1617

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

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10000/104/447
(VOL. I)

MONTHLY R
MAY 1945 -

1618

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10000/109/447
(VOL. I)

MONTHLY REPORTS, PIEMONTE REGION
MAY 1945 – JULY 1946

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All M. 102

107.

Ex Comm.
thro V.P.C.A.S. 113.

Please see attached report of Dott Vernani, Chief of Police, regarding the prevalence of Tuberculosis amongst the RS Agents. Their food ration varies slightly from the ration issued to the C.C.R.R., who draw Military rations. This has always been a sore point with the Agents, who consider that they too should be issued with Army Rations. In view of the present shortage of food this is little or no likelihood of an immediate increase in their ration.

2576/46.

E.J. Rye. Colonel.

108.

To: Executive Commissioner. M.P. 17 26th June 1946 5906

The question of increased rations and better accommodation for the Agents of Public Security is a very old question. P/A

This is not a matter in which we can intervene, and as the Chief of Police is fully alive to the situation it does not appear that any advice is necessary. It is an Italian Government matter, especially as regards accommodation when vast quantities of money, material and labour are being expended on re-building Italian pleasure resorts which might be better used elsewhere - a state of affairs which would never be permitted in a country such as Great Britain.

M. Carr Brigades

M. CARR, Brigadier.
VP. CA. SECTION.

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25/6/46.

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108.

To: Executive Commissioner. No. 117 26th June 1946 5906

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W Carr Brigadier
M. CARR, Brigadier.
VP. CA. SECTION.

Ex Comm:-
Monthly Report for June Piemonte Region is at 114-121. Passages of interest have been marked.
G. McM. 10/7 No. 117
An excellent report 88/10/7

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90.

~~C.C.~~ A/C.C.

Ref. m. 89. report on Memorialtion Roots for A/CC. G. McM. 10/4 H.S. 1014 Seen by L.C. H.S. 11/4

96.

~~L.C.~~ Ex Comm.

91 - 95. is monthly Report Piemonte Liaison Group for April. Passages of interest have been marked - a good report. #45

G. McM. 7/5. H.S. 915.

9

I agree. D.W. 26/5

Extract K on f. 94 Ext. Ref. D.W. 26/5

104.

~~L.C.~~ Ex Comm.

99-102 is Monthly Report Piemonte Liaison Group. Passage of Interest have been marked.

G. McM. 8/6. H.S. 816

105.

A very good report. P.S. Sub Com to refer

H.S. 105

~~action~~ in para VI

D.W. 8/6

106.

P.S. S/C. Please see minute 105 above

(para VI is Public Health folio 99)

11/6 G. McMaster 9/cond H.S.

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98. 91-93. 10 monthly Report Piemonte Liaison Group for April. Passages of interest have been marked - a good report.

845

G. mc M. 7/5. HS. 915.

9/

I agree. DW/20/5.

Extract K to F 94 to Fr. Ref. DW/8/11

104.

100. Ex Comm.

99-102 is Monthly Report Piemonte Liaison Group. Passage of interest have been marked.

G. mc M. 8/6. HS. 816

105.

A very good report. P.S. sub Comm to refer

J 105

on para VI

DW/8/0

106.

P.S. 8/6. Please see minute 105 above (para VI is Public Health folio 99)

11/6 G. McMaster Ø/cond HS.

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~~27~~ 63.

~~CS~~/Fac. 15/11
Please see October monthly report for Piemonte. Passages of interest are marked. Caption was drawing Tan verbal.
BS. 14/11.

~~CS~~/Fac. 8/1 70.
Please see December monthly report for Piemonte at 64-68. Passages of interest have been marked.
BS 8/1

Hess 76.
January report for Piemonte is at 71-75. Passages of interest have been marked.
BS 15/2.

77.

~~CS~~ Miss L.
P 74. para 5 } (excluding brackets) to AFHQ
P 75 para 3 } with covering letter. BS/20/2
→ See folio 78, further action on 5811/EQ 5504

~~ALSO~~ to Comm.
84.
At 79-84 is monthly report for February from Piemonte. Passages of interest are marked. Caption faithfully reflected to a change. BS 4/3 JK.613

BS/14

~~CS~~ AI.C.C. 88.
84-87 is monthly report for March from Piemonte.

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Secret monthly report for Piemonte at 64-68. Passages of interest have been marked.

HS 8/1

Hess 76.

January report for Piemonte is at 71-75. Passages of interest have been marked.

HS 15/2.

77.

~~Cso~~ Miss L.

P 74 Para 5 } (excluding brackets) DAFFQ

P 75 Para 3 } with covering letter. HS/26/2

→ See folio 78, further action on 5 HEGG 3904

~~Hess~~ Dr Comm. 84.

At 79-84 is monthly report for February from Piemonte. Passages of interest are marked. Delightfully punctual to a change.

HS 4/3 H.S. 6/3

TTV/17

~~Cso~~ Al.C.C. 88.

84-87 is monthly report for March from Piemonte. I think this is a good report.

H.McM. 8/4. H.S. 9/4

89.

I should like to see the useful sent to P. Mac Soft by the Hosta demonstration

TTV/14

1625

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53.

Ex. Comm.

Please see Fremantle report for September at 50.
Passages of interest have been marked
T-HEC 12/10 BD 12/10.

C&O.

54

1. Please bring up (4) of Pt I at Ex Comm meeting
2. " " (9) of Pt II " " " " } BD noted 12/10
3 " " (19). " " " " " "
4 I should like to have similar reports from Stha Regions on theirlines in order to put a consolidation statement in A.S. monthly report (N.B. together Refunds from ACHOs.)

BD 12/12

Para 4 noted. BD.

DDUS

82.

C&O. Please see Fremantle monthly report for November at 55-60. Passages of interest have been marked.

BS. 14/12.

CSO

Piemonte Reg June report is interesting. Passage of interest are marked but on the whole emphasis is on conditions about which we know already.

16/7/45

27

Capt Anderson

M. ref abt FIAT

para 14 page 24

16/7

36

CLO

Monthly Report re Piemonte is at folios.

34-29

14/JUL

43

Executive Communications

Please see monthly report on Piemonte Region at folios 37 to 42. Passages of interest have been marked.

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16/7/45

27

Capt Amendola

M. enc about FIAT

para 19 page 24

16/7

36.

CLO

Monthly Report for Piemonte is at folios.

34 - 29

14/8. 14/8.JU2

43

Executive Commissioner

Please see monthly report for Piemonte Region at folios 37 to 42. Passages of interest have been marked.

Fmc 5/10. BD 2/10.

See my notes on Emilia Bologna CO report

AA 9/10.

Fmc 5/10.

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Eccmi.

An excellent report from Piemonte. I have marked a few places. In particular p. 7 fifth a depressing threat hanging report. On page 4 marked X is a statement which I suggest bounds clearing with the RC regarding Italian setting Pow status.

ET 25/6

17.

CSO.

A good report. I can write separately to V.P. Econ Sec on the question of the effect of the new overall Industrial Committee in Milan on the Regional Committees. This will need tactful handling.

I suggest CofS distribution of these reports.

IVE/17 C

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5901

Premiate. I have marked
a few places. In particular
p. 7 first a depressing Wheat
harvest report. On page 4
I marked X a statement
which I suggest we ought clearly
link to RC regarding Italian
getting POW status.

ET 25/6

17.

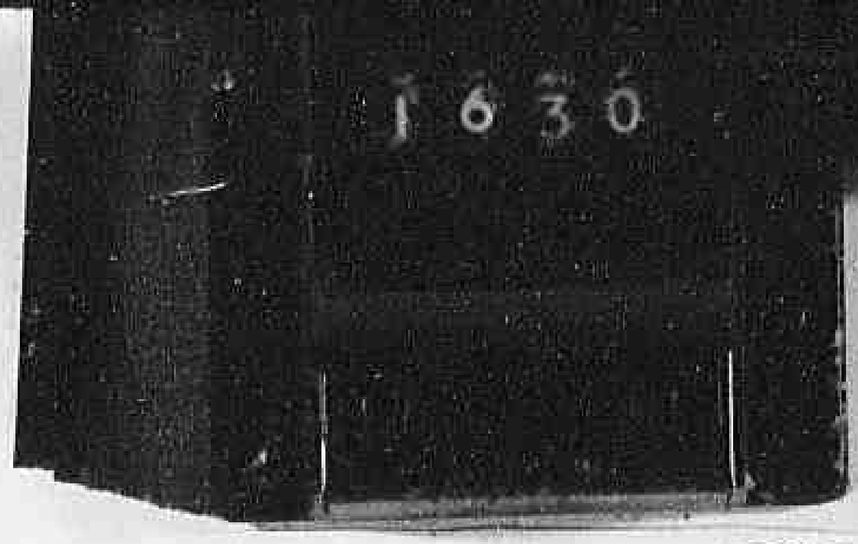
CSO.

A good report. I can write separately
to V.P. Econ Sec on the question of the effect
of the new overall Industrial Committee 5901
in Milan on the Regional Committees. This will
need tactful handling.

I suspect Cpl Mitchell writes these reports.

DW 1/7 ET 2/7

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~~9012~~ 821 121

JUL 10 1946

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON GROUP
PIEMONTE REGION

5 July 1946

FILE: PR/CLO/MR

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Piemonte Liaison Group - June 1946

TO: Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APO 794.

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Sec M-122

(4 DCR)

120

CONFIDENTIAL

I

POLITICAL

The political situation after the elections gives the impression of a huge anti-climax. The elections themselves, after the intense and noisy propaganda of the parties, were held in an atmosphere of calm and quasi-religious solemnity. As already reported, it is impossible to speak too highly of the conduct of the Piedmontese during the electoral period. No incidents of any kind marred the disciplined behaviour of the people throughout the entire Region and the authorities and the people have every right to congratulate themselves on the demonstration they gave to the world of their political maturity and civic-mindedness.

Following the declaration of the victory of the republic, ceremonies were held in Turin and other Provincial cities to inaugurate the republic. These were well attended by the citizens generally and no untoward incidents occurred. The few days in which the King was apparently undecided as to whether or not he would accept the result of the referendum were the occasion of a certain amount of tenseness, particularly in monarchical circles, but his final departure cleared the air.

Political activity has much diminished and the ordinary citizen is now going about his business patiently awaiting the new Heaven and new Earth that will be produced by the Republic and the Constituente. There seems to exist among some of the more wealthy supporters of the Monarchy and the "right", a feeling of relieved surprise that their properties have not yet been confiscated and this feeling must also extend to some of the less intelligent supporters of the "left" who imagined that a left wing victory would be the signal for an immediate 'free-for-all' to their personal advantage.

The decisions of the Council of Foreign Ministers regarding the fate of Briga, Tenda and Moncenisio have come as a great blow to the bulk of the population of Piemonte, and more particularly to the pro-Italian occupants of these Communes. The impression left in the minds of the occupants of the two former Communes following the recent visit of the Allied Commission of Enquiry, was that the Commission generally was in favour of the Italian claims to these territories. The decision of the Ministers has therefore come as a great shock. The immediate re-action is expressed in pained surprise that France should have made the requests, followed by an expression of general anti-French sentiments. At a much later stage sentiments are also expressed against the Allies for agreeing to the French demands.

The inhabitants of these towns have, under the circumstances, so far behaved with great forebearance, conditioned activities having been confined to a few cases of wall writing. It is noteworthy that the local police have not shown a deal of commonsense in handling this matter, as although they arrested (and subsequently released) five men for writing pro-French slogans at Tenda, no arrests have yet taken place of persons responsible for pro-Italian slogans at Briga, a circumstance which has not failed to arouse comment among the pro-French elements and in the Nice newspapers. It is said that a number of Italians are preparing to leave

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5899.

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Separatist feelings are much less tense, though in general, a similar atmosphere maintains. More feeling is, however, manifested at Susa, the nearest town of any size, where the population feels itself menaced by the proposed French encroachment. A large demonstration of protest was held in the town and passed off in an orderly manner. Some suggestion of a general strike for one hour as a protest against the decision of the Ministers was made in labour circles in Turin but action eventually culminated in telegrams of disapproval being sent to the Government.

There is much more general concern expressed over the ultimate fate of Trieste, and although no doubt if the town should ultimately be brought under international control this decision would be accepted as the lesser of two evils; a contrary decision to hand the town over to Tito and the sphere of Russian influence would arouse a storm of indignation and most possibly acts of disorder. Trieste is represented as being more Italian than many Italian towns and undoubtedly there is general apprehension as to its fate.

There has been a considerable improvement in the situation in the Aosta valley, which since the elections has presented an atmosphere of calm. Prior to the elections the Valdostani made a good deal of propaganda, including appeals to the populace to spoil their ballot papers by writing "plebiscite" across the form. The appeal received little support, only about 1500 ballot papers being spoiled in this way. The elections in the Valley, as elsewhere, were held in peaceful calm. It is reported that the movement to annex the valley to France is almost dead and it is noteworthy that the French have made no territorial claims in the valley. It is thought by some that separationists and annexationists may stage demonstrations during the Peace Conference, but in view of the apparent lack of interest across the border this would appear to be unlikely. The President of the Valley, Dr. CHABOD, seems to enjoy much more public confidence than a few months ago and there is no doubt that the populace generally are satisfied with the present trend of events in their valley.

The Regional press (with the notable exception of L'Unità) reports fairly objectively on the conduct of affairs in Paris which at the moment is occupying most of the news-space .... "L'Unità" on the other hand is very busy presenting Molotoff as being more pro-Italian than the Italians, and the only sure shield and buckler of the helpless new-born Italian Republic against the avaricious, imperialistic, capitalistic Anglo-Saxons. It is rather amusing to note the way in which every journalistic wile is employed to conceal any apparent anti-Italian suggestion being attributed to Soviet sources - no mention has appeared, for instance, in "L'Unità" of the Soviet demand for 100,000,000 dollars to be paid to the U.S.S.R., whilst full publicity is accorded to England's demand for control of the Italian colonies.

There is expressed in all the Regional publications, however, a lively feeling of betrayal by the Allies at Paris of promises made during the war, of short memory and lack of appreciation of the efforts made by Italy to redeem her Fascist past and a general feeling that Italy could not have been treated much worse if she had refrained from co-belligerency.

There have been no signs of Neo-Fascist activities in this Region and one cannot dismiss the feeling that such alarms as have been raised during the past few months in this respect were merely pre-election propaganda. Organised fascism in this Region is as dead as the Dodo, although too hard a peace treaty and/or disastrous economic conditions may do much to foster conditions favourable to a resurrection.

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II

PUBLIC SAFETY

The situation with regard to Public Order remains excellent. No political crimes have been reported and there have been no demonstrations or disorders involving violence. The fact that the elections were able to be held in peaceful conditions despite widespread apprehension on this point is not only a compliment to the good sense of the Italian people but also largely to be placed to the credit of the Prefects and the law enforcing agencies who concerted measures to protect the polling stations etc, etc, and at the same time to preserve the peace. The measure of their success is the result obtained, i.e., not one case reported which necessitated police interference to preserve order.

There appears to have been a slight increase of highway robberies, but nothing of an alarming nature, and there has been also a slight increase in homicides and persons found dead, apparently murdered. Crime generally, however, is on the decrease, and in the most serious crimes reported the perpetrators have been arrested. Police have made many excellent arrests and particularly so in regard to serious crimes committed immediately after the liberation.

The Carabinieri Reali, with their long association with the Royal House have been rather shaken with the republican victory and at first there was much loose talk of resignations on the part of some officers. Time, however, mellows all things, and after the passing of only a few days it has become apparent to all ranks that even a republican administration needs a sound Police Force and that an oath to a King is an oath to the head of the country as representing the nation, whether a monarchy or a republic. In other words, the Carabinieri Reali will continue to perform their traditional duty of preserving the Peace. This is all to the good, as despite a temporary set-back in public confidence during the partigianni period, the CCRR are fast regaining the esteem in which they were previously held in Italy and it is largely due to this esteem and the confidence which it engenders that so much information is passing from the public to the Carabinieri and enabling them to perform some really first class police work in the detection of long-standing crimes.

During the month, Colonel D'Ambrosi has arrived in Turin to take command of the Public Safety Division of the Piemonte Region. This heralds the placing of the Public Safety Agents on a quasi-military basis, grouped in Divisions - Brigades - Battalions etc. From the point of view of administrative control, supplies and discipline this is probably not a bad move, particularly as it will bring all auxiliary police, partisan police battalions etc. under a centralised command under the Ministry of the Interior, and (providing the weeding-out process is firm enough) will provide the opportunity for the removal of the more undesirable elements - the politically compromised etc, etc. An obvious danger, however, is the fact that there are now two militarily organised police bodies in the country - the CCRR, under the Ministry of War, and the Public Safety Agents under the Ministry of the Interior. The political danger period has been reached and passed with the elections but it is easy to visualise an eventuality (which with the defeat of the Monarchy at the referendum will not arise) in which these two armed police bodies might have found themselves in opposite camps.

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The CCRR do not view this re-organisation of the Agenti with equanimity, as they foresee the possibility of the Corps of the Carabinieri being gradually absorbed into the Agenti organisation with the loss of their particular traditions and their privileges.

Much as one, with an English police background, would like to establish a unified Police Force in Italy, it is felt that the establishment of such a Force should be on a civilian rather than a military basis - but perhaps it is too early to do this in Italy - and the present move may after all prove to be an initial step to a Police Force as we understand it.

No change has occurred in the status of the Railway Police during the month, but it is pleasing to be able to report some very good police work by this despised body. Quite a number of black market cases have been brought to light by their efforts and a lot of useful material sequestrated from racketeers.

By order from the Minister of the Interior all casinos unofficially operating have been closed down (or transformed into dancing clubs) by the Questore. This was a long over-due operation, as the number of these gambling houses was becoming a national scandal, with people in high places said to be engaged in protecting them.

## III

## EMOLIOS

The cost of living remains about the same with a tendency to increase. Flour and soup ingredients are amongst the articles which have risen in price, whilst butter, dried fruits, oil, milk and wine tend to decrease. The price of fresh fruit, much of which has been damaged this year by rains, remains very high. The scarcity of flour has given rise this month to many small demonstrations, complaining of the scarcity, or the quality, of bread issued on ration. In some cases, owing to shortage of flour, it was found necessary to issue maize flour in substitution for the bread ration. The quality of bread throughout the Region has led to much open grumbling which eventually caused the Association of Bakers to issue a statement to the press saying that the fault was not theirs but was due to the poor quality of adulterated flour issued to them for baking. They added hopefully that they thought that matters would be improved in a few days with the arrival of new grain (I am informed that since then the quality has improved slightly but my informant is not too sanguine that this will be maintained). The usual paradox must be reported that even with the bread demonstrations in one commune it is still possible to see excellent white bread on sale in the next commune.

Harvesting of hay this year has been retarded and in many instances hay has been ruined by the torrential rains which have prevailed in the Region. The harvest of corn, however, and also that of rice and gran-turco promises to be excellent. Rice cultivation has been put back by industrial disputes in the rice-fields but these now appear to have been settled and the work of rice-cleaning is proceeding satisfactorily.

The high cost of wages to agricultural workers has resulted in the employment of the fewest number of labourers possible but this has been offset to a certain extent by a recent assignment of carburants to agriculturalists which has made the use of machines easier. Chemicals, particularly phosphates, are very scarce, but anti-parasitics are

establishment of such a Force should be on a civilian rather than a military basis - but perhaps it is too early to do this in Italy - and the present move may after all prove to be an initial step to a Police Force as we understand it.

No change has occurred in the status of the Railway Police during the month, but it is pleasing to be able to report some very good police work by this despised body. Quite a number of black market cases have been brought to light by their efforts and a lot of useful material sequestrated from racketeers.

By order from the Minister of the Interior all casinos unofficially operating have been closed down (or transformed into dancing clubs) by the Questore. This was a long over-due operation, as the number of these gambling houses was becoming a national scandal, with people in high places said to be engaged in protecting them.

III

ECONOMICS

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Health of cattle etc., is reported good but with a certain amount of disease amongst poultry. A large increase in milk production is reported.

Hail storms have caused some damage to crops, particularly in the Cuneo - Saluzzo area which seems to suffer from these visitations.

Unemployment remains fairly constant throughout the Region although in the Biella (wool and cloth) district factories are working full time and are taking on extra hands.

Coal is still the great need of the factories. Fiat's for instance state that they have all the steel etc. which they need to allow them to go into full production but their great deficiency is coal. At present this firm, which is really the heart of Turin, is turning out 40% of its pre-war production. This, considering the damage which has been done to their machinery and their installation generally and which is all in the course of repair, is really a first-class effort, but the Directors stress that the solution for all their difficulties is coal. Much hope is centred in the recent negotiations with Belgium for the importation of Belgian coal and the absorption of unemployed Italian workers into the Belgian coal mines.

There have been a number of short-lived strikes, particularly in Valsesia (cloth goods) and at Ivrea (Olivetti typewriters). The latter dispute was settled in a few days by intervention of Turin, but not a small item in persuading the workers to return to work was a statement by a Director of the firm that he would be quite happy if the strike lasted a year as the firm had too many manufactured machines in stock and he would be happy not to have to pay further wages until some of these goods were disposed of.

There have been demonstrations in the last few days by Reduci, ex-deportees and ex-partigianni in most towns in the Region, protesting against the alleged failure of various enterprises, statal, para-statal and private firms to assume into industry the quota of this class of person that is required by law. These demonstrations have been held in an orderly manner and their demands are being considered by the various Prefects in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce etc.

A citizens' committee formed some time ago for the purpose of reconstruction work in Turin, and backed by such concerns as Fiat, the Chamber of Commerce etc. has found itself up against obstacles in the shape of needed ministerial approvals for this and that. With important reconstruction work waiting and with the added fact of labour needing employment, this alleged bureaucratic obstruction is causing much comment in Turin itself.

Manufacturers complain that business is stationary, and that no orders for goods are forthcoming. They have been assuring themselves that things would be better "after the Costituente" - they are now looking forward to "after the Peace Treaty" and it is to be hoped that that is the solution.

## IV
## PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES

Bad weather and insufficient supplies of cement have contributed to a slowing up of public works. Roads, however, are showing a decided improvement and moving throughout the Region one is struck by the [illegible] that has been effected in the last few months.

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In Cuneo Province, work on the road tunnel to Tenda appears to be proceeding very slowly and one has the impression that the political situation is producing an atmosphere of ca'canny. Strangely enough roadwork and bridge building in the Tenda zone itself is proceeding apace, three bridges having been completed in the last two weeks.

It is thought that the Genio Civile is speeding up all work authorised by AMG, including 159 buildings, 137 jobs on roadways and bridges and 33 jobs connected with hydraulic power.

Abundant supplies of water due to heavy rains and melting snow have removed all difficulties in connection with the supply of electric power but large users of electricity are still asked to conserve current as much as possible. The probability of the French control of the power supplies at Briga/Tenda and at Moncenisio is naturally a nightmare to the industrialists who are sceptical as to how long the proposed clause in the peace treaty (to compel France to continue supplies of current to Italy) will be honoured. In the event of war between the two countries it is obvious that France would be able to cripple the industries of Northern Italy overnight.

V

DISPLACED PERSONS

Camp 17 I.T. Turin is functioning well under a new camp director and no further troubles have been reported there.

A barracks at Rivoli near Turin has been requisitioned on behalf of UNRRA and is expected to function shortly with accommodation for 11,000 persons.

The removal of a number of Belgian refugees to Belgium by arrangement with their own government has eased the displaced persons problem at Novara.

VI

PUBLIC HEALTH

No serious epidemics reported during the month; a large number of cases of tuberculosis continue to be denounced: in the Province of Turin 132 cases. Figures are not available from other provinces but are probably not so high, as the majority of cases reported, as one would expect, in Turin city itself. Measles and scarlatina have been prevalent but not to a serious extent.

VII

TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

Nothing unusual to report.

VIII

LEGAL

The recent amnesty announced by the Italian Government has been received with mixed feelings. In some quarters considerable disquiet has been expressed at the release of certain types of prisoners e.g., a number of men were released from Turin prison who were responsible for "terrorisation" of Vercelli during the republican period. At Vercelli this news has been received with much disapproval. Though no incidents of men released from jail being attacked by the populace

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It is thought that the Genio Civile is speeding up all work authorised by AMG, including 169 buildings, 197 jobs on roadways and bridges and 55 jobs connected with hydraulic power.

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The amnesty, however, is having a good effect in reducing the prison population and the Procuratore Generale states that so far the population has been diminished by about 20%.

More attention is being given to the question of prisoners held without trial and the numbers of these are also being gradually reduced.

I have requested a survey of all prisons in the Region to see whether by any mischance any untried prisoners are still held at the disposition of AMG; so far the result has been negative and the Procuratore agrees with me that it is extremely unlikely that any will be found in Piemonte. Should such cases be found, however, appropriate action will be taken.

F.C. GREEN,
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MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

General Direction P.S.

N.0050

22 June 46.

JUN 26 1946

Report of the sanitary situation of the Police Armed Forces.

Tuberculosis is an illness which is frequently encountered amongst the personnel of the Corps of the P.S. Guards, and actually it is constant and progressively increasing.

From the statistical data gathered with the last twelve months, tuberculosis amongst the P.S. Guards in Rome varies 9 per 1000, this denotes a very serious situation, as said illness amongst the civilian population is much less, 5 per 1000.

No less worrisome is the situation of the P.S. Division of Torino formed in May 1945, and to which young men full of spirit joined, but who have bore the indelible signs of the sufferings undergone due to the partisan life of the mountains, the lack of treatment, food, privations common to the prisoners of the fascist prisons or of the German Lager.

Not even the most accurate medical visits succeed in discovering the symptoms of the infection, which explode when the subjects, exposed to the inclemency of the weather, cold, heat, dampness, and dust during day and night, are obliged to face discomforts greater than those which any man can support.

Many are the causes for the persistence of the illness and its becoming worse; they can mainly be summed up as follows:

1. The deficient lodgings in barracks of the personnel, often obliged to live in unsuitable premises. Without the least elementary comforts and hygiene, with no heating, often living in buildings without any doors nor windows, with little water and no soap. Many agents, for lack of accomodation live in private houses, bearing the dangers of the surroundings, those married live in painful promiscuity, often parents and children crowded into one room.

These phenomena, common in all territories, are more serious in semi-destroyed Torino, where the auxiliary agents have been able to occupy odd barracks which have still been in a state of repair right in the heart of winter, whilst the effective ones live in the Commissariati buildings in unsuitable premises, without any air, light nor hygiene, the whole, made worse by the invasion of bedbugs.

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The claims to t/ Provincial Administratio in charge and responsible for the service, have been in vain.

2. The inadequate sanitary assistance of the personnel, due to the lack of a proper doctor for the Corps, the serious deficiency in medicines, the poorness of hospitals and sanitary materinl, destroyed by the war, the prohibition of the agents from being admitted to the military hospitals with consequent extra expences, being obliged to pay a rate of 400 - 500 lire per day, each time the infirmity is not recognised to be depending on service.

There is a long chain of obstacles which burdens this problem, on it's own sad and serious, and which the administration has not succeeded in overcoming but which will still have to be resolved by the best means.

3. The service which increases more and more owing to the conditions of public order and the spreading of delinquency, with the obligation of turns of duty sometimes infernal, is not compensated by a good and healthy rest and even more abundant and substantial meal.

4. Finally the food ration which the P.S. guards, a while ago, were allowed to enjoy, which, causing denutritution, concurs with the fatigue, deficient clothing and the unsuitable lodgings in rendering always more critical the sanitary conditions of the Corps.

The food ration, as it is was established in October 1944 for the auxiliary armed forces and was noticeably smaller than that of the Army and C.C.R.R. may be because, it was thought that the agents did not f ight.

That ration scarsely reached the 3000 calories, byt a few items are still today distributed irregularly, others only theoretically, owing to their absence, therefore also such limit cannot be said to have been achieved; when it is considered that for a working man who needs energies to keep up with the exigencies of the service, not less than 4500 calories are required, everyone seee the necessity for urgent and radical changes, increasing the proteins which are in great defect, besides the bread and foodstuffs.

Meanwhile the Administration suggests that a new ration scale be made abolishing those foodstuffs which are not necessary and not appreciated - such as - powdered soups, pepper, dried fruit, fresh fruit, wine, and arranging for new quantities as follows :

Bread - 600 grs; Pasta or Rice - 200 grs; Meat with bone - 250 grs legumes - 100 grs; Olive oil - 35 grs; Tomato paste - 25 grs; Fresh vegetables - 300 grs; Salt - 20 grs; Salame or cheese - 100 grs; Coffee - 10 grs; Sugar - 28 grs; Rate per day - 15 lire.

This ration would almost give 4000 calories, with the advantage of being more homogeneous, more suitable to all tastes, responding to the desires of the personnel, even though it will not overcome the insidious illness of tubercolosis.

