Corps, during the month of May fell into three parts, first those of emergency operations which were necessary to place AMG personnel in position as rapidly as they were available and to begin the distribution of food and supplies to the civilian population, second in the selection of civilian personnel to man the newly established government and dealing with problems of law and order, and third the transfer of operations and responsibility to the Regional Commissioners and their teams.

a. PART ONE: The first of May found civil authority in much confusion. Partisans were in control of towns and cities which had been by-passed by the Allied forces. The local Committees of National Liberation were in full operation and had selected the various governmental officers. Decrees were being issued by the CLN without reference to AMG and industries were rapidly being Sovietized by internal committees originally selected to expurate fascist directors and employers but which committees having gained control were rapidly replacing all directors in favor of management selected by the committee. All functions of government were in confusion and IV Corps G-5 section was the target for questions as to procedures and operation. In the first few days it was only possible to do the most important things which presented themselves. Later in this period it was possible to sort out similar problems and issue letters and information for the guidance of Regional and Provincial AMG throughout the area.

b. PART TWO: The CLN of north Italy and its correspondent committees of National Liberation in the regions and provinces had prepared plans in advance

21 JUN 1945

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MONTHLY REPORT (Continued)

b. PART TWO (Cont'd)

of liberations as to officers, economics, finance, in fact, on all of the problems which would confront the governmental authorities in the area. Most of these were found to be sensible and the appointments well chosen.

(1) However, since there was a lapse of time between the liberation of certain areas and the actual occupation by Allied forces there was some reluctance on the part of CLN to surrender their newly found authority to the representatives of AMG as they moved into the territory. However, without exception, and with the exercise of no little diplomacy on the part of the Regional Commissioners designated (who through this period were operating as Deputy SCAC's) all CLN's acknowledged their agreement with the Supreme Allied Command of the Mediterranean Theater and surrendered their authority to AMG. During this period there were innumerable conferences with Italian leaders, industrialists, workers seeking to get the background for decisions concerning which no directives or policy had been prepared.

(2) At the suggestion of the Acting Chief of Staff, G-5, arrangements were made to fly a group representing five parties making up the CLN of north Italy to Rome in an endeavor to quickly solve the governmental crisis caused by the liberation of north Italy. While these conferences had their effect, they did not provide a solution to the crisis.

(3) Subsequently representatives of all of the ministries and of the parties not represented in the cabinet came to Milano for further conferences. The restriction which they had voluntarily laid upon themselves namely, that no political meetings or speeches would be made, caused some difficulty in that the followers of certain parties who had not been informed of this agreement had made arrangements for larger political rallies. With the exception of one incident there was no public disorder and no arrests made for a

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MONTHLY REPORT (Continued)

b. PART TWO (Cont'd)
(3)(Cont'd)

violation of the ministers' pledge. In Vercelli Mr. Nenni, Secretary of the Socialist party in defiance of the refusal of AMG authorities to issue a permit for the meeting and despite a personal warning to him not to speak, was taken into custody and taken to Turin to the Regional Commissioner of Piedmont Region. Fortunately for all concerned Mr. Nenni offered his apologies and the matter was dropped.

c. PART THREE: During all of the operations of this period G-5 Section IV Corps placed its emphasis on getting the wheels started and as soon as regular personnel arrived in position turned over matters to them, retaining control through the Deputy SCAO's. The result was that at the end of May the regional teams were all in position, the regional offices established and operating. The G-5 section had ceased to handle detail matters and was merely supervising operations and assisting in the solution of such problems which arose and which purely affected the military.

2. PARTISANS.

The number of partisans which had been operating in the territory at the period of liberation was well in excess of 100,000. They were well organized under the responsible command of former Italian Army officers and under the unified command of General Cardona who was later selected as Chief of Staff of the Italian Army. He and his staff had been of great assistance in dealing with the problems which arose. The usual announcement of disarmament of partisans was made, but since presence of so large a group of irregular troops in the corps territory constituted a major problem, the negotiations and instructions covering the disarmament of partisans was of such importance that the Commanding General of IV Corps took personal charge of the matter. Because the partisans were well organized they were extremely reluctant to abandon their arms and it was necessary to take forceful measures by getting definite dates for disarmament and at the same time arranging for the care of the partisans who could not return home

SECRET**MONTHLY REPORT (Continued)****Para. 2 (Cont'd)**

through partisans centers which had been set up and operating (one to each province). The surrender of arms proceeded slowly and unsatisfactorily in the early part of May but it is estimated that by the end of the month approximately 50% of the arms outstanding had been collected. These consisted in the regions of Lombardia, and Piedmont of 57,573 stands of arms, 67 cannons and mortars and 2,189 automatic weapons. No statistics are available from the region of Liguria since these were all handled by the 92nd Division. A total of 197,000 rations and 22,000,000 cigarettes were delivered to the partisans centers. Very little clothing has been made available, but this need has not seemed so pressing.

3. FOOD.

There was no scarcity of available food at any time in the Army dumps. The difficulty arose from the lack of transport. Liguria was supplied direct by sea to Genova, and in sufficient quantity to care for the region except during the period when a heavy storm wrecked nine LST's lying off shore which necessitated hauling by truck from Leghorn. Difficulties were experienced in transporting food to the outlying districts. In Piedmont Region food was transported from the Cremona railhead direct to Turin and (after the 15th of May) in quantities sufficient to supply the province. In Lombardia where the target called for 1000 tons daily beginning June 1st, the scheduled deliveries were met. In view of transport difficulties it was not possible to stockpile a reserve. The transport situation is still difficult and the food situation is not by any means easy anywhere. But in the period covered by this report the G-5 section was supported as it always had been from 5 Army in an extremely satisfactory manner.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH.

Medical supplies have been distributed throughout the area. There are sufficient surplus on hand for the present but the stock piles still remain in Florence. These have not been moved due to lack of transportation. As to contagious disease, typhoid is endemic in Cuneo Province with no other unusual incidence of disease being reported elsewhere.

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MONTHLY REPORT (Continued)

5. FINANCE.

The greatest financial problem has been lack of available currency for normal circulation purposes. However, a stockpile has been created at the Bank of Italy with a total of one billion six hundred and fifty eight lire on hand.

6. ENGINEERING.

Public works officers in the various regions have been contacted and estimates of materials required for the repair of key highways have been requested and the material requisitioned. The Cantoniari system has been reactivated and the care of all key highways made the responsibility of the normal civilian maintenance groups.

7. LAW AND ORDER.

Law and Order during this period, the beginning of which was marked by a number of so called executions on the part of anti-fascists, closed with the Special Courts of Assise in operation throughout the territory with very few reports of individuals taking the law into their own hands. The Courts of Assise appear to be operating well. From casual observation, the death sentence seems to be imposed on those who richly deserve such a sentence and the judgments and sentences, some of which are acquittals seem to be on the basis of evidence presented and not on prejudice.

The Carabinieri whose use was regarded by some as inadvisable have all been placed in service and the normal police routine is proceeding.

HAMILTON T. WALKER,
Colonel GSC,
A C of S, G-5

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
G-5 SECTION
APO 464 US ARMY

LES/hap

222/7

4 June 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

10 JUN 1945

TO : H.Q. Allied Commission.

55658

Enclosed herewith Monthly Report for the month of April.

For the A.C. of S., G-5:

Arthur E. Sutherland Jr.
ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, JR.,
Colonel, C.A.C.,
Executive Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

G-5 SECTION

APO 464

US ARMY

Report for the Month of April, 1945.PART I.

1. The month of April 1945 falls into two clearly-marked periods of AMG activity. During the first of these the calm and routine administration of the small area of Italy lying within the Army boundary was carried on, while at the same time preparations were diligently made for the commencement of military government in the large areas which it was expected the Army would occupy during the coming advance. Food was stock-piled at Florence, Viareggio and Forli. An advance food depot was established at Forretta Terme. The Provincial and Regional teams, particularly those in the nearest provinces and regions, were alerted for early movement. Carabinieri were concentrated in the Scuola Centrale in Florence. A special city team headed by Lt. Col. Elmer N. Holmgren was made ready for the administration of Bologna. The AMG personnel with the II and IV Corps was strengthened. A plan was prepared, under the guidance of the Assistant Chief of Staff G-5, by each of the specialists in the Army AMG staff, for the operation of their respective branches. Arrangements were made to turn over the administration of Tuscany Region, insofar as it fell inside the Army boundaries, to the administration of the Regional Commissioner acting for the Army Commander. On April 11 and 12 the 92nd Division took Massa-Carrara and the first of the new territories to be liberated were immediately entered by AMG officers. Shortly after the middle of April the attack on Bologna began and that city fell on April 21. Modena was entered on 23 April. Mantova on 26 April. On April 28th the city of Milan which had previously been the scene of a Partisan uprising was entered by IV Corps. By the end of the month the greater part of North Italy had been occupied and rumors of an impending surrender was already current. In the meantime all available truck transport was mobilized by G-5 of the Army and Provincial teams with their initial allotment of Carabinieri were swiftly sent forward. The policy was followed of putting the Provincial and Regional staffs to work at the earliest possible moment in order to obtain continuity of administration. Provincial and Regional groups were moved forward to staging areas as rapidly as these were uncovered by the advancing combat forces and this process hastened their movement into their destined capitals. As a result between April 21st and May 3rd, Provincial and Regional Staffs were moved into every province and every region respectively in North Italy east of the Eighth Army boundary.

2. On the morning of 21 April, 1945 the Senior Civil Affairs Officer, 5th Army, was attending a Staff Conference at the Army Command Post in the Futa Pass, when word came that troops would probably enter Bologna that morning. He immediately went forward to enter that city on the first day of its occupation and from there he advanced from city to city without ever returning to his former office in Florence. On the day following the occupation of Modena he entered the latter city accompanied by the President of the Allied Commission, becoming engaged in a brush with some German troops who were retreating through the city. He entered Verona on 26 April 1945 the day of the occupation of the city and Piacenza on 28 April 1945, likewise the first day of occupation. He was at Bologna for the Partisan Parade and disarming on 25 April 1945 and at Modena for a similar event on 30 April 1945. During this period his principal office was moved to Bologna.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

While the SCAG was moving forward getting first hand impressions of the situation in the field and giving encouragement, advice and directions to the AMG officers there, the Executive Officer and the other Headquarters officers (except the Partisan Officer) remained in Florence dispatching from that point to the newly taken provinces AMG teams, Carabinieri teams, food, medical supplies, etc. The special Bologna city team entered Bologna 21 April 1945 and the provincial team on 23 April. The Modena team went forward on 24 April, La Spezia on the 25th, Reggio, Parma and Piacenza about the same time and Mantova a day or so later. On 27 April the Verona team, reinforced by Lt. Col. Thomas J. Michie as SCAG and others of the Fifth Army AMG personnel formerly employed in the city of Florence, moved forward and on 30 April the Piacenza team moved into that province. In all of these instances the Provincial teams had been preceded in the provincial capitals and principal towns by the well organized AMG teams of II Corps and IV Corps. Finally at the close of the month, with the practical cessation of organized resistance, the remaining teams for Lombardia, Piemonte and Liguria went forward. Thus within a period of ten days the zone of Allied Military Government under the Fifth Army had been expanded from a little more than three provinces, Firenze, Lucca and Pistoia, to 30 provinces covering a far greater expanse of territory, population, wealth and industry than had ever been subjected to Allied Military Government in Italy at any one time before.

