

1911

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/476

MONTHLY
FEB. - SE

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

785017

10000/109/476

MONTHLY REPORTS, C.L.O. BOLZANO
FEB. - SEPT. 1946

1913

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

785017

109.
3. Comm
Monthly Report 20. Loga o for
August is at Folios 103-108. Passages
of interest have been marked.
J. W. M. 9/9. W. J. C. 136

10/9

1775

785017

620. Letter app. site for signature of name
G. W. C. M. 6/1

Ex Comm. 18.

620. 74-77 is monthly report for May Bologna
Liaison Grp. 63-73 is a voluminous (but
interesting) report from Major Hare (C.O. P.S. Bologna)
56-62 are press reports & various notices on
WTO adage question. Paragraphs of interest
in the two reports have been marked.

G. W. C. M. 13/6. H.S. 14/6

M.S. 14/6.

Ex Comm. 42.

- (1) 43-96 is monthly report for June Bologna.
- (2) 87-92 is Public Safety Report
- (3) 80-86 are extracts from Bologna Press.

G. W. C. M. 16/7. H.S. 16/7

Ex Comm. 102.

620. Folios 78-100 is monthly report
Bologna for July. Paragraphs of interest
have been marked.

G. W. C. M. 20/8 H.S. 21/8

103.

Ask Ecan Sec to send me Lt Col Hare's final

report on hand over of COM in North.

15/7 20/8

104.

Ex Comm.

1915

785017

Person Grp. 63-73 is a voluminous (but interesting) report from Meyer Hare (i.o. PS. Bologna) 56-62 are press reports & various notices on Alt's adage question. Paragraphs of interest in the press reports have been marked.

D. W. C. M. 18/6. H.S. 14/6

M.S. 14/6

Ex Comm. 42.

- (1) 43-96 is monthly report for June Bologna.
- (2) 87-92 is Public Safety Report
- (3) 80-86 are extracts from Bologna Press.

D. W. C. M. 16/7. H.S. 16/7

Ex Comm. 102.

Folios 98-100 is monthly report Bologna for July. Paragraphs of interest have been marked.

D. W. C. M. 20/8 H.S. 21/8

103.

Ask Cean Sec to send me Lt Col Hare's find

ref at hand over of CEM in North.

M.S. 20/8

104.

Ex Comm.

Ref. m. 103. Report on CEM by

Lt. Col. Hare opposite

D. W. C. M. 22/8

M.S. 24/8

Ex Comm

49.

Ref. m. 48 (1)

(1) I made inquiry of the Ministry upon having sight of the CIO's report. The "Option Commission" and the "Autonomy Commission" referred to in Col Miller's report are not official bodies established by the Italian Government but are thought by the Ministry of Interior to be unofficial local committees set up by the Acting prefect, Dott. INNOCENTI to advise him and to work out proposals that would be locally acceptable. The Ministry state that the prefect is expected to visit Rome at the end of this month and lay all these proposals before the Italian Government, who will then take a decision.

In the meantime the Italian Government have passed no decree either on the citizenship question or on autonomy and will not, I understand, take any action until receiving the prefect's full report. It seems improbable that anything will happen until after the elections.

R. R. Temple
major

(2) Seen by Lt. Col. Mughall who agrees with Major Harris statement. The number of COBR to be operated is so great, (500 officers, 3000 NCOs) that the Italian Govt. is unwilling to suspend them as it would be almost impossible to find replacements. In addition the financial difficulties involved in paying both suspended and replacements would present too great a problem.

(3) CA Section maintains that this is the problem of the Italian Government who now has almost no foreign rights as regards the disposal and repatriation of aliens. It is intended (on the direction of AFHQ) that the DP Camp in Bolzano should be closed on the departure of the last German, accommodated therein. No assistance beyond handing over the Camp premises and possibly some equipment, can be envisaged at the moment.

(4) Copies of Political Paras sent to Folies A 9 B 20 directed.

183

L. W. (C.M.) 29/5 J.H. 30/5.

J. Bond the m. 541

Copy of (1) sent to B.D. 2400

at 4.55.

Noted

1. In the meantime the Italian Government have passed no decree either on the citizenship question or on autonomy and will not, I understand, take any action until receiving the prefect's full report. It seems improbable that anything will happen until after the elections.

R. R. Temple
Mayor

- (2) Seen by Lt. Col. Mughall who agrees with Mayor Harris statement. The number of CORR to be operated is so great (500 officers, 5000 NCOs) that the Italian Govt. is unwilling to suspend them, as it would be almost impossible to find replacements. In addition the financial difficulties involved in paying both suspended and replacements would present too great a problem.
- (3) CA Section maintains that this is the problem of the Italian Government who now has almost no foreign rights as regards the disposal and repatriation of aliens. It is intended (on the direction of AFHQ) that the DP Camp in Bologna should be closed on the departure of the last German, recommended therein. No assistance beyond handing over the Camp premises and possibly some equipment can be envisaged at the moment.

- (4) Copies of Political Paras sent to Salas 29 B 20
dictated.

L. W. P. M. 29/5 J.H. 30/5.

J. Bond he m. ⁵⁴¹

Copy 1 (1) above to BD 2400

2 - GSR of (3) above to C.A.O.

WV (2/6)

2455

2455

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

785017

21

I should like to see the Executive Branch
Final Report with 16

2440

B.V. 9 May 77/6/5
J.M.C.M.

enclosed G.M.C.M. 9/5

24

Ex Comm. Final report of Edm. Owen Bolzano and
Udine opposite as requested by Ex Comm.
J.M.C.M. 9/5. H.S. 9/5.

47

Ex Comm. Monthly Report Bolzano
Folio 31-41 is a lengthy & detailed police
report & 25-30 are extracts from the press
and various notices.
J.M.C.M. 13/5. H.S. 14/5

1778

785017

2440
BV-9 mail
7/7/65
enclosed G.M.C.M. 9/5

Ex Comm. 24
C.C. Final report of Edm. Officer Balzano and
wireline opposite as requested by Ex Comm.
G.M.C.M. 9/5. 185.9/5.

Ex Comm. 47
C.C. ²²⁻⁴⁶ ~~11/11/62~~ is Monthly Report Balzano.
Folio ~~11-41~~ ¹⁷⁷² is a lengthy & detailed police
report & 25-30 are extracts from the press
and various notices.
G.M.C.M. 13/5. 185.14/5

C.S.O.
48
1. 1 a. Have Italian Club received this. Local Club to follow up.
2. 8 on page 40 to M.H. 14. (CERR increment)
3. 9 on page 38. What is E.A.S. doing about this
4. Please to see Political Person in H 32-36.

18/20/14

1920

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

785017

A/C.C. ^{28.21}
 CSO ^{19.19} ⁷² ~~24~~ 26.
 The improvement in morale and efficiency of Italian
 police appears to be general.
 10/4. J.W.M. H.S. 10/4

^{29.22}
 CSO
 What action has been taken on para 8

(b) p. 24) ^{178/18/4}

^{30.23.}

8.9 After lunch discussion with C.R.Y Berlin
 - hope the book will go on 21. April.

8.6 This is still under discussion - the book is
 still open. I feel the Italian should carry it
 on, but it will be very difficult for them.

^{21.24} ^{C.B.D. J.P.}
 A/C.C. ²³ ^{11.4.}
 CSO m. 20 for info. and in reply to m. ²²
 J.W.M. 11/4 H.S. 12/4
 TW 12/4 ¹⁷⁷¹

b.
 Please see monthly report for January
 how CIO Bolzano at 1-5. Passages of
 interest are marked. 11/2.

CFO this L. 7

1. I am told (by Br. Embassy) that a letter
 from the Bishop was published in the Times. Can
 this be found?

10. Whether arrived. I should like to see it. Yes.

11 D.P.P. sub Com. to report please. ✓

11/2/20/4

WFO

9.

" letter requested in min 7 being b/od on
 another file.

2. Report on progress of electoral lists sent
 to Ex. C. via yourself on 26/2.

11/2/20/4

CFO

11.

Ref letter 10-11 understand this matter
 has been dealt with by Capt. Baybrooke
 on another file (~~presently~~ 2004) 1-2...
 report submitted by D.P.P. R. Could you b/v
 these 2 files when possible please. 17/2

11/2/20/4

WFO, Ex Com.

11/2

At 12-15 is the February report from Bolzano.
 Passages of interest have been marked. 11/2/20/4

785017

from the Bishop, was published in the Times. Can
 this be found?

10. Question asked. Shoulder like to see it. Yes.
 11. D.P.P. sub Com. to ref. please ✓

17/12/2

New

Q.

" letter requested in view of being bled on
 another file.
 o. The pol on progress of electoral lists sent
 to G.C. via yourself on 26/2.

18 27/2

C/C

" I understand this matter
 has been dealt with by Capt. Baybrooke
 on another file (~~submitted~~ 2004) a...
 report submitted by D.P.P. L. Could you b/c
 these in files when possible please.

17/12
18 27/2

New. Ex. Comm.

116

At 12-15 is the February report from Bolzano.
 Brochures of interest have been marked. H.L. 13/3

H 11/3

17/12/3

1923

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

785017

847

R

EX. COMM
108

ALLIED COMMISSIO
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER
BOLZANO

SEP 9 1946

CONFIDENTIAL

REF: ACLO/BZ/36.

DATE: 5 Sept 1946.
SWM/gg.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - August 1946.

TO : HQ, Allied Commission, ROME.

Enclosed herewith please find 6 (six) copies of
my monthly report for the month of August 1946.

S.W. Miller. Colonel.
S.W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO.

See 11-109

EC DIST 9. SEPT

encl. (6x)

1763

- 1-EC.
- 1-CA Sec.
- 1-Comm Sec.
- 1-Pk. Br.
- 1-FR. Rep + Poland 'B'
- 1-working copy.

(J/K. Inc.)

P.A. "1/1/46"

1924

107

ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER
BOLZANO

REF: AGLO/BZ/36.

DATE: 5 Sept 1946.
SWM/gq.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - AUGUST 1946.

TO : HQ, Allied Commission, C.M.F.

1. GENERAL.

a) A new proposal has been put before the Peace Conference at Paris by Dr. GRUBER, the Austrian Foreign Minister, regarding the South Tyrol. I think he means a plebiscite and at the same time guarantees to the Italian Government of a fair share of the economic resources of this Province.

b) The political future of this Province is less stable today than it ever has been. There are rumours of autonomy (regional or provincial), annexation to Austria, a plebiscite or remaining under the Italian Government as at present. This uncertainty, combined with the fact that the decree regarding citizenship has not yet been published, is causing dissatisfaction throughout the Province.

With the impending departure of the Allied Commission people feel they are left in a hopeless state. I feel too, that the work we have all done to these ends is being nullified by the Italian Government.

2. SECURITY.

Public Safety throughout the Province has been excellent during the past month.

1763

3. ECONOMIC.

a) Fruit trains conveying South Tyrolian fruit from Milan to England and from Bolzano to Stockholm are running satisfactorily.

b) The incessant rain will adversely affect the quality of the wine this year though the quantity is likely to be above the normal.

785017

-2-

106

c) Prices have risen during the past month and a Northern Italian Price Committee has recently assembled in Milan to fix prices for merchandise in the future. I understand in Milan most of the merchandise disappeared from the shops immediately when fixed prices were issued by the Chamber of Commerce. The same thing would probably happen in Bolzano when prices are published.

4.) INDUSTRY.

No change from the last report.

5.) FOOD.

a) There is plenty of food in the Province and the distribution of rationed food is satisfactory.

b) Milk is no longer rationed.

6.) AGRICULTURE.

No change from the last report.

7.) LABOUR.

Unemployment is steadily increasing and there are about 3500 unemployed persons registered with the Labour Bureau.

8.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

Public health was good during the past month.

1767

9.) Prisoners of War.

The majority of the South Tyrolian POW's have now returned.

10.) DISPLACED PERSONS.

The Camp appears to be working satisfactorily, but too much executive control is being exercised by Capt. Dawson and Miss Romilly who were left behind at my request for liaison

1926

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

105

-3-

duties. Steps are being taken to give the Italian Camp Commandants fuller responsibility and it is hoped that the British personnel will act only in advisory capacity in the future.

11.) C.E.M.

Work is still continuing in this department. Progress is being made in the handover to ARAR and it is hoped that the situation in this branch will soon be more satisfactory.

S. W. Miller, Colonel

S.W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO.

1763

1927

785017

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

847 *AK*
ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER
BOLZANO

Ex Bureau

680 / 01

REF: ACIO/BZ/36

DATE: 17 Aug. 1946
SWM/lc

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - July, 1946.
TO: HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, ROME.

Aug 18 1946

Enclosed herewith please find 6 (six) copies
of my monthly report for the month of July, 1946.

Delay in rendition is regretted.

S. W. Miller

S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer,
BOLZANO.

cc Dist - 20 Aug

- 1-EC*
- 1-CA Sec*
- 1-Com Sec*
- 1-Pa Br*
- 1-PA Rep & Polad B*
- 1-Working Copy*

1765

See 17-102.3-4

JS

(S/Ch. Mc)

PA. J. B.

100
ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER
BOLZANO

CONFIDENTIAL

REF:

ACLO/BZ/36

DATE: 17 August 1946

SWM/mab

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - July 1946.

TO : HQ, Allied Commission, CMF.

1. GENERAL

- a) The hopes of the Volkspartei have been raised by the debate in Parliament on the South-Tyrol. In that their claims are to be heard at the peace conference, they still consider a sporting chance exists for annexation to Austria.
- b) There has been little of political importance in this Province during the month, except that the Volkspartei have agreed in writing to cooperate fully with the Italian Government on the subject of regional autonomy.
- c) The option decree is anxiously awaited, though the majority of the German speaking people know that their interests in this respect have been safeguarded.
- d) Prefect Innocenti has been in Rome for the greater part of the month.
- e) Orders have come in to close this Liaison Group on the 31st July, to the regret both of the Allied Officers and of the whole Province. Much work still remains to be done, and though a start has been made, it would have been well if British policy had enabled us to see it through to the end. There is misgiving in the hearts of many, that on our departure, some of the promises made may not be kept.

2. SECURITY

- a) Conditions of public safety throughout the Province have been excellent.
- b) There is, and always has been, a good feeling between the Allies and the Italian Police.

3. ECONOMIC

- a) The first fruit trains conveying South-Tyrolean fruit

from Milan direct to England and from Bolzano to Stockholm have already been run satisfactorily. A regular service of fruit trains has now been organized and will run throughout August.

b) Wine will be exported next year.

c) There is an ^{abundance} advance of fruit in the Province this year and everything bodes well for an excellent wine harvest.