But to be able to do so, the help of the Allies is required, or their direct intervention, which would guarantee the supplies of

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foodstuffs or at l[illegible]t integrate the substance into a permanent and equal basis; only in such manner the alimentation problem might be partly resolved.

Summing up - As it is not possible to alleviate the service because it depends on outside factors, the provisions apt to improve the sanitary situation of the Corps cannot be but the following :

1. Re-organisation of the sanitary service, renewed possibilit of recovery into hospitals and military sanatoriums; distributions of medicines and soap, if not free of charge at least at reasonable prices.

2. Improvement of lodgings with special attention to the barracks, without neglecting the problem of lodgings outside of barracks, both for the un-married agents and for those with wife and children.

3. Improvement, integration and increase of the rations to the utmost limit, so that the body can bear the hardships and fatigues of the Police service.

The Head of Police

/s/ Ferrari.

Translation ac/

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# Ministero dell'Interno

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

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N.0050

Roma, li 22 Giugno 1946

Relazione sulla situazione sanitaria delle Forze Armate di Polizia.-

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La tubercolosi è malattia che con preoccupante frequenza si riscontra nel personale del Corpo delle Guardie di P.S., ed attualmente essa è in costante e progressivo aumento.-

Dai dati statistici raccolti negli ultimi dodici mesi, la morbilità per tubercolosi fra le Guardie di P.S. in Roma oscilla intorno al 9 per mille, indice questo di gravissima situazione, ove si pensi che la morbilità per detta malattia fra la popolazione civile è di molto inferiore, aggirandosi sul 5 per mille.-

Né meno preoccupante è la situazione dei reparti della Divisione Guardie di Torino, costituitasi nel Maggio 1945, ed alla quale affluivano giovani e uomini ardenti di spirito, ma che recavano indelebili i segni delle sofferenze dovute alla vita partigiana di montagna, alla mancanza di cure, alla scarsa alimentazione, alle privazioni comuni ai detenuti delle carceri fasciste o dei lager tedeschi.-

Visite mediche anche accurate non riescono a scoprire i sintomi dell'infezione, che esplodono nel momento in cui i soggetti, esposti alle intemperie, al freddo od al caldo, all'umido, alla polvere, dei giorni o delle notti, sono obbligati a sottoporre il loro fisico a strapazzi e disagi maggiori di quelli che ognuno può sopportare.-

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Molteplici sono le cause del persistere e dell'aggravarsi del male; ma a grandi linee possono riassumersi come segue:

I°) Il deficiente accasermamento del Personale obbligato spesso a vivere in locali inadatti, privi di ogni elementare comodità e d'igiene, senza riscaldamento, spesso in stabili privi di imposte o di vetri, con scarsa acqua e senza sapone. Molti Agenti per mancanza di caserme vivono in case private, subendo i pericoli dell'ambiente; gli ammogliati vivono in penosa promiscuità, affollati spesso in una camera sola genitori e figli.-

Questi fenomeni, comuni in tutto il territorio, sono più gravi per Torino, città semidistrutta, dove gli Agenti ausiliari hanno potuto occupare qualche caserma che si è venuta riattando ancora nel cuore dell'inverno, mentre gli effettivi vivono nei Commissariati cittadini in locali inadatti, fatiscenti, senza aria, senza luce e senza alcuna comodità igienica, il tutto aggravato da invasione di parassiti.-

I richiami all'Amministrazione Provinciale, incaricata e responsabile del servizio, sono riusciti vani;

2°) la inadeguata assistenza sanitaria del Personale, dovuta alla mancanza di un servizio medico proprio del Corpo, alla deficienza grave di medicinali, alla carenza di Ospedali e sale mediche materialmente distrutte dalla guerra, al divieto fatto al Personale Agenti di essere ammessi in Ospedali militari con conseguente aggravio di spesa, dato che essi sono obbligati ad una retta di 400 o 500 lire giornaliere, tutte le volte che la infermità non è riconosciuta dipendente da causa di servizio.-

Vi è tutta una catena di contrarietà che aggrava questo problema di per sè triste e grave, e che l'Amministrazione non è riuscita a vincere ma che dovrà pur risolvere nella migliore maniera.-

3°) Il peso del servizio che si rende sempre più gravoso a causa delle condizioni dell'ordine pubblico e del dilagare della delinquenza,

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# Ministero dell'Interno

con obbligo di turni e prestazioni a volte massacranti, non compensati da un sano riposo e più ancora da abbondanti e sostanziosi pasti;

4°) E finalmente la razione viveri di cui le Guardie di P.S. furono tempo fa ammesse a godere, che, causando denutrizione, concorre con l'affaticamento, il deficiente vestiario, e le improprietà degli alloggi a rendere sempre più critiche le condizioni sanitarie del Corpo.-

La razione viveri, così come è composta, fu stabilita nell'Ottobre 1944 per le Forze Armate ausiliarie ed era notevolmente più scarsa di quella dell'Esercito e di quella dei Carabinieri, forse perché, si pensava, gli Agenti di P.S. non combattevano.-

Quella razione rasentava appena le 3000 calorie, ma alcuni generi sono ancora oggi distribuiti irregolarmente, altri solo teoricamente, a causa della loro mancanza, di talché anche tale limite non può dirsi raggiunto; e quando si considera che per un uomo valido che lavora e che ha bisogno di energie per far fronte alle esigenze del servizio, occorrono non meno di 4500 calorie, non vi è chi non veda la necessità di urgenti radicali innovazioni, aumentando le proteine animali, che oggi fanno grave difetto, nonché il pane ed i generi da minestra.-

L'Amministrazione proporrebbe pertanto una nuova razione che abolendo i generi non necessari, o non graditi, quali la soupe essiccata, il pepe, la frutta secca, la frutta fresca, il vino, stabilisca nuove quantità come appresso:

Pane gr.600, pasta o riso gr.200, carne di bue con osso gr.250, legumi secchi gr.100, olio di ulivo gr.35, concentrato pomodoro gr.25, verdura fresca gr.300, sale gr.20, frattaglie, salame, o formaggio fresco gr.100, caffè gr.10, zucchero gr.28, quota a disposizione l.15 giornaliere.-



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con obbligo di turni e prestazioni a volte massacranti, non compensati da un sano riposo e più ancora da abbondanti e sostanziosi pasti;

4°) E finalmente la razione viveri di cui le Guardie di P.S. furono tempo fa ammesse a godere, che, causando denutrizione, concorre con l'affaticamento, il deficiente vestiario, e la improprietà degli alloggi a rendere sempre più critiche le condizioni sanitarie del Corpo.-

La razione viveri, così come è composta, fu stabilita nell'Ottobre 1944 per le Forze Armate ausiliarie ed era notevolmente più scarsa di quella dell'Esercito e di quella dei Carabinieri, forse perché, si pensava, gli Agenti di P.S. non combattevano.-

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Questa razione darebbe quasi 4000 calorie, col vantaggio di essere più omogenea, più adatta ai gusti, più rispondente ai desideri del personale, anche se non varrà da sola a debellare il male insidioso della tubercolosi.-

Ma per poterlo fare ha bisogno dell'aiuto generoso Alleato, o di un suo intervento diretto, che garantisca l'approvvigionamento dei generi o quanto meno ne integri la sostanza a carattere permanente ed uniforme; e solo così il problema alimentare, anche se non definitivamente risolto, potrà ritenersi avviato alla migliore soluzione.-

Ricapitolando: dato che non è possibile alleviare il servizio, perché esso dipende da fattori estranei, i provvedimenti intesi a migliorare la situazione sanitaria del Corpo non possono essere che i seguenti:

I°) Riordinamento del servizio sanitario; ripristinata possibilità di ricoveri in Ospedali e sanatori militari; distribuzioni di medicinali e sapone, se non gratuite almeno a prezzi accessibili;

2°) Miglioramento alloggi con speciale riguardo alle caserme, senza trasourare peraltro il problema degli alloggi fuori caserma, sia per le Guardie celibi che per le Guardie con moglie e figli;

3°) Miglioramento, integrazione e rafforzamento della razione viveri sino al limite del possibile, perché l'organismo possa sopportare gli stenti e le fatiche del servizio di Polizia.-

Il Capo della Polizia

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ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON GROUP
PIEMONTE REGION

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2 June 1946

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CONFIDENTIAL

I

POLITICAL

1. The national elections, in this Region, as in the rest of Italy, are spurring the politically minded to feverish activity. Meetings of all parties have been held during the month and in most cases the speakers have been heard with patience, if not always with enthusiasm. There has, however, been a continuing refusal to afford "free speech" to "Uomo Qualunque" and the clever left wing device of identifying, in the public mind, this movement with Fascism, has so far prevented the movement from making much propaganda. Local printers have even refused to print Turin editions of the daily paper "BUON SENSO" and the weekly "Uomo Qualunque" which are printed in Rome.

The finish of the month sees the towns of the Region, particularly the capital, Turin, plastered to high heaven, (literally) with political bills of all parties, including, astonishingly enough when one recalls the situation of three months ago, an enormous quantity of monarchist propaganda.

The abdication of Victor Emanuel has undoubtedly caused an extraordinary swing towards the Monarchy and the ex-King has become the pascal victim, sacrificed to redeem the faults of the house of SAVOIA. The visit of the King Umberto II to Turin, during the month, made a strong appeal to the sentiments of loyalist Torinesi who gathered outside the Royal palace and discussed the royal presence, in some cases, with tear-laden eyes. There has been, in the past few weeks, an enormous swing in popular opinion towards the Monarchy and the last minute proclamation, offering another referendum after the establishment of the Costituente, a very clever stroke, has probably in itself been responsible for attracting many waverers from the republic to the Monarchy. It is doubtful, however, whether this transference of votes will be sufficient to effect the result of the referendum and to prevent another flight into Egypt.

The situation in the border towns of Tenda and Briga remains stationary, with the inhabitants a little tired of waiting for a decision as to their future status and becoming somewhat cynical; seeing themselves used as pawns in the political machinations of both France and Italy (not to mention those of the "BIG" Three)

The Aosta valley has been considerably quieter during the month and there has been no repetition of the violence of two months ago. The energetic measures taken by the CC.RR to round up the people responsible evidently had a salutary effect on the Valdostani trouble makers.

Rumours of French claims on Moncenisio have caused a certain perturbation in the Val di Susa and strong demonstrations of protest have been staged in Susa itself. There have, however, been no disorders and the situation is satisfactorily quiet.

Despite the activity of the politically minded and the fact that the Piemontesi will undoubtedly go to the poll in large numbers, both for the referendum and the Costituente, the mass of the population are much more concerned with the cost of living and the immediate day-to-day problems than they are with politics, and it is by no means unusual to hear the phrase, "Basta la politica; lavoriamo!".

Reports from Paris, as to the intentions of the Allies to divide up the Italian Fleet and to deprive Italy of her colonies, were naturally the cause of deep concern particularly to the journalists; but one gathers the impression that, after twenty years of Fascism and four years of war, the people as a whole, are much more ready to say with Voltaire "Il faut que nous cultivions nos jardins" than they are to disturb themselves as to international politics.

There have been no signs of Neo-fascist activities. A number of young men of Fascist origin have been arrested during the month but at present it seems very improbable that any definite charge will be forthcoming against them. All parties have pledged themselves to conduct the forthcoming elections with dignity and to respect the rights of free speech and free, independent voting. They have pledged

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political balance express themselves as apprehensive of violence from members of the opposite extreme, but, apart from rumours (nothing new in Italy) there appears to be no grounds to justify such apprehension.

2. Local Government.- The lately elected local municipal officials are settling down to work; many of them for the first time realising that the responsibilities of office are seen in a different light when in office than when clamouring on the outside. Nevertheless, they appear to be giving a good account of themselves and they have certainly the confidence and good will of the public that elected them. There have been few criticisms of municipal officials latterly and it is obvious that they are working seriously and apparently giving satisfaction.

## II
## PUBLIC SAFETY

1. The situation with regard to public safety continues to improve. It is again pleasing to be able to report the absence of political crime during the month and no disorders or demonstrations involving violence. There has been, lately, a reappearance of highway robberies, but these, are isolated cases and by no means to be compared with the bad situation prevailing a few months back. Police have taken, and are taking energetic measures to deal with these and other crimes and some very excellent and satisfying arrests have been made. Considerable improvement has thereby been obtained in the public confidence in the police generally.

Through M.M.I.A., a considerable improvement has been effected in Carabinieri equipment and CCRR are now comparatively well-off for transport and supplies generally. In some districts the distribution of materials has not been so free as in others and some groups are still sadly lacking transport and uniforms. No doubt this will be rectified in time. There is still a serious need of boots, which in some districts, Cuneo for example, are in a pitiful state. It is understood that this boot shortage is not peculiar to the CCRR but is true of the whole Italian army. The morale of CCRR maintains a steady improvement. It is regretted, however, that such cannot be said of the Agents of Public Security, whose morale is very low. The overall cause is the poor economic conditions under which they are serving. Deprived of their former army rations, poorly paid and badly clothed and housed, it is not surprising that some of them succumb to temptations which come their way - in fact, the surprising thing is that so many remain honest. The recent declaration by the Ministry of the Interior as to settled conditions for the auxiliary police has had a heartening effect on the auxilliaries but both regular and auxilliary police desperately need greatly improved conditions before they can be relied on to perform their duties with enthusiasm.

If the above is true of the Agenti di Pubblica Sicurezza, it is even more true of the Pseudo Polizia Ferroviaria. The morale of this body has about reached rock bottom. Four months or so ago, threats of a strike brought an Inspector rushing up from Rome to report on their conditions and they were assured that their case would be considered by the Council of Ministers which would decide on their future, as to whether they would remain as police under the Ministry of the Interior, or as railway guards under the Ministry of Transport or Communications. Since then, nothing. It is true that the Railway Police are largely a self constituted body which replaced by force the Fascist Railway Milizia. The fact remains that many of these men fought with the partisans and joined the Railway Police from a sense of duty, (and also it must be admitted with an eye to their own future). Their existence as a Police body was, however, recognised and they have been, and are being paid from government funds. Now, after being in existence for one year, they are being ignored and are made to feel they are unwanted outcasts. Is it to be wondered at that they are losing morale? Shabby, underpaid, distrusted and ignored, with no certain hopes for the future; under these circumstances, no man can be expected to give of his best and the "Railway Police" are a menace rather than an asset to public safety. The fault is not theirs, The Council of Ministers, apparently waiting to see which way the electoral cat jumps, is to blame.

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III
ECONOMICS

1. The cost of living remains approximately the same with a slight decrease in the price of bread, pasta, flour and vegetables in the more agricultural provinces. The price of fruit remains very high and is the cause of unfavourable comments.

The rationed bread is said to be of a very poor quality but, despite regulations and restrictions, white bread can be freely bought and sold - especially in the small towns.

Recent heavy rains have retarded the harvesting of hay, delayed the ripening of corn and grain and caused considerable damage to fruit. It is anticipated that the harvest will be about a month later than in normal years, this month of May having been the wettest May in memory. Chemical fertilisers have become more plentiful but are said to have arrived two months too late.

Some delay has been caused in rice cultivation - so vital in parts of this Region - by wage disputes among the agriculturalists and the rice workers. After prolonged discussions, wage rates have now been settled and it is hoped that the work in the fields can now go ahead.

An agricultural sensation was provided by an enterprising journalist who covered a plague of locusts in the Vercelli district. This provided a two days wonder in the local press, but investigation revealed that the grasshoppers were not of the species that has been ravaging Sicily and were, in fact, an indigenous species well known in the locality and in no greater abundance than normally.

There is still an increasing amount of unemployment. Whilst the recent labour agreement to postpone the dismissal of workers has undoubtedly found favour amongst the workers, industrialists complain bitterly regarding this agreement, and the continued demands of the workers for increased wages. The workers, on the other hand, state that increased wages have been more than absorbed by the increased cost of living.

A certain amount of goods are beginning to be exported, notably wines and liquers, plastic utility goods and some clothes. The home market is, however, practically stationary and factories and shops remain full of manufactured articles awaiting purchasers. It is possible, however, to discern the beginnings of movement and a stable government which enjoys public confidence should do much to improve the economic situation.

IV
PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

1. The heavy rains have been responsible for retarding public works throughout the Region, flooded rivers in some parts carrying away bridges and interferring with road movement. Cement is now beginning to be more freely available and, although in amounts below requirements, is enabling certain works to be carried out. Transport and distribution of cement is one of the principal difficulties.

In the zone of Brigue and S. Dalmazzo di Tenda, work has commenced on rebuilding of the bridge over the Roja River, which will cost L.10.770.000.

Work on bridges and other projects of a like nature is proceeding slowly and one does not see the armies of men employed in these projects that one would expect to see. The official response to this is that, in a more mechanised age, one cannot employ unskilled labour on such work which needs skilled artisans and only a few labourers, which is undoubtedly true.

The abundance of water has relieved all anxiety in the hydro-electric installations, which are functioning at full speed. In certain districts, however, current is still being restricted during certain hours, chiefly to the larger industrial firms. As the lack of raw materials, together with other circumstances, is hampering production in these concerns, this restriction of current is not unwelcome.

V
DISPLACED PERSONS

1. The camp No.17 - at Turin - has been taken over from Allied Commission

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## V
## DISPLACED PERSONS

1. The camp IT 17 - at Turin - has been taken over from Allied Commission during the month, by UNRRA, and the transfer has not caused any local problems. No reports have been received of any further disturbances at this camp which, while not working to full capacity, is still fulfilling a useful purpose.

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PUBLIC HEALTH

1. No serious epidemics have been reported, in the Region, during the month, but some anxiety is expressed by the authorities regarding the increasing incidence of diseases arising from malnutrition, and particularly tuberculosis. This is noticeable amongst returning prisoners from Germany etc.

These diseases, however, are not confined to Reduci but are manifesting themselves among, for instance, the Agenti di Pubblica Sicurezza, who have had to be on duty in all weathers underfed and badly clothed. Some anxiety is expressed that the situation will worsen as time goes on and that it will be found that the privations of war made heavy inroads on the disease resistance capacity of a large proportion of the population.

VII

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. There has been considerable grousing about the refusal of UNRRA to accede to the abolition of circulation permits and the unrestricted use of motor fuels. All papers have, however, published Mr. Keeny's statements as to reasons why UNRRA products can not be dissipated and, having no answer, the grousers have had to accept in silence. There is obviously still much misuse of petrol etc., and a ready source which is feeding the black market. A visit to the auto-strada on any day when an important football match is scheduled in Turin, is an eye-opener - as literally hundreds of vehicles commercial and private, do the 150 miles return journey to and from the match. Motorists using unlicensed vehicles, when questioned as to how they obtain petrol rations, state, quite frankly, that they don't need rations, they can buy all the petrol they need on the "open" market. It is impossible to resist the conclusion that if no more petrol were to be officially imported into Italy for the next six months, motor cars would still be used for pleasure trips.

Telegraph and telephone services are rapidly improving in the facilities offered - the quickest means of communication with London now being through the "Italcable" service.

VIII

LEGAL

1. No improvement can be yet reported in the pace of legal process in this Region where there are numbers of prisoners in the jails who have been awaiting trial for six months or more. But for the explanation that Italians accept the fact of being imprisoned without trial as a normal phase of modern life, it is impossible to understand the complacency with which such a system is endured. Possibly such complacency is also engendered by reason of the fact that the normal prison resident is from moneyless class and therefore "non-important".

The official answer to this state of things is that owing to circumstances, there is a great shortage of judges and delay is inevitable. A satisfying answer so long as one is on the right side of the bars.

The obvious solution is the appointment of emergency legal Commissions to visit each prison and enquire on the spot as to the reasons for the detention of each prisoner, with power to discharge those against whom there is no serious charge and those who have already been detained for a period longer than that would be awarded as punishment for their offence.

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# 25888

F,G, GREEN
Lt. Colonel - GL
Chief Liaison Officer,
PIEDMONTE.

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821

98

Ref. : 581/EC

29 May 1946.

SUBJECT: Frontier Control.

TO : The French Representative FJ AC

1. The following is an extract from the monthly Report of the Chief Liaison Officer Piemonte Region:

> "All along the Italian-French Border everything is rather quiet. However, at LANSLEBOURG, there recently appeared a Colonel of the French Gendarmerie, who during the course of his visit, issued orders that it was absolutely prohibited for Italian citizens to enter France without a complete set of papers visaed by the proper French authorities".

2. Your comments on the above would be appreciated.

For the Chief Commissioner:

/s/ G McN

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to: 821/EC
: 6510/EC.

see M97

5874

6884 821 95

E.C. Circular (12)

# CONFIDENTIAL

MAY 7 1946

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON GROUP
PIEMONTE REGION

4 May 1946

FILE : FR/CLO/MR

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Piemonte Liaison Group - April 1946

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APO 794, U.S. Army

DISTRIBUTION:

| | |
|---|---|
| Hq Allied Commission | (12) |
| Hq. No 2 District | (3) |
| 59 Area | (3) |
| O.C. 75 Med Regt. R.A. | (3) |
| C.L.O. Lombardia | (3) |
| C.L.O. Liguria | (3) |
| C.L.O. Emilia | (3) |
| C.L.O. Venezia | (2) |
| U.S. Consul, Turin | (1) |
| L.O. Tenda | (2) |
| B.L.U. Turin | (3) |
| File | |
| British Consul | (2) |

See Memo 96 & 97

EC DIST - 7 May

~~ACTION~~

1 - EC
1 - CA Sec
3 - Econ Sec
1 - PRO
1 - Fr Rep.
1 - POLAD
1 - Working copy.

5514

CONFIDENTIAL

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

1965

CONFIDENTIAL

MAY 7 1946

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON GROUP
PIEMONTE REGION

4 May 1946

FILE : PR/CLO/MR

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Piemonte Liaison Group - April 1946

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APO 794, U.S. Army

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|---|---|
| Hq Allied Commission | (12) |
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| C.L.O. Liguria | (3) |
| C.L.O. Emilia | (3) |
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| U.S. Consul, Turin | (1) |
| L.O. Tenda | (2) |
| B.L.U. Turin | (3) |
| File | (2) |
| British Consul | |

See Mem 30/92

EC DIST - 7 May

~~ACTION~~

1 - EC
1 - CA Sec
3 - Econ Sec
1 - PRO
1 - Fr Rep.
1 - POLAD
1 - Working copy.

5618

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(J/CDR Mc)

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

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



CONFIDENTIAL

I
POLITICAL

1. Following the local elections the newspapers of this Region took up the subject of the bread rationing and kept the subject in the limelight until it was announced that no cut in the ration would be made as yet. Communist papers have kept up their propaganda against what is termed the Exploitation of Italy by the Allies. That some success is gained by these articles is evidenced by the trend of conversations heard in the streets and other public places. It looks as though the Left Wing elements have been very busy defacing the posters put up by the Monarchist and Uomo Qualunque groups. The Monarchists' morale seems to be at a low ebb, they complain of the lack of funds provided to carry on their pre election propaganda. The Turin Socialists are against union with the Communists and were quick to state that Prof. LASKI'S visit to this country was primarily to boost the anti-fusionist trend. The Republican Democratic Movement recently opened local Headquarters in Turin. MANLIO BROSIO, Minister of War, appeared in this area on 14 April 1946 and the gist of his speeches was the present political situation and the significance of the Union e Democration Nazionale. It seems that C.V.S. (Corpo Volontari Savoia) has inherited from preceeding parties, such as Qualunquisti and SAM, the blame for the present discontent. It appears that the Turin Questore discovered that the perpetrators of some armed robberies were members of C.V.S., the head of the group, his secretary and a member of two, found to be in illegal possession of arms, were arrested. In spite of the left-winger journalists who made capitol of the incident, no great importance is attached to the group. Quite a stir was caused by the appearance of a book advertised under the title "UN INGLESE DIFENDE MUSSOLINI", the fourth edition was on sale at last account, but examination of the books reveals it to be just a translation of Michael Foot's "TRIAL OF MUSSOLINI". The local book sellers simply designed a title that would be a sales booster, and the project seems to have met with considerable success. Several arrests were made following the demonstration in AOSTA, 26 March 1946 but at the present things seems to be fairly quiet. There is a rumor that the President of Val D'Aosta will endeavor to resign. All along the Italian-French Border everything is rather quite. However, at LANSLEBOURG, there recently appeared a Colonel of the French Gendarmerie, who during the course of his visit, issued orders that it was absolutely prohibited for Italian citizens to enter France without a complete set of papers visaed by the proper French authorities. This suggests that the French may have been alarmed by the disclosure that the people of the areas involved are attempting to settle international questions amongst themselves, and are now taking steps to prevent complete liaison. On or about the 30 April 1946 came a rumor to the effect that an International Group, or Commission, composed of American, British, Russian and French was to meet an Italian delegation in Tonda to look over the situation. The reported stealing of Mussolini's body from its grave gave rise to many newspaper sotries of various hues.

The big demonstration on 25 April 1946 was quiet. At least 50,000 people took part in the celebration in Turin City. Other demonstrations have taken place without incidents of a serious nature.

2. Local government still carries on in a satisfactory manner. The six prefects of the Region are all career men. (Does not include the President of the Autonomy in Aosta). Career Questori are also being brought in when available. The changes in the offices of the Sindaci are like the ever shifting sands of the sea. (Very likely due, to a large extent. to the fact that theirs is an unpaid and very thankless job; very fertile fields wherein little seeds of greed and graft soon wax fat and hefty).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 110877

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



3. The last of the local elections, for the timebeing, were held on 7 April 1946. The Turin local is scheduled to come up during June, according to best information available. There are 1,021 communes in Piemonte, according to our figures, and elections have been held in 808 of them, leaving 213 for the future. While some rumors were heard of attempts to influence voters illegally, as well as cases of persons being illegally denied the right of franchise, not one concrete case was uncovered to the best of our knowledge. Neither did any incidents of a serious nature occur during the actual elections, on the contrary, everything seems to have gone off in good holiday style and spirit. While some observations were made on the use of transportation during the elections little was discovered to denote the wide illegal use of vehicles for that purpose. In all, the elections in the Region were conducted in a manner as to reflect credit on the responsible authorities and the voters. Whether the recent elections have reflected just what may be expected in the future ones is not known, but indications are not such as to indicate that these of the future will be any less animated

II

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. The situation regarding public safety has shown a considerable improvement during this month. There have been no crimes of a political nature and no political disorders or demonstrations involving violence. The police in general and the Carabinieri in particular, continue to improve and have effected some useful arrests. Highway robberies have practically ceased - probably attributable in part to lighter evenings but due also to the fact that the gangs have nearly all been broken up by police action. There are still reported a number of crimes, "in the house", burglaries and shop-breakings, but these also appear to be diminishing.

The morale of CCRR is rising rapidly, with transport now beginning to be made available and also supplies of automatic weapons which have been received and distributed. It is comforting to erstwhile A.M.G. Public Safety Officers to see that, at last, M.M.I.A. have realised the importance of the CCRR and have commenced to make the necessary supplies available to them. Better late than never!

Political activity on the international boundaries is still lively, but there has been no recurrence of disturbances in the Aosta Valley nor any incidents on the border in general.

The prison situation since the redistribution of prison population has quietened considerably, and since the recent troubles in neighbouring Regions the Officials generally have apparently decided on a stronger policy in the future.

In all a quiet month.

III

ECONOMICS

1. Prices for rationed commodities showed very little variation from the March figures, but the monthly cost of items obtained in the "free" market showed an upward trend, especially in Asti and Torino Provinces. A study of the daily requirements for a family reveals that more than half, about 60%, of the calorific requirements have to come from other than rationed commodities. Stores continue to be well stocked and those with the necessary means have little difficulty in "getting by".

2. Supplies of grain and flour continue to arrive at Genoa and are being distributed throughout the Region, in all cases the grain goes to the mills immediately to be madeinto flour. Normal consumers did not get any rationed sugar in April. The much heralded cut in the bread ration did not take place, much to the

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

satisfaction of all concerned.

3. Unemployment figures, made available to this office, showed that as of 20th April 1946, there were slight increases in all of the Provinces but two, Aosta and Turino. In Aosta the numbers decreased at least one-half from the 20 March 1946 figures, while in Torino there was a forty percent increase, part of which includes the 3,000 decrease shown for Aosta. The latest figures given show the present number of unemployed as being 75,739. No major labor troubles came up during the period of this report. There were, however, the usual individual and collective cases, the latter being settled and a large proportion of the individual cases adjusted.

4. The prime needs of the manufacturers are well known, coal and raw materials. The large Fiat works are at present employing about 60,000 people, and the numerous smaller firms producing parts etcetera for Fiat employ an additional like number. This plant is at present producing approximately 20% of its full capacity, namely about 40 trucks and passenger cars per day. Tires have recently been made available and the vehicles are now being turned out equipped with them. A large Industrial Exhibition was opened the first part of April, where everything from coffee grinders to farm tractors are on display. It is stated that this Industrial Exhibition is to be made permanent. A Building Exhibition is being planned for opening in September. And a Spring Fashion Fair is scheduled from 12 to 29 May 1946. Signs of industrial rehabilitation are many and bright.

