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

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MONTHLY REPORTS, SICILIA REGION
OCT. 1944 - APR. 1945

44C.S.O.

Sicilia Region's Monthly Report makes gloomy reading. Depressing passages of interest have been marked & checked. Information has been looked for almost in vain. The report is, however, quite comprehensive.

C.S.O.

19.2.45.

NN set back as written.

MS/2/3

C.S.O.

50.

Please See Sicilia Monthly Report for February at 49.

21.2.43.

2/3.

Executive Commission

54.

Please see Sicilia Region's Closing Report for March.

11/4 and 2

21.12/4. 2/17/4.

0003

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19.2.45.
NA set back as written. 178/3/3
C.S.O. 50.

Please See Sicilian Monthly Report for February at 49.
S. 12/3.

Executive Commission

Please See Sicilian Region's Closing Report for March.
11/4 and 2
S. 12/4. S. 12/4.

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21

TO: C.G.S.

SICILIA Region monthly report for November is submitted for reading. It is a sombre document and fairly discusses the problems of this Region which are many. Points for particular notice are the following:

Folio 30. Olive oil amassing: indications that it will be a complete failure.

Armed forces call-up: hope that there will be a rigid enforcement. The report was written, of course, before the recent troubles.

Tyres: a supply of 700 tyres and inner tubes has been allotted for purchase by INT. ^{see}

Reverse of Folio 30. Transportation: the shortage of railway box cars is becoming very serious. Wine and lemon surpluses cannot be moved.

Local Government: R.C. has some hard words to say of its inefficiency and corruption. No detailed findings published officially of the disorder at PALERMO.

Reverse of Folio 29. Schooner movements: refers to the applications for movement of wine by Services' Messes and AC officers.

Imported clothing: A reference to improperly marked cases and consequent embarrassment to Allied officers on the spot, which I do not understand. I will enquire into it.

Folio 28. Wages: increases for employees of the Armed Forces effected 16 Nov.

Folio 27. Filchage of Army stores: reports events similar to those which have occurred at BITONTO. Cases to be tried by AG Court.

Soup Kitchens: kitchens have commenced operations in CATANIA and PALERMO. In the latter 12,000 hot meals are being served daily, rising to 20,000.

Reverse of Folio 27. Cost of living index: a rise of 11 points for Oct as compared with the month of Sept, which is, of course, inevitable at this time of the year.

Currency: drain of cash resources at the banks is causing anxiety.

22 Dec 44.
Office, Chief of Staff,
Ext 735.

23/12

Captain.

37

Cot.

Reverse of
Folio 30.

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22 Dec 14.
Office, Chief of Staff,
Ext 735.

Cor.
C.S.

32-36 is Sicilia Region monthly report for Dec.
Peras likely to be of special interest are marked. 5083

A depressing report. It tells us nothing we don't know. E. H. Gordon Capt

23 Jan 45 11/8/2 11/10/2

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24
 Col. See 23 under. I think this is a fair report
 which does not either minimize or exaggerate the
 seriousness of the situation.
 I have not made a summary
 the points of interest are indicated.

22. Nov.

CO

25

L.

D.C.

Submitted for review p 22 only. MS/23/21

60 981
NOV 24 1955

5/12

Noted - DW

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22. Nov.

CO

25

R.C.

Submitted for reading & R.C. only. MS/23/21

CO 981
NOV 24 1977

5
12

Noted Wing

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CSO

1-5 is Sicilia Region Monthly Report for Sept
6-14 is PSO's report for Sept. I believe you
have seen once but I gave you this morning
substance of my talk with Col. Fort.

24/10

See 28/10

Col.

Sicily Region report at 5. A on 5 is illuminating in view of
the notes in Palermo, but if we had had a not after long report
of this kind, nobody would remain, because they would all have
been sacked. The internal situation has never been
particularly robust anywhere and particularly in Sicily,
where a large part of the population are traditionally
armed, if not with shotguns, at least with knives.

17

Two good reports. The summary - is particularly
good. But who reads them? 9 see the RC's report
came in a 14/10 - someone beyond 21/10 & myself
(after 19/10) 27/10. Please let us see RC's reports
immediately after receipt. They are written not merely
to put the A.C. report but for the A.C. & other
in the future.

B

Capt. Warden.

A let me see RC's report the day the arrives.

28/10

23.

C.S.O.

Big. Carlo. October report is at dates 19-22.
in detail all up. at

785017

16. 23/10

Col.

Bichy Region report at 5. A on 5 is illuminating in view of the notes in Palermo, but if we had had a report after report of this kind, nobody would remain, because they would all have been seeking. The internal Situation has been particularly robust anywhere and particularly in Bichy, where a large part of the population are traditionally armed, if not with shotguns, at least with knives.

17

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18

Capt. Warden. It will be see RC's report the day the answer.

22/10

23.

C.S.O.

Brig. Carr's October report is at folios 19-22. His tone is generally rather defeatist although, of course, he has many real troubles.

You will see from para. D, page 4, that about 1 million quintals of grain have been unaccounted for. Brig. Carr considers that the PAUENMO incident lampshaded the renewed of the amazing laws.

The fullest description of the incident is in page 5, para. 5, under 20/11.

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ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILY
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SECRET

9 April 1945.

APR 11 1945

ABRIDGED CLOSING REPORT

MARCH 1945

(NOTE. Regional Headquarters closed with effect from 1700 hours, 26 March. Some special divisions had closed their offices previous to that date. No reports from special Divisions or monthly statistics were available as a basis for this report.)

GENERAL.

Allied Commission Regional Headquarters and the Provincial Headquarters Eastern SICILY ceased to operate with effect from 1700 hours, 26 March, and on 27 March the majority of the Allied Commission staff left the Island for the mainland.

An Allied Commission Liaison Officer was left at PALERMO for Western SICILY and at CATANIA for Eastern SICILY.

The following Specialist Officers also had instructions to remain at PALERMO:

One Mining Officer	} Until 1 May.
One Property Control Officer	
One Transportation Officer (Rlys)	
One Transportation Officer (I.N.T.)	
	Pending transfer of I.N.T. to the Italian Government.

No change was made as regards the Islands of PANTELLERIA and LAMPEDUSA which remain under AMG and on each of which Islands the existing staff of one C.A.O. remained.

A. POLITICAL REACTION AND PUBLIC OPINION.

There was genuine regret among the official classes at the withdrawal of the Allied Commission Regional Headquarters and staff from the Island, and it is felt that in general the population as a whole shared in this regret.

Public opinion remained apathetic and little interest in the progress of the war was displayed, the majority of the population being mainly concerned with their own industrial and personal affairs.

There was little political activity and no political meetings of importance took place. The Separatists were quiet.

Public morale remained comparatively good due mainly to the continuance of regular issues of rationed bread and pasta, and to the demands for wage increases being met even though such increases killed any attempts to stabilize prices of essential commodities. Much discontent arises from the increasing lack of clothing and shoes for the workers.

B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

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B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

There were no signs of improvement in the effectiveness of the local administration which remained at a low level. Even open abuse of the simple laws and rules such as those regulating the control of motor vehicles and the attendance of children at school, fails to stir local authorities into any kind of action.

see MOK
5489
The Regional.....
Pa 13/4

The Regional Consulta to the High Commissioner was holding its second meeting and had been in session for four days. It is understood that one of the main problems discussed was that of the amassing of the grain harvest.

C. ECONOMICS AND SUPPLY.

Grain ships were arriving regularly thus enabling a steady distribution of the full 300 gram ration of bread and pasta throughout the Island, but there were no indications of any reserve stock being built up which it is felt the situation should have permitted to a limited degree.

The increase in the price of bread and pasta consequent on the cancellation of the State subsidy had not caused any unfavourable repercussions. Efforts to improve the quality of the bread and pasta had had good results. The black market prices of these essentials, which fell considerably when grain imports resulted in the general issue of the full ration, were rising steadily to their former level consequent on wage increases.

Inter-regional and export trade generally was hampered by continued lack of means of transport.

Production of sulphur from the mines continued at an abnormally low level.

D. AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.

Agriculture was seriously hampered by shortage of fertilizers, insecurity caused by armed banditry and lack of labour and machinery.

The olive oil amassing can be considered as almost a complete failure.

As regards the amassing of the next wheat harvest no amassing decree has yet been issued, which causes a serious situation having regard to the very early harvest in some parts of the Island. The area under seed is less than that of last year. After a winter which was at times abnormally wet there is a serious need for rain. There may be a poor harvest. The problem of the amassing of next seasons harvest is considered by the authorities as presenting most serious difficulties.

E. LABOUR.

The labour situation remained quiet and there were no disturbances or strikes of importance.

G. PUBLIC SAFETY.

Crime remained at a high level. In this connection it is to be noted that a very large number of criminals remain undetected and that many of those who openly break the laws are not brought to justice either because of the supineness of the local administration or because of the impossibility of dealing with the large number of offenders involved.

The situation as regards banditry in the country districts appears to have improved slightly. Co-ordinated action was taken in certain areas in the interior of the Island and a large number of suspects arrested.

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It is understood that a scheme is being worked out under which the Italian Military Commander in the Island would be responsible for the suppression of banditry, thus enabling a co-ordinated plan to cover the whole Island.

There were/.....

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There were signs of improvement in the morale of the forces of law and order as the result of the measures taken both as regards training and equipment by the authorities concerned. Lack of spare parts and tyres for motor vehicles present a serious problem.

H. PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

The health of the population generally remained very good and there were no serious epidemics.

I. COMMUNICATIONS.

There was a considerable improvement in the railway box-car situation and a steady flow into the Island was taking place.

A temporary serious coal shortage which necessitated curtailment of the passenger services was being adjusted by the receipt of coal exports, but the present coal allocation to the Island does not meet the needs of the agriculturists and merchants who have commodities available for export.

The regular steamship service both for passengers and freight between the important ports of the Island and CIVITAVECCHIA on the Mainland was expected to commence operation very shortly and should prove most beneficial to the Island.

M. Carr Brigadier
M. CARR,
Brigadier.

April 11th 1945.

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(S) 3067

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ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
AFO 394

MAR 20 1945

20 MAR 1945

MONTHLY REPORT - FEBRUARY 1945

PART I

GENERAL

There have been no public disorders during the month and the military call-up on a reduced scale has proceeded without incident. There is again a slight increase in crime as a whole and armed bands continue to operate, although there have been no further hold-ups of trains. While lesser crimes still increase the absence of serious disorders and the fairly constant position so far as more serious crimes are concerned has made this month a comparatively quiet one from the Public Safety point of view. The civil police have, if anything, shown slightly more zeal and activity but are still badly handicapped chiefly by shortage of transport, arms and personnel. The steady rise in delinquency which has now persisted over many months is the result of many contributing factors but is undoubtedly chiefly caused by the present economic conditions.

The principal problem of the month has again been food and the soaring prices of nearly all commodities. The further wage increases announced will do little to ease the lot of the worker and the only immediate effect was a further increase in black market prices. Essential commodities, such as bread, immediately showed a tendency to rise. At present the disparity between wages and prices is as great as ever.

The bread situation has remained good with the arrival of 5 ships bringing over 20,000 tons of wheat and barley and 1200 tons of flour. The 500 grams ration of bread and pasta has been regular. Other foodstuffs are available in fair quantities but are quite beyond the pocket of all except the minority of wealthy persons and black market operators.

There has been little political activity during the month and the people show no signs of increased interest in political matters. The outstanding event in Italian official circles has been the inauguration of the new Consulta, which has been given a very restrained welcome and little enthusiasm or interest has been shown by the man in the street. Indeed the Sicilian distrust of the central Government is long-standing, deep-rooted and not without some justification so that any measure proposed, however good, is immediately suspect. The people are apathetic and without confidence in their own administrative officials many of whom they know to be inefficient and corrupt. To date the Consulta has held two long meetings. It appears that these meetings were regarded as the forum for presentation of political views rather than for the consideration of constructive measures.

Poverty is still widespread, particularly in the larger towns, and there is much discontent below the surface. The lot of the destitute is not improved by the absence of any effective and adequate system of relief or assistance and the same con-

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Poverty is still widespread, particularly in the larger towns, and there is much discontent below the surface. The lot of the destitute is not improved by the absence of any effective and adequate system of relief or assistance and the same can be said of the widows or other State pensioners whose pension at present currency values is hardly worth collecting. The health of the people however continues, in the circumstances, to be remarkably good and the cases of typhoid fever have shown a marked decrease. The health and medical treatment in the prisons still leaves

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much to be desired. The better weather throughout the month has done much to alleviate suffering and improve the morale of the people. There have been no strikes or serious labor troubles.

The Provincial and Communal administrations show no sign of increased efficiency.

All trade and particularly interregional trade has been severely handicapped by lack of road, rail and sea transport. Mixed cargoes have however been shipped to Malta and there have been shipments of citrus fruit and salt to the mainland. The transport situation is continually deteriorating as irreplaceable tires and parts wear out, apart from the increasing shortage of coal and F.O.I.

In the rural districts, conditions are somewhat better than in the towns and there is no real shortage of food. Clothing however is extremely short and the living conditions of the people, which depends entirely upon agriculture, is if anything deteriorating although the living standard has never been high. Agriculturalists are at present facing many difficulties and are not optimistic as to the future. Artificial manures and seed potatoes continued to be distributed during the month, the health of livestock is good and the crops are thriving despite an abnormal season.

During the month 1946 quintals of grain were amassed bringing the total to date to 1,324,100 quintals. The amassing of olive oil has again very small.

PART II

1. POLITICAL REACTIONS AND PUBLIC OPINION

There has been comparatively little political activity during the month and no political meetings of any importance. A great majority of the population continues to take little or no interest in political matters--they have other more pressing matters to worry about.

There are at present, so far as is known, approximately 18 political parties in Sicily, many of them with quite minute memberships. The parties with the largest followings are still the Communist, Christian Democrat and Labor Parties. The Separatist movement claims to have a large following.

Sicilian representatives attended the inter-regional congress of Socialists at Reggio Calabria on 17-19 February. Their speeches advanced no new or novel views and have provoked little comment. As usual the opposition to Separatism for Sicily was stressed.

The Separatists have not been heard so frequently as in former months but it is understood that their underground propaganda goes on unabated. The suggestion and feeling that the Separatists were at least in part responsible for encouraging the recent disorders has not strengthened their position so far as the bulk of the people is concerned. Indeed, there are signs that this party is not increasing to the same extent as in the past. There is general distrust of the ultimate in-

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Public opinion has been restrained on most matters and in fact the only matter which really interests the masses is the question of food, clothing and work.

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The improved war situation and the much improved weather have combined to cheer up public opinion during the month and the opinion is held by many that the war will end in two or three months. While a few less informed people believe this would mean an immediate improvement in conditions in Sicily there is a growing feeling that the end of the war will bring a post-war crisis with grave disorders.

Some sections of public opinion have welcomed the increased powers given to the High Commissioner. The opinion is, however, freely expressed that it is a matter of form only and that in effect there is no greater degree of self-government.

The further increase of wages announced is welcomed by all but the opinion is freely expressed that these increases are no remedy for soaring prices and that it is price control that is needed. Considerable dissatisfaction is expressed that the government takes no active steps to enforce price control.

3. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

There has been no improvement in local administration either at the provincial or communal level. Corruption is widespread and there is no determined effort to administer properly or to enforce governmental or provincial ordinances. The lack of co-operation between departments is particularly noteworthy. Departments endeavour to operate in watertight compartments which results in great inefficiency.

On February 25th the Regional Consulta to the H.C. for Sicily was duly inaugurated, present the Cardinal of Palermo and all civil and military authorities of the Island. The H.C. was the principal speaker and in a long speech surveyed the Sicilian situation and the part that the Consulta must play in this historic moment of Regional Government to alleviate and solve many problems of the Island. A message from Govoni was read and there was disappointment on the Prime Minister's failure to come to the inauguration as had been announced a week earlier. The Consulta is composed of 36 members selected and proposed by the High Commissioner and nominated by him. Of these: 14 are from Palermo, 7 from Catania, 2 from Messina, 3 from Siracusa, 3 from Trapani, 2 from Caltanissetta, 1 from Ragusa and 1 from Enna. Politically they are 6 Democrats, 4 Communists, 4 Party of Action, 6 Democrats of Labor, 4 Socialists, 5 Liberals, 2 ex-service men and 5 members of non-recognized parties (Separatists). Professionally they are 20 lawyers, 5 doctors, 3 engineers, 3 professors, 1 accountant, 1 shipbuilder, 1 farmer, 1 laborer and 1 landowner.

Two meetings were held in the following two days when they adjourned to reconvene in March "better prepared to face the hard tasks which will be before them", according to Alaisio.

There are signs that the increased powers accorded to the H.C. may give some impetus to administration at the top level. At the moment there is much talk but the success of the new measure can only be judged on the tangible results forthcoming. The greatest difficulty which the H.C. and his Consulta have to overcome is the appalling lack of interest, corruption and inefficiency of administrative officials right down to the lowest levels. Without an alteration in this respect

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On February 25th the Regional Consulta to the H.C. for Sicily was duly inaugurated, presided the Cardinal of Palermo and all civil and military authorities of the Island. The H.C. was the principal speaker and in a long speech surveyed the Sicilian situation and the part that the Consulta must play in this historic moment of Regional Government to alleviate and solve many problems of the Island. A message from Donini was read and there was disappointment on the Prime Minister's failure to come to the inauguration as had been announced a week earlier. The Consulta is composed of 36 members selected and proposed by the High Commissioner and nominated by Donini. Of these 14 are from Palermo, 7 from Catania, 2 from Messina, 3 from Syracuse, 2 from Agrigento, 3 from Trapani, 2 from Caltanissetta, 1 from Ragusa and 1 from Enna. Politically they are 6 Democrats, 4 Communists, 1 Party of Action, 6 Democrats of Labor, 4 Socialists, 3 Liberals, 2 ex-service men and 5 members of non-nominated parties (Separatists). Professionally they are 20 lawyers, 5 doctors, 3 engineers, 3 professors, 1 accountant, 1 shipbuilder, 1 farmer, 1 laborer and 1 landowner.

The meetings were held in the following two days when they adjourned to someone in March "better prepared to face the hard tasks which will be before them", according to Alifano.

There are signs that the increased powers accorded to the H.C. may give some impetus to administration at the top level. At the moment there is much talk but the success of the new measure can only be judged on the tangible results forthcoming. The greatest difficulty which the H.C. and his Consulta have to overcome is the appalling lack of interest, corruption and inefficiency of administrative officials right down to the lowest levels. Without an alteration in this respect no measures for Sicily, however good, can hope to achieve more than a very limited success.

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C. ECONOMICS, RESOURCES AND SUPPLY

Five ships arrived during the month at either Palermo or Catania carrying a total of 16469 metric tons of wheat, 5719 tons of barley and 1824 tons of flour. Four ships also arrived during the month or at the end of January, carrying a total of 7002 tons of rock phosphate for agricultural purposes. Three of these ships unloaded at Catania and one at Porto Empedocle. There were no other Allied imports.

The normal bread and pasta ration of 300 grammes per person has been regularly continued, in contrast to the period October to January when the issue of the pasta ration was most irregular.

Inter-regional trade has not been on a large scale due chiefly to transportation difficulties. The position with regard to railway transportation has been particularly difficult due to the loss of large numbers of box cars used to send Army supplies northward which until recently have not been returned or replaced.

The improvement in weather conditions and the revised basis for calculating freight charges has tended to speed up the movements of schooners but this benefit has been offset by a new difficulty, namely, the shortage of rafts. The allotment of rafts for February was reduced to 29 tons as compared with 170 tons in September 1944.

The principal trade to the mainland has been citrus fruit. There were four shipments on the 2nd, 4th, 9th and 23rd February for a total of 1608 tons representing 47012 cases.

The acceptance of imported coal and its distribution has now been completely handed over to the Italian authorities.

The principal exports to the U.K. have been three shipments of lemons and bitter oranges on the 11th, 20th and 28th February totalling 164226 boxes of lemons and 80254 boxes of bitter oranges. Other shipments were 500 tons of cement and a sulphur report.

The shipments of fruit were some 11,000 boxes less than anticipated due to the failure of the Palermo export group to carry out their contract and due in a lesser degree to the rejection of boxes not in accordance with contract and to loading difficulties.

Shipments of mixed cargo were also made to Malta, chief items being lemons, baskets, wine, cottonseed, nuts, plastic clay and olives.

There have been meetings of producers of fruit juices and essential oils to discuss prices. The price of these citrus products is high and considerably above London's computed price. This is due chiefly to the high price of lemons and to the buying operations of one particular firm.

There was a continued reduction in the amount of sulphur produced during February. The mines were, however, notably free from labor troubles. There is a great shortage of carbide for the mines which will exhaust present stocks early in March. Some steel pipe and other necessary mining equipment has been received from the mainland but there is still a shortage of necessary equipment despite improvisations made with old items of equipment found in the Region.

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2. AGRICULTURE, FORESTS AND FISHERIES

Grain amassing during the month amounted to 1946 quintals, bringing the total to date to 1,224,100 quintals of wheat and 107,701 quintals of barley. Oil amassing was again negligible, only 1687 quintals being amassed during the month, making a total to date of 7375 quintals.

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Further seed potatoes arrived from Reggio which brings the total imported this season up to 850 tons. Approximately 75% of these have been distributed to the potato growing area of Catania, the remainder being distributed amongst Syracuse, Messina and Palermo.

The manufacture of super-phosphate continues and a further factory now producing sulphuric acid will begin super-phosphate production early in March. The production for February was 5616 tons and to date from all factories the total produced is 20,945 tons. In addition, two shipments of rock phosphate were received amounting to 4155 tons. Super-phosphate distributed to the provinces amounted to 6141 tons and there are 12,804 remaining in the factories.

The health of live stock continues to be good.

Seeding is well forward in most districts and the grain crops are looking well despite the abnormally wet season and the shortage of fertilizers.

The shortage of transport is more acute than ever. This is a serious handicap to agriculture and forestry officials who are practically without road transport and therefore quite unable to carry out their duties with anything approaching efficiency. Strong recommendations have been made to the High Commissioner to alter without result. The same position exists with regard to rail transport. Fuel and has seriously affected the distribution of fertilizers which are likely to arrive at the farms too late to be really effective so far as this season's crops are concerned.

The possibility of copper sulphate production has been investigated and it is found that 200 tons per annum could be produced locally if copper were available.

An extensive tour of the provinces of Palermo, Catanzaro, Catania and Messina was made during the month when the Director of the Agriculture Sub-Committee was present and also the High Commissioner for some part of the time. Meetings were held and close contact made with the farmers. The latter on the whole take a gloomy view with regard to the future of agriculture in the Region and do not without some justification as they are at present beset with many real difficulties such as lack of transportation, depredations by armed robbers, shortage of labourers and vast troubles, stealing of trees for firewood, shortage of fertilizers and agricultural machinery, blight and shortage of insecticides and above all what they consider to be a quite inadequate price for their grain up to now.

E. LAZAR

The labor situation during the month has been quiet. There have been no serious strikes or disturbances. There is still considerable discontent below the surface caused by the high cost of living and lack of clothing. It is felt that this discontent may result in labor troubles in the future. The threatened strike by state employees was averted after an issue of pasta had been made. The position is not, however, settled and these employees are now awaiting developments before deciding on their course of action.

During the month the Region was visited by the Under-Secretary of State for

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2. LABOR

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During the month the Region was visited by the Under-Secretary of State for Labor who discussed labor problems.

A school is being organized for the inauguration of evening classes in technical subjects and it is hoped that these classes will commence in the near future.

SECRET

B. PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

The greatly improved weather has resulted in an increase of outside work and the recent resources poured by the Italian Government for housing roofless persons has tended to encourage private building enterprises. The Italian authorities are fully conversant with the scope and effect of the new measures, local committees are being formed and much will now depend on the energy of the officials, which judging on reports so far achieved is likely to be very limited. In any event the big handicaps ever in view the lack of transportation and building material, particularly timber and glass.

Work on military highway has continued but is slow due to the difficulty in getting material to the sites. The condition of other highways remains unaltered and they are generally speaking in a very bad condition.

The electricity supply has remained satisfactory throughout the month. Coal used for this purpose for the month ending 27 February was 2762 tons imported coal and 752 tons Spanish coal. There has been an increase in the unit consumption of coal due to its bad quality. Normal repair work has proceeded at the stations and on one of the watercourses and it has been possible to obtain materials for repair of boilers from the U.S. Naval authorities.

Gas works are now working and to the absence of coal for this purpose.

The water situation following the abnormally wet winter is very satisfactory.

The overlying consideration during the month has been the continued extreme shortage of transport facilities of all kinds, which affects practically all public works and utilities and will bring projects to a standstill unless the position improves.

C. PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE POLICE

There has been a slight increase in crime which remains at a high level. Of the above serious crimes, the most common is still robbery, there having been 192 cases during the month. Small robbery and the operations of armed bands in the more remote districts continued to present a serious problem.

Violence and arson are not being systematically controlled by the police for time and this question is another with some success. The presence of arms is, however, a grave problem in Sicily where almost everyone has a weapon of some kind or another and where there are still large supplies of abandoned enemy weapons scattered about.

There have been no serious public disorders during the month.

As a result of the exceptionally difficult economical condition, clandestine prostitution is increasing.

There has been one isolated instance of publication of fascist propaganda and in this connection many arrests have been made.