4. INDUSTRY

There is little change and industry is hampered by the lack of coal and raw materials. Unless solid or liquid fuel is forthcoming, some of the factories in this area will be compelled to close down.

5. FOOD

a) There is no shortage of food either in the towns or in the villages.

b) The distribution of rationed food is satisfactory.

6. AGRICULTURE

A special report has been forwarded to the Food Sub-Commission on the subject. Insecticides are in short supply but otherwise the farmers had little to grumble about and much to be thankful for.

7. LABOUR

The Swiss Authorities have set up a bureau in Merano for the enrolment of servants, barmen, waiters, hotel attendants etc, thus giving employment to a number of specialists released from employment by the Allies. There is not in fact an unemployment problem in this Province.

8. PUBLIC HEALTH

There has been an outbreak of typhus in the Province (alleged to be brought by children on holiday from the South), and this is being seriously tackled by the medical authorities.

9. PRISONERS OF WAR

Some 100 South-Tyrolcan POWs were recently released from Pisa and sent with German POWs to Dachau for final release. Though released within 40 hours after arrival in Germany an transport had been provided for their return to Italy, they were forbidden to pass the frontier at Mittenwald with the result that many of them were forced to return to

Italy by clandestine means as reported to Executive Commissioner in my letter ACLO/BW/17 of 12 August.

10. DISPLACED PERSONS

a) The camp was handed over to the Italian Authorities on 31 July. Capt. Dawson and Miss Romilly have been permitted to remain for liaison duties.

b) A telegram has been received that GAX are doing their utmost to force Zone Commanders in Germany to accept their quota of displaced persons, but ~~so far with the result~~ that none can be accepted at present.

11. C.E.M.

a) Lt. Col. Horn and Major Nowrth have scampered over the Province during the last ten days in an effort to settle outstanding captured enemy material questions, which should take about six months.

b) Property and vehicles have been handed over to the Italian Government in bulk, which is apparently policy of the Economic Section so to do. The possibilities of repercussion are too obvious to need enlargement by me.

S. W. Miller
S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer,
BOLZANO

Copy to: GSIB No. 3 District
Northern Detachment, Milan.

1762

847-91
96-
ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER
BOLZANO

CONFIDENTIAL

REF: ACIO/32/36.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - June 1946.

TO : HQ, Allied Commission, CMF.

DATE: 10 July 1946.
SWM/gg.

1. GENERAL.

- a) During the past month news and rumours from Paris have overshadowed the Government crisis in Rome.
- b) The decision to leave the South Tyrol with Italy was expected and received with dignity by both sides.
- c) The German speaking people now realize their future lies within the frame-work of Italy and to this end the powerful S.V.P. (Sudtiroler Volkspartei) has agreed to cooperate unreservedly with the Italian Government to frame rules for autonomy. This cooperation has been confirmed in writing by the President and the Secretary General of the S.V.P.
- d) The S.V.P. has confirmed in writing their change of programme from that of annexation to Austria to that of cooperation with Italy.
- e) The Prefect intends to leave for Rome on the 13th of July with his proposals for autonomy in the new Tridentino State. The German speaking people would naturally have preferred Provincial Autonomy (instead of Regional Autonomy) for very obvious reasons. There is much to be said for their point of view down to the Salorno line (the ethnical division) with the addition of the Unterland and the three communes in Belluno Province.
- f) The Option Commission has submitted its recommendations to the Italian Government and it is hoped a decree will shortly be published defining the various categories of citizenship. The recommendations are:

cc Dist - 15 July
1-cc. 1-Filed B.
1-CA Sec 1-Working
1-Cy Sec 1-Working
1-PA. Sec. copy.
1-PA. Rep.

See m-97

(1/10/46)

ALLIED COMMISSION

OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER

BOLZANO

CONFIDENTIAL

REF: ACIO/E2/36.

DATE: 10 July 1946.
SWM/gg.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - June 1946.

TO : HQ, Allied Commission, COM.

1. GENERAL.

- a) During the past month news and rumours from Paris have overshadowed the Government crisis in Rome.
- b) The decision to leave the South Tyrol with Italy was expected and received with dignity by both sides.
- c) The German speaking people now realize their future lies within the frame-work of Italy and to this end the powerful S.V.P. (Südtiroler Volkspartei) has agreed to cooperate unreservedly with the Italian Government to frame rules for autonomy. This cooperation has been confirmed in writing by the President and the Secretary General of the S.V.P.
- d) The S.V.P. has confirmed in writing their change of programme from that of annexation to Austria to that of cooperation with Italy.
- e) The Prefect intends to leave for Rome on the 13th of July with his proposals for autonomy in the new Tridentino State. The German speaking people would naturally have preferred Provincial Autonomy (instead of Regional Autonomy) for very obvious reasons. There is much to be said for their point of view down to the Salorno line (the ethnical division) with the addition of the Unterland and the three communes in Belluno Province.

f) The Option Commission has submitted its recommendations to the Italian Government and it is hoped a decree will shortly be published defining the various categories of citizenship. The recommendations are:

1-CC.
1-CA. Sec. 1-Filed B.
1-Gen. Sec. 1-working copy.
1-Pa. Sec.
1-Pa. Rep.

See m-97

(Hear on)

785017

1932

95

-2-

- a) Those who opted for Germany but did not receive actual forms of citizenship :
{ Unless this category confirm their option within two months of the publication of the decree, they will automatically become Italian citizens.
- b) Those who opted for Germany and received forms of citizenship, but did not remove themselves to Germany :
{ This category must renounce their option within two months of the publication of the decree, in writing. Otherwise their option will be enforced and they will automatically become aliens.
- c) Those already in Germany :
{ This category must apply in writing to the Ministry of the Interior within two years of the signing of the peace treaty with Italy. Each individual application will be examined by a Committee formed of one Judge and six German speaking and six Italian speaking members in Bolzano.

g) Much work has been done to further the interests of the German speaking people during the last six months. For example:

- 1) Autonomy
- 2) Regularization of citizenship
- 3) Authorization of the dual language
- 4) Courses of instruction for German speaking Communal Secretaries
- 5) School organization for instruction in both languages
- 6) Changing of all italianized names into their original form.
- 7) Re-employment of discharged Forestry people
- 8) Arrangements for reception of South Tyrolian POW's.

2.) SECURITY.

-92-

P.S.O. report attached with copy to No.3 District,
Northern Detachment.

3. ECONOMIC.

- a) Contracts for the export to Switzerland of South Tyrolian wine for 200 Millions of Lire have been made whilst difficulties are foreseen for the export of summer fruit. Switzerland has a fairly good fruit crop this year.
- b) Austria is very interested in import of fruit, but has to arrange for the import of first necessity items.
- c) Arrangements for export to Sweden have been made, but those with Germany and Czechoslovakia are still pending.
- d) Local Chamber of Commerce intends to export fruit and wine to Allied Troops.

4. INDUSTRY.

The main difficulty is always the shortage of raw materials and solid as well as liquid fuel. Part of the factories in this area will be compelled to close down.

5. FOOD.

Food situation in the Province is satisfactory.

6. AGRICULTURE.

- a) Heavy rains during the past month have caused some decrease in the crop of summer fruit, especially in the Adige Valley whilst the situation of fodder is extremely good.
- b) Crop in general is very late this year because of weather conditions. Heat and sun is needed now for the wine crop.

7.) LABOUR.

1753

- a) Unemployment is increasing, there are 3.200 inscripted in the Chamber of Labour who have no job at present.
- b) The Director of the Chamber of Labour has arranged with Swiss Authorities that a number of these will go into Switzerland for work in Hotels. The conditions of salary etc. are favourable.

1935

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

785017

93

-4-

8.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

General situation is good. There are some twenty cases of children paralysis and some of diphtheria. Supply with medicines is excellent. UNRRA is sending penicillin etc.

9.) DISPLACED PERSONS.

Order has come that the D.P. Camp No. 19 is to be handed over to the Italian Authorities by the 21st of July. There are at present 1.188 D.P.'s in the Camp of whom 1.161 Germans. Discussions about their return to Germany are in progress and it is urged that CRX in Germany will accept them without delay.

S.W. Miller Colonel.

S.W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO.

1 encl.

Copy to: GSIB No. 3 District
Northern Detachment, Milan

1753

ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER
BOLZANO

92

REF:

ACLO/BZ/108.10.

DATE: 10 July 1946

WRH/mab

SUBJECT: Public Safety Monthly Report
TO : CIG Bolzano.

CARABINIERI

1. With the elections over and no outbreak of violence in this Province the CCRR are settling down, and appear to be having more faith in themselves.

2. At the request of the acting Prefect, Dr. Innocenti, the eight road blocks that the CCRR went to great expense to erect in accordance with military directives, were done away with on the 19th June.

3. The acting Prefect stated that it gave too much of a war-like appearance to the Province to allow the road-blocks to remain.

4. It was pointed out to the Prefect and Col. Luca, Legion Commander CCRR, that should they desire to re-institute roadblocks whilst Allied Troops are in Italy, they must conform to the regulations as laid down by the Allied Military Authorities, of which all Police Agencies have a copy. I went even further and explained that the reason for this order was because there had been some unfortunate accidents to Allied Troops - some fatal - where Italian Police Agents had decided to operate a road-block during the night without warning signs and proper illumination. This had resulted in the Allied Troops thinking they were being held up by bandits and had not stopped. The Italian Police Agents had then fired on them.

1757

5. The motor-cycles referred to in para 9 of the monthly report for April and para 9 of the monthly report for May are still going round in circles.

6. The latest information is that from a number of motor-cycles allocated to the whole of the CCRR for Italy, this Province must apply for the 20 promised them in December 1945. The eighteen "junks motorcycles"

- 2 -

are still at the Legion HQ in Bolzano, awaiting disposal instructions.

7. On the 17th of June, CORR of Brunico raided the premises of a peasant, UETTERWEGER Enrico, aged 50, and found the following arms and ammunition buried in the garden:

- 1 sub-machine gun "Berretta"
- 1 German automatic pistol
- 2 German rifles of unknown make
- 2 German muskets of unknown make
- 1 "Stozer" musket
- 2 Italian muskets type 1891
- 1 "Stozer" pistol, cal. 8
- 1 pistol type 38, cal 8
- 1 Flair-pistol
- 4 German hand-granades
- 2786 cartridges for German rifle
- 570 cartridges for German automatic pistol
- 800 cartridges for German pistol, cal. 8
- 700 dynamite detonators
- 40 Kg. of Tritolo
- 60 Kg. of gelatine
- 1 tin container containing 3 Kg. of unknown explosive
- 2 metres of tinder for mines

8. The peasant and his son escaped and are still being searched for by the CORR.

QUESTURA

1. There is nothing new to report respecting the Questura and his agents since the last monthly report.

FINANCE GUARDS

1. Nothing further to report.

GUARDIE FORDESTALI

1. Nothing further to report.

CRIME SITUATION

1. This appears to be much the same generally, but there is a definite decrease in major crimes. One murder was committed and the murderer arrested. Two persons have disappeared and not been traced, and the Police Agents are afraid that they too have been the victims of murder, but there is no direct evidence for this conclusion.

2. There were five robberies and one attempted robbery for which no arrests have been made.

1756

1938

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

785017

- 3 -

90

3. There were four cases of abortion for which arrests have been made, and one case of arson - not serious - for which an arrest has been made.

POLITICAL SITUATION

1. Although the Paris announcement of the future of the South-Tyrol was made some time ago, there is still a strong feeling amongst the members of the SVP that this decision may be altered - if not reversed.

2. The new political party, Suidtiroler Heimat Verband (South-Tyrolean Patriotic League) has now changed its name to Suidtiroler Demokratischer Verband (South-Tyrolean Democratic Union).

3. Its programme is as stated in the last Monthly Report. Attached marked "A" is a copy of the programme, as set out in the new weekly newspaper, Suidtiroler Wochenblatt, which is the newspaper of the Party.

4. The Party is being sponsored by the Prefettura, but it is meeting with very little success.

5. Its propaganda notices were torn down from the walls in most of the country districts of the Province, although they were not materially interfered with in the towns of Bolzano and Merano. It is reported that the Sindaco of Brunico, Herr Leiter, personally tore down the notices in that town.

6. The Ladinian Committees in the Province of Bolzano, Belluno and Trento have started a political movement which they call Zent Ladina Dolomiten (Ladinian People of the Dolomites).

7. The Ladinians in the three provinces number about 30,000, and speak a language of their own. There are Ladinians in Switzerland who are known as Reto-Romans, and the Swiss Government grant them certain privileges.

8. Broadly speaking these privileges are respect of the Ladinians as an ethnical group, with all that that implies. The Ladinians of this area are asking to be recognized as an ethnical group and representation in the Central Government of Rome. 1755

9. The Italian Government have gone to the extent of having a Ladinian hour on the radio every Saturday. But the Ladinians are asking that in addition to the German and Italian languages, their own language be taught in the schools in their areas.

10. They are very closely associated with the autonomous movement of this area inasmuch as some of their members

reside in the Provinces of Belluno and Trento, in that part of those two Provinces that the general autonomy movement in the area want incorporated in Bolzano.

11. The acting Prefect Dr. Innocenti informed me that he intended visiting Cortina d'Ampezzo in an effort of discovering the feelings of the people of that area re. autonomy.

12. The practice of the Italian Government publishing lists of the Ovré Agents without any action being taken against these agents, is causing some adverse comments amongst the South-Tyrolean population of the Province.

13. It will be remembered that during German occupation numbers of South-Tyroleans were enrolled in the German Army mostly in Police organizations. Whilst numbers of these South-Tyroleans have been released, there are many who are still kept as POWs.

14. The South-Tyroleans say, why should the situation be mentioned in para. 13 remain, when these OVRA agents are still at large. In fact in the last Ovré list published in the newspapers was the name of Aldo CIAPPI, residing in Bolzano and the proprietor of a firm known as Impresa Costruzioni Alto Adige in Via Regina Elena 13 in Bolzano. This firm had two GKM trucks and one GKM motorcar assigned to it by the Prefettura of Bolzano in 1943 to assist them in their business.

15. Another name that appears is that of Gino CARRERI, a general dealer here in Bolzano, who is at present in a good way of business. In fact he and his sons are the proprietors of the new open-air Cinema in Bolzano.

RECAP

1. The operations of the Court are delayed to a great extent by the lack of personnel, especially those with bi-lingual qualifications.

2. The Special Court of Assize has dealt with three important cases during the month of June. 13 death sentences have been imposed, despite the fact that the last of these trials amounted to mass murder. Attached marked "A", "B", "C", "D", "E" and "F" are newspaper reports of this trial. 1754

3. Briefly, this was a case that happened at Merano on the 30th April 1945 when rumour reached that town that the German Armies had collapsed, and people marched down the street celebrating the event. These people were entirely unarmed, but were fired on from the windows of a German Hospital by both German military and nurses.