At this point, on 30 April 1945, Fifth Army AMG closed its offices in Florence and on the following day the advance echelon consisting of the SCAG, the Executive Officer and the Operations Officers moved to the Fifth Army forward CP at Verona and the remainder of the staff moved with Fifth Army Rear to Modena.

3. The first great problem that confronted AMG in all the new territory was the Partisan situation. In every province there were found to be thousands of Partisans, armed to the teeth, many of them with excellent fighting records but many also who had picked up arms only as the Germans withdrew, all ready to tell the world (and many genuinely believing) that they themselves and their comrades had driven out the Germans and liberated their cities, substantially unassisted by the Allied Armies, and most of them toughened by months of rough living in the mountains and, it was feared, little disposed to convert their swords into ploughshares and return to the quiet walks of peace. Edward Burke said that one could not indict a nation and so one cannot indict the Partisans. They came from every walk of Italian life and included the noblest and most high minded of Italian youth, men and women, as well as much of the material out of which our American city gangsters are made. It is this latter element that has given trouble.

From the first entry into Bologna the problem of Partisan murders raised its ugly head. It continued unabated. These murders take two forms, first the unorganized casual killing of a single individual, presumably, in most cases, by an individual or a small group and presumably also in such cases largely for personal revenge, possibly revenge for some injustice committed by the individual under Fascist authority; and, second, the more or less organized shooting of Fascists by Partisans at the direction of their leaders, possibly after some form of so-called trial, such as is alleged to have been given Mussolini and the others arrested with him. In some provinces one form of lawlessness predominates; in others, another. For example in Bologna the individual

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private murder has been the rule while in Verona the killings, as far as is known, were all of the pseudo-legal variety. (The situation in the North West is not dealt with here as the area was entered too late in the month to justify consideration in this connection in this report.)

AMG response to this situation during April was of two kinds. First great efforts were made to disarm the Partisans and with astonishing success during this period. Parades were held during April in Bologna and Modena and by the end of the month preparations for parades in Verona, Vicenza and other cities were well under way. At these parades the Partisans passed in review, fully armed and under their own leaders, before General officers of the Fifth Army, and at the conclusion of the parades surrendered their arms. Bands played, bugles trumpeted, drums beat and flags were unfurled in the soft April breezes. After the arms were surrendered speeches were made and Partisan Certificates were presented to the leaders. At Bologna 3500 Partisans surrendered their arms and at Modena more than 14,000. Dozens of truckloads of rifles, ammunition and all sorts of small arms were collected. The loot included a few light field pieces and, at Modena, two tanks. However it was noted that the number of pistols and machine guns turned in was surprisingly small.

The other effort to bring the killings under control was through appeals to the sense of responsibility of the better elements in the community. Appeals were made privately and by public proclamation by AMG officers, by the CLNs, by the new Prefects and Mayors, by church officials and by Partigiani leaders themselves. That these appeals had some good effect cannot be doubted. Nevertheless the situation remained grave at the end of the month and, while Carabinieri had been ordered to do everything possible to prevent the commission of such crimes, no serious effort had been made up to the end of the month to punish any of the perpetrators thereof.

4. A new and important situation that confronted AMG during the month lay in the character and strength of the CLNs encountered in every province and almost every commune. While the position of the CLNs found in Tuscany last summer and fall had been strong, especially in Florence where they had actually governed the city for several days before any AMG officers were allowed to cross the Arno, the position of the CLNs in Northern Italy was much fortified by the encouragement they had been given by the Italian Government in Rome during the winter months and also by the central direction which had been created in Milan. The CLNs had been recognized by Rome as the legal governments of Northern Italy during the period of German occupation and, while it was understood that they were to step aside when AMG came in, nevertheless their actions during the occupation acquired a certain validity which otherwise they would not have had. In practically all instances, for example, the CLN had actually designated Prefects. These men had taken possession of their offices by the time AMG officers arrived. AMG could remove them if they were considered unsatisfactory. But it may be doubted that it was legally necessary for AMG to "appoint" them, if it desired to continue to use their services, as they had already been appointed by bodies recognized by Rome as having the right to govern the regions; and this being the case it also became a rather futile gesture to consult the local CLN as to whether someone on a list previously made up in Rome

C O N F I D E N T I A L

should not be appointed Prefect. The answer was obvious: what is the matter with the existing Prefect? i.e. the one recently appointed by the CLN and unless an answer could be found to that inquiry there was no use bringing the matter up.

Nevertheless, despite the strength of the CLNs they were, at least in the period under consideration, generally cooperative and no serious differences existed between them and the AMG officers of the various provinces. Their nominees for office were generally retained by AMG and while there were instances where it was necessary to remind the CLNs that they could no longer take direct action themselves but must leave the government to the appointed officials under the supervision of AMG there was little trouble in making them understand this situation when it was explained and the instances where they overstepped the line were no more numerous than might be expected and could hardly be considered serious when the picture was viewed as a whole.

PART II.a. Economics and Supply.

The food problem in Florence was relieved somewhat by the arrival of the railroad there and the allocation of one track to AMG during the first part of the month enabled forward warehouses to be stockpiled for operations in North Italy. By the end of April, food conditions in the North had not assumed the proportions of a serious problem.

The provinces of Florence, Pistoia, and Lucca have been allocated sufficient food and deliveries have been completed, to last the population through 15 June 1945. Florence City has received food to last through 31 May 1945. The allocation and deliveries were made ahead of schedule to insure food for the people after Army moved on with its transport.

A general distribution of meat was not made in April. The only meat issued was included in supplementary rations where the scale called for meat.

The Navacchio Depot was moved to Torre del Lago in Lucca Province to give closer support in that sector of 5th Army. A warehouse was opened in Porretta Terme in the Province of Bologna to support operations in that sector.

Authority was given to Corps SCAOs to establish the bread ration upon entrance into a newly liberated area. This ration was based upon local stocks of wheat and flour available. It was recommended that the ration be set at 125 grams of bread, initially, and raised when grain or flour should become available to 250 grams of bread and 40 grams of pasta, either from local or imported stocks.

A warehouse was established in Bologna to supply provinces in that portion of Army Area.

An issue of 40 matches per person per month was made in the provinces of Florence, Lucca and Pistoia.

The service of the 1st Truck Battalion continued to be excellent. On 26th April 5th Army took over the operations of the Truck Battalions and all transportation requests were cleared through transportation 5th Army.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

The Regional and Provincial Teams and equipment, a sufficient numbers of CC.RP, to establish law and order were moved under this system. (56)

b. Agriculture.

Grain crop plantings were below normal, especially rice. The current crop condition was fair with some damage in the central Po Valley due to frost. Summer vegetables and fruit crops were good with surplus in nearly all areas. Some 400 tons of surplus potatoes were found in the Bologna area and part of them were transported south.

AMG officers entering Bologna found large numbers of farmers and their possessions, including livestock, living in the city under abnormal conditions. There were even cattle and swine on third floors of some houses and hundreds of cattle were found in basements. This had produced a condition of sanitation easier to observe than to imagine.

Generally speaking agriculture North of the Appennines was found to be in good shape.

c. Labor.

Private industry, like the Germans before our arrival, have been paying higher wages to their workers than the Army. This has caused some dissatisfaction among the civilian workers but does not create a great problem because of Army's policy of utilizing POWs to great extent whenever possible.

As April ended civilian labor was still being used in the Genoa port areas, the supply exceeded the demand.

Labor relations have been generally satisfactory. In newly occupied towns "Camere di Lavoro" were found. They follow the same pattern as found in central and southern Italy, namely one Communist Secretary, one Christian-Democrat, and one Socialist.

d. Public Works and Utilities.

The Army Engineer allotted 100 tons of cement per week during April which was sufficient to take care of all urgent civilian requirements.

A considerable increase of power (4500 KW) to Prato and Pistoia was received on April 12, which enabled many industries to resume operations. Rationing boards have been set up in both towns.

Comparatively little damage was found in Bologna. A local plant supplied sufficient power to take care of hospitals and water pumping, until the power lines from Modena could be repaired. The small flow of water was however a serious impairment to sanitation.

A remarkable difference in the attitude of the civilians was noted in that they started repair work on their own initiative without waiting for orders with the result that utilities were functioning much sooner than normal.

In general the liberated towns were found to be almost normal with public works and utilities functioning or ready to function with the approval of Allied Military Government. 4865

C O N F I D E N T I A Le. Public Safety.

The Italian Police Agencies continue to do good work and their morale was very good as the prospects of moving forward became a reality.

Massa and Carrara were occupied on the 11th and 12th April and 100 CC.RR. were moved into the towns on the 14th. Bologna was occupied on the 21st and 230 CC.RR. under Major Way entered the city late the same evening. 70 CC.RR. were moved into Modena on 24 April (the remaining 100 CC.RR. were with 4 Corps). 90 CC.RR. were moved to La Spezia under Captain Zittel on the 25th. 50 CC.RR. each for Parma and Piacenza were moved into the capitals and 135 CC.RR. to Mantova on 26 April. 120 CC.RR. for Verona, 79 for Trento and 55 for Bolzano were moved from Florence to Verona on the 28th. 387 CC.RR. for Milan, 100 reinforcements, each for Parma and Modena were moved from Florence to their destination on 29 April. On 30 April, 180 CC.RR. reinforcements for Bologna, 146 Pavia, 64 Cremona, and 116 for Vicenza were sent forward from Florence. Total transported forward to the end of the month was 2,262 CC.RR.

Upon entry into town the policing was being carried on by the local Partisans. In many cases the CC.RR. were reinforced by a group of these Partisans under control of the Provincial Police Officer until additional CC.RR. could be brought forward.

In Bologna approximately 500 Agents of Public Safety were found prepared to perform duty and are being vetted by CIC.

On the 28th April 3 men were sentenced in an AMG Court, one to 10 years and two to 8 years imprisonment for uttering counterfeit 1000 lire notes.

Three persons were tried by General Courts on charges of murder. They were found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment.

As pointed out above, by the end of the month murders by Partisans, or pretended Partisans, had become a serious problem.

f. Public Health.

The public health in general was very good in Army area.

The typhoid epidemic at the Refugee Center in Florence resulted in 31 cases, 49 suspected cases (those having a temperature of 100 degrees or more for 48 hours) and 7 deaths during the epidemic. All cases were removed from the Center to civilian hospitals and isolated as far as possible. The source of the epidemic was attributed to a surface well that was used by a section of the Center for laundry and latrines. Notices had been posted at the outlets that this source was non-potable. All water is now piped into the Center from the city supply and the infected well condemned and no longer used for any purpose. All persons in the center have now been inoculated.

The health situation in the newly liberated area has been extremely good. Living conditions in Bologna were extremely over-crowded but no ill-effects resulted during April.

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g. Refugees.