There are still many forged and altered Allied military notes in circulation.

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There is no evidence to date that the situation is likely to be very limited. The event of the incident is never to be the lack of transportation and building material, particularly timber and steel.

Work on highway highways has continued but is slow due to the difficulty in getting material on the site. The condition of other highways remains unaltered and they are generally speaking in a very bad condition.

The electricity supply has remained satisfactory throughout the month. Coal used for this purpose for the month ending 31 February was 2762 tons in total coal and 75% was Sardinian coal. There has been an increase in the consumption of coal due to its bad quality. Normal repair work has proceeded at the stations and on one of the watercourses and it has been possible to obtain materials for repair of bridges from the U.S. Naval authorities.

Gas mains are now working due to the absence of coal for this purpose.

The water situation following the snowfall, not winter is very satisfactory.

The overriding consideration during the month has been the continued outbreak of transport facilities of all kinds, which affects practically all public works and utilities and will bring projects to a standstill unless the position improves.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE POLICE

There has been a slight increase in crime which remains at a high level. Of the more serious crimes, the most common is still robbery, there having been 192 cases during the month. Armed robbery and the operations of armed bands in the more remote districts continued to present a serious problem.

Violence and robbery are not being systematically checked by the police nor are the system is working with some success. The presence of arms in, however, a great number in Sicily where almost everyone has a weapon of some kind or another and where there are still large supplies of abandoned army weapons scattered about.

There have been no serious public disorders during the month.

As a result of the increasingly difficult economical condition, clandestine prostitution is increasing.

There has been one isolated instance of publication of Fascist propaganda and in this connection some arrests have been made.

There are still many forged and altered Allied Military notes in circulation and the Police have not yet traced the further counterfeiting plant known to be operating. 186 forged notes of three different values were recovered from circulation during the month.

SECRET

The civil police are showing increased confidence and there is a slight improvement in morale. They are, however, still seriously handicapped by lack of clothing and boots. Their efficiency is also greatly impaired by their lack of mobility. Apart from the shortage of transportation, such transportation as is available is largely immobilized by lack of tires, batteries and other spare parts. At the present time the CC.RP. alone have 70 motor vehicles and 103 motorcycles off the road for lack of spare parts.

There have been no sabotage or other serious cases affecting Allied interests in the Region. The only crime affecting Allied interests continues to be that of theft of Allied property which is widespread.

During the month the Italian civil courts tried 349 persons in cases affecting Allied interests. The two Italian Military Courts tried a further 68 such cases.

The Italian courts continue to function throughout the Island but there are very large arrears of criminal cases, particularly in all the larger cities. The Court of Appeal at Catania is much handicapped by reason of its being unable to find accommodation for the Procura whose building was destroyed during the civil disturbances in December last.

There have been no Allied Courts in the Region and there are no cases pending for such courts at the present time. Many applications continue to be received for pardon and grace but these almost invariably show no merit.

The prisons continue to be very crowded and there is a high proportion of sickness amongst the prisoners. It is noticeable that at least 40% of the petitions for pardon in Allied cases are on the grounds of ill health.

There are now 296 persons serving sentences imposed by Allied Courts, mostly during the period of occupation. Italian Military Courts continue to work in Palermo and Catania. These Courts are efficient and are trying many civil cases, thus relieving the burden on the civil courts to a small extent. The sentences of these courts also appear to be severe in nearly all cases.

H. PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICINE

The health of the civilian population remained very good and there have been no serious epidemics during the month. Infectious diseases reported totaled 1023 which included 252 cases of scarlet and 325 cases of typhoid fever. Typhoid fever is abating slowly and the above figure represents a decrease of 100 as compared with the cases reported last month. One case of typhus was reported, the patient being a soldier recently returned home from Greece via Taranto. There have been no further cases of smallpox. In the last 6 months of 1944 more than 1,200,000 vaccinations were carried out in Sicily.

It has been found out that the prenatal packs of Allied origin which were sold to expectant mothers were finding their way with great rapidity on to the Black Market where the packs or articles contained therein were being sold at figures up to ten times the original price paid. An effort is being made to cut off these re-sales and the High Commissioner has issued a decree prohibiting

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H. PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

The health of the civilian population remained very good and there have been no serious epidemics during the month. Infectious diseases reported totalled 1029 which included 252 cases of scabies and 325 cases of typhoid fever. Typhoid fever is abating slowly and the above figure represents a decrease of 100 as compared with the cases reported last month. One case of typhus was reported, the patient being a soldier recently returned home from Greece via Taranto. There have been no further cases of smallpox. In the last 6 months of 1944 more than 1,900,000 vaccinations were carried out in Sicily.

It has been found out that the prenatal packs of Allied origin which were sold to expectant mothers were finding their way with great rapidity on to the Falck Market where the packs or articles contained therein were being sold at figures up to ten times the original price paid. An effort is being made to curtail these re-sales and the High Commissioner has issued a decree prohibiting such sales. The packs are now supplied to expectant mothers on a hire basis and, apart from expendable items, have to be returned at the end of 12 months.

The campaign against clandestine prostitution is being vigorously pursued.

Malaria has been at its lowest ebb and only five fresh cases were reported. Plans for the coming malarial season are well advanced, a contingent of Paris Green from the central Government in Rome being expected in Sicily in April.

SECRET

With existing stocks it will be possible to commence the larva-killing campaign early in the season but difficulty is anticipated in obtaining the necessary workers on account of the very low wages offered.

I. EDUCATION

All schools have been working regularly during the month of February. The problems remain the same, namely, lack of shoes, glass, schoolrooms, books and notebooks. School attendance has been more regular which is no doubt due to the improvement in weather conditions. No classes have been dismissed on account of severe cold weather. There has been an increase in the speed of printing and distribution of text books. The editors promise that 299,000 text books will be printed and distributed in Sicily and Calabria by the 15th of March. Some of the editors are now working on a 24-hour shift.

There is a great shortage of text books for higher schools and Universities which has resulted in very high prices being asked. In an endeavour to improve this situation, 13 tons of paper have been provided for the publishing of text books previously approved by the Ministry and by the Rectors of the Universities.

Seven tons of elementary paper have been made into notebooks which are clearly marked with a tag showing the purpose for which they are intended. So far 140,000 of these notebooks have been distributed in the 9 provinces, chiefly Palermo, Catania and Messina. The provincial authority pays L. 2.40 for each notebook and these are then sold to the more needy students at L. 3 each. This distribution has resulted in a most noticeable decrease in the retail prices asked for notebooks in the shops. Notebooks previously displayed at L. 40 - 60 each are now being offered for sale at L. 15-20 each.

The survey for glass required in the schools is not yet completed but requirements are coming in and it is clear that a very large amount of glass will ultimately be required. For example, Agrigento Province with 41 communes and 400,000 population asks for 120,260 square meters of glass for 16 of its communes. It appears that the requirements are probably exaggerated and do not in any way represent the minimum requirements.

The provision of lunches for school children is still under consideration. A request for such lunches has been received from one province for approximately 2,000 pupils. This province, however, makes it perfectly clear that the lunches are not required if there is to be any cost to the province or the consumers.

Considerable numbers of school buildings are still occupied by refugees and Allied and Italian troops. Very few of these have been released during the month. In the Province of Messina 2 elementary schools have been leased by the commune to the local newspaper as a storage depot.

Professor Barbato, Ispettore Centrale per le Scuole Medie, has made an inspection trip, lasting ten days, of the schools in the Province of Messina. He points out that there has been a very sharp decrease in the membership of elementary schools. For example, Messina City has only 6,000 pupils attending classes out of a total of 21,000 duly enrolled pupils. It is felt that this may be largely due to the non-realization and distribution of the school lunches mentioned above.

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SECRET3. FINANCE AND PROPERTY CONTROL

The index cost of living based on prices during the month of January continued to increase and reached the figure of 165.71 as compared with 155.65 for December. Prices continue to increase.

The revenue realised for January was L. 173,029,279.

Advances were made to communes in the 9 provinces of Sicily amounting to a total figure of L. 204,479,194.

The sale of Treasury and Postal Savings Bonds continues to be satisfactory.

ATA closed its offices in Palermo on the 28th of February and the RFO will in future deal with any matters which require attention and which were previously dealt with by ATA.

The situation with respect to property in custody or under control is as follows:

Taken under control to January:
Taken under control to February:

Owners	Properties
655	864
<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>

Released to Jan.	Released to Feb.	Owners	Properties
158	257	659	872
<u>48</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>236</u>	<u>319</u>

Remaining under control..... 423 553

The various banks report that only 44 of the 126 Allied controlled accounts which were ordered to be deblocked under provisions of the CFI Instruction No. 9 have, in fact, been deblocked. Pressure is being maintained on the banks to get the remaining accounts deblocked.

The Bank of Sicily has again been approached with reference to the question of value for insurance purposes so as to ensure that adequate cover is provided.

4. PETITIONS

The High Commissioner for Refugees has given permission for the return of Trapanese and Litteria refugees and small parties of those persons have been returning to their homes. Otherwise there has been no change in the last month.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

The position with regard to box cars for railway transportation shows slight improvement as during the week prior to this report 154 box cars were received as against 136 going out of the Region. There has however been an acute shortage of goods vehicles throughout February.

Rail services were further hampered by shortage of materials for repairs.

Advances were made to communes in the 9 provinces of Sicily amounting to a total figure of L. 204,473,194.

The sale of Treasury and Postal Savings Bonds continues to be satisfactory. AFA closed its offices in Palermo on the 28th of February and the RSC will in future deal with any matters which require attention and which were previously dealt with by AFA.

The situation with respect to property in custody or under control is as follows:

	<u>Owners</u>	<u>Properties</u>
Taken under control to January:	655	864
Taken under control to February:	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
	659	872
	<u>236</u>	<u>310</u>
Remaining under control.....	423	553

The various banks report that only 1/4 of the 126 Allied controlled accounts which were ordered to be deblocked under provisions of the CII Instruction No. 3 have, in fact, been deblocked. Pressure is being maintained on the banks to get the remaining accounts deblocked.

The Bank of Sicily has again been approached with reference to the question of value for insurance purposes so as to ensure that adequate cover is provided.

E. INFANTS

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Rail services were further hampered by shortage of materials for repairs but as usual the predicament difficulty has been shortage of coal which made necessary a temporary curtailment of the long distance passenger service towards the end of the month. There is evidence that the use of Military and A.C. train movements has been checked.

SECRET

Road communications have been restricted by shortage of transportation, but
ITT have continued to operate as in previous months.

Telephone and telegraphic services continued to be fairly satisfactory.
Cable communication has now been established with the islands of Lampedusa and
Pantelleria for State Services and A.C. only. The former are requesting that
the service should be extended to all civilians.

McLanahan
M. CASH
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

E.C. DISTRIBUTION.

- 1- E.C.
- 1- SA. Jax
- 1- Econ. Jax
- 1- P.R.O. to include Civilian & Foreign Div.

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McLain
M. CLAIN
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

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ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIAN REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 594

MONTHLY REPORT - JANUARY 1945

PART I

GENERAL

FEB 18 1945

18 FEB 1945

The principal problems of this month, as in the previous month, have been Public Safety and Alimentation.

Serious disorders, centered chiefly in the Province of RAGUSA and resulting from a continued protest against the military call-up, again caused a breakdown of law and order. The Police and the Carabinieri were unable to control the situation and troops were employed. Comparatively minor disorders occurred also in the Provinces of AGRIGENTO and PALERMO.

Following these disorders the situation during the latter part of the month appeared outwardly calm. Reports indicate that the results of the call-up have decidedly improved.

The immediate cause of the disorders was unquestionably the protest against the call-up. Certain rumours have been circulated to the effect that the trouble was started as an organized attempt on the part of the Separatists to take control of the Government; it has also been said that the fascists had participated and still other rumours attributed the trouble to direct enemy activity. None of these rumours appear to have any support of fact.

The background and characteristics of the Sicilians, their failure to conform to any form of Government and the more difficult conditions of daily life as the consequences of the war create an unrest and a resistance against the present Government. Some of the more progressive of the representatives of various groups seek the opportunity to express their sentiments and naturally the most effective form of expression is from the Sicilian point of view is the public demonstration or disorder which, when started, is further encouraged by criminal and radical elements.

The situation was improved by further shipments of grain. The bread ration of 500 grams per person was maintained but the distribution of the pasta ration was erratic. Two ships arrived with a total cargo of 12755 tons. It is not possible to ever secure from the Italian Government an accurate estimate of the grain supplies on hand. Based on the fact that grain shipments have been received and further shipments promised, it now appears that both the ration of bread and pasta can be maintained.

There has not been any serious shortage of other foods. The situation continues to be an unequal distribution. Prices are

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The principal problems of this month, as in the previous month, have been Public Safety and Alimentation.

Serious disorders, centered chiefly in the Province of RAGUSA and resulting from a continued protest against the Minister's call-up, again caused a breakdown of law and order. The Police and the Carabinieri were unable to control the situation and troops were employed. Comparatively minor disorders occurred also in the Provinces of AGRIGENTO and PALERMO.

Following these disorders the situation during the latter part of the month appeared outwardly calm. Reports indicate that the reaction of the call-up have decidedly improved.

The immediate cause of the disorders was unquestionably the protest against the call-up. Certain rumors have been circulated to the effect that the trouble was started as an organized attempt of the part of the Separatists to take control of the Government; it has also been said that the fascists had participated and still other rumors attributed the trouble to direct enemy activity. None of these rumors appear to have any support of fact.

The background and characteristics of the Sicilians, their failure to conform to any form of Government and the more difficult conditions of daily life as the consequences of the war create an unrest and a resistance against the present Government. Some of the more progressive of the representatives of various groups seek the opportunity to express their sentiments and naturally the most effective form of expression from the Sicilian point of view is the public demonstration or disorder which, when started, is further exploited by criminal and racial elements.

The situation was improved by further shipments of grain. The bread ration of 500 grams per person was maintained but the distribution of the pasta ration was erratic. Two ships arrived with a total cargo of 12750 tons. It is not possible to ever secure from the Italian Government an accurate estimate of the grain supplied on land. Based on the fact that grain shipments have been received and further shipments promised, it now appears that both the ration of bread and pasta can be maintained.

There has not been any serious shortage of other foods. But there continues to be an unequal distribution. Prices are at a level beyond the ability of the masses to buy and continue to increase. Wages do not keep pace with the increasing prices thus the disparity becomes greater. The prices of other necessities such as clothing likewise continue to increase. The

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lack of control of prices and the scarcity of goods appear to be the causes.

An important factor in the problem of recovery is that of transportation. While in Sicily there has been, under the existing conditions, adequate road transportation it is now deteriorating at such a rapid rate as to cause alarm. Railway transportation has also been affected by the removal of box cars from the island. If not improved, the lack of transportation will soon seriously affect the distribution of essential foodstuffs.

The political situation has not changed materially. The masses continue to be apolitical and interested primarily in the personal necessities of life. There was no particular activity on the part of the recognized parties and in general there seems to be no confidence in the party leaders. The so-called National Committee of the Separatist Movement held a Congress in Palermo on the 16th and 17th. Shortly thereafter leaflets published under the name of Timocchiaro Aprile and Antonino Vavvare, known Separatist leaders, appeared on two of the principal streets in Palermo. These leaflets, reported to be the result of the Congress, contained an affirmation that no Italian Government would be supported, proposed a Sicilian state which might later federate itself with other states in Italy and appealed to the Allies either for recognition or a return to military government. As to actual plans for an uprising, as alive at times been reported, there is no definite information. But the general situation indicates that leaders may attempt to profit from any outbreak of discontent.

Persistent rumours of a general strike of the state workers were heard. The low rates of pay and the high cost of living are reported to be the main cause of the strike which protest will be made. As yet no such strike has materialized but if it does it may cause further disorders.

The weather and the lack of materials have retarded further construction of essential services. The roads are in poor condition and the situation becomes worse. The coal supply has not been entirely adequate. The water supply is now adequate.

Inter-regional trade and exports to other countries were retarded by the weather but were not completely stopped. Total shipments of about 4800 tons of wine and fruit were sent to the Rome area. Exports included 280,000 cases of lemons to Great Britain; 3195 tons of sulphur to North Africa; 3530 tons of sulphur to Southern France; and small shipments of wine, fruit and salt totalling 400 tons to Malta.

The general efficiency of the Italian Government has not noticeably improved. It lacks the confidence of the people.

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Inter-regional trade and exports to other countries were retarded by the weather but were not completely stopped. Total shipments of about 3500 tons of wine and fruit were sent to the Rome area. Exports included 280,000 cases of lemons to Great Britain; 3195 tons of sulphur to North Africa; 3530 tons of sulphur to Southern France; and small shipments of wine, fruit and salt totalling 400 tons to Malta.

The general efficiency of the Italian government has not noticeably improved. It lacks the confidence of the people. Some of the government representatives themselves do not show confidence in the government and give the impression of uncertainty in their positions. The low pay in relation to high prices presents the constant threat of corruption.

SECRETPART IIA. POLITICAL REACTIONS AND PUBLIC OPINION.

The masses in general have shown an increased interest in politics. The opinion of many is that the political parties do not have a clearly defined line of action and that the political propaganda is based on personal interest of the leaders rather than the collective interest of the masses.

There has been some increase of propaganda on the part of the Christian Democrats and the Labour Democrats in the Province of Catanzaro. A regional congress of the Communist Party was held early in the month at Palermo. The attendance was about 500, including party representatives from all provinces and a representation of the Socialist party.

The Socialists have continued their propaganda published and distributed clandestinely. A meeting of the so-called National Committee was held at Palermo on the 16th and 17th of January. It was soon reported that consideration was given to an organized uprising to take control of the Government. This was not confirmed. But following the meeting, leaflets appeared in the name of Puccio and Aprile and Antonio Favaro, recommended separatist leaders, appeared on walls in two principal squares in Palermo. The material, supposed to be the results of the meeting, re-affirmed opposition to the Italian Government, proposed Sicily as a state that might later be independent, urged strikes in Italy, and appealed to the masses for revolution and the re-imposition of Allied Military Government. The meeting and the leaflets have been subjects of separate reports.

The lack of confidence in the Government continues. In fact, as the discontent and dissatisfaction of the population increases, the blame is attributed to the Government. No matter of the Government is supported by the people; but, in-
stead, the blame continues to be criticized.

Discontent has increased, the principal cause being the economic situation, to which is added the threat against the military campaign. Again this month disorder broke out, primarily in the Province of Ragusa, and there was comparative-
ly minor disorders in the provinces of Messina and Palermo.

The serious and unequal distribution of food and the increasing prices of food and clothing are the principal causes of continued discontent.

B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The local government has been no considerable improvement in

in politics. The opinion of many is that the political parties do not have a clearly defined line of action and that the political propaganda is based on personal interest of the leaders rather than the collective interest of the masses.

There has been some increase of propaganda on the part of the Christian Democrats and the Labour Democrats in the Province of Catanzaro. A regional congress of the Communist Party was held early in the month at Palermo. The attendance was about 600, including party representatives from all provinces and a representation of the Socialist Party.

The Government have continued their propaganda published and distributed clandestinely. A meeting of the so-called National Committee was held at Palermo on the 16th and 17th of January. It was been reported that consideration was given to an organized uprising to take control of the government. This was not confirmed. But following the meeting, leaflets published in the name of Pinocchio Lillo and Antonio Verraro, recognized separatist leaders, appeared on walls in two principal centers in Palermo. The material, supposed to be the results of the meeting, reaffirmed opposition to the Italian Government, proposed unity as a state that might later be achieved with other states in Italy, and appealed to the Italian population and the re-imposition of allied military government. The meeting and the leaflets have been subjects of separate reports.

The lack of confidence in the government continues. In fact, as the discontent and dissatisfaction of the population increases, the blame is attributed to the government. No action of the government is supported by the people; but, in reverse, the action continues to be criticized.

Discontent has increased, the principal cause being the economic situation, to which is added the protest against the military call-up. Again this month disorder broke out, primarily in the Province of Ragusa, but some minor competitive rioting also took place in the provinces of Messina and Palermo.

The scarcity and unequal distribution of food and the increase in prices of food and clothing, are the principal causes of continued discontent.

B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

In general there has been no noticeable improvement in the efficiency of local government. The disorders resulting from the protest to the call-up presented another loss of the attention of the government. Troops were employed to establish order and investigations and arrests followed. Several hundred persons have been arrested in the provinces of Ragusa and Agrigento, some of whom have been sent to the island prison of Ustica.

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The Sicilian problems have commanded the attention of the central Government. The High Commissioner spent about 10 days in Rome discussing problems of Sicily.

C. ECONOMICS, RESOURCES AND SUPPLY

The arrival of additional grain ships made it possible to continue the bread ration of 300 grams per day. The issue of pasta has been erratic, due to shortage of wheat and delay in manufacture. Grain shipments received totaled 12,755 tons. The "Glyde A. Dunham" arrived at Catania on 30 Jan with 4000 tons of wheat and the "John Quirk" arrived 30 Jan at Palermo with 3755 tons of wheat.

A ration of 100 grams of sugar per person was issued.

Supplies received, in addition to the grain, included 10,808 tons of ynespate, 58 tons of explosives, 16,626 tons of coal and 250 tons of coke.

Weather seriously affected inter-regional trade, particularly fruit which could not be picked during the rainy weather. Three ships with total cargo of 1461 tons of wine, citrus fruits and milk sailed from Syracuse; two ships with a total cargo of 1322 tons of wine and fruit sailed from Catania; one ship with a cargo of 973 tons of citrus fruits and a small shipment of 10 tons of dried fish left Palermo; all shipments went to Rome.

A rail shipment of 11,755 tons of denatured alcohol was made to Pescara on request of ARMA and the loading of a shipment of 6000 liters of pure alcohol for Naples was started.

The high prices and the lack of transportation affect the distribution of foodstuffs. Prices continued to rise and the transportation problem became more acute. The drain of box cars to the mainland has become a major problem. The weather and the system of charges according to tonnage and days at sea rendered seacoast traffic difficult. But an improvement is expected as the result of the new system which bases the charges on tonnage and distance.

There is a shortage of Sardinian coal. None was received and no coal stocks in Sardinia.

Exports have been retarded by the weather, lack of railway transportation and the failure of the Italian Government to pay outstanding debts to exporters.

The exports for the month were 250,633 cases lemons; 830 tons of wineless and 175 tons of wine to Great Britain; 3195 tons of sulfur to North Africa; 3530 tons of sulfur to South Africa; and small shipments of wine, fruit and salt totaling in all approximately 400 tons to Italy.

Preparation for the near future is set up for the shipment of

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continued the exportation of 300 tons but the issue of pasta has been erratic, due to shortage of grain and delay in manufacture. Grain shipments received totalled 12,755 tons. The "Glyde A. Downing" arrived at Catania on 30 JAN with 4000 tons of wheat and the "John Quick" arrived 30 JAN at Palermo with 3755 tons of wheat.

A ration of 103 grams of sugar per person was issued.

Supplies received, in addition to the grain, included 15,668 tons of phosphate, 58 tons of explosives, 18,626 tons of coal and 230 tons of coke.

Weather seriously affected inter-national trade, particularly fruit which could not be picked during the rainy weather. Three ships with total cargo of 1481 tons of wine, citrons, lemons and milk sailed from Syracuse; two ships with a total cargo of 1324 tons of wine and fruit sailed from Catania; one ship with a cargo of 673 tons of citrons, lemons and a small shipment of 10 tons of dried fish left Palermo; all shipments went to Rome.

A rail shipment of 11,755 tons of denatured alcohol was made to Ponseneth on request of AFM and the loading of a shipment of one barrel of pure alcohol for Naples was started.

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There is a shortage of Sardinian coal. None was received due to a coal strike in Sardinia.

Imports have been retarded by the weather, lack of railway transportation and the failure of the Italian Government to pay outstanding debts to exporters.

The exports for the month were 280,635 cases lemons; 930 tons of wineleons and 175 tons of wine to Great Britain; 3195 tons of sulphur to North Africa; 3580 tons of sulphur to South Africa; and small shipments of wine, fruit and salt totaling in all approximately 400 tons to Malta. A check for the next future is set up for the shipment of 230,000 boxes of lemons and oranges, subject to explicit and dates of arrival of ships.

With respect to the export of other products, contracts were signed for 20,000 boxes of bitter oranges; instructions were received for the shipment of 30 tons of citric acid and there is another 50 tons of this product ready for shipment.

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The situation respecting fruit juices and essential oils has not changed due to the lack of processing facilities and shipping instructions. Kindness of the Italian government in paying the lemon exporters has caused considerable distress among them and a reluctance to enter into new contracts.

The acute shortage of box cars has made difficult the transport of lemons from packing houses to ports. As the result of a constant drain, approximately an average of 110 box cars per week over a period of time used for the shipment of fruit and mail to the Army on the mainland, no further transport is available.

D. AGRICULTURE, FORESTS AND FISHERIES

The grain harvest during the month was 29,509 quintals bringing the total raised to date to 1,413,685 quintals (wheat 1,335,223; barley 107,062). Oil harvesting was practically at a standstill, a total of 5129 quintals having been received. Of 1500 tons of seed potatoes promised, the total received to date is 541 tons, which have been distributed to growers under contract for a proportionate supply of ammonium nitrate, super phosphate and copper sulphate.