5. Heavy rainfall in April was generally very beneficial. Weeding of wheat, preparations for the sowing of corn, hemp, potatoes and oats were begun and the planting of new [illegible], vines and fruit trees was completed. Phosphates, azotized fertilizers and spray materials are still scarce. The superphosphate factory at Novara (capacity 15,000 qls/month) has now started production and another at Fossano can start as soon as phosphate rock from Africa is available. A report has just come in stating that there is a ship at Genoa with 4,000 tons of sodium nitrate for Piemonte. There is a continued shortage of sulphurous products, except that found on the black market at very stiff prices. Cereals promise well but owing to the meager fertilization of the soil for the past five years, its very optimistic to predict a bumper crop. Nut trees are infested with insect and require treatment Cattle are reported to be in very good condition, but some cases of hoof and mouth diseases are also reported.

IV

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

1. The shortage of cement is blamed for retarding the rebuilding of bridges. Repairs to buildings are being done to the limit of supplies and other matters cropping up to hinder the progress. The recent melting and snow and the spring rains caused the tunnel at Tenda to be closed for two or three days, and that of course retarded the work of rebuilding. The hydroelectric plants are all well supplied with power as the result of the melting of the snow and the spring rains. The prior planning done by AMG before the hand-over results in effort well spent. There is little else to report at this time.

V

DISPLACED PERSONS

1. The Camp operated in Turin is not used to full capacity, for obvious reasons and still operating along the lines that made it one of the best in the more hectic days. One or two jabs have been taken by some of the local press at the conduct of



5872

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787017

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5873

the Jewish people in residence there, but the articles smirked of the anti propaganda of a well known variety. Those in charge have had the situation in hand and in mind all along. There is nothing of a more serious nature known at the time of this report.

VI

PUBLIC HEALTH

1. The local medical authorities report that the condition of health is good and not far from what has been normally experienced. The y report that there are no epidemics of a serious nature prevelant.

VII

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. During the month the Ministry of Transport abolished the TRIP TICKET formerely required for all transport haulers, and now POL is distributed twice per month according to the load capacity of the truck, etc. Many of the truck owners do not like the new system and claim that they have to go to the black market in order to make daily trips, and complain that owners who are not busy all of the time can take allotted p.o.l. and sell it on the black market. Just how the new system will eventually work out remains to be seen. In spite of the pro and con statements it seems to us that there is ample p.o.l. available. (Any system that does not have any ultimate outlets into the black market will be a novelty, indeed).

2. The projects on reestablishing telegraph and telephone facilities continue to make some progress. At the moment the old question of new equipment seems to be the bugaboo. The shortage of coal is blamed as the reason for some of the rail facilities not being operated to greater capacity.

VIII

LEGAL AND EDUCATION

1. Nothing new to report.

JOHN S. ARNOLD
Colonel, Inf
Chief Liaison Officer,
PIEMONTE

5872



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

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5872



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

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

821 [illegible] 5677 67

APR 8 1946

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON GROUP
PIEMONTE REGION

2 April 1946.

File : PR/CLO/MR
Subject : Monthly report - Piemonte Liaison Group - March 1946
To : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commissioner, APO 394; U.S. Army.

## I
## POLITICAL

1. The political situation in Piemonte Region, except for the French-Italian views on parts of two provinces, is not entirely unique. The problems are about equal to those of the remainder of the mainland. On the 26 March there was a demonstration in Aosta clamoring for independence, this fracas was staged by what are thought to have been "hired hands" and was settled before anything very serious developed. However, the presence of newspeople and photographers from France would indicat e that prior plans had been made and disseminated, and that the incident could have political significance. Certain elements in the Region enjoy freedom of the press by publishing some subtle and other more pointed articles about Allied occupation, the cost to Italy and the time being taken to form some sort of peace. At worst, these articles are not too hostile towards the Allies. All p arty activities have been generally quiet and orderly during the period covered by this report.

2. Local Government is functioning very well, according to local standards, a nd Italian ability seems to be equal to the task. There are constant changes in officials, due to as many causes and reasons. The recent elections have created some local changes, as was expected.

3. Elections have been conducted in an orderly manner and without undue incidents. Considerable interest has been noted but it is not believed that the local elections have aroused the interest and activities that the provincial and National elections will create. In the larger elections, the communi-cation facilities, especially the radio, and the newspapers, will certainly allow far greater party activity on a much larger scale, thus creating more interest and stirring up more activity.

EC Div 821

EC 1
PR 1
Econ 6
Offic 1
Signals 1
Rep 1
Unit

## II
## PUBLIC SAFETY

1. The month of March has been exceptionally quiet in this Region from the Public Safety viewpoint. The position with regard to crime has definitely improved and Police have made some very praiseworthy arrests for serious crimes which have occurred in recent months. It is possible to report a consi-derable improvement in Carabinieri morale and performance of duties with a corresponding increase in the esteem of the general public.

PIEMONTE REGION

2 April 1946.

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To : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commissioner, APO 394; U.S. Army.

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

2. Prison conditions at Turin have given the Authorities considerable cause for thought, no less than three large-scale attempts at jail break having occurred during the month. Reports on these cases have already been submitted to Public Safety Sub-Commission. In each case, assistance by Italian troops and the CC.RR., was forthcoming and no escapes actually occurred. The immediate cause of the trouble was the bad physical conditions in a desperately over-crowded jail. Considerable numbers of prisoners have since been transferred to other jail and the position at Turin has been thereby temporarily improved.

3. An ugly demonstration occurred in Aosta Province on the 26th instant, when about 1500 demonstrators assembled outside the palace of the President of the Council, demanding a plebiscite on the status of the Valley of Aosta. Numbers of the demonstrators assembled outside the palace and man-handled the President, Dr. Chabod, rather severely. A separate report of this incident has also been sent to Public Safety Sub-Commission. A disturbing feature of the occurrence was that it was undoubtedly organised from across the French frontier and French journalists and photographers had illegally entered Italy the previous evening to witness the demonstration. Apart from this incident, which was rather magnified by the local press, there have been no cases of grave mob disorder. A few demonstrations by women in connection with grievances about the food situation have occurred, in some provinces, but there have been no cases of a serious nature.

4. The municipal elections, so far, held, have all passed off peacefully and have been conducted admirably by all concerned. Considerable Police arrangements for surveillance and the maintenance of public order had been made but not a single instance has been reported of Police intervention.

## III
## ECONOMICS

1. Cost of living is high, as it is elsewhere throughout the country, but prices seem to be striking a level somewhere between regulated and black-market prices. In places observed, stores seem to be well stocked with more than just bare necessities. A recent rise in the price of milk, butter and cheese, during the past month or so, may be the result of competitive bidding by wholesalers and dealers going to the producer. It is believed that the advent of Spring will have the effect of gradually lowering at least some of the living costs. The average cost of living through the Region for the average working family appears to be about 12,250 lire per month, which amount is estimated to include food, rent, cooking, and light. The foregoing would indicate a living cost recent rise of about ten percent.

2. Food supplies of grain and granoturco on hand, in this Region, at the beginning of March, were low. Fortunately, over three thousand tons of grain arrived through the Genoa



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2. Prison conditions at Turin have given the Authorities considerable cause for thought, no less than three large-scale attempts at jail break having occurred during the month. Reports on these cases have already been submitted to Public Safety Sub-Commission. In each case, assistance by Italian troops and the CC.RR., was forthcoming and no escapes actually occurred. The immediate cause of the trouble was the bad physical conditions in a desperately over-crowded jail. Considerable numbers of prisoners have since been transferred to other jail and the position at Turin has been thereby temporarily improved.

3. An ugly demonstration occurred in Aosta Province on the 26th instant, when about 1500 demonstrators assembled outside the palace of the President of the Council, demanding a plebiscite on the status of the Valley of Aosta. Numbers of the demonstrators assembled outside the palace and man-handled the President, Dr. Chabod, rather severely. A separate report of this incident has also been sent to Public Safety Sub-Commission. A disturbing feature of the occurrence was that it was undoubtedly organised from across the French frontier and French journalists and photographers had illegally entered Italy the previous evening to witness the demonstration. Apart from this incident, which was rather magnified by the local press, there have been no cases of grave mob disorder. A few demonstrations by women in connection with grievances about the food situation have occurred, in some provinces, but there have been no cases of a serious nature.

4. The municipal elections, so far held, have all passed off peacefully and have been conducted admirably by all concerned. Considerable Police arrangements for surveillance and the maintenance of public order had been made but not a single instance has been reported of Police intervention.

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65

port during the first week. Shipments of flour and grain from five other Provinces to Piemonte, under National Plan No.2, were fairly normal during month. Reserve stoks are being used to tide the bread ration over until new shipments reach Genoa. There has been talk of reducing the present 200 gram bread ration, this would be unfortunate and it is hoped that the reduction will not have to be made.

3. A nationally organized general strike of all workers except state employees and transport workers took place throughout the region on 14 March, but the demonstration was quiet -no incidents of serious nature. The newspaper employees received a salary raise of from 10 to 35 percent, recently, but no other salary increases came to light. The Italian Labor officials seem to have done very well in handling individual and collective disputes recently. It is estimated that there are about 85,775 unemployed in Piemonte at this time. About 19,245 were added to the list in March.

4. Most agricultural work had to be suspended during the early part of March because of melting snow and heavy rainfall, however, this work has since been resumed and there is a bright outlook for the cereal crops, fruit and vegetables and meadows. The sowing of oats, planting potatoes and the pruning of vines and fruit trees have all been started. The condition of cattle generally is thought to be good. There is a shortage of fertilizers, spray materials, machine fuel and lubricants. The fuel allowances for agricultural purposes has recently been reduced.

## IV
## PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

1. Public works continue to make progress. One of the big projects is the road tunnel under the Colle di Tenda, Province of Cuneo. It is estimated that another three months will be required to have this open for road traffic.

2. The melting of the snow has refilled the mountain basins supplying hydro-electric generator stations and the daily output can be maintained, or increased somewhat, for three or four months without difficulty.

## V
## DISPLACED PERSONS

No special problems encountered during period covered.

## VI
## PUBLIC HEALTH

Generally good with nothing special to report.



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5869

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VII

## TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. On 31 March 1946, the Italian Ministry of Transport ordered the abolishment of the trip tickets required for trucks, and now POL will be distributed according to the capacity of the vehicles, rather than by cargo miles as was done previously. This action may make it easier for POL to find its way to the Black market. (Your reporter has been struck by the lack of private transport seen on the streets and highways up here, as compared to what is seen farther south).

2. Piemonte Region seems to lag in getting its former telegraph offices connected and going. Otherwise, things seem to be gradually improving.

3. Many complaints are heard from those Italians who receive packages of food-stuff, clothing, etc., via Italian mail, that their packages have been opened and pilfered by the time they are delivered. This has generally been the case with packages arriving from abroad.

VIII

## LEGAL AND EDUCATION

1. The courts are proceeding slowly and the delay in getting cases before the courts is blamed on the lack of proper personnel.

John S. Arnold

JOHN S. ARNOLD
Colonel - Inf.
Chief Liaison Officer,
PIEMONTE

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821 / HQ Allied Commission (12 copies)

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON GROUP
PIEDMONTE REGION

1 March 1946

File : PR/CLC/MR

Subject : Monthly Report - February 1946.

To : HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION

MAR 4 1946

# P A R T I

Progress has been noted, in self-reliance, on the part of Italian Agencies, governmental and otherwise. Considerable political activity is seen, with the party press active in support of its program. Allegations are freely made that left wing groups are purchasing and securing arms, for use at election time, particularly in the city of Torino and the Provinces of Novara and Vercelli.

Demonstrations on a large scale are threatened in Asti Province against the substitution of the Prefect by the Vice-Prefect of Turin who is alleged to have had Republican antecedents.

Electoral lists are being completed satisfactorily.

At the moment, the food situation is reasonably good, except for pasta, rice, and fats. But a crisis is anticipated by the middle of March unless imports of grain arrive.

The electrical power shortage still causes concern. Enforcement of the economies has made some progress.

A shortage of live stock exists and wheat amassing is almost at a stand still.

Labor and capital have made some progress toward working together, harmoniously, for the common interest.

Public Safety is generally fair, with three political murders at Pinerolo, in Torino Province and one at Novara. The Carabinieri do not show much initiative to proceed against radical groups. Epuration among the Carabinieri has affected morale.

See M.84

EC DIST - Hdqtrs
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6-Econ Sec
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

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See M.84

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A. POLITICAL REACTIONS.

Italian agencies, governmental and otherwise are making better use of their own normal Italian channels of communication. A tendency in the early days of the transition after the turnover, to consider the Liaison Groups as successors to A.M.G. is disappearing. The result is that local governments are standing on their own feet and doing their job.

There has been much criticism of certain units of the Cremona Division on the part of the left wing Press, for alleged activity against some radical Officers and men. The Division itself, stands high as an efficient military unit.

Rumors continue that left wing groups are purchasing and securing arms, to be available at election time. These rumors are particularly present in Torino City and the Provinces of Novara and Vercelli.

A considerable agitation exists in Asti Province against the substitution of the Prefect by the Vice-Prefect of Turin who is alleged to have Republican antecedents. Demonstrations are threatened on a large scale.

B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

In general, the units of local government, the Provinces and Communes are operating reasonably well. It is believed that the Officials, themselves, render more optimistic reports, than less interested witnesses would report. The Italian Official usually states "everything tranquil." Underneath there is a considerable play of politics.

In Novara and Vercelli, left wing elements are active and often prevent the Carabinieri from taking an aggressive stand.

Some changes in Prefects and Questori are in prospect.

Election lists are being completed, without much serious complaint. Elections will begin in March.

The French border is quiet, although some propaganda from French newspapers and sympathizers continues.

C. ECONOMIC RESOURCES

1. Food.

On the basis of 200 grams bread ration, with one day a week substituting polenta, the Provinces are provided for as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alessandria | through | 3 March |
| Aosta | " | 3 " |
| Asti | " | 17 " |
| Cuneo | " | 10 " |
| Novara | " | 3 " |
| Torino | " | 9 " |
| Vercelli | " | 9 " |

With expected arrivals of imported grain and flour the situation is satisfactory.

3864

Fats are in short supply or non existent

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With expected arrivals of imported grain, and flour the situation is satisfactory.

Fats are in short supply or non existant in every province. No pasta ration has been possible for Piemont during the month because of the failure of the rice supply.

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81

Unless the SS Enneville, which has been diverted to Leghorn, is replaced by another wheat ship for Piemonte, the Federazione states the bread situation will become serious by the middle of March.

2. Commerce.

It is too early to note an improvement in exports, attendant upon the devaluation of the lira, for export and import purposes. However, a keen interest exists in this area, with its large inventories of manufactured textiles and its industrial capacity. Italy, itself, is an available market but, what amounts to a buyers' strike, is still in effect. People will not or cannot buy at present prices.

3. Industry.

Fiat is in operation, although handicapped by lack of fuel and power. Inventories of manufactured textiles are high and the problem of marketing what is on hand, without sacrificing profit, is a real one.

The electric power shortage is still a cause of concern. Turin has not applied economy measures as whole heartedly as some other areas, but progress has been noted. As of February 1, 1946 a 15% decrease over November 1945 was reported. With a better enforcement, the saving of power should show improvement during this month.

D. AGRICULTURE.

Because of favorable weather, this month, farm work has been normal. Due to lack of fodder, many cattle have been slaughtered. The shortage of animals for farm labor and the lack of fuel and lubricants for machinery will probably have an adverse effect on crops for 1946. No cattle have been taken to the amassing centers. Wheat amassing has been almost negligent. Fertilizer is in short supply.

E. LABOR.

The basis for a closer association of capital and labor has been created by the agreement between the Fiat management and its workers creating a "Consultative Works Council". This will end the C.L.N. factory regime.

The wage contract for Northern Italy has been completely applied and the minimum wages fixed.

No marked change in prices has developed, during this month, although butter and eggs have shown a seasonal drop. Textile prices are about the same, in Turin.

F. FINANCE.

5863

Some embarassment has arisen in this area, due to unwillingness of business concerns to accept AMG lira in payment. The reason cited for this hesitancy is the prevelance of counterfeit notes, still in circulation. AMG lira can be

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G. PUBLIC WORKS.

Public works projects, instituted by AMG before the turnover, have been carried on and much useful employment has resulted.

H. LEGAL.

No particular change is noted in the court system. There exists a serious shortage of qualified personnel, both in the professional and clerical staffs.

I. PUBLIC SAFETY.

The situation regarding public order remains unchanged. There have been no mass demonstrations of any magnitude and no instances of mob violence. Crime appears to be on the increase in some provinces, whilst abating somewhat in others. Police Agencies generally are having a fair amount of success in dealing with crimes in their areas. Incidents of highway robbery are diminishing but there continue to be numbers of cases of serious robberies from private houses.

There have been two further cases in Pinerolo of "ex-fascists" found murdered and again typewritten notices have appeared on the walls stating that they have been "executed by sentence of a People's court". A further murder at Novara is attributed to political motives, the victim being an ex-republican fascist. These are the only cases reported in the Region during the month and there are no indications that they form part of a widespread movement of political vendetta.

CC.RR. at Pinerolo have been weakly reinforced, but no great efforts appear to have been made to bring the murderers to justice and this and other indications suggest a distinct unwillingness on the part of Police Agencies generally to take action against the parties of the left.

A certain amount of clandestine arms have been recovered by Police during the month, but here again it is possible to detect reluctance by the Police to offend the "parties" by too vigorous action.

Epuration of Police Forces, particularly the CC.RR., is causing consternation, both by the fact that when it is exercised it is said to be too severe, and also by the fact that proceedings are being apparently unduly delayed, and those concerned, not knowing what is to happen to them in the future, are becoming unsettled as to their future livelihood and, in consequence, morale is suffering.

There have been no incidents of any gravity on the international boundaries, but Police are occupied with numbers of persons trying to cross into France to obtain employment etc., and efforts are constantly directed to prevent such clandestine emigration.

J. PUBLIC HEALTH.

Public Health is satisfactory.

K. EDUCATION.

Schools have [illegible]

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J. PUBLIC HEALTH.

5862

Public Health is satisfactory.

K. EDUCATION.

Schools have functioned normally considering the difficulties of communications, housing and shortage of teachers.

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79

6. COMMUNICATIONS.

1. Rail.

With the opening of the Genoa - Pisa line a more direct route to Rome is now available.

2. Road.

Highways are in a satisfactory condition except for the lack of bridges on the secondary road system. The important city of Alba, in Cuneo Province is dependant upon a ferry.

3. Telecommunications.

Telephone and telegraph is fairly normal.

4. Posts.

The postal system is satisfactory, in view of the difficulties of communications.

William R. Jordan
WILLIAM R. JORDAN
Colonel - C.A.C.
Chief Liaison Officer, PIEMONTE

Distribution:

| | |
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5861

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1692

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

78/

Ref: ~~821/78/~~ 581/EC

24 February 1946

SUBJECT: Franco-Italian Border.

TO : G-5 AFHQ.

para 3 fol. 75 S.T. - 74

Attached for your information is an extract from the monthly report for January submitted by the Chief Liaison Officer, Piemonte Region.

For the Chief Commissioner,

BB

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Copy to: 821/EC ✓

5869

Further action on file 581/EC

27/2

821 Ex Comm 17

3714

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON GROUP
PIEMONTE REGION

5 February 1946

FEB 15 1946

File : PR/CLO/MR

Subject : Monthly Report - January 1946.

To : HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION.

# P A R T I

The first month of control, of this Region, by the Italian Government has brought no disorder, no break down of vital functions, and no revolution. The ease and tranquility of the transition constitutes a testimonial to the loyalty and good sense of the Italian Officials and the Italian people.

Business and industry are concerned with the difficulties of foreign trade, foreign exchange, lack of coal, raw materials, and the shortage of electric power. Labor is still concerned with the increasing spread between wages and the high cost of living.

The Italian-French border has been the focal point for rumors. At various times, it has been reported that large areas will go to France and the next day that no territory will be ceded. This war of nerves has kept the areas, near the border, in a state of unrest and has seriously affected the ability of the people to make plans for their own future. Actually things are quiet, with no tangible basis for nervousness, except the fact that the treaty discussions are going on in London.

Considerable progress in preparing for the elections, has been made in each Province. Some Provinces are ready for local elections during the last half of March and all indicate that the electoral lists will be completed fairly soon. The political parties seem to be cooperating peacefully.

The food situation is generally good, with small reserves of grain on hand. Fats, rice, and pasta are lacking. Food prices continue to increase in the free markets.

Unemployment has shown a 25% increase, although it has not been accompanied by corresponding unrest.

Public Safety agencies show improved morale, although they will lack equipment, arms and transportation. The general public safety is good.

EC DIST - 15 Feb.
1 - EL
1 - CATer
1 - Foote

See M 26.77.

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

5 February 1946

File : PR/CLO/MR

FEB 15 1946

Subject : Monthly Report - January 1946.

To : HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION.

## P A R T I

The first month of control, of this Region, by the Italian Government has brought no disorder, no break down of vital functions, and no revolution. The ease and tranquility of the transition constitutes a testimonial to the loyalty and good sense of the Italian Officials and the Italian people.

Business and industry are concerned with the difficulties of foreign trade, foreign exchange, lack of coal, raw materials, and the shortage of electric power. Labor is still concerned with the increasing spread between wages and the high cost of living.

The Italian-French border has been the focal point for rumors. At various times, it has been reported that large areas will go to France and the next day that no territory will be ceded. This war of nerves has kept the areas, near the border, in a state of unrest and has seriously affected the ability of the people to make plans for their own future. Actually things are quiet, with no tangible basis for nervousness, except the fact that the treaty discussions are going on in London.

3

Considerable progress in preparing for the elections, has been made in each Province. Some Provinces are ready for local elections during the last half of March and all indicate that the electoral lists will be completed fairly soon. The political parties seem to be cooperating peacefully.

3059

The food situation is generally good, with small reserves of grain on hand. Fats, rice, and pasta are lacking. Food prices continue to increase in the free markets.

Unemployment has shown a 25% increase, although it has not been accompanied by corresponding unrest.

Public Safety agencies show improved morale, although they will lack equipment, arms and transportation. The general public safety is good.

EC DIST - 15 Feb.

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1 - CATec
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See M.76.77.

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## PART II

### A. POLITICAL REACTIONS

1 The Economic problem of Italy is fundamental. If the people can be fed, clothed, housed and given an opportunity to work, other problems can be solved in due course.

2 Labor is fairly quiet. Food has been forth coming and full or partial employment has been kept available. Few strikes have developed. There is much bitterness toward the high cost of living. The sight of full shop windowns, with workers unable to buy their needs, is everywhere. Some minor decreases in prices especially in textiles can be found. It is possible that the refusal or inability of people to pay in fantastic prices may contribute to these decreases.

3 Industrialists recognize that a modification of the valuation of the lira in terms of foreign exchange is necessary. They are, all, greatly concerned with the problem of payments to labor even though not working. Even the largest and strongest concerns cannot long continue these payments. The implications of bankruptcy for industry or depriving thousands of workers of all income, are grave.

4 The Communist Party has strength in the industrial areas but there is also considerable latent or open support to the Monarchy in Piemonte.

5 The French - Italian border is quiet. Newspapers and individuals have spread rumors, either Pro-French or Pro-Italian. These rumors have kept the border inhabitants unsettled. The Commune of Tenda has uncut tumber. Employment is needed for its people and the timber could readily be sold in Italy. But purchasers hesitate to buy it because of the rumors and possibility that France will take over this territory. (A firm decision on the border would be extremely beneficial) As long as a French liaison Officer is stationed in that area, it will be regarded as disputed territory. Propaganda in favor of annexation to France appears on the French side of the border, from Ventimiglia to Aosta.

5858

6 The turn over by Allied Military Government to the Italian Government occurred on 31 Dec 1945. The first month of Italian control has brought no disorder, no break down of vital functions and no revolution. The ease and tranquility of the transition is a strong testimonial to the loyalty and good sense of the Italian people.

### B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

At the end of the first month of Italian Administration, an all day meeting was held by the Liaison Group, with all the Prefects, the President of the Council of Aosta and all the Questori present. These Officials give the impression of being earnest in their efforts, well advised about their provinces and conscientious in the performance of their duties. They appear to be on top of their jobs.

Some changes in personnel are already in progress but the Provincial and Communal Governments have the stability to permit changes, especially when career officials will be brought in.

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Progress towards the elections is reported in each Province. Several have completed their lists. Other anticipate completion in time for the elections to be held late in March or early in April. The Political parties have generally cooperated well in this work and have exercised restraint on their people.

C. ECONOMIC RESOURCES

1. Food.

The change over from A.M.G. to Italian Government Administration, with respect to food, has been accomplished without special incident in Piemonte Region. In general, the present official ration has been observed throughout this area. Some minor modifications have been necessary because of road conditions. The minestra ration has been omitted in almost all provinces because of the failure of Ente Risi to fulfill its allocations. No fats were distributed due to total failure of allocations. All provinces report stocks of grain or flour, sufficient for supply for periods of two to six weeks.

2. Commerce.

Commercial activity, with other nations, awaits a solution of the currency exchange problem and the general approval of foreign commerce. At the rate of exchange (31 Jan 1946) it is almost impossible for other nations to purchase goods in the Italian market. The Borsalino factory at Alessandria has a sufficiency of raw materials, labor, coal etc., and are in a position to make hats that could be used abroad. They need only the green light to commence exportation, and an exchange rate that will permit America and England to buy. The Textile Industry at Biella maintains a large inventory of manufactured textiles. If this quantity of material cannot move, soon, the industry will have to close down, thus throuwing many out of work.

3. Industry.

Fiat, which employs about 60,000 workers, is now producing more than 1000 trucks and cars per month. This enterprise has been greatly concerned about its coal allotment. If no coal is received, the plant must close, with possible political and economic reverberations. So far, by rigid economy, they have been able to operate. Some help has been obtained through the Italian Ministry of Industry, who are fully conversant with the situation.

The shortage of electrical power, throughout the north, has also complicated the general industrial situation. When the gravity of the shortage is clearly explained, excellent cooperation, looking toward economy, has resulted.

D. AGRICULTURE.

The heavy snowfall of January resulted in the suspension of most agricultural work. There is a shortage of fodder which is causing the slaughtering of some cattle. A good cereal crop is predicted. Amassing continues but with small returns. This is especially serious in the rice producing areas.

E. LABOR

Unemployment registration shows 25% increase during January. On 20 Dec. 1945, there were 43824 registered. On 20

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Unemployment registration shows 25% increase during January. On 20 Dec. 1945, there were 43824 registered. On 20 Jan 1946 there were 52617. During the same period, workers, employed less than 40 hours per week (receiving the "Cassa Integrazione" benefits) increased from 137880 to 142290.

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Industrial unrest has definitely tended to decrease as compared to previous months, only three strikes of consequence having been reported.

The cost of food studies show an increase in all provinces but particularly in Torino, Novara and Aosta. Textiles show a slight decrease in cost.

F. FINANCE.

No particular problems in Finance have been brought to the attention of this headquarters.

G. PUBLIC WORKS.

With the close down of A.M.G. and the assumption of responsibility by Italian agencies, public works leaves a back log of approved projects. This uncompleted work is filling a useful spot in carrying over those, who otherwise would be unemployed.

H. LEGAL.

In general, judicial activity in this Region is satisfactory. There are delays, inherent in the Italian legal system, aggravated by insufficient transportation and an inadequate number of judges and depleted clerical staffs. For instance, in normal times, the Tribunal of Torino has 65 judges. At present 43 are available. The Public Prosecutor's office normally employs 11, now 6. A similar shortage exists throughout the Region. Yet nevertheless, the number of cases has sharply increased. The Italian Government is aware of the situation and is attempting to find a remedy.

Some judges may soon be released from the extra judicial demands upon their time by the Epuration Courts, for normal duties.

I. PUBLIC SAFETY.

The morale of the public security genelas is good, with continued shortages in arms, equipment and transportation still causing concern.

The crime situation is satisfactory. There are still robberies and thefts but on a decreasing scale. No important political crimes are reported. No disorderly incidents have arisen from political meetings. The President of the Tribunale at Vercelli was forced to transfer a case, to Torino, because of threats and disturbance.

A search, in the Province of Novara, uncovered six truck loads of arms and ammunition, which were confiscated. A raid in Alessandria netted a small number of rifles and some ammunition.

The number of Railway Police will be sharply curtailed as a result of a visit of a Commissario from the Ministry of Interior.

The conduct of Allied troops has been good.