785017

88

- 5 -

POINTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

1. The jails of the area continue to be overcrowded. Details of this were given in a special report dated 1st July 1946 under reference number AGLO/DZ/108.11.

2. The question of the escaped South-Tyrolean POWs is still causing some feeling in the district. This has been taken up by the local South-Tyrolean newspaper, and despite the fact that the question of the POWs in Italy has been handed over to the Italian Authorities, except in special cases, the Italians are saying that any action against the escaped POWs is by order of the Allied Authorities.

3. The annual local religious ceremony of the celebration of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was held throughout the Province on the 20th June 1946.

4. The Italian Authorities thought that the South-Tyroleans would take advantage of the occasion for political reasons. Exactly what they expected to happen was not quite clear but they took elaborate precautionary measures, including having tanks at the ready.

5. An amusing story is told in connection with this. Col. Luca, the Legion CORR Commander, was informed by the local Corpo d'Armata of the elaborate military arrangements that had been made, and especially about the tanks, which they informed would be ready at a moment's notice should he require them.

6. Col. Luca said on no account were the military to operate at all unless requested personally by him.

7. At lunch time Col. Luca telephoned to the Corpo d'Armata to make sure that his order had been properly understood, and asked for the Officer Commanding and was told he was at lunch. He then asked for the various Officers who should have been in charge in the absence of senior officers, but all had gone to lunch. Col. Luca then asked for the senior NCO in charge of the tanks, only to be told he'd gone to lunch in one of the tanks. 1753

8. There is still some feeling on the part of the French Authorities at Innsbruck because they have to obtain a visa from the Italian Government before entering Italian Government territory.

9. It is difficult to say exactly how effective the frontier control of the area is. When enquiries are made of the Italian Authorities it would appear to be very effective, but I am very doubtful if this is so. Reports

1941

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

785017

87

- 6 -

have already been submitted during the month of June on the question of frontier control.

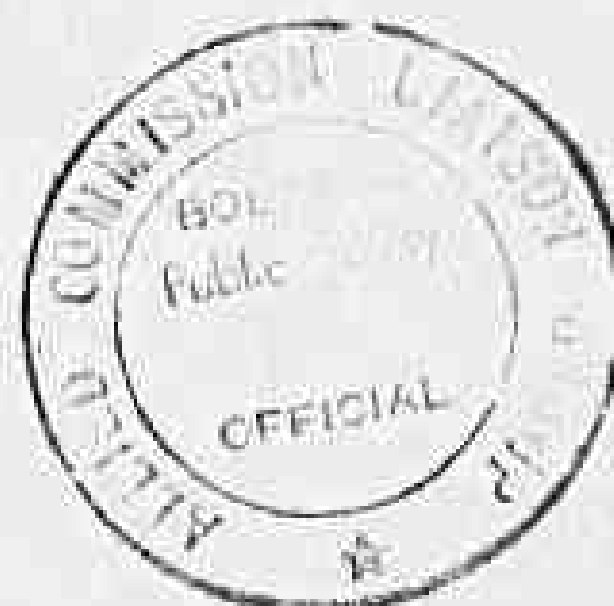
10. Reports are continually reaching this Office of the Italian Authorities re-instating Italian Officials in place of South-Tyrolean.

11. The most serious of these are Municipio officials, medical men and midwives. It needs no explanation of the effect of this in the many areas of the Province where the population speak only German.

12. It will be remembered that towards the end of 1945 there was an outcry from both the local inhabitants and the Allies about the activities of the Italian Troops in the area - Folgore and Friuli.

13. Early in 1946 these troops were replaced by Alpini - at least people in Alpini uniforms. These new troops are causing some resentment amongst the local populations in the Bressanone and Vipiteno areas where they are stationed, over their truculent and overbearing manner.

14. There have been many complaints about these troops stealing chickens, fruit and other produce from the farms and swaggering about the country side carrying arms when off duty. The long and the short of it is there is no difference between the Italian troops who were here in 1945 and the alleged Alpini who are here now. These troops which are now swaggering about in Alpini uniforms are nothing more nor less than ordinary neapolitan soldiery with feathers stuck in their hats. I have in fact been informed by officers of the Alpini that the Alpini regiment as known before the war no longer exists, most of them having been wiped out in the Russian campaign.



W. R. Hare
W. R. HARE,
Major,
I.O. (R.S.)

1752

Encl.

PROGRAMME OF THE "SÜDTIROLER DEMOKRATISCHER VERBAND"

(Southtyrolean Democratic League)

The "Südtiroler Demokratischer Verband" (South-Tyrolean Democratic League) is a movement whose aims are to follow a South-Tyrolean politic in the interest of our country. All South-Tyrolean may join our party. We exclude, however, all those who in 1939 had a leading position in the carrying out of the Italian-German agreement, who during the period of German occupation behaved themselves fanatically and all those who, through nationalist activity, poisoned and still poison the peaceful coabitation of the citizens of this Province.

Our League wants to follow a South-Tyrolean politic in the interest of the Country. To consider only one aim, which has shown to be unrealisable, prevents the solution of important problems, concerning our Country. This solution is only possible through an open and effective cooperation with the official Authorities.

Our League will follow democratic principles. We are of the opinion that the new democratic leaders, who govern Italy, will abstain from suppressing minorities.

Following are the points of the programme aimed by our League:

- 1) A division of our Country in the course of the so called frontier rectifications has to be avoided. The attitude of SVP in this question, allowing or even promoting such a division, is not less criminal than the treason of our Country in 1939.
- 2) Most care will be given to the largest protection of our minority rights (language, customs and habits) through guarantees in the Costituyente. Therefore we aim a decentralised system. Under all circumstances we have to reach equal rights for the ethnical group living in our country.

1751

- 3) Also very urgent we consider the solution of the question of citizenship of those persons, who in 1939 opted for Germany, and we consider it desirable that citizenship be left, respectively returned, to those who have not carried out any activity to the damage of our people, whilst we ask that elements who carried out actively to the damage of our people be sent away from the same part of the population. It can't no more be allowed that such people take activity in the local political and official life. Our country must not be in future be subject to an irresponsible politic.

- 4) We desire that, as soon as possible, when the option question will be solved, the Communal and Parliament elections be carried out.

- 5) We will do our possible to achieve annexation of the Unterland to Bolzano Province (Part of ST still in Trento Province).

- 6) Our League, having proclaimed cooperation with the official Authorities, aims an effective participation at the official life.

The "Südtiroler Demokratischer Verband" (South-Tyrolean Democratic League) is a movement whose aims are to follow a South-Tyrolean politic in the interest of our country. All South-Tyrolean may join our party. We exclude, however, all those who in 1939 had a leading position in the carrying out of the Italian-German agreement, who during the period of German occupation behaved themselves fanatically and all those who, through nationalistic activity, poisoned and still poison the peaceful cohabitation of the citizens of this Province.

Our League wants to follow a South-Tyrolean politic in the interest of the Country. To consider only one aim, which has shown to be unrealisable, prevents the solution of important problems, concerning our Country. This solution is only possible through an open and effective cooperation with the official Authorities.

Our League will follow democratic principles. We are of the opinion that the new democratic leaders, who govern Italy, will abstain from suppressing minorities.

Following are the points of the programme aimed by our League:

- 1) A division of our Country in the course of the so called frontier rectifications has to be avoided. The attitude of SVP in this question, allowing or even promoting such a division, is not less criminal than the treason of our Country in 1939.
- 2) Most care will be given to the largest protection of our minority rights (language, customs and habits) through guarantees in the Constituent. Therefore we aim a decentralised system. Under all circumstances we have to reach equal rights for the ethnical group living in our country.

1751

3) Also very urgent we consider the solution of the question of citizenship of those persons, who in 1939 opted for Germany, and we consider it desirable that citizenship be left, respectively returned, to those who have not carried out any activity to the damage of our people, whilst we ask that elements who carried out actively to the damage of our people be sent away from the same part of the population. It can't no more be allowed that such people take activity in the local political and official life. Our country must not be in future be subject to an irresponsible politic.

4) We desire that, as soon as possible, when the option question will be solved, the Communal and Parliament elections be carried out.

5) We will do our possible to achieve annexation of the Unterland to Bolzano Province (Part of ST still in Trento Province).

6) Our League, having proclaimed cooperation with the official Authorities, aims an effective participation at the official life. It's representatives, therefore, will be in the administration of the Communes, official associations and others, where public interests are concerned, in order to guard actively the interests of our country.

85
7) We aim the epuration of all offices, associations and of the whole of public life from elements, who are damaging peaceful coabitation between the ethnical groups of our Country.

8) We will do all in our power for the quickest return of our POW's and take care of them after their return providing them work, etc. We want to get all the rights, due to those who ~~xxx~~ took part ~~of~~ at the war, for persons who served in the Wehrmacht, as far as they are not "real" vounteers or were members of special Organisations (SD - Gestapo - aso).

9) We ask that in official offices and concerns, bi-lingual elements in the first place South-Tyroleans, be employed.

10) We aim that the greatest possible number of our countrymen, who left their Country, and who are the victims of the crime of 1939, be allowed to go back to their country. To make place for them, we ask that all Aliens, who during German occupation came in our Country, be sent away. We also ask that immigration into our country, on the part of elements, who as adventurers ~~XX~~ or through other unlawful immigration want to get a position here, be forbidden.

11) The special legal dispositions re. the limitation of selling of real estates in our Province, as such limitations have been imposed to our people only for nationalistic purposes, and are against the propriety of our people, should therefore be abolished.

12) The law re. "GESCHLOSSE HÖFE", abolished in 1929, has to be reinstated, in order to obtain economically sound farmers (Interpreters Note: "Geschlossene Höfe" means that the eldest son inherits his father's farm and pays a certain amount of money to his brothers and sisters, according to his financial position. This was the old austrian law, whilst according to italian law, the farm was divided amongst all the sons, which system caused the ruin of many farms).

13) We will take steps that German Kindergardens, abolished because of nationalistic reasons, be reinstated, and we will ~~improve~~ ^{4,500} our school-conditions, set up economic-agricultural schools, etc.

14) We will take special care to improve turism, home-industry, the use of our national products, as well as compensation with other countries.

15) We want to free our public life of all dissections and foreign mentalities and go back to a real democracy. Therefore we will take into special consideration the education of our youth.

Our programme is that of material and spiritual reconstruction. As such it has no limits. The above points of our programme concern problems, which we consider especially important and we will do our best for the solution of same. Liken our programme to that of the Südtiroler Volkspartei, and you will see that South-Tyrolean, who love their Country, speak.

Countrymen join us!

785017

cohabitation between the ethnical groups of our Country.

8) We will do all in our power for the quickest return of our PCW's and take care of them after their return providing them work, etc. We want to get all the rights, due to those who ~~were~~ took part in at the war, for persons who served in the Wehrmacht, as far as they are not "real" volunteers or were members of special Organisations (SD - Gestapo - 250).

9) We ask that in official offices and concerns, bi-lingual elements in the first place South-Tyrolean, be employed.

10) We aim that the greatest possible number of our countrymen, who left their Country, and who are the victims of the crime of 1939, be allowed to go back to their country. To make place for them, we ask that all Aliens, who during German occupation came in our Country, be sent away. We also ask that immigration into our country, on the part of elements, who as adventurers ~~are~~ or through other unlawful immigration want to get a position here, be forbidden.

11) The special legal dispositions re. the limitation of selling of real estates in our Province, as such limitations have been imposed to our people only for nationalistic purposes, and are against the prosperity of our people, should therefore be abolished.

12) The law re. "GESCHLOSSE HÖFE", abolished in 1929, has to be reinstated, in order to obtain economically sound farmers (Interpreters Note: "Geschlossene Höfe" means that the eldest son inherits his father's farm and pays a certain amount of money to his brothers and sisters, according to his financial position. This was the old austrian law, whilst according to italian law, the farm was divided amongst all the sons, which system caused the ruin of many farms).

13) We will take steps that German Kindergartens, abolished because of nationalistic reasons, be reinstated, and we will ~~improve~~ our school-conditions, set up economic-agricultural schools, etc.

14) We will take special care to improve tourism, home-industry, the use of our national products, as well as compensation with other countries.

15) We want to free our public life of all dissensions and foreign mentalities and go back to a real democracy. Therefore we will take into special consideration the education of our youth.

Our programme is that of material and spiritual reconstruction. As such it has no limits. The above points of our programme concern problems, which we consider especially important and we will do our best for the solution of same. Liken our programme to that of the Südtiroler Volkspartei, and you will see that South-Tyrolean, who love their Country, speak.

Countrymen join us!

South-Tyrolean Democratic League.

1946

785017

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

84

13

ALTO ADICE - 25 June 1946

The Merano Massacre -
the first sitting of the Court of Assize.

Yesterday the Special Court of Assize opened
the trial against the persons accused of the
massacre in Merano of the 30th April 1945.

The accused are:	
Giuseppe MARTINICH	aged 58
Giovanni MITTERBERGER	" 39
Augusto KNOLL	" 62
his daughter Caroline KNOLL	" 26
Stefania KREIDENRECHER	" 16
Luise WEIRAUHER	" 25
Erta MARINCELE	" 22
Ugo KNOLL, aged 18, is wanted.	

The accusation is of having collaborated with the
German invader in the repression of a
demonstration held in occasion of the end of the
war, in the killing of Benigno Viviani, Otello Reri,
Luigi Trabacchi, Andrea d'Amico, Luigi Zanini, Giulio
Bertini, Dino Ferreri and Orlando Gouine, and wounding
several other people. All the persons taking part in
the demonstration - which was orderly and peaceful,
were unarmed.

1748

1748

83
" B1 §THE MERANO MASSACRE TRIAL

The accused Karl KNOLL and his daughter Carolina, as well as Luise Weirauther and Siglinda Heidenreich were absent at yesterday's sitting of the Special Court of Assize. The morning was given over to the discussion of the happenings on the fatal day. A number of persons were passing in front of the German Military Hospital, carrying flags and rejoining for the close of the hostilities. Shots were fired from the hospital and a number of persons was killed. Three women were seen on the terrace of the hospital, exciting the Germans to shoot. Witnesses stated that Carolina Knoll had incited the Germans to kill certain Italians.

Another witness stated that he had seen the woman Knoll kick a wounded man, and call to a German soldier, who then killed him.

Caroline Knoll was alleged by several eye-witnesses to be in possession of a large revolver.

The witness Mercedes Anstegher stated she saw Carolina Knoll fire at two Italians and hit them. The latter were leaving a cellar when C. Knoll shot at them. One was still moving when the witness left the window she was standing at, but was dead when she reached the bodies.