During April 740 refugees from Lucca Center and 2,110 from Florence Center were evacuated to rear camps or to their homes, leaving 600 in Lucca and 2,979 in the Florence Center.

Refugee Centers were established in Bologna, Modena and Verona for processing refugees. The Grizzana railhead at Lagaro was used to evacuate refugees to Florence.

The general route of evacuation from the Brenner Pass and Verona area, is Verona, Modena, Bologna, Forli and Florence for those to the south and local transport operating to points east and west of this axis.

h. Mine Clearance.

Mine clearance work has progressed very satisfactorily in Pistoia, Lucca, and Florence Provinces with a combined total of over 26,800 mines lifted during the month.

Two training courses were completed, one at Pistoia and one at Pisa with a total of 47 men qualifying for mine disposal work.

i. Conclusion.

April saw the breaking of the back of German resistance in Italy and the successful uprising of the Partisans. It saw the beginning of the swift occupation of thirty provinces, covering 48,000 square miles, with a population of 22 million. It saw the establishment of Allied Military Government over much of this area, - a process swiftly completed in the early days of May. There is an element of artificiality in stopping a report at the end of a calendar period, when swiftly - moving events had no such ceasure. For this reason it is suggested that this report be read in connection with the May report which, it is hoped, will follow within a very short period.

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HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY.

SECRET

TJM:HMD:JLJ.

11 March 1945.

REFERENCE: 222/7

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

TO : H.Q. Allied Commission.

MAR 14 1945

Enclosed herewith Monthly Report for the month of
February.

For the Commanding General:

Thomas J. Michie

THOMAS J. MICHIE,
Lt. Colonel, A.C.,
Acting Executive Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY.

HMD/jlj.

11th March 1945.

REFERENCE: 222/7

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

TO : HQ Allied Commission.

PART I

1. From the operational point of view, February has again been an uneventful month. The limited advances made in the Monte Belvedere sector in the last week brought no new communes under military government as the area captured was entirely mountainous and the few inhabitants had been previously evacuated. The Army Area thus remained unchanged from January. AMG 13 Corps continued to be administered from this Headquarters as in the previous month.

2. There has been a general improvement in public safety throughout the area and the arrest of a number of persons responsible for armed hold-ups in country districts has contributed to the restoration of confidence among the population. Very few crimes of violence were reported.

3. Four persons were tried by General Courts on charges of espionage. Two were convicted, of whom one was sentenced to death, and the other to life imprisonment.

4. The announcement of the increase in the Bread ration was received with some scepticism and further the first reports to the effect that the increase would be given entirely in pasta gave rise to real disappointment and a feeling that the original "promise" of 300 grammes of bread was not really being redeemed. This feeling largely disappeared with the subsequent announcement that in the army area the bread ration itself would be increased from 200 to 250 grammes and the pasta ration from 20 to 40 only.

5. No serious problems have arisen in connection with Partisans or with Refugees and existing arrangements continue to work smoothly.

6. In the political sphere activity has been slight. The Prefect of Florence now appears to have the CLN well in hand and has proved successful in his methods of playing one party off against the other.

7. Public Health remains satisfactory. The typhoid epidemic at Prato, though not entirely finished has abated to minimum numbers and energetic action has resulted in a greatly improved response to previous appeals made to the civil population to submit to inoculation.

8. The continuance of good weather has helped agriculture by allowing the farmers to devote more time to the land. Olive oil amassing continues to move slowly despite the energetic campaigns that are being waged by the Provincial organizations.

9. The President of the Allied Commission visited the Army area during the month and saw many phases of military government work. The Lieutenant General of the Realm has also been in the area inspecting Italian Army units.

PART II

a. Political reactions and popular opinion.

There was little real political activity during the month. Opinion remains unenthusiastic over the latest developments in Allied policy towards Italy and the absence of reference to Italy in the Declaration after the Yalta Conference was another blow to Italian susceptibilities. The announcement of the increase in the bread ration, though received with a certain amount of scepticism had a good effect on public morale.

The Provincial Commissioner of Pistoia draws attention to the strong undercurrent of feeling and the fears of violent political and social upheaval which underlie the outwardly calm situation in his Province. This was broken upon the occasion of the posting of recruiting notices for the Italian Army when bands of alleged ex-partisans-communists sought out Fascists, pinned the notices to them and marched them to the CC,RR and MP stations. No one was seriously hurt.

The "Day of the Soldier and Partisan" passed off without incident, no public meetings being permitted in the Army Area.

b. Local Government.

There is no substantial change to report since last month. In Florence the CLN has lost much ground and no longer speaks with the united voice it used to have either on the regional or national level. This development is partly due to the astuteness of the Prefect who has known how to play the parties off against each other and to win over certain members of the Committee to his side.

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The Prefect has been taking an active and energetic interest in the administration of the communes throughout Florence Province and in the appointment of Sindaci, though his fears of Communist activity in the future are inclined to make him unsympathetic towards even the most moderate and constitutional left-wing elements and desirous of replacing men originally nominated by the local CLN with candidates from the Centre and Right-wing parties.

In Lucca the Deputazione Provinciale has been nominated and meets regularly.

c. Economics and Food Supply.

Deliveries of imported food supplies have continued satisfactorily. The Provinces other than Pistoia as well as II and 13 Corps were able to mill enough wheat to issue the authorised bread ration for the communes under their control.

By authority from Allied Commission the sugar ration for February was not distributed although sufficient stocks were on hand in Army Area. This was due to the failure of future commitments not arriving on schedule to the ports.

Distribution of salt for curing hogs on a scale of 10 kg per hog was made during the month.

Olive Oil was distributed on the 3 deciliters ration per person per month, except in the communes of Emilia Region where 100 grammes of lard per person per month was issued.

Only cities over 50,000 population, i.e., Florence, Prato and Lucca received a meat issue.

The three Provinces have received an allocation of barley and are beginning to grind on a basis of 80% wheat and 20% barley. The bread is not too good.

All Communes received an issue of matches through the C.I.F. representative in the AMG warehouse, from which cigarettes were also issued to partisans only at a ration of 5 per man per day. A ration of 30 gms of cigarettes per "smoker" (men over 18 years of age but not women) has been distributed in the Provinces by the Monopoly representative.

The service given by the 1st Truck Bn., 2675th Regt., has been most satisfactory but the maintenance problem which has been discussed with the Transportation Sub-Commission still remains to be solved.

The Local Resources Section issued 469 releases of controlled commodities, one quarter of which were for civilian purposes. Allocations of lignite and coal and the release of glass and soap works have been made in accordance with AMG requirements.

d. Agriculture.

Total wheat collections for the three provinces in Army area are 161,753 quintals. Local wheat supplies in certain of the forward communes have been exhausted. In Poretta the warehouse containing all the wheat collected in recent weeks received a direct hit from an incendiary shell and its contents were destroyed.

Olive oil collections totalled 13,376 quintals and a refinery at Lucca for the processing of sansa and sulphur oil has begun operations. Power for handling the oil presses continues a problem.

The total slaughter of hogs for the Army Area will probably exceed 20,000. A few cattle are being killed to produce serum against foot and mouth disease, though the recent outbreak seems to have subsided.

Three tons of vegetables seeds have been received and 23 additional tons with 800 tons seed potatoes are on the way. These supplies will greatly increase vegetable and root crop in the area for late spring and summer.

e. Labour.

Supply continues to exceed demand and the number of registered unemployed has increased to about 6450.

Social security and Provincial labour officers continue to function satisfactorily.

f. Public works and utilities.

As a result of cooperation with PBS and 5th Army units, it is expected that a small supply of electric energy will shortly be available from La Lima for distribution to factories in the Lucca area.

Power for the flooded lands near Viareggio was increased during the first half of February, so that before the month's end all flood waters had been pumped off. A considerable part of this land had been ploughed and planting was in progress.

A supply of cement released by PBS was allocated for the construction of four large and important bridges in Lucca Province.

The Piteccio aqueduct which supplements the Pistoia water supply was completed on 21 February and work from this point to the treating plant and river intake is progressing satisfactorily.

g. Public Safety.

The various Italian police agencies continue to do good work and their morale is gradually improving. The new Questore at Pistoia is going ahead very well but it is thought that replacements will be needed among the Public Safety agents at Lucca.

The work of the CC.RR both in forward areas and in Florence City and Province is deserving of high praise. The fact that Fifth Army CC.RR are fairly well clothed has a tremendous bearing on their morale, as they now take pride in their appearance and feel they have some place in the scheme of things. In order that the spearhead CC.RR of Regions may be easily distinguished and carry weight among the civil population of newly occupied territory, red arm flashes with AMG in black are being issued to them.

Crimes of violence have decreased, only one armed hold-up being reported in Florence Province, one in Lucca and one in Pistoia.

190 forged 1000 lira notes and 17 forged 500 lira notes have been stopped in circulation. Enquiries by the CID in Florence are continuing but no arrests have as yet been made.

Civilian movement continues to be a special problem and the number of applications to enter Army area for all kinds of purposes is greatly in excess of what is desirable from the security angle. A scheme for tighter control on movement in the forward areas has been introduced.

Arrangements were made through the Italian liaison officer with Fifth Army for the removal to Rome of a number of Italian Army deserters who had been lodged by the CC.RR in the Murate prison and were causing overcrowding.

h. Public Health.

The typhoid epidemic in Prato has abated to minimum numbers. A large immunization campaign is now being conducted and a vaccination programme to include approximately 40,000 inhabitants of Prato and the vicinity is contemplated as being the only method of reducing the incidence of fresh cases. Orders requiring ration card holders to have them stamped with the date of inoculation and labourers to produce evidence of inoculation when drawing their month's wages produced by their implied threats an immediate and gratifying response which in the first two days almost overwhelmed the clinics.

Only one case of diphtheria has been reported and none of rabies or typhus.

Lt. Col. McSweeney, Chief of the Welfare Section, AC and Captain Silveira on exchange from AFHQ saw something of the welfare work in this area during their visits this month. The Provincial Welfare Commission continues to develop satisfactorily.

Medical supplies in Corps areas have been ample and satisfactory and no complaints have been received regarding the functioning of E.N.D.I.M.E.A. in this area. Plans are being formulated for future mobile operations and indents for reserve supplies have been submitted.

The work of the American Red Cross has continued to be of the same high standard. The distribution of relief clothing has been completed throughout the forward areas. A total of 32,800 persons were given clothing representing approximately 10% of the population in the forward areas.

Reconstruction work on civilian hospitals and ambulatori facilities has proceeded and a report recently submitted by the Supervisor gives a list of 17 hospitals with a total of over 6400 beds repaired and rehabilitated between the Arno and the present front line during the period September 15, 1944 to February 28, 1945.

1. Refugees.

The general situation was static during the month. No combat areas were evacuated and all the refugees who were processed in the centres were those who came or were forced through the lines. Some 3,300 were evacuated from the Army Refugee Centres, of whom 1520 were dispersed locally. The number held in the Florence centre shows a very slight increase on last month's figure of 2,700.

1. Finance.

In the Lucca area four newly liberated communes were financed pending the submission of local government budgets and direct advances were made to Communes in Bologna Province where no Italian Provincial organisation is yet in existence.