Production of super phosphate increased; it has now reached the monthly production of nearly 6,000 tons. 18,530 tons of rock phosphate were imported. A serious problem of transportation exists due to the lack of coal. Approximately 400 tons of coal are required for the railways for the transportation of imported rock phosphate and the super phosphate which is produced here.

Seedling is well forward in spite of severe weather conditions. But there are indications that abundant crops of oranges and lemons will remain on the trees because of lack of transport.

The raw stock situation was satisfactory and there were no diseases reported.

Fishing boats are still subject to regulations established by the Navy. A total of 2330 tons were landed.

E. LABOR

In general the situation was quite satisfactory. There were no disturbances but at times there were persistent rumours of a strike of steel employees. The staff of the Palermo Provincial Labor Office stopped work on 16 JAN but returned after

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on which exporters has caused considerable distress among them and a reluctance to enter into new contracts.

The acute shortage of box cars has made difficult the transport of lemons from packing houses to ports. As the result of a constant drain, approximately an average of 110 box cars per week over a period of time used for the shipment of fruit and mules to the Army on the Mainland, no further transport is available.

D. AGRICULTURE, MINES AND FISHERIES

The grain raised during the month was 29,503 quintals bringing the total raised to date to 1,414,665 quintals (wheat 1,305,622; barley 107,043). Oil raising was practically a standstill, a total of 5139 quintals having been received. Of 1500 tons of seed potatoes promised, the total received to date is 521 tons, which have been distributed to growers under contract for a proportionate supply of ammonium nitrate, super phosphate and copper sulphate.

Production of super phosphate increased; it has now reached the output production of nearly 6,000 tons. 18,530 tons of rock phosphate were imported. A serious problem of transportation exists due to the lack of coal. Approximately 400 tons of coal are required for the railways for the transportation of imported rock phosphate and the super phosphate which is produced here.

Seedling is well forward in spite of severe weather conditions. But there are indications that abundant crops of citrus fruits will remain on the trees because of lack of transport.

The olive trade situation was satisfactory and there were no demands reported.

Trunk roads are still subject to regulations established by the Navy. A total of 2330 tons were loaded.

E. LABOR

In general the situation was quite satisfactory. There were no disturbances but at times there were persistent rumours of a strike of strike employees. The staff of the Palermo Provincial Labor Office stopped work on 16 JAN but returned after an interview with the Labor Minister, Genoa. Investigation of the cases revealed the political influence particularly on the part of the Communist Party which is openly hostile to the Labor Office. As the result of the strike of coal stevedores at Catania the sales were diverted to other ports. This strike was a protest against the low rates and resulted in a proposed increase which was submitted for approval.

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The wage adjustment agreement between the employees and management of the S.A. Autohaus was approved.

Reports indicated that the newly established Social Insurance scheme for employees of the Allied Forces was working well.

A series of night classes was inaugurated by the Regional Labor Office in conjunction with M.O.S. It is successful, similar facilities will be offered in other provinces.

The reduction of personnel in Labor Offices, being effected by Dr. Pappera for the Ministry of Labor, was completed. The total reductions were 28 employees from the Regional and Provincial Offices and about 70 from the Offices of Collocation.

E. HIGHWAY WORKS AND IMPROVEMENTS

Works in progress have been retarded by wet and stormy weather and rains have caused damage in harbors and ports.

A decision was reached on the question of work on bridges started on February 10. The Army and Navy abandoned. The lack of material had been the work to a standstill but it is now provided that supplementary patrol will be issued. Arrangements have been made to treat work in ports and harbors in the same manner as military roads.

Work is being done on highways designated as military, now construction of work on bridges on highway 143 amounting to approximately 11,000,000 L.L. is being approved. In general other roads are in a state of repair.

As the results of increased rains caused by hydraulic electrical production for February has increased. The consumption of coal from 20 NOV to 25 JAN was 7540 tons (3880 Spanish) and the stock on hand was 8335 tons (6087 tons Spanish). The estimated coal consumption for the months of February, March and April is 22,400 tons. An increase of unit consumption has been caused by the poor quality of coal received and its size, which is not suitable for the furnace bars. More supplies were received at Porto M. de C. and Catania. 20-tons of containers were at Catania. The station at Porto M. de C. which was not in operation from the 1st to 25th was reopened after temporary repairs were made.

No coal has been allotted for Gas Works at Palermo, Catania and Messina. The water supply, previously limited, is now adequate as the result of the recent rains. The deterioration of a geological deposit in Palermo now makes possible the use and development of brams and brams.

The General Administration with reference to construction is: Projects with military priority: 6 submitted; 17 in hand;

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Office in conjunction with M.O.S. If successful, similar facilities will be offered in other provinces.

The reduction of personnel in Labor Offices, being effected by Dr. Purosh for the Ministry of Labor, was completed. The total reductions were 26 employees from the Regional and Provincial Offices and about 70 from the Offices of collection.

E. PORTLAND CEMENT AND REPAIRS

Works in progress have been retarded by wet and stormy weather and such have caused damage in harbors and ports.

A decision was reached on the question of work on bridges started on January 10, the day and later abandoned. The lack of cement has retarded this work to a considerable extent. It is now provided that a substantial portion of the cement will be issued. Arrangements have been made to treat work in ports and harbors in the same manner as military roads.

With respect to bridges designated as military, new estimates of work on bridges on highways are mounting to approximately 12,000,000 lire were approved. In general other roads are in a bad state of repair.

As the result of increased winter consumption hydraulic oil consumption for February has increased. The consumption of coal from 25 NOV to 25 JAN was 7340 tons (3880 Serbian) and the stock on hand was 8335 tons (6067 tons Serbian). The estimated consumption for the months of February, March and April is 45,400 tons. An increase of unit consumption has been caused by the poor quality of coal received and the fact that it is not suitable for the furnace bars. With supplies were received at Porto L. Saccio and Cavalla. Re-entries of coal were received at Cavalla and Cavalla. The station at Porto L. Saccio which was now in operation from the 25th to 26th was reopened after necessary repairs were made.

It could not be allotted for gas tanks at Palermo, Catania and Messina. The water supply, previously limited, is now abundant as the result of the recent rains. The development of a submarine cable in Palermo now makes possible repairs and maintenance of trams and buses.

The following information with respect to construction is: projects with military priority: 6 initiated; 17 in hand; 1 completed; projects other than military: 17 in hand; 1 approved of military commission; 1 initiated; 6 in hand; 1 completed; projects handed independent of the Italian Government: 1 initiated; 3 in hand; 1 completed.

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C. PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE COURTS

Serious disorders occurred in the Provinces of RAGUSA, AGRIGENTO, CATTANIA, MESSINA and PALERMO during the early part of the month. The disorders in the Province of RAGUSA, centered chiefly in Ragusa, Vittoria, Modica and Comiso, caused such a complete breakdown of law and order that the Police and Carabinieri were unable to cope with the situation. Troops were employed to re-establish order. The rioters offered resistance to the troops in several places particularly in COMISO where they were in control of the town for approximately 3 days. During the various conflicts 1 officer and 3 soldiers, 1 finance guard and 1 Carabinieri were killed and 13 soldiers were wounded; 5 civilians were killed and 8 wounded. Following the disorders investigations were conducted and several hundred persons arrested. Some of the persons arrested are reported to have been sent to the Island of Ustica.

During the latter part of the month no serious disorders were reported.

The immediate cause of the disorders was the resistance to the military call-up but this, as in the case of previous disorders, appears to have been the result of expressing general dissatisfaction over economical conditions and a strong resentment against the government. Reports have circulated that the disorders were organized and planned either by the separatists or the fascists and it was even suggested that they were the direct result of enemy activity. But these reports appear to be without foundation.

Reports on the call-up indicate that considerable progress has been made. Of the 30 thousand expected from the call-up of the classes 13-24, 9,617 have been accepted. While the resistance to the call-up seems to have lessened, discontent exists because of the disparity between wages and the high prices of essential goods. Rumors of a strike of state and parastatal employees have been persistent. If such a strike occurs with the present state of discontent there is a strong possibility of further disorders.

The Police are still handicapped by the lack of communications and serviceable transportation. The organization of mobile battalions in the Carabinieri has not been completed. A battalion of troops sent to Sicily designated as reinforcements of the Carabinieri has not yet passed to Carabinieri command. The equipment received for the organization of these units is 33 trucks and 24 armoured cars. The latter are reported to be of an antiquated type incapable of long runs and vulnerable to attack by hand grenades. 6 light tanks temporarily assigned to the Carabinieri are considered to be more suitable for the Service.

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The disorders in the Province of Ragusa, centered chiefly in Ragusa, Vittoria, Modica and Comiso, caused a complete breakdown of law and order that the Police and Carabinieri were unable to cope with the situation. Troops were employed to re-establish order. The rioters offered resistance to the troops in several places particularly in COMISO where they were in control of the town for approximately 5 days. During the various conflicts 1 officer and 3 soldiers, 1 finance guard and 1 Carabinieri were killed and 8 wounded. Following the disorders 5 civilians were killed and 8 wounded. Following the disorders investigations were conducted and several hundred persons arrested. Some of the persons arrested are reported to have been sent to the Island of Ustica.

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Reports on the call-up indicate that considerable progress has been made. Of the 20 thousand expected from the call-up of the classes 18-24, 9,617 have been accepted. While the resistance to the call-up seems to have lessened, discontent exists because of the disparity between wages and the high prices of essential goods. Rumours of a strike of state and parastatal employees have been persistent. If such a strike occurs with the present state of discontent there is a strong possibility of further disorders.

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There have been large scale thefts from the gas line in Palermo. Some additional tapings were located and several arrests have been made. An increase in fascist activity was reported in Caltanissetta and Enna. An Allied vehicle in which a British Sergeant and an officer of the Carabinieri were passengers was held up and the passengers robbed. In another case

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a British soldier excoeriting mules for the army was assaulted and wounded. Cases of forged notes continue, a total of 136 notes were recovered. Investigation of this crime has continued and seems likely to bring some results soon.

Prisons are still crowded. A great number of prisoners are awaiting trial before the Italian Courts. There are 304 persons serving sentences imposed by the Courts since the Allied Occupation, including those sentenced after responsibility was turned over to the Italian government. Repairs to the Augusta Prison and the old prison at Catania are proceeding. The work at Yavignana was completed and 200 prisoners are now recommended there.

The administration of the Italian Courts has not changed. A general complaint is that they have been seriously handicapped by the great difficulty in obtaining any reply from the Ministry of Justice. There have been no MG Courts but two applications are pending. The SP, Borroni, was exonerated on 17 Jan. The applications for pardon and grace from Allied sentences continue to arrive but only three cases were submitted for decision; other cases were disposed of within the Regent. No appeals having been granted.

The Italian Courts tried only 3 cases as compared with 40 for the previous month. The big decrease was due to the inactivity of the Catania Court, which was occupied with cases transferred to it from the civilian courts.

The affairs of cases in the Italian civilian courts continue to be large and the situation cannot be considered satisfactory. The Palermo Court of Appeals has been held up by the new decree for the composition of Sections of the Court and by the fact that MG appointees have not been included. Thus it is difficult to operate some of the Sections at all. The Court was also hindered by a strike of lawyers which lasted a week. The strike was a protest because applications for a Section of the Court of Cassation at Palermo had been ignored. The Catania Court of Appeals is without premises because the repairs to the damaged premises have not been completed and property held by the military authorities has not been released. The trial of some Italian officials of the Ustia colony has been disposed of without substantiating any charges which confirms the decision of the Allied Commission known as the Ustia War Crimes Commission.

With respect to action by the Italian Courts on cases of footings, Allied interests are increased as noted. During the four-week period ending 20 Jan, 201 persons were tried as compared with 120 during a similar period in December, 157 having been found guilty and 83 sent to prison. The number awaiting trial was 380 as compared with 930 in December. The trials of

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The administration of the Italian Courts has not changed. A general complaint is that they have been seriously handicapped by the great difficulty in obtaining any reply from the Ministry of Grace and Justice. There have been no Army Courts but two applications are pending. The Sgt. Borroni, was executed at Catania on 17 JAN. The applications for pardon and grace from Allied sentencees continue to arrive but only three cases were submitted for decision; other cases were disposed of within the Region, no appeals having been granted.

The Italian Courts tried only 3 cases as compared with 40 for the previous month. The big decrease was due to the inactivity of the Catania Court, which was occupied with cases transferred to it from the civilian courts.

The number of cases in the Italian civilian courts continue to be large and the situation cannot be considered satisfactory. The Palermo Court of Appeals has been held up by the new decree for the composition of Sections of the Court and by the fact that the composition has not been included. Thus it is difficult to operate some of the Sections at all. The Court was also hindered by a number of lawyers when last of about one year. The strike was a protest because applications for a Section of the Court of Cassation at Palermo had been ignored. The Catania Court of Appeals is without proceedings because the repairs to the damaged premises have not begun and property held by the military authorities has not been released. The trial of some Italian officials of the Ustica Island has been disposed of without substantiation, any charges which confirm the decision of the Allied Commission known as the Ustica War Crimes Commission.

With respect to action by the Italian Courts on cases affecting Allied interests an increase was noted. During the four-week period ending 20 JAN, 201 persons were tried as compared with 129 during a similar period in December, 157 having been found guilty and 85 sent to prison. The number awaiting trial was 680 as compared with 930 in December. The trials of these cases still move slowly.

Many matters of a general legal nature continue to be referred to the Legal Officer. Most of these matters involve claims against the Army and almost invariably it is found that no Army records exist.

Following the disorders extensive investigations have been

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conducted and a great many people arrested, some of whom are reported to have been sent to the Island of Ustica. Further information will be secured with respect to the charges and the legal measures employed.

H. PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICINE

The condition of health in Sicily was particularly good, with the exception of widespread typhoid fever, in spite of the unusually cold weather. The number of infectious diseases increased to 1057. The typhoid epidemic in Palermo was found to be due to water pollution and steps have been taken to bring it under control. The total number of cases of smallpox reported since the outbreak is 43, 3 cases having been reported during the month. This outbreak of smallpox can now be considered as being completely stamped out. The number of cases of primary malaria fell to 26 as compared to 142 in December and 672 in November.

With respect to venereal diseases, 320 women were taken in charge for examination, of which 1100 were found to be infected; 10 were sent for trial, 29 returned to communes; 35 prostitutes houses of prostitution were discovered and 41 prostitutes arrested.

I. EDUCATION

When Sicilian schools reopened after the holidays a full team of teaching and study under the new regime was celebrated. The conditions in the schools were generally unsatisfactory due to the cold weather, the lack of heat and, in most of the schools, the lack of window panes.

The supply of teachers is still greater than the demand. A general feeling of dissatisfaction in the teaching bodies is due to the new instructions from the Ministry of Public Instruction respecting the compilation of a curriculum. In the provinces of Palermo, the provveditore, an appointed official, is to be one of the most efficient, was substituted by an active part in the protests against the call-up. Demonstration by the students at Palermo University at the opening of the academic year caused a postponement of that ceremony. The dissatisfaction there is said to be based on the unsatisfactory conditions with respect to students of Social Anthropology, the slow expansion of professors and their general dishonesty. The sector is accused of being weak and of protecting all professors against examination. Fascist sentiments are also reported to have been expressed.

A total of 120,000 elementary textbooks has been distributed and arrangements completed for the printing of the estimated needs. Other school supplies are badly needed. With

The condition of health in Sicily was particularly good, with the exception of widespread typhoid fever, in spite of the unusually cold weather. The number of infectious diseases increased to 1037. The typhoid epidemic in Palermo was found to be due to water pollution and steps have been taken to bring it under control. The total number of cases of smallpox reported since the outbreak is 43, 3 cases having been reported during the month. This outbreak of smallpox can now be considered as being completely stamped out. The number of cases of primary malaria fell to 25 as compared to 142 in December and 573 in November.

With respect to venereal diseases, 320 women were taken in charge for examination, of which 1,100 were found to be infected; 10 were sent for trial, 29 returned to communes; 55 chlamydiae houses of prostitution were discovered and 41 prostitutes arrested.

I. EDUCATION

With Sicilian schools reopened after the holidays a full year of teaching and study under the new regime was celebrated. The conditions in the schools were generally unsatisfactory due to the cold weather, the lack of heat and, in most of the schools, the lack of window panes.

The supply of teachers is still greater than the demand. A general feeling of dissatisfaction in the teaching bodies is due to the new instructions from the Ministry of Public Instruction respecting the compilation of a curriculum. In the province of Palermo, the Provviditore, an ally appointed by an act of the Government, was substituted by an acting Provviditore. In the Universities the students have taken an active part in the protests against the call-up. Demonstrations by the students at Palermo University at the opening of the academic year caused a postponement of that ceremony. The dissatisfaction there is said to be based on the unsatisfactory conditions with respect to students of Social Anthropology, the slow promotion of professors and their general dishonesty. The Rector is accused of being weak and of protecting all professors against expatriation. Fascist sentiments are also reported to have been expressed.

A total of 120,000 elementary textbooks has been distributed and arrangements completed for the printing of the estimated needs. Other school supplies are badly needed. With the exception of two provinces, Palermo and Messina, school lunches have not been instituted because the necessary returns have not been made.

The Youth Movement in Sicily (Boy Scouts) is well organized and an intensive drive is planned by the Scout Commission.

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"Comitati pro-Scholar" are being organized in all provinces to help the poorer children secure books and supplies and for the general protection of school interests.

I. FINANCE AND PROPERTY CONTROL

The index cost of living based on prices during the month of December continued to increase and reached the figure of 155.93. Prices are reported to have continued to increase during the month of January. Increase is said to be due to the same causes - the Black Market prices of bread and pasta.

The total of reserve notes was increased by the transfer of L.240,000,000 to Sicily of which L.161,946,000 went to the Province of PA and L.40,984,000 to the Bank of Italy. The flow of currency from the Bank of Italy follows continues.

The income realized for December was L.210,928,653. The sale of Treasury and Postal Savings Bonds continued satisfactory.

The total amount advanced to all provinces was L.194,852.

The banks continued to function as normally as could be expected under the present conditions. News of the forthcoming reopening of the Stock Exchange as Palermo was received with some satisfaction in the financial circles throughout the island. It is considered that this will help a beneficial effect on the operations in dealing with Government Bonds and industrial shares.

The above with respect to property in custody or under control is as follows:-

	OWNERS	PROPERTY
Taken under control to Dec.	682	860
" " " Jan.	3	4
OWNERS PROPERTIES		
Released to Dec.	655	864
Released to Jan.	188	237
Retaining under control	467	607

Instructions were given to banks to release 126 accounts.

II. RETURNS

There has been no change in the situation during the past month.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

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The total of Reserve Notes was increased by the transfer of L.240,000,000 to Sicily of which L.101,545,000 went to the Province of Palermo and L.49,984,000 to the Bank of Italy. The flow of currency from the Bank of Italy Palermo continues.

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The situation with respect to property in custody of under control is as follows:-

	OWNERS	PROPERTIES
Taken under control to Dec.	682	860
" " " " Jan.	3	4
Released to Dec.	655	854
Released to Jan.	188	237
Remaining under control	407	697

Instructions were given to banks to handle 126 accounts.

IS. AIRCRAFTS

There has been no change in the situation during the past month.

L. COMMUNICATIONS

The poor condition of roads and the lack of tyres and spare parts for maintenance continue to restrict road transportation. The I.N.T. organization continued to operate under the provisions of the law although instructions respecting its transfer to the Italian Government were expected. The equipment is in

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such a state that depreciation is accelerating rapidly. A total average of 400 to 450 vehicles was maintained, 50% of which were deployed for the communication services.

The average strength of box cars are seriously affected the operations of the railways. Many cars leaving the island with cargoes of goods have not been returned. Initially the movement of oranges and essential foodstuffs has been handicapped by the loss of transportation.

Telegrams and telegraphic service continued to operate without any particular change. Repairs of cable to the islands of Pohnpei, and Lapedash were continued and it is expected that the cable will be functioning in the near future.

Ray R. Anderson
 Brigadier
 Regional Commissioner

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loss of transportation.

Telephone and telegraphic service continued to operate without any particular change. Reports of cable to the islands of Palau, Pohnpei, and Lamotoko were continued and it is expected that the cable will be functioning in the near future.

Ray F. Johnson
 Brigadier
 Regional Commissioner

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ADJUTANT GENERAL
GENERAL E. H. HARRIS
NO 392

ME/gao

2000000000 - DECEMBER 1944

JAN 21 1945

PAGE 1

GENERAL

20 JAN 1945
A. C. 2

General conditions in Italy in December were very unsettled. Lack of confidence in the Government, the general economic situation, disruption of peace and repairs, the Italian people's attitude from an early and severe winter were causes of concern. The Italian Government is in a state of disarray. The military situation is in a state of confusion. The Italian people are in a state of despair. The Italian Government is in a state of confusion. The Italian people are in a state of despair.

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1. *Establishing a common purpose and vision*
2. *Identifying the key stakeholders*
3. *Developing a communication plan*
4. *Implementing the plan*
5. *Evaluating the results*

The primary causes of the demonstrations and disorders were the opposition to the collating of the schedule of editorial review. The groups demanded a representative student and other non affected by the collating and the school affected by

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of the school and the shelter has caused considerable suffering.

Schools in the area have been damaged. After a delay caused by a fire in the school building, the school buildings have been damaged. The school buildings have been damaged. The school buildings have been damaged.

The number of children in the school is 3,721. Their standard of health is low and they are in poor condition. They are in poor condition. They are in poor condition. They are in poor condition.

PART II

THE SITUATION IN THE AREA OF THE SCHOOL

The school is in a very poor condition. The school is in a very poor condition. The school is in a very poor condition. The school is in a very poor condition. The school is in a very poor condition.

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(1) The policy and the decision should be published in the official gazette and a provision regarding

- $\hat{D}_1$ has two cycles of length 2, $\hat{D}_2$ has one cycle of length 2, and $\hat{D}_3$ has no cycles of length 2.

2000 SOUTH AFRICA

They" still following to report. "Identifies the federal government moved swiftly and explained freedom conditions with Dr. Abdullah and the forestry, Dr. (Noire) with the. (B) (S)."

the following are some of the more common types of products, services, etc.

DATE	NAME	POSITION	DEPARTMENT	STATUS	REMARKS
1944	Dr. H. H. H.	Prof.	1944-45	Complete	16 complete
1945	Dr. H. H. H.	Prof.	1945-46	Complete	16 complete
1946	Dr. H. H. H.	Prof.	1946-47	Complete	19 complete
1947	Dr. H. H. H.	Prof.	1947-48	Complete	19 complete

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(5) can should they not be written on separate documents right in the central ring?

4. However, after the meeting, particularly the four situations, the committee had the task of writing of minutes there were reports of Soviet activities, the committee also reported that the activities were becoming active, they were to have a 30% increase in the number of wall writings and the state of a Soviet camp. The activities occurred in the form of an informed and one is hearing, during the evening of the Great Election.

2. 20th Century

As far as the committee is concerned, the uncertainty and weakness of government activities of Soviet Union, the committee should have greater confidence and the committee should have a report of the results of the proposals made by the central committee to the Soviet Union.

Indeed, the committee is confident that the Soviet Union moved swiftly and explored the situation. The committee also the members, Dr. Bluff, with Dr. Bluff.

The committee is confident that the Soviet Union moved swiftly and explored the situation. The committee also the members, Dr. Bluff, with Dr. Bluff.

The following are the names and situation as to position, married etc.

NAME	DATE	POSITION	DEPARTMENT	STATUS	COMMENTS
Dr. Bluff	24-11-49	23-11-49	7 members	Complete	18 complete
Dr. Bluff	24-11-49	23-11-49	2 members	Complete	16 complete
Dr. Bluff	24-11-49	23-11-49	2 members	Complete	16 complete
Dr. Bluff	24-11-49	23-11-49	2 members	Complete	19 complete
Dr. Bluff	24-11-49	23-11-49	2 members	Complete	9 complete
Dr. Bluff	24-11-49	23-11-49	2 members	Complete	40 complete

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PROVINCE	COM- MUNE	REPORT	Sindaci & Commissari Prefettizi	Deputazioni Provinciali	Giunte Prov. Amministr.	Giunte Comunali
PALERMO	76	Dr. BATTISTO December '44	66 Sindaci 10 Com.Pref.	10 members 4 supplem. 4 meetings	Complete 7 meetings	46 complete
MARSA	12	Dr. BATTISTO 24-9-44	3 Sindaci 9 Com.Pref.	7 members 3 meetings	Complete 2 meetings	3 complete
SIRACUSA	19	Dr. CUCCHETTI August '44	19 Sindaci 6 Com.Pref.	To be non- rated	1 member missing	10 complete
TRAPANI	20	Dr. CUCCHETTI August '44	15 Sindaci 6 Com.Pref.	To be non- rated	Complete	13 complete

*40 appointed

C. ECONOMICS: RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

A crisis in the food situation was averted by grain shipments totalling 6,000 tons of barley and 12,000 tons of wheat. The "Monier" and "Sam Tweed" arrived at Catania with 6,000 tons of barley and 6,000 tons of wheat respectively, and the "Deau-sejour" arrived at Palermo with 4,000 tons of wheat. While these shipments and verbal reports were indications of the policy with respect to importing grain to Sicily, no positive interpretation as to future policy has been received.

Other supplies received were: phosphates, 5,537 tons; soap, 120 tons, and clothing, 7 tons. The supplies shipped were 61 tons of sugar from Catania and 34,754 liters of alcohol from Marsala leaving balances of these items: 300 tons sugar against ration issue and 5,456 liters of alcohol awaiting shipment to Public Health Commission, Naples.