Another witness stated he saw the son of Knoll firing at a man. The trial continues today.

1748

82

Alto Adige - 28 June 1946

" Da "

The Merano Massacre Trial.

Today the Fourth sitting of the Merano Massacre trial was held.

The witness Lombardi Maria was questioned. Amongst other things she stated she saw Carolina Knoll walking amongst the dead bodies with a pistol in her hand, in the company of an SS man. At one point she put her foot on a body and helped her companion to search same.

Another witness, Luigi Cavalletto, stated he had seen Ugo Knoll (Carolina Knoll's brother) fire at the crowd before the German soldiers started shooting. He also stated that he saw Carolina Knoll with a large pistol in her hand.

Carolina Knoll denied every accusation.

Another witness, Tonardi, stated that after he had been seriously wounded by a German soldier, he had further been beaten by Ugo and Carolina Knoll, the result being life injury. Carolina Knoll denied everything. The witness replied that his present conditions were due to the actions of the two Knoll, whom he described as a viper (the woman) and a savage beast (the man).

The cynical attitude of the prisoners infuriated the public present at the trial, who booed and hissed them.

1745

1949

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

785017

81

" B3 "

ALTA VIGIL - 29 June 1946

The Merano Massacre Trial.

Yesterday morning, the doctor's report was read re. injuries sustained by Grinzani and Lonardi, the latter having been completely ruined by the tigerish action of Carolina Knoll. A number of witnesses were called for the defence - all were local nazists, who had served with SOD.

The next sitting will be held on the 1st July, when it is hoped the sentence will be passed and the trial come to a close.

1746

1950

785017

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

80

" B4 "

ALTO ADIGE - 3 July 1946

Stop Press.

The verdict in the Merano trial.

The Merano Massacre trial reached it's close this morning at 0215 hrs. The court was withdrawn for over 7 hours before reaching a verdict. A huge crowd was in attendance. The Court carried out their various duties magnificently. The verdicts are as follows:

Caroline KNOLL - guilty of instigation to murder and committing two murders, of collaboration and other minor offences, is condemned to the "ergastolo" (life imprisonment, solitary confinement for the first two years and a fine of 13,000 lire. Augusto KNOLL - her father, guilty of collaboration and attempted murder - 30 years imprisonment.

Ugo KNOLL - son, guilty of collaboration, attempted murder, murder, and theft, in consideration of the fact that he is not yet 18 years of age - 30 years imprisonment and 2000 lire fine.

MARINELLA ERTE - guilty of collaboration and helping to commit murder and mutilate the corpse 30 years imprisonment.

All /n have been also condemned to pay all expenses.

Luise WEIRUTHER - acquitted for insufficient proof. Sieglinda HEIDENREICH - Austrian citizen - acquitted for not having committed the crime of which she was accused.

MARTINER Giacomo - ditto

UNTERBERGER Gi Vanni - no verdict was passed as it would have come under amnesty terms.

The crowd received the announcement of the verdict with evident satisfaction.

1745

847
ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OF
BOLZANO

REF: ACIO/BZ/16.

SUBJECT: Commissions in Bolzano.

TO : HQ, Allied Commission, Rome,
for the Executive Commissioner.

DATE: 14 June 46.
SWA/gg.

JUN 18 1946

55

I thank you for your letter No. 847/EC of the 6th of June 1946.

1.) Both the Autonomy Commission and the Commission to study citizenship are local Commissions appointed by the Prefect to assist him in formulating his proposals to the Rome Government.

In the case of autonomy, his proposals are completed and a copy is shortly to reach me. At the moment copies are with Count TOGGENSEURG, Dr. von WALTER, Dr. von BRAITENBERG and Dr. RAFFNER for their remarks which will not alter the Prefect's draft but which will be forwarded with it and alterations might be made by the Rome Government.

2.) Regarding citizenship, I have already reported that the Prefect's recommendations are now complete and a copy will reach me in the next few days.

On his return from Innsbruck the Prefect intends to bring his reports to Rome for discussion with the Government. There has been some delay caused by difficulties in the Trento Province.

3.) Your para. 3) regarding enemy aliens is noted. -

S. W. Miller

S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
Bolzano.

1743

Copy to the Vice-President
of Civil-Affairs Section.

8
(100)
H. W. Miller 22 10/16

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

785017

ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OF
BOLZANO

REF: ACIO/BZ/16.

DATE: 14 June 46.
SWH/GO.

SUBJECT: Commissions in Bolzano.

TO : HQ, Allied Commission, Rome,
for the Executive Commissioner.

JUN 18 1946
55

I thank you for your letter No. 847/EC of the 6th of June 1946.

1.) Both the Autonomous Commission and the Commission to study citizenship are local Commissions appointed by the Prefect to assist him in formulating his proposals to the Rome Government.

In the case of autonomy, his proposals are completed and a copy is shortly to reach me. At the moment copies are with Count TOGGENBURG, Dr. von WALTER, Dr. von BRAITENBERG and Dr. RAFFETTER for their remarks which will not alter the Prefect's draft but which will be forwarded with it and alterations might be made by the Rome Government.

2.) Regarding citizenship, I have already reported that the Prefect's recommendations are now complete and a copy will reach me in the next few days.

On his return from Innsbruck the Prefect intends to bring his reports to Rome for discussion with the Government. There has been some delay caused by difficulties in the Trento-Province.

3.) Your para. 3) regarding enemy aliens is noted. -

S. W. Miller

S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
Bolzano.

Copy to the Vice-President
of Civil-Affairs Section.

g
W. Miller 22 10 46
(2 cc)

1745

1745

847
ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OF
BOLZANO

CONFIDENTIAL

REF: ACLO/BZ/36

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - May 1946.
TO : HQ, Allied Commission, CMF.

DATE: 7 June 1946

SWM/59

JUN 13 1946

1. GENERAL.

a) On every Sunday during May the South Tyrol Party held meetings in various centres either demanding the annexation of the South Tyrol to Austria or protesting against the decision of the Big Four not to discuss their question.

All meetings were orderly and the three speakers were usually

- a) Baron STERNBACH
- b) Dr. F. VOLGGER
- c) Dr. V. GUGGENBERG

and the meetings were so arranged that the speakers could address each meeting in turn.

b) The first shock came when the Austrian Government asked for a "slight modification" of their frontier to include the PUSTERIA VALLEY (Brunico Area) and EISACK VALLEY (Brenner and Bressanone Area) in order to join the North and East Tyrol by rail.

The S.T.V. replied at once by sending a telegram to Paris protesting against the proposed frontier rectification and asking that representatives of their party might be heard to plead for the complete annexation of the South Tyrol to Austria.

c) The dwindling hopes of the German speaking population were, however, revived by the speech of Field Marshal SMUIS and the support of their plead by the "TIMES". Now that CHURCHILL supported them in Parliament by suggesting a plebiscite, their fading hopes of annexation have again revived.

d) The report of the Option Commission to decide the laws of citizenship has been sent by the Prefect to the Italian Government.

e) The S.T.V. still remains outside the Autonomy Commission and the Prefect has endeavoured to contact certain members of the EGARTNER-Group without success.

It seems clear to me that all attempts in this connection will fail until the future of the South Tyrol is decided.

To-day its position is as uncertain as ever it was.

cc. Dist-12505

1-cc.

1-cc. Adm.

1-cc. Dr.

1-cc. Pr.

1-cc. Rep.

1-cc. S. B.

1-cc. Working copy.

See M 16

CONFIDENTIAL

REF: ACIO/BZ/36

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - May 1946.
TO : HQ, Allied Commission, COME.

DATE: 7 June 1946

SWM/sq

JUN 13 1946

1. GENERAL.

a) On every Sunday during May the South Tyrol Party held meetings in various centres either demanding the annexation of the South Tyrol to Austria or protesting against the decision of the Big Four not to discuss their question.

All meetings were orderly and the three speakers were usually

- a) Baron STERNBACH
- b) Dr. F. VOLGGER
- c) Dr. V. GUGGENBERG

and the meetings were so arranged that the speakers could address each meeting in turn.

b) The first shock came when the Austrian Government asked for a "slight modification" of their frontier to include the FUSPERIA VALLEY (Brunico Area) and ELSACK VALLEY (Frenner and Pressanone Area) in order to join the North and East Tyrol by rail.

The S.T.V. replied at once by sending a telegram to Paris protesting against the proposed frontier rectification and asking that representatives of their party might be heard to plead for the complete annexation of the South Tyrol to Austria.

c) The dwindling hopes of the German speaking population were, however, revived by the speech of Field Marshal SMUTS and the support of their plead by the "TIMES". Now that CHURCHILL supported them in Parliament by suggesting a plebiscite, their fading hopes of annexation have again revived.

d) The report of the Option Commission to decide the future of citizenship has been sent by the Prefect to the Italian Government.

e) The S.T.V. still remains outside the Autonomy Commission and the Prefect has endeavoured to connect certain members of the EGARTER-Group without success.

It seems clear to me that all attempts in this connection will fail until the future of the South Tyrol is decided.

To-day its position is as uncertain as ever it was.

See Dist-13 June
1-cc. ...
1-cc. ...
1-cc. ...
1-cc. ...
1-cc. ...
1-cc. ...
1-cc. ...

See M-76

f) Signor DE GASPERI's speech in TRENTO in which he blamed the German speaking population for non-cooperation received adverse comment in the Press the line of attack being that it was easy to discuss principles of democracy and freedom when it affected the Italian Government, but when it affected the South Tyrol, no mention was made of the incorporation into TRENTO Province against their will of the 11 German speaking communes of the "Unterland" etc.

g) On the 24th of May officers of this Liaison Group attended the ceremony celebrating Italy's entry into the great war against Austria.

h) The Prince Bishop of BRESCIANONE has now returned from his visit to His Holiness the Pope.

i) The Monarchists in Bolzano appear shattered at the result of the Referendum as you know, Palace of the Duke of PISTOIA is situated in this town.

j) It is hoped that an air-service MILAN-BOLZANO will start this month.

k) The RUK-files have been despatched to ROME and part of the CEM-staff has gone with them.

l) CEM has promised to give one set of captured gramophone records to the Bolzano Broadcasting Station when the sorting is completed.

2. SECURITY.

a) Security throughout the Province is satisfactory.

b) The CCRR are working well.

c) At present there are only 21 members of the CCRR who can speak both Italian and German. Some 200 others have been located serving in other parts of Italy and are shortly to be transferred to this area.

d) Additional German speaking CCRR officers would be an asset and the Legion Commander would like this matter pressed.

e) Recruiting has now been opened to the South Tyrolians and some 32 have applied for enrolment.

f) On authority of No. 2 District 18 Motorcycles have been released to the CCRR in Bolzano. When drawn from CEM they were junk and not worth collecting from Modena. I am endeavouring to obtain 18 serviceable motorcycles in exchange for the iron already received and CEM is considering it.

f) Signor DE GASPERI's speech in TRENTO in which he blamed the German speaking population for non-cooperation received adverse comment in the Press the line of attack being that it was easy to discuss principles of democracy and freedom when it affected the Italian Government, but when it affected the South Tyrol, no mention was made of the incorporation into TRENTO Province against their will of the 11 German speaking communes of the "Unterland" etc.

g) On the 24th of May officers of this Liaison Group attended the ceremony celebrating Italy's entry into the great war against Austria.

h) The Prince Bishop of BRESSANONE has now returned from his visit to His Holiness the Pope.

i) The Monarchists in Bolzano appear shattered at the result of the Referendum as you know Palace of the Duke of PISTOIA is situated in this town.

j) It is hoped that an air-service MILAN-BOLZANO will start this month.

k) The RUK-files have been despatched to ROME and part of the CEM-staff has gone with them.

l) CEM has promised to give one set of captured gramophone records to the Bolzano Broadcasting Station when the sorting is completed.

2. SECURITY.

a) Security throughout the Province is satisfactory.

b) The CCRR are working well.

c) At present there are only 21 members of the CCRR who can speak both Italian and German. Some 200 others have been located serving in other parts of Italy and are shortly to be transferred to this area.

d) Additional German speaking CCRR officers would be an asset and the Legion Commander would like this matter pressed.

e) Recruiting has now been opened to the South Tyrolians and some 32 have applied for enrolment.

f) On authority of No. 2 District 18 Motorcycles have been released to the CCRR in Bolzano. When drawn from CEM files were junk and not worth collecting from Modena. I am endeavouring to obtain 18 serviceable motorcycles in exchange for the iron already received and CEM is considering it.

g) A certain number of South Tyrolians recently escaped from POW-Camp in Taranto and reached their homes. On instruction from Rome they are now being arrested and languishing in the local jails as transport is not available to send them to the Camp at LATERINA (Arezzo). I do not know the truth, but I understand they are to go to LATERINA to receive an official discharge and their retention in prison here is not appreciated either by them or their relatives. If the above reason for their transfer to LATERINA is true, could not some form of bail be permitted pending the procurement of transport?

3. ECONOMIC.

- a) The recently concluded export agreements between Italy, Switzerland and Austria so far have not yet been carried out.
- b) Wine and harvest prospects for 1946 are excellent.
- c) The fruit crop in Switzerland is expected to be abundant this year. This affects the possibility of exporting the fruit from South Tyrol to Switzerland and the Chamber of Commerce is trying to formulate plans for the exportation of wine and fruit to Denmark and Britain.

4. FOOD.

Food situation in this Province is satisfactory.

5. AGRICULTURE.

Fertilizers and insecticides are required, but on the whole the agriculture situation is above the average.

6. LABOUR.

There are 2,685 unemployed in the Province. Arrangements are being made to send Hotel servants to Switzerland. Small groups of labourers have been sent to the south for work in the rice fields.

7. PUBLIC HEALTH.

- a) General health is satisfactory except for V.D. 1741
- b) The Hospital Authorities have asked if Public Health can supply a certain amount of penicillin to combat this disease.

-3-

2) A certain number of South Tyroliens recently escaped from POW-Camp in Taranto and reached their homes. On instruction from Rome they are now being arrested and languishing in the local jails as transport is not available to send them to the Camp at LATERINA (Arezzo). I do not know the truth, but I understand they are to go to LATERINA to receive an official discharge and their retention in prison here is not appreciated either by them or their relatives. If the above reason for their transfer to LATERINA is true, could not some form of bail be permitted pending the procurement of transport?

3. ECONOMIC.

- a) The recently concluded export agreements between Italy, Switzerland and Austria so far have not yet been carried out.
- b) Wine and harvest prospects for 1946 are excellent.
- c) The fruit crop in Switzerland is expected to be abundant this year. This affects the possibility of exporting the fruit from South Tyrol to Switzerland and the Chamber of Commerce is trying to formulate plans for the exportation of wine and fruit to Denmark and Britain.