Due to the increases in compensation of government employees authorised by recent decrees, supplementary budgets have had to be approved for the various state offices and communes, and the figures show a continuous rise in the cost of running the Italian governmental bodies. The recent increases have not, however, satisfied government employees

and constant vigilance is necessary to prevent Italian officials from using loopholes to authorize locally any grants of compensation for which they can produce some semblance of justification.

The banks have continued to operate normally and the cash position is satisfactory. The possibility of opening the banks in Porretta Terme, a town in Bologna Province, is under consideration, but pending a decision, special arrangements were made to finance the Castanea Co a local manufacturer of tanning extract, which required cash for resumption of operations.

Preliminary steps by the Provincial Finance Officers were taken to prepare the way for publication of General Order No. 37 in the Provinces.

k. Mine Clearance.

Work is proceeding very satisfactorily in Pistoia where an area of 7,363,000 sq metres has been cleared since the commencement of operations and resulted in the removal of 4,500 mines and over 2,000 shells. In Florence Province approximately 4,000 mines and 2,000 unexploded shells have been removed by civilian squads.

l. Partisans.

Some 1,500 Partisans were received in the Florence and Pescia Centres. Of these 153 joined the Italian Army, 36 joined organised labour units, and 346 were evacuated to their homes. The number held in the two centres at the end of the month was 1350.

Italian Army rations were issued to all Partisans passing through the centres, but authority is still required to draw soap, disinfectants, and cigarettes from Army dumps.

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

785017

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

SECRET

FMW:LRHM:HLF

10 February 1945.

FEB 13 1945

REFERENCE: 222/7

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

TO : H.Q. Allied Commission.

Enclosed herewith Monthly Report for the month of January.

for the Commanding General,

Francis M. Whay
FRANCIS M. WHAY,
Lt. Colonel, C.M.P.,
Acting Chief of Staff,
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

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SECRET

Report for month of January 1945.

SECRET

PART I

1. January has been a quiet and uneventful month. The area under control has remained unchanged throughout the period with no new communes taken under military government. The routine administration of the three provinces of Firenze, Pistoia and Lucca has presented no new problems though the familiar economic problems have remained as acute as ever, particularly the shortage of cement and electric power and the difficulty of ensuring adequate food and fuel supplies in the larger towns.
2. XIII Corps passed to operational command of Eighth Army in mid-January, but continues to be administered and supplied by the British Increment of Fifth Army. Agreement was therefore made with A.M.G. Eighth Army that for A.M.G. purposes the Corps would continue as before to be under this Headquarters. This arrangement has worked very satisfactorily.
3. In the forward areas the severe weather conditions have made travelling very difficult and little activity of any sort has been possible. The population however have been fully employed on clearing snow from the military roads and a distribution of clothing by the American Red Cross has done much to alleviate the distress of the most needy.
4. In the rear areas political activity has not been on any great scale. Of the various parties the communists continue to be the best organised and most easily visible. Certain small anarchist groups also continue to operate under the surface.

The recruiting drive for the Italian Army organised by the C.I.M. has given opportunity for several parades and demonstrations, but none of these have been on a large scale or have caused any trouble.
5. Public morale has been increased by the recent Russian victories which are felt to be bringing the end of hostilities nearer; but in general the population continue to be apathetic and there is no great enthusiasm for the war. The political bankruptcy of the Italians, both individually and collectively, is as apparent as ever.
6. There has been less serious crime than in December, though cases of violence have occurred. Several large deposits of arms have been seized, noticeably in Pistoia. These are of mixed Allied, Italian and German origin and have unquestionably been hidden for future use by ex-Partisans.
7. Very few partisans have come through the line; as a result they have been no problem.
8. Over 4000 refugees have been evacuated from forward areas; the evacuation has proceeded smoothly with no unusual difficulties except that of providing for the animals and grain stocks of farmers in the Battle Area.

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9. Public health remains satisfactory with sporadic cases of diphtheria and no typhus or rabies. The typhoid epidemic at Prato continued serious for the early part of the month but was definitely on the decline as the month ended.

10. Agriculture is surprisingly normal except for the shortage of livestock. Olive oil amassing has been going very slowly but is expected to improve next month as a result of energetic action by provincial commissioners.

11. Twelve enemy agents were tried before general courts. One was acquitted, one convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment and the remainder convicted and sentenced to death.

PART II.

a. Political reactions and popular opinion.

The chief political event of the month has been the C.I.M. recruiting drive for the Italian Army. Although one of the chief motives behind this activity is undoubtedly self-advertisement for the C.I.M. the movement is regarded favourably as giving the people a chance to take a more direct interest in the war. Although no exact figures are available the total number of recruits has reached several thousand and the drive is thought to have been a success. The departure of volunteers was made the occasion for small demonstration parades in Florence; these passed off quietly and with no disturbance.

In Florence another leaflet appeared on the walls attacking the Prefect for an anti-British speech made by him in 1941 when Prefect of Grosinone. The Prefect continues to meet some opposition throughout the province in the routine conduct of the administration.

In Lucca the Committee of Liberation have had to be taken to task for interfering with the administration; this however is not considered as serious as the situation that has arisen in the past in Florence.

The public attitude towards the war continues to be one of apathy and there is still a universal feeling of frustration caused by the continued occupation of the area by large numbers of troops. Individually however relations with Allied soldiers continue to be very satisfactory. Public morale has received a great fillip from the recent Russian victories which are felt to have brought the end of hostilities in Europe appreciably closer.

The conduct of troops in so far as concerns the civil population has been good in view of the large numbers in Rest Areas. The only exception to this are isolated crimes committed mainly by coloured troops, which are being very firmly dealt with by the military agencies concerned.

b. Local government.

There is no change to report from last month and provincial administrations have continued to work satisfactorily. There is difficulty in some communes in finding suitable personnel to fill posts in communal administrations; keenness and zeal are not lacking in these cases.

experience and reliability are often hard to find.

c. Economics and Food Supplies.

Deliveries of imported food supplies have continued satisfactorily, and all commitments up to the approved ration scale have been met except for powdered milk, a shipment of which was expected from Leghorn early in February.

Olive oil is being distributed throughout the area except in a few communes in the area where lard is being issued instead. At the present rate of oil amassing the prospects for future distributions is not encouraging.

200 tons of salt have been received for curing pigs and are being distributed at a rate of 10 kilos per animal. However there are still difficulties in obtaining a satisfactory steady supply of salt from Volterra.

The P.C.I. situation has continued very satisfactory with some 11,000 gallons a day being drawn from Army G-4 stocks.

There is continued trouble with short deliveries to Communes, there being no facilities for weighing shipments at our warehouses. The proposal to turn all accounting over to the Consorzio authorities is welcome as it would relieve A.M.C. of this responsibility.

Considerable help was derived from Fifth Army transportation in bringing food and fuel into Florence by means of Army trucks unemployed from day to day. Civilian transportation organizations are greatly handicapped by lack of tyres. The Allied Commission Truck Battalion gave excellent service during the month.

The Local Resources Section issued 516 releases of controlled commodities, one third of which were for civilian purposes.

d. Agriculture.

Wheat collection is now completed. The totals are considered very satisfactory especially in Florence where collections exceeded the goal by 31,000 quintals. Considerable stocks of grain have been found in the villages in the present combat zone; much of it is damp and in inaccessible storehouses but whenever possible it is being brought down to the valleys and made available for consumption.

Olive oil collections amount to some 5600 quintals. The farmers are undoubtedly suffering from many handicaps caused by the usual shortages of transport, power, etc. but it is still felt that the amassing is not going as well as it should. The local press and Radio are carrying out a very extensive propaganda campaign.

With the arrival and distribution of curing salt considerable home butchering of pigs is now going on and it is estimated that 49391

number to be slaughtered will be between 15,000 and 20,000. There is a shortage of pigs for other livestock and it is hoped to import some 250 tons from Eighth Army Area.

Three tons of vegetable seeds have been imported from the Eighth Army Area for distribution through normal commercial channels. Some 200 tons of spring montana wheat are required for areas not sown in the fall; it is hoped to procure this also in the Po Valley Area.

e. Labor.

Supply continues to exceed the demand except in forward areas and there are some 5500 registered unemployed.

One strike is reported from a textile mill at Pagni di Lucca over the question of bonuses and indemnities; the parties were brought to agreement by the provincial Labor Office. Otherwise Labor Relations have been very good throughout the Army Area.

The Indemnita di Disagiataissima Residenza has been made applicable to the Communes of Florence, Pistoia and Lucca.

50 delegates from Tuscany attending the Naples Labor Convention were addressed by the Labor Officer before their departure from Florence. It is understood that they were the most conservative group at the convention.

Social Security and Provincial Labor Offices continued to operate satisfactorily.

f. Public Works and Utilities.

Operations are almost at a standstill for lack of cement. Cement production is hampered by lack of electric power.

The five mobile power units recently received are unsuitable for driving motors but are being put to use for lighting purposes, thus making a small amount of power available to drive motors. It is hoped that any further units supplied will be of the three phase type.

The draining of Pontificas has been slowed up as a result of reductions in the power supplied by P.B.S.

Good progress has been made in reconstructing the 10* aqueduct to Pistoia which is expected to be completed during February.

g. Public Safety.

The various Italian police Agencies have continued to give excellent service. Public Safety Officials are satisfactory and a new Vice Questore has arrived in Pistoia where the Questura has hitherto been rather weak.

There was a further outbreak of crimes of violence at the beginning of the month. A number of arrests were made and the position improved in the

second half of a month. The improvement has been particularly noticeable in Pistoia where 45 arrests in all have now been made and seven persons interned as a danger to security. 131 fire arms, 10,000 rounds of ammunition and 63 grenades have been recovered. In view of the mixed Allied, Italian and German origin of all the weapons there is no doubt that they were hidden by ex-partisans. Other finds of arms have been made in Florence Province.

Sixty three forged 1000 lire notes have been reported and two raised from 500 to 1000 lire. It is virtually certain that these notes were uttered outside the Army area. The market price of a forged 1000 lire note is 400 lire.

Control of civilian movement has continued to be strict. Many applications to enter the Army Area are received which might not pass more careful screening in the rear. Telephone and signal are constantly being used improperly where cases are not urgent. It still appears difficult to ensure that all officers are cognizant of current movement regulations.

h. public health.

Public health has remained generally good except for the typhoid epidemic at Prato. The latter was showing some signs of improvement at the end of the month. Energetic measures have been taken to deal with this epidemic but as previously reported it cannot be satisfactorily dealt with until the modern water supply of the town can be repaired.

Diphtheria has occurred sporadically but not to an alarming extent. Scabies is prevalent especially in the mountain communes on account of the lack of soap. There have been no cases of typhus or rabies.

The foot and mouth outbreak at Borgo San Lorenzo caused by sheep imported for feeding mulemen troops has not spread and is well under control.

The distribution of medical supplies has proceeded satisfactorily in Corps Areas where it is an A.M.C. responsibility. In Army Area, where E.N.D.I.M.E.A. is responsible, the usual delays, difficulty and incompetence have been experienced. There is some black market activity in the drug trade and persons arrested in this connection have included one of the principals of the well known firm of Manetti, Roberts & Company.