The stocks of imported cloth on hand have been turned over to the High Commissioner, and the preparation of plans for distribution is under consideration by the Italian authorities.

The responsibility for the allocation and distribution of P.O.L. has been turned over to the High Commissioner, the Chamber of Commerce and the C.I.F.

Coal imports were 10,243 tons foreign and 7,450 tons harden, making a total below average. The coal arrived in Palermo, previously blocked by a half-sunken wreck, was cleared. The railway was opened and responsibility for the distribution of coal and showed improvement in this area, although they exceeded their allotment by 600 tons because of its immediate use for essential needs.

Inter-regional trade included a shipment of a mixed cargo of 4,000 tons consisting of wheat, citrus fruit and preserved fish on the "Gesta" which had arrived with a cargo of rock phosphate; also 150 tons of raw cotton for spinning and return for weaving at Palermo.

The situation of the wine industry would be greatly relieved if transport could be made available for the export of 2,500 tons of vermouth and Marsala from Trapani.

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4 meetings

RAGUSA	12	Dr. CALABRITA 24-9-44	3 Sindaci 9 Com. Pref.	7 members 3 meetings	Complete 2 meetings	3 complete
SIRACUSA	19	Dr. CALABRITA August '44	12 Sindaci 6 Com. Pref.	To be nominated 1 rated	1 member missing	10 complete
MARZARA	20	Dr. CALABRITA Aug 24 '44	15 Sindaci 6 Com. Pref.	To be nominated 1 rated	Complete	13 complete

427 appointees

C. ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

A crisis in the food situation was averted by grain shipments totalling 6,000 tons of barley and 38,000 tons of wheat. The "Tonino" and "San Ives" arrived at Catania with 6,000 tons of barley and 6,000 tons of wheat respectively, and the "Beau-sejour" arrived at Palermo with 4,000 tons of wheat. While these shipments and verbal reports were indications of the policy with respect to importing grain to Sicily, no positive instructions to future policy has been received.

Other supplies received were: phosphates, 5,337 tons; soap, 120 tons, and alcohol, 7 tons. The supplies shipped were 81 tons of sugar from Catania and 34,754 liters of alcohol from Marsala leaving balances of these items: 300 tons sugar against ration issue and 5,425 liters of alcohol awaiting shipment to Public Health Sub-Commission, Naples.

The stocks of imported cloth on hand have been turned over to the High Commissioners, and the preparation of plans for distribution is under consideration by the Italian authorities.

The responsibility for the allocation and distribution of P.O.L. has been turned over to the High Commissioner, the Director of Commerce and the C.I.P.

Coal imports were 10,243 tons foreign and 7,450 tons Sardinian, making a total of 17,693 tons. The coal burnt in Palermo, previously blocked by a half-sunken wreck, was cleared. The railways resumed more responsibility for the distribution of coal and showed improvement in their work, although they exceeded their allotment by 600 tons because of its immediate need for essential needs.

Inter-island trade included a shipment of a mixed cargo of 4,000 tons consisting of wine, citrus fruits and preserved fish on the "Gesta" which had arrived with a cargo of rock phosphate; also 100 tons of raw cotton for spinning and return for weaving at Palermo.

The situation of the wine industry would be greatly relieved if transport could be made available for the export of 2,500 tons of vermouth and Marsala from Trapani.

The decrease in the prices of fish and meat reported last month proved to be only temporary and prices on all commodities continue to rise.

122 bids for schooner space are in the hands of the Transportation Sub-Commission. All allocations have been made up to December 31st and 39 schooners have arrived thus far.

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全島農業調査

An association of industrial producers called "Industriale Intercontinentali della Valle Siciliana" has constituted and given its recommendations for funding of 100 which are being forwarded to Rome by the High Commissioner.

Production reports for 1954 are being the following: mines producing 41, in preparation 28, output over 100,000, holding and not reported 20; total workers (all mines): 4,481.

The first shipment of dynamite arrived about December 28.

The principal export was citrus fruit. The total shipped was 185,800 boxes of lemons. On a contract for 550,000 cases of lemons, 220,000 have been shipped and 100,000 were in the course of being loaded. Negotiations for raw cottons were started.

The principal difficulty in shipping lemons is the procurement of timber which is needed for crates. A volume of 2,930 tons is now awaiting shipment to Sicily. The export of citrus fruit has declined sharply and only 50% of the timber is now being shipped.

100 tons of apples were also shipped. Of other exports, 10 to 12 tons of citrus seed are being for shipment and negotiations are awaited with respect to fruit juices, and 100 tons of citrus seed.

2.2. AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING.

The marketing of grain showed a sharp increase, the total now amassed being: wheat 1,271,521 quintals; barley 1,004,000 quintals.

The marketing of olive oil appears to have been due to the collection by the "Industriale Intercontinentali della Valle Siciliana" and the quantity stored is being reserved for export. A volume of 100,000 is now being stored. With respect to further export of any material amount being collected.

The total amount of olive oil stored to date is 4,380 qts. The amount has been accumulated to date for export and the quantity stored is being reserved for export. A volume of 100,000 is now being stored. With respect to further export of any material amount being collected.

All products are sold on the market at very high prices. Wheat, for example, is selling at 8,000-10,000 lire per quintal.

With respect to future crops, and potatoes, although promised from the continuing, but not yet received. The exportation has been the obstacle and special arrangements for transport from Sicily have not been made.

The fertilizer problem was extremely serious, because of the quantity of land not cultivated to date. In 1954, 4,705 tons of superphosphate is on hand in the Sicily. The exportation has been the obstacle and special arrangements for transport from Sicily have not been made.

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The principal export was citrus fruit.

The principal export was citrus fruit. The totals shipped were 165,000 cases of lemons. On a contract for 50,000 cases of lemons, 200,000 have been shipped and 100,000 more in the course of being loaded. Negotiations for new contracts were started.

The principal export was citrus fruit. The totals shipped were 165,000 cases of lemons. On a contract for 50,000 cases of lemons, 200,000 have been shipped and 100,000 more in the course of being loaded. Negotiations for new contracts were started.

100 tons of apples were shipped. Of other exports, 10 to 12 tons of citric acid was shipped for shipment. Information is credited with respect to fruit juices, second lemons and national seed.

1. APPROPRIATE FOR THE UNITED STATES.

The estimate of price showed a large increase, the total now assessed being: wheat 1,241,000 quintals; barley 1,000 quintals.

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The estimate of price showed a large increase, the total now assessed being: wheat 1,241,000 quintals; barley 1,000 quintals.

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No serious outbreaks of disease among livestock have been reported.

F. LABOR.

No disorders or strikes occurred. A threatened strike of port workers as the result of friction between stevedores and the Compagnia Portuaria at Palermo was averted, but the situation remained delicate.

An increase of work in the labor offices was caused by the cost of living decree. A labor official dissented the labor staffs with the view of reducing personnel.

Increase of wages was recommended for auto bus employees.

The decree authorizing social benefits for civilian employees of the Allied Forces was received.

G. PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

Heavy rains fell during the latter part of the month, which, while unsatisfactory for construction, were badly needed for the hydro-electric reservoirs.

90 new projects were initiated during the month, and 38 were completed.

Military highways are extremely little traffic but their condition is becoming worse. The work of contractors is retarded by lack of petrol allotment from AFMA. The project amounting to 3,500,000 liras was approved for the Alcamo-Matatefendi road.

The condition of other roads is bad and would require a vast program. Such a program was prepared for and submitted to the High Commissioner eight months ago.

Steps required in part agreed by the Royal and U.S. Navies are now delayed by the procedure necessary for approval of contracts, as in a recent case which occurred at Messina, two months were required for the preliminaries before work could be begun.

Shortage of electrical energy existed early in the month because of lack of rain. Although the situation improved as the rains came toward the end of the month, rationing has been necessary.

With respect to materials for construction, more cement is available as a result of the bridge construction program which is being completed.

H. PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEMONSTRATIONS.

Conditions were very unsettled during almost the entire month. A series of demonstrations and disorders, many of which were primarily due to protests against the military call-up and other measures. While these were the immediate causes which seem to have aroused the mobs, the disturbances apparently expressed a general discontent over cost of living and opposition to the administration.

A total of 84 demonstrations were divided as follows:

62

A. Demonstrations without incidents

46 against the call-up

16 against grain increases

B. Demonstrations with incidents

6 against the call-up

13

increase of wages was recommended for autozone employees.

The decree authorizing social benefits for civilian employees of the Allied Forces was received.

4. PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEMONSTRATIONS

Heavy rains fell during the latter part of the month, which, while unsatisfactory for construction, was badly needed for the hydro-electric reservoirs.

90 new projects were initiated during the month, and 39 were completed.

Military highways are coming to little traffic but their condition is becoming worse. The work of construction is retarded by lack of petrol shipment from AFHQ. One project amounting to 2,500,000 liras was approved for the Alessio-Galatini road.

The collection of other taxes is bad and would require a vast program. Such a program has been proposed for and submitted to the High Commission eight months ago.

Work required in port area by the Royal and U.S. Navies is now delayed by the procedure necessary for approval of contracts, as in a result of which occurred at Genoa. The contract was required for the preliminaries before work could be begun.

A shortage of electrical energy existed early in the month because of lack of rain. Although the situation improved as the rains came toward the end of the month, rationing has been imposed.

With respect to materials for construction, more cement is available as a result of the bridge construction program which is being completed.

5. PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEMONSTRATIONS

Conditions were very unsettled during almost the entire month. A series of demonstrations and disturbances occurred which were primarily due to protests against the military rule and against the government. While these were the immediate causes which seem to have caused the month's disturbances apparently expressed a general discontent over cost of living and opposition to the administration.

A total of 44 demonstrations are divided as follows:

A. Demonstrations without incidents	32
16 against the call-up	
11 against the call-up	
B. Demonstrations with incidents	13
6 against the call-up	
5 against the call-up	
C. Demonstrations with conflict	2
1 against the call-up	
1 against the call-up	
D. Demonstrations with casualties and conflict	9
7 against the call-up	
2 against the call-up	

The general situation in the district was controlled by the Italian authorities responsible for maintaining law and order without resort to the military. In Genoa, Rome, Palermo, Naples, Montecarlo, Castel di Jodice, Vignola and Santeramo, the police and GNR were unable to establish order and it was necessary to call the troops. In all of these places, particularly Palermo and Sicily, parts of which were reported separately, serious damage was done to public property.

An increase of serious crimes is noted. Some armed bands are still in operation.

Thus, the general state of public order, the arms in the hands of the civil population, the economic conditions, the danger of food shortages, references to the military, the troops, the uncertainty of the forces of public order and the state's constant threat of various serious disorders.

The Italian forces include the GNR who were increased by the transfer of ap-proximately 10,000 men from the continent and the Montecarlo Battalion, ap-proximately 500. The total strength of the Carabinieri is now about 9,700, Corps of Cavalry 2,300, Carabinieri 2,900.

The lack of an report, communications and arms reduces effectiveness of the forces. The violence and terrorism, while their work has in some instances been effective, even to the lack of public confidence. This matter was reported on separately and will be the subject of further reports.

A political situation showed no definite connection with public security al-though it is reported that the exhibition and leftist propaganda influences certain areas of the government and the law and order.

The Italian administration has called forces have included counterfeiting and a number of activities, both in the planning and three participants dropped by enemy forces in the area.

The Italian government has not yet taken any action to deal with the situation, one of which resulted in a con-siderable increase in the number of cases, and the other in the conviction of four-teen persons for the same offenses. All of whom received sentences varying from one to five years, and all of whom were sentenced to prison. Many applications for par-don and grace have been received, but none of which were refused.

During the period of the Italian administration, during a four-week per-iod, the Italian government has been shown in the trial of cases affecting allied interests, and has been receiving 100,000, out of these cases are of a minor nature, all being reported as allied property.

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Prisoners are still concerned due to slowness of the courts, and are still in the great campaign and the progress is slow.

H. PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICINE

The number of cases of smallpox continued to decrease, the total being 1,250. The population is still elementary with the exception of hygiene and vaccination, the number of smallpox cases is still very low. The smallpox epidemic of 1910 was traced to Africa.

The outbreak of smallpox continued, 12 new cases raised the total to 41. No deaths have occurred. Of the total 19 had not been vaccinated, twenty had been vaccinated more than 4 years ago and the had been recently vaccinated, one 12 months previously and the other one month previously.

A decrease in malaria was 672 in the previous month to 142 this month was noted.

The rate of venereal diseases showed a decrease. The number of women taken into custody by the police was 286, and 141 were found to be infected.

The standard of sanitation for the refugees is below that of the local population. The death rate among refugees children is reported to be exceptionally high. This was due to the fact that the children were not vaccinated and may be expected to affect the sick rate.

THE REFUGEE

Some of the all refugees were seen: Palermo and Palermo, having been delayed on account of the illness, arrived on 11th Dec. Christmas holidays began on 23 December. The refugees are still in the same position of distress on 18 December.

There were no deaths in the refugees who still occupied by Allied and Italian forces and civil administration, but some refugees were killed.

There are very few cases of the refugees. There are more teachers available than can be employed.

There is a shortage of food, particularly in elementary schools, in 1917 as delivered to the refugees. The administration of committees to collect funds to buy books and school materials for the refugees and the provision of school lunches.

The work of the refugees is in progress in collecting clothing, food and money in the refugees who are returning.

Smallpox has not yet given because of material difficulties.

There is a shortage of food, particularly in elementary schools, in 1917 as delivered to the refugees. The administration of committees to collect funds to buy books and school materials for the refugees and the provision of school lunches.

THE REFUGEE AND THE REFUGEE

The index cost of living has continued a gradual increase and for the month of November reached the figure 14.43. The increase is due primarily to increase of food and other necessities of bread and meat.

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A decrease in deaths from 672 in the previous month to 112 this month was noted. The rate of venereal disease showed a decrease. The number of women taken into custody by the police was 398, and 154 were found to be infected.

The statistics of mortality among the refugees in bars and of the local population. The mortality rate among refugees children is reported to be exceptionally high. The mortality rate among the children is reported to be exceptionally high. The mortality rate among the children is reported to be exceptionally high.

THE SITUATION

There is still no provision for food. Pelagos and Isparta, having been delayed on the island, arrived on 23 December. Christmas celebrations began on 23 December. The celebration of the birth of Christ was held on 24 December.

The school children are still occupied by Allied and Italian schools and civil servants are, but some minor work is being done.

There are no reports about the provisions. There are more teachers available than in the past.

The situation in the islands, particularly in elementary schools, in 1945 is reported to be satisfactory. The situation of conditions to collect funds to buy books and school materials for the winter and the provision of school lunches.

The work of the government is in progress in collecting clothing, food and money for the refugees and the army.

Free lunches are not yet given because of financial difficulties.

There are no reports about the situation in the islands. The situation in the islands is satisfactory. The situation in the islands is satisfactory.

THE SITUATION AND PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE

The cost of living has continued a gradual increase and for the month of November the cost was 14.42. The increase is due primarily to an increase of the cost of food and fuel.

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Advances to companies totalled 370,459,211 liras. The revenue collected for November was 104,113,756 liras.

The state of property for November was as follows:

Polymers containing about 50% of non- α -hydroxy acid comonomers are also complete. The lack of equipment has delayed us from the mid-1960's. Reconstruction of comonomers to cartellaria and capillary comonomers has a 50% complete.

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ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1944

19 DEC 1944

PART I

In general the situation remained unchanged as, although the food position deteriorated, the month on the whole was quieter with few strikes and little agitation. There had been no improvement in the effectiveness of local administration. While the economic difficulties of the situation are apparent no one attempts to take a stand against the prevailing spirit of laissez-faire. Corruption among all classes is probably one of the main reasons for this. There are still a large number of Commissari Prefettizi in office throughout the Island.

To the list of laws or decrees which have been enforced only partially or not at all and which include the grain amassing decrees, laws regarding the circulation of vehicles, and a recent local decree aimed at producing a grain reserve on loan must be added the olive oil amassing decree. Indications are that the amassing of olive oil will be a complete failure. It is to be hoped that the decrees regarding the culling up of certain classes for armed forces will not be added to the above list but that there will be rigid enforcement.

The month generally was quiet. This may be due to some reaction after the serious incident at Palermo on 10 October. The increase in wages also had a good effect. It is noted that this effect may be more than temporary but the continuing rise in food coupled with diminishing stocks of grain and the advent of the cold weather factors which may lead to a deterioration in the situation.

Among the masses food and its price dominates the situation and the bread protests are the cause of grave concern to the administrations in the large towns. The reaction is known to the local administration during the month was that, while there was only sufficient grain in the Island to feed the population to the end of the year, no grain imports were to be expected. For all practical purposes the amassing of grain in the Island is falling off in the small amounts being amassed was to be expected but the prospects of the Island having no grain in its Granisiel Popolo during the first 6 months of the coming year and the increasing profits to be made in the Black Market had the natural result of nullifying any efforts to revive amassing. There was also considerable opposition to the movement of grain from grain-producing provinces to non-producing provinces normally supplied by them. A most complex situation developed. If no grain were imported the principal sufferers must be the workers, many of them in Allied employ, in the large towns and their families. Those who would not suffer would be those responsible for the failure of the Island to amass a sufficient quantity of grain at least to have fed it throughout the winter. For instance, the land owners, particularly the large ones, mainly Separatists, the various local administrators, higher administration who had allowed the per of the local officials to fall seriously in arrears, political wranglers and black market operators. All such, if grain is imported, would continue to have the advantage of buying bread both at the ration and at the black market prices.

There was no outstanding political activity during the month. Crime remained at about the same level. A small outbreak of smallpox occurred in Palermo, which continued to be satisfactory. A small outbreak of smallpox occurred in Palermo.

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the situation remained unchanged as, although the food position deteriorated, the month on the whole was quieter with few strikes and little agitation. There had been no improvement in the effectiveness of local administration. While the economic difficulties of the situation are apparent no one attempts to take a stand against the prevailing spirit of *laissez-faire*. Corruption among all classes is probably one of the main reasons for this. There are still a large number of *Commissari Prefettici* in office throughout the Island.

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There was no outstanding political activity during the month.

Crime remained at about the same level.

Health continued to be satisfactory. A small outbreak of smallpox occurred in Palermo. No cases occurred during the month but it is noted that the prompt restrictive action taken will prevent any spread of the epidemic.

The road transportation situation has improved somewhat due to a supply of tires for civilian trucks becoming available, but the road movement is limited by the amount of petrol available.

see Sample 31



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Due to the small allotment of coal and to decreases in rolling stock, particularly box cars, the railway transportation problem is becoming very serious. A large surplus of wire and lenses, two of the island's principal export commodities, cannot be moved owing to lack of transport facilities.

The schools opened on 16 November in 7 of the provinces. The opening in Trapani and Palermo provinces was postponed owing to the smallpox outbreak. Education is still hampered by a shortage of books and accommodation due to war damage and continued occupation by the Services.

PART IIA. POLITICAL REACTIONS AND PUBLIC OPINION.

There has been little or no change in public opinion. The prices of food and shortage of bread and pasta continue to dominate the situation and the diminishing stocks of grain on the island make the position tense. The masses, particularly in the urban districts, have little faith in the local administration chiefly owing to the feeling that nothing is done to control prices. The possibility of violence and disorder is always present mainly due to the critical bread situation and the shortage of clothing, shoes and fuel in the face of cold weather. No thought appears to be given to the prosecution of the war.

Political activities of the north have indicated little change. There was little or no reaction to the Ministerial crisis at Rome. The only noticeable repercussions were among the local officials of the government and then mainly because they were not sure of their own personal status.

The Italian Republican Party has opened a headquarters in Palermo and are endeavoring to enroll members. Their aim is to collect all the Republican groups together to form a section in Sicily with direct contacts in Rome where they are said to have good press connections. They have applied for permission to publish a newspaper.

After a somewhat quiet period following on the incident in Palermo on 19 October subsequent to which the Separatist headquarters in Palermo was closed and placed under guard, Separatist activities have become normal again. The headquarters was returned to them during the month.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

There has been little change and the local administration remains as inefficient as ever. Corruption is still little or no attempt is made to enforce the laws. There is complete absence of teamwork and cooperation among the various branches of the administration.

The Prefect of Palermo revoked the decree forbidding public assemblies which was promulgated as the result of the incident of 19 October at Palermo. No detailed

The schools opened on 16 November in 7 of the provinces. The opening in Treponti and Palermo provinces was postponed owing to the railway outbreak. Education is still hampered by a shortage of books and accommodation due to war damage and continued occupation by the Germans.

PART II

A. POLITICAL REACTIONS AND PUBLIC OPINION.

There has been little or no change in public opinion. The prices of food and shortage of bread and pasta continue to dominate the situation and the diminishing stocks of grain on the island make the position tense. The masses, particularly in the urban districts, have little faith in the local administration chiefly owing to the feeling that nothing is done to control prices. The possibility of violence and disorder is always present mainly due to the critical bread situation and the shortage of clothing, shoes and fuel in the face of cold weather. No thought appears to be given to the prosecution of the war.

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After a somewhat quiet period following on the incident in Palermo on 19 October subsequent to which the Socialist headquarters in Palermo was closed and placed under guard, Socialist activities have become normal again. The headquarters was returned to them during the month.

B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

There has been little change and the local administration remains as inefficient as ever. Corruption is widespread little or no attempt is made to enforce the laws. There is complete absence of teamwork and cooperation among the various branches of the administration.

The Prefect of Palermo revoked the decree forbidding public assemblies which was promulgated as the result of the incident of 19 October at Palermo. No detailed findings resulted from the enquiries held to investigate this incident have yet been published officially.

A commission has been constituted to carry out the distribution of uncultivated land to peasants in the Province of Palermo. After considerable disagreement between the Prefect and the National Committee of Liberation a new Sindaco has been installed in Palermo in place of the Commissario Prefettorio.

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The following chart shows the situation of local government in regard to Prefect-Sindaci, Deputazioni Provinciali and Giunte Comunali.

PROVINCE	COM- MUNES	PREFECT	Sindaci & Deputazioni Provinciali Amminis. Prefetti	Giunte Prov. Giunte Comunali
MESE	41	Dr. MOCCI 24/6/44	28 Sindaci 13 Com. Pref. irated.	15 complete
CALABRIA- SANTA	22	Dr. DOMINI 17/9/44	19 Sindaci 3 Com. Pref. 7 members Complete 2 supplenti 1 no meetings meeting	16 complete
C. PANIA	51	Avv. GRAM- MICHELE Oct/44	19 Sindaci 33 Com. Pref.	19 complete
UNA	20	Avv. DRAB- FERROVINO 23/11/42	12 Sindaci 8 Com. Pref. 6 members Complete 2 supplenti no meetings	11 complete
BRUNDA	57	Avv. GEMMA Oct/44	55 Sindaci 32 Com. Pref. 7 members Complete 2 supplenti 1 meeting	40 complete
BRUNDA	76	Avv. DI NUNZI- 16/4/44	65 Sindaci 11 Com. Pref. 10 members Complete 4 supplenti 4 meetings meetings	45 complete
BRUNDA	12	Dr. MIMMA 24/9/44	3 Sindaci 9 Com. 7 members Complete 3 meetings 2 meetings	3 complete
BRUNDA	19	Dr. COCCIA Aug/44	13 Sindaci 6 Com. Pref. To be nom- 1 member irated missing	10 complete
BRUNDA	20	Dr. CRIOLO Aug/44	15 Sindaci 5 Com. Pref. To be nom- Complete irated	13 complete

* AMG suspicious.

C. ECONOMICS, RESOURCES AND SUPPLY

The food situation continued to be most critical with market prices continually on the increase. Island stocks of grain were only sufficient to provide bread for the population on the existing ration scale to the end of December. The amount of grain amassed was negligible. The official policy that no grain would be imported into the island prior to the next harvest was modified to the extent of one grain ship being chartered for the island, to arrive mid-December, which, it was estimated, would provide bread for the population on a decreased ration until approximately 15 January. The calculations made by the local authorities as regards bread for the population were based on the full ration. The urban population has, however, not been in full view for some considerable time. In the case of the city of

AGRICULTURE 41	Dr. MOCCI 24/6/44	28 Sindaci 13 Com. Pref. invited.	Complete	15 complete
CALABRIA 22	Dr. DOMENICO 17/9/44	13 Sindaci 3 Com. Pref.	7 members Complete 2 supplenti no meetings meeting	16 complete
CAPUA 51	Avv. GRAMSCI MICHELE Oct/44	19 Sindaci 33 Com. Pref.	7 members Complete	19 complete
CASA 20	Avv. BRUNO PERUGINO 23/11/43	12 Sindaci 8 Com. Pref.	6 members Complete 2 supplenti no meetings	11 complete
CASERTA 27	Avv. VIGNA Oct/44	55 Sindaci 32 Com. Pref.	7 members Complete 2 supplenti 1 meeting	40 complete
CATANZARO 76	Avv. DI NUNZIO 16/4/44	65 Sindaci 11 Com. Pref.	10 members Complete 4 supplenti 4 meetings meetings	45 complete
CHieti 72	Dr. MAIATA 24/9/44	3 Sindaci 9 Com.	7 members Complete 3 meetings meetings	3 complete
CIRIACI 19	Dr. CARLUCCI Aug/44	10 Sindaci 6 Com. Pref.	To be non-1 member invited missing	10 complete
CORRADO 20	Dr. GARDIA Aug/44	15 Sindaci 5 Com. Pref.	To be non-Complete invited	13 complete

* ARE anonymous.