The overall picture of public security in the Region appears to be good, and the turnover to Italian Authorities has been without incident.

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J. PUBLIC HEALTH

The general health of Piemonte is good, with seasonal incidence of measles. Milk sanitation is not good. Medical supplies are short,

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K. EDUCATION.

Schools appear to be operating fairly satisfactory.

REFUGEES.

Displaced Persons Sub-Commission still control the Jewish Refugee Camp, U.N.N.R.A. not yet having assumed the responsibility for it.

M. PATRIOTS.

Nothing to report.

N. COMMUNICATIONS.

1. Rail.

The main rail lines are in operation, hauling an increasing tonnage.

2. Road.

Roads and highways are usuable throughout Piemonte. However, during January heavy snows rendered many main highways impassable for several days. In general, and in view of the shortage of equipment, a creditable job of clearing the snow was done. Effective work was done in the business areas of Turin.

3. Telecommunications.

Telephone and telegraph lines continue to function up to the standard of Italy.

4. Posts.

The Italian Postal system is operating normally, subject to difficulties of transportation.

5855

WILLIAM R. JORDAN
Colonel - C.A.C.
Chief Liaison Officer
Allied Commission - PIEMONTE

Distribution:

HQ ALLIED COMMISSION (12)
Hq. No. 2 District (3)
59 Area (3)
O.C. 75 Med. Regt. R.A. (3)
C.L.O. Lombardia (3)
C.L.O. Liguria (3)
C.L.O. Venezia (3)
C.L.O. Emilia (3)
U.S. Consul, Turin (2)
British Consul, Turin (2)
L.O. Tenda (1)
S.I.M. Turin (1)

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B.L.U. Turin (1)
File

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
PIEDMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

4 December 46

JAN 7 1946

REFERENCE : PR/ESO/117.1
SUBJECT : Regional Monthly Report - December 1945
TO : Distribution

1. Herewith copies of Monthly Report for December 1945.

By order of Lt. Colonel W. TURNER-COLES.

ROY E. BARONE
1st Lt. FA
Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION:

1 Economic Commissioner(Northern Italy c/o Hq LOMB RGN Reg.)
5 Economic Commissioner " " " " "
16 EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, Headquarters Allied Commission
1 Regional Commissioner: Lombardia Region
1 " " Liguria "
1 " " Venezia "
2 HQ No2 District
1 " " " (Attn: G.S-1)
1 HQ. 7 AGRA

See M.70

EC DIST - 7 Jan 46
1 - EC
1 - CA Sec
10 - Econ Sec
1 - PRB circ to Sections
1 - Fr Rep.

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

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1 " " " (Attn: G.S-1)
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EC DIST - 7 for us

1 - EC
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10 - Econ Sec
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1 - Fr Rep
1 - POLAD 16
1 - Working Copy

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

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

2 January 1946

REF. : PR/ESO/117.1

SUBJECT : Monthly report December 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission.

PART I

1. News of the forming of the New Italian Government created no major political repercussions in the Region. The general feeling is that this government will notbe able to fulfil a serious democratic policy.

2. Parties of the left Wing greeted with delight the turning over of Northern Territory to the Italian Govt. Parties on the Right were more sober, seeing in this turnover an open opportunity for the CLN to seize more power.

3. Italian local government officials still show a lack of responsibility towards their civic duties.

4. Lack of Raw Materials is still hampering industry. Food situation seems satisfactory. Rationing of electricity is causing some dislocation of production.

5853

5. Budjets continue to be approved by the Milan Administrative office. These totalo some 163 million lire. Shortage of railways wagons is still holding up coal deliveries.

6. Unemployment is on the increase, due mainly to shortage of raw materials.

7. Grain ammassing is still not up to expectation.

8. Crime is decreasing throughout the Region, noticeably in Turin province.

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PART II

a. POLITICAL REACTION AND PUBLIC OPINION.

Throughout the region the news of the formation of the new Italian Government created little political repercussion. The handover of AMG territory to the Italian Government was received quietly on the whole. The Leftist Parties are undoubtedly elated that this handover is at last taking place. The Parties of the Right, however, fear that this will create an open opportunity for the CLN to seize more power, with a consequent dismissal of most of the provincial and other officials who have co-operated with AMG. Majority of the people are wishing that AMG had retained until after the elections.

b. LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Lack of civic responsibility on the part of Italian officials is still evident. Corruption is still tending to creep in. On the whole, there is very little to report this month. CLN in Vercelli have attempted to interfere in the case of the Sindaco who has been charged with failing to obey an AMG order.

c. ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND STABILITY.

Food: Distribution of rationed commodities has come on smoothly throughout the region. In Alessandria meat is sold on the free market twice a week. Clandestine pig slaughtering is increasing.

Prices of foodstuffs remain practically unaltered, with the exception of meat, which has increased to between 200 and 400 lire per kilo.

There is some anxiety in CLC over the food situation and SAFAL has come in for much criticism regarding the unfair distribution of foodstuffs. It is alleged that too much is going to its own employees. Here too, the black market flourishes.

Grain threshing continues slowly and, so far, has failed to come up to expectations.

Industry: Shortage of raw material is seriously hampering industry throughout the region. With the advent of electricity rationing this problem has become acute. Due to the shortage of railway wagons coal deliveries have been held up, adding to this difficulty. Commerce appears to have come to a standstill in some province, due mainly to the undecided financial policy of the government.

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Commerce. During the month CLN in Alessandria reported that the December allocation of BOL (gasoil) had not been sufficient for all requirements.



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d. AGRICULTURE.

The harvest of winter crops has been satisfactory but snow has seriously hampered outside pastures. Fishing and forestry have also been stopped by snows.

Most farmers are against the assessing of maize. Grain assessing, despite Prefects orders, is proceeding very slowly.

Mainly conditions are satisfactory.

e. LABOUR.

The rationing of electricity has had its effect on the labour market. Some strikes have been reported, but these were only local and no trouble ensued. A strike of some 5 days in Vielle, in Vercelli province, ended by the Camera del Lavoro issuing an order to resume work. The workmen had refused to agree to a new contract drawn up in Rome. Farm labourers have demanded an increase in wages. This matter is still under discussion. Shortages of raw materials, rationing of electricity, and the present fantastic high prices have all contributed towards a critical situation in the labour market.

f. FINANCE.

Budgets continue to be approved by the Milan administrative Office and in Vercelli these amounted to some 163 million lire. Credits for corresponding amounts were opened. The new unblocking procedure has been working smoothly.

Savings and investments have increased. In other financial fields however, the uncertainty of the financial situation has caused a reduction. There is a shortage of currency in some provinces due to hoarding of money by farmers, etc. The lack of confidence in AMG currency is still evident, as the percentage of counterfeits is increasing.

g. PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

Damage caused by floods in October is now being repaired and the Tende railway tunnel of course by opened on Dec. 4th. Snow has suspended operations in some districts. Gas productions has been resumed in Vercelli province. Throughout the Region things still continue normal. Electricity rationing was introduced throughout the Region during December.

h. LEGAL:

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h. LEGAL.

AMG cases have been turned over to Italian authorities on the departure of Legal Officers in Provinces. Italian Courts continue to function smoothly. Nothing further to report this month.

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i. PUBLIC SAFETY.

An improvement in the CCRR is reported and they are now in a position to deal with any but the most serious disorders. The need of clothing and transport is still acute. These are necessary if the improvement in morale and efficiency is to be maintained.

The training of the agenti PS continues and under the supervision of PPSS satisfactory results have been obtained. The energy displayed by the Mobile battalions is far superior to that of other police bodies.

The Guardia Finanza still perform excellent work. In Vercelli Province they have effectively reduced the Black market in Rice. The amassing of this product is now more than ever satisfactory.

More assistance is necessary for the Guardia Forestale. They are performing good work in the control of wood cutting and agricultural damage.

Serious crime has been reduced - one case only in Turin Province. Two men have been arrested for connection with the wholesale murder reported in November report.

Possession of firearms by civilians. It appears that we have either seized most of the arms thus held, or they are more cunningly concealed. Nothing to report.

Trouble between civilians and British troops at Novara Transit Camp has been effectively dealt with by APM 2 District and PPSO. Conduct of the British troops was not up to usual standard.

A satisfactory control has been maintained over VD.

Public morale fluctuates with the times. Foodstuffs in abundance are exhibited for sale, but prices are beyond the means of the ordinary worker. 30.4

No public meetings of any importance took place during the month.

The Fire Brigade is in excellent shape. There were no exceptional outbreaks of fire.

A Press disturbance in Turin has been made the subject of a Special Report submitted to Public Safety Sub-Commission.

j. PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

General health throughout the Region continues good. Incidence rates for communicable diseases show a marked

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[illegible] extremely regrets have been obtained. The enthusiasm displayed by the Mobile Battalions is far superior to that of other police bodies.

The Guardia Finanza still perform excellent work. In Vercelli Province they have effectively reduced the Black Market in Rice. The amassing of this product is now more than ever satisfactory.

More assistance is necessary for the Guardia Forestale. They are performing good work in the control of wood cutting and agriculturing damage.

Serious crime has been reduced - considerably in Turin Province. Two men have been arrested for connection with the wholesale murder reported in November Report.

Possession of Firearms by civilians. It appears that we have either seized most of the arms thus held, or they are more cunningly concealed. Nothing to report.

Trouble between civilians and British troops at Novara Transit Camp has been effectively dealt with by APM 2 Districts and PrSC. Conduct of the British troops was not up to usual standard.

A satisfactory control has been maintained over VD.

Public morale alternates with the times. Foodstuffs in abundance are exhibited for sale, but prices are beyond the means of the ordinary worker.

No public meetings of any importance took place during the month.

The Fire Brigade is in excellent shape. There were no exceptional outbreaks of fire.

A Prison disturbance in Turin has been made the subject of a Special Report submitted to Public Safety Sub-Commission.

J. PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

General health throughout the Region continues good. Incidence rates of communicable diseases show a marked decrease. Sanitation conditions as always are good. Milk supply is still below the needs of children and the aged.

.....

The Penicillin Centre in Turin Province is not yet functioning owing to the shortage of that drug. A Black Market in penicillin is flourishing.

k. REFUGEES.

Information Centres in Turin is being handed over to UNRRA at the end of the month. Allied Nationals Camps are still to remain open pending a final decision on their future.

Hospitals are functioning satisfactorily.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Returns: | Italians in Camps 1 Dec 45 | - | 241 |
| | Arrivals | | 85 |
| | Evacuated | | 303 |
| | Remaining - 31 Dec 45 | | 23 |
| | Allied and other Nationals in Camp - 1 Dec 45 | | 131 |
| | Arrivals | | 52 |
| | Evacuated | | 174 |
| | Remaining 31 Dec 45 | | 9 |

Of the Italialians 8 were POWs.

l. COMMUNICATIONS.

Nothing to Report.

m. TRANSPORTATION.

The tyre shortage still creates a serious problem.

Motor Vehicle Circulations permits have been extended to 31 Jan 46 automatically.

n. FRENCH SITUATION.

Suggestions that, owing to the reopening of the TENDA Tunnel, no AMG and French Officers at TENDA be withdrawn were rejected by higher authority.

W. TURNER - COLES
Colonel
Deputy Regional Commissioner



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821 46

(61)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

8th December, 1945.

REFERENCE : PR/ESO/117.1

SUBJECT : REGIONAL MONTHLY REPORT.

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER
Headquarters, Allied Commission.

1. Herewith sixteen copies of Monthly Report for November,45.

By order of COLONEL McPHEE.

A. W. MICKLEWRIGHT.
Capt. R. A.
Exec. S. O. (B)

EC/057-14 5 Dec
50/7

1 - EC
1 - CA Sec
10 - Econ Sec
1 - PR Br circ to Ed Sec
1 - For Rep then to POLAD 'O'
1 - Working copy.

821 FT

(60)

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

CONFIDENTIAL

8th December, 1945.

DEC 14 1945

REFERENCE : PR/ESO/117.1

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORT - NOVEMBER 1945.

TO : HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION.

PART 1.

1. The news of the fall of the Italian Government created no major political repercussions in the Region.

2. General Public Opinion is that the recent political manoeuvres were ill-timed and that the time is ripe for politics to be submerged in a genuine attempt to put first the interests of ITALY as a Nation.

3. French propaganda is still observed in the TENDA area (CUNEO Province) and also has been awakened in the Upper Valley of AOSTA Province, consequent upon delay in approval of nominees for the Autonomous Council.

4. Lack of Civic responsibility is still predominant amongst Italian Local Government Officials.

5. Many Communes are encountering difficulty in balancing their Budgets.

6. Non-receipt of grain under approved plans is creating a serious food situation in TURIN Province.

7. Coal supplies for the Region are delayed at GENOA and SAVONA owing to lack of railway waggons.

8. As last month, unemployed returns show an increase and surplus workers a decrease, but the employment situation, as a whole, shows an improvement.

9. Lack of confidence in A.M.G. currency is increasing daily owing to fear of counterfeit, and its circulation is diminishing.

10. The arrival of cold weather, absence of gas supply and acute shortage of fuel, has created, as anticipated, a critical position in the Region's electricity supply.

11. Crimes of a serious nature are still on the increase, 195 arrests being made in TURIN City alone during November. In one case, a household of ten persons were murdered with the sole motive of

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PART II

(a) POLITICAL REACTION AND POPULAR OPINION

1. The news of the fall of the Italian Government created no major political repercussions in the Region, but the failure to form a new Government produced a natural depression.

2. The few strikes staged as a result of the Governmental Crisis were unimpressive and the Liberal Party appear to have lost ground as a result of their role in the Crisis.

3. Public Opinion is that political party pressure, with a view to the forthcoming elections, is still the cause of many of the Nation's troubles. Thinking people consider that the recent political manoeuvres were ill-timed and that the time is ripe for politics to be submerged in a genuine attempt to put first the Nation's interests.

4. French propaganda is still observed in the TENDA area of CUNEO Province and also has been awakened in the Upper Valley of AOSTA Province consequent upon the delay in the approval of the nominees for the autonomous Council.

(b) LOCAL GOVERNMENT

5. Lack of Civic responsibility is still predominant amongst Italian officials who have to be "prodded" consistently to execute their duties promptly. There is still the traditional susceptibility to corruption.

6. The political philosophy of the provincial leaders is in the direction of less governmental control of the citizen and his economic activities. Imposition of Decrees and control organisations from without are not welcomed.

7. Provincial CLNs are watched closely to counteract intimidation activities.

8. Many Communes are finding it increasingly difficult to balance their Budgets, despite the fact that their employees are still underpaid under present conditions. BIELLA (VERCELLI Province) for example has a deficit of 1,000,000 lire monthly.

9. The preparation of Electoral Lists is proceeding as rapidly as possible, subject to delays enumerated previously.

(c) ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY

FOOD

10. Sugar from GENOA arrived during the month in quantities almost sufficient to meet the ration requirements and its issue was a welcome change from the inferior Italian sugar issued previously.

11. The movements of grain under Plans Nos. 2 and 3 ceased during the final ten days of November and it was necessary to "loan" TURIN Province 600 tons of flour from A.M.G. reserve. At the end of the month, consequent on the non-arrival of grain/flour from BOLOGNA, FERRARA and other massing centres scheduled to supply TURIN, another "loan" of flour was necessitated.

12. Olive oil allocations are not reaching the Region, the sole receipts being "smuggled" into the territory.

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13. The A.M.G. reserve of lardo fuso was almost completely utilised by an issue to five Provinces which received no imported fats.

14. Ration cards for special categories such as "Hospital Patients"; "Sick at Home"; etc., appear to be far too numerous and it is recommended that the appropriate Ministry investigate this matter.



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15. The arrival of UNRRA supplies complicated still further an already confused food situation and, as far as known, the relationship between UNRRA and SEFRA has not been clarified to date.

INDUSTRY

16. Coal allocation for November was 23,461 tons, approximately 50% of the October allocation, necessitating no allocation to certain branches of industry.

17. The whole of the October allocation and the majority of November allocation of coal arrived in GENOA and SAVONA, but full delivery to Region has not been made owing to lack of railway waggons.

18. It is reported that 37,000 bales of cotton have arrived in GENOA but allocation figures have not been received from the Comitato Tessili. Cotton is urgently required by the Piemonte manufacturers to avoid unemployment.

19. Motor car and trailer manufacture increased during the month but a large decrease is anticipated in December due to lack of solid fuel.

20. Shortage of Pitch is critical as this is required for utilising solid fuel dust in the manufacture of ovoids to relieve the serious shortage of domestic fuel.

21. The co-operation of the Comitati representing the various Industries in Northern Italy is unsatisfactory.

COMMERCE

22. Throughout the month, Commerce Division has been administered by Major K. Cooper, an attached officer, whose services fortunately have been retained.

23. Italian agencies' administration continues to improve, with UPICs following a concerted policy. Co-ordination between the Provincial UPICs and C.I.A.I. MILAN showed a marked improvement.

24. November F.O.I. allocation was less than the previous month but serious shortages were alleviated from Regional stock reserves. As from December, there will be no Regional reserves held from the allocations as made in ROME. Each Provincial UPIC has been instructed to hold 15% of its monthly allocation for emergency uses, all unused reserves to be distributed by the 25th of each month.

5844

25. The provision of firewood for deficient Provinces still presents a major problem by reason of transportation and price difficulties.

26. Interviews with many commercialists in regard to the inauguration of foreign trade, etc., reveal a general lack of faith in and knowledge of the various committees of the North Italy Industrial Council and it is strongly recommended that greater publicity of the Committees' activities be instituted.

(d) AGRICULTURE

27. During the latter part of November, Italian soldiers were used again as aids to the civilian authorities in grain collection with satisfactory results. Total amounts collected (in quintals) as at end of November - Wheat 652,234; Corn.-75,145; Rye.- 21,928; Barley.- 4,802; Rice.-516,846.

28. 90% of the Winter wheat crop has been planted. In almost all instances

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28. 90% of the Winter wheat crop has been planted. In almost all instances the crop is above ground but the growth is short due to a dry fall and late planting.

29. The delivery of fertilisers has not been satisfactory but the improved allocation of salt for agricultural purposes has alleviated the position relative to home curing of meat, cheese making and care of livestock.



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(57)

(e) LABOUR

30. 105 individual and 36 collective controversies have been settled during November, and whilst there are a considerable number pending, it is anticipated solutions will be found, especially in view of repercussions on wage agreements that the inter-Regional agreement is likely to exert.

31. Unemployed returns show an increase of 9,000 but a proportion of this increase is due undoubtedly to the availability of more accurate statistics. The categories most affected by the increase are textile industry, building trades, mechanical trades and unskilled trades. The increase appears to be distributed evenly amongst the Provinces excepting TURIN where the increase is 4,000.

32. The Surplus Workers position shows an improvement in all but two Provinces, namely NOVARA and TURIN. NOVARA returns show an increase of 2,500 and TURIN figures are substantially the same as October. A marked improvement is noticeable in VERCELLI, where all but some 4,000 workers in industry are working a full time schedule.

33. The general employment situation in Piemonte has improved during the month, a total of some 22,000 workers having found full-time employment.

34. Returns; Unemployed.- Registered 20 Oct - 28,442; Newly registered - 23,635; Placed in employment - 15,072; Registered 20 Nov - 37,005; Surplus workers employed less than 40 hours per week.- 15 Oct - 168,954; 15 Nov - 142,999; Workers surplus to requirements if full working week of 48 hours is re-introduced.- 15 Oct - 91,027; 15 Nov - 68,776.

(f) FINANCE

35. Staff withdrawals created a serious position in this Division at the commencement of the month. For a period there was only one officer with little A.M.G. finance experience. The situation was eased somewhat by the arrival, on the 13 Nov, of an additional officer, although his previous experience had been confined to Provincial Finance administration.

36. The lack of confidence in A.M.G. currency is increasing daily and its circulation is diminishing. The reason is primarily the existence of large amounts of counterfeit. Merchants and others make it a practice to hold employees responsible for the acceptance of counterfeit with the consequent unwillingness on their part to take chances. It is believed that the remedy for this situation is not prosecution but the replacement of A.M.G. currency with normal Italian currency, at least for denominations above 50 lire.

37. Many Italian ex-Ps.O.W. have presented for payment non-negotiable drafts or statements in payment of their services while P.O.W., stating they had been informed that payment could be made at any A.M.G. office. The drafts, on their face, are payable only by Army or Navy Disbursing Officers. To approach the latter invloves considerable expense in travelling which applicants are unable to meet. The Region has no directive in this matter.

(g) PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

38. The resumption of acceptance of projects for processing has resulted in the receipt of a steadily increasing number throughout the month.

39. The electrical situation in the Region has deteriorated considerably consequent upon the arrival of cold weather and the non-availability of gas and fuel to ease the situation. Consumption figures show an increase of 50% over those for November 1944, and an increase of 20% over those

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40. It is anticipated that a three hour per day gas supply will be available in the Provinces of ALESSANDRIA, NOVARA and TURIN by 10 Dec 45. TURIN Gas Works will have a supplemental coal allocation to meet requirements of gas for industrial purposes.

(h) LEGAL

41. Only a small number of A.M.G. Courts were held and few cases await trial. Special Courts of Assize continue to sit.

42. In Italian Courts, sentences in arms cases generally indicate that a serious view of the offence is being taken.

43. There have been considerable alterations in Epuration policy in anticipation of Italian Legislative Decrees, but at present it is too early to give an opinion on the reception of these alterations and their working in practice.

44. Regional Order No. 11 (Registration of Enemy Aliens) was published.

(i) PUBLIC SAFETY

45. Carabinieri continue to make steady improvement and their increased confidence is shown by the fact that they are making useful arms raids and carrying out successful anti-bandit operations on their own initiative. On 21 Nov the CC.RR training school at MONCALIERI was re-opened.

46. Lack of transport is a great handicap to Carabinieri and only the willing co-operation of local British military units has enabled a great deal of police work to be executed. The training of Mobile Battalions will be completed by the end of December and, under arrangements with 7 AGRA, ammunition has been supplied. No ammunition has been issued for the 37 m.m. guns in armoured cars, as it is considered undesirable to use this type.

47. Some uniforms, greatcoats and blankets for Carabinieri were received during the month, but there is still an urgent need for more, and in addition, socks, gloves, heavy vests, ski boots (all for personnel at mountain stations) and pullovers for personnel throughout the Region.

48. Agenti P.S. are performing valuable work in checking motor vehicles during hours of darkness to combat attacks by armed criminals from moving cars.

49. The Guardia di Finanza are working well but lack sufficient automatic weapons to deal with strong forces of smugglers working the Italo-Swiss frontier.

50. Crimes of a serious nature are on the increase, 195 arrests being made in TURIN City alone during November. The outstanding crime of the month was the murder of ten adults in a farm house at VILLARASSE (TURIN Province) with the sole motive of robbery. The bound bodies of a 70 years old half blind avvocato and the members of his family and household were found in a disused well with concrete blocks tied to their feet. Half a million lire has been offered as reward for information but, despite all possible enquiries and vast publicity, no arrests have been made up to date.

51. Raids for hidden arms have continued, but on a reduced scale owing to temporary reduction in Public Safety personnel. Reports continue to be received of arms being smuggled into ITALY from FRANCE, and of the steady movement of arms from the mountains to TURIN and MILAN. All reports are investigated and action taken where possible.

52. No major change in public morale is noticeable, but undoubtedly the

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52. No major change in public morale is noticeable, but undoubtedly the well filled shop windows, with goods at fabulous prices beyond the reach of the general public, and the numerous expensive night entertainments frequented by operators on the Black Market tend to have an unsettling influence on the working classes, who see no immediate relief to their personal difficulties.



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(55)

(j) PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

55. The health of the population continues to be good generally although the number of diphtheria cases remains high. Present returns:- Typhoid Fever - 184; Diphtheria - 655; Measles - 371; Brucellosis - 26.

54. A Penicillin Centre has been formed in TURIN Province to control the use and distribution of this drug.

55. The departure of the last Public Health Officer at the close of the month has necessitated the closing of the Public Health Division in this Region.

(k) REFUGEES

56. The French Government have commenced the repatriation to FRANCE of Non-French Nationals. There are over 200 Italians in this category.

57. UNRRA Representation in TURIN has now permission to make relief payments to various Allied Nationals not living in Refugee Camps.

58. Returns: Italians in Camps on 1st Nov.- 308; Arrived - 196; Evacuated - 270; Remaining 30 Nov - 234. Allied and other Nationals in Camp 1st Nov - 222; Arrived.- 120; Evacuated.- 183; Remaining 30 Nov.- 159. Of the Italians, 7% were ex-Ps.C.W.

(l) COMMUNICATIONS

59. Roads: Heavy rains in the early days of the month caused considerable damage to highways and bridges. Damage to bridges on State Highways is estimated at 25,000,000 lire. There were approximately 50 road interruptions but traffic has now been restored on all routes. The TENDA tunnel was opened to road traffic on 20 Nov 45.

60. Rail: The rail programme is now carried out by I.S.R. under supervision of the Regional Transportation Officer. Lack of waggons is a constant problem.

61. Telecommunications and Posts: No Officers for these Divisions are stationed in Piemonte Region and no information is available.

(m) TRANSPORTATION

62. The distribution of newly manufactured vehicles has now been turned over to Italian agencies. Prospective purchasers of new vehicles will contact automotive dealers direct without applying through A.M.G. channels.

63. The tyre situation is serious, the Camera di Commercio of TURIN Province having received only 192 tyres since mid-September. Since allocations are handled through the Comitato di Gomme in MILAN, it is suggested that a check be made on this Committee to determine the equity of their allocations. Tyres can still be obtained in the Black Market at prices over 150,000 lire per truck tyre.

(n) PATRIOTS - PROPERTY CONTROL and MONUMENTS & FINE ARTS DIVISIONS are now closed in Piemonte, all personnel having departed.

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(k) REFUGEES

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57. UNRRA Representation in TURIN has now permission to make relief payments to various Allied Nationals not living in Refugee Camps.

58. Returns: Italians in Camps on 1st Nov.- 308; Arrived - 196; Evacuated - 270; Remaining 30 Nov - 234. Allied and other Nationals in Camp 1st Nov - 222; Arrived.- 120; Evacuated.- 183; Remaining 30 Nov.- 159. Of the Italians, 74 were ex-Ps.C.W.

(l) COMMUNICATIONS

59. Roads: Heavy rains in the early days of the month caused considerable damage to highways and bridges. Damage to bridges on State Highways is estimated at 25,000,000 lire. There were approximately 50 road interruptions but traffic has now been restored on all routes. The TENDA tunnel was opened to road traffic on 20 Nov 45.

60. Rail: The rail programme is now carried out by I.S.R. under supervision of the Regional Transportation Officer. Lack of wagons is a constant problem.

61. Telecommunications and Posts: No Officers for these Divisions are stationed in Piemonte Region and no information is available.

(m) TRANSPORTATION

62. The distribution of newly manufactured vehicles has now been turned over to Italian agencies. Prospective purchasers of new vehicles will contact automotive dealers direct without applying through A.M.G. channels.

63. The tyre situation is serious, the Camera di Commercio of TURIN Province having received only 192 tyres since mid-September. Since allocations are handled through the Comitato di Gomme in MILAN, it is suggested that a check be made on this Committee to determine the equity of their allocations. Tyres can still be obtained in the Black Market at prices over 150,000 lire per truck tyre.

(n) PATRIOTS - PROPERTY CONTROL and MONUMENTS & FINE ARTS DIVISIONS are now closed in Piemonte, all personnel having departed.

EUGENE R. McPHEE.
Colonel. Ord.
Regional Commissioner.

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HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

CONFIDENTIAL

8th November, 1945.

NOV 14 1945

REFERENCE : PR/ESO/117.1

SUBJECT : Regional Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner,
Headquarters, Allied Commission.

1. Herewith six copies of Monthly Report for October, 1945.

By Order of Colonel McPHEE.

13 NOV 1945

A.W. MICKLEWRIGHT.
Capt. R.A..
Exec. S.O. (B).

EC DIST - 14 Nov.

1 - EC
1 - CA Sec
1 - Econ Sec
1 - PRBr wire to Establ Sec
1 - POLAD B.
1 - Working copy.

5547

See Nr 316

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 1785

53-B

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

CONFIDENTIAL

8th November, 1945.

REFERENCE : PR/ESO/117.1

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORT - OCTOBER 1945.

TO : HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION.

PART 1.

1. The Communist Party are losing ground to the Christian Democrats. In many areas public opinion is favourable to a Monarchy but whether the present King would command support is open to doubt.

2. Mass withdrawal of personnel has seriously effected AMG administration but AMG representation has been maintained in all Provinces.

3. Local Government Officials continue to improve, but AMG impetus is still essential to ensure prompt results.

4. The grain movement plan and the amassing programme have assured all Provinces, except Turin, of one month's supply of flour for ration purposes.