The American Red Cross have given the same excellent service as heretofore. This month their energies have been mainly taken up with the distribution of relief clothing in forward Areas. They have also continued the rehabilitation and supervision of civilian hospitals in Corps Areas; this is of direct support to operations as it relieves the Army Medical Services of the need to look after civilian casualties.

i. Refugees.

With the arrival of rail-head at Lucca all refugees proceeding to Rome or South of Rome are shipped by rail from there, thus by-passing the camp at Rosignano. Some 4200 persons were shipped out from the Army Refugee Centers, of whom 1700 were dispersed locally. All of these had homes or places of refuge in the South. Some 2700 are at present in the Florence

center, and they mainly come from the North.

A belt 3000 yards deep has been completely cleared of civilians across much of the front. This operation proceeded smoothly and produced only a small proportion of the refugees forecast by the Divisions concerned.

It is feared that considerable numbers will have to be evacuated in the near future from the west coast. Not only is that a densely populated area, but large numbers of refugees are expected to cross the lines from Apunnia and Liguria as the Germans have stopped the distribution of food supplies there.

j. Finance.

Owing to the prevailing static conditions expenditure control by means of local government budgets has continued to be a major activity. The E.C.As of Florence and Pescia have been used as financing agencies for the disbursement of funds necessary for running partisan centers although this is an expense more properly to be borne by the Central Government than local Authority.

In Bologna province the financing of communes has had to be done by direct advances as no Italian provincial organisation is yet in existence.

Tobacco manufacture is very satisfactory and a distribution of 20 grammes per head has been made to the general public.

The banks have continued to operate normally and the cash position is satisfactory.

k. Mine Clearance.

Good work continues to be done in Florence Province by U.N.P.A. and civilians trained by U.N.P.A. personnel. On the west coast the work is under the auspices of the Italian Army Zone V and progress there is very disappointing although in a few cases the trained squads are still operating. In Pistoia for instance the trained squads quit work after lifting a grand total of six mines at a cost of two casualties. Unless more satisfactory results are forthcoming next month this organisation will have to be regarded as a failure.

l. Partisans.

Some 1500 partisans were received in the Florence and Pescia Centers. Of these 147 joined the Italian Army. Some 600 joined organized labor groups, 30 were evacuated to the South and 360 were dispersed to their homes, leaving some 330 in the centers at the close of the month.

Good supplies of clothing have been forthcoming and this has been of great assistance.

A convalescent home is being organized at Pescia in conjunction with O.S.S.

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In general there has been no great difficulty in handling Partisans during the month. But it must be pointed out that this is entirely due to two causes. First, only very small numbers have come through the line. Secondly, as a result of the static conditions prevailing at the front all those that have come through the line have been evacuated through the P.W. cages; this has achieved a rigid control of all groups and has ensured that they are disarmed properly and evacuated to A.M.G. Camps. Similar conditions will not be found when the advance is resumed and at that time the same results cannot be expected. It will also be necessary at that time to modify the present organisation and methods.

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

785017

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Tel. 478201

23 January 1945

Ref. 6504/1/COS.

SUBJECT: New Liberation Army.

TO : SCAO 5 Army.

30

1. Reference is made to the first paragraph on page 3 of your Monthly Report for December. This paragraph reads as follows:

"The Communist proposal to form a new Liberation Army has been welcomed enthusiastically by left wing politicians: but it is early yet to predict how many volunteers will join up for combat service."

2. No previous reference to this subject can be traced and it would be appreciated, therefore, if you would send some further details of the Liberation Army referred to.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to:

Political Section
Civil Affairs Section.
811/COS

4947

3/1

CONFIDENTIAL

PART I.

1. This has been the most uneventful month since last winter. The area ~~has~~ remained unchanged throughout the period except for the temporary recapture by the enemy of the commune of Barga (Lucca Province), which is now back in Allied hands. This ^{was} the first time since the landing at Salerno that a commune has been lost after the setting up of Military Government. A Fascist Radio Station was heard broadcasting a message of formal thanks to this organization for the civilian food the enemy found in the village, which had only been delivered two days before its recapture. The amount involved was not large.

2. At the close of the month 92nd division passed under command of IV Corps and the separate A.M.G. organization mentioned in last month's report was dissolved.

3. As a result of ~~very welcome~~ new policies and support from ^{this Headquarters} ~~H.Q. Allied~~ Commission a new ^{patriot} ~~partisan~~ Branch was created at the opening of the month, with a ^{patriot} ~~partisan~~ officer at ^{the} ~~this~~ Headquarters in charge of the two large reception camps at Florence and Pescia, for the handling of homeless ^{patriots} ~~partisans~~ now coming through the line. The problem remains extremely difficult owing to the absence of any clear cut system of obtaining the necessary supplies for rehabilitating individuals and to the delicate political questions involved.

4. Public morale was in general slightly higher than previously, except for a rumor scare created by military operations at the close of the month. In Lucca this scare caused a noticeable outflow of cash from the Banks. Elsewhere the improvement in morale can be attributed to the distribution of the first olive oil rations for many months and to the general feeling of good will created by the holiday season. The arrangements made for Midnight Masses and the Allied Christmas parties for children created an extremely favourable impression.

5. In spite ~~however~~ of the improvement in morale noted above there is a general under current of discontent among the population as a result of the widespread scarcity and high price of food; ^{also} the continued non-implementation of the 300 gramme bread ration has ^{also} caused some bitterness.

6. There have been several cases of armed robbery and one of jail-breaking. These are thought to be the work of anarchist gangs who in some cases claim to have been ^{patriots} ~~partisans~~. This has discredited the whole ^{patriot} ~~partisan~~ movement in the eyes of many Allied officers and Italians. Masked armed bandits have continued to operate in Florence province, their crowning achievement being the hold up of a Civil Affairs officer.

7. There has been a remarkable increase in forged currency; 90 forged 1000 lire notes were discovered in Florence and some 30 others elsewhere. Apart from the paper the forgeries are excellent imitations.

8. The typhoid epidemic at Prato continued to be serious. After a lull in the middle of the month there were many new cases reported at the end of the year. The increase in the number of reported cases was largely due to a systematic house-to-house search and is not thought to indicate a true rise of incidence. The main water supply is still out of commission owing to the destruction of a large railway viaduct and the source of infection from the many subsidiary supplies has not yet been discovered.

Scabies continued to be prevalent.

9. The shortage of electric power remains extremely acute and prohibited any large scale rehabilitation of local industry. Reconstruction of buildings of all kinds is held up by a shortage of cement.

10. Five enemy agents have been tried by general court; all were convicted and sentenced to death except one girl who was sentenced to twenty years imprisonment.

11. Much attention was devoted to the question of ^{removing} getting inter provincial restrictions on trade ~~removed~~. As agreement could not be reached locally a directive to this effect was requested from the Chief Commissioner.

PART II.

a. Political Reactions and Popular Opinion.

The Florence Committee of Liberation came back into the picture at the end of the month and attempted to interfere with the work of the Administration. A sharp rebuke was administered by the provincial Commissioner and the S.C.A.O. Florence City. Agitation against the Prefect is still going on behind the scenes.

The routine life of the Parties continued throughout the area, with the Communists the best organized though probably not the most numerous. An underground and unofficial extreme anarchist group is also in operation; it is thought that the latter are connected with the various crimes of violence that have occurred. The arrest of a group of these in Pistoia caused widespread satisfaction.

The continuation of static conditions at the front has accentuated the general feeling of frustration among the population. There is little enthusiasm for the improvement of the country. While many comparisons have been made between the situation in Greece and that in Italy it is thought probable that the indifference and selfishness of the "man in the street" largely precludes any similar incidents occurring here.

The Partisan question is much discussed. On the one hand lawless acts by hooligans claiming to be partisans has alienated many people's sympathy from them; on the other hand there is a widespread feeling that more should be provided for men who have actively fought alongside Allied soldiers.

Y The Communist proposal to form a new Liberation Army has been welcomed enthusiastically by left wing politicians, but it is early yet to predict how many volunteers will join up for combat service.

Relations with Allied troops continue good. The misconduct of troops in the Pistoia area reported last month has ceased. There are many complaints of misconduct by American Negro troops on the West Coast, but these are not on a scale to cause serious alarm. Individuals continue to suffer hardships from the removal (often unauthorized) of their property of all types by Allied soldiers, where possible these cases are referred to units for regularization. More serious, because more easily avoidable, is the hardship caused to business concerns by the lack of proper machinery for the payment of money to those whose continued operation is required by the various Army agencies. This matter has been taken up in the proper quarters; it is hoped that a ruling will be received during the current month.

b. Local Government.

The Provincial Administrations continue to work satisfactorily. In general Communal Administration is also satisfactory, though some Sindacos and Giuntas have to be watched to ensure that their actions do not go too far beyond the bounds of legality.

c. Economics and Food Supplies.

With the advent of really cold weather fuel has loomed even larger in the public mind than food. In the large towns there has been an even greater demand for hard fuel than in normal times owing to the shortage of gas and electricity for heating and cooking. The shortage of fuel is entirely due to lack of the necessary transportation.

The distribution of imported food supplies continued satisfactorily. Soap, sugar and salt are in short supply, and the hospital ration is a poor one owing to the absence of such items as jam, bouillon cubes, rice and coffee. An olive oil ration was distributed in nearly all communes and gave great satisfaction. However the outlook for future distributions is uncertain until fuller information on the smassing is available.

X In the large towns the general food situation remains unchanged, food is both scarce and expensive. The general lack of transportation is as acute as ever and the shortage of tyres is particularly serious. A carrying capacity of 40 tons per day was lost to Florence when the Italian Army took over several trucks, formerly Italian Army property, which had been bought from the Germans and maintained in running condition by civilian transport firms.

Little progress can be made in the rehabilitation of industry until increased electric power is available. The only noteworthy enterprises that have been started are the manufacture of uniforms for Partisans from stocks of cloth at Prato and the local production (by hand in most cases) of shoes.

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The POL situation continued satisfactory. Small vehicles in Florence province are being converted for the use of menthane gas, so that the January allocation of POL will be cut.

Losses during the month included the destruction by shell fire of a small warehouse in Pietrasanta, the capture by the enemy of ten days food supply in Parga and the destruction by fire of a truck load of matches. In the last case the driver of the truck was killed.

Cigarettes were only issued to partisans but will be available for a general distribution in January. Distribution of 50 matches per head per month was effected by the C.I.F. representative.

The truck companies continued to work satisfactorily in spite of continued administrative difficulties over the Italian personnel, who are short of reinforcements and clothing.

The Local Resources Section issued 553 releases of controlled commodities during the month. Approximately half of these were for civilian purposes. A simplified list of commodities to be frozen in territory occupied in future was prepared in conjunction with G-4, Fifth Army.

d. Agriculture.

The weather has made this a dull month for agriculture. The amassing of olive oil is not going as well as was at one time expected, especially in Pistoia. Farmers say the price offered is too low and they are not blind to the prospects offered by the Black Market. While energetic measures are being taken to increase the flow of oil to the Amassi it is too early to say how successful these measures will be.