C. ECONOMICS, RESOURCES AND SUPPLY

The food situation continued to be most critical with market prices continually on the increase. Island stocks of grain were only sufficient to provide bread for the population on the existing ration scale to the end of December. The amount of grain crossed was negligible. The official policy that no grain would be imported into the island prior to the next harvest was modified to the extent of one grain ship being chartered for the island, to arrive mid-December, which, it was estimated, would provide bread for the population on a decreased ration until approximately 15 January. The calculations made by the local authorities as regards bread for the population are based on the full ration. The urban population has, however, not been receiving its full ration for some considerable time. In the case of the city of Palermo the pasta ration has only been issued up to the end of September. The situation is most difficult and unsatisfactory. If no grain is imported the only source from which the workers will be able to obtain bread will eventually be the black market where the price for one kilogram of bread is 120 liras as compared with the official price of 5 liras. On the other hand if grain is imported to maintain the

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present bread ration, additional bread will also be available in the black market to those who can afford to buy it, produced from non-rationed grain in the hands of speculators. Moreover, there is probably a considerable number of bread ration cards in the hands of those not entitled to them.

Due to the high price of fresh fish a decree was issued by the High Commissioner prohibiting the selling of fish. There was an immediate reaction in the price of fresh fish, resulting in a fall in prices. The immediate effect on the price of salted fish has been to double the price. It is anticipated that the High Commissioner will prohibit the export of salted fish. The present high prices of salted fish are no doubt due to speculators from the mainland who have been purchasing in Sicily over a long period with a view to a rise in price. It is difficult to estimate how much of the stock in Sicily belongs to mainland speculators and how much to Sicily. One of the difficulties lies in the lack of confidence in the present monetary system and the tendency to hold on to goods rather than to sell for paper money.

There is still a large surplus of wine. Some coasters are expected for movement of wine but the difficulty of getting the wine to the ports still remains due to lack of food transport.

The recording and supervision of schooner movements is proceeding smoothly. A more efficient observation of the regular and equitable allocation of schooners is now possible. Many applications for movement of wine by schooner have been refused owing to the existing ban on the use of this form of transport. In some cases these requests have been submitted by individuals authorized by Service Houses and AG officers or the mainland to come to Sicily to buy wine. Evidently these are not familiar with the AGH prohibition.

Great difficulties have arisen in turning over imported clothing to the Italian Government because of improperly marked cases. In a great many instances the package marking does not conform to the contents in description, quality or quantity. This leads to technical difficulties requiring the opening of boxes and sales with an examination and measurement of the contents. It has the further danger of being conceivably interpreted as an indication of bad faith, and is embarrassing to Allied officers who are handling the turnover on the spot.

Allied Commission is now responsible for all coal imports in Sicily and will be responsible for British and American Military and Naval requirements, using the State Railways as agents. Coal is urgently needed by British and American Forces and by the industry of war transport as well as certain essential users, such as the State railways. The majority of foreign coal (12,000 tons) is used by the electric power plants and the State railways.

The volume of citrus fruits which can be dispatched will be limited by the quantity of packing cases available. Receipts of timber for manufacture of cases are in arrears. The current situation as to the number of ready cases available is not satisfactory, due partly to the lack of electric current in some sawmills and because the sawmills themselves have been making unnecessary difficulties as to the quality of the timber. It is to be regretted that the railway car situation in Sicily and Calabria is so serious as to hamper the timber haulage to the ports. The haulage bills submitted by I.N.R. are so high as to cause trouble with the Calabrian merchants.

Three ships of citrus fruits have been loaded, one each at Catania, Siracusa and Messina. However difficulties in their exportation in finding adequate warehousing,

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prohibiting the selling of fish. There was an immediate reaction in the price of fresh fish, resulting in a fall in prices. The immediate effect on the price of salted fish has been to double the price. It is anticipated that the High Commissioner will prohibit the export of salted fish. The present high prices of salted fish are no doubt due to speculators from the mainland who have been purchasing in Sicily over a long period with a view to a rise in price. It is difficult to estimate how much of the stock is Sicily belongs to mainland speculators and how much to Sicily. Some of the difficulty lies in the lack of confidence in the present monetary system and the tendency to hold on to goods rather than to sell for paper money.

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Large ships of citrus fruits have been loaded, one each at Catania, Siracusa and Messina. However difficulty in being experienced in finding adequate warehousing, although this is being slowly alleviated.

2. AGRICULTURE, FOREST AND FISHERIES.

The average daily quantity of grain assessed during the month was 1020 quintals. Total wheat assessed to date is 1,242,376 quintals, and total barley is 105,936 quintals. Amount of wheat reported to be on hand in Ponderino agrario warehouses on 27 November was 317,875 qts. and barley 40,354 qts.

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Total amount of olive oil assessed is 1000 quintals with every indication that the oil pressing will prove a complete failure.

As regards fertilizers, 65,000 quintals of superphosphate had been distributed to the provinces by 30 November. A total of 50,000 quintals of ammonium nitrate has also been distributed.

Only 1000 tons of seed potatoes may be expected according to latest information. This small quantity has been allotted to the eastern part of the island.

The livestock situation continues normal, with no outbreaks of disease.

B. LABOR

Labor relations during the month have shown a marked improvement over October and no serious strikes have occurred. This is due mainly to the cost of living increase and increases in family allowances granted to all employees by the Government. The disparity between wages and cost of living has been temporarily reduced, but with a cost of essential commodities rising daily and the short supply of food and consumer goods, it is apparent that the inequality between the two factors will soon be even more evident than in the past.

These wage increases have been favorably received by employees and generally making employers are complying with the terms of the Royal decree. However it has been reported that in a few instances employees have been discharged by employers who refuse to pay the increases and one case of violence has occurred in Catania as a result of this action. The matter is being investigated and a report will be rendered.

A strike was threatened by the employees of the National Bank of Italy for payment of a family subsistence allowance similar to that which is alleged to be paid in Rome. The local director is at present in Rome for discussion of the matter.

The revised Social Security Scale for employees of the Armed Forces is in effect, effective 1 October 1944.

AFM has authorized contract increases for employees of the Armed Forces, effective 10 November 1944, in order to place these employees in a preferred position, following the announcement of the Italian Government concerning the "Carovita" indemnity and increases in family allowances.

It was deemed necessary to review the Stavadores' Contract as applicable to Sicily. Revised contracts have been prepared in conjunction with MAF showing an upward revision of the bonus system. These have been forwarded to AFM (It.) B. for consideration.

Social Insurance continues to be a topic for discussion among employees of the AFM and the U.S.M., with a general feeling among the workers that nothing is being done for their welfare.

REPAIRS TO THE PORTS

Work of reconstruction continues. The roads declared Military Highways remain same as set up in June. Works ordered are proceeding slowly because of the lack of coal and petrol to transport road making materials. Therefore the condition of roads will become steadily worse. Bridge repairs and reconstruction are proceeding slowly to a close.

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Also are authorized certain increases for employees of the Armed Forces, effective 1 November 1944, in order to place these employees in a preferred position, following the announcement of the Italian Government concerning the "Garavita" indemnity and increases in family allowances.

It has become necessary to review the Stavedores' Contract as applicable to Sicily. Revised contracts have been prepared in conjunction with MIT showing an upward adjustment of the terms of work. These have been forwarded to APLR (It.) B. for consideration.

Social Insurance continues to be a topic for discussion among employees of the C.M. and the U.S.M., with a general feeling among the workers that nothing is being done for their welfare.

C. PUBLIC WORKS AND RECONSTRUCTION

Work of reconstruction continues. The roads declared Military Highways remain the same as set up in June. Trucks ordered are proceeding slowly because of the lack of control to transport road making materials. Therefore the condition of roads will become steadily worse. Bridge repairs and reconstruction are proceeding slowly to a close.

Water supply increased in quantity. Coal is not available for gas production. The situation is expected to operate in a few days, Catania, and Palermo.

Current is now available for industries and a small proportion for private uses. The responsibility for the distribution has been handed over to the Supplies Official of the Italian Government.

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It is understood that a first allotment of 400 million lire has been made to cover war damage in Sicily of which 100 million is to be used for repairing private houses. A commission of which the President of the Consiglio is to be President, will arrange the allocation of these funds on a provincial basis.

C. PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE COURTS.

The month of November has shown no noticeable change, but conditions in general have appeared on the surface somewhat more calm than the previous month. Serious crime remains at about the same level. Some very good work has been done by the police against the bands operating in the country. The activities of the principal parties, and a number of other organizations, have continued but the masses are not as yet intimidated or active in politics. The uncertainty as to the food situation is the cause of concern as to what may develop. No particular reaction to the government crisis has been observed. The general situation is now so unsettled that a forecast cannot be made.

Demonstrations during the month have been almost negligible. The principal incident was a bomb explosion in the theater in Palermo during the showing of "The Great Dictator", which appears to have been a protest against the showing of the picture. It is not clear whether it represents sentiments of sympathy for individuals who are not yet being deterred. The bomb, believed to have been ignited by a fuse, was placed in a toilet. The explosion injured two people.

The serious problems are the bands of delinquents. They are vicious and difficult to deal. The people become terrorized and notices report the crimes now give information to the police. If not actively resisted these bands establish themselves. An agreement particularly effective against this possibility is the interprovincial offices established under the law and now recognized by the Italian Government. The interprovincial organization of Sicily arrested the members of two gangs and killed three members of another.

In the matter of enforced collection the only indication of organized police activity was a recommendation made to the High Commissioner on request, for the setting up of a special provincial police organization to deal with food in each province.

Provision has been requested by the High Commissioner to lift the black-out restrictions in the interest of public safety. He was informed that APHQ would shortly announce an overall plan revising the restrictions, and he must await that announcement.

Analysis has been prepared for the guidance of Police Agencies in checking upon the circulation of motor vehicles. This is being presented to the High Commissioner with a strong recommendation that every possible effort must be made to effect a closer control over the use of motor vehicles of all classes in the interests of economy of fuel and other essential materials. As has been previously pointed out one of the difficulties of enforcement has been the late arrival of necessary forms, permits etc. At least three weeks are required for their distribution in the island.

Police and P.S.D. have been informed of reports that certain individuals have made arrangements to attempt an expedition to America. There are no further reports of illegal travel to North Africa, however the thousands of refugees from North Africa now in Sicily present a constant problem in this respect. The shortage of patrol vessels makes control difficult. The fifty refugees improperly entering Sicily, and vessels making control difficult. The fifty refugees improperly entering Sicily, and vessels making control difficult.

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In the matter of enforced coin collection the only indication of organized police efforts was a recommendation made to the High Commissioner on request, for the setting up of a special provincial police organization to deal with food in each province.

Repression has been requested by the High Commissioner to lift the black-out restrictions in the movement of public safety. He was informed that APHs would shortly announce an overall plan revising the restrictions, and he must await that announcement.

A plan has been prepared for the evidence of Police Agencies in checking upon the circulation of motor vehicles. This is being presented to the High Commissioner with a strong recommendation that every possible effort must be made to effect a closer control over the use of motor vehicles of all classes in the interests of economy of fuel and other essential materials. As has been previously pointed out one of the difficulties of enforcement has been the late arrival of necessary forms, permits etc. At least three weeks are required for their distribution in the island.

Police and P.S.I. have been informed of reports that certain individuals have made attempts at clandestine expatriation to America. There are no further reports of illegal travel to North Africa, however the thousands of refugees from North Africa now in Sicily present a constant problem in this respect. The shortage of raucel vessels makes control difficult. The fifty refugees improperly entering Sicily, in reported last month, have been detained at Agrigento and have been interrogated by P.S.I. and arrangements are being made to return them to North Africa.

Provincial Commission for Defascistization are not yet functioning because the County High Commissioner for the liberation of freedom in Rome has not yet appointed the representative in the Commission of the nine Sicilian provinces.

The number of forged A.M. notes recovered from circulation has increased during

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the month, but of the 129 recovered 34 are of the series which was reproduced in a plant at Catania recently released. 37 notes are believed to be produced by a plant in the Palermo area. It is hoped that an arrest made recently will disclose the location of this plant.

Military Security is generally satisfactory. Pilferage of army stores and wire cutting still continue. Fourteen persons were arrested at Siracusa for stealing 126 parachutes from cases of Mottis illuminating Bombs. This rendered the bombs useless and could easily have led to serious consequences had front line troops been dependent upon such a case of defective ammunition. For this reason charges of sabotage were preferred in all cases and authority has been given for their trial in Allied Military Court.

Lack of confidence in their Government is evident among Italian officials. That it has some justification is manifested by the delays and lack of action. This is especially true among public safety agencies. They can and will now work if there is a closer support by the central government. The system is too highly centralized to be efficient. Unless closer support is given a collapse in morale may be expected and this, combined with the lack of means, personnel and organizational, will render the police system inefficient and ineffective.

Prisons are still seriously overcrowded. 300 persons are now serving sentences imposed by AMG courts as compared with 391 on 31 October 1944.

Two cases for trial by Allied Military Court are pending: one is for espionage involving an accused; the other is for sabotage of Allied ammunition involving 14 persons. The trial of these two cases is set for 9 December 1944.

Italian Military Courts continue to work well in Palermo and Catania. To the end of 25 November 44, cases had been tried for offenses affecting Allied interests, as compared with 14 for October.

In the Italian Civil Courts the shortage of personnel remains as reported last month. The smooth working of the judicial administration is rather hampered by the lack of translators and removals of judicial officials, although this is perhaps unavoidable. There is considerable unrest and dissatisfaction among the high officials due to the temporary and rumors of further transfers of AMG appointees. This situation which appears to indicate a downgrading to their pre-AMG grade. So far as known there have been no transfers or removals of officials without AC consent. The courts appear to be working fairly well but slowly.

HEALTH AND MEDICINE

During the month there was a rapid drop in the number of cases of infectious diseases notified. In October there were 2368, for November only 1406.

In November a small outbreak of smallpox occurred in Palermo. The total number was 1 for the month was 28. Prompt restrictive action was taken including closing schools, enforced vaccination for the entire population, segregation of contacts etc.

Venereal disease shows an increase over the preceding month.

The "Economic Kitchen" started operations during the month with 14 open in the morning feeding 3500 people per day. In Palermo some 12000 homeless are being fed daily and it is expected that this will soon rise to 20000. Of the 20000, 10000 will be free and the remainder sold at a nominal cost. The soup served is rich and thick, providing a great deal of sustenance.

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Prisons are still seriously overcrowded. 338 persons are now serving sentences imposed by AMG courts as compared with 391 on 31 October 1944.

Two cases for trial by Allied Military Courts are pending: one is for espionage involving an accused; the other is for sabotage of Allied ammunition involving 14 persons. A trial of 14 persons is set for 9 December 1944.

Italian Military Courts continue to work well in Palermo and Catania. To the surprise of the AMG, 32 cases have been tried for offenses affecting Allied interests, as compared with 11 in October.

If the Italian Civil Courts the shortage of personnel remains as reported last month. The secretaries of the judicial administration is rather hampered by the continued transfers and removals of judicial officials, although this is perhaps understandable. There has been a considerable increase and decrease in the number of judges due to the transfers and removals of further transfers of AMG appointees. The situation which appears to indicate a downgrading to their pre-war grade. So far as the AMG is concerned, no transfers or removals of officials without AMG consent is to be required. The courts appear to be working fairly well but slowly.

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

During the month there was a rapid drop in the number of cases of infectious diseases notified. In October there were 2368, for November only 1408.

In November, small outbreaks of smallpox occurred in Palermo. The total number notified for the month was 29. Prompt restrictive action was taken including closing schools, enforced vaccination for the entire population, segregation of contacts etc.

General disease shows an increase over the preceding month.

The Miconomic Kitchens started operations during the month with 14 open in the feeding 3500 children per day. In Palermo some 12000 hot meals are being fed daily and it is expected that this will soon rise to 20000. Of the 20000, 10000 will be free and the remainder sold at a nominal cost. The soup served is rich and thick, providing a great deal of substance.

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1. EDUCATION

On 16 November in 7 provinces school children took to their books and went to the classrooms. The opening in Tripoli and Palermo provinces was postponed until 1 December and later to an indefinite date due to the measles epidemic. Thousands of school children have been vaccinated and no one will be allowed to enter the classroom without certificates of vaccination.

The textbook situation remains critical. About 80% of the primary requirement has been printed but printing is now being held up for the lack of binding rope from Naples.

The occupation of school buildings by military and the destruction caused by the air still hampers education generally all over the island but especially in the city of Catania, where 3 schools are occupied by Allied and 7 by Italian Military and 3 by refugees for a total of 15 school buildings which is a crippling blow to any city educational system. Every effort is being made to improve the situation.

Dr. Salamo took over his duties as the new R. Provveditore agli Studi of Catania.

2. MILITARY AND MARITIME CONTROL

Considering the index figure for January of this year as 100 the trend of price levels is as follows:

MONTH	AVERAGE INDEX FIGURE
July	115.50
August	108.13
September	106.34
October	115.73

During the month of November the cost of essential commodities continued to increase.

Curseway continued to flow out of the Bank of Italy, Palermo. Not only was the Bank unable to repay part of the 180,000,000,000 lire due on 15 November but an additional 150,000,000,000 was brought to the Island from Italy by Italian cruiser. The Bank has plans to have done and to be doing more to meet the constant drain on its cash resources, restoring responsibility in the matter to Rome.

For the month of November the Bank of Sicily forwarded about 20,000 receipts to the Treasury in the U.S. and U.K. This is a great improvement over any previous month and compares with 10,000 in October. The Bank of Sicily will make every effort to maintain and improve this rate.

The sale of Treasury Bonds during the month has been highly satisfactory.

Blocked accounts are not being released at a partial clearing rate, only about 10 months being released now, whereas under AMG/ACC/AC the figure was from 50 to 60.

Postal Savings deposits continue to exceed withdrawals, and the sale of Postal Treasury Bonds shows an improvement.

The American Consul is now attending to relief payments to American nationals, and this office continues to care for British nationals. It is expected, however,

The textbook situation remains critical, about 80% of the minimum requirement has been printed but printing is now being held up for the lack of binding rope from Naples.

The occupation of school buildings by military and the destruction caused by the war still hamper education generally all over the island but especially in the city of Catania. Where 3 schools are occupied by Allied and 7 by Italian Military and 3 by Germans for a total of 15 school buildings which is a crippling blow to any city educational system. Every effort is being made to improve the situation.

Mr. Salinas took over his duties as the new U. Provveditore agli Studi of Catania.

FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONTROL

Considering the index figure for January of this year as 100 the trend of price levels is as follows:

MONTH	AMERICAN INDEX FIGURE
July	115.50
August	108.13
September	106.34
October	117.73

During the month of November the cost of essential commodities continued to increase.

Emergency continues to flow out of the Bank of Italy, Palermo. Not only was the bank unable to supply an amount of 100,000,000 Lira but on 13 November the Italian National Lira, 200,000,000 was brought to the island from Naples by Italian cruiser. The bank here seems to have done and to be doing little to show the constant drain on its cash resources, transferring responsibility in U. S. dollar to Rome.

For the month of November the Bank of Sicily forwarded about 20,000 receipts to the Treasury in the U. S. and U.K. This is a great improvement over any previous month, and compares with 10,000 in October. The Bank of Sicily will make every effort to maintain and improve this rate.

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Postal Savings deposits continue to exceed withdrawals, and the sale of Postal Savings Bonds shows an improvement.

The American Embassy is now attempting to relief payments to American Nationals. The this office continues to care for British Nationals. It is expected, however, that the Bank of Sicily will effect these payments in the near future, and negotiations with the American are now in progress with the British Consul at Naples.

There has been little change in Property Control affairs. During the month other efforts have been made towards clarifying the position as regards requisitioned property, particularly in Palermo and Syracuse. It has been found that while there is for such property as below those paid prior to the occupation. Discrepancies are in progress with a view to increased rentals.

Properties in custody and under control stand as follows:

Improvement is being effected in the accommodation of the remaining 1002 (this number does not include 16,044 refugees from North Africa awaiting repatriation).

A small stock of clothing for distribution in the island has arrived and arrangements have been made for the Church to distribute these articles to the most needy of the refugees. A fund of L. 722,000 raised by the Italian Red Cross is being largely spent on the purchase of shoes for the refugees. About 1400 blankets have been acquired also for the use of refugees while they are on the island. Half of these are reusable.

At the end of the International Commission all refugees from the Provinces of Calabria and Basilicata have been rehabilitated and a project is now under way to repatriate them to their original provinces or other provinces.

A. BAZILICATA

During the winter season to be maintained in reasonably good condition. Trucks operated by I.R.I. during the first half of the month total 1573, a daily average of 153. In winter half of the trucks are expected to be about the same. A supply of some 100 trucks and 300 motor buses has been allotted for purchases by I.R.I. for trucks in Basilicata. This supply is most welcome.

Requests have been approved for the transfer of twelve mainland licensed trucks to leave Basilicata for the provinces. They were mainly all large trucks, privately owned, carrying near-full loads to home provinces.

Progress regarding implementation of the EMIC scheme is slow. The registration scheme in 2 of the 9 provinces gives the following results: of the 2022 trucks registered under the old Isotottero regulations, 1000 have been registered under the EMIC decree.

Dr. Carlo D'Amico

N. CARO
Basilicata
Regional Commissioner

Confidential

1- File Basilicata

1- CA Basilicata

1- Economic Basilicata

1- Basilicata to Basilicata

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ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

ID/ALC/gds

18 NOV Recd

MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1944

PART I

The tide of unrest caused during the early part of the month by shortage of food, the rising prices of essential commodities, unfulfilled expectations as to increases in pay and the general inability of the local administration to control the situation culminated in a very serious incident at Palermo on 19 October, when troops opened fire on and used grenades against a crowd gathered in a confined area outside the Prefettura and the Office of the High Commissioner. Serious casualties occurred.

Many misrepresentations of the incident appeared both in the press and elsewhere where the impression was sometimes given that a serious battle between strikers and the Armed Forces had occurred or that an attempt had been made by the Separatists to initiate violent action. The matter is still under investigation by the Italian authorities. It seems clear that the causes of the trouble were in the main economic and that though the situation at the time was tense it was mishandled by those immediately concerned and that had the forces of law and order, even though troops were involved, been properly employed, bloodshed could have been avoided or at least only a few casualties caused.

Though excitement subsequently ran high in the city of Palermo for some days and strong patrolling of the streets was necessary, the situation by the end of the month was outwardly calm and normal.

Throughout the rest of the Island the situation was not abnormal though there was continuous agitation against the low rate of wages and the high cost of living.

Food and its price continue to dominate everything while the approach of winter makes the lack of clothing material and of shoes most serious. Workers would prefer a stabilization of prices at a reasonable level rather than a rise in wages which may tend to drive prices still higher. Efforts are being made by the local administration to bring prices down and to exercise some rigid form of control over them but the shortage of commodities, the operations of those interested in keeping Black Market prices high, non-observance of laws and regulations and the inefficiency of the lower administration make the problem most difficult.

Grain availability, which has a most disturbing influence on the whole situation, is most serious as present stocks will, in general, be exhausted by the end of the year and no plan as yet has been made to meet this situation. Black Market prices of bread and pasta are rising steadily.

The health of the population remains satisfactory. While the lot of the Sicilians, judged in certain lights, be very hard, no frequently fails to take into account that life in Sicily has great advantages over that in the battle zone and in the devastated areas on the mainland.

M. GARR

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M. GARR

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Deputy

Regional Commissioner

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PART II

A. Political Reactions and Public Opinion.

The political situation during the month showed little change, the masses still remaining somewhat aloof. With respect to the recognized parties the Communists have been most active through the press and political meetings. The unforgotten incident at Palermo on 19 October, when 20 persons were killed and 156 injured by fire and grenades discharged by troops called out to maintain public order caused a most tense situation and feelings ran high particularly against the troops who wore Sardinian uniforms. The basic cause of the disturbance appears to have been mainly economic though in some quarters attempts were made to lay the blame on the Separatists.

The possibility of violence and disorder remains. Apart from a natural tendency to lawlessness the critical food situation, with only sufficient grain available on the island to feed the population until the end of the year, and the high cost of living coupled with the serious shortage of clothing and footwear in the face of winter create a delicate situation. The population, however, gives little thought to the war and its prosecution. Feelings are insular and frequently fail to take into account how much greater are the sufferings of their fellow countrymen in the battle zone and devastated areas.

During the month the Separatists held a Congress at Taormina. The meeting was orderly but it appears that the movement is gaining strength. The Congress was attended by some 150 individuals mainly from Catania, Messina and Palermo. Although the delegates were of different political views there was complete unanimity over the fundamental aims of the movement -- Sicily's independence from Italy and a republican form of government under the presidency of Giuseppe Garibaldi. Fantastic claims were made particularly as regards representation of Sicily at the peace conference, and the colonial aspirations of the hoped-for Republic. It was stated that the movement was now leaving the preparatory and entering the executive stage. A considerable number of rumors followed this Congress that the Separatists were making actual preparations for a revolt but it appears that the present activities of the party will continue to be confined to the enrolment of supporters, the collection of money and the organization of action squads.