4. FOOD.

Food situation in this Province is satisfactory.

5. AGRICULTURE.

Fertilizers and insecticides are required, but on the whole the agriculture situation is above the average.

6. LABOUR.

There are 2,685 unemployed in the Province. Arrangements are being made to send Hotel servants to Switzerland. Small groups of labourers have been sent to the south for work in the rice fields.

7. PUBLIC HEALTH.

- a) General health is satisfactory except for V.D. 1741
- b) The Hospital Authorities have asked if Public Health can supply a certain amount of penicillin to combat this disease.

1959

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

785017

74

-4-

8. DISPLACED PERSONS.

- a) There are 1,131 D.P.'s in the Camp No. 19 (formerly No. 23) of whom 1,080 are Germans awaiting repatriation.
- b) The Camp Commandant has received orders from Rome not to accept more D.P.'s.

9. PUBLIC WORKS and UTILITIES.

- a) Conditions in hydro-electric works are very satisfactory with abundance of water.
- b) The industrial zone is handicapped for lack of raw materials and its output is only some 30%. I cannot see much possibility of improvement for some time to come as coal is scarce and shipping is required for other purposes than the conveyance of raw materials.

S. W. Miller

S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO.

P.S.

A very detailed report is attached from my. Here.
P.S.O. which has gone to Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

1740

ACLO/B/108.10

4 June 1946

SUBJECT: Public Safety Monthly Report

WHR/mab

TO : C.E.O. Bolzano.

CARABINIERI

1. It is regretted that a certain nervous tension has been apparent in the CCRR during the last month.

2. Enquiries by the undersigned show that this was due to the approach of the elections which may result in a republican government for Italy. In any case the CCRR appear to think that which ever side wins, Republicans or Monarchists, it will only be by a small majority and civil disturbances will occur.

3. How true these presumptions of the CCRR are it is difficult to say, but the undersigned feels that as far as this region is concerned, they are without foundation. Unfortunately bad news and ideas travel quickly, and it is not that the local CCRR are in this state of mind as a result of what is happening in this area, but as a result of what they hear is happening in other areas. In other words public enemy No. 1 "La Voce del Popolo" has been at work again.

4. This area is very fortunate in having in command of the CCRR Col. LUCA, who is not only a steady influence for the CCRR but for most other authorities in the Province. He has informed the undersigned that the CCRR are remembering the 8th September 1943, when they were instructed to stand fast and carry out their duties impartially. As is well known, large numbers of them deserted for various reasons and with various intentions. Those who remained at their posts are now having to face epuration committees on various charges of collaboration with the enemy, most of which are grossly exaggerated and in many cases entirely untrue, whilst the deserters are being treated as politically clean and no question is asked as to why they deserted and what

1961

785017

they did from the time they deserted until they returned to the Army. The undersigned pointed out to Col. Luca that this is not quite true in detail, but was sharply reminded by Col. Luca that it is indeed true in effect.

5. Col. Luca is doing all in his power and it must be said with very good effect to keep the CCRH of this Province on the job and he is finding it increasingly difficult to explain away to them such incidents as the one that happened at Suvada within recent weeks, when ten armed men held up three CCRH returning to their caserma after duty. One CCRH was shot dead, the other two escaped. The ten armed men were eventually identified and arrested, but enquiries reveal the sinister fact that the ten armed men had already prepared the graves for their three proposed CCRH victims. To give another instance of the state of nerves that the CCRH are in in this part of Italy, the undersigned would recall an incident that happened to himself on Thursday, the 30th of May, when returning from a security conference in Milan.

6. The car of the undersigned broke down at Brescia. The Brescia CCRH very kindly supplied a car to transport the undersigned to Bolzano. Although it was only 1400 hrs when we left Brescia, the Captain of CCRH in charge would not allow the car to leave until he had supplied an armed CCRH guard. In addition to the driver, and gave strict instructions that the car had to remain at Bolzano for the night and return the next day in daylight.

7. The latter part of the order, to return in daylight, was reasonable enough, but the order for the armed escort, the undersigned suggests, is an indication of the nervous tension that exists.

8. Up-to-date the eight road-blocks in the Province mentioned in the previous monthly report are still only manned by CCRH.

9. The motorcycles referred to in paragraph 9 and 10 of the last monthly report are a complete failure. Col. Luca, complying with instructions from CCRH collected 18 of these motorcycles from the CIM dump at Idene. Not one of these motorcycles was in running condition. Many had only one wheel. They are all of German manufacture and of so many different types, that it is doubtful if from these eighteen wrecks five complete motorcycles could be assembled.

10. Col. S. M. MILLER, CIO Bologna, is again taking up this matter on behalf of the CCNR, but how successful he will be at this stage of the game it is very doubtful to say, owing to the fact that most of the CCNR dumps have now been handed over to the Italian organization ANAR.

11. It is interesting to note that a determined effort is being made by the CCNR to overcome the bilingual problem in this Province.

12. At the present time there are only 21 CCNR serving in the area who speak both Italian and German languages. A circular has been sent around to all CCNR stations for a return of all CCNR who can speak these two languages, and some 200 have been located. These will eventually be transferred to this area.

13. Col. Luca informed the undersigned that the HQ of the CCNR in Rome only asked for CCNR and SCU's in this return and, as far as Col. Luca knows, no effort is being made to locate German-speaking CCNR Officers. It is very important that there should be some German-speaking CCNR Officers in the area and it would be appreciated if this fact could be brought to the notice of the CCNR HQ in Rome in case they have overlooked it.

14. Recruiting for the CCNR has been opened to South-Tyroleans and some 32 applied for enrolment.

15. All were passed medically fit by the local CCNR doctor and Col. Luca reports they were very fine types of men, whom he would have been very pleased to have working with him.

16. When the medical examination sheets were forwarded to Rome, it was discovered that twenty of these men were suffering from some slight enlargement of the thyroid, which is in fact a main complaint amongst mountain people owing to their diet. The undersigned was informed that provided the trouble is not too pronounced, it is no detriment to them being sufficiently physically fit to carry out the duties of a CCNR. However, the CCNR medical authorities in Rome refused to pass them medically fit.

17. The remaining twelve are at present at the CCNR school in Rome and Col. Luca is looking forward to them being returned to him for service.

QUESTURA

1. The longer the undersigned remains in this Province, the more obvious it becomes that a drastic change of personnel is necessary in the Questura Agents. Not only the ordinary agents, but the other ranks.

2. It must be remembered that after the 8th of Sep. 1943 the Germans disbanded all the Police Agencies in this area with the exception of the Questura. The Questura Police Agency continued during the time of the German occupation under a German Commissioner.

3. Most of the personnel of the Questura who served during this period are still serving in the Province. It is most difficult for the honest and conscientious personnel to carry on their work, as they never know when they may be denounced by some vindictive person accused of having collaborated with the Germans.

4. It is the opinion of the undersigned that ~~numbers~~ of them ~~are~~ being blackmailed into retraining from doing their duty to the full extent.

5. The new Questura appreciates this point of view and has voiced to the undersigned several times.

6. The Questura has requested the Ministry of the Interior to make many changes, and the Ministry has in fact made some, but it is felt that the changes are not being made in sufficient numbers and quickly enough. One of the changes that has been effected, is the Commissioner at Merano, has resulted in the bringing to light of what is referred to by the Questura as a South-Tyroler terrorist movement. How serious this movement is, has not yet been ascertained, but attached marked "A" is the Questura report on this case with a copy of the questionnaire found at the address of one of the prisoners. The matter is still being investigated.

7. There is no doubt that there is a certain attack of the jittery at the Questura as well as the PCN. This is not so much as the result of the fear of disturbances in Italy, but some idea that they have not that the South-Tyrol is about to be invaded from the North. 1733

8. Attached marked "B" is a copy of the Questura report respecting incidents that took place on the evening of the 25th of May.

9. As the result of this information certain Companies of the Italian Army were moved into what were thought

to be strategic positions at Bressanone, Brunico and Passo di Giovo.

10. It is understood that some 2000 troops with field pieces and armed cars took part in this movement. They remained in the area until Sunday, the 2nd of June, the whole movement being explained to the civilian population as military manoeuvres. The only incident arising from this military manoeuvre was one man killed at Merano by the reckless driving of one of the armed cars.

11. The Questore and his Agents have settled into their new quarters and are gradually getting into their stride from an administration point of view.

FINANCE GUARDS

1. There are now three Companies of Finance Guards in the Province, an additional Circolo having been put into operation at Merano.

2. They appear to be kept very busy and no complaints have been received respecting their activities from the public.

3. An effort is being made by Col. S. W. Miller, CMO Bolzano, to allievate their transport situation through the good offices of CMI.

GUARDIE FORESTALI

1. Nothing more has been heard about the replacing of Gen. Salo, who still remains on service in the area.

2. The question of the discharged German-speaking Guardia Forestali of Brunico has been taken up by the Italian Government and it is understood that they are to be re-instated.

CRIME SITUATION

1. There is little change in the crime situation, in fact the Questura reports a slight deterioration as against last month.

2. There were two murders and eight serious robberies. One of the murders is believed to have been committed for motives of revenge, and the murderers have been identified and arrested. The identity of the murderer or murderers of the second person is not known, and the motive does not appear to be clear, except that it is not of a political nature.

3. There is another case of homicide, during the night of the 21-22 May a member of the Alpini Regiment was shot dead by the guard, when attempting to steal property from an ASB dump.

4. One of the robberies was committed by three persons impersonating P.S. Agents, who held up a factory guard and stole five tyres and tubes. The thieves have been arrested.

5. On the 13th of May 1946 masked armed men entered the house of a man aged 60 with a false key and stole 180,000 lire in cash and six bank books, cloth, and foodstuffs. There was a serious attempted robbery on the 7th of May when a young man, aged 21, entered a house and endeavoured to steal 20,000 lire. He was interrupted by the son of the house, armed with an axe, who seriously wounded the intruder. The remaining eight robberies are not of particular interest.

POLITICAL SITUATION

1. The political situation is as previously reported, but there has been a marked increase in the propaganda of SVF.

2. The SVF has held meetings during the month at all the important towns, during which they put forward their recommendations and requests.

3. The undersigned and other Liaison Officers attended all these meetings, but it is very difficult to say how many of those who attended were really there for political reasons or for a day out.

4. The proceedings usually start with a procession and a band and all are dressed in tyrolean costumes.

5. According to the size of the place the numbers in the processions varied from 700 to 1000. The meetings are well advertised beforehand and are well attended.

6. It must be said that there is more of a holiday spirit prevailing at these meetings than a political atmosphere.

7. The main speakers are usually the same people introduced by the local leader of the SVF, and the meetings are so arranged that the speakers are able to speak at as many as three meetings at one day.

1735

785017

1963

785017

8. These meetings are usually held on Sundays and the Questura is very generous in granting his permission for them.
9. The Questore did inform the undersigned that on one occasion he had been asked to grant permission for five meetings on one day, but owing to his shortage of money over to cover the meetings he was only able to grant permission for three to be held.
10. There were no hard feelings about this and the whole business seems to have been carried on in a very peaceful manner.
11. No untoward incident has occurred as a result of these meetings and none of the speakers advocated violence as a means of achieving their ends.
12. Unfortunately just over the border of this Province at Termone in the Province of Trento on the 30th of May 1946 there was an incident at a demonstration organized by the CVP of Dre.
13. It would appear from the newspaper report that a young man was carrying a tyrolean flag. He was arrested by the Carabinieri CCNN and the flag confiscated.
14. This annoyed the crowd very much, who asked the release of the young man and also the handing back of the flag.
15. The CCNN took the boy and the flag to the local CCNN camera and from an upstairs window fired some shots over the heads of the people.
16. The newspaper report does not state whether the CCNN did release the boy and hand over the flag.
17. During the evening, the newspaper goes on to say, two armed cars passed through the village.
18. At 6:00 hrs on the 3rd of May the CCNN on guard at the Questura disturbed three men attempting to blow up the Questura by means of a home-made bomb.
19. Unfortunately the would be saboteurs escaped, but the timely interference of the CCNN guard prevented them igniting the fuse of the bomb.
20. The bomb weighed 13 kilograms, had a fuse about three feet long and was filled with tritolo. The CCNN handed the bomb over to the Italian Army authorities in Bolzano.

1987

785017

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

- 8 -

21. There have been two instances of newspaper reports, which caused feelings to run rather high in political circles.
22. The first was the report in the "Polonien" that the Austrian Foreign Minister Dr. Gruber was presenting an alternative scheme to the Council of Foreign Ministers whereby the Austrian frontier would be brought down to the Pieter's Valley.
23. As can be well imagined there were divided opinions in both the Italian and Cyp camps on this report.
24. The next matter arose as a result of this first newspaper report.
25. On the 2nd June there appeared in the "Polonien" a telegram alleged to have been sent by Hans Egerter to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs in Paris, copy to the Italian Government in Rome, alleging that the new boundaries suggested by the Austrian Government would be an injustice to South-Tyrol.
26. On the same day, in the same paper there appeared what was alleged to be an interview that a representative of the "Alto Adige" had with Hans Egerter.
27. On the 3rd of June the telegram and the alleged interview were answered by the "Polonien".
28. The "Polonien" alleged that the telegram had never been sent by Hans Egerter and that the alleged interview was a complete fabrication.
29. Enquiries by this Office show that the telegram and the alleged interview which appeared in the "Alto Adige" on the 2nd of June were completely false. A special report on this matter has been submitted to Rome by CIO.
30. Attached marked "A" is a translation of the "Alto Adige" article of the 2nd of June and attached marked "B" is a translation of the "Polonien" article of the 3rd of June. Half way down the first page of the "Polonien" article is the telegram referred to.
31. The Hans Egerter referred to in the un-mentioned in the last monthly report under the heading "Political Situation", paragraph 4 B) on page 8.
32. During the summer of 1945 a group of South-Tyrolean of moderate political views endeavored to obtain the support of the local people, but at that time with little success. They were backed by Dr. Ferruccio Ferri, who at that time was the Prime Minister of Italy.

1732

785017

31. For some time nothing has been heard of the activities of this group, but the interest of Silvio Berlusconi has changed. For, in, Dr. Berlusconi and 18 men, known to control the same moderate members of the South-Tyrol movement with the object of getting closer collaboration with the Italian authorities.

32. This new political group is headed by "Director Kautzberger" (South-Tyrol movement) and they are endeavoring to incorporate the following political parties:

- a) Autiruler Sozialdemokratische Partei (South-Tyrol Social-Democratic Party)
- b) Deutsche Kommunistische Partei (German Communist Party - issued by Hans Reger - Alpine Circle - Bolzano)
- c) "Andreas Hofer Bund" (headed by Hans Reger - Bolzano)
- d) Italian League of Val Gardena (headed by Renato and Franz)
- e) All groups disbanding with VP.