In spite of the season the attachment of an Agricultural Officer is of great benefit on ensuring the necessary supervision of Italian enterprise as far north as is humanly possible.

e. Labour.

Labour supply for military agencies has continued satisfactory. Labour relations have been good except for two small strikes in the Italian concerns at Empoli.

The new wage scale for Army employees will become effective from January 1st.

Various ingenious suggestions from Italian Officials for the payment of Christmas or New Year bonuses were turned down.

f. Public Works and Utilities.

The electric power situation remains extremely critical. While several small plants have been reactivated these only take care of local needs; the large towns have insufficient lighting and there is no power for restarting industry.

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No cement is available for civilian purposes and this holds up all rebuilding operations. However various projects have been started commensurate with the materials available.

Good progress has been made in repairing the pontifica systems in the viareggio area.

g. public safety.

The CC.RR continue to do excellent work and their morale is good. A supply of clothing arrived during the month but further supplies are still needed to equip adequately men who are exposed to the rigours of winter in the mountains. The men waiting to go into Northern Regions are of great value during this static period for reinforcing movement check-posts and as a reserve for special tasks. One CC.RR was killed by enemy shell fire.

Public Safety officials are satisfactory except for the Questore of Pistoia whose immediate replacement has been requested.

There have been several cases of serious crime, particularly armed robbery, in Florence Province. In one case the property stolen included a prismatic compass and other valuable Allied Military property, and the complainant was sent for trial by Superior Court. Sentences of five to seven years imprisonment were imposed on two CC.RR and a civilian for attempted bribery of Military Police. There has been one small hunger demonstration and no further thefts of gasoline from the pipe line.

In Pistoia a prisoner awaiting trial for possession of arms was rescued from jail by a band of armed men belonging to the "Silvano Fedi" partisan group. The rescuers have been arrested though the prisoner is still at large. A similar band of ex-partisans has been terrorising the community by armed robbery; eleven members of this band have so far been arrested for investigation and more are expected to join them in custody. This display of force has given great satisfaction to the population and has been favourably commented on by the Committee of National Liberation.

As is usual in static periods the prostitute problem has required special attention as far forward as divisional Areas.

Some difficulty has arisen over the possession of salvaged Army clothing by civilians permanently employed by Units. The established practice of clothing such persons is illegal, but in most cases the civilian is acting in good faith and the employing unit is the party that is at fault. A compromise has been reached whereby all civilians picked up away from their units wearing undyed military clothing are returned to their units and a delinquency report filed against the Commanding Officer, provided that the civilian has a genuine case to have been acting in good faith.

The prison at Foretta Terme was hit during an enemy air attack and several inmates killed.

Strict control of movement was maintained and several more cases of irregular travel passes were discovered.

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A large number of forged 1000 lire notes have appeared, 90 in Florence City, 22 in Florence Province and several elsewhere. The forgeries are excellent imitations but are printed on inferior paper. Special warnings have been issued and the general public appear to be on their guard. It is thought likely that the notes enter the area through the Port of Livorno.

h. Public Health.

Health has been satisfactory except for the typhoid epidemic at Prato; here some 700 cases (about 10% of the total population of the town) have been hospitalized. Diphtheria has decreased, but scabies is still occurring, as a result of the lack of soap.

Distribution of medical supplies continued satisfactorily; this is now entirely handled by Italian agencies except in Corps area. The American Red Cross has done excellent work distributing clothing throughout Army and Corps areas.

Much time and labour was devoted to the organization of children's Christmas parties, which evoked universal approval and have done much to support Allied prestige.

i. Refugees.

Over 5,500 refugees were evacuated during the month, all but 750 being sent to the South. Of the total figure only some 1200 belong to the South of Italy. In view of the tactical situation more are to be expected in the coming month, particularly from the west coast.

j. Finance.

All communes in Florence, Pistoia and Southern Lucca Provinces are now on a budget basis. In most cases the estimates submitted by communes are reduced by Finance officers before approval.

In Bologna Province seven communes have been financed during the month. No banks are open in this province and the improvised Amassi financing has been continued.

Throughout the area banks have continued to operate satisfactorily. There was a seasonal outflow of cash before Christmas; in Lucca enemy activity caused additional withdrawals to be made by the public, who are very sensitive to war rumours; but this was not on an alarming scale. The unblocking of blocked accounts continued to be a difficult proposition and it is felt that this job could with advantage be associated more closely with Epuration Commissions.

There have been prolonged discussions on the establishment of machinery for the payment of Army bills. The matter is still under consideration; it is hoped that it will be settled early in the New Year.

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The tobacco factories at Florence and Lucca continue to operate but

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production was hampered by lack of both transportation and electric power. (26)

k. Mine clearance.

Slow but steady progress is reported from both the Italian Army Schools on the west coast and the spontaneously organized parties in Florence province. However it cannot be recorded that the project is carried on with much enthusiasm by the Italians and at the present rate of progress it will be many decades before all mines are removed. The virtue of the present activities is that they show the Italians that the problem can be tackled if they are really interested.

l. partisans.

Conditions at the reception centers were improved by the hard work and resourceful improvisation of the officers in charge. While some supplies have been received from the rear there is as yet no sign that the issue of providing the necessary material for the rehabilitation of these men has been squarely faced in higher Headquarters. Until this has been done operations will continue to be on a hand-to-mouth basis which imposes an intolerable strain on the persons concerned and is the worst possible advertisement for the Allied cause.

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785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
 AGO 394
 Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel. 735

Ref. 2402/1/305

26 December 1944

SUBJECT: Educational Supplies and Accommodation.

TO : Civil Affairs Section.

1. The Chief of Staff has noticed from a study of the Regional Monthly Reports for Nov that there is evidence of maldistribution of stationary supplies. For example, on page 7 of the AGO 3 Army Report it is said that the text book situation is better than in any other part of Italy whilst Sardinia Region, not for the first time, complains of a shortage of school equipment.

2. Referring to the report of Abruzzi-Marche Region, in para 10 of Part II it is said that whole-scale requisitioning of schools in Racerata will mean an end to all progress.

3. The Chief of Staff would like the comments of Education S/O on these two matters.

Capt. E. S. Morden

Chief Staff Officer,
 To the Chief of Staff.

Copy to: 614/005.

see Minute 24

ACTION COPY IN FILE 2402/1/305

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of Capt

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HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

DRBM:RVDJ:HDP

SECRET

11th December 1944.

222/7

13 DEC 1944

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : H.Q. Allied Commission.

Enclosed herewith Monthly Report for the month of November.

For the Commanding General:

R.V.D. Janzan
R.V.D. JANZAN,
Lt. Col., Cav.,
Acting Chief of Staff,
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

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HEADQUARTERS
13 DEC 1944

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MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER

PART I.

During the month static conditions again prevailed. Slight advances on the right flank brought a few additional communes in Forli, Ravenna and Bologna provinces under Military Government, but with the Inter Army Boundary moving continually westwards the Fifth Army now has very unimportant commitments in the first two of these Provinces.

Pisa province was transferred to Regional Control with effect from midnight November 25th.

At the beginning of the month the South African 6 Armoured Division ceased to operate independently and passed under IV Corps. At the same time 92nd division (Negro) was constituted an independent command under Army and in view of the large area covered by it, a separate A.M.G. organisation was formed, similar to our normal Corps organisation.

Aside from the departure of the Chief of Staff, Colonel Mayne, for South Africa at the end of the month personnel remained virtually unchanged. It was however found necessary to appoint a Partisan Officer at Headquarters to supervise the Reception Centres necessary for handling homeless Partisans passing through the line and to investigate the possibilities of finding work for these men until such time as they are able to return to their homes.

In the static conditions now prevailing very strict control of movement and political activity have been necessary and life for the Italians is very restricted. While the majority accept this as necessary it is difficult for the Florentines especially to realise that their city is still considered to be in an operational zone.

The principal preoccupation of the people is the shortage of food and fuel. Universal discontent and disappointment followed the non-implementation of the promised 300 gramme bread ration. This discontent has lowered public morale appreciably.

PART II.

a. Political Reactions and Popular Opinion.

Apart from the repercussions in the press from a visit of the Committee of National Liberation to Rome this has been a much quieter month politically. The tighter control over the movement of Cabinet Ministers and others into the Army Area has doubtless contributed. At the end of the month the parties are presumably waiting to see the outcome of the impasse in Rome and it is expected that activity will increase when the composition of the new government is known. There is a general hope that a new government can be found which is more efficient and energetic, especially about Defascistisation, than the last one. There is also a widespread demand for action on the institutional and electoral question in spite of the impossibility of such action at this time.

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Of party politics it can be said that the Christian Democrats and the Communists are the most popular, though the Liberal party has a large following in Florence. However as a result of the total lack of political education it is impossible to define the policies of the parties, and the views of the same party appear to differ from place to place. In Pistoia, for instance, the Communist leader, who is president of the local Committee of National Liberation, is regarded as a conservative man and a steady influence on the Committee. This sort of thing makes it almost impossible to evaluate local politics correctly and any reports on this subject have to be treated with great reserve.

Except in the areas where gunfire is audible the people are getting less enthusiastic in their friendship with the Allies. (The contrast in the attitude between the Arno Valley and a village within a few miles of the Germans is very striking.) This is attributable to the restrictions and inconveniences caused by the presence of large numbers of troops and to the inevitable reaction to the insufficient food supplies in the towns. It was felt that after the American Presidential Elections the implementation of the promised 300 gramme bread ration would be immediate and the apathy born of disillusionment is now creeping in. Public morality is also deteriorating, though of course it has a long way to go before it reaches the level of, say, Naples.

Relations with Allied troops are excellent in the forward areas and good in the back areas in spite of isolated cases of misconduct of American troops in rest areas in Pistoia province. These cases of misconduct are not on the scale experienced in the Naples area last winter.

The refashioning of nearly all the hotels, restaurants, and clubs of Florence for Allied use, chiefly British, continues to be a sore subject with the Italians, who sometimes say that it is far too difficult for an Italian civilian to obtain a meal or room for the night by honest means.

An Anarchist group is at work in the area distributing publications and is thought to be responsible for the writing on the walls in Florence. The slogans are mainly directed against the Prefect or calling attention to the food shortage. The editors of the publications have been traced and arrested by the Provincial Public Safety Officer.

b. Local Government.

An officer from the Local Government Sub-Commission visited this area during the month. No report on the visit has been received at the time of writing but it is understood that what he found was satisfactory.

In Pisa the administration was still short of several important officials at the time of the handover, due to the slackness of the Government in filling posts which have long been vacant.

In Lucca things are running well under Avv. Carignani as Prefetto Regente, though it is felt that his outstandingly strong personality is the chief cause of this, and if he at any time falls foul of the local Committee of National Liberation it may be necessary to import an outside man.

However it is difficult for any visitor to Lucca to imagine that things could go wrong in such a peaceful and sleepy spot.

From Pistoia the Provincial Commissioner still reports a lack of drive and energy on the part of the Provincial Administration.