B. Local Government.

During October two other AMG prefects were replaced by career prefects in accordance with the High Commissioner's wishes. Those replaced are Dott. Stancanelli of Messina (by Avv. Stella) and Dott. Fazio of Catania (by Avv. Grammichele). The following chart shows the situation of local government in regard to prefects, sindaco, deputazioni provinciali and giunte comunali.

PROVINCE	Comm. Names	Sindaci & Commissari Prefettizi	Deputazioni Provinciali	Giunte Prov. Amministrative
AG. MESSINA	41 Dr. MONTI 24-8-44	32 Sindaci 9 Com. Pref.	7 members	Complete 28 complete
CATANZARELLE	22 Dr. DONADU 17-9-44	8 Sindaci 4 Com. Pref.	7 members 2 supplenti 2 meetings	Complete 11 complete
CATANIA	51 Avv. GRAMMICHELE	19 Sindaci	7 members	Complete 19 complete

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During the month the Separatists held a Congress at Taormina. The meeting was orderly but it appears that the movement is gaining strength. The Congress was attended by some 250 individuals mainly from Catania, Messina and Palermo. Although the delegates were of different political views there was complete unanimity over the fundamental aims of the movement -- Sicily's independence from Italy and a republican form of government under the presidency of Vincenzo Apicelli. Fantastic claims were made particularly as regards representation of Sicily at the peace conferences, and the colonial aspirations of the hoped-for Republic. It was stated that the movement was now leaving the preparatory and entering the executive stage. A considerable number of members followed this Congress that the Separatists were now making actual preparations for a revolt but it appears that the present activities of the movement could continue to be confined to the enrolment of supporters, the collection of money and the organization of action squads.

B. Local Government.

During October two other A/C prefects were replaced by career prefects in accordance with the High Commissioner's wishes. Those replaced are Dott. Stancarelli of Messina (by Avv. Stella) and Dott. Fazio of Catania (by Avv. Grammichele). The following chart shows the situation of local government in regard to prefects, sindaco, deputazioni provinciali and giunte comunali.

PROVINCIA	Com- munes	PREFECT	Sindaci 2 Commissari Provinciali Prefettizi	Deputazioni Provinciali Administrative	Giunte Prov. Comunali
MESSINA	41	Dr. SCOCCHI 24-8-44	32 Sindaci 9 Com.Pref.	7 members Complete	28 complete
CATANZARELLO	22	Dr. DOMADU 15-9-44	8 Sindaci 4 Com.Pref.	7 members 2 supplenti 2 meetings	11 complete
CATANIA	51	Avv. GRAMMICHELE 25-10-44	19 Sindaci 33 Com.Pref.	7 members Complete	19 complete
MARSA	20	Avv. BRUNO BENTACCHIO 23-11-43	13 Sindaci 7 Com.Pref.	7 members 2 supplenti 2 meetings	Complete
					13 complete

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cont'd PROVINCE	Com- munes	PREFECT	Sindaci & Commissari Prefettizi	Deputazioni Provinciali	Giunte Prov. Administra- tive	Giunte Comunali
RAGUSA	12	Dott. MATTEO 24-9-44	6 Sindaci 6 Com.Pref.	7 members	complete	3 complete
PAERMO	76	Avv. D'AMICHI* 16-4-44	64 Sindaci 12 Com.Pref.	7 members 1 supplente 1 supplente to be nom- inated.	complete	64 complete
SIRACUSA	19	Dr. COZZO Aug. 44	13 Sindaci 6 Com.Pref.		1 member missing	13 complete
MARANI	20	Dr. GULOTTA	15 Sindaci 5 Com.Pref.	Not yet formed.	complete	11 complete

* Appointed by AMG

9. Economics, Resources and Supply.

The food situation is very critical especially as regards grain supplies for producing bread for the population. Due to the inefficiency of the amassing organization and to a mixture of apathy, politics and opposition, the grain and barley amassed will, if the existing ration scale is to be maintained, be exhausted by the end of the year.

It appears that much of the grain which might have been amassed some few months ago has now either been broken into small units and dissipated over the Island or has been consumed or smuggled out of the Island and that the use of such forces as are available to unearth hidden grain will make little difference to the situation. Continuous pressure was exerted during the month on the civil authorities with a view to the further assessment of such grain as might be available.

In accordance with the policy laid down, the local Administration was informed that no grain would be imported into Sicily and that the Island must feed itself on local resources until the next harvest. Discussions with a view to some modification of this policy are taking place.

The prices of the normal necessities of life in the markets continue to remain very high. The high price of fresh meat and fish makes it almost impossible for the more lowly paid elements of the population to purchase such items.

The matter of fixing maximum prices for essential commodities has been under constant discussion with the civil authorities. A series of committees of experts to probe this vexed question has been at work, but few, if any, practical results have been obtained so far.

Restrictions have been placed on the preservation of fish, of which large stocks are believed to be held with a view to bringing more fresh fish on to the open market.

There are very large quantities of wine available for export. Owing to the lack of shipping and to the prevailing prohibition of shipment by schooner, it seems probable that only small quantities of the large stock available will be moved. This gives rise to serious complications because, not only does the wine industry form a large part of the industry of the Island, but storage space is required for this season's vintage.

There is also a very large exportable surplus of citrus fruits, even though an

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SRACUSA	19	Dr. COCUMZA Aug. 44	13 Sindaco 6 Com.Pref.	1 member missing	13 complete
TEARANI	20	Dr. GULOTTA	15 Sindaco 5 Com.Pref.	complete	11 complete

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The food situation is very critical especially as regards grain supplies for producing bread for the population. Due to the inefficiency of the amassing organization and to a mixture of apathy, politics and opposition, the grain and barley amassed will, if the existing ration scale is to be maintained, be exhausted by the end of the year.

It appears that much of the grain which might have been amassed some few months ago has now either been broken into small units and dissipated over the Island or has been consumed or smuggled out of the Island and that the use of such forces as are available to unearth hidden grain will make little difference to the situation.

Continuous pressure was exerted during the month on the civil authorities with a view to the further amassing of such grain as might be available. In accordance with the policy laid down, the local Administration was informed that no grain would be imported into Sicily and that the Island must feed itself on local resources until the next harvest. Discussions with a view to some modification of this policy are taking place.

The prices of the normal necessities of life in the markets continue to remain very high. The high price of fresh meat and fish makes it almost impossible for the more lowly paid elements of the population to purchase such items.

The matter of fixing maximum prices for essential commodities has been under constant discussion with the civil authorities. A series of committees of experts to probe this vexed question has been at work, but few, if any, practical results have been obtained so far.

Restrictions have been placed on the preservation of fish, of which large stocks are believed to be held with a view to bringing more fresh fish on to the open market.

There are very large quantities of wine available for export. Owing to the lack of shipping and to the prevailing prohibition of shipment by schooner, it seems probable that only small quantities of the large stock available will be moved. This gives rise to serious complications because, not only does the wine industry form a large part of the industry of the Island, but storage space is required for this season's vintage.

There is also a very large exportable surplus of citrus fruits, even though an extensive export program to the U.K. is in hand.

Stocks of clothing material which had been held in Allied Commission warehouses were released during the month to the local Italian authorities for distribution among the civilian population on a ration scheme to be determined.

The scheme under which the import and distribution of coal is now handled by the state railways under the supervision of the Allied Commission worked satisfactorily during the month. The total amount imported was 36,786 tons.

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SILVER

There is a serious shortage of soap which normally is only obtainable on the black market at very high prices. The local factories have not yet been able to commence production due to lack of sulphur oil. Due to lack of tanning material the tanning industry remains at a standstill and no leather is being produced locally for boots and shoes which are a very serious and growing need, especially in view of the coming winter.

Resumption of activity in the sulphur mines continues slowly as materials are received. Other smaller mining industries are attempting to resume work but are finding it difficult on account of lack of materials which under I/C arrangements cover import only for the sulphur and asphalt mines. Potash deposits, rock salt mines, bituminous shale, lignite mines and various mineral research projects are the most pressing of those demanding assistance. Assuming that exploratives will be available during the coming months, the two greatest needs in the mining industry in the near future will be shoes for workers and stock cables for mine shafts.

D. Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

The average quantity of grain amassed daily during the month amounted to approximately 2,000 quintals; the total wheat assessment by the end of the month was 1,214,922 quintals. The amount held in the Government warehouses on 26 October was 486,177 quintals which represented sufficient grain to feed the estimated number of 3,117,145 non-producers on the basis of the existing 300 gram ration until 1 January 1945. It is estimated that at least 1 million quintals of grain have been unamassed but the problem of collecting this quantity, now that the bulk of it has left the province and passed into the hands of speculators, is insuperable. Most of it will still be available to feed those who can afford to pay for it, but it will not be obtainable to maintain the standard ration for the working classes at the fixed price of L. 5 per kilogram.

The local administration were constantly pressed during the month to use every possible means to enforce further grain assessment. Activity in this respect, however, was seriously hampered by the disturbance at Palermo on 19 October and by the unsettled conditions which preceded it which necessitated concentration of all available forces on maintaining public order as opposed to enforcement of the amassing laws. It would appear that throughout the amassing season no effort was ever made to control the big producers.

As far as circumstances permitted, an investigation was made into the working of UPSEA. This investigation confirmed the complete inefficiency of this organization and that a thorough reorganization is necessary if it is to function properly.

The olive oil season has commenced and pressing has started but no details as to amassing results have yet been received. Producers all complain that the price of L. 6,500 per quintal is too low as compared with the prices which have to be paid for all other commodities. A second grievance is that the retention allowance of 10 kilograms is too small and that this will seriously affect the prospect of a successful marketing. The High Commissioner for Sicily was consulted in the matter and he is endeavouring to obtain permission for the price to be increased to L. 7,500 or L. 8,000 per quintal; he considers, however, that the retention allowance is fair and equitable.

As regards fertilizers, two of the Montecatini factories are now in full operation. Phosphate rock imports in September and October amounted to 4,537 tons and a further 500 tons not yet unloaded. Production of super-phosphate by the end of the month amounted to 4,400 tons. With further expected shipments of rock phosphate it

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Allotments of fertilizer have been made to all provinces proportionate to the amount of grain assessed. The producer will apply to the UPSEA official in his commune for his allotment which will be made, if necessary, through the communal committee in proportion to the quantity of grain assessed by the producer. It is hoped by this procedure to encourage the further assessing of grain.

The live stock situation remains normal and no serious outbreaks of disease have been reported.

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B. Labor.

Labor relations during the month have been much more difficult than in the past. Press releases with reference to a proposed indemnity for the high cost of living and to increases in family allowances have caused prices of essential foodstuffs to rise. This has resulted in discontent among workers and only with the greatest difficulty was serious labor unrest avoided. State employees have been granted a L. 1000 advance in anticipation while personnel and public institutions were authorized to pay a similar amount if they so desired. No such concession was granted to private firms. However, it is understood that the decree authorizing payment of the increases will be promulgated soon.

On the day of the Palermo riot, 19 October, several business houses and public services were drawn into the proceedings by the mob. These disturbances did not constitute a strike and normal work was resumed on the following day.

During the month Labor Division prepared a revised schedule of wages for the employees of the Allied Forces in Sicily which were accepted by the Labor and Wages Control Committee and the new rates will come into effect from November first.

Social Insurance and benefits for employees of the Allied Forces have again been the subject of unrest at RM and USM establishments. It is understood that the decree authorizing the payment of these benefits will be published soon.

The Russian Labor Delegates arrived in Sicily on 24 October and visited Messina, Catania, Agrigento and Palermo. Meetings were held with the Camera del Lavoro and the party left Sicily for Somalia on 28 October.

C. Public Works and Utilities.

Work of reconstruction in the cities and on the roads continues. Nothing spectacular is being done but steady progress is being maintained.

Generally roads in Sicily are deteriorating somewhat due to lack of coal for transportation. This means that asphalt and asphalt products cannot be transported from Ragusa mines because the railway are generally rationed for coal. Steam rolling cannot be done because contractors cannot obtain coal for rollers. Bridge reconstruction proceeds and it is expected that many more bridges will be in use before the rainy season which makes some of the diversions impassable at times.

Serious difficulties are being caused by the lack of many materials included in the list forwarded to MOH at various times and finally in May 1944.

With the commencement of the rainy season no difficulty presents itself with regard to the water supply.

No gas is being made because of the coal shortage.

D. Public Safety and the Courts.

The month has shown symptoms of the serious problems which exist. Although crime has not increased it has continued to be a serious threat. In the field of politics it has been definitely shown that certain groups stand ready to profit by and exploit social and economic conditions even to the extent of threatened violence. The disparity in prices has been the cause of unrest, and the existing Italian Govern-

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The demonstration at Palermo on 19 October may be the symptom of existing conditions or the result of agitation or planning by a few. Following a 3-day strike for more pay by the public employees, on the morning of the 19th one private employee was reported to have started a strike. Strikers and banks in one of the principal streets were entered by the strikers who demanded that the workers there join the strike. A demonstration was thus started and its influence spread rapidly with the result that the crowd grew, augmented, it is reported, by elements of 5000 class.

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A number of youths and excited boys were in the crowd. The demonstration continued during the morning without violence. As a crowd gathered in front of the Prefettura the Italian troops were called by the Capo del Carretto of the Questura. The troops, 30 men commanded by one officer, arrived in trucks at the Prefettura and stopped. It is reported that a bomb was then thrown from the crowd, wounding some soldiers. The soldiers immediately replied with 7 hand grenades and about 40 rounds of rifle fire. The casualties reported as a result numbered 26 dead and 156 wounded.

The strike seems to have been originally a protest against low wages and high prices and the situation was exploited, but the violence and casualty rate appear to have been due to the improper method of employment of Italian troops.

Conditions in the city for two or three days were somewhat tense and there were a few demonstrations. A wave of resentment directed against the troops spread through the city.

The Separatists in congress at Gaormine gave considerable attention to the event and exploited it by distributing separatist leaflets which resulted in the arrest of 3 distributors and a raid on the Separatist headquarters where the literature was confiscated.

It was feared that the situation in Palermo would be followed by other incidents elsewhere, but only one at Termini, a strike of public workers without incident, can as yet be connected with it.

The local Italian administration is conducting an official inquiry.

The actual number of serious crimes, murder, robbery, extortion, have not increased over the previous month. The approximate figures for the month were: murders 20, attempted murders 24, robberies 170, extortion 23, attempted extortion 22, aggravated theft 339, simple theft 349. These are not complete statistics and must be considered only as a guide. The number of crimes not reported to the police cannot be determined. Large uninhabited areas and the fear of reprisals lead to the belief that many crimes are not reported. When a criminal gang develops, fear spreads and its activities are not reported; to the contrary it is aided by the people.

The police, though still lacking in means have done good work. The average of crimes cleared is less than 50%. This month the leader of the strong Russo band was captured after months of work by the police. The number of crimes committed by this band is as yet undetermined but it included numerous robberies and extortions.

In the police organization many undesirable elements are still on duty and constitute a retarding influence. All personnel is underpaid, personnel and organization all equipment are needed. Much valuable service has been lost because of the lack of shoes, arms and transport. This has been emphasized in the efforts to break up the armed bands. In comparison with the Italian troops the police agencies, including the Carabinieri, do not appear to have received the same material benefits--this despite the fact that they have remained constantly on duty and that an efficient police force would conserve combat troops.

There has been some improvement during the month in the support given by the local civil administration and the material provisions made.

PRISONS

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The issue of the new permits is now being completed, the number to be granted in each Province having been agreed upon with the Allied Commission. The Regional Commissioner has discussed with the High Commissioner the need for much stricter supervision over the circulation of traffic. This continues to be a subject for discussion with the police agencies. It is felt, however, that the subject cannot be adequately dealt with until a Corps of Roads Service Police has been organized to replace the

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former Milizia Stredale.

Despite efforts by Questore and AC through the pass system and IMA to control the movement of civilians, it is known that unauthorized travel is taking place, particularly between the mainland of Italy and Africa, in both directions, with Sicily being used as a stepping stone. The Guardia di Finanza are hampered by lack of boats. It is believed that there are now some 14,000 Tripolitanian refugees in Sicily, the majority of whom are desperately anxious to return to Africa.

The number of forged notes has increased, but of the 136 recovered 64 are of the AC45 series which were produced in a plant at Catania recently raided.

Courts continue to function with a fair degree of efficiency. During the month 1745 cases were tried of which 1469 were sentenced and 276 found not guilty.

Of cases involving Allied interests 257 were tried, 41 were found not guilty, and the balance convicted. All of these cases involved theft and possession of Allied property.

H. Public Health and Welfare.

Health of the population continues satisfactory. Typhoid fever is still on the increase; however 1944 has on an average been the best year of the past three. Venereal disease shows a progressive diminution. The number of primary malaria cases decreased by approximately 500 during the month.

Communal soup kitchens are being set up in all the larger towns. Within the next few days soup kitchens will be functioning in Palermo sufficient to feed fifteen thousand poor people.

The American Navy in conjunction with a local committee of ladies has been supplying daily hot thick soup to between 2000 and 2500 poor children from off the streets. Four centers have been selected in institutions and the soup is made from left-overs from messes. Soup is being provided by the American Navy and towels and medical surveillance by the Medical Officer of Health.

The shortage of clothing is acute, even though the best possible use is being made of damaged socks and other cast-off materials. Many tons of damaged uniforms were dumped at Catania but most of it is unfit for anything but rags.

The promised 750 pairs of shoes for malarial workers (250 in August, 250 in September, 250 in October) have not yet been delivered. Shoes for refugees are unobtainable. Many sandals were made but are not satisfactory for cold weather.

The shortage of blankets is serious. The result of the scarcity is that several people huddle together under one or two blankets and as no change of clothing is possible they get lousy and run consequent risk of contagious and infectious diseases.

I. Education.

Arrangements are being made for the reopening of the schools on 4 November. Outstanding problems to be faced in the near future are the lack of paper for exercise books and the printing of textbooks and the need of much other school equipment. Many school buildings are still occupied by the military, either Allied or Italian, and many others are still uninhabitable due to war damage. Certain buildings are

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30 tons of paper have been allotted to the Education Officer by P.W.B. Sicily to relieve the critical situation and permit the printing of a certain amount of elementary textbooks. This paper was sub-divided so as to give 7 tons to the universities and 'scuole medie' and 23 tons to the printing of elementary textbooks. Schools still need about 35 tons of paper. The 'Galliarico' is still up to date mostly due to lack of colored inks. To avoid further delay it has been decided to print it in black.

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SECRET

The high schools and colleges held their fall examinations during the month. Many an accusation of bribery has been received touching professors and rectors as well. These are being investigated by the Director of the scuole medie.

The local Comitato di liberazione are still meddling with the school and every political group demands or tries to dictate a different policy. There seems to be no way to keep the school out of local petty politics.

An alleged statement by Dott. Grillo Capo Gabinetto of the Ministry of Education was the various Provveditori agli Studi concerned about the safety of their appointments since they are all AMG appointees. It is said that the Ministry intends to qualify them as "reggenti". According to the AMG decree, they were nominated as full Provveditori.

Civic and political leaders and school authorities daily enquired about the hot midday meal which has been notified in the newspapers. This announcement caused a large increase in the number of entrants for the elementary schools but there is no prospect of this hot meal being implemented in the near future.

The lack of clothing, shoes, transportation to and from school both for teachers and pupils, disinfectants and other proper school equipment, the absence in the school buildings of windows to shut out the winter cold all point to a probable decrease in attendance for the coming school year.

Finance and Property Control.

With the index figure for January of this year as 100 the trend of price levels has fallen slightly being estimated to be 105.13 in August and 106.34 in September. The cost of essential commodities has increased during the month of October and this increase will in all probability continue as the winter season approaches. Workers would prefer a rigid control of prices, if this were possible, rather than an increase of salary.

Deposits in the postal savings accounts have been considerably in excess of withdrawals which is a satisfactory indication.

During the month 400 tons of raw tobacco arrived from the Mainland. It is estimated that this supply will be sufficient for about 4 months. Personal ration cards were distributed during the month to the population in accordance with a scheme which it is hoped will commence on 9 November. The tobacco monopoly officials hope to distribute 5 cigarettes per day to each authorized smoker.

There have been no outstanding developments in Property Control.

Refugees.

Efforts are being made to move those in the mountain communes to more sheltered places. The situation regarding clothing and blankets still remains difficult.

Repatriation from Sicily to the Mainland, and vice versa, continues. Those to be repatriated to North Africa constitute the major problem since their number increases and there is no possibility at present of repatriation.

Communications.

Military highways continue to be maintained in reasonably good condition. All broad gauge railroad lines throughout the Island are in operation but services have had to be curtailed owing to a reduction in the allocation of coal. The Consorzio continues to use 70% of its trucks. Though the transfer is completed for all prac-

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SICILY REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394.

(PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION)

FILE - RPS/502/15.

SUBJECT - Monthly Report of Activities - September, 1944.
TO - Chief, Public Safety Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission.

I have to submit my report on the general conditions as regards Public Safety in Sicily and the activities of Public Safety Division, Region I, for the month of September, 1944.

(1) GENERAL.

The Public Safety position in Sicily is becoming increasingly difficult and has given rise to rather alarmist views in certain quarters as to the imminent likelihood of outbreaks of violence, and disorder. That these views have been well founded may be proved by subsequent events. The food situation seems to be a pre-dominant factor and so long as the masses of the population receive sufficient food the danger of widespread serious disorders is minimized. The intake of grain has fallen away appreciably in recent weeks and it has been estimated that the Island can only rely on self supporting until the end of this year. If at that time, or before, food does run short, then there is no question but that, taking into account the well-known lawless character of Sicilians, the unrest created by the main political parties competing for authority and the general conditions following war, that circumstances will be ripe for really serious disturbances and threats to public safety. No evidence exists that any antagonism is likely to be shown against Allied personnel or interests, and the few disorders which have recently taken place, have been caused by clashes between Communists and Separatists or through the intervention of police at unauthorized meetings. The most serious disturbance was at Villalba where Separatists and Communists were involved in a conflict in which four bombs were thrown and shots fired - fourteen persons were injured, but not seriously. This incident has been separately reported on.

The crime situation remains unsatisfactory, but there has been, according to the present incomplete statistics, a slight general decrease in the serious crime. Many police are still occupied in connection with grain collection although there have been

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TO

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GENERAL.

The Public Safety position in Sicily is becoming increasingly difficult and has given rise to rather alarmist views in certain quarters as to the imminent likelihood of outbreaks of violence and disorder. That these views have been well founded may be proved by subsequent events. The food situation seems to be a pre-dominant factor and so long as the masses of the population receive sufficient food the danger of widespread serious disorders is minimized. The intake of grain has fallen away appreciably in recent weeks and it has been estimated that the Island can only remain self supporting until the end of this year. If at that time, or before, food does run short, then there is no question but that, taking into account the well-known lawless character of Sicilians, the unrest created by the main political parties competing for authority and the general conditions following war, that circumstances will be ripe for really serious disturbances and threats to public safety. No evidence exists that any antagonism is likely to be shown against Allied personnel or interests, and the few disorders which have recently taken place, have been caused by clashes between Communists and Separatists or through the intervention of police at unauthorized meetings. The most serious disturbance was at Villalba where Separatists and Communists were involved in a conflict in which four bombs were thrown and shots fired - fourteen persons were injured, but not seriously. This incident has been separately reported on.

The crime situation remains unsatisfactory, but there has been, according to the present incomplete statistics, a slight general decrease in the serious crime. Many police are still occupied in connection with grain collection although there has been less action on the part of police in the campaign during the month. The High Commissioner is disposing squads composed of police and Italian troops in Provinces where the quantity of grain amassed is low. Several criminal bands which have been operating present a dangerous sign. At least two of these bands have been broken by

1/15/45
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the police, but others are still operating.

Attention has been drawn to the concern felt in this Region over the withdrawal of some 500 Carabinieri and the alerting of a further 1000 for the North of Italy. It is appreciated that sacrifices must be made in order to police new territory taken over, but with the withdrawal of most of the Allied Forces from the Island it is important, in view of the present situation here, as regards public safety, that adequate numbers of Italian troops are available to deal with any contingency which might arise.

Thus the elements which can cause serious and even widespread difficulty do exist,--

- (a) Food situation. - The possible lack of food.
- (b) Confused political situation. - The growing strength of the Separatist movement, the conflict between the Communists and the Separatists and the possibility that the political elements may seek the support of the delinquent elements.
- (c) Increased strength and organization of criminal elements. - Always a threat because of a number of known criminals at large, the general lawlessness, tendencies of the people, the arms in hands of criminals and recent signs indicate that this element is definitely an important factor.

(d) Lack of funds. - The police forces are becoming weaker - by the withdrawal of personnel, lack of support by and uncertainty of the existing Government, low pay, lack of arms and transportation. The troops to support the police serve only in case of definite outbreaks, but cannot replace the police in the daily task of repression and prevention.

(2) PRISONS.

Arrangements are in hand to relieve the present overcrowded conditions in certain prisons by opening up additional temporary accommodation.

(3) FIRE AND CIVIL DEFENCE.

Col. RUI has resumed his position as Regional Director, pending examination of his case by the Ministerial Investigation Commission, and has recently been visiting Provincial centres.

thus the elements which can cause serious and even widespread difficulty do exist, -

tingency which might arise.

(a) Food situation. - The possible lack of food.