5. Arising out of the claim of Fiat workers for an increase in basic wage rates, central discussions are now proceeding between representatives of employers and workers in the whole of Northern Italy with a view to the formulation of a new general wage agreement covering that area.

6. The total of unemployed shows an increase but there is a reduction in the number of "surplus workers".

7. Apart from an appreciable increase in Diphtheria cases, the health of the population remains good. 5824

8. Crime is on the increase with the advent of dark evenings, but the vastly improved Carabinieri and Agenti P.S. should meet the situation.

9. The electricity supply is good, but it is essential that heating and cooking facilities should be implemented by gas if electrical breakdowns are to be avoided.

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PART II

(a) POLITICAL REACTION AND POPULAR OPINION

1. Political activity still centres in Turin, the population of outlying Provinces being more concerned with personal problems and prospects during the forthcoming Winter.

2. Undoubtedly the prestige of the Communists has diminished, due partly to the reports on reparations said to have been claimed by Russia at the London Conference and partly to the accounts circulated by recently returned prisoners of war from Russia. The Christian Democrats appear to be gaining ground.

3. General public opinion is that industrial firms daily are eating up their capital and will arrive shortly at a point of bankruptcy which will result in mass unemployment. All are fearful of the consequences; therefore it is felt that leaning to the "left" might cause cessation of the flow of materials and food from the democratic countries.

4. Several Ministers have visited the Region during the month, including NENNI and TOGLIATTI, who spoke on the Constituente. No incidents occurred.

5. A considerable proportion of the Piemonte population, especially in Agricultural areas, appears to favour a Monarchy, although it is doubtful if the present King would acquire much support.

(b) LOCAL GOVERNMENT

6. Recent large scale withdrawals of personnel from the Region have reduced the Provincial teams, in some cases, to a Provincial Commissioner and a Public Safety Officer, but AMG representation has been maintained in all Provinces.

7. Italian Officials, whilst showing improvement, still need the impetus of AMG to ensure prompt results. This is especially true in regard to work on the preparation of Electoral Lists, and it is evident that the supervision of AMG has prevented the collapse of the Time Schedule.

8. Rag. LIVIO PIVANO, Prefect of Alessandria, resigned on the 10th October, 1945, and has been replaced by Sig. GALANTE GARONE, Judge of the Tribunale, Turin.

9. In the Upper Valley of Aosta Province the realisation of autonomy has advanced a step further with the despatch to Rome, after strong delaying tactics by the "Leftist" Parties, of the nominations for the Consiglio.

(c) ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY

5838

FOOD

10. Personnel in this Division are now reduced to the Regional Food Officer and one Provincial Food Officer stationed in Aosta Province, having regard to the impending division of that territory into Aosta "SEPRAL" and "Ufficio dell'Alimentazione di IVREA".

11. The standing of the Ispettorato Regionale dell'Alimentazione improves slowly but surely, and generally the Provincial SEPRALS are functioning satisfactorily.

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11. The standing of the Ispettorato Regionale dell'Alimentazione improves slowly but surely, and generally the Provincial SEPRALS are functioning satisfactorily.

12. The uniform 200 gram bread ration for all categories of Normal Consumers went into effect during October with no apparent adverse re-action. Pasta and rice rations were issued. Sizeable quantities of olive oil, lard and salt arrived to support the ration scales for fats and salt. Fruits, particularly apples, were plentiful and exported by rail. Salt for agricultural purposes and for food processing is required urgently.



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13. Two civilian agencies have been allocated reasonable quantities of AMG foods for free distribution in a Winter Feeding Programme.

14. The Grain Movement Plan and the amassing programme have assured all but one Province (Turin) of at least one month's supply of flour for ration purposes. However, there is still apprehension about the future beyond November, as no long-range programme of imports has been announced.

INDUSTRY

15. The coal allocation to Piemonte for October was 54,310 tons but figures are not available from Italian Agencies as to the actual amount received.

16. The receipts of coal for November, owing to short imports, are expected to fall to 25,000/30,000 tons, and the possibility of transporting lignite from Tuscany, where the stock is estimated at 150,000 tons, to Piemonte is being investigated.

17. Leather production for boots and shoes ordered by the Italian Government is satisfactory but production could be hastened by the importation of Bi-chromate salts, Sodium Sulphide and fish oils.

18. Repairs to the haulage system at the Cogne Anthracite Mine (Aosta Province) are expected to be completed early in November.

19. Fiat production and sale figures:- "Fiat 626" - 799; "Fiat 666" - 301; "Fiat 508" - 92; "Fiat 500" - 250; "Fiat 1100 L" (Pick-up) - 93; "Fiat 1100 B (Passenger) - 451; Others - 12; Total:- 1,998.

20. Lancia production figures:- "Lancia 3RO" - 14; "291 electric" - 2; "Lancia 800" - 8.

COMMERCE

21. All Commerce Officers have now left the Region and instructions have been requested as to closing the Division. Still more administrative duties have had to be transferred to Civilian Agencies.

22. POL distribution through CIF is working satisfactorily and the quantities, still very small for such an industrial Region as Piemonte, have been handled with great care to ensure use to maximum advantage. The Regional Reserve of POL has been withheld from Rome allocation to meet most urgent requests from Provinces. The same procedure will be followed during November until a Regional body has been formed by the Italian Authorities to take over this delicate work. The Fuel Oil situation is still precarious owing to lack of transportation and the slowness of C.I.Ps in handling the matter.

23. The supply and distribution of wood continues to occupy top priority. 500,000 quintals are now being cut in Novara Province, 20% of which will go under agreement to Lombardia Region. 305

24. All Provincial U.P.I.Cs show improvement and various allocation committees are functioning in the Plan for Industrial Control of North Italy. Chambers of Commerce have been given the sole authority for the allocation of tyres and tubes as directed by Adv. HQ. Commerce Sub-Commission.

(d) AGRICULTURE

25. The weather remained dry and had a temporary adverse effect on fall planted grain. Rainfall during the last three days of October

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(d) AGRICULTURE

25. The weather remained dry and had a temporary adverse effect on fall planted grain. Rainfall during the last three days of October improved prospects.

26. Wheat collection continued but at a much slower rate than during September when Italian soldiers were assisting. On 25 Oct 45, a total of 616,392 quintals had been amassed, which is 64.5% of the Regional estimate and 95.8% of the Ministry of Agriculture estimate.

27. Rice harvest and threshing has been completed. Of the estimated total available namely 2,006,000 quintals, 280,250 quintals had been amassed by 25th October.



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28. 180,000 quintals of sugar beet have been produced in Alessandria, 150,000 of which will be available to the sugar beet factory.

29. Ten cases of hoof and mouth disease were reported from Turin Province.

(e) LABOUR

30. Important discussions have taken place between the Management and Workers of the Fiat Group in regard to the Workers' claim for an increase in basic wage rates. Apprehensive because of the influence which any "Fiat" agreement would have, other industrial interests asked for and secured the intervention of the Minister of Labour who has now visited Turin. The outcome was a decision to broaden the basis of the negotiations by inviting representatives of employers and workers from Turin, Milan, Genoa, Venice and Bologna to take part in the discussions with a view to formulating a general wage agreement which, if acceptable, would be applied eventually to the whole of Northern Italy. Negotiations continue and may be prolonged owing to the complexity of the problem.

31. There is a net increase of 4,914 in the number of persons wholly unemployed. The increase includes "dilutees" dismissed from engineering establishments in Turin but otherwise is largely accounted for by the fact that more accurate statistics are now available.

Returns:- Unemployed - Registered 20 Sept - 23,528; Registered 20 Sept to 20 Oct. - 20,636; Placed in employment - 20 Sept to 20 Oct. - 15,722; Registered 20 Oct. - 28,442. Surplus Workers. Workers employed less than 40 hours per week - (Receiving 75% Cassa Integrazione) 15 Sept. - 187,942; 15 Oct. - 168,954; Workers surplus to requirements if full working week of 46 hours is re-introduced - 15 Sept. - 113,143; 15 Oct. - 91,027.

32. Although the number of surplus workers still occasions concern, the employment position has shown definite improvement during the month. The increased numbers registered as wholly unemployed do not reflect any detoriation in the position and there is no doubt the problem of wholly unemployed is eased by the very considerable turnover.

33. A number of strikes of minor importance occurred, being almost entirely concerned with requests for increased wages. An exception was the strike at Fiat Works, Turin, which was organised as a protest against an AMG instruction to various political parties in Turin to vacate premises occupied illegally.

(f) FINANCE

34. Applications for sizeable lines of credit are swamping the larger banks. These requests generally are declined due to excessive cost of operation in relation to revenues. Deposits are reported to have held firm, the aggregate figures for the Region ranging from - 32,000,000,000 to 35,000,000,000 Lire.

35. With the departure of all Provincial Finance Officers, the responsibility of unblocking accounts and cheques was transferred to the Direzione Generale del Tesoro.

36. The unwillingness of Banks and merchants to accept AM currency is causing considerable difficulties. In certain areas AM currency has practically disappeared. Fear of counterfeit currency appears

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(g) PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

37. Only one officer now remains in the Division, but practically all work has been transferred to Italian Authorities. All applications for approval of projects have been cleared.



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38. Lack of materials handicaps repairs to buildings, etc., but large numbers of individuals are carrying out their own repair work.

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39. The general electrical power conditions in Piemonte are good, but, as there is no gas supply at present, thousands of people are cooking and heating with electricity. Colder weather will increase the consumption of electricity and, unless areas are to be without light and power periodically, it is essential that the electrical power should be supplemented by gas. If the Italian Authorities allocate coal, as advised, for gas purposes, the principal Cities in the Region should have gas three hours per day by the end of November.

(h) LEGAL

40. A.M.G. Courts: Few cases are now being dealt with, partly on account of the lack of Officers available to sit on Superior Courts and partly because the Italian Judiciary on the higher level show complete willingness to co-operate. This willingness is not fully reflected, so far, on a Provincial level but where sentences are too light in arms cases appeals are being taken by order of the Procuratore Generale.

41. Italian Courts: Apart from shortage of personnel, a matter beyond the control of local officials, the Courts are functioning smoothly.

42. Special Courts of Assize: These Courts continue to hear cases, and generally in a calmer and more judicial atmosphere. A number of death sentences passed some time ago have been carried out without incident.

43. Epuration: Commissions continue under G.C. 35 and G.O. 46. In the case of the latter there are difficulties because no provision is made for payment of members of the Commissions. A ruling on the matter is awaited from Allied Commission.

(i) PUBLIC SAFETY

44. Carabinieri, improving in morale, efficiency and confidence, are now working with Mobile Agenti P.S. on night patrol with remarkable success. Winter uniforms for CC.R in border control stations are required urgently. Automatic arms are not yet to hand.

45. Agenti P.S. are now becoming recognised as a reliable police body, and are deserving of more official encouragement.

46. Crimes of serious nature are on the increase due to advent of darker nights. Hold-ups in country districts are difficult problems and are being combatted by mobile patrols.

47. Public morale is improving slowly. More merchandise has appeared in the shops but prices are beyond the lower paid worker.

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48. Raids for hidden arms have continued but sources of information have been on a reduced scale. It is reported that, consequent upon raids in Piemonte and Lombardia Regions, there is a traffic in arms from the country areas to Milan and Turin where dumps are more difficult to locate.

49. Total arms recovered to 25th October, 45:- Machine Guns 445; Rifles 3,166; Automatic Weapons 1,236; Revolvers 81; Grenades 7,211; Mines 154; Mortars 223; Guns over 20 M.M. - 33; Armd. Cars 9, and considerable quantities of explosives, ammunition, mortar bombs, shells, radios, steel helmets, etc.

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(j) PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

50. The health of the population continues to be good. With the exception of diphtheria, most of the diseases show a distinct decrease in the number of cases. Diphtheria cases increased by 170. Present returns:- Typhoid Fever 317; Tuberculosis 150; Diphtheria 594; Brucellosis 12.

51. Penicillin is reaching the Black Market, and raids have recovered 89 vials.



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52. The three major problems outstanding in the Welfare field are - (a) Fuel for heating and bed-linen for Hospitals, (b) Supplementary food rations for institutions and (c) acquirement of medical supplies which, although unblocked, are difficult to obtain. Efforts are being made to alleviate the situation.

(k) REFUGEES

53. The flow of Italian Refugees and Ps.O.W. from France through Switzerland ceased during the month. It is believed that there are still 20,000 Italians to be repatriated from France. Repatriation of Italian and other Nationals to France has not yet commenced and the number of Italians desiring repatriation is increasing.

54. XXI AMG Evacuation Camp (Moncalieri) and XIX (Novara) have now been handed over to the Italian Authorities.

55. Returns: Italians in Camps 1st Oct. - 421; Arrived.- 13,966; Evacuated.- 14,088; Remaining 31st Oct.- 299. Allied and other Nationals in Camps 1st Oct. - 245; Arrived.- 263; Evacuated.- 277; Remaining.- 31st Oct.- 231. Of the Italians, 13,069 were ex-Ps.O.W.

(l) PATRIOTS

56. There are still approximately 130 ex-Partisans in Hospital in Turin, but it is estimated this number will be reduced to 50 by the end of November, 1945.

57. The Regional Patriots Division closed on the 19th October, 1945, and future administration of the ex-Partisans will be conducted through the Piemonte I.M.P.E. now established in the Turin Prefettura with branches in each Province.

(m) COMMUNICATIONS

58. Roads: Favourable weather has permitted exceptional progress to be made in the repair of highways and bridges. Difficulty has been experienced in securing cement from factories. Cement is now under Italian control and undoubtedly large quantities are reaching the "Black Market".

59. Heavy rains at the close of the month have caused many dislocations in road communications, especially in the Province of Cuneo.

60. Rail: All work on bids for movement of traffic by rail will be handed over to the Italian State Railways on 1st November, 1945. No difficulty has been encountered to date in moving AMG sponsored traffic.

61. Telecommunications: Direct service with LUGANO has been opened and 5534 service with FRANCE via MILAN will re-commence shortly. The Telecommunications Officer will leave the Region on 7th November, 1945, and it is unknown whether a replacement will be provided.

62. Posts: Postal services are operating satisfactorily.

(n) MONUMENTS AND FINE ARTS

63. With the departure of the Regional Monuments and Fine Arts Officer, the work of this Division was handed over to the Superintendencies of Galleries, Monuments, Antiquities and Egyptology, Libraries and Archives, on 15th October, 1945.

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61. Telecommunications: Direct service with LUGANO has been opened and 5934 service with FRANCE via MILAN will re-commence shortly. The Telecommunications Officer will leave the Region on 7th November, 1945, and it is unknown whether a replacement will be provided.

62. Posts: Postal services are operating satisfactorily.

(n) MONUMENTS AND FINE ARTS

63. With the departure of the Regional Monuments and Fine Arts Officer, the work of this Division was handed over to the Superintendencies of Galleries, Monuments, Antiquities and Egyptology, Libraries and Archives, on 15th October, 1945.

EUGENE R. McPHEE.
Colonel. Ord.
Regional Commissioner.



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Confidential

HEADQUARTERS
PIEDMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

9th October 1945

OCT 11 1945

REFERENCE : PR/ESC/117.4

SUBJECT : REGIONAL MONTHLY REPORTS.

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER
HQ., A.C.

1. Herewith six copies of Monthly Report for September 1945.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL THOMAS.

E C Dist
1 — Ex Comm/R
1 — Cultus
1 — Econ Sec
1 — Prots Cents Exam
1 — Finds
1 — Work Progs

A. W. MICKLEWRIGHT
Capt. R. A.
Exec. S.O. (B)

(Miss Sharpsed)

5833

See M 12/10

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 304.

7th October, 1945.

REFERENCE: PR/ESC/117.1.

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORT - SEPTEMBER 1945.

TO : HEADQUARTERS. ALLIED COMMISSION.

PART 1.

1. During September political activity has continued at an accelerated pace in the larger towns, and remained comparatively calm in outlying districts.

2. Competent Regional AMG administration is no longer possible, having regard to the constant withdrawal of personnel and transport, and unless AMG can function in its entirety, then the territory should be handed to the Italian Government without delay.

3. The Sindaci of the 1067 Communes in the Region have now been appointed and confirmed in office.

4. Nine months must elapse before the next grain harvest and there is sufficient grain in the amassies to provide bread for the ration card holders for one month only. Grain for the remaining eight months, in large measure, may have to be imported.

5. A fire at the Cogne Anthracite Mine will involve a hold up of 15,000 tons of cleaned coal during the 45 day repair period.

6. Unemployment is on the increase and there is also an increase in "surplus workers".

7. The vigorous drive for hidden arms has continued unabated with excellent results.

8. The health of the population remains good, with 50% decrease in Typhoid/Paratyphoid fever cases, but considerable increase in Diptheria cases.

9. The Tenda tunnel (Cuneo Province) will re-open, it is anticipated in mid-October.

10. The electrical generating and distributing system of Piemonte is in a good condition.

11. The gas situation is not satisfactory as sufficient coal supplies for necessary preheating of ovens have not been received.

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

REFERENCE: FR/ESO/117.1.

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORT - SEPTEMBER 1945.

TO : HEADQUARTERS. ALLIED COMMISSION.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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PART II.

(a) POLITICAL REACTION AND POPULAR OPINION.

1. During September political activity has continued at an accelerated pace in the large towns and remained comparatively calm in outlying districts. Confusion exists as to the "rights" of the C.L.N. on cessation of A.M.G.

2. The unexpected prolongation of AMG has created a belief, and hope in most circles, that AMG may be extended until the Spring. The general public do not appear to have great confidence in the Italian Government as at present constituted, it being felt that "stronger" men are needed.

3. The general consensus of opinion is that the time is not ripe for AMG to hand over and fears are expressed openly that the present Italian law enforcement agencies are not sufficiently equipped to meet eventualities.

4. Competent AMG administration is no longer possible having regard to the constant withdrawal of personnel and transport, and unless AMG can function in its entirety, then the territory should be handed to the Italian Government without delay.

5. The situation in the Tenda-Briga area (Cuneo Province) remains outwardly calm. For some time AMG has pressed for the removal of the French Liaison Officer in Tenda, as it is considered that no useful purpose is being served by his presence in that locality. Higher authority has decided to permit a Junior French Liaison Officer to remain in Tenda, such officer to be under the orders of the local AMG Commander.

(b) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

6. Uncertainty as to the future continues to hamper the working of Local Government, non-local officials being afraid as to their personal position.

7. Italian Officials are accepting responsibility but the majority still require pressure to ensure prompt execution of duties. The low salaries paid to Government Officials, combined with the present high cost of living, encourage corruption.

8. Sindaci of the 1,067 Communes in the Region have now been appointed by Italian agencies and confirmed in office by the respective Provincial Commissioners.

9. The preparation of the electoral lists continues, but a difficulty of some magnitude has arisen in adherence to the time schedule on account of the alleged impossibility for the judicial records offices to complete the work of returning extracts of the electoral lists to the Communes within the period of 15 days of receipt, as established by Art. 17 of the Ministerial Decree of 24th October, 1944. In Torino Province, an application for 30 days time extension on these grounds has had to be refused inasmuch as such grounds are not legal grounds for the granting of time extension.

10. The resignation of the Prefect of Alessandria is anticipated, he having been appointed Consultore Nazionale. The local CLN have already nominated a successor but preliminary steps have been taken to ensure the appointment of a Career Prefect should the office become vacant.

(c) ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

FOOD.

0031

abroad. This may be extended until the Spring. The general public do not appear to have great confidence in the Italian Government as at present constituted, it being felt that "stronger" men are needed.

3. The general concensus of opinion is that the time is not ripe for AMG to hand over and fears are expressed openly that the present Italian law enforcement agencies are not sufficiently equipped to meet eventualities.

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9081

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(c) ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

FOOD.

11. From the viewpoint of the consumer, September has been the most satisfactory month since the advent of AMG, but the stock position at the end of the month is unfavourable.

12. If all locally produced foodstuffs reached proper channels the demands for imported supplements would drop considerably, but there are no signs that law observance and law enforcement can be anticipated.



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13. Nine months must elapse before the next grain harvest and there is sufficient grain in the amassies to provide bread for the ration card holders for one month only. Grain for the remaining eight months, in large measure, may have to be imported.

14. Undoubtedly a large proportion of the grain crop reached the black market. That the Italian people should thus misuse their own resources and then turn to outsiders for added aid on account of this, appears to be grossly unfair.

15. Italian authorities have taken over many food administrative details, with a view to AMG leaving behind a working system rather than an unexecuted plan.

INDUSTRY.

16. During the month, responsibilities of the Division have been handed to the C.I.A.I. On 19th September, all allocations of coal became the responsibility of the Italian Government, and with that change, the functions of the Industry Division virtually came to an end.

17. On 27th September, 1945, it was reported that a serious fire had destroyed the aerial cable haulage system at Cogne Anthracite Mine. It is estimated that 45 days will be required for the repair. The interruption should not interfere with the operation of the mine as storage space for the output. The present output of mine run coal is about 500 tons per day and of cleaned coal about 350 tons per day. Thus a total of about 15,000 tons of cleaned coal will be held up during the period of repair. The iron and steel works at Aosta will be affected as will many brickworks and other industries; but much of the effect can be eased by shifting allocations of imported coal and coke during the repair period. Decisions on such reallocations will now rest with Piemonte C.I.A.I. whom the Cogne Company have contacted.

18. Of the 58,000 tons of coal allocated to the Region for September, 35,000 tons have been received and distributed.

19. 1,180 Fiat Vehicles, 871 Michelin tyres and 588 Michelin tubes were released during the month through the Piemonte Transportation Officer.

COMMERCE.

20. Civilian Agencies are now functioning in all Provinces without Commerce Officers available to direct their work.

21. Foreign trade is becoming a major subject in industrial and commercial circles. Considerable confusion exists as to actual procedure. Clarification is awaited.

22. The Commissariato for Firewood has been slowly trying to accumulate wood for the Provinces in accordance with the Forestali Corps plan, supplementing local contracts with purchases from Toscana; Umbria; Lazio and Savona. Price control has been maintained. Progress to date has been slow but an acceleration of supply is expected after the opening of the Tenda tunnel permits vehicular transportation. 5839

23. The activities of the Piemonte Region Price and Distribution Commission have now become subordinated to the Price Fixing Board of Northern Italy at Milan.

(d) AGRICULTURE.

24. Corn. Corn harvest continued throughout the month, the crop being satisfactory, except in those areas depending on rain.

25. Rice. Harvest was started during the month and the quality of the new crop on the whole is better.

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16. During the month, responsibilities of the Division have been handed to the C.I.A.I. On 15th September, all allocations of coal became the responsibility of the Italian Government, and with that change, the functions of the Industry Division virtually came to an end.

17. On 27th September, 1945, it was reported that a serious fire had destroyed the aerial cable haulage system at Cogne Anthracite Mine. It is estimated that 14 days will be required for the repair. The interruption should not interfere with the operation of the mine as storage space for the output. The present output of mine run coal is about 500 tons per day and of cleaned coal about 350 tons per day. Thus a total of about 15,000 tons of cleaned coal will be held up during the period of repair. The iron and steel works at Aosta will be affected as will many brickworks and other industries; but much of the effect can be eased by shifting allocations of imported coal and coke during the repair period. Decisions on such reallocations will now rest with Piemonte C.I.A.I. whom the Cogne Company have contacted.

18. Of the 58,000 tons of coal allocated to the Region for September, 35,000 tons have been received and distributed.

19. 1,180 Fiat Vehicles, 851 Michelin tyres and 599 Michelin tubes were released during the month through the Piemonte Transportation Officer.

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24. Corn. Corn harvest continued throughout the month, the crop being satisfactory, except in those areas depending on rain.

25. Rice. Harvest was started during the month and the quality of the new crop on the whole is better.

26. Hay. The situation has continued to improve in the irrigated and river bottom farms. However the hay and general fodder situation is not entirely satisfactory and a forced reduction of numbers of livestock may be necessary in some Communes.



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. Collectio for Granai del Popolo have bee accelerated during the ,n. The total mount amassed to 27th September is 501,140 Qls, being 40.8% of the 1st July goal, and 77.9% of the Ministerial Estimate. From 12th to 26th September a cadre of 25 to 30 Italian soldiers and a British NCO have aided each Province and during this period a total of approximately 100,000 Qls was amassed.

(e) LABOUR.

28. The labour situation has been kept well in hand. No serious industrial unrest has developed except for a sit-down strike amongst textile workers of Torino Province. An agreement was reached after a suspension of work lasting twelve days.

29. The abolition of unified contribution system in the "Previdenza Sociale" has been adversely received by organised Labour; it is regarded as a regression in Social policy.

30. Unemployment is on the increase throughout Piemonte; there is also an increase of "surplus workers". Three under-secretaries visited Torino and held a conference in connection with the impending expiration of the ban on discharges.

31. The question of setting up "Giunte di Gestione" in the more important Industries has come to the fore as a result of a mass meeting held at "Fiat Mirafiore" to discuss this question.

(f) FINANCE.

32. Government Finance. There has been the expected last minute rush on the part of State Agencies and Communes to obtain supplementary budgets approved for the July/September quarter. No budgets have been accepted for the October/December period yet, in the hope that these will all be dealt with by the Italian Administration Office at Milan.

33. Up to September 15th, 1945, a total of L:5.436 269.690 had been approved on S.B. forms and L: 185.541.000 on L.G.B. forms.

34. Governmental Bonds. At the close of the campaign for the sale of 5% Buoni del Tesoro Quinquennali the total figure for Piemonte Region was L:17.082.144.000.

35. Financial Institutions. Banks continue to function normally, with aggregate deposits remaining L:33.000.000.000. Bankers report many requests for loans, mostly involving undue risks however. The cash position of the Bank of Italy appears to be secure, with over L:3.500.000.000 held in the Region.

(g) PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

36. During the month, 552 projects at an estimated value of L: 1.412.257.192 were received. The deadline for the submission of projects was advanced from 15th to 25th September.

37. Housing Committees, now numbering 109, have become more active except in Novara area. 1,402 projects are in hand valued at more than 126.000.000 lire.

38. 14 of the 18 electric power plants and 480 of the 981 power lines which suffered war damage have now been repaired. The capacity of the damaged generating plants was 187.000 Kw, and repairs have restored 162.000 Kw. Since two plants generating a total of 9,000 Kw were damaged beyond repair, only 12,000 Kw of generating capacity await repair.

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[illegible] Party Congress, called for a sit-down strike against textile workers of Torino Province. An agreement was reached after a suspension of work lasting twelve days.

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(g) PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

36. During the month, 352 projects at an estimated value of L: 1.[illegible]12.257.152 were received. The deadline for the submission of projects was advanced from 15th to 25th September. 829

37. Housing Committees, now numbering 109, have become more active except in Novara area. 1,402 projects are in hand valued at more than 136.000.000 lire.

38. [illegible] of the 13 electric power plants and 880 of the 961 power lines which suffered war damage have now been repaired. The capacity of the damaged generating plants was 183.000 Kw, and repairs have restored 162.000 Kw. Since two plants generating a total of 9,000 Kw were damaged beyond repair, only 12,000 Kw of generating capacity await repair.

39. The electrical generating and distributing system of Piemonte is in an extremely satisfactory condition and further repairs and improvements may be left to the civilian management of the Companies without hesitation.

As regard to gas, despite the fact that every effort has been made to present to the proper authorities the Gas Companies' coal requirements, the situation still is far from satisfactory. An allotment of coal has been received but it is unknown whether or not this is for pre-heating. Unless an assurance is given that more coal will be available it appears impracticable to use the present allotment even to preheat the ovens.

41. It is hoped that the situation may be clarified as, with the coming of colder weather and the use of electricity for heating, gas should be made available for cooking, otherwise the extra load on the electric system will be more than it can carry.

42. Public Works Division has now been keyed to closing with all records up to date.

(h) LEGAL.

43. G.O. 37 (Advance Payments of certain Pensions) was published during the month.

44. AMG and Italian Courts continued to function and there was one General Court, the first in the Region, held at Cuneo.

45. Special Courts of Assize also continued to function, a large number of cases being dealt with. Seven death sentences, one from Asti and six from Novara were carried out without incident.

46. Epuration Commissions continued to operate with minor interruptions through false alarms of AMG Commissions being superseded. Instructions on procedure on cessation of AMG have been issued.

(i) PUBLIC SAFETY.

47. Crimes of a serious nature were again fewer but the approach of Winter is faced with a certain amount of trepidation, as undoubtedly there will be the usual seasonal increase in the number of crimes committed.