33. Recently the programme of this new party is autonomous within the Italian State.

ITALY

1. The Court continues to operate - as far as can be ascertained, slowly but surely.

2. There is no doubt that the present situation of the Court needs assistance. The work of the Court is being held up as a result of the transfer of two of the judges, one to Rome and one to Venice, who have not been replaced.

ITALY - POINTS OF INTEREST

1. The present continues his difficult task and his efforts appear to meet with the approval of most of the elements in the district.

2. There is no doubt he has a difficult job which he expects to be doing fearlessly and with great energy.

3. The question of the escaped prisoners (South-Tyrol movement) from the Trento camp is causing some feeling in the district.

4. The new action is being dealt with by the Court on instructions from Rome. They are serving as many of them as possible but those arrested are languishing

173

1969

785017

In the local jails and it would appear some difficulties are being experienced to find transport to send them to the camp at Leterina (Arenzo). It is understood that the only reason they are being sent to Leterina is to receive their discharges and the local inhabitants whose relatives are being kept in the local prison for such a reason, do not appreciate it.

5. Col. Lucin has informed the undersigned that he will send them to Leterina as soon as possible, but in the meantime both his office and the office of the undersigned receive visits almost daily from relatives of the prisoners requesting that the prisoners be allowed on bail pending arrangements for their transport to be made.

6. The Bishop of Bresciana has interested himself in this fight but up-to-date with no success.

7. On Tuesday the 28th of May the undersigned attended a security meeting called by Major Raymond G.I.I. HQ, Northern Detachment, 3 District.

8. Nothing of importance emerged. It was a meeting to inform all Military Security Units and Allied Commission Public Safety Officers of the new set-up and draw attention to one or two matters of local interest.

9. During the month of June forty forged LMG notes were confiscated by the Customs at various banks. 27 notes of 1000 lire denomination; 11 notes of 500 lire denomination and 2 notes of 100 lire denomination.

10. Attached marked "A" is an article from the Alto Adige of the 28th of May showing the reconstruction work being carried out by the Italian Government in the area, and the amounts expended on each.

11. The question of frontier control is causing some difficulties bearing in mind that the question of frontier control, with the exception of the control of British and American Military Personnel, is a matter for the Italian Government.

12. Arrangements were made by the French in 1936 Government authorities in Innsbruck with 26 Swiss-Area Venice for parties of forty French Military personnel (Officers and families) to visit Venice each fortnight.

13. Accommodation is provided for them in the Allied

785017

Officers Rest Hotel on the lido where they remain for fourteen days.

14. As far as has been ascertained no arrangements were made with the Italian Government for this movement of French personnel into Italy and as a result the first party was held up for one hour and a half at the Brenner Pass. As a result of the intervention of this Office and the local PMS they were allowed to proceed.

15. The local PMS then made a report to G.S.I. 36 Sub-Area drawing their attention to the fact that all nationals other than British and American military personnel need the authority of the Italian Government before they can enter the Kingdom of Italy.

16. It is believed that this matter has been adjusted.

17. There is a reasonable supply of all foodstuffs in the Province, except flour and sugar.

18. During the month of May a ration of 200 grammes per person per day for the ordinary person was issued for three weeks. The remaining seven days was made up by issuing 200 grammes of maize flour per person per day for the ordinary person. The heavy labourer had the usual increase in each case.

19. As an indication of the shortage of flour and sugar the underlined is informed that these two commodities are practically unobtainable even on the black market.

W. J. HARR,
Major,
L.C.O. (P.S.)

Encl.

1723

1971

785017

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

"A"

QUESTURA OF BOLZANO

25 May 1946

SUBJECT: Subversive separatist movement in South-Tyrol.

REF: Gab/011340

TO : Major Hare, ASLO Bolzano.

On the 13th inst, the Head of P.S. Office in Merano was confidentially informed that a few days before two individuals, one ZIPPERLE Giuseppe and one DEKAS Antonio, had come from Austria, with the intention of organizing an armed movement in Alto Adige, sponsoring the annexation of the Region to Austria.

According to the informant, the two c/a individuals had in their possession about 2 million lire to be devoted for said movement, and had already carried out two sabotage activities, ie on the night-ten on line, and on the Prefettura of Bolzano, paying the actual executioners 50,000 lire for each attempt.

According to the informant, they intended committing further attempts.

The Head of the P.S. Office of Merano immediately investigated the matter and identified:

- 1) ZIPPERLE Giuseppe of Giuseppe and Klotner Maria, born in Merano on the 31/12/1924, resident in Merano, who opted for Germany;
 - 2) DEKAS Antonio of Giacomo and Imbrhofer Giuseppina, born in Merano in 1923, resident in Silandro.
- Moreover one Klotner Giovanni of late Giuseppe and Teresa Trognan, born in Merano on the 12/11/1924, resident in Merano, was identified as having had contact with the two c/a individuals.
- An arrest warrant was issued of the three c/a persons.

Zipperle was arrested on the 15 May 1946 in his home in Merano, Via Fratta 14. A search was made and various typewritten questionnaires were found, in which particulars were asked re. Military and Police Force in the area and names of persons capable of positions of command, of driving cars etc.

When interrogated as to the origin of said questionnaires, Zipperle stated that he had found them in May 1945 near his house, and had kept them out of curiosity. Concerning this the 1928 etc Austria, Zipperle stated he went on only one occasion for reasons of study.

Statements made by Zipperle by his parents and by one Florian Brta born in Merano on the 29/6/1928, typist, who was also temporarily arrested because it is alleged she typed several documents of which the contents is unknown, for Zipperle.

De Florian was released and subsequently re-arrested on the 19th inst. by Agents of IG, when found attempting to communicate with Zipperle, who was lodged in Merano jails, from a window in the Merano Prefettura which is opposite the jails.

Dekas and Klotner are still wanted.

Enclosed are five copies of questionnaire found in Zipperle's home.

SUBJECT: Subversive annexationist movement in South-Tyrol.

REF: Cab/011340

TO : Major Hare, AGO Bolzano.

On the 13th inst. the Head of P.S. Office in Merano was confidentially informed that a few days before two individuals, one ZIPPERRIE Giuseppe and one DEKAS Antonio, had come from Austria, with the intention of organizing an armed movement in Alto Adige, sponsoring the annexation of the Region to Austria.

According to the informant, the two a/m individuals had in their possession about 2 million lire to be devoted for said movement, and had already carried out two sabotage activities, ie on the high-tension line, and on the Prefettura of Bolzano, paying the actual execution 50,000 lire for each attempt.

According to the informant, they intended committing further attempts.

The Head of the P.S. Office of Merano immediately investigated the matter and identified:

- 1) ZIPPERRIE Giuseppe of Giuseppe and Helmer Maria, born in Merano on the 31/12/1924, resident in Merano, who opted for Germany;
- 2) DEKAS Antonio of Giacomo and Imberhofer Giuseppina, born in Merano in 1923, resident in Silandro.

Moreover one Klotner Giovanni of late Giuseppe and Teresa Trogmann, born in Merano on the 18/11/1924, resident in Merano, was identified as having had contact with the two a/m individuals.

An arrest warrant was issued of the three a/m persons.

Zipperle was arrested on the 15 May 1946 in his home in Merano, Via Fratte 14. A search was made and various typewritten questionnaires were found, in which particulars were asked re. Military and Police Force in the area and names of persons capable of positions of command, of driving cars etc.

When interrogated as to the origin of said questionnaires, Zipperle stated that he had found them in May 1945 near his house, and had kept them out of curiosity. Concerning this the 19th Inst. Austria, Zipperle stated he went on only one occasion for reasons of study.

Statements made by Zipperle by his parents and by one Florian Erta born in Merano on the 29/6/1928, typist, who was also temporarily arrested because it is alleged she typed several documents of which the contents is unknown, for Zipperle. De Florian was released and subsequently re-arrested on the 19th inst. by Agents of PS, when found attempting to communicate with Zipperle, who was lodged in Merano jails, from a window in the Merano Prefettura which is opposite the jails.

Dekas and Klotner are still wanted.

Enclosed are five copies of questionnaire found in Zipperle's home.

Signed: Questore Pinsuto

REGIA QUESTURA DI BOLZANO

Bolzano, 25 May 1946

011521/Gab.

Very Urgent - Confidential - Privatel

To : The Prefect of Bolzano

At 2000 hrs I have received the following telephone message from the P.S. Commissariato at Brennero:

"No. 2636 PS According to official information from French Military Authorities this morning a South-Tyrolean has been arrested crossing the frontier, belonging to this Province. The arrested South-Tyrolean has stated to be the leader of an annexationist South-Tyrolean movement. He declared furthermore that during the night or tomorrow, during the day, about 5000 South-Tyroleans armed with automatic weapons should cross the frontier on the south of Innsbruck in order to overwhelm the French Troops and proceed to an annexation of South-Tyrol to Austria after having occupied the country. According to French information, French Police arrested in Innsbruck about 30 persons in possession of fire-arms. I have disposed for control service. P.S. Commissario Pizal."

I have immediately arranged for a meeting in my Office and asked the Chief of Staff of the Italian Military Command in Bolzano, Col. Lurante, the Commanders of the Internal and External Groups of CGRR, the Commander of the local Finance Guards Section to attend the meeting. The situation has been carefully examined. The following arrangements have been made:

- 1) A Higher Liaison Officer has been sent to Brennero to get in touch with the various Police Officials and reports;
- 2) During the night a Compagnia of the Friuli Division will be stationed between Brennero and Vipiteno;
- 3) Tomorrow morning a battaglione will start from Siva with direction Bolzano.

As far as the Police Forces of this Province are concerned, the circular, copy of which attached, has been ~~1946~~ ¹⁹⁴⁷ taken.

Signed: Questore Pizauto.

COPY OF CIRCULAR

QUESTURA OF BOLZANO

25 May 1946

We have been informed about the possibility that armed bands from Austria should cross the frontier to-morrow night or during the day of to-morrow. Please organize special service for ~~thorough~~ control and inform as soon as possible the eventual necessities.

Signed: Questore Pizauto.

MEMORANDUM - 2 June 1946.-

INTERVIEW WITH ROBERTER, WIT IN THE LIGON "ANTHROPO"

HOPPER

Mr. Hans Roberter, interviewed by us about the League "Andreas Hofer" stated as follows:

What is the "Andreas-Hofer-League"?

Founded on 22 Nov. 1935 by a group of South-Tyrolean who did not opt for Germany. It had the aim to oppose the Hitler-Stalin agreement. Propaganda against the optation was carried out and when the term expired, the League helped those who had opted for Germany, in order to have their optation cancelled. After German occupation the movement transferred its activity to the military field of action, establishing contacts with Allied Military Authorities. Many of our comrades have been arrested, deported or killed. At the end of the war this activity stopped and the movement was disbanded. There remained, however, a group of about 70 men, called the "Roberter" Group, which collaborated to optation with good success.

Who is the founder of the League?

One can't speak of a founder of the League. The League was the result of the contemporary anti-Nazi initiative of several persons.

Who is the actual head of the League?

At a meeting in December 1942, the members elected Dr. Folger as head of the League. When Folger was arrested in September 1943 and sent to Dachau, the management of the League was handed over to Roberter. Dr. Folger, since his return from Dachau, works for RVP only.

What is the present scope of the League?

Today the task fate of our country will be decided. It seems it has already been decided. We won't neither cry, nor swear, nor shake our head and say: "We don't believe it," as Doctor Folger does. We are of the opinion that one has to face facts and events. We aim here one possibility only, without leaving the way open to other possibilities. RVP is polarizing around one aim that is getting more and more universal: neglecting the facts. I think the highest interest of our country is to partake at the political life, and an intelligent cooperation with the authorities for the solution of the most important problems.

In fact one day we could complain if the solutions, taken in our absence, don't correspond to our wishes. We South-Tyrolean are convinced democrats and think that understanding between democrats is always possible. As it is not correct to say that the South-Tyrolean are all affected of racism or it is not right to say that the Italian Govern-

1726

785017

HOFFER?

Dr. Hans Richter, interviewed by us about the League "Andreas Hoffer" stated as follows:

What is the "Andreas-Hofer-League"?

Founded on 22 Nov. 1939 by a group of South-Tyroleaners who did not opt for Germany; it had the aim to oppose the Hitler-Mussolini Regime. Propaganda against the options was carried out and when the term expired, the League helped those who had opted for Germany, in order to have their option cancelled. After German occupation the movement transferred its activity to the military field of action, establishing contacts with Allied Military Authorities. Many of our comrades have been arrested, deported or killed. At the end of the war this activity stopped and the movement was disbanded. There remained, however, a group of about 70 men, called the "Richter" Group, which collaborated to operation with good success.

Who is the founder of the League?

One can't speak of a founder of the League. The League was the result of the contemporary anti initiative of several persons.

Who is the actual head of the League?

At a meeting in December 1942, the members elected Dr. Volgger as head of the League. When Volgger was arrested in September 1943 and sent to Dachau, the management of the League was handed over to Richter. Dr. Volgger, since his return from Dachau, works for SVF only.

What is the present scope of the League?

Today the exact date of our country will be ascertained. It has already been decided. We want neither cry, nor swear, nor shake our head and say: "We don't believe it," as Doctor Volgger does. We are of the opinion that one has to face facts and events. SVF aims have one possibility only, without leaving the way open to other possibilities. SVF is polarizing around one aim that is getting more and more unreluctant the facts. I think the highest interest of our country is to undertake at the political life, and an intelligent cooperation with the authorities for the solution of the most important problems.

1726

In fact one day we could complain if the solutions, taken in our absence, don't correspond to our wishes. We South-Tyroleaners are convinced democrats and think that understanding between democrats is always possible. As it is not correct to say that the South-Tyroleaners are all affected of nationalism so it is not right to say that the Italian Government does not act democratically. Proof for Italian democracy is the foundation of the Andreas-Hofer-League, the

1976

785017

authorizing authorization given to SVP meetings and the Press liberty.

The most important problems, at the solution of which we have to cooperate, are the follows:

- 1) Autonomy with the greatest protection of the rights due to minorities.
 - 2) Settling of the question of the options, in the most generous way for those who in good faith have been betrayed, but with the exclusion of all profiteers.
 - 3) Energetic epuration of fascists and nazist elements.
- Of course these are not all problems, as our program includes many more from the release of POW's, which we ask to be effected as soon as possible, to the re-institution of the "Masse-Chines".
- According to the Austrian law, a farm, at the death of the owner, be not divided amongst all the children, but be handed over to the eldest son only - INTERHEREDITY-NOTE), to the reunion of the "Unterland" (Part of the Province of Bolzano passed to Trento Province after the 1st World-War I.N.) a.s.o.