In Florence the morale of the Prefect is undoubtedly kept low by local politics but he continues to work efficiently. H.E. the British Ambassador paid him the honour of a visit while he was in Florence. In general the administration continues satisfactory. The Deputazione Provinciale was appointed during the month.

c. Economics and Food Supplies.

Reference is made elsewhere to the question of the much discussed 300 gramme bread ration. Sugar is non-existent and soap in short supply. Salt is sufficient for an increased ration of 210 grammes per month but there is none available for curing the hogs which are now due for slaughtering in some areas. Apart from these items it has been possible to distribute supplies satisfactorily to implement the existing ration scales. It is not considered however, that the towns, especially Florence, are receiving sufficient to maintain full health and efficiency. The POL situation is satisfactory. Some 11,000 gallons a day are being drawn from the Fifth Army.

The transport companies have given good service under difficult conditions. The Italian General Transport Company Commander reports a continued lack of essential warm clothing and reinforcements to bring his Company up to strength.

The Local Resources Section continued to operate in G-4, Fifth Army Rear. During the month 663 release orders were countersigned, over half of these for civilian needs. The inventories required under the Blocking of Local Resources Order are very slow in coming in.

The rehabilitation of industry proceeds very slowly owing to the absence of electric power, the necessary materials for repairing plants and raw materials for manufacture. No early solution to these problems can be foreseen.

The question of Inter-provincial and Inter-regional free trade is continually coming to the front. There is great tendency for the country to be divided up into water tight economic compartments in the interests of conserving local stocks which are required in other Provinces. This undoubtedly handicaps unduly such large cities as Florence which is normally the economic centre of gravity of a large area. It is hoped that some coordination in this matter can be arranged during next month.

d. Agriculture.

Much progress has been made in planting winter wheat and large quantities of seed wheat have been brought in from Grosseto. At the end of the month the olive harvest was just starting. The crop promises to be a good one and in spite of the destruction of the largest presses

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sufficient small mills have been put into operation to deal with it. It remains to be seen how much of the oil escaped the Amassi and flows into the Black Market.

The slaughtering of hogs in the mountain areas is handicapped by shortage of salt.

Large numbers of sheep have come through the lines on their way to winter pastures. Many thousands of these are from flocks which in normal times wintered in the Po Valley.

The policy which was so successful at Anzio of leaving authorized farmers in charge of the livestock belonging to communities forcibly evacuated from the front line areas has again been put into effect.

e. Labour.

Labour Relations have been satisfactory. The Social Security organizations are hampered by the usual difficulties of transport, restriction on movement, damage to buildings, etc.

A great amount of work has been done helping the Army in labour procurement. In Florence the demand exceeds the supply except for white-collar workers. In the rest of the area there is widespread unemployment and supply exceeds the demand. At the same time there are insatiable military demands for labour in Livorno and in the mountainous areas near the front, but there are no facilities in either case for housing and feeding the workers required.

Fifty one Labour Supply Offices are in operation in the area. Provincial Labour Offices continue to operate satisfactorily.

f. Public Works and Utilities.

The Regional Engineer has, as before, been operating well forward in Army Area so that he may have continuity of supervision of long term projects. With static conditions continuing our own Engineer has had more paper work than usual and much time is spent in blocking, unblocking and obtaining materials.

Progress has been made in repairing the Bonifica near Viareggio which is ready to operate as soon as power is available for the pumps.

The various provincial Genio Civile are faced with far more work than ever before at a time when their difficulties and handicaps are also greater than ever before; it is therefore not surprising that they show poor results. However everything possible is done to bolster up their organizations and spur them into action and it is hoped that their results will show progressive improvement.

Electric power continues to be in extremely short supply and this creates a vicious circle in the general rehabilitation of public works.

g. Public Safety.

The security problem continues to be of paramount importance and large numbers of enemy agents have been caught: about 60 now await trial as soon as the cases have been prepared. Heavy demands for Carabinieri Reale to assist in the control of movement have had to be met and it has only been possible to comply as a result of the presence in the area of men waiting to go North. The Liguria Region Detachment of the latter are in dire need of clothing.

There are more serious crimes than usual to report this month, including forgery of Allied currency, several thefts of gasoline from the Army pipe line, armed entry by masked men followed by murder, bribery of an Allied soldier, several armed robberies and various serious cases of theft and black market operations. It should not be deduced from this however that there is a general outbreak of lawlessness, since apart from Black Market operations the people continue to keep good law and order. The Civil Police Agencies are energetically pursuing these crimes and in most cases the guilty parties have already been tried and sentenced.

On November 10th a demonstration was staged by about 150 women outside the Florence Prefettura demanding more milk, less Fascism and more epuration. The purpose was undoubtedly political but it is not certain who organised it. Both this and a smaller demonstration at Regello (Florence Province) on November 22nd were dispersed without difficulty.

The ten kilometre rule was abolished in Florence Province South of the Arno with effect from November 25th. It is hoped that this will allow a greater resumption of normal trade and economic activity within the Province than has been possible hitherto. The strict control of movement continues to bring to light many expired, altered or bogus passes, and the control is still far from satisfactory. There are still cases of persons travelling with A.M.C. passes irregularly issued without previous clearance with this office. H.Q. Allied Commission still gives occasional cause for amusement by the apparent lack of knowledge of geography of some of the Sub-Commission: the places for which passes for civilians have applied for include Ancona on the Adriatic and Apuania, still in enemy hands. However in general there has been a slight improvement on last month.

In order to assist the rehabilitation of normal local enterprises, authority has been granted for the extension of local postal services in Florence and Pisa Provinces. It was with great satisfaction that we read a new directive from H.Q., A.A.I. which laid down that in future the restarting of postal services in each Province would be considered on the merits of each particular case instead of continuing to follow a hard and fast rule: this is the procedure which this office has wanted to see introduced for nearly a year.

Carabinieri Reale continue to give very good service in forward areas: their morale is good and cooperation with Corps and Divisional Military Police is excellent. Without their assistance in controlling movement it is improbable that such a large number of enemy agents would have been caught during the month.

h. Public Health & Welfare.

There are many signs of undernourishment in the large towns, especially Florence. The shortage of soap is responsible for many local outbreaks of scabies. Typhoid has been on the increase, especially in Prato where there are at present 250 cases. Diphtheria occurs sporadically throughout the area and there have been several cases in the Florence Refugee Centre, necessitating the creation of an isolation block. There has been no case of typhus.

Apart from the above general health continues to be satisfactory.

The formation of the E.N.D.I.M.E.A. has simplified the distribution of medical supplies: this is now done entirely by Italians except in Corps areas where distribution is handled direct by A.M.G. The medical supply situation has continued satisfactory.

The A.R.C. Field Representatives continue to perform outstandingly good work on the reorganisation of civil hospitals in the forward areas. No praise can be too high for them.

At the request of A.M.G. the Prefect of Florence has purchased 20,000 blankets from the stocks at Prato. Half of these are for distribution through E.C.A. and the other half are earmarked for homeless Partisans.

i. Refugees.

Two centres, at Florence and Lucca, were kept open during the month. An officer from the Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission is on duty at the former, while the Sub-Commission are taking over the latter at the beginning of December. In addition one of the tented camps from Eighth Army continued to operate under 13 Corps. 4200 persons were evacuated during the month of whom some 450 were returned to their homes locally. Half of the total have homes North of the battle line, the remainder wished to return South in any case. The bulk of the total were from a group of small communes right in the battle line who were evacuated for security reasons.

It is thought that the peak of the evacuation of the present battle area has now been passed: however it is always possible that a further area may have to be cleared or that large numbers of people may be driven through from the German lines.

The housing shortage in the Army area grows daily more serious as more troops move in and those that are already here seek shelter against the elements. As a result the Army area is now saturated and in future there will be no alternative but to send South those whose homes lie North of the line. However, as indicated above, it is not expected that this will amount to a large number during next month.

j. Finance.

In the forward areas advances have been made direct to communes. In Bologna Province a new system of Amassi financing has had to be devised in

the absence of any banks. Elsewhere the work has been more typically Regional in character. A number of Local Government Budgets have been passed, in most cases after drastic reduction in the estimates submitted. A Specialist Revenue Officer has been appointed temporarily to work in the Provinces.

Arrangements have been made for restarting the Florence Tobacco Factory on a limited scale. The factory at Lucca is also working. The Salt factory at Volterra is not working satisfactorily - in part this can be attributed to the usual causes of lack of fuel, etc., but to a large extent it is due to the character of the manager.

The Intendentes are unsatisfactory at both Lucca and Pistoia. It is hoped that replacements can soon be found.

The unblocking of blocked accounts appears to be a thorny problem; no easy solution can be seen as it is tied up with the even thornier matter of epuration.

k. Education.

The educational activities during the month continue to be satisfactory. Notably is the situation excellent in Florence City and Province where the Provveditore agli Studi reports that for the City nine-tenths of the pupils are receiving daily instruction with a minimum schedule of two hours and with many pupils following a normal schedule. In the Province South of the Arno most of the schools are now functioning and North of the Arno the schools have been opened where possible and others are being reopened as rapidly as buildings can be found or be released by Army Units.

The text-books situation in this area is better than it is in any other section of Italy. The Education Officer is supervising the printing of the State elementary series which is now just about ready for distribution, the reprinting of other series which have been examined and found to be satisfactory, and the approval of other series which are now available in the printing establishments.

The University of Florence is carrying out its program of make-up courses and examinations preparatory to the beginning of a new school year in January quite satisfactorily. It is also offering short survey course in Italian language, literature, history, and art for Canadian soldiers in this area and has outlined a much more comprehensive program for all Allied personnel. This proposal is now being studied by the Education Officers of the American and British Forces.

Assistance and supervision are also being given to other higher institutes of learning, to libraries, and cultural organizations.

The formal reopening of the University of Pisa was held on 25 November with the Senior Civil Affairs Officer, 5th Army Allied Military Government as the official representative of the Allied Governments. Before a very large audience and in a very colorful ceremony the Senior Civil Affairs Officer spoke in an effective manner concerning the position and the interest of the Allied Military Government had in education and its desire to restore all educational institutions to normal functioning as rapidly as possible. He also presented to the audience the Pro-Rector of the University.

The formal reopening of the University of Pisa for which practically all the preliminary work was done under 5th Army Allied Military Government supervision was held in an impressive ceremony on 26 November.

The reopening of schools in Pisa City has been greatly retarded by the destruction and requisitioning of all available buildings. In the Province the schools have begun to function.

In Lucca and Pistoia provinces the school situation is very good.

The work of Epuration has been completed in all three Universities and is far advanced in all the provincial schools.

1. Miscellaneous.

(i) Mine Clearance.

For the first time since the landing at Paestum it is possible this month to record real progress in mine clearance. In Florence Province this is due to local initiative in making use of the trained U.N.F.A. personnel available. The latter have done excellent work.

After many false starts the Italian Army School on the west coast has at last started to produce results. At the end of the month work was also starting in Lucca Province and a school opened in Pistoia. The difficulties confronting the officer in charge are considerable but the results achieved so far are encouraging.

(ii) Floods.