48. During September the vigorous drive for hidden arms continued unabated. 65 raids in which CC.RR., Italian Military and British troops have taken part on information provided by the Public Safety Division have yielded excellent results. The following figures cover the period May - September: No. OF RAIDS:- 160; ARMS recovered:- Machine Guns 316; Rifles 2898; Auto weapons 1198; Revolvers 59; Grenades 6970; Mines 134; Radios 72; Mortars 203; Guns over 20 mm. 33; Anti. Cars 9, together with explosives and an immense quantity of ammunition of all kinds.

49. Renewed confidence is being shown by the CC.RR., who are, however, extremely reluctant to work with other than AMG Police Agencies.

50. Uniforms and Boots for CC.RR are being obtained slowly through unusual channels. Automatic arms have been requested repeatedly and until these are obtained, banditry will not be overcome finally, neither will the inferiority complex of the CC.RR be removed. It is imperative that the provision of suitable arms for the Carabinieri be given immediate attention by the appropriate authorities, as the matter is of extreme urgency. 5828

51. New uniforms have been obtained locally for mobile battalions of the Agenti P.S., who are exclusively undertaking the policing of Turin City during night time. Unless there is some immediate scheme of the Italian Government for the training of these men - on whom much reliance will have to be placed in the near future - it is intended to improve their local training by more advanced instruction in preliminary courses of 3 weeks

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52. Public morale fluctuates but on the whole has improved. Rapidly growing appreciation that North Italy possesses a better opportunity for a more rapid industrial recovery than most other countries in Europe, provided raw materials are forthcoming quickly, is offset by the unsettled political situation and the fear of conditions in the coming Winter.



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(j) ... C HEALTH AND WELFARE.

53. The health of the population continues to be good. The number of typhoid fever cases dropped by a half, but the number of diptheria cases increased greatly. Present returns:- Typhoid Fever 373; Tuberculosis 222; Diptheria 443; Brucellosis 78. Hospitals suffer from lack of funds and coal. All medical supplies totalling 150 tons and 190 tons of soap have been distributed.

54. Welfare.
Total supplies furnished to Italian Institutes and Displaced Persons Camps are as follows:- 6,500 childrens garments; 3,400 blankets; 9,000 pairs Shoes; 800 confinement kits and 10 tons of ARC clothing.

(k) EDUCATION.

55. With the departure of all Education Officers the Division closed down on 30th September, 1945.

(l) REFUGEES.

56. No. 18 AMG Refugee Camp at Domodossola was closed on 15th September and the feeding arrangements for refugees passing through were taken over by the Italian Authorities. 21 AMG Evacuation Camp at Moncalieri was transferred to the Italian authorities on 29th September and 19 AMG Evacuation Camp Novara on 30th September. The Allied Nationals Camp has been transferred from Caserma Cavour to Grugliasco.

57. The flow of Italian Ps.O.W from France through Switzerland has increased considerably and it is anticipated that the Refugee Camp at Novara will handle during October 7,500 Ps.O.W per week.

58. Returns; Italians in Camp at 1 September - 495. Arrived 17,617. Evacuated - 13,418, remaining 30th September - 695. Allied and other Nationals in camp 1st September - 235, arrived - 529. Evacuated - 341, remaining 30th September - 423. Of the Italians, 11,614 were ex-Ps.O.W.

(m) PATRIOTS.

59. I.M.P.As in the Provinces are now working under the jurisdiction of the respective Prefects, and are controlled by the Regional I.M.P.A.

60. Ufficio Stralcio del C.M.R.P. have strongly protested against the withdrawal of vehicles operating in pools controlled by ex-partisans and the matter has been referred to the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri.

61. 203 ex-partisans are still in hospital but it is anticipated that 100 of these will be discharged during October.

5827

(n) COMMUNICATIONS.

Roads.

62. Work on most of vital projects progressing satisfactorily. It is anticipated that the Tenda Railroad Tunnel which is to be used for highway traffic will be open by mid-October. All State roads will be opened this Winter and major interruptions on Provincial and Communal roads are in hand.

Rail.

63. All work in connection with bids for movement of traffic by rail will be

Relief.

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62. Work on most of vital projects progressing satisfactorily. It is anticipated that the Tenda Railroad Tunnel which is to be used for highway traffic will be open by mid-October. All State roads will be opened this Winter and major interruptions on Provincial and Communal roads are in hand.

Rail.

63. All work in connection with bids for movement of traffic by rail will be handed over to the Italian State Railways as soon as possible. Bids and requests for rail transportation increased considerably during the month, with the dissemination of knowledge that lines are now open to practically any point in Italy. No difficulty has been encountered to date in moving AMG sponsored traffic.



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Telecommunications.

64. Continued general progress in restoration of telephone trunk routes has been made and the direct Torino-Zurich telegraph circuit is now operating. From the point of view of the physical work of restoration, it is considered that Italian agencies are now capable of taking over but it is anticipated that, with the departure of AMG, considerable labour troubles may arise which, with the coming of Winter, may cause the services to suffer severely.

Posts.

65. Postal services are operating satisfactorily.

(o) PROPERTY CONTROL.

66. All reports on sequestrated properties have been completed and forwarded to Headquarters and no important work remains to be done. The Division closed on 30th September, 1945.

67. Final figures: Sequestrated properties reported upon - 4735 French, 1222 British, 861 American and 155 Miscellaneous. Total - 7023. Owners involved - 4,804.

(p) MONUMENTS AND FINE ARTS.

68. Vercelli and Torino museum premises have been released for their proper use. Work is about to commence on 13 approved projects with six projects remaining outstanding.

Floyd E. Thomas

FLOYD E. THOMAS
Col. Inf.
Regional Commissioner.

Headquarters,
Piemonte Region.
7th October, 1945.

5526



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

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7th October, 1945.

5324



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

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821

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394.

7 Sept. 1945.

SEP 11 1945

REFERENCE: PR/ESC/117.1.

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORT - AUGUST 1945.

TO : HEADQUARTERS. ALLIED COMMISSION.

PART I.

1. Political activity has continued throughout the month, and Parties have begun to take a more definite antagonistic viewpoint of each other, particularly with the arrival of a new Monarchistic Party.

2. Local Government Officials are operating satisfactorily, but many public officials will not take action because of intimidation and fear of creating animosity.

3. The food situation remained good during August, but the bread ration may have to be suspended during September in three Provinces.

4. The Regional coal allocation was received in full and distributed.

5. Commerce operations in all but two Provinces are now handled by Civilians.

6. Grain amassing has shown considerable improvement, but receipts are still far below target figures.

7. Returns for Unemployed and Surplus Workers show little change from last month.

8. Progress on Housing is unsatisfactory owing to difficulty in the obtaining of materials, which are being held back for anticipated higher prices.

9. Large numbers of Police raids for hidden arms have produced appreciable quantities of arms but comparatively few arrests.

10. AMG and Italian Courts are functioning satisfactorily.

11. The health of population in general is good, despite substantial increase in the numbers of typhoid fever and tubercular cases.

12. Civil telephonic communication and postal services have been established between Region and all parts of Italy.

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SECRET

(Miss LLEWELLYN)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775017

SECRET

PART II

(a) POLITICAL REACTION AND POPULAR OPINION.

1. The various Political Parties have continued activities during the month and have begun to take a more definite antagonistic viewpoint of each other, particularly with the arrival of a new Monarchistic Party.

2. The jockeying for position amongst the various Parties undoubtedly detracts from the general efforts towards reconstruction.

3. Although all parties are acquiring as many arms as possible, there is no evidence to show that any section of the community could rise and, by force of arms, seize complete control.

4. General feeling towards the Allies has remained favourable, and the confused state of Italian politics has increased the desire of a considerable section of the public for the Allies to remain in Italy.

(b) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

5. In general, provincial and communal officials continue to carry out their duties satisfactorily, but it is still clear that many public officials will not take action when necessary because of intimidation and fear of creating animosity.

6. Electoral List preparations have continued to schedule, but, as in most branches of local government administration, constant pressure has to be applied by AMG sources. It is difficult to prophesy the reaction which the withdrawal of AMG will have on local administration, and in some quarters, it is considered chaos will ensue.

(c) ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

Food.

7. The food situation remained good during August. A.C. Food Sub. Commission legal rations of bread and other basic foods have been substantially furnished throughout the Region and, in addition, large quantities of fruits and vegetables have been available.

8. AMG grain/flour imports continued in sufficient quantity to maintain the bread ration in all Provinces. These imports, however, on the basis of present information, may cease at any time. Consequently, as the amassi of grain is still very poor despite recent improvement, there is a distinct possibility that during September the bread ration may be suspended in the Provinces of Aosta, Novara and Torino.

9. Effective food work by AMG is hampered by the lack of co-operation on the part of food officials, and failure to enforce price policies, food allocations, amassi orders and the like.

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

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Industry.

10. The normal monthly import of coal for Piemonte is 100.000 tons. The allocation for August was approx. 27.000 tons, all of which has been delivered.

11. No coke was allocated or delivered to the Region during August, but during September it is planned to coke 2000 tons of imported coal at Turin, producing about 700 tons of coke and much needed gas (for Industry only) tar etc. This will represent about 5 % of Piemonte's needs.

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(10)

12. During the month, RIAT provided approximately 350 vehicles and Lancia 35 vehicles.

Commerce.

13. Commerce operations in all Provinces except Novara and Turin are now handled by Civilians.

14. UPIC's are functioning well and Chambers of Commerce are now established by the appointment of the President and Giunta in every Province.

15. Circulation Permits and POL are being ably controlled by civilian agencies and uniformity throughout the Region has been accomplished.

16. Control of materials such as tyres etc. has been transferred from Local Resources Branch to Commerce.

(d) AGRICULTURE.

17. Rainfall during the latter part of the month gave considerable relief to hay crops but came too late to aid the late corn crop except that a greater quantity of forage only may be expected.

18. In general, the amassing has shown improvement. Larger quantities of wheat have been collected and, more important, the public and officials are now realising their responsibilities in the matter.

19. The arrival of two additional Agriculture Officers in the Region has proved extremely beneficial. To obtain the best results, the supervision of Allied officers is essential, in order to counteract the many difficulties in amassing such as farmers' excuses, false threshing machine returns, and lack of whole hearted co-operation on the part of local Italian officials.

(e) LABOUR. 5823

20. The Labour Offices continue to gain the confidence of employers and organised labour, and it is due to their activities in the conciliation of labour controversies that a number of strikes have been avoided and labour relations have remained, on the whole, cordial throughout the Region.

21. Unemployed returns show an increase in all Provinces except Turin. The returns for the latter Province show a reduction of more than 2000 which more than counterbalances the increases in remaining provinces. A slight increase is shown in the total of Surplus Workers. Latest Returns indicate the following: Registered Unemployed 18,712; Surplus Workers (Schedule less than 40 hrs weekly) 178,596; Surplus Workers (in excess of 48 hrs week) 103,799.

(f) FINANCE.

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(f) FINANCE.

22. The situation in regard to Government Finance is becoming more settled but there are too many instances of Provincial Prefects communicating direct with Rome Ministries and receiving "authority" to make various payments which have not been cleared through AC/AMG.

23. The revenue position has improved considerably during the month. Bank deposits are still increasing and show an advance of over 3 1/2 billion lire on the previous month.



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24. Bond sales have greatly improved the cash position of the Bank of Italy, which, for the first month since liberation, has been able to meet all demands without assistance from outside the Region.

(g) PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

25. Activities reached a peak during the month. Italian authorities were given a deadline for the submission of projects and large numbers have been received, the largest being for reconstruction of the engineering school in Turin amounting to 414,000,000 lire.

26. Progress on Housing is far from satisfactory. The material situation is, as last month, still a great handicap and the Sindaci of the various communes are not sufficiently aggressive to force the various yards to give up the material. Dealers are reluctant to sell since the market is rising.

27. Practically all electric plants, lines and sub-stations in Piemonte which were damaged have been repaired. Within a month all plants and lines should be completed.

(h) LEGAL.

28. The following were published during August:- G.O. 51, Reg.O. No. 8 (Census of Livestock) Reg.O. No. 9 (Sale of Fertilizer) Reg.O. No. 10 (Reports in Newspapers on Cases awaiting trial) and Regulations on Labour.

29. Epuration Commissions continued to sit throughout the Region, both under GO 35 and GO 46. A delegation from the Italian Government, by arrangement with A.C., visited the Region to contact Prefects and Epuration Commissions to discuss details of the ultimate application of the epuration provisions of D.L.L. 159.

30. The status of neo-fascist personnel, both members of the armed forces and civilians, has been clarified somewhat by rulings of the Land Forces Sub. Commission, and there are reasonable grounds for hoping that some glaring anomalies soon will be adjusted.

(i) PUBLIC SAFETY.- ALLIED COURTS - ITALIAN COURTS.

5822

31. There has been a marked reduction in crime, but cases of robbery and armed hold-ups are still numerous. Determined efforts by Police to effect arrests are meeting with success.

32. The possession of firearms by civilians has been given priority during the past month, and the large number of raids conducted has resulted in the securing of considerable amounts of arms and ammunition. The number of arrests from the raids has been disappointing, as it has not been possible to prove possession in most cases.

33. 3500 pairs of boots, 1000 blankets and other equipment were secured during the month for the CCRR, and each serving

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33. 3500 pairs of boots, 1000 blankets and other equipment were secured during the month for the CCRR, and each serving member will be provided shortly with an automatic weapon.

34. The local Military Commander, who is rendering valuable assistance to public safety work, has attached a truck with wireless equipment at each of the six isolated CCRR stations. Contact is kept with troops who assist the CCRR in dealing with bandits and serious crime in which firearms are used. As a result, a large number of arrests have been made.



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35. Prison and F[illegible] Brigade conditions are s[illegible]isfactory, and only minor unconnected strikes have occurred during the month. On the 19 August approximately 3000 ex-internees demonstrated and 3 shops were looted. Agenti P.S. (ex-partisans) recovered 70 % of the stolen property and made 23 arrests.

AMG Courts.

36. 102 Summary Court cases were tried in which there were 74 convictions, and 13 Superior Court cases in which there were 12 convictions.

Italian Courts.

37. Italian Courts continue to function satisfactorily. The volume of work disposed of, however, has been reduced through vacations.

38. Special Courts of Assize tried 136 cases. There were 9 death sentences and 38 acquitals. 14 cases were continued or transferred. There have been various disturbances at sittings of Special Courts of Assize but police action has avoided serious trouble.

(j) PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

Public Health.

39. The health of the population appears to be good, despite the extremely large number of cases of typhoid fever, especially in Turin Province. The number of tubercular cases also shows a substantial increase during the past month. Present Returns:- Typhoid Fever 705, Tuberculosis 324, Diphtheria 270, Brucellosis 154.

40. More than 140 tons of Medical Supplies have been distributed throughout the Region. 90 tons of soap will be issued to laboratories and other institutions. If these supplies are fairly and correctly issued, this Region, having regard to the good health conditions already existing, should be able to pass the winter with a minimum of trouble.

Welfare.

41. Welfare work has proceeded normally during the month and checks have been made on Italian Officials who were assigned the responsibility of distributing welfare supplies.

(k) EDUCATION.

42. All branches of Education work have proceeded satisfactorily.

5821

43. The Provveditore agli Studi of Alessandria Province submitted his resignation but it was not accepted because it was discovered political pressure had been exerted to bring about the resignation.

(l) REFUGEES.

44. During the month, the Cuneo Camp closed, being no longer necessary.

45. There has been the normal flow of transit Refugees through

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45. There has been the normal flow of transit Refugees through Montcalieri, but the number of static Refugees there awaiting entry to France is steadily increasing, the present figure being 500.

46. The morale of Italian Refugees, mostly ex-prisoners of war, passing through Novara is high but 750 Jewish Refugees gave a certain amount of trouble.



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47. Returns:- Italians in camps 1 Aug 45, 7 [illegible]; Arrived 11639; Evacuated 11396; Remain 30 Aug 730. Allied and other Nationals in camps 1 Aug 213; Arrived 341; Evacuated 331; Remain 30 Aug 223.

(m) PATRIOTS.

48. No difficulty is foreseen in regard to the transfer of dealings with ex-Partisans from AMG to the Prefects, who will co-ordinate the responsibilities of the I.M.P.Rs with those of the A.N.P.I.

(n) COMMUNICATIONS.

Road.

49. Work on roads and bridges is progressing as well as can be expected, and provided September and October weather is favourable, the network of roads will be safe for the winter.

Rail.

50. The situation is fair. No major problems have been encountered in moving traffic and, as additional lines are rehabilitated, the chief problem will be the availability of sufficient rail cars.

Telecommunication.

51. Civil telephone communications are gradually approaching normal and long distance calls are now possible to all parts of Italy on a restricted scale. Local telephone services are satisfactory in most towns but the standard of maintenance has been low for some years. Transport for companies remains a most pressing problem.

Posts.

52. Postal services are now operating from the Region to all parts of Italy. A good volume of foreign mail is being posted, but enquiries continue to be received as to the resumption of commercial mail to countries other than U.S. and possessions and the British Empire.

(o) PROPERTY CONTROL.

53. The general situation affecting allied-owned business and industrial firms showed some improvement during the month, due to their participation in the distribution of available coal and raw material.

5829

54. With the exception of approximately 200 properties of minor importance which remain to be recorded, there are no problems affecting Property Control which should handicap the closure of the Division.

(p) MONUMENTS AND FINE ARTS.

55. Routine work has continued on Projects for repairs, Deposits, and clearance of Museums for re-instatement of collections.

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

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Floyd E Thomas

FLOYD E. THOMAS
Col. Inf.
Regional Commissioner.

Headquarters
Piemonte Region
7 Sept. 45.

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

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

821/1

(35)

HEADQUARTERS
FREIGHTER REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

Tel: 53721

9 August 1945.

REFERENCE : FR/ESo/117.1

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORTS

TO : EXEC. COMMISSIONER, E.M.G. A.C.

1. Adverting to your G25/212/EC. dated 25 July 1945.

2. Herewith six copies of Full and Abridged Report for month of July 1945.

11 AUG 1945

BY ORDER OF COLONEL GARRARD,

A.W. WICKENDEN,
Capt. R.A.
Exec. S.O. (F).

E.C. Dist
5819

Ex Control
C.A.Sec
Econ Sec
Pub Safety Sec
Pub Health
Welfare Supply

see M.36

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1768

(3d)

HEADQUARTERS
PIEDMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

RESTRICTED

TO : HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Monthly Report - July 1945

AERILGEI

1. The various political parties were active during the month, the Communist and Socialist Parties receiving the British General Election result with acclamation.

2. The impending withdrawal of AMG. From the Region is causing anxiety in many quarters, as rumour is rife that the political parties of the "left" intend to assume control by force upon departure of AMG.

3. French troops withdrew from the remaining occupied areas of the Region on the 10th July, leaving only officially approved liason representatives.

4. Local Govt. administration is satisfactory but pressure has had to be applied to Italian officials to adhere to the Electoral List Preparation Time Schedule.

5. The Food situation has been good to date but the outlook for the future is serious owing to the failure of the crop and also the failure of the ammasi programme.

6. Cogne Steel Works and Fiat continued to operate despite fuel shortage and Lancia have now commenced production.

7. Unemployed returns show a slight increase with a more substantial increase in numbers of surplus workers due to slump in industrial activity.

8. Steps have been taken to increase progress on housing 5818 which in unsatisfactory.

9. Killings and crimes of violence have decreased but it is considered that large numbers of firearms are still held by unauthorised persons for criminal purposes.

10. AMG and Italian Courts are functioning satisfactorily but the Extraordinary Courts of Assize are overworked due to shortage of trained personnel.

11. The health of the civilian population remains good. One case of typhus was discovered in Alessandria but no secondary cases have been reported.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Monthly Report - July 1945

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11. The health of the civilian population remains good. One case of typhus was discovered in Alessandria but no secondary cases have been reported.

12. All Patriots Centres were closed on 15 July 45.

ROBERT P. MARSHALL
Col. F.A.
Regional Commissioner

Hq. Piemonte Region
7 Aug. 45.

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

(33)

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

RESTRICTED

TO : HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION.

Monthly Report - July 1945

(a) POLITICAL REACTION AND POPULAR OPINION.

1. The various political parties have been active during July and the general topic was the result of the British General Election which was received with acclamation by the Communist and Socialist parties.

2. The impending departure of AMG has created considerable anxiety in many quarters as to the consequences thereof, and the general opinion is that the "LEFT" political parties intend to take over control by force.

3. Already there are signs that Communal Officials are working in an atmosphere of intimidation, and a continuance of this situation must result in the withdrawal of able men from the political field leaving the way clear for extremists.

4. Little faith exists amongst the general public as to the ability of the Italian Police to meet the anticipated situation, and the fear that large scale public disorder will occur when AMG departs is widespread.

5. French troopswithdrew from the TENDA-BRIGA area of Cuneo Province on the 10th July. With the exception of officially approved liason representatives, no French troops now occupy regional territory.

6. Factory workers were on strike on 10 July and 15000 demonstrated at the Prefetture against the printing and Publishing of the independent newspaper "La Stampa". The paper is now published under the title of "La Nuova Stampa". The first issue of this paper was followed two days later by the publication of a second independent newspaper called "Gazzetta d'Italia". Both these papers have been accepted by the public and are substantially "out selling" all political papers.

5316

7. The general relations between Allied troops and the civilian population continue to be good, and the public esteem for the Allies still remains high.

(b) LOCAL GOVERNMENT - PROVINCIAL

8. Provincial Government is functioning satisfactorily and few changes in office have occurred.

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

TO : HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION.

Monthly Report - July 1945

(a) POLITICAL REACTION AND POPULAR OPINION.

1. The various political parties have been active during July and the general topic was the result of the British General Election which was received with acclamation by the Communist and Socialist parties.

2. The impending departure of AMG has created considerable anxiety in many quarters as to the consequences thereof, and the general opinion is that the "LEFT" political parties intend to take over control by force.

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6. Factory workers were on strike on 18 July and 15000 demonstrated at the Prefecture against the printing and Publishing of the independent newspaper "La Stampa". The paper is now published under the title of "La Nuova Stampa". The first issue of this paper was followed two days later by the publication of a second independent newspaper called "Gazzetta d'Italia". Both these papers have been accepted by the public and are substantially "out selling" all political papers.

7. The general relations between Allied troops and the civilian population continue to be good, and the public esteem for the Allies still remains high.

(b) LOCAL GOVERNMENT - PROVINCIAL

8. Provincial Government is functioning satisfactorily and few changes in office have occurred.

9. Three months experience has strengthened considerably the administrative ability of officials.

10. The preparation of Electoral Lists is proceeding but pressure has to be applied to Italian officials to keep to time schedule. It will be necessary for extensions of time limits to be granted in a large number of Communes owing to official records having been destroyed.



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(c) ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY

11. Food. The situation during July has been good but the outlook for the future is serious, owing to failure of the crop, and ammasi programme.

12. The fact that there will be no grain flour imports to the Region for period commencing 1 Aug. 45 creates a likelihood of suspension of the bread ration in Aosta and Torino provinces during August, and in other Provinces any time after the 1 Sept. depending directly on progress of ammasi.

13. The ignoring of AMG price policies, the flouting of the ammasi programme, the disregarding of AMG plans for distribution of controlled foods, and similar actions have contributed collectively to the impending food crisis.

14. Industry. 18000 tons of coal arrived during the month and have been allotted.

15. The greatest material shortage is metalurgical Coke, which is required by all steel works, foundries and chemical works. No supplies have arrived and no production of this fuel will be attained until September next.

16. Cogne Steel works and Fiat continued to operate in spite of fuel shortage and Lancia have now commenced production.

17. Commerce. Uffici Provinciali dell'Industria e Commercio are now well established and functioning in all provinces.

18. Chambers of Commerce are organised in the Provinces of Asti, Cuneo, Novara and Vercelli, and in course of formation in remaining Provinces.

19. A Price and Distribution Commission is operating in Turin.

20. POL Allocations for July: - Benzina 1.216.500 litres, Gasolio 1.009.014 litres and Petrolio 1.387.593 litres.

(d) AGRICULTURE FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

21. Continued drought has reduced the crop yields to a point far lower than anticipated.

22. The frost in early May has reduced the specific gravity of wheat and rye resulting in loss of weight in grain threshed.

5814

23. The estimate of wheat to be ammassed, as calculated on figures available at the end of July, is approximately one third of the amount estimated on 1 June last, and the Compartimental Inspector of Agriculture and Chief of U.P.S.E.A. have been instructed to produce threshing machine records to show the true state of wheat production.

24. Applications for attendance at the School of Forest Guards have been screened and referred to the Piemonte Chief of Forests.

(e) LABOUR

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(e) LABOUR

25. It is anticipated that a slight increase will be recorded in registered unemployed throughout the Region during July, with a more substantial increase in numbers of surplus workers due to slump in industrial activity.

26. Employers' Associations are beginning to take more definite shape. Professional classes have been slow in getting together and the trend in their case is to organise independently of one another.

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27. The present Ordinance banning discharges of surplus workers in private employment has been extended to 30 September 45 in order to conform with the line of action taken by the Italian Government in undertaking to finance the "Casse Integrazioni".

(f) FINANCE

28. The general situation in regard to Revenue remains good but difficulty is experienced due to the time lag which occurs between the date a decree is implemented and the date interested parties are aware of changes in taxation.

29. It is considered that, consequent upon the implementation of D.L.L. n.116 the income of State employees will reach the present cost of living figures.

30. Travelling allowances are under constant reference, but the implementation of the 70% increase in Indenita di Missione promised for Aug 1 should ease this situation.

(g) PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

31. During July, changes were made in personnel of the heads of the Genio Civile, as a result of which projects are being submitted as directed and work is progressing.

32. Projects are in hand for all hospitals, schools, public buildings, case popolari, and public warehouses where war damage is known to exist.

33. Progress on housing is not satisfactory and every Genio Civile has been contacted in an endeavour to improve the situation.

(h) LEGAL

34. General Orders Nos. 42 and 46 and Regional Orders No 4 (Indorsement on G.O. 46) No 5 (Electoral Lists Preparation) No 6 (Accrual and payment of taxes) and No 7 (Sale of Cattle and Milk) have been published.

35. Amnesty Decree has been implemented granting amnesty to certain common offenders for offences committed prior to April 1944.

(i) PUBLIC SAFETY - ALLIED COURTS - ITALIAN COURTS.

36. A considerable reduction is reported in killings and crimes of violence.

37. Large numbers of firearms are still held by ex-partisans and criminals, who are taking advantage of the lack of police mobility and efficiency to use arms in committing crimes.

5613

38. On 14 July, 50 Sentenced prisoners escaped from an auxiliary prison after overpowering the guards. 32 have since been re-arrested by Agenti P.S.

39. Fire brigades continue to function well.

40. All judicial prisons are used to capacity, and the

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

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39. Fire brigades continue to function well.

40. All judicial prisons are used to capacity, and the penal institutions also will be soon full, as a result of trial before the special Court of Assize.

41. Public morale is low owing to prevailing economic conditions and the doubtful political future.

42. Only the provision of full scale equipment, transport, automatic arms, uniforms and improved conditions of service for

police can effect any real contribution to Public Safety problems.

43. AMG Courts. Increase in number of cases, most of which concerned Firearms and Illegal Possessions and Circulation of Vehicles without Permits.

44. Italian Courts. (i) Italian Courts are functioning satisfactorily. (ii) Extraordinary Courts of Assize are overworked due to lack of trained personnel

(j) PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

45. The health of civilian population in general continues to be good.

46. There is a substantial increase in the number of Typhoid Fever cases due probably to the scarcity of water supplies necessitating withdrawals from insanitary wells.

47. One case of Typhus was discovered in Alessandria and prompt action taken. No secondary cases have been reported.

48. Welfare. Social Welfare services provided by Italian Agencies continue to improve.

49. By 15 Aug. all supplies will have been distributed and it is considered that, if necessary supplies are available, Italian organisations can take over successfully by 1 Sept 45.

(k) EDUCATION

50. All branches of Education work proceeding satisfactorily and no major problems.

(l) REFUGEES

51. The number of refugees in transit has been normal but the number from Switzerland through Domodossola was not so large as anticipated. Large numbers are expected shortly.

52. The small numbers of refugees in XX AMG Evacuation Camp, Cuneo have persisted, and this camp will be closed.

(m) PATRIOTS.

53. All centres in Piemonte Region were closed finally on 15 July 45.

54. The distribution of Alexander Certificates, Bonuses and payments to ex-Partisans still in hospital has continued.

(n) COMMUNICATIONS

55. Road. The Administration of the Autostrada has done little in regard to repair of bridges and surface of that road. It is considered that this organisation should be eliminated from control of the Autostrada and a cantoniere system set up

5812

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56. Rail. Short railroads operation transferred from PW



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& U. Div. to Transportation Division.

57. Telecommunications. Continued progress has been made in the restoration of civil communications, sufficient materials having been obtained by the demolition of disused Italian military routes.