(b) Confused political situation. - The growing strength of the Separatist movement, the conflict between the Communists and the Separatists and the possibility that the political elements may seek the support of the delinquent elements.

(c) Increased strength and organization of criminal elements. - Always a threat because of a number of known criminals at large, the general lawlessness and lawlessness of the people, the arms in hands of criminals and recent signs indicate that this element is actually an important factor.

(a) Lack of arms. - The police forces are becoming weaker - by the withdrawal of personnel, loss of support by and uncertainty of the existing Government, low pay, lack of arms and transportation. The troops to support the police serve only in case of definite outbreaks, but cannot replace the police in the daily task of repression and prevention.

(2) PRISONS.

Arrangements are in hand to relieve the present overcrowded conditions in certain prisons by opening up additional temporary accommodation.

(3) FIRE AND CIVIL DEFENCE.

Comm. HIC has resumed his position as Regional Director pending examination of his case by the Ministerial Defect-stization Commission, and has recently been visiting Provincial centres.

(4) REGISTRATION AND LICENSING.

A separate report has been submitted calling attention

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to the fact that the new Permits and fuel Ration cards have not been received in the Region which has made it necessary to extend the validity of existing permits to 31st October. A new issue of permits, etc., takes approximately three weeks to complete and it is therefore, pointed out that if the new forms, etc., are not received at any early date, it will not be possible to effect the new distribution by 1st November. It will be most unsatisfactory if permits have to be extended for a third month as the object of issuing them at four monthly intervals, in order to review the position and eliminate non-essential users, will be defeated. Difficulty has been experienced in persuading Police Agencies to check upon the circulation of traffic and the importance of the matter has been brought to the notice of the High Commissioner. It is, therefore, important that the Regulations as to permits, etc., should be kept up to-date and capable of rigid enforcement. In this connection, it is recommended that a Corps of Roads Service Police should be organized as quickly as possible to carry out the functions of the abolished Militia Stradale. Directions have also been asked, in the report referred to above, as to the respective responsibilities of the Ispettorato di Motorizzazione Civile and the Chambers of Commerce in dealing with the issuance of Permits and fuel ration cards in Italian Government territory. Dissension has arisen in the Region over the matter, both Authorities preferred to desiring to retain responsibility for deciding who receives permits, but no authoritative ruling seems to be forthcoming from Italian Government Ministries. The policy adopted here has been that whilst AGO controls the quantities of petrol for distribution, which in turn governs the numbers of permits to be issued, the question of deciding who authorizes and receives permits is one for the Italian Government. It has been suggested that a small Commission in each Province composed of representatives of the Prefect, the Ispettorato della Motorizzazione Civile, Chambers of Commerce and perhaps RACI might be the best solution.

(5)

CONTROL OF MOVEMENT.

Passes are now issued by Questori in all Provinces, this Division still exercising close control on vehicles leaving the Island and over the granting of Passes for the Army Zone on the mainland or places outside Italy. The Regulations have been brought to the notice of all Police Agencies and are fully operative.

(5)

REPERCUSSIONS.

is a schedule showing the progress made by

5049

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CONTROL OF MOVEMENT.

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(6)

DEPASCUITIZATION.

Attached is a Schedule showing the progress made by the various Provincial Commissions. All Schede Personali of persons "dismissed", recommended for dismissal, or "not yet investigated" have been sorted and forwarded to the Administrative Section as regards State employees and to the High Commissioner in the case of Communal employees, etc.

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(7) FORGERY OF A.M. CURRENCY.

A return is appended showing particulars of forged AM notes, recovered from circulation during the month. There is an increase in these and although many of them are identical with those produced at the Palermo plants which were traced by police, it appears that a further plant or plants may be operating and the matter has been taken up with the Quasitori concerned.

(8) RELATIONS WITH MILITARY AND NAVAL AUTHORITIES.

These remain satisfactory. 70 Sub-Area has now replaced 56 Area as the Authority responsible for military security in the Island.

(9) ORGANIZATION - PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION.

The strength of the Division is now two officers who operate from Headquarters at Palermo and visit Provincial capitals or other places of importance from the public safety viewpoint as occasion demands.

By reason of this limited personnel, the functions are necessarily limited to advising and observing public safety activities, principally at the Regional level.

For the Regional Commissioner.

R. Russell
Russell A. SHOCK,
Lt. Colonel,
Regional Public Safety Officer.

Copies to-Regional Commission, Region I, HQ.
R.O. & M.C. Section.

Annexes, - 5.

5048

1. Defecistization by Provinces. (ps/sc only)
2. Forged A.M. notes recovered.
3. Summary of Crime situation (from CG, RR, only and

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For the Regional Commissioner.

R. Russell

Russell A. SMOCK,

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Regional Public Safety Officer.

Copies to-Regional Commission, Region I, HQ.
R.O. & M.G. Section.

Annexes, - 5.

5048

1. Defascistization by Provinces. (ps/sc only)
2. Forged A.M. notes recovered.
3. Summary of Crime situation (from CC.RR. only and
therefore and index, but not a complete record
of crime.)
4. Summary of Unemployment figures.
5. Summary of Political Parties.

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NUMERICAL LIST OF THE OPERATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN PERFORMED BY THE PROV. COMMISSIONS FOR DEFA
FROM THE BEGINNING OF THEIR FUNCTIONING UP TO 31ST AUGUST 1944.

PROVINCES	CASES DENOUNCED	CASES WRONGLY DENOUNCED	PERSONS ACQUITTED	PERSONS DISMISSED	CASES UNDER INVESTIGATION	CASES INVESTIGATED AND HELD PENDING
PALERMO	2094	2023	3	13	-	35
MESSINA	381	-	5	14	131	231
SIRACUSA	122	-	1	43	44	34
AGRIGENTO	54	-	11	9	23	11
RAGUSA	109	-	50	44	15	-
ENNA	39	-	6	21	5	7
CALTANISSETTA	80	-	12	21	46	1
TAORMINA	81	2	6	12	45	11
CATANIA	140	-	2	20	23	95
TOTALS	3100	2025	96	197	332	445

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ANNEX - 1

OF THE OPERATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN PERFORMED BY THE PROV. COMMISSIONS FOR DEFASSCISTIZATION
FROM THE BEGINNING OF THEIR FUNCTIONING UP TO 31ST AUGUST 1944.

218

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COND	CASES WRONGLY DENOUNCED	PERSONS ACQUITTED	PERSONS DISMISSED	CASES UNDER INVESTIGATION	CASES INVESTIGATED AND HELD PENDING	DENUNCIAT. FIRED FOR EMPLOYEES OUT OF SERVICE
	2023	3	13	-	55	-
	-	5	14	131	231	-
	-	1	43	44	34	-
	-	11	9	23	11	-
	-	50	44	15	-	-
	-	6	21	5	7	-
	-	12	21	46	1	-
	2	6	12	45	11	5
	-	2	20	23	95	-
	2025	96	197	332	445	5

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MAPS AND CHARTS TOO LARGE TO FILM
ON ONE EXPOSURE ARE FILMED CLOCKWISE
BEGINNING IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER,
LEFT TO RIGHT, AND TOP TO BOTTOM.

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.

1
2

1	2
3	4

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

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ANN

STATISTICA - dei delitti e delle contravvenzioni verificatisi in Sicilia durante il mese di set

TITOLO DEL REATO	Reati accertati nel mese.	Reati i cui autori furono scoperti.	NUMERO DELLE PERSONE		Reati rimasti ad opera di ignoti.	Differenza tra i reati accertati nel mese rispetto a quelli del mese precedente.		Reati verificatisi nel mese di settembre.
			arrestate.	denunciate.		in più	in meno	statistici
DELITTI								
Omicidi volontari.....	38	12	13	2	26	4	-	
Omicidi tentati.....	34	19	21	4	15	12	-	
Omicidi colposi.....	7	6	4	6	1	-	4	
Omicidi preterintenz.....	2	1	4	-	1	-	-	
Infanticidi.....	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	
Rapine.....	156	32	65	15	124	-	37	
Rapine tentate.....	1	1	3	-	-	-	12	
Estorsioni.....	6	1	1	-	5	-	5	
Estorsioni tentate.....	6	1	1	-	5	2	-	
Truffe.....	19	17	6	13	2	-	1	
Peculati.....	1	1	2	-	-	1	-	
Associazioni per delinq..	9	9	53	19	-	1	-	
Danneggiamenti.....	30	23	5	23	7	11	-	
Furti aggravati.....	785	299	189	219	486	-	135	
Furti semplici.....	497	251	70	180	246	92	-	
Falsità ideologiche.....	2	2	1	1	-	2	-	
Appropriaz. indebite.....	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	
Ricettazioni.....	26	26	1	34	-	4	-	
Incendi dolosi.....	22	10	1	4	12	9	-	
Incendi colposi.....	18	14	3	13	4	-	11	
Violenze private.....	2	1	-	1	1	2	-	
Lesioni personali.....	51	51	17	48	-	5	-	
Violenze e res. a Pubbl. Uff.	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	
Oltraggi a Pubbl. uff.....	10	10	5	6	-	2	-	

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ANNEX - 3

delitti e delle contravvenzioni verificatisi in Sicilia durante il mese di settembre 1944.

Reati accertati nel mese.	Reati i cui autori furono scoperti.	NUMERO DELLE PERSONE arrestate.	denunce.	Reati rimasti ad opera di ignoti.	Differenza tra i reati accertati nel mese rispetto a quelli del mese precedente.	in più	in meno	Reati verificatisi nei mesi precedenti i cui autori furono scoperti nel mese in cui si riferisce la statistica.
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NOTE

...	38	12	13	2	26	4	-	1
...	34	19	21	4	15	12	-	-
...	7	6	4	6	1	-	4	-
...	2	1	4	-	1	-	-	-
...	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
...	156	32	65	15	124	-	37	2
...	1	1	3	-	-	-	12	-
...	6	1	1	-	5	-	5	-
...	6	1	1	-	5	2	-	-
...	19	17	6	13	2	-	1	-
...	1	1	2	-	-	1	-	-
...	9	9	53	19	-	1	-	-
...	30	23	5	23	7	11	-	-
...	785	299	189	219	486	-	135	-
...	497	251	70	140	246	92	-	-
...	2	2	1	1	-	2	-	-
...	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
...	26	26	1	34	-	4	-	-
...	22	10	1	4	12	9	-	-
...	18	14	3	13	4	-	11	-
...	2	1	-	1	1	2	-	-
...	51	51	17	48	-	5	-	-
...	1	1	1	-	-	-	6	-
...	10	10	5	6	-	2	-	-

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Risso.....	3	3	10	6	-	1	-
Intigaz. alla corruzione..	3	3	3	-	-	-	2
Violenze carnali.....	6	5	2	5	1	-	-
Sfruttamento di prostit..	1	1	1	-	-	1	-
Procurati aborti.....	1	1	1	-	-	-	3
Adulteri.....	2	2	2	1	-	-	3
Atti osceni.....	2	2	1	1	-	1	-
Ratti.....	2	2	2	-	-	1	-
Viol.obbligh. assist.fam..	1	1	1	-	-	1	-
Maltratt.in famiglia.....	24	24	12	12	-	10	-
Calunnie.....	2	2	2	-	-	-	1
Ingiurie.....	1	1	-	1	-	-	1
Minacce con armi.....	4	4	3	2	-	-	1
Falso dichiarazioni sulla identità ecc.....	1	1	1	-	-	1	-
Depravazioni.....	2	2	1	1	-	2	-
Boicottaggi.....	2	-	-	-	2	2	-
Spendite di monete false..	3	3	3	6	-	1	-
Sottraz.gemmi aliment....	217	206	82	134	11	-	573
Pascoli abusivi.....	31	31	3	30	-	24	-
TOTALI.....	2033	1083	596	749	950	-	610

CONTRAVVENZIONI

Codice penale.....	76	76	15	66	-	-	48
Legge di P.S.....	106	106	11	113	-	63	-
Caccia.....	6	6	-	6	-	-	5
Pesca.....	1	1	2	-	-	-	8
Leggi sociali.....	19	19	-	19	-	14	-
Anagrafe e bestiame.....	104	104	-	104	-	-	2
Polizia stradale.....	581	581	-	578	-	-	-
Detenzione abusiva di armi	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Disciplina di prezzi.....	10	10	-	10	-	-	8
Mercato nero.....	253	228	104	247	25	-	486
R.D.L. 22/4/1943 n.245....	281	262	92	228	19	-	63
Oscureamento.....	4	4	-	4	-	3	-
Norme coprifuoco.....	1	1	-	1	-	-	4
TOTALI.....	1443	1399	225	1376	44	-	543

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3	3	10	6	-	1	-	-
3	3	3	-	-	-	2	-
6	5	2	5	1	-	-	-
1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-
2	2	2	1	-	-	3	-
2	2	1	1	-	1	-	-
2	2	2	-	-	1	-	-
1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
24	24	12	12	-	10	-	-
2	2	2	-	-	-	1	-
1	1	-	1	-	-	1	-
4	4	3	2	-	-	1	-
1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
2	2	1	1	-	2	-	-
2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
3	3	3	6	-	1	-	-
217	206	82	134	11	-	573	-
31	31	3	30	-	24	-	-
2033	1083	596	749	950	-	610	3
76	76	15	66	-	-	48	-
106	106	11	113	-	63	-	-
6	6	-	6	-	-	5	-
1	1	2	-	-	-	8	-
19	19	-	19	-	14	-	-
104	104	-	104	-	-	2	-
581	581	-	578	-	-	-	-
1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
10	10	-	10	-	-	8	-
253	228	104	247	25	-	486	-
281	262	92	228	19	-	63	-
4	4	-	4	-	3	-	-
1	1	-	1	-	-	4	-
1443	1399	225	1376	44	-	543	-

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ANNEX - 4

SPECCHIO - statistico dei disoccupati del mese di settembre 1944.

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Disoccupati del mese precedente.....N.67598

I disoccupati del mese in corso appartengono alle seguenti
categorie:

1°)-Agricoltori (salarati, braccianti, maestranze specializzate, affittuari, pastori, coloni, ecc.).....	N.15345
2°)-Addetti all'industria estrattiva.....	" 8748
3°)- " " metallurgia e meccanica..	" 7067
4°)- " " dell'alimentazione.....	" 1429
5°)- " " edilizia e stradale.....	" 12582
6°)- " " del gas e dell'elettricità	" 2126
7°)- " " tessile e dell'abbigliamento	" 4377
8°)- " " del legno e dell'arredamento	" 4296
9°)- " " chimica e del vetro.....	" 1664
10°)- " " carta e stampa.....	" 2627
11°)- " " dello spettacolo	" 1233
12°)- Esercizi pubblici (personale dell'albergo, pasticciieri, panettieri, dipendenti da barbieri, parrucchieri ed affini, portieri, personale di istituti privati, ecc.).....	" 4353
13°)- Aziende commerciali (rappresentanti, viaggiatori, piazzisti, dipendenti d'istituti professionali, di aziende di turismo, agenzie d'affari).....	" 4607
14°)- Aziende private di comunicazioni (addetti alle comunicazioni interne, alle comunicazioni elettriche, lavoratori del porto, autoferròtranvieri, ecc.).....	" 2660
15°)- Credito e assicurazione.....	" 1656

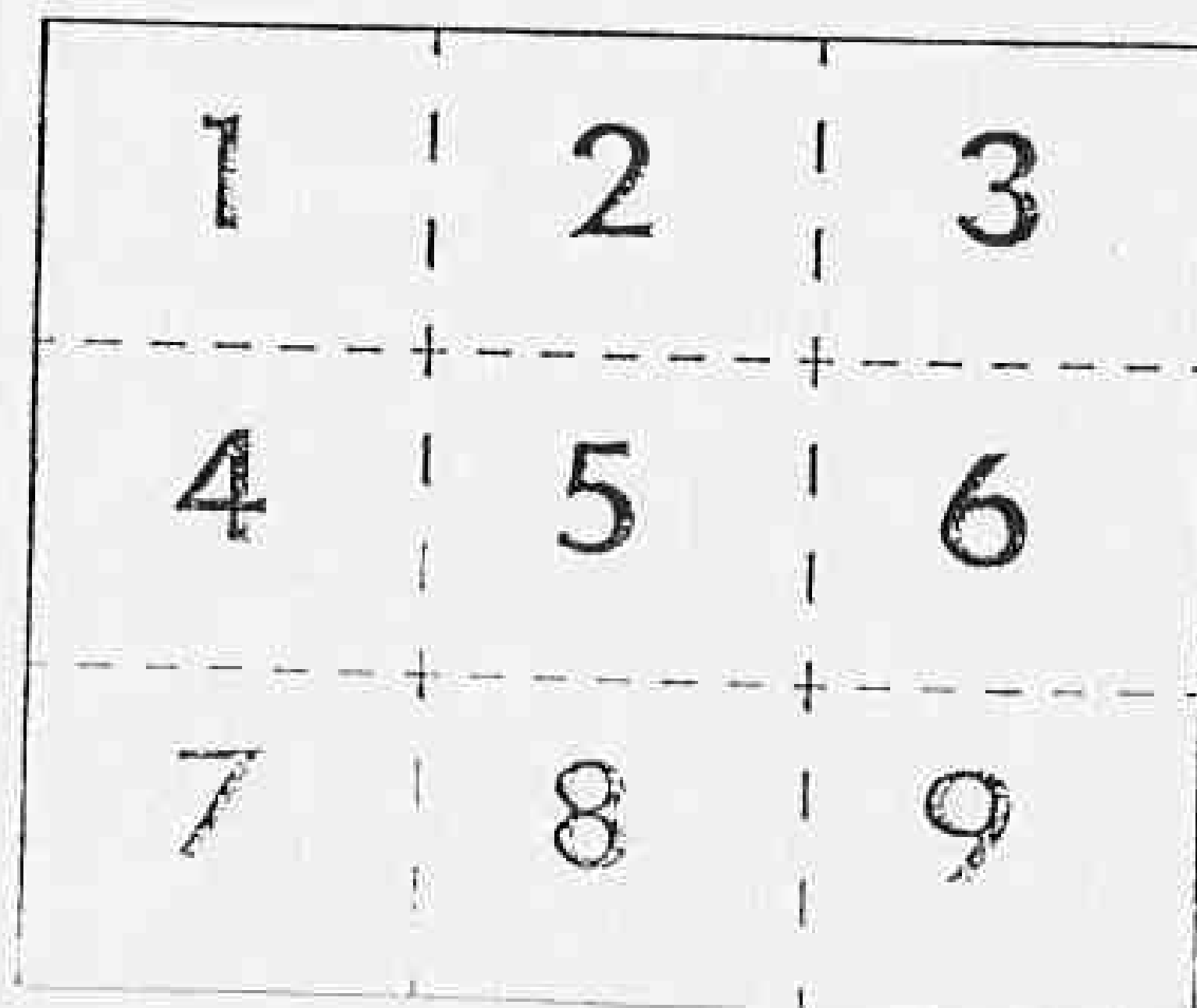
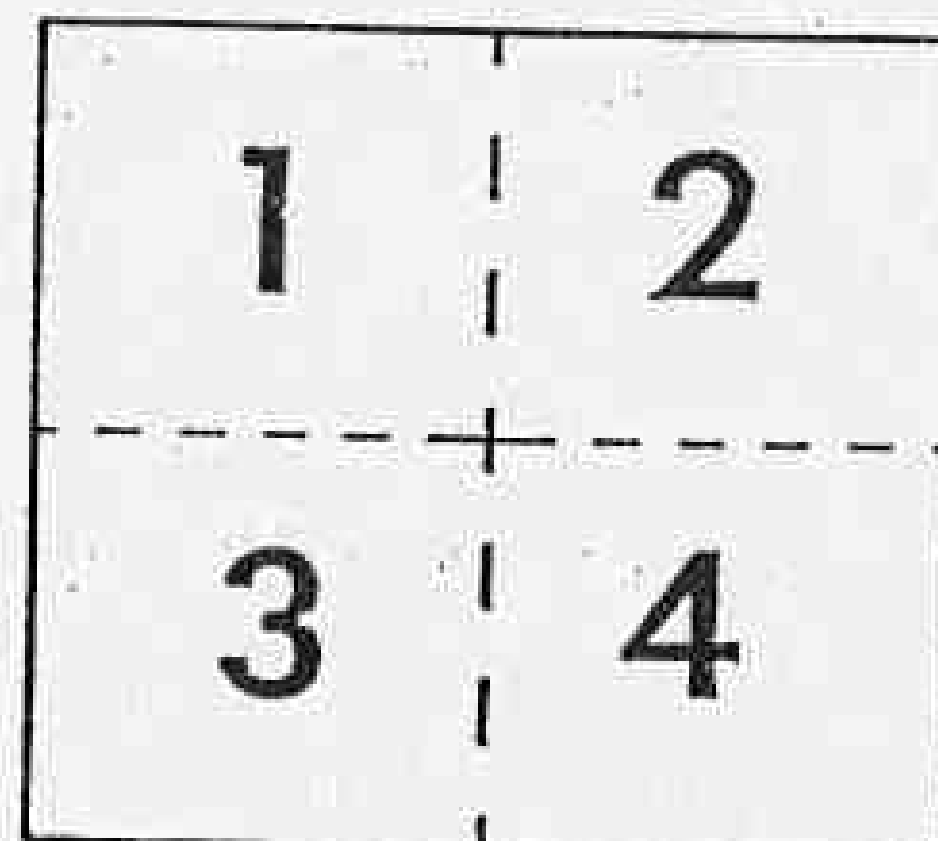
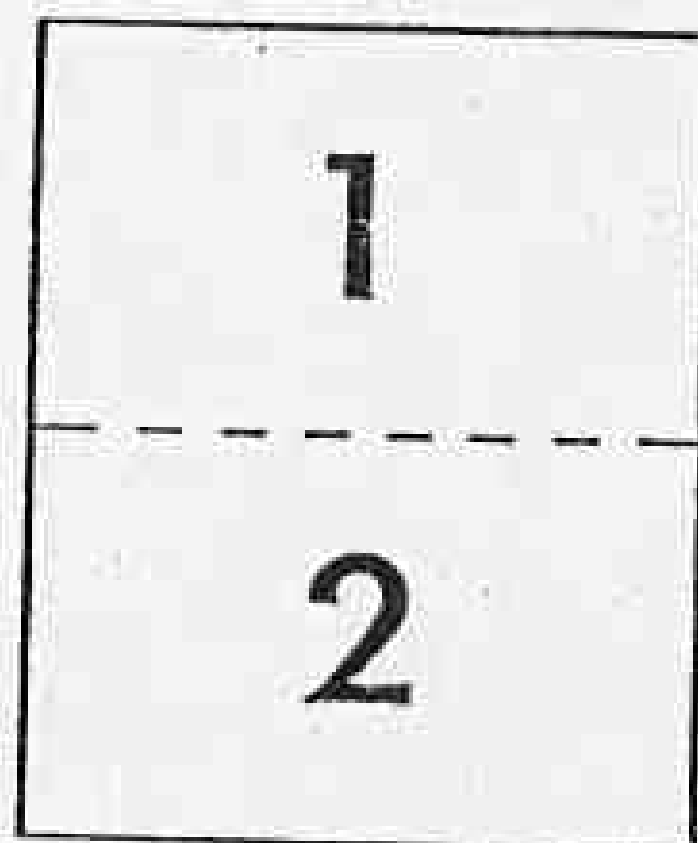
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MAPS AND CHARTS TOO LARGE TO FILM
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BEGINNING IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER,
LEFT TO RIGHT, AND TOP TO BOTTOM.

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.



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T/R.