On 2nd November the Arno overflowed its banks and inundated the City of Pisa. After considerable argument it was accepted as being the highest level the river had reached for 100 years. In Pisa no serious damage was done except the covering of the streets with several inches of mud. Energetic emergency measures were necessary and the Prefect performed magnificently. It was fortunate that the consequences were not more serious. This Headquarters escaped immersion by the narrow margin of two feet.

War damage to drainage systems prevents the land from draining and large areas are still under water; they are likely to remain so until the Spring.

(iii) Partisans.

Reception Centres for homeless Partisans who have come through the line have been established at Florence and Lucca. Several hundred have had to be handled in this way. So far there has been no source of supply from which clothing can be drawn for them and their treatment has per force not been all that might be desired. More complex is the problem of absorbing them into the Community and finding work for them; although the Army wants labour it cannot provide shelter, clothing, food and organisation on a large scale. One group was formed into a labour gang designated Apennine Civil Labour Force, equipped with salvaged material and put to work on the roads under their own leaders and directed by British engineers. This

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785017

experiment has been successful so far and the men are very happy, but it must be emphasised that the supplies necessary for equipping other groups in the same way simply do not exist at the present time.

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

785017

Tel. 473301

2. November 1944

Ref. 3610/17 /000

SUBJECT: Civilian Movement.

TO : DODAD, HQ AAI.

1. I refer to Part II para (g) of Monthly Report for October of AMB Fifth Army.

2. In this reference is made to the control of civilian movement and it is obviously causing some anxiety to the DODAD. The trouble appears to come under two headings:

(a) laxity in the enforcement of the Rear Army Check Line by Army Police.

(b) Transportation of civilians by Allied officers.

3. I shall be glad if you will discuss this matter with HQ AAI with a view to tightening up the control on the movement of civilians in the general interest.

4. In so far as reference is made to Allied Commission officers coming from VME and backward Regions I am not sure that the blame can be laid in this direction entirely as I believe that much travel takes place between the Forward Regions and VME. It would be well, therefore, if you will bring this question generally to the notice of the Forward Regions, at the same time emphasizing that transportation to VME should be reduced to a minimum in the interests of economy. Regional Commissioners should also impress on their constituents, especially those having Italian drivers, that civilians will not be picked up.

M. S. LUSHBrigadier,
Chief of Staff.

COPY TO: DODAD Patab Sec
CA Sec
AMB Fifth Army
File 211/CMS. ✓

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HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

SECRET

7th November 1944.

222/7

10 NOV Recd

25

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : H.Q. Allied Commission.

Enclosed herewith monthly report for the month of October.

For the Commanding General:

E.B. Mayne

E.B. MAYNE,
Colonel, U.D.F.,
Chief of Staff,
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

DISTRIBUTION:

H.Q. Allied Commission. ✓
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7th November 1944.

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PART I

During the month very little advance was made in the difficult mountainous country of the Apennines. In all about a dozen new communes were occupied in the provinces of Bologna, Ravenna and Forli. The four provinces of Pisa, Florence, Lucca and Pistoia remained under command throughout. All of Pisa and most of Florence are out of Corps Area, but the cities of Lucca and Pistoia were both in Corps Area until the middle of the month. Half of Lucca (in area) and one commune in Pistoia are still in enemy hands, while the liberated part of these provinces are for the most part full of tactical troops.

In the interest of good administration Region Eight specialist officers have been encouraged to work in the Army Area on long term problems and are in fact handling Education, Engineering, and certain phases of Economics.

In view of the peculiar nature of Tuscany, Fine Arts and Education have been of greater importance than ever before. Considerable progress has been made in repairs to the Campo Santo at Pisa and the restoration of paintings and sculpture to their normal homes in Florence.

In Florence the chief interest has been over the food and fuel supply, which are both still far from satisfactory, and the political-constitutional struggle between the prefect and the Committee of Liberation in which important issues of national importance were raised. At one time the political atmosphere was pretty lively but things had quieted down by the end of the month.

In Pisa life is still paralyzed by the physical destruction and mining of the city and the grave housing shortage, which is further aggravated by large scale requisitioning of accommodation for military units.

In addition to those mentioned above six provincial teams of Toscana and Emilia regions have been under command waiting to operate in their own areas and during the month five other teams for Northern Italy were added. With these at our disposal there has been no shortage of personnel.

PART II(a) political reactions and popular opinion.

The chief point of interest was the conflict between the Prefect of Florence and the C.T.L.N. The former is one of the strongest Prefects in the country and quite rightly feels very keenly the dignity and importance of his position; at the same time he is not popular with the Florentines and has undoubtedly been tactless in his handling of the Committee. The members of the Committee are also men of substance and there is no doubt that they find it hard to revert to a non-executive role after having been used in that capacity for so long by A.M.G. in the early days of the occupation of the city

Before normal government was restored. Their attitude at first was one of non co-operation with the Prefect and further their avowed long-term objective is the total abolition of the present Prefectoral System. In addition to the strong traditional contempt of the Florentines for the Romans, they regard themselves as being allied to the Committees in the cities of Northern Italy rather than to the Rome Committee out of which the present Government was formed, and they are unwilling to assent to anything which they feel may compromise their friends over the mountains. The position has been further complicated by the Anti-Prefectoral outbursts of Minister Togliatti and the weakness shown by the Italian Prime Minister in his interviews with the two sides. After a period in the middle of the month when things were rather tense the struggle has now temporarily calmed down and the Committee are being much less obstructive.

This whole question is being watched with great interest. It is felt that it is a pointer to what lies ahead in Northern Italy and it re-enforces the conviction of the country's political bankruptcy and the weakness of the present Central Government.

An interesting experiment in the opposite direction is being tried at Lucca where the Committee of Liberation, although as such they have no executive function, in fact control the Prefect, who is the President's former chairman.

Outside Florence the Communists are the most vocal party, being the best organised. Their prestige is helped by the military successes of Soviet Russia and by the fact that the Communists were the only Anti-Fascist party to survive the suppression under Mussolini, which makes the party the natural centre of attraction for the politically uneducated. However the party's activities are not unduly troublesome and they do not produce any great problem. None of the parties have yet stabilised into a definite structure with a popular following and it is impossible to tell which would receive most votes in a universal ballot. It is certain however that in such a case the Communist party would not gain support proportional to its present conspicuousness.

In general public morale in the area is far from high, largely owing to the present inferiority of physical living conditions as compared with those prevailing under German occupation. While the people are in general friendly towards the Allies empty bellies and economic distress are submitting this new friendship to a pretty severe test. In addition the more vocal section of population are making the usual complaints about the slow disappearance from public life of characters well known to have prospered under the Fascist regime.

(b) Local Government.

With one or two unimportant exceptions each province has a satisfactory team of provincial officials. The Prefect of Pisa is well spoken of by the provincial Commissioner. The new Prefect of Pistoia is an experienced administrator but lacks the punch and drive necessary to get good results from his juniors. The former President of CLN at Lucca who has been appointed Prefetto Regente has not yet had a chance to show his true worth owing to the smallness of his present responsibilities. In Florence the quality of

the administration particularly in the outside communities, is improving rapidly. (3)

(c) Economics and Supply.

In the towns the food situation is bad. There were demonstrations during the month in Florence, Pistoia and Pisa, in each case dispersed without much difficulty. Pucca and Pistoia provinces both ran out of locally produced grain and Pisa will do so early in the New Year. There are a large number of towns in the area economically dependent on industry and in these the shortage of groceries and animal products is causing severe hardship. The effect of this on public morale is noted above. In Florence the acute shortage of fuel is also a cause of hardship and resultant discontent.

The provision of sufficient transport is one constant struggle. To feed the 2 1/2 million people in the area (of whom only 1/2 a million are grain producers) takes 2 1/2 truck-loads a day. As against a daily average of 115 trucks available for the road. Our current commitments have only been met at the expense of building up stockpiles against further advances.

In general the area is more industrialised than any other in liberated Italy and the cessation of normal activity is causing much economic distress. Apart from much damage to plant and shortage of material there is no prospect of obtaining electric power for those undertakings which are in a position to restart operations.

(d) Agriculture.

Much of the wheat crop on the southern side of the Apennines has been lost as a result of military operations. The shortage of livestock is hampering autumn planting and precludes the distribution of any dairy products in the cities. Prospects for the olive crop are good.

(e) Labour.

The Wage Increase and Labor Relations Orders were published at the beginning of the month. Labor offices are functioning in all provinces. There has been one small stoppage of work at an Ordnance installation because of a dispute over food.

(f) Public Works and Utilities.

The outstanding problems are roads and flood preventions in the Arno Valley. Work on both is unlikely to be in a satisfactory condition by the onset of winter.

(g) Public Safety.

There has been little serious crime. One case of gun-play at Volterra resulted in the death of two protagonists, an alleged squadrista and an alleged partisan, the latter of whom had a long criminal and mental record. Arrests were made in two cases of murder of civilians by Allied soldiers.

Three cases of food demonstrations have been recorded in paragraph (c) above. 432

The biggest problem is the control of civilian movement, and that this is not entirely satisfactory is shown by the number of enemy agents who are being arrested. There is laxity in the enforcement of the rear Army check line by Allied Police, which allows a large number of persons to enter the area without proper documents. Many Allied officers including Allied Commission officers in Rome and backward regions appear indifferent to the prohibition on the carriage of civilians in W.D. vehicles and the urgency of the necessity for travel which alone warrants the issue of an A.M.C. pass into Army Area. Many journeys are taking place, using motor fuel imported into the country for the purpose of prosecuting the war, which would be quite impossible at this time in Great Britain. In addition the state of the roads after the recent rains makes it necessary to keep them as clear as possible of civilian vehicles. Within the Army Area the distance between C.A.O.s in southern communes makes for great difficulty in enforcing the 10 kilometre rule.

(h) Public Health.

General health satisfactory. Cases of typhoid are still being reported but the summer epidemic is dying down. Sporadic cases of diphtheria are also reported but this is not on a scale to cause alarm and ample supplies of serum are available. The lethargy and incompetence of the Italian administration of hospitals and medical supplies is disappointing.

(i) Refugees.

Some 1800 refugees were sent south during the month. With the slowing down of the advance and the onset of bad weather, both of which make necessary the accommodation in buildings of large numbers of troops, it is expected that large-scale evacuation from forward areas will soon start.

(j) Finance.

Further reopening of banks has taken place - notably in Pistoia and Viareggio. A net outflow of cash from the banks in the area of 207,000,000 lire was offset by the net sale of 247,000,000 lire of bonds. There is nothing else of general interest to report.

2295

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CMF
Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref: 811/1/COS.

3 October 44.

SUBJECT: Monthly Reports.

TO : SCAO Fifth Army.

1. It is now some time since you sent in a Monthly Report and although Eighth Army and all Regions continue to do so we have not previously drawn your attention to the omission as we have appreciated that recent operations have no doubt made heavy demands on your time.
2. However, Monthly Reports from you are desired and it would be appreciated if you would prepare one for Sept and ensuing months.
3. The most recent directive on their preparation was sent you on 2 Sep 44 reference 497/79/CA.

4921

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