1725

59

1978

785017

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

58

"D"

MEMORANDUM - 3 June 1946

HANS KORTER REVEALS A SUBSTITUTION FORGERY -
Mr. Kortor has never written nor sent his alleged telegram to the Substitutes - Also his alleged interview with the "Alto Adige" is feigned. What shall we think of a matter that is being defended with the means of the "Alto Adige" and of the "Alto Adige"?

The Italian newspaper "Alto Adige" is guilty of a procedure that can't be qualified, that is to say in the well-known methods used till now.

In its issue of the 2nd June the newspaper published at the first place under the heading "Union of Alto Adige and appeal to the Justice of the Conference". The League "Andreas Hofer" denounces the Austrian claims as being unfounded because of historical-geographical-ecological reasons; a telegram, which the head of the "Andreas Hofer Bund", Mr. Hans Kortor, is alleged to have sent to the Conference of the Substitutes in Paris.

Mr. Hans Kortor authorizes us to state categorically that this telegram has never been written by him nor sent. Therefore he forwarded the following telegram to the Substitutes of the Tyrol in Austria in Paris:

"The newspaper 'Alto Adige' publishes a telegram alleged to be signed by the head of the 'Andreas Hofer League', Hans Kortor, to Paris, which reads as follows:

The Andreas Hofer Bund, which has amongst his members South-Tyrolean of anti-fascist ideas, protests against the claims of Austria which threaten the union of the Region and, denouncing these claims as historically, geographically and economically unfounded, it appeals to the sense of justice and of responsibility of the Conference in order that such a tragic mistake be avoided.

As the head of the Andreas Hofer League I state that the above telegram is forged. The Andreas Hofer League in its quality as anti-fascist movement asks for auto-determination for the whole of South-Tyrol.

Signed: Hans Kortor 1724

To the Italian Prime Minister Mr. Kortor sent the following Telegram:

"The News-Paper 'Alto-Adige' publishes a telegram alleged to be signed by me and sent to Paris, copy forwarded to you, which is a protest against the Austrian claims. I state that this telegram is forged and the 'Andreas-Hofer' League asks that it ever did ask, self-determination for the whole of 'South-Tyrol'."

Signed: Hans Kortor.

But not enough with that! The "Alto-Adige", under the heading "Interview with Egarter, what is the Andres Hofer Bund?" has published alleged statements, which Mr. Egarter is supposed to have made to the news-paper. Mr. Egarter authorizes us to state as categorically as before that also this interview between him and a representative of the "Alto-Adige" has never taken place.

The truth is that Mr. Egarter has given a writ en reply to issue No. 127 of the "Alto-Adige", of the 30th May 1946, referring to the four questions put to him re. the "Andres-Hofer" League. The contents of this reply don't correspond to the published text of the interview. According to Mr. Egarter's statement it is no matter of alteration but of a real falsehood.

1723

1979

785017

56

" E "

ALTO ADIGE - 21 May 1946

Public Works financed by the Government in Alto Adige.

Following public works in Bolzano Province are being to be financed by the Italian Government:

Reconstruction of the Bolzano Cathedral	Lira 50,000,000
Repairs to the Communal Aqueduct Bolzano	" 19,000,000
Repairs to Adige embankments	" 1,000,000
Reconstruction of Bolzano Gar-Works	" 13,000,000
Reconstruction of Government House in Bolzano	" 5,000,000
Clearing away of stones and rubble in bombed areas	" 12,000,000
Repairs to Hospital in Bolzano	" 19,000,000

Public Works of which financing has already been approved are as follows:

Work on hydraulic plants	Lira 14,000,000
Work on roads	" 10,000,000
Work on reconstruction	" 50,000,000
Clearing of bombed areas	" 21,000,000

Moreover the State will pay 50 % of expenses incurred by private enterprise in reconstruction of bombed houses. In this field, applications for 323 million lire have been submitted, of which 31 million have been already accorded.

172

1980

785017

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COM ION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

55

Ref: 047/10

6 June 1946

TO : CLO Bolzano.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

76

1. Reference your monthly Report for April para 1 (d). The Director, Civil Affairs Section, makes the following observations:

2. "I made enquiry of the Ministry upon having sight of the CLO's report. The 'Optim Committee' and the 'Autonomy Commission' referred to in Col. Miller's report are not official bodies established by the Italian Government but are thought by the Ministry of Interior to be unofficial local committees set up by the Acting Prefect, Dott. INCONTRI to advise him and to work out proposals that would be locally accepted. The Ministry states that the Prefect is expected to visit here shortly and lay all these proposals before the Italian Government, who will then take a decision.

In the meantime the Italian Government has passed no decree either on the citizenship question or on autonomy and will not, I understand, take any action until receiving the Prefect's full report. It seems improbable that anything will happen until after the elections."

3. As regards the question of undesirable aliens, (page 4 para 9 Major Hare's report) this is a problem for the Italian Government which now has almost Sovereign Rights as regards registration and disposal of aliens. It is intended that the 12 Camp in Bolzano shall be closed on the departure of the last German accommodated therein. No assistance beyond handing over the Camp premises and possibly some equipment can be envisaged at the moment.

By Command of Rear Admiral Storer W. HIND-SMITH

Brig. Gen.
Executive Commissioner.

1721

See m 54

See F-79

PA 8/6

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

Ref : 535/EC

29 May 1946

SUBJECT: Political Report - Bolzano.

TO : Polad "A" HQ Allied Commission
Polad "B" " " "

The following is an extract from a report received from the
GLO Bolzano Province, and forwarded to you for information.

"POLITICAL SITUATION"

1. Basically the political situation remains the same, and there was very little general activity on either side, until about the last ten days of April, when it was obvious that the question of the Alto Adige was going to be discussed, and its future most probably decided, at the Council of Foreign Ministers in Paris, which commenced a new session within recent days.
2. Both parties threw bricks at each other through their party newspapers - Italian "Alto Adige", South-Tyrolean "Dolomiten". In many cases both sides lost any appreciation of the truth and the most insignificant incidents were distorted and incorrectly reported.
3. In view of the recent decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers that the Province of Bolzano, with the exception of certain minor frontier adjustments, will remain in the framework of the Italian State, particulars of the various Party Propaganda during the month of April will not be dealt with in detail in this report, but certain outstanding instances follow:
 - a) On the 5th April 1946, with the permission of the Questura of Bolzano, a demonstration by the Suedtiroler Volkspartei was held at Brunico.

This resulted in exchange of blows and some shots at several places in the Pusteria Valley (Pustertal) during the day, and unfortunately one death occurred. 172

The death was that of a man of 35 years of age, and the post-mortem revealed that his death was due to natural causes. There were no marks of violence on the body and there is no doubt that he died as the result of over-excitement, during one of the fracas.

See in 48 (H)
Copy To: 847/EC

1982

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

785017

- 2 -

It is felt that the Italian elements in the Province were not without bias in this matter.

For some time now there has been a strong rumour in the Province amongst the Italian elements that the Province of Bolzano is going to remain within the framework of the Italian State, but that there would be certain minor adjustments in the vicinity of S. Candido.

It would appear from this report that the inhabitants of the S. Candido district do not want to leave the framework of the Italian State.

In addition to this newspaper article there appeared on the walls of buildings in the S. Candido area notices written in German to the same effect.

This so incensed the local inhabitants especially the more politically-minded that the demonstration on the 5th April was held.

The demonstration commenced in Brunico at 1100 hrs and lasted until about 1300 hrs, during which time the local SVP leaders made speeches, demanding the return of the South-Tyrol to Austria. They in fact made five points which they set out in a motion which was presented to the Prefect.

The fourth point in the motion dealing with Senator Tolomei is rather like climbing a mountain before you reach it, as this man is not in the area, and it is understood he does not intend to return; but at all SVP public meetings Tolomei comes in for his full share of abuse.

The story of Tolomei is that he was, during the early part of the Fascist Regime, the head of the "Centro Studi Alto Adige", the duty of which was to Italianise the Alto Adige after it had been given to Italy in 1919.

When the Germans were in charge of the Alto Adige he was sent to Dachau Concentration Camp for the work he had done in Italianising Alto Adige.

Tolomei is now living in Rome and it would appear quite happy to remain there. As far as is known in this Office, there are no suggestions that Tolomei ever abused the position he held under the Fascists.

1715

- 3 -

51

Although the official demonstration ended about 1300 hrs there were fights up and down the Valley until after midnight, as the demonstrators were returning home and encountering Italians on the way. Several people were hurt but none seriously. The most seriously injured was the Maresciallo of CC.RR. of Monguelfo who was kicked in the groin by a South-Tyrolean - since arrested - whilst he, the Maresciallo of CC.RR., was endeavouring to stop a group of South-Tyroleans attacking one Italian.

- b) The Andreas Hofer League has taken a new lease of life in recent days, and appears to have some very constructive ideas.

The head of the League is Hans Egarter who is very pro-Ally and was the chief of the South-Tyrolean underground movement during the war. This was not a very large movement but it is known that they did some excellent work.

The main theme-song of the League at the present moment is that all Fascist and Nazi elements be cleared from the area - in whatever capacity they may be - before there is any talk of party-politics.

Egarter is a South-Tyrolean and has sentimental attachment to Austria. It would be true to say that Egarter would prefer to see South-Tyrol annexed to Austria, but he is not fanatical about this, and is quite prepared to abide by any decision that is made by the Council of Foreign Ministers.

The propaganda that has been put out by the League whilst stressing the importance of first ridding the area of the Fascists and Nazis is rather ambiguous as to its ultimate objects. This may well have been done on purpose to enable Egarter to support the side that wins and as a result will not be able to be termed a "turn-coat".

The local reaction to this propaganda at the moment is that neither the South-Tyroleans nor the Italians trust Egarter. He has undoubtedly much to learn in the gentle art of propaganda, as one big mistake he made was to have his propaganda printed only in the German language, when his avowed main object at the moment is to be politically impartial, until the Fascists and the Nazis in the area have been eliminated.

- c) A new political party has been formed, known as the Partito Social-Democratico Sud-Tirolese, the president of which is Lorenzo Unterkircher.

- 4 -

Unterkircher is 65 years of age, of South Tyrolean extraction and took a commercial degree at the Accademia Commerciale Superiore, Trento. He is reported to be a well-balanced person and one of the more moderate members of the Bolzano Socialist Party. He opted for Italy in 1939 and his political activities have always been anti-fascist and anti-nazi.

The Party is composed of members that have broken away from the Italian Socialist Party, and their main object would appear to be local autonomy within the framework of the Italian State.

5. The reaction of the South-Tyrolean^{uo} ~~are~~ the results of the announcement of the meeting of the Foreign Ministers that the South-Tyrol shall remain within the framework of the Italian State, is that they cannot bring themselves to believe it, and what their real reaction will be when they fully appreciate the significance of the decisions is not known.
6. It is felt that generally speaking there is no fear of violence being resorted to in a large scale, but it is known that there are a few extremists who will resort to some form of violence, if given the opportunity.
7. Whilst compiling this report, it has been reported that during the night of the 2nd - 3rd of May 1946, a bomb weighing about 12 Kilos was found at the Prefettura, Bolzano. A more detailed report on this will be submitted when the full facts come at hand.
8. If left alone, it is believed that the South-Tyrolean^{uo} will accept the decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers in London quite calmly, but they may be infected, I repeat may, by the events in Austria.
9. It has been reported to this Office, that when it was heard in Austria of the decision of the Foreign Ministers respecting Alto Adige, a general strike was declared on the 2nd May. In Innsbruck the French Military Government ordered a curfew commencing at 2100 hrs on the 2nd May, and armoured cars patrolled the streets. It is also reported that during the night of the 1/2nd May the Church bells of Innsbruck tolled until 0300 hrs. These reports were received from the Brigade 717 Frontier control and no further steps have been taken to confirm them."

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE,

13/5 Mc M

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

CONFIDENTIAL

TO : HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, CMF.

DATE: 5 May 1946.
SWM/gd.

MAY 9 1946

1. GENERAL.

- a) On the surface the decision from Paris has been calmly accepted by the South Tyrolians, but there are indications of resentment which, I believe, will increase and will be accompanied by outbreaks of violence.
- b) Many thousands of South Tyrolians in full dress held a meeting of protest yesterday at Castel Siegmundskron. The meeting was orderly and after speeches were finished the various contingents marched away quietly.

- c) The Option Commission has submitted its recommendations to the Prefect to-day. The members agree that Italian citizenship should be granted to those optants who

- (I) remained in the Province and did not receive emigration papers
- (II) remained in the country but did receive emigration papers

(certain categories, still under discussion, to be excluded from Italian citizenship)

The Commission has recommended that certain optants now in Germany should be allowed to return to the Province.

- d) The Autonomy Commission has submitted its recommendations to the Prefect who hopes shortly to forward his draft proposals to Rome with the object of publishing a decree if possible during the month of May.
- e) A Commission under the Judge Dell'AIRA appointed to draw up judiciary procedure in German, has submitted a report to the Prefect. ✓

1

ALLIED COMMISSION
OF DE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICE
BOLZANO

CONFIDENTIAL

REF: ACIO/BZ/36.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - April 1946.

TO : HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, CMF.

DATE 5 May 1946.
SWM/gq.

MAY 9 1946

1. GENERAL.

a) On the surface the decision from Paris has been calmly accepted by the South Tyrolians, but there are indications of resentment which, I believe, will increase and will be accompanied by outbreaks of violence.

b) Many thousands of South Tyrolians in full dress held a meeting of protest yesterday at Castel Siegmundskron. The meeting was orderly and after speeches were finished the various contingents marched away quietly.

c) The Option Commission has submitted its recommendations to the Prefect to-day. The members agree that Italian citizenship should be granted to those optants who

- (I) remained in the Province and did not receive emigration papers
- (II) remained in the country but did receive emigration papers

(certain categories, still under discussion, to be excluded from Italian citizenship)

The Commission has recommended that certain optants now in Germany should be allowed to return to the Province.

d) The Autonomy Commission has submitted its recommendations to the Prefect who hopes shortly to forward his draft proposals to Rome with the object of publishing a decree if possible during the month of May.

e) A Commission under the Judge Dell'AIRA appointed to draw up judiciary procedure in German, has submitted a report to the Prefect.

ECIO/BZ/36

- 1- EC
- 1- CA Sec
- 1- Econ Sec
- 1- PR Sec
- 1- For Rep.
- 1- Hq. Sec
- 1- Working copy
- (1- Hq. Sec)

See Min- 47.7.48

785017

-2-

- f) On the 25th of April Liberation day was celebrated quietly throughout the Province.
- g) On the 5th of April the South Tyrol Party held a meeting at Brunico during which there were slight incidents. One South Tyrolian died from over-excitement.
- h) A pro-Italian movement led by the well-known Hans EGARTNER has been formed with the object of expelling Nazis from the Province. It intends to publish a local German newspaper in its support.

i) As already reported some 20 000 Italian immigrants have come to Bolzano since May 1945. The following figures obtained from the Commune of WELSBERG (Val Pusteria) where there are 810 Tyrolians and 242 Italians, might be of interest:

	Immigrants	Family
CCRR & GGFF	50	45
Rlwy workers	16	32
Commune officials	7	20
Teachers	3	8
Forestry officials	4	10
Lawyers	3	15
Minor Civil Servants	7	14
Merchants	2	-
Loafers	6	-
	<u>98</u>	<u>144</u>

The figures show that 98 immigrants were accompanied by 144 relatives.

- j) A home-made bomb weighing some 12 kg was placed in the Prefettura during the night of the 2nd/3rd of May. The culprits were, however, disturbed before the fuse could be lighted. They took to their heels and escaped.
- k) The Transit-Hotel (Hotel Centrale) closed on the 10th of April. Arrangements have, however, been made with the manager of the Greif-Hotel to accommodate a few officers at a special rate of 700 Lire a day. For A/C officers a guest room is available in the A/C officers mess.
- l) The RUK-files are packed ready for despatch to Rome as soon as rail transport is available. 767 cases of Gramophone records are to be despatched to the Army Broadcasting Station in Milan. There are some 14-20 complete sets of music. The metal matrices (or negatives) from which the above records were made, are contained in 21 separate cases. Owing to their cultural and commercial value special disposal instructions for these matrices have been requested.

-3-

- f) On the 25th of April Liberation day was celebrated quietly throughout the Province.
- g) On the 5th of April the South Tyrol Party held a meeting at Brunico during which there were slight incidents. One South Tyrolian died from over-excitement.!!
- h) A pro-Italian movement led by the well-known Hans EGARTHER has been formed with the object of expelling Nazis from the Province. It intends to publish a local German newspaper in its support.

i) As already reported some 20 000 Italian immigrants have come to Bolzano since May 1945. The following figures obtained from the Commune of WELSBURG (Val Pusteria) where there are 810 Tyrolians and 242 Italians, might be of interest:

Immigrants	Family
CCRR & GGFF	45
Rlwy workers	32
Commune officials	20
Teachers	8
Forestry officials	10
Lawyers	15
Minor Civil Servants	14
Merchants	-
Loafers	-
<u>98</u>	<u>144</u>

The figures show that 98 immigrants were accompanied by 144 relatives.

- j) A home-made bomb weighing some 12 kg was placed in the Prefettura during the night of the 2nd/3rd of May. The culprits were, however, disturbed before the fuse could be lighted. They took to their heels and escaped.
- k) The Transit-Hotel (Hotel Centrale) closed on the 10th 5 of April. Arrangements have, however, been made with the manager of the Greif-Hotel to accommodate a few officers at a special rate of 700 Lire a day. For A/C officers a guest room is available in the A/C officers mess.
- l) The RUK-files are packed ready for despatch to Rome as soon as rail transport is available. 767 cases of Gramophone records are to be despatched to the Army Broadcasting Station in Milan. There are some 14-20 complete sets of music. The metal matrices (or negatives) from which the above records were made, are contained in 21 separate cases. Owing to their cultural and commercial value special disposal instructions for these matrices have been requested.

-3-

m) General CADORNA, Chief of Staff of the Italian Army, visited Bolzano on the 26th of April. Military parades were held and General NEGRONI gave a dinner in his honour.

n) Recommendations have been made for the extension of the Air Service to Bolzano in which the Italian Army and the Prefect join.

2. SECURITY.

a) Security throughout the Province is satisfactory.

b) The CCRR are working well and apart from two murders there has been little crime.

c) I attach a report from the PSO which shows the situation in detail. (One original for Executive Commissioner only).

d) Frontier control has not been satisfactory during the month as the French Authorities have been rather light-hearted in the issue of passes into Italy.

I have taken up this matter with Col. ANDRIEU, head of French Security, who has again promised to abide by the regulations.

The Prefect visited Innsbruck to discuss this matter and it is hoped this control will now be more satisfactory.

3. ECONOMIC.

Following a visit to Rome by the Chamber of Commerce of Bolzano, decisions were obtained to supply surplus food stuffs to the British Army in Austria. This will be done. It is understood the Agriculture & Food Sub-Commission is trying to obtain from AFHQ the same facilities for American Troops who meanwhile are excluded from this arrangement.

4. FOOD.

a) Grain and flour only to the middle of May. This is being rectified by Lt. Col. MORLEY-FLETCHER, the provincial UNRRA-representative, who has borrowed grain from other Provinces to make up the deficiency in Bolzano.

(b) Apart from this the food situation throughout the Province is most satisfactory.

-4-

5. AGRICULTURE.

- a) Fertilizers and insecticides are urgently required.
- b) The Italian Army Commission formed to reassess the value of horses handed over to farmers and others during the early days of the occupation has finished its work. There have been complaints regarding the assessment as was to be expected.
- c) The recent rains were badly needed and prospects for the forthcoming fruit crop and harvest are satisfactory.

6. LABOUR.

- a) 2,500 unemployed are shown in April as compared to 2000 in March.

- b) Reports have been received that public appointments are filled by Italians to the detriment of the South Tyrolians. The following list shows the difference of balance as in May 1945 and April 1946:

Commune of Bressanone

	<u>I May 1945</u>		<u>I April 1946</u>	
	S.Tyrolians	Italians	S.Tyrolians	Italians
Presidium	5	2	2	3
Chancellery	3	2	2	2
Records Office	2	1	1	5
Registry Office	1	1	1	1
Licences Office	1	-	1	1
Rationing Office	10	8	7	8
Voting	-	-	2	2
Communal Police	-	3	1	9
Servants & Cleaners	2	3	1	3
Forestry Office	3	-	3	-
Building Dept	3	-	1	1
Housing Dept	2	-	1	1
Technical Dept	6	18	10	17
	38	38	33	62

7. PUBLIC HEALTH.

- a) General health is satisfactory.
- b) A wagon full with medicines has arrived yesterday in Bolzano. The Medico Provinciale expects an UNRRA-officer to come and supervise the distribution.

-5-

8. DISPLACED PERSONS.

a) Displaced Persons from Camp No.23 have been moved into the Luigi Cadorna - Caserma Bolzano. Authority to repatriate them is urgently awaited and to-day their numbers are :

814	Germans
27	Austrians
38	Others

879.

b) Maj.Gen. HELBIG of the Italian Red Cross repatriated some 47 families to Germany in the Red Cross train which left Meran on the 26th of April. These families were selected by the Medical Officers on the grounds that further detention was detrimental to their health.

9. PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

- a) Conditions in hydro-electric works are satisfactory.
- b) There is, however, a shortage of raw material in the Industrial Zone with the result that full output cannot be effected.

S.W. Miller

S.W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO.

1 encl. (for Ex. Commissioner only)

1712

1992

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

ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICE
BOLZANO

REF:

ACLO/BZ/108/10.

DATE: 3 May 1946

WRH/mab

SUBJECT: Public Safety Monthly Report.

TO : C.L.O., Bolzano.

CARABINIERI

1. During the past month the CC.RR. have been kept very busy endeavouring to check clandestine movement of civilians who pass through this Province on their way to and from the Frontier.

2. These people enter Italy illegally through the numerous mountain Passes and carry on black market trade between Italy, Austria and Germany. This illegal entry into the Kingdom of Italy is being made easier as the snow disappears from the passes.

3. For some months now there have been eight road-blocks in the Province most of them of the bar-across-the-road type.

4. During the month of April the CC.RR. have made all these eight road-blocks much more effective by replacing the bars with barrels which are filled with either earth or water. This has resulted in a tightening up of road control in the Province.

5. Although not yet put into effect the undersigned understands that the manning of these road-blocks will, **1711** in the near future, be shared by the CC.RR., Questura and Guardia Finanza. At the present time the manning of the road block at Ponte Gardena is shared by the CC.RR. and Guardia Finanza, and good results have been achieved.

6. It is quite obvious that the bulk of the work of administering the CC.RR. falls on the shoulders of the Legion Commander Col. Luca, the reason for this being the number of poor type of officer he has serving with him.

7. As an example of the detailed administration

- 2 -

that has to be carried out by Col. Luca, the undersigned has personal knowledge of Col. Luca's visit during the night to the road blocks mentioned above, which should be entirely unnecessary for a man in his position if his Officers were doing their work properly. In fairness to the CC.RR. Officers the undersigned would add that they are not all poor types - in fact a number of them are very efficient and energetic police-officers, but there are not sufficient of these to make Col. Luca's position what it should be.

8. The undersigned understands from discreet enquiries made that the trouble with most of the CC.RR. Officers in the area is due to two things. One, their financial position, which makes it very difficult for them to make ends meet owing to the high cost of living. Two, the uncertainty of a number of them as to their future, owing to the fact they have not yet been cleared by the CC.RR. Epuration Committee in Rome, bearing in mind that many of them served under the Germans for long periods.

9. The motor-cycles mentioned in the last monthly report are at last about to materialize, thanks to the persistent intervention of Col. S.W. Miller, CIO Bolzano, with no. 2 District.

10. The CC.RR. of Bolzano Province have been allocated 20 motor-cycles which they are to collect from Modena immediately. These motor-cycles will be used by out-lying casermas.

11. No success has been reported from the drive that was instituted with the cooperation of CEM to obtain transport from that being illegally used on the high-way, as mentioned in my last monthly report.

12. Generally speaking the morale of the CC.RR. is good and their conduct in the case of political disturbances - fortunately few - has been exemplary. There is no doubt that the tactful manner in which the CC.RR. handled the situation at Brunico on the 5 April 1946, prevented a very ugly situation developing.

1710

13. The Brunico incident will be dealt with more fully later in this report.

14. The CC.RR. reports of incidents are unbiased and generally speaking, a more or less true picture of what happened can be obtained from them. See attached A) and B) for an example of this.

- 3 -

39

QUESTURA

1. The new Questore, Doct. Pizzuto Antonio, continues with his good work, but his task has'nt been made any more easy by the fact that during the month of April he moved his Head Quarters to the Hotel Europa, which has been requisitioned by the Italian Authorities for the Questura.

2. This was a major operation and a certain amount of dislocation of the Questura organization resulted. However, work continued to the best of their ability.

3. The new Questore, although a Sicilian, is making a determined effort to understand the mentality of the two ethnical groups in the Province, but with his Sicilian back-ground this is not too easy. When he first arrived, he was inclined to pay too much attention to the "voce del popolo".

4. The undersigned thinks it's fair to say that the Questore is settling down, and not taking so much notice of the "Voce del Popolo" as he did. He endeavoured quite honestly to be co-operative with all the other Police-Agencies who the undersigned believes are beginning to appreciate him as a good trier and collaborator.

5. The question of undesirable aliens in the Province is still disturbing the Questore - and rightly so. The position has been put very clearly to Rome by Col. S.W. Miller, CIO, but to date no result.

6. The genuine displaced person is adequately cared for by the D.P.R.S.C., but no effort appears to have been made to assist the Italian Government to deal with the undesirable alien.

1703

7. Within the last few days the Questore sent some thirty persons, coming under the heading "undesirable aliens" to 23 D.P.Camp, Bolzano. The Camp Commandant, Capt. Dawson (B), who is most cooperative in such matters, could only accept German and Austrian citizens, and make sure that they eventually returned to their native lands. Of the

- 4 -

thirty people ten were various nationalities such as Poles, Serbs, Yugoslavs etc, who Capt. Dawson could have given a railway ticket to the appropriate D.P.Camp in Italy dealing with the particular nationality concerned, but this would have in fact meant giving them their liberty as they would have travelled unescorted, and in any case the D.P.Camps are not a proper channel for deporting undesirable aliens.

8. According to the Questore, under existing Italian law, such persons, unless a definite charge is preferred against them, cannot be detained in an Italian prison for longer than 20 days.

9. The question of undesirable aliens in this Province, owing to it's geographical position, is one of great concern to the Italian Authorities, and the undersigned submits that the Allied Authorities give serious consideration as to what assistance can be rendered to the Italian Authorities in this matter.

FINANCE GUARDS

1. There are two companies of Finance Guards in the Province, Circolo di Bolzano and Circolo di Brunico. Bearing in mind they have been only recently re-organized since their disbandment by the Germans, they are doing a good job of work.

2. They complain of lack of equipment and small arms, which I have explained to their Commanding Officer can only be obtained through Italian Government Channels.

3. If this Police Agency is to be really effective, some consideration must be given by the Italian Authorities to their demands for equipment and small arms. Bearing in mind their work takes them to the frontier, and that they do most of their duties in mountainous areas it is hardly reasonable to expect them to carry out their duties when they are not properly clothed or armed.

4. They also report that their transport situation is such that they are practically immobilised. When the local Commanders have reported this to the undersigned, it has been pointed out to them that with a

1996

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

785017

- 5 -

37

little energy and initiative they should be able to rectify their transport situation themselves by taking possession of cars that are undoubtedly being illegally used, and/or, finding some of the cars that have been hidden away on the farms. It was pointed out that during 1946 at least three motor-cars in excellent condition which had not been denounced had been found by Allied Authorities hidden under haystacks in the Province.

GUARDIE FORESTALI

1. A great deal of work has been put in by General Sala in an effort to re-organize the Guardia Forestali. He has met with a great deal of opposition from the German-speaking population, who demand the return of the men who took the place of the Forest-Guards during German occupation.

2. Gen. Sala has been most impartial in these matters, and when reorganizing the Guardia Forestali, which were disbanded by the Germans, he retained as many of the German-speaking personnel as he was satisfied would pass an Epuration Committee. As far as is known, this system has stood the test, but has undoubtedly made many enemies locally for Gen. Sala.

3. Gen. Sala reported to this Office a few days ago that he had been instructed from Rome to retire on pension, and no explanation was given for this action. He was given 15 days to appeal against the order, which he did, but the result is not yet known.

CRIME SITUATION

1. There has been a slight deterioration in the Crime situation during the month of April.

2. There were two murders, one attempted murder and seven armed robberies. Apparently one of the murders and one of the attempted murders were committed by four Italian soldiers of the Folgore Division, on leave in this area from Florence.

3. One of the armed robberies resulted in the

1707

- 6 -

38

loss of 1.500.000 lire, and another of the armed robberies was committed by two German POWs who have not yet been traced.

* POLITICAL SITUATION

1. Basically the political situation remains the same, and there was very little general activity on