SITUAZIONE DEI PARTITI POLITICI

PARTITO POLITICO	Galtanissetta	Palermo	Agrigento	Trapani	Mazara	Messina
LIBERALE	Avv. Pietro GUARINO 290	Avv. Francesco ORLANDO 750	-	Vincenzo REGINA 466	Avv. Ettore ARZUFFI 165	Prof. Salvat. ALTOMARE 100
D'AZIONE	Prof. Michele COLLODORO 1060	Avv. Francesco PURPURA 1370	Avv. Francesco MAGALUSO 320	Avv. Francesco MARCO 466	-	Avv. Augusto MARTINO 300
DEMOCRATICO CRISTIANO	Avv. Vittorio MARTINO RUSSO 8400	Dott. Pasquale GOTTARE 4150	Avv. Salvatore SCITO 3632	Gen. Antonio PIACCA 2282	Fam. Giuseppe TAVINI 2923	Dott. Rosario MILANAGGI 3000
COMUNISTA	Prof. Luigi CARDANO 6148	Prof. Franco GRASSO 2800	Avv. Cesare BISSA 12887	Rosario MURILLERI 1353	Antonino D'ASSORO 1152	Rag. Umberto VICINI 4000
SOCIALISTA	Paolo CAPPINUTI 1518	Avv. Giusepp. GIORDANO 890	Ing. Giusuè FIORRINO 1112	Prof. Vincenzo RUGALLO 1464	Paolo RANGULO 4085	Prof. Demoni co PISANI 1000
DEMOCRAZIA DEL LAVORO	-	Avv. Gastone SALINITRO 1200	Avv. Enrico LA LOGGIA 1443	Avv. Stefano DEBAYLE 3186	Avv. Ignazio DE MARIA 703	On. Giuseppe FARANDA 300
UNIONE	-	Primo. Vincen zo CALVELLI 300	-	-	Dott. Salvatore DE RINEDI 310	-

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I ON S DEI PARTITI POLITICI

ANNO - 3

I ON S DEI PARTITI POLITICI						
Trepani	Enna	Messina	Catania	Siracusa	Regusa	SE MONARCHICO REPUBLICANO
Vincenzo REGINA 466	Avv. Ettore ARMA 105	Prof. Salvat. ALTOMARE 100	Prf. Salvatore GERACI 1058	Avv. Emanuele GIARACA 50	-	Monarchico
Avv. Francesco MANZO 466	-	Avv. Augusto MARENGO 300	Avv. Attilio PALMISCIANO 2030	Avv. Salvatore MONTICONE 50	Dot. Riccardo GULISANTI 100	Repubblicano
Gov. Antonio PIAZZA 2282	Farm. Giuseppe FANTINI 2282	Dott. Rosario MILLERAGHI 3000	Prof. Carmelo CARLITTA 9438	Prof. Giuseppe AGNELLO 1000	Avv. Salvatore MIGLIORTISI 2612	Incerta tendenza
Rosario SERRILLARI 1153	Antonino D'ASSORO 1185	Reg. Umberto FIORE 4000	Ing. Salvatore COLOSI 7582	Carmelo GAPONETTO 1350	Ing. Guglielmo NICASTRO 3810	Repubblicano
Prof. Vincenzo MIRALLO 1464	Paolo MARCHIO 4385	Prof. Demoni DE RIZANI 1000	Avv. Agatino MORFILLIO 6462	Avv. Edoardo DI GIOVANNI 2000	Avv. Giovanni CARTIA 3197	Repubblicano
Avv. Stefano SEARILE 3186	Avv. Ignazio DE MARIA 701	On. Giuseppe PARANDA 300	Avv. Vincenzo RINALDI 5148	Avv. Libero BENNICIA 1215	Dott. Mario SCHIMINA 20	Incerta tendenza
-	Dott. Salvatore DE RIZANI 310	-	-	-	-	Monarchico
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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LEGA ITALICA	-	Primo. Ugo- no DI NINNO	-	-	-	Avv. Giuseppe FUGAZZOTTO
	-	1850	-	-	-	20
DEMOCRATICO SOCIALE	-	Avv. Ernesto ANZON	Avv. Giovanni GUARINO ANSEL LA.	Dott. Carlo GUIDA	Dott. Carlo RUSSO	-
	-	80	1318	1500	21	-
REPUBBLICANO FEDERALISTA	-	Prof. Girola- mo ROMEO	-	-	-	Giuseppe VINOI
	-	50	-	-	-	100
REPUBBLICANO SOCIALISTA	-	Dott. Antonio ALESSI	-	2	-	-
	-	40	-	-	-	-
MOVIMENTO SEPARATISTA	-	On. Andrea FI NOCCHIARO APRILE	On. Andrea FIROGHIARO APRILE	Mario FERRA	Stefano LA MONTA	Rag. Pillo Edoardo CANGINI
	-	8600	400	30	1310	2000

Differenza in più e in meno -rispetto al mese pre-
degli aderenti a ciascun partito:

LIBERALE.....1694 in più - COMUNISTA.....89
D'AZIONE..... 82 in più - SOCIALISTA.....40
DEMOCRATICO CRISTIANO.....7672 in più - DEMOCRAZIA DEL LAVORO.....80
MOVIMENTO SEPARATISTA.....6585 1

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SICILIA REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT - SEPTEMBER 1944

PART I

GENERAL

14 OCT Recd

HEADQUARTERS

13017 1944

A. C. C.

The situation appears to be as satisfactory as can be expected and, generally, the political atmosphere remains unchanged. The health of the population is satisfactory. Everything is dominated by the food situation and prices of foodstuffs in the markets. Food is short and prices of many normal necessities are very high and this must be borne in mind when judging the state of affairs in Sicily.

The situation as regards law and order is mainly governed by the food position. The Black Market and corruption flourish.

From a superficial view of the large towns and of the country districts, it is difficult to appreciate that the Island is one where, in general, all, if questioned, complain that wages are insufficient, that there is a grave lack of shoes and clothing, that food supplies are inadequate and that there is extensive unemployment. Undoubtedly, the lot of the poorer classes, particularly in the towns, is very hard and difficult.

Except for those who may have interests in the fighting zone or in unliberated Italy, there appears to be no thinking towards any effort to assist in the prosecution of the war.

There is a widespread spirit of *laissez-faire* and the administration generally makes little or no effort to improve the situation or enforce the law. Political and personal feelings carry too much weight, and officials appear to be afraid to take steps which are required for the common good or in the interests of the war effort. Many changes have taken place recently in higher grade appointments and it is to be hoped that this may lead to improved results. Subordinate local administration generally is ineffective, a fact which became most obvious in connection with the Granai del Popolo.

Road transportation continues to be a serious problem due almost entirely to lack of tires and spare parts. It is quite obvious, however, that vehicles are frequently used for unessential purposes and large numbers of vehicles bearing no proper registration marks can be seen on the roads. The Police take no action and a state of affairs is allowed to exist which would not be tolerated in any law-abiding country.

The internal security situation is delicate. Crime, however, remains stationary but the operations of armed bands are increasing. At the same time, public security and police forces are suffering from reduction in numbers and no improvement in armament or equipment. Their morale among a well-armed population cannot be high. Much praiseworthy work is, however, carried out in many of the country districts particularly in dealing with acts of banditry.

The Granai del Popolo has been a failure. The target figure of just over 3 million quintals which, it was estimated, would have fed Sicily up to the next harvest is generally admitted to have been too high, but 50% of this total has not

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The Granai del Popolo has been a failure. The target figure of just over 3 million quintals which, it was estimated, would have fed Sicily up to the next harvest is generally admitted to have been too high, but 50% of this total has not been reached. Voluntary bringing in of grain has, to all intents and purposes, practically ceased, and the only place where grain is coming in is where it has been possible to concentrate a small special force for the purpose of compulsion, but quantities are not large. It is hoped to extend this system, but the small forces available make this extremely problematical and every day that passes makes their future task more difficult as more grain goes into hiding. It is to be remarked, however, that even these special forces are not above suspicion.

Due to the lack of organization and procedure within UPSEA it is next to impossible

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to find out where un-messed grain should be found. The work of the local USDA has, however, suffered severely from lack of direction from above, the failure of higher authority to ensure regular payment of salaries and expenses, and from non-provision by local authorities of transport for officials.

The popular opinion that the price for grain is quite unremunerative still holds and, in existing circumstances, farmers prefer grain to money. The campaign has not been helped by announcements in the press of the amounts of grain which the Allies have available for feeding starving countries and of the aid to be given to Italy in particular.

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PART II

A. POLITICAL REACTIONS AND POPULAR OPINION

General. Possible violence and disorder are closely related to the food situation in Sicily. At the present time grain is in hand and being collected, and the general political situation is not abnormal. If a time should come when food supplies are short, discontented, lawless and violent elements in the population may well create serious disturbances and disorder.

Separatism. This movement has shown an increase in strength and activity during the month of September. Certain discussions are understood to have occurred on a recent visit to Sicily by Orlando, with Finocchiaro Aprile, at Palermo. The Separatists claim the support of about 500,000 members, although only about 30,000 appear to be actually enrolled, according to estimates. Clashes have occurred in the island between Separatists and the Communists, the most serious of which was at Villalba, when shots were fired and hand grenades used, and some 14 persons were injured. The Separatists continue to follow the policy of attempting to hold unauthorized meetings and of defying police authority.

Democrazia del Lavoro is reported to have been the forum for a struggle for leadership in the party, by Guerino Amella and Enrico La Loggia with the advantage resting with Amella.

A police tabulation of the estimated strength of the various political parties by Provinces follows. . . . These estimates are to be regarded only as approximations.

POLITICAL PARTIES	CATTANIA	MILANO	ACRI- GUSTO	SIRACUSA	CATANIA	SIRACUSA	MAGGIORANA	TOTALS
Liberali	290	750			1058	50		2879
Azione	1060	1370	320		2030	60	100	5706
Democretico-Cristiano	8400	4150	3692		9428	1000	2612	37489
Comunisti	6148	2300	12887		7682	3350	3810	43217
Socialista	1518	890	1112		6469	2000	3197	22535
Unione		300						660
Loggia Italiana		1850						1870
Democrazia Sociale		30	1318		2500			3919
Repubblicano-Federalista		50			300			450
Repubblicano-Socialista		40						40
Democrazia		1200	1112					2312

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POLITICAL PARTIES	CAPITANE- SANTA	PALERMO	ACER- GENTO	MIL- PANI	ENNA	MESS- SINA	CATAN- NIA	SIRI- CUSA	MAGU- SA	TOTALS
Liberale	290	750		466	165	100	1058	50		2879
Azione	1060	1370	320	466		300	2030	60	100	5706
Democratico- Cristiano	8400	4150	3692	2262	2925	3000	9428	1000	2612	37489
Comunista	6148	2600	12887	1355	1185	4000	7682	3250	3810	43217
Socialista	1518	890	1112	1464	4385	1000	6469	2000	3197	22535
Unione		300			330					660
Legge Italiana		1250				20				1870
Democratico Sociale		80	1318	2500	21					3919
Repubblicano- Federalista		50				100	300			450
Repubblicano- Socialista		40								40
Democrazia del Lavoro		1200	1443	3186	703	300	5348	1216	20	13416
Separatisti:		8000	450	30	1210	8000	8445	3000	300	29985
										5079

(Estimates of membership in the various political parties made by Carabinieri sources. It is also estimated that the following numbers can be considered as enrolled support of the Separatist Movement:

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3. LOCAL COEFFICIENTS

It is difficult to assess the effect of or consequences of the local government owing to the many changes in personnel which have taken place recently and the fact that, in general, there is no record kept in the provinces of all current information can be obtained. It must be said, however, that political feeling and variations which, strongly against a democracy.

The High Commission has invited parts of the United Nations speeches on the General Assembly on general problems to be the competition. It is suggested that the difficulty that is obtaining as a term of energetic cooperation from participants.

The thanks to the High Commissioner, rather than this protocol, set over some minutes ago but he was not able, however, to do so, for all practical purposes, inconsistent. It is understood that the formation of a new unit is under consideration and that the British Government has made a proposal that it should be composed of about 35 members which would include a large number of the High Commissioner's representatives from each political party. The High Commissioner is opposed to such a large number.

[illegible]

Refracted wavefronts are not available at the end of a section of irregular and complex shape. With irregularities in bed structure but, up to a limit, the wavefronts at points close to the irregularities are isotropic.

and red republican propaganda, these organizations are not great except in two or three provinces. Their non-republican attitude has due to political reasons or to lack of sympathy on the part of the majority of the population. Quite certainly a minority are working under these organizations with a real aim. Each the method is explained.

ordered generally to have destroyed a company's power of effectiveness, especially in connection with the Federal del. order. In many cases projects have been ordered to dissolve the funds completely and to avoid consideration. Notable cases of such action was that which occurred at Alamo where a strong order became necessary due to violence and other factors.

It is estimated that 85% of the coverage here gives due attention, but some subdivisions in new indexes is doubtful owing to political reasons and to suppression of the various virtues.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

Food. The food situation remains unchanged. There is a lack of many normal recreations and places to stay, but as meat and fish are very high, a good supply of meat and vegetables is available for the poor, but prices also are high.

a poor and isolated or even in the towns and the suburbs. In isolated cases, owing to convenience being very tardy in collecting their grain, the full waste ration has not been made available to a third card holder. Over 15 million quintals of grain have been collected and the quantity on hand would be sufficient to feed the population of the country till to the end of this year providing the necessary inter-provincial transfers are made. Very rational spending, except what grain collection has not

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All provinces have in v. products but the majority of those officials who new
 respectively. The changes have been in the
 of having certain products in v. only.
 of v. products at the end of 1931.
 of v. products in v. only. The products of MESSIEY
 of v. products in v. only. The products of MESSIEY
 of v. products in v. only. The products of MESSIEY

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It is estimated that 85% of the countries have plants down in operation, but their effectiveness in many instances is doubtful owing to political repression and to non-cooperation of the various parties.

6. COLEMAN, EDWARD S. 1907.

Food. The food situation remains unchanged. There is a lack of many normal food crops, and prices are high and very high. Food supply of food and vegetables is being available for purchase but prices also are high. The poorer and less educated classes in the towns are the sufferers. In isolated areas, owing to various reasons, you have to collect their grain, the full portion ration has not even been made available to them and others. Over 15 million quintals of grain have been collected and the quantity on hand should be sufficient to feed the population, but this year prevailing the necessary inter-provincial transportation is not. Unfortunately speaking, except that grain collection has not been up to date from, it is not all the food situation can be regarded as satisfactory in the light of our plan. (Para 40, 1967).

to the fact that the Government is not in a position to pay the interest on the bonds. The Government is not in a position to pay the interest on the bonds. The Government is not in a position to pay the interest on the bonds.

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Exports. Shipments made during September:

1,013.5	Qls. wire to U.S.A.
751.11	Qls. carbon bisulphate to North Africa
408.287	Qls. bergamot oil to U.S.A.
351.3252	Qls. lemon oil to U.S.A.
1,022.82	Qls. argola to U.S.A.

102 tons of wire for export to U.K. is awaiting shipping.

Much effort is being expended to export a substantial quantity of lemons principally to U.S.A. This has entailed sending officers to Calabria to arrange for the shipment of lumber for packing cases to Sicily. 50 railway carloads of lumber have been received at Palermo and 900 tons at Catania. The first shipment of lemons will take place about 5 November.

Soap. Arrangements are proceeding for the manufacture of soap, but production has not yet started.

Clothing. Arrangements have been made with the firm Gull' of Palermo for the shipment of raw cotton to the M.O.H. to be returned spun for the manufacture of cotton goods and cloth. The finished product will be placed at the disposal of the High Commissioner in accordance with instructions received.

P.O.L. The following amounts of P.O.L. have been distributed:

Petrol	5551 bbls
Diesel Oil	11261 bbls.
Kerosene	4105 bbls.
Lubricants	5596 bbls.
Grease	8005 lbs.

Coal. The following amounts of coal were received during the month:

Western Sicily	Steam Coal	7775 tons
Western Sicily	Sardinian Coal	8000 tons

Arrangements have been completed that the responsibility for unloading of all imported coal will be delegated to the State Railways, as was the situation prior to our occupation. The railways will discharge the coal, make payment through the Italian Government, and issue the cargoes in accordance with directions of ACC. Records will be kept by the railways and reports made weekly to ACC.

Finance. Negotiations are still proceeding with the Bank of Sicily to liquidate, on behalf of the Italian Government, the debts due from the Provincial Consorzi.

U. A. COUNCIL, REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL

General del Popolo. As in August the grain campaign has occupied much of the attention of this headquarters as well as of regional, provincial and local Italian officials.

The comparative reports of the situation on 31 August 1944 and 30 September 1944 are set out.

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D. A. C. M. I. N. I. S. T. R. A. T. I. O. N. E. S. A. N. D. P. R. O. C. E. E. D. I. N. G. S.

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S E C U R E

PROVINCE	DURUM WHEAT	SOFT WHEAT	COMMON EARLY WHEAT HULL	31 August 1944 NUDE EARLY
Agrigento	109,352.55	5,998.14	7,141.53	23.00
Caltanissetta	213,739.00	260.00	19,570.00	
Catania	120,340.00	5,808.00	10,197.00	16.00
Enna	102,955.00	2,330.00	2,371.00	
Messina	3,264.65	2,311.95	206.75	
Palermo	60,163.40	480.10	1,297.50	48.55
Ragusa	62,241.69		13,294.11	10.22
Siracusa	64,281.00	3,006.00	6,349.00	24.00
Trapani	42,957.19	15.27	2,601.24	
TOTALS:	GRAND 801,203.93	BARLEY 65,639.90	TOTAL: 866,843.83 quintals	

PROVINCE	DURUM WHEAT	SOFT WHEAT	COMMON EARLY WHEAT HULL	30 September 1944 NUDE EARLY
Agrigento	154,678.64	6,792.09	15,265.35	23.00
Caltanissetta	261,100.00	418.00	29,712.00	
Catania	159,864.00	6,965.00	16,822.00	16.00
Enna	174,211.85	4,127.45	6,750.49	15.00
Messina	7,663.69	6,428.73	357.42	
Palermo	145,674.48	998.38	2,343.95	
Ragusa	66,537.00	558.00	13,804.00	36.00
Siracusa	79,750.00	3,356.00	10,710.00	29.00
Trapani	52,762.75	15.27	3,076.97	
TOTALS:	GRAND 1,154,952.33	BARLEY 98,961.18	TOTAL: 1,253,913.51	

Since the middle of September the return of grain has fallen off alarmingly. Frequent conferences have been held, efforts have been made to stimulate officials directly concerned with the amassing. Squads of Carabinieri are at work in one province. But it appears likely that coercion will produce only limited results.

Law enforcement, in connection with the violations of the grain laws, has received a big priority. 222 defendants were tried, resulting in 2512 convictions, of which 1257 were sent to prison. Approximately three-fourths of the sentences

Catania	120,340.00	5,000.00	10,197.00	16.00
Enna	102,955.00	2,330.00	2,371.00	
Messina	3,864.65	2,311.95	206.75	
Palermo	60,163.40	480.10	1,297.50	48.55
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TOTALS:	601,203.93	65,639.90	66,843.83	quintals

PROVINCE	DURUM WHEAT	SOFT WHEAT	CARSON EARLY WHEAT	30 September 1944 MUDS EARLY
Agrigento	154,678.64	6,792.09	15,265.35	23.00
Caltanissetta	221,100.00	418.00	29,712.00	
Catania	159,664.00	6,966.00	16,822.00	16.00
Enna	174,211.85	4,127.45	6,750.49	15.00
Messina	7,663.69	6,428.73	357.42	
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Law enforcement, in connection with the violations of the grain laws, has received a big priority. 2822 defendants were tried, resulting in 2512 convictions, of which 1257 were sent to prison. Approximately three-fourths of the sentences were for periods under 6 months. It is believed that the courts have been able to keep abreast of this particular work, although it is estimated that about 3000 such cases remain undisposed of.

Olive Oil. Arrangements are in hand for the emassing campaign. Crop prospects are good, and well above the average in Messina, Palermo and Agrigento. It is estimated that the yield should be a minimum of 195,000 quintals.

Live Stock. An inspection of the Stazione Sperimentale Zootechnica showed

marked improvement over previous inspections. Cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry were increasing in numbers and improving in quality. Prices of live stock are very high, a few examples being set out:

Draught bulls, a good pair, 142,000 liras
Cows from 40,000 liras to 100,000 liras
Young male, 50,000 liras
Sheep from 3000 to 4000 liras
Goats from 60 liras per Kg for beef & mutton
Wool 200 liras per Kg.
Cheese from 150 to 180 liras

Fertilizers. 1545 tons of ammonium nitrate have arrived for distribution. 3700 tons of rock phosphate have been delivered to Montecatini and 3000 tons of superphosphate manufactured.

Crop Reports.

Olive Oil	195,000 quintals
Citrus fruits	Slightly lower than average.
Carobs	Moderate production.
Almonds	Below average.
Legumes	Good production

LABOR

Strike occurred at the British owned asphalt mines at Ragusa. It lasted three days. Letters were satisfactorily adjusted and work was resumed.

Various proposals have appeared in the press relative to an additional indemnity to Italian workers. These proposals have been made the basis for agitation and dissatisfaction with present wage scales. These proposals contribute to the difficulties of maintaining industrial peace.

The delegation of British and American labor representatives spent five days in Sicily, were given access to information of interest to them and met Italian officials and labor leaders at various cities in the island.

R. PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

The public works program is proceeding without serious difficulties. About 12,000 workmen are being employed in public works in Messina Province at a cost of about 20,000,000 liras per month. If these men were taken from their work and put on relief, the cost would be about 14,400,000 liras per month. Hence 3/4 of the sum spent might have to be paid as relief without any resulting gain to the community. Relief expenditures for the current month in Messina Province were 2,000,000 liras. These facts represent the view of the Prefect of Messina.

The work on prisons is completed in the following percentages:

- a. Augusta 40%
- b. Favignana 25%
- c. Caltanissetta 70%

The approximate production of electricity will be for the next three months as set out:

October	Hydraulic	Thermal	Total
	6,800,000	2,500,000	15,000,000

Meat from 60 liras per Kg for beef & mutton
 Wool 200 liras per Kg.
 Cheese from 150 to 180 liras

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The delegation of British and American labor representatives spent five days in Sicily, were given access to information of interest to them and met Italian officials and labor leaders at various cities in the island.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

The public works program is proceeding without serious difficulties. About 12,000 workmen are being employed in public works in Messina Province at a cost of about 20,000,000 liras per month. If these men were taken from their work and put on relief, the cost would be about 14,400,000 liras per month. Hence 3/4 of the sum spent might have to be paid as relief without any resulting gain to the community. Relief expenditures for the current month in Messina Province were 2,000,000 liras. These facts represent the view of the Prefect of Messina.

The work on prisons is completed in the following percentages:

- a. Augusta 40%
- b. Favignana 25%
- c. Caltanissetta 70%

The approximate production of electricity will be for the next three months as set out:

	Hydraulic	Thermal	Total
October	6,800,000	8,500,000	15,000,000
November	6,450,000	8,200,000	14,650,000
December	9,250,000	8,500,000	17,750,000

Gas plants in Palermo, Catania and Trapani have been allotted a supply of coal and the plants are expected to be able to function about 15 October 1944.

C. PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE COURTS

While the crime situation is generally unsatisfactory, there has been, according

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to incomplete statistics, a slight decrease in serious crime. Several criminal bands are operating in Sicily, but at least two of these have been broken up by police activity.

Some concern is felt because of the withdrawal of 500 Carabinieri to the mainland and a larger and further number alerted for movement. It is appreciated that sacrifices must be made in order to police new territory taken over, but it is regarded as important that adequate numbers of Italian troops and police remain, to be able to deal with any contingency which might arise. Some of these contingencies are set out:

- a. Food situation -- the possible shortage of food.
- b. The growing strength of the Separatist movement.
- c. Increasing strength and organization of criminal elements and armed bands.
- d. Such withdrawal of police and military forces as to jeopardize the public safety situation in the island.

Passes are now issued by the Questure in each province, with a close control being maintained by this headquarters on vehicles leaving for the mainland.

Relations with military and Naval officials are satisfactory. 70 Sub-Area has now replaced 56 Area, as the authority responsible for military security.

Courts are functioning throughout the island, with a fair degree of efficiency. The higher officials are co-operative but are confronted with the shortage of transportation and communication as well as a shortage of officials.

154 cases were tried in which Allied/Italianist appeared. 120 of these were found guilty and 61 sent to prison. There are reported to be about 1730 such cases still awaiting trial.

Italian Military Courts have been operating at Palermo and Catania. 42 persons were tried for offenses involving Allied interest.

There have been no AM cases tried during September. 391 persons are still serving sentences imposed under AM.

Prisons are overcrowded, but some relief will come when the building and repair work, now under way, is completed. In the worst case, that of Catania, it is hoped that early release by the military authorities of a civil prison in the area used as a detention barracks, will solve the problem at an early date.

H. PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITARY

The health of the population is generally satisfactory. Malaria, typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever and enteric poliomylitis are showing a marked increase for the month. Under consideration is a project for opening a special hospital for segregation of those suffering from poliomylitis.

Vigorous action still continues to control V.D. 520 women were examined and of these 248 were found to be infected by V.D. and were detained for treatment.

I. EDUCATION

Schools in Sicily are scheduled to open on 4 November 1944. The printing of text books is held up on account of failure to receive the paper. There also will be a shortage of paper for copybooks for secondary schools. The lack of widow glass

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M. PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

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I. EDUCATION

Schools in Sicily are scheduled to open on 4 November 1944. The printing of text books is held up on account of failure to receive the paper. There also will be a shortage of paper for copybooks for secondary schools. The lack of window glass constitutes a major problem.

J. REFUGEES

The mortality rate among the refugees, particularly young children, is high, due to the conditions under which these people live. These conditions have been brought to the attention of the Italian authorities.

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Plans have been prepared for the repatriation of the refugees to the mainland when it becomes possible.

Self-repatriation of some refugees has given much concern to the authorities at Messina, who are required to house and feed these people, but notwithstanding the positive orders to the sindaco of the communes, the flow still continues.

Efforts are being made by the authorities in Sicily to provide blankets and better housing for the refugees as winter weather approaches.

M. COMMUNICATIONS

Military highways are in reasonable condition, but work on bridges has moved slowly. The rail line from Mersala to Castelvetro was opened to traffic early in September, thus completing the broad gauge rail lines for traffic throughout the island.

Telephonic service has shown improvement, although thefts of wire have continued. Telegraph service has been restored 100% in the western part of Sicily and about 75% in eastern Sicily. It is expected that during the month of October cable service will be re-instituted between Sicily and Pantelleria and Lampedusa.

The postal system is functioning reasonably well under Italian control.

I. PROPERTIES UNDER CONTROL

This division has given general supervision of the properties under control or in custody. The final disposition of many properties, is still awaiting the time when correspondence with owners in America is possible.

M. C. M. C. M.

M. C. M.
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

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...the made by the authorities in Sicily to provide blankets and better housing for the refugees as winter weather approaches.

K. COMMUNICATIONS

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M. GARY

M. GARY
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

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