58. Posts. Facilities improved and extended.

(o) PROPERTY CONTROL

59. Conditions during the month have been relatively static and emphasis was placed on preparation of reports on properties.

60. The Czars held that individual sequestrators for allied owned personal and miscellaneous property in Torino Province had disposed of such property and taken the proceeds have been confirmed. The original sequestrators were largely Fascist Officials who have fled.

(p) MONUMENTS AND FINE ARTS

61. Relazione for repairs urgently required for conservation of four Torino Monuments have been prepared and relazione are in preparation for seven other monuments.

62. Relazione are in preparation also for urgent repairs to damaged archive buildings in Torino and Alessandria.

ROBERT P. MARSHALL
Col. F.A.
Regional Commissioner

Headquarters
Piemonte Region
7 Aug. 45.

5810

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Ext 451

Ref: 443
822/28/EC

(2)

ABA/el

28

MEMORANDUM:

17 July 1945

TO : Economic Section

1. Reference is made to the June report from Headquarters AMG Piemonte Region.

2. Particular reference is drawn to para 19 under "Industry", regarding the Fiat works. This paragreph is quoted as follows: "FIAT works continue in production making 12 x 3 ton trucks and 10 cars per day. At present some 250 x 3 ton trucks cannot go on the road for lack of tires and unless tires are forthcoming at an early date this large factory will have to close down with the consequent loss of its valuable production and a large increase in unemployment."

3. It would be appreciated if this office were informed what steps are being taken to procure tires for the few trucks that are being daily produced at this plant, in view of the fact that it is stated in the report that unless tires are made available the plant will have to close down because of the serious implication in the above statement.

4. An early reply is requested.

A. B. ARNOLD

Chief Staff Officer
To Executive Commissioner

Copy to 821/EC - Attention

6304

821

CONFIDENTIAL. Exclusive

5522

HEADQUARTERS
PIEDMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394.

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MONTHLY REPORT - JUNE 1945.

JUL 14 1945

PART I.

1. Considerable progress has been made during the month by AMG towards the restoration of the Region to normal conditions, and the populace remain very friendly towards the Allied Forces.

2. Whilst in the City areas political activity appears to be on the increase and labour problems abound, the rural areas have reverted largely to their old interests in Church, family life, education, harvest etc.

3. The City of Turin as may be expected has been the centre of political activity. Here the various parties have vied with each other in seeking power and control of the people. Unbiassed newspapers are unpopular in the political sphere, it being considered that such papers may assist the enemy to the detriment of the Party papers. The Communist and Socialist Parties appear to have become more separated, with the Communists the more active party.

4. The disarmament of ex-partisans has been completed.

5. French Forces have withdrawn from Aosta and Turin Provinces and it is anticipated that the remaining occupied areas in Cuneo Province will be evacuated in the near future. The French withdrawal has proved popular with the populations in areas concerned.

6. The Food supply situation, on the whole, is good but the yield of the forthcoming wheat harvest is expected to be far below normal.

7. The major outstanding Regional problem is cost of living. "Black Markets" flourish and the comparatively low scales of wages operating are insufficient to combat the inflated prices. Considerable unrest exists amongst the people, as evidenced by numerous large scale demonstrations and small strikes throughout the Region, and up to date, no satisfactory solution has been found.

8. Crime is on a low scale, only eight cases of unlawful killings having been reported during June. The demonstrations and strikes referred to in the previous paragraph were orderly. Police services are functioning reasonably well. There has been a distinct improvement in police morale and the shortage of arms is being met from surrendered arms sources.

9. The non-arrival of the expected June supplies of coal has delayed the re-activation of many factories at present closed for lack of fuel.

10. The Health of the civilian population and sanitary conditions remain good, but there is need for more ambulances.

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11. Italian and AMG courts are functioning satisfactorily and the policy of making the Italians use their own Courts is being pursued.

12. The ban on discharges of surplus workers remains a major labour problem, and it is considered that no effective solution can be

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12. The ban on discharges of surplus workers remains a major labour problem, and it is considered that no effective solution can be found until legislative provisions adopted are so devised as to exonerate industrialists of responsibility in effecting discharges.

13. Repatriation of Displaced Persons from Switzerland to Italy has commenced, the total number to be repatriated being estimated at 40,000.

(Mark Clark)

Lee M 2627

(24)

## PART II.

## ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE FOOD SITUATION.

### A. Food.

14. The food situation in general may be classified as good. The legal rations of bread and other basic foods have been furnished with minor shortages only in isolated communities. Quantities of fruits and vegetables, including even some citrus fruits from Sicily, have been available. During the latter part of the month AMG food allocations have been arriving regularly.

15. The quality of ration bread has shown improvement, and in Turin and Vercelli Provinces it is now made principally from white wheat flour instead of mixed flour.

16. Prices are causing considerable difficulty. The official prices have been too low to enforce with present available police facilities. The actual prices charged, black market or free market, are higher than they were a year ago, and are high in their relation to wages. The fact that wages are out of line with prices is causing discontent in the Region.

17. Apart from the question of prices, the most serious food situation facing AMG is the fact that this year's grain crop is considerably below normal. This means a much greater decrease in the amount available for ration card holders as the producers receive 100 per cent priority on their grain retentions. The failure to fix a price for grain in N. Italy in conformance with that in the South tends to decrease the amount of grain amassed.

### B. Industry.

18. The non-arrival of the expected June supplies of coal has delayed the re-activation of many factories at present closed for lack of fuel. Production of coal at La Thiule (Province of Aosta) suffered a set back during the month due to a variety of reasons. The transfer of additional miners, an increased food ration, and American Red Cross Welfare facilities have combined to improve conditions and the output has now risen. An allocation of coal for July has been sub-allotted to 76 factories with a reserve of 700 tons to small industries, 300 tons for artisans, and 880 tons for small food processing plants.

19. FIAT works continue in production making 12 x 3 ton trucks and 10 cars per day. At present some 250 x 3 ton trucks cannot go on the road for lack of tyres and unless tyres are forthcoming at an early date this large factory will have to close down with the consequent loss of its valuable production and a large increase in unemployment.

5807

20. The woollen trade is occupying about 50 per cent of its manufacturing capacity making low quality materials from rags, waste, artificial wool, and rayon. It should continue at this

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20. The woollen trade is occupying about 50 per cent of its manufacturing capacity making low quality materials from rags, waste, artificial wool, and rayon. It should continue at this rate for the next three months.

21. The release of 700 tons per month of washing soda has been secured in lieu of soap which cannot be made for lack of fats.

22. The sparking plug factory at Borgomanero (Province of Novara) has 5000 units in stock and a production capacity of 12,000 per month.

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C. Commerce.

23. The procurement of the June allocation of POL required the constant use of approximately 80 flat trucks running in three convoys to Isola del Scala east of Verona, in addition to 8 tank trucks and tank trailers shuttling continuously to Modena. At the end of the month the berthing of several tankers at Genoa permitted kerosene and Gasoil to be brought by tank trailer therefrom. Although rail movement of POL has been promised from Verona and Genoa no POL has arrived in Piemonte by rail. Use of heavy tank trailers to the port of Vado for gasolene involves heavy toll on transport.

24. A Regional request for the extension of the issue of Agricultural POL into July to cover the harvest has been granted.

25. The new circulation permits for vehicles for the second half of 1945 have been received and will be issued during July. The validity of present permits has been extended to 31 July.

26. There has been considerable hesitancy on the part of industrial and commercial leaders to form Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, but it is expected that all provinces will have Chambers of Commerce functioning in July.

27. The Regional Price and Distribution Committee commenced operations on 7 June and prices are being set on leather shoes, leather products, building materials, automotive vehicles, medicine and railway items, etc. The greatest difficulty experienced in price control and distribution is lack of initiative and force as well as fear of the consequences of action taken.

28. AFHQ through its Allied Local Resources Board (Italian) reduced the number of items under their control to seven.

AGRICULTURE FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.

29. Crop conditions have not improved during June and the beginning of the wheat harvest reveals a quantity and quality even below former reports. Wheat production is not expected to exceed four million quintals, a reduction of 200,000 quintals from the forecast of 1 June 45. With permitted retentions for family use and seed of approximately 3 million quintals, a total of approximately one million quintals is foreseen as the probable amassable quantity of wheat. Illegal retentions and black market activities are inevitable in view of the scarcity of grain and high profits involved in illegal marketing, so that the actual quantity it is possible to amass will be less than one million quintals.

30. Rice crop is about normal in development for the season, but it is not possible to predict rice production accurately until the rice harvest in September or October. Therefore no change is made in last month's prediction of approximately two million quintals.

31. Corn development is fairly good although rice suffering

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NARA 5366

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33. A complete plan for the production of firewood and other forest products has been prepared for the period May - October 45. Plans have also been prepared for increasing the strength of the Forest Corps embracing the establishment of a Forest Corps School in North Italy on 1st August. It is expected that recruits will be drawn partially from former Patriots.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

34. Trouble has been experienced with the Genio Civile personnel now in office. The Inspector General of the Genio Civile was absent for 30 days, having been put in jail in Genoa by the CLN. He has since returned and is offering useful assistance. Since several of the Genio Civile are slow in preparing projects it is proposed to make changes.

35. With the concurrence of Lombardia Region it has been decided that the privately owned Autostrade will be maintained by the State and all projects can be channelled through the Ingegnere Capo of Viabilita.

36. Many diversions have been completed and in some places ferries have been installed. To date 356 road interruptions have been repaired.

37. The electrical consumption has risen from 240,000 in May to 270,000 in June. Consumption will rise sharply in the autumn and also when coal is available for industries.

38. Trams in the cities are all operating, but the lack of special steel for tyres and tyre repair is being felt.

39. Water systems have been reviewed but no problems exist as materials are available and work is progressing.

LABOUR.

40. Shortage of Labour Officers in the Region has been felt keenly but the arrival of Dr. La Loggia and Dr. Ricci of the Ministry of Labour on 15 June has relieved the situation. To cover Provincial Work, Provincial Commissioners have appointed, at the request of the Labour Division, a Labour Liaison Officer.

41. The Regional Labour Office continues to be without a Director and this office is at present being discharged by the Turin Provincial Office. It has not been possible to find a suitable director for the latter and both these offices receive their administrative and other instructions direct from the Labour Division.

42. Labour relations continue to be satisfactory, but as organised labour gains momentum employers are having to make more substantial changes in order to maintain cordial relationship. Industrialists find themselves increasingly more handicapped as the problem of surplus workers does not find a practical solution and the possibility of unqualified spuration remains a constant threat.

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ROADS, WORKS AND UTILITIES.

34. Trouble has been experienced with the Genio Civile personnel now in office. The Inspector General of the Genio Civile was absent for 30 days, having been put in jail in Genoa by the CLN. He has since returned and is offering useful assistance. Since several of the Genio Civile are slow in preparing projects it is proposed to make changes.

35. With the concurrence of Lombardia Region it has been decided that the privately owned Autostrada will be maintained by the State and all projects can be channelled through the Ingegnere Capo of Viabilita.

36. Many diversions have been completed and in some places ferries have been installed. To date 356 road interruptions have been repaired.

37. The electrical consumption has risen from 240,000 in May to 270,000 in June. Consumption will rise sharply in the autumn and also when coal is available for industries.

38. Trams in the cities are all operating, but the lack of special steel for tyres and tyre repair is being felt.

39. Water systems have been reviewed but no problems exist as materials are available and work is progressing.

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43. Industrialists are convinced that their only chance of retaining right of ownership must be sought in a policy of appeasement even if this may involve the risk of financial disaster.

44. The Camera del Lavoro, ably led by the Three Joint Secretaries of Torino have consolidated their organisation. Rapelli (Demo-Cristian) who is responsible for the organisation side has forecast the following figures of membership - Turin 200,000; Novara 80,000; Alessandria 40,000; Cuneo 30,000; Vercelli 55,000; Aosta 25,000; Asti 10,000; Total 440,000. These figures are exclusive of associations of State Employees.

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45. Apart from the activities of canvassing membership the Labour leaders have been very active organising collective, bargaining for increases in salaries.

46. The cost of living continues to be very high in relation to prevailing wages. The figures for June are approximately the same as for the previous month.

47. State employees have made strong representations to the Prefects and Sindaci for increases in wages and the payment of the "Premio di Liberazione". The decision of AC to grant an advance of not more than 2,000 Lire for the month of June came just in time to avert serious trouble.

48. Wages in private employment have been increased through various agreements concluded between employers and labour representatives. The technique used has been largely traced out by the Camera del Lavoro in Milan.

49. Correct unemployment figures for the Region are not available as registration is voluntary. Inadequate unemployment benefits and the very limited possibility of employment are the two principal factors contributing towards the present defection on the part of the unemployed workers to register.

50. The ban on discharges of surplus workers remains a major labour problem, and the experiences of the past four weeks have further confirmed the conviction that no effective solution to this problem can be found until legislative provisions adopted are so devised as to exonerate industrialists of any responsibility in affecting discharges.

PUBLIC SAFETY.

51. The present situation is good and there have been no disorders on a large scale. Small strikes have taken place to protest against rising prices, but all have been settled on the intervention of AMF Officers.

52. During the month the number of unlawful killings has dropped considerably - only 8 cases having been reported.

53. Present strength of CC.RR is 32 Officers and 3657 ORs. Nearly all stations are open and having regard to the withdrawal of the French from the western part of the Region complete police coverage will quickly be accomplished.

54. There has been a distinct improvement in police morale and the shortage of arms is being met from surrendered arms sources. Very few men are now without uniform, clothing having been made from supplies of cloth obtained.

55. Other Strength returns - Guardia Municipale - Offrs 20, ORs 900; Guardia di Finanza - Offrs 28, ORs 1352; Guardia Forestale - Offrs 32, ORs 354; Agenti di P.S - Offrs 100, ORs 2900.

56. All Police services are functioning reasonably well. The only administration problem is to secure cohesion between Police Agencies and to prevent the institution of irregular police forces.

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57. The position as regards overcrowding in prisons began to deteriorate immediately after AFHQ directive of March 5, 1945 regarding treatment of all members of the Fascist Republican Armed Forces as POWs was modified by that of 5 June 1945, which permits the retention in prisons at disposal of the Italian authorities of members of such neo-Fascist organisations as the Brigata Nera when found in civilian clothes. As a result it has not been possible to abolish supplementary prisons in all cases.

Supplementary prisons remain in former barracks at Novara, Asti, Cuneo, Aosta, Vercelli, and Pinerolo (Torino Province). By arrangement with Legal Division and the Procuratore Generale a stop has been put to arrests and detentions contrary to Italian Law, and all persons arrested before 19 June 45 are to be checked and either released or charged properly before 9 July 1945.

58. The Italian Regional Fire Officer has resigned and his duties have been taken over provisionally by the Chief Officer of the Turin Brigade. No serious fires have occurred and all calls for small fires have been dealt with expeditiously.

59. With regard to mine clearance there is still a large quantity of explosive being recovered. The official mine clearance squad alone destroyed or removed over 4000 shells, mines, bombs, incendiary bombs,etc. and two tons of explosive and 265 cases of mixed small materials.

60. Mixed patrols of CC.RR, and Allied Police are working well together in the prevention of VD and all brothels have been placed off limits.

61. 33 forged 1,000 lire notes have been seized.

Italian Courts.

62. Normal Italian Courts are functioning satisfactorily. Shortage of personnel is known to Ministry of Persons and Justice but for the present that situation cannot be corrected and is not serious.

63. Extraordinary Courts of Assize are functioning in all provinces. Public criticism is about equally divided between those who consider sentences are too lenient, and those who think they are too severe.

Allied Military Courts.

64. AMG Courts are being held in all provinces and the number of cases is increasing. The policy is still that of making the Italians use their own courts and is being strictly pursued.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

65. The health of the civilian population continues to be good. Typhoid cases are appearing in greater numbers but this may be considered as part of the seasonal increase. Cases of undulent fever (Brucellosis) and tuberculosis also appear to be in large numbers. No cases of epidemic typhus have been reported. Vaccination against smallpox is proceeding in view of people arriving from Southern Italy where smallpox still exists.

66. The repairing of hospitals continues throughout the Region and a building in Novara Province has been equipped as a typhus isolation hospital. A VD hospital is in operation with approximately 150 beds and a civilian staff supervised by a military medical officer. Sanatoria are being repaired slowly and alternativeaccommodation is still insufficient. Efforts are being made to locate accomodation for tuberculosis patients

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67. Sanitary conditions generally remain good and drinking water is generally of good quality.

68. 35 tons of medical supplies have been distributed to all Medical Provinciale. About 50 tons of medical supplies are still in Florence Supply Depot awaiting transportation.

68. Social welfare conditions continue good and it is considered that Italian authorities in the Welfare Field are well able to manage their own affairs and meet their responsibilities if supplies and equipment are made available to them.

70. There has been a constant demand for ambulances in the provinces and redistribution of certain ambulances held by the Italian Red Cross is being planned. Efforts are being made to obtain additional ambulances from 5 Army.

EDUCATION.

71. The work of epuration is proceeding satisfactorily. Since practically all suspension of school personnel had been carried out by CLN prior to the arrival of AMG, The Provveditori agli Studi have been instructed to study each case individually with the purpose of recommending reinstatements where there is evidence of injustice.

72. There is no urgent problem in regard to requisitioning of school buildings, and it is anticipated that the majority of premises will have been derequisitioned before the opening of the new school year.

73. The elementary and secondary text books committees are functioning successfully and it appears it will be possible to furnish sufficient acceptable text books for use in the Region.

DISPLACED PERSONS.

74. Repatriation of Displaced Persons from Switzerland to Italy commenced 29 June 1945. 1,000 refugees entered Italy via Chiasso and were cleared at Como transit camp. The total number of refugees to be repatriated from Switzerland is estimated at approximately 40,000 of which 21,835 are ORs and EMs, and 825 officers, all Ex POW.

75. Refugees from Austria are being admitted to Bolzano at the rate of approximately 2,000 per day, and it is expected that train communication will be established between Bolzano and Verona early in July. From Verona refugees will be cleared by rail or road to their respective Regions.

76. Approximately 1,100 refugees from TURIN Province are being sent south each week via Genoa, Lucca and Rome and arrangements have been made for these refugees to depart by train without entry to transit camp.

COMMUNICATIONS.

77. Continued progress has been made in the restoration of telephonic communications during the month and long distance telegraph and telephone communication is now possible via Milan.

78. Authority is being given for civilian telegraph traffic with UK, US, and possessions.

79. During the month the foreign mail services were extended to all Provinces in this Region, and services within the Region and to all other parts of Italy are operating satisfactorily.

80. Communications with Post Offices in certain parts of Cuneo Province occupied by the French has been stopped and French

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

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80. Communications with Post Offices in certain parts of Cuneo Province occupied by the French has been stopped and French stamps substituted for Italian postage stamps. It is believed, however, that this situation will be cleared in the near future.

PROPERTY CONTROL.

81. Work is proceeding satisfactorily and the department is co-operating with Italian agencies and individuals in charge.

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(12)

DPC IIs have been speeded up in order to complete records as soon as possible. The next most important problem is in connection with personnel and miscellaneous property where records are inadequate. Proper supervision was not maintained by the Intendente di Finanza over individual sequestrators and in too many instances it is believed that the sequestrators appropriated sequestrated property to their own use without making reports. Pursuant to instructions delegates appointed by EGELI are being removed rapidly and replaced by the normal manager. A/G approach continues to contemplate a minimum of supervisory control in anticipation of cessation of activities at an early date.

Robert P. Marshall

ROBERT P. MARSHALL
COLONEL F.A.
Regional Commissioner
Piemonte Region.
11th July 1945.

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Pol to cmte to ESTIMS
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ROBERT F. HANSELL
COLONEL
F.A.
Assistant Commissioner
Piemonte Region.
11th July 1945.

Copy and translation of enclosure to contemplate a minimum of assistance to be rendered by the Allies with any early date.

1796

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821 Ex Comm R

3061

Tel. 53721

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394.

12th June 1945.

16 JUN 1945

REFERENCE: PR/ESO/117.1.

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORTS.

TO : EXEC. COMMISSIONER, HQ. AC.

1. Herewith, as instructed in your REF/825/EC. dated 25 May 45.six Copies of Regional Report for month of May 45. together with 6 Copies of Abridged Report.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL MARSHALL,

A.W. MICKLEWRIGHT
Capt. R.A.
Exec. S.O. (B).

ENCLOSURE.

Lee M 6/6

Ex Comm R Dist
Ex Comm
C A Sect
Econ Sect
Pers & Trg Sects
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(This Number)

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR MONTH OF MAY - 1945.

1. Upon entry of AMG to Region on the 5th May 45, the Regional Committee of Liberation was found to be in complete control. In TURIN, public services were functioning and ample evidence was available as to the splendid work of the Partisans in preventing destruction by the retreating Germans.

2. The welcome afforded the Allies was spontaneous and sincere. The publication of the normal Proclamations etc. defining penalties for attacks on Allied troops and restricting movement of civilians caused more bewilderment than resentment amongst the population.

3. Two unusual major problems faced AMG namely (a) the tactful acquirement of reins of government from the CLN and (b) the imperative disarming of some 35,000 Partisans who, fully armed, thronged the streets and public buildings. The end of May saw the first problem surmounted without major incident and the second well on the way to solution.

4. The occupation by French Troops of Border areas in AOSTA, CUNEO and TURIN Provinces, the issue by French authorities of various orders to the local inhabitants, and the intermingling of French currency with the official currency, all have complicated the establishment of AMG in the areas affected.

5. Estimates as to the number of Fascist executions in Piemonte prior to the arrival of AMG vary between 1500 and 5000 and the abolition of Tribunals by AMG created certain misgivings as to whether the Allies intended to deal stringently with Fascists. However, illegal executions ceased immediately and the Region in general quickly settled down to an orderly routine.

6. Political activities have been on a surprisingly small scale, Communists being the most active party. Activities were enlivened by the visits of Political Party Leaders towards the end of the month. The Socialist Leader was arrested for breach of Proclamation No. 3 despite official AMG verbal warning, but the case was not pressed on receipt of apology and promise not to repeat the offence.

7. The food situation is fairly good but, for a Region producing surpluses few large stocks are held. Wheat acreage is 25,000 hectares, approximately 8% lower than 1944 and Rice approximately 18% lower. The total weight of cattle is estimated at 40% below normal, although total numbers are normal, and slaughtering therefore must be minimised.

8. The health of the civilian population is exceptionally good. One case of Typhus, an Italian P.O.W. who arrived in AOSTA from Germany, has been discovered.

9. Wage control is very difficult owing to established practice of employers adding surreptitiously varying amounts to the wage packets. No control of wages will be effective until control of prices for essential commodities is established.

10. The high sense of discipline and order amongst the general population has been a feature in the rapid and peaceful transition from War to Peace conditions and, providing the necessary materials are forthcoming to feed the various industries, there is every hope that Piemonte

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Robert P Marshall

ROBERT P. MARSHALL.
COLONEL. F.A.
D.S.C.A.O. IV Corps
Piemonte Region.
8th June 45.

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

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

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

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394.

Ref: PR/ESO/117.1. 8th June 45.

# M O N T H L Y  R E P O R T

## MAY 1945.


(a) Political Reactions and Popular Opinion ..... Pages 1 - 2
(b) Local Government Provincial .... " 2 - 3
(c) Economic Resources & Supply .... " 3 - 6
(d) Agriculture Forestry & Fisheries " 6 - 7
(e) Labour ..... " 7
(f) Public Works & Utilities ..... " 8
(g) Public Safety, Italian & AMG Courts ..... " 8 - 9
(h) Public Health & Welfare ..... " 10
(i) Education ..... " 10 - 11
(j) Refugees ..... " 11
(k) Communications ..... " 11 - 12
(l) Property Control ..... " 12


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HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394.

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

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HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1945.

POLITICAL REACTIONS AND POPULAR OPINION.

1. Upon entry of AMG to Piemonte Region on the 5th May 1945, the Regional Committee of Liberation was found to be in complete control. In Turin the city public services were functioning and undoubtedly the Partisans had performed splendid work in preventing demolitions etc. by the retreating enemy.

2. The welcome given to the Allies was spontaneous and sincere and AMG quickly reciprocated this good will by the appearance of the DSCAO and other senior AMG officers alongside General Trabucchi, the Partisan Commander, on the Saluting Base on the occasion of the Ceremonial Parade of 20,000 Partisans the day following the entry of AMG.

3. The immediate posting of Proclamation No. 1 laying down the penalties for attacks on Allied Troops created an atmosphere of bewilderment rather than resentment, as the impression was widespread that the arrival of the Allies in Northern Italy signified the end of all troubles in that area.

4. In the first few days of occupation the regulation restricting movement in and out of Turin was also a surprise, especially as it meant a permit was necessary to board a street car travelling from outside districts to the centre of the city. In some areas the civilians obediently queued for permits. The early abolition of this restriction, impracticable in any case, allayed public feeling.

5. The streets of Turin and the larger towns in the Region were thronged with fully armed partisans who, probably in a sense of elation at their newly found freedom, fired their arms indiscriminately during the hours of darkness.

6. Two major problems, in addition to the usual problems of food, transport etc. encountered on entry to new territory, faced AMG in Piemonte, viz:

a) The tactful acquirement of the reins of government from the CLN.

b) The imperative early disarming of all partisans.

It is pleasing to report that, at the end of May the first problem had been successfully surmounted without incident and the second was well on the way to solution. The assistance of the Partisan Leaders in securing the surrender of the majority of arms has been invaluable. June 7th has been fixed as the final date for forfeiture of arms, and, whilst undoubtedly a certain number of small arms will evade collection, the majority will have been secured. The presence of armed German POWs, roving bands of armed Fascists in the hills, and the French in certain communes collectively retarded the surrender of Partisans' weapons.

7. It is estimated that approximately 1500 Fascists had appeared before Tribunals and been executed prior to entry of AMG. The suspension of Tribunals created, as usual, misgivings as to whether the Allies were prepared to deal stringently with Fascists, but the establishment of

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778577

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b) The imperative early disarming of all partisans.

It is pleasing to report that, at the end of May the first problem had been successfully surmounted without incident and the second was well on the way to solution. The assistance of the Partisan Leaders in securing the surrender of the majority of arms has been invaluable. June 7th has been fixed as the final date for forfeiture of arms, and, whilst undoubtedly a certain number of small arms will evade collection, the majority will have been secured. The presence of armed German POWs, roving bands of armed Fascists in the hills, and the French in certain communes collectively retarded the surrender of Partisans' weapons.

7. It is estimated that approximately 1500 Fascists had appeared before Tribunals and been executed prior to entry of AMG. The suspension of Tribunals created, as usual, misgivings as to whether the Allies were prepared to deal stringently with Fascists, but the establishment of "Peoples Courts had a favourable reaction. Although in the early days the danger existed of private executions being carried out after the abolition of Tribunals, these fears did not materialise and the Region quickly settled down to an orderly life. A certain amount of crime is still prevalent, but not on a large scale.

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8. Political activities have been surprisingly small and on a far less scale than anticipated. The Communists have made themselves felt by canvassing the workers of some of the larger factories but not to an excessive extent. All political differences had been submerged into the concerted effort of the Partisan organisation to oust the Germans.

9. In the latter half of the month, the visits of Togliatti the Communist Leader and Nenni the Socialist Leader, enlivened political activity despite the official ban on their making public political speeches.

10. On 25th May, preparations were made by a section of the public in Vercelli Province for a public address to be given by a person then unknown to AMG officials. Loudspeakers had been installed and eventually Nenni arrived, and, despite an official warning by a responsible AMG officer, he proceeded defiantly to address the crowd from his car. Consequently the AMG officer had no alternative but to request Nenni to accompany him. After a brief appearance in AMG court to answer a charge of breach of Proclamation No. 3, the case was not proceeded with, Nenni apologising and undertaking not to repeat the offence.

11. AMG Regional Administration has been complicated by the presence of French troops in certain communes of the Aosta, Cuneo and Turin Provinces. The establishment of full AMG in the areas occupied by the French has been difficult owing to the many decrees issued by the French to the population. The franc has been intermingled with the official currency (AMG and Italian lire). The whole action of AMG in the French occupied zones has been governed explicitly by direction from Higher Military Authority.

12. In a country alive with varied political and international activity the Piemonte population has admirably avoided incidents and disorder.

13. The abolition of the various Police formations operating under Fascist Regime was also an early problem. Carabinieri arriving in the Region from the South do not appear at first to have gained the confidence of the general public, but the situation is improving.

14. The high sense of discipline and order amongst the general population has been a marked feature in the rapid and peaceful transition from war to peace conditions.

15. Providing the necessary materials are forthcoming to feed the various industries, there is every hope that Piemonte Province will recover its pre-war affluence in a period far less than that anticipated.

Local Government.

16. Local government, having regard to difficulties encountered is functioning extremely well in practically the whole of the Region. The CLN, after the position had been clarified, changed over from a powerful governing body to a valuable consultative organization, and credit is due to the CLN leaders for their co-operation in this matter.

17. Prefects approved by the respective Provincial Commissioners and CLN and appointed by the SCAO Five Army, are in office in all Provinces except Aosta. Here the Prefect originally appointed resigned, and his duties are executed by the Provincial Commissioner pending the appointment of a successor. The resignation of the Aosta CLN has been received and accepted.

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10. On 26th May, preparations were made by a section of the public in Vercelli Province for a public address to be given by a person then unknown to AMG officials. Loudspeakers had been installed and eventually Nenni arrived, and, despite an official warning by a responsible AMG officer, he proceeded defiantly to address the crowd from his car. Consequently the AMG officer had no alternative but to request Nenni to accompany him. After a brief appearance in AMG court to answer a charge of breach of Proclamation No. 3, the case was not proceeded with, Nenni apologising and undertaking not to repeat the offence.

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Questori have been appointed in all Provinces and up to the present are carrying out their duties satisfactorily.

Any signs of domination of the Prefect and Questori by the CLN are checked immediately. In Vercelli Province it was found necessary for Hq CLN to warn the local committee in this connection.

18. In addition to the CLN, Provincial Advisory Committees have been formed in all Provinces. The powers of these Committees, incorporating representatives of the five main Political Parties, are limited to the submission of unanimous recommendations and are devoid of action powers.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE FOOD SITUATION.

A. FOOD.

19. On the whole, the food situation in Piemonte on entry of AMG and during the month of May, has been good. There were, of course, shortages in some localities, due to temporary breakdown of transportation, military operations, the large numbers of German soldiers waiting to be taken into custody, Partisan activities etc. Local conditions have now improved substantially. In general the food distributing machinery has continued without disruption and has improved during the month.

Although this Region produces surpluses, there were few large stocks of food such as cereals actually under control. Moreover, with the exception of the Provinces of Turin and Aosta, which are definitely "deficiency provinces", the remaining Provinces seem able to hold out on a day to day basis until the next harvest. The mercurial nature of the Region's cereal supply at present makes any increase in the bread ration inadvisable before the next harvest. The most serious problems affecting the food situation at the present are -

Possible shortage of POL for harvesting of cereal crops.

Failure to fix the price of grain in conformance with that in Southern Italy.

Retention of 3 April 45 Price Level as expressed by Gen. Order No. 41.

Failure to receive scheduled allocations of AMG foodstuffs, 30% only having been received.

20. Upon entry of AMG into Piemonte Region, both [illegible] and the Provincial Consorzio Agrario were functioning more or less satisfactorily in every Province and at present seem able to operate in a reasonably normal manner. Efforts were being made to form an "Alimentazione Section" to supervise and co-ordinate Provincial [illegible] of Piemonte. The Regional Civilian Food Office will in turn be under a Civilian Food Office for all Northern Italy. AMG has encouraged the establishment of this Piemonte Region Food Office and although it is still in the formative stages, its Director has accomplished much in moving surpluses within the Region, obtaining foods from outside the Region, sending supplies to districts in need, and in general co-ordinating the food efforts of Piemonte. Some confusion arose due to

Partisans taking substantial quantities of cereals and other foods for their own use without regard to established procedure, and

The CLN and its various committees having issued orders without regard to AMG or each other.

It is believed that both of these situations are now under control. On entry of AMG a properly functioning food rationing system was found in operation in each Province. Both the system and the scales

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Possible shortage of POL for harvesting of cereal crops.

Failure to fix the price of grain in conformance with that in Southern Italy.

Retention of 5 April 45 Price level as expressed by Com. Order No. 41.

Failure to receive scheduled allocations of AMG foodstuffs, 30% only having been received.

20. Upon entry of AMG into Piemonte Region, both ENAL and the Provincial Consorzio Agrario were functioning more or less satisfactorily in every Province and at present seem able to operate in a reasonably normal manner. Efforts were being made to form an "Alimentazione Section" to supervise and co-ordinate Provincial SEPRAL of Piemonte. The Regional Civilian Food Office will in turn be under a Civilian Food Office for all Northern Italy. AMG has encouraged the establishment of this Piemonte Region Food Office and although it is still in the formative stages, its Director has accomplished much in moving surpluses within the Region, obtaining foods from outside the Region, sending supplies to districts in need, and in general co-ordinating the food efforts of Piemonte. Some confusion arose due to:

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21. Several different types of Collective Messes are in operation in cities, the prime purpose of which is to furnish meals at a reasonable cost. These messes operate satisfactorily and play an important part in the food distribution system.

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22. Although the Region is a good cereal producing Region, the ammassing system has broken down, and as a result there are no large stocks of cereals under control, except a stock of rice in Vercelli from which Torino and Aosta draw their rice supplies. Efforts are being made to distribute rice and grain throughout Piemonte in such a way as to reduce the rice diet in Torino and Vercelli and increase it elsewhere.

23. The effort to maintain the artificially low 3rd April price level without adequate police forces for enforcement and with apparently no effort at any time to enforce the economic boundary line has resulted in a confused price situation with prices rising out of control.

B. INDUSTRY.

24. Industries generally have not suffered undue damage, and repairs have already been carried out in those factories which suffered heavy damage. The employment potential of the Region in its normal industries therefore, is very good and the task of the Industry Division resolves itself mainly into one of finding suitable materials and suggesting makeshift arrangements until the material situation improves. The supply of these materials is all the more urgent as there is less opportunity of alternative employment in reconstruction in Piemonte that in the South where the damage has been greater and there is the additional psychological point that civil unrest is more probable in the Region where factories can work but are shut down for one reason only, namely lack of material and fuel. The following is briefly the condition of the various industries:-

(i) Textile. Suffered very little war damage. Estimated that 90% of plants are working. Production mainly suitings and blankets. Is building up considerable stocks, but the early import of wool and cotton should be given high priority.

(ii) Automotive. Fiat has recommenced production and manufactures 10 - [illegible] ton trucks per day. This factory suffered considerable damage but repairs and re-arrangement of factory equipment have enabled steady increase in production, if the material necessary is forthcoming. Lancia is not in production but plans to recommence in July. Viberti is manufacturing trailers but coal is urgently required.

(iii) Ball Bearing. Original RIV factories in Turin were destroyed and machinery dispersed to eleven factories in Turin City. At present about 9,000 employed. Estimated output, 500,000 units per month, but actual figures for May not available. Stocks of raw material, apart from coal, petrol and oil, are reasonably good,

(iv) Typewriters. Olivetti factory at Ivrea in good working condition. Output almost 3,000 units per month. Invicta factory in Turin damaged by war and production now 50% normal. New factory in course of construction. Output 150 units per month. SOC Industriale Meccanica Factory at Pagliano Alpi (Cuneo) making S.I.M. portable typewriters. Bombed out of Turin in 1942 and rebuilt at above address. Material stocks are not good. Present output 3 tons per month.

(v) Soap. - Extreme shortage of fats and oil for soap manufacture.

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(v) Soap. - Extreme shortage of fats and oil for soap manufacture.

(vi) Metallurgical. 5799

Steel and iron. Cogne Steel Works can continue production of 3,500 tons foundry pig per month provided existing supply of anthracite coal ex La Thuile can be maintained, and in addition 800 tons of coke provided. Stocks of iron and steel of all types about 13,000 tons, most of which is already on order by factories of Turin. There is an additional stock of steel, made to German specifications, estimated at 10,000 tons although not yet declared.

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Non-ferrus - Foundry "Veglio" Turin in working order. Production 600 tons per month recovered non-ferrus metals from scrap each month. To maintain output 400 tons coal or 150 T. naptha per month are required.

(vii) Building. Although brickworks closed, supply of bricks fairly adequate.

(viii) Leather. Stocks fair and allotments being allowed to boot manufacturers and belting works.

(ix) Mining. The Talc mines cannot move their 30,000 T. in stock, (of which 15,000 T. exportable to U.S. and U.K.) owing to damage to roads and bridges.

Asbestos mines are kept working to allow Eternit to make roofing etc. The Magne Iron Mines working but unless fuel situation improves, will have to close, and steel industry will be supplied from present stocks.

(x) Coal. Total local availabilities until end of June estimated 9,000 tons. Normal monthly requirements for Piemonte Region (imported) 107,000 tons. To prevent mass unemployment, the deficit shown must be met without delay. Some intensive measures have been taken to economise in all directions and priorities established. Port of Savona can be opened promptly with relatively little effort and will permit importation and transportation of coal in amounts available. This work should be given high priority particularly because of the indefinite delay in opening Genoa for any substantial volume.

25. In planning the future of Industry the utmost assistance is being given by the following institutions.-

U.P.I.C.
Unione Industriale e C.C.I.A.
C.L.N.

A Regional Committee for reconstruction has been formed by the Industry Division from Italian experts nominated by the President, Economic Section, C.L.N., President of the Union and U.P.I.C. Running expenses are being born by industrialists. The functions of the Committee are to screen industry data sheets, estimate monthly material requirements and industrial output, and advise on rehabilitation problems.

C. COMMERCE.

26. The Provincial Consigli Provinciale Del Economic were found well organized in each Province and were quickly converted into Uffici Provinciale dell'Industrie e Commercio in accordance with the Italian Decree No. 315, and instructions from H.Q. Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture are being discussed by the Unions of industrialists merchants and agriculturalists as a free consultive body. A Regional Price Commission has been organized with one member from each of the Unions of Industrialists, Merchants, Agriculturalists, Labour, Sequal, Regional Committee for Economics (CLN) and Director of U.P.I.C. Turin Province.

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27. The approximate numbers of circulation permits issued in the Region to the end of May 1945 are:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Non load carrying vehicles | 1727 |
| Load carrying vehicles | 6161 |
| | 7888 |

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Many of the vehicles use Gasogen and Methane equipment. The figures indicate one non load carrying vehicle per 2,000 population, which for a highly industrial area and for the automotive centre of Italy is not considered excessive.

Over 30,000 applications were made for permits in Turin Province alone.

28. Lack of POL has been a serious handicap in Piemonte Region as all plans for delivery of POL have not been fulfilled. 28,500 litres of gasolene have been received from Conca from CIP but from local sources by mixing Toluol, alcohol and other available materials plus stocks found in the Region, a total of 130,000 litres of gasolene has been distributed throughout the Province. The total gasoil (diesel) received from CIP was 19,600 litres, but again with the aid of local resources 41,000 litres have been distributed. Large quantities of Kerosene are particularly required for machinery for irrigation and planting of rice. Without this fuel the rice crop next fall may fail. 68,470 litres of Kerosene have been distributed throughout the Provinces of which 18,500 litres were received from Conca.

29. Blocking and releasing of controlled materials is proceeding satisfactorily. Industry and warehouse survey data sheets have been distributed through U.S.I.C. in all Provinces and on return, plant materials are released for production by Industry Division. While some complaints are received, on the whole the civil population have co-operated excellently and appear satisfied with our efforts.

30. Generally Commerce is handicapped only with regard to prices and distribution of the production of consumer goods such as shoes, clothing, textiles, leather etc. General Order No. 44 establishing prices of 3 April 45 as the official prices has brought complaints from producers and merchants that these prices were artificially set by the Fascists as a propaganda measure to show an efficient economy but that the presentation of ration cards to purchase at these prices was impossible, Lists of "free market" prices were shown to be 1,000% of the "official" prices as set out by the Decree. These prices are being studied and recommendations will be made as to fair prices that will enable production and sales through established wholesale and retail outlets.

AGRICULATURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.

31. Crop conditions. Severe and unseasonable frosts 2/3 May damaged beans, wheat, mulberry leaves, fruit and vegetable crops. Unusually hot dry weather during most of May caused additional damage to wheat and vegetable crops. Wheat acreage is 25,000 hectares, approx 8% lower than last year, due to shortage of fuel, work animals and farm labour during the planting season. Heavy rains in October also contributed to the short acreage. In late May some rain and lower temperatures afforded relief but too late for recovery of the wheat crop. The rice crop is about 10% below normal in acreage, due to fuel and work animal shortage. Rice plantings are later than usual and may produce lower yields. Corn acreage is about normal and present prospects are for a normal crop. Present estimates are as follows for grain crops.

| | 1944 Area Ha. | 1944 Production Qls | 1945 Area Ha. | 1945 Estimated Product. Qls | Excess or Deficit Qls |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat | 331.644 | 5.887.492 | 307.503 | 4.217.000 | 1.670.492 |
| Corn | 122.770 | 2.112.785 | 130.000 | 2.115.500 | 2.715 |

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| Corn | 122.770 | 2.112.785 | 130.000 | 2.115.500 | 2.715 |
| Barley | 3.412 | 38.668 | 3.260 | 32.040 | 6.628 |
| Oats | 16.434 | 229.363 | 19.735 | 195.600 | 33.763 |
| Rye | 35.730 | 465.999 | 36.950 | 343.000 | 122.999 |
| Rice | 69.940 | 2.481.660 | 61.600 | 2.100.000 | 381.660 |

The deficiencies will have a serious effect on food.

32. The most important needs of agriculture and production supplies in the Region are Petroleum, fuels, fertilisers, crop pest control, chemicals and binding twine.

33. Accurate livestock figures are not available but it is estimated that the total weight of cattle has been reduced by 40 to 50% although total numbers are normal. This situation arises because of heavy slaughterings and requisitioning of matured draft and breeding animals and only slight disturbance of the numbers of young animals.

The solution to the problem of rebuilding livestock herds and flocks is to reduce slaughtering to the smallest possible minimum, the slaughtering to be left to animals which are undesirable for breeding production or work purposes until normal flock numbers are regained.

34. The Royal Forestry Corps has been reactivated and is rapidly returning to a position of normal operation. There will be a deficit in the total fuel, wood and charcoal production which can only be made up by reduced allowances for household heating. Adequate imports of coal will however, permit normal supply of fuel for household purposes.

35. Fishing in Piemonte Region is limited to game fishing in lakes and streams. Commercial fishing is non existent. Much damage caused by the French bombing lakes and rivers indiscriminately.

36. More than 3,000 horses (captured animals) have been distributed amongst farmers, but the shortage of farm animals is so serious that several thousand more could well be used in the Region.

37. Reference GRAIN collection. General Order No. 40 has now been published. Prices of April 3rd will be entirely satisfactory as all local Italian authorities believe an equitable price for the new harvest would be 750 lire per qli for soft wheat. Any failure to honour promises as to prices to be paid upon liberation of the area can only result in widespread resentment.

LABOUR.

38. The economic policy of A.C. provides for a rigid control of wages allowing for possibilities of adjustment in relation to the increase of controlled prices. This policy was, of course, formulated on the assumption that wages in the North of Italy were uniform and under some form of control when AMG would take over. The present situation in Piemonte does not warrant that assumption. The widespread practice followed by employers during the Nazi-Fascist Republican period of adding surreptitiously varying amounts to the wage packet has been further complicated by the initiative of (i) Provincial CLNs (ii) CLN Aziendali and sometimes even (iii) Prefect or Finance in giving mandatory directives on wage adjustments and the payment of indemnities.

While every effort will be made to repair the damage, it is felt that a new policy of wage control should be in readiness for immediate execution if and when it is considered that the present arrangements and existing machinery for wage control are no longer equal to the situation. It is felt that no control on wages will prove effective until due attention is paid to the control of prices for essential commodities.

39. The present standard operational procedure for wage adjustments is through R.I.L.A.C. which is being set up forthwith with CLN Piemonte. A number of firms are being faced with requests for increases of wages and in certain instances, employers are prepared to grant even the most irrational increases on the mistaken assumption that they would be

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LABOUR.

38. The economic policy of A.C. provides for a rigid control of wages allowing for possibilities of adjustment in relation to the increase of controlled prices. This policy was, of course, formulated on the assumption that wages in the North of Italy were uniform and under some form of control when AMG would take over. The present situation in Piemonte does not warrant that assumption. The widespread practice followed by employers during the Nazi-Fascist Republican period of adding surreptitiously varying amounts to the wage packet has been further complicated by the initiative of (i) Provincial CLNs (ii) CLN Intendeli and sometimes even (iii) Prefect or Sindaco in giving mandatory directives on wage adjustments and the payment of indemnities.

While every effort will be made to remedy the damage, it is felt that a new policy of wage control should be in readiness for immediate execution if and when it is considered that the present arrangements and existing machinery for wage control are no longer equal to the situation. It is felt that no control on wages will prove effective until due attention is paid to the control of prices for essential commodities.

39. The present standard operational procedure for wage adjustments is through R.I.J.A.C. which is being set up forthwith with CLN Regionale". A number of firms are being faced with requests for increases of wages and in certain instances, employers are prepared to grant even the most irrational increases on the mistaken assumption that they would be allowed to transfer this extra expenditure to the cost of production.

40. It is considered that in Piemonte wages are on the whole higher than those allowed by the basic wage of the Allied Forces Wage Scale.

41. A Camera del Lavoro has been set up in several Provinces and labour appears to be organising effectively.

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PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

42. The number of road interruptions in Piemonte is approximately 360. Work is progressing on diversions and temporary structures, and military engineers are working on bridges. Main roads are open to Genoa, Milan, Modena and all provincial capitals.

Materials are available and one large Todt organization dump has been taken over which will afford many needed items for bridge and reconstructional work. The lack of transport and fuel for contractors is seriously hampering operations.

43. The two areas most damaged in Piemonte are Turin and Alessandria. At present 13 projects have been approved. Efforts are being made to secure the establishment of housing committees in the various Provinces.

44. The electricity situation is favourable with more electric power available than can at present be used.

45. 32 Gas plants in Piemonte are at present closed as gas at the moment is unnecessary, but in the winter it will be essential. Coal for gas for heating should be allotted in October for use in cold weather.

46. Few serious problems in regard to water exist, but there are some 19 places of major damage in as many water systems and plans are in hand for these. Little maintenance or replacement has been done during the war years and extensive overhaul will be necessary in many plants during the coming months.

47. Along the River Po a draining project involving some 5,000,000 lire has been initiated.

48. In general materials are available and a material yard has been established. Arrangements have been made with the local Resources Officer that all building materials will be released on approval of the P.W. & U Section.

PUBLIC SAFETY.

49. The general situation is good but subversive elements might make trouble if the factories are unable to function owing to lack of coal or raw materials. In a Region which has quickly turned from war to peacetime conditions, the tranquillity is amazing.

The various strengths are as follows:-

| | Officers. | Men. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| CC.RR | 48 | 2302 | 2350 |
| Guardia di Finanzia | | | 1009 |
| Guardia Forestale | 20 | 402 | 422 |
| Agenti di P.S. | | | 1005 |
| Guardia Municipale | 9 | 525 | 534 |

Many Carabinieri are without uniforms or boots and therefore unable to

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Many Carabinieri are without uniforms or boots and therefore unable to patrol. Uniforms, boots and rifles are urgently required.

50. On 7th May only the Polizia del Popolo existed in the Region. Since that date all police agencies have been put into operation, but tact has been needed as the people in general had cherished the idea of an independent police force.

51. In prisons, conditions are mainly satisfactory. Some difficulty encountered in overcrowding at Turin and Cuneo, but this has been overcome.

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52. Mine clearance and bomb disposal squad is operating from Turin. Comparatively small number of mines known.

53. Fire Brigades have been found in excellent condition and strength.

ITALIAN COURTS.

54. The R.L.O. and Regional O i/c Italian Courts met with the First President and the Procuratore Generale of the Court of Appeals and other ranking Judicial Officials on 11 May 45 and from that date onward military government was established and maintained as to the Judicial branch.

The First President and Procuratore Generale were temporarily appointed to office by CLN who gave them power to make temporary appointments of Judicial officials under them. These appointees have all been continued in office. Difficulties now exist in filling some vacancies through lack of officials of appropriate grade. Where grade is prerequisite to appointment reference to the Italian Ministry is essential.

These are being implemented, so far as authorised, whenever copies of the Gazzetta Ufficiale are received. D.L.L. 142 of 1945 (Extra ordinary Courts of Assize) and D.L.L. 249 of 1944 (Fascist Republican Legislation) were given priority. It is anticipated that Extraordinary Courts of Assize will be sitting within the first week of June. D.L.L. 159 of 1944 (Sanctions against Fascists) has been implemented and those responsible for the establishment of the Courts and commissions set up under it are being urged to proceed. C.O. 35 and 35a have been published, and commissions set up in most Provinces. Many of the cases which normally have been dealt with under these orders have been disposed of before establishment of AMG.

These Courts have ceased to function. Their unexecuted sentences are being regarded as legal warrants for arrest, and if necessary, for detention in custody. Re-adjustment of all cases where the sentence has not expired or been executed will be undertaken by competent Courts.

Provincial Commissioners have been advised of the test to determine what Italians are entitled to the status of P.O.W. Those to whom that status has been denied are being confined to P.O.W. camps and a system evolved whereby if they are accused of crimes cognizable by Special Courts of Assizes they should be made available for trial. It is hoped that some such cases will be among the first held before these Courts and that public opinion will thus be satisfied that the guilty are not escaping justice under the cloak of P.W. status.

Difficulties of finding necessary police and transport were experienced. The normal Italian Courts, however, have continued to function.

A.M.G. COURTS.

55. The policy of having as many cases as possible dealt with by the Italian Courts has proved successful. Only one case has been heard before an AMG Court in the Region and there a youth was convicted under Proc. I of dangerous driving and making insulting remarks to Allied officers and

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The Italian politician Pietro Nenni was arrested and charged with a breach of Proc 3 but the case was not pressed following a written admission of guilt, an apology by the accused, and assurance against recurrence. A local party leader was also charged with offence arising at the same time and the case against him continued without delay.

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PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

56. The health of the civilian population is exceptionally good. Returns for communicable diseases are as follows. Measles 63. Scarletina 12. Chicken pox 25. Diphtheria 47. Cerebro-spinal Meningitis 1. Typhoid Fever 63. Para-typhoid 16. Amoebic dysentry 1. Brucellosis 76. Pulmonary T.B. 100. V.D. 9. Malaria 2. Typhus Exanthematicous 1. The figures for typhoid fever appear high but considering that half the population are probable carriers, the incidence is not unusual.

One case of typhus, an Italian POW who had cycled from a German Concentration Camp at Munich, was discovered at Aosta. Most of the Sanitoria have been damaged and one or two completely demolished. Alternative accommodation has been fund but it is insufficient. Between 200 and 300 T.B. patients are awaiting institutional treatment. Anticipating large numbers of people returning from Germany suffering from T.B. of the lungs, additional accommodation is being sought sufficient to deal with 3/4,000 Conferences have been held with Provincial Medical Officers, Consorzii T.B.C. and Providenza Sociale with this end in view.

Supplies of medical stores have now arrived from Florence and Milan and distribution is proceeding expeditiously.

Sanitary conditions mainly are very good.

57. With regard to welfare, 6,500 childrens garments, 7,000 blankets and 11,000 pairs of shoes brought to Piemonte by AMG have been handed over to U.N.R.R.A. for use in Refugee Camps. 5,000 pairs of the latter are being with-held for Carabinieri. A further 15,000 A.C. blankets and 6 tons of U.N.R.R.A. clothing now at Leghorn is awaiting transportation to this Region. Arrangements have been made with the P.E.O. to utilise for welfare agencies the stocks of clothing, blankets etc. in the Fascist Ballila Organization.

EDUCATION.

58. Upon arrival in the Region it was found CLN had re-organised the schools with a Regional Superintendent at the head and Provveditori agli Studi has been appointed for each Province. In most cases the CLN appointments have been found satisfactory and all have been told to continue in office pending confirmation of, or change in their position, by the Provincial Commissioners.

The schools in the Region have functioned apparently for an entire school year except for spells during military operations and extremely cold weather. It is proposed to allow the schools to continue to function as planned by the Education Committee of the CLN until the end of the school year, that is 9 June 45.

All the Provveditori agli Studi of the Republican Fascist Regime had been supplanted prior to arrival of AMG and they had fled with the departing officials.

School personnel in Piemonte had taken a large share in the organization and activities of CLN and it was found that defascism had progressed to a high degree.

59. Practically all of the school buildings which have been

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59. Practically all of the school buildings which have been requisitioned will be available for school purposes for 1945/6 school term. Compared with the South the need for repairs and rebuilding of school premises in Piemonte is not great. Some localities are more damaged than others and in the city of Turin 34 school buildings have been destroyed, together with the buildings of four of the University faculties. In the majority of communes there has been little or no damage.

60. For the remainder of the school year, the Provinces have been told to continue to use their text books as they had planned. It is reported that the Partisans had collected and burned text books in several localities, and in other cases Fascist propaganda has been deleted and the old text books are still in use.

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Substitute books are used when available and if not available the teacher is left to teach without a textbook. The furnishing of an adequate supply of textbooks for the new school year is the greatest problem, and leading publishers are being given every encouragement to submit books and manuscripts for approval as rapidly as possible.

61. An acting Rettore and Acting Dean for all faculties for Turin University were named by the CLN and are functioning together with a Provincial Managing Board of Administrative Council.

DISPLACED PERSONS.

62. The following AMG Evacuation Camps have been established in Piemonte Region.

| | Previous Strength | Arrivals during month | Evacuated during month. | Remaining. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Camp XIX NOVARA. Capacity 2000 | Nil | 855 | 779 | 76 |
| Camp XX CUNEO. Capacity 2000 | Nil | 77 | 66 | 11 |
| Camp XXI MONCALIERI Capacity 2000 | Nil | 2900 | 1954 | 954 |
| FRENCH Camp No. 250 | 141 | 339 | 254 | 226 |
| | 141 | 4179 | 3053 | 1267 |

63. There are approximately 5,000 displaced persons in Turin whose homes are in the South of Italy and arrangements are being made to move these in the near future. There are also 700 displaced persons in Casermette Camp, whose homes are in the Italian Riviera around Imperia. On account of the serious food shortage in Imperia and also the larger number of refugees accommodated temporarily East of Imperia, who are unable to reach their homes, the displaced persons in Casermette Camp will not be moved for the time being.

Approximately 1200 children who were temporarily evacuated to Switzerland from the area South of Domodossola are now returning to their homes.

A request has been made to higher authority to take over Caserma Cavour as an Allied Nationals Transit Camp in Turin.

Provinces have been recommended to commence payment of subsistence allowances to ex-internees which payments will be made by U.N.R.R.A.

To avoid unnecessary movements of Allied Nationals in search of information, registration forms have been issued for distribution down to communes. 165 Allied Nationals have registered at the Information Centre and payment of subsidies commences on 1 June 45. Approximately 500 enquiries have been made and Welfare Red Cross messages have been forwarded. The anticipated commitments are 2,000 French from Milan.

COMMUNICATIONS.

64. Trams are all operating in the city, but buses are restricted due to lack of fuel and tyres.

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COMMUNICATIONS.

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65. Main railroads are open between Turin and all important centres.

66. Alessandria is the only large Telephone Exchange which is out of service, but in this case the automatic plant has been salvaged and can be reinstalled shortly. In the meantime a skeleton service is provided by a manual board. Many small exchanges are still out of service, in some cases destroyed, but the position is not serious, and the provision of skeleton services is either already arranged or lies within local resources. Considerable progress has been made on the restoration of telephone lines.

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67. Most telegraph instruments have escaped damage and as soon as lines are available there will be no lack of operators to provide services practically on pre-war standards. A fair amount of damage occurred to the overhead routes of the Circolo. It is estimated that all essential communications within the Region will be restored by the end of June 1945.

68. The Regional Postal Officer, a joint regional appointment, has spent a week in Piemonte Region and considerable progress has been made to bring civilian postal facilities up to normal as far as possible.

PROPERTY CONTROL.

69. Conditions affecting property control in Piemonte Region were found to be very satisfactory. Real properties are being managed by the Istituto di S. Paolo di Torino and management standards conform to those previously experienced. Most properties in Turin have suffered damage but the damage is of a minor nature. The one Allied owned Bank was damaged but has since been repaired. The bank is in a sound financial condition and well managed.

70. In Turin there are many problems affecting business and industrial concerns. The records in possession of the Ministry of Corporation have been destroyed by bombing. In many instances the Fascist Republican Government appointed new sequestrators for such properties. To date no attempt has been made to clarify the legal position when the sequestrator originally appointed has been supplanted by a Fascist Republican appointee. Except for legal implications the problem is not serious because in most instances, normal management has not been interfered with by the sequestrators. No retail establishment has been closed since it was found that prices had already reached high levels prior to the entry of the Allies.

With regard to personal and miscellaneous property, initial information indicates that there is a possibility that the Fascist appointed individual sequestrators may have converted certain of this property to their own use and then fled. As in the case of industrial properties, local records are very confused and no final determination can be made at the present time.

Robert P. Marshall

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COLONEL. P.A.
A.C.C.A.O. IV Corps
Piemonte Region.
8th June 1945.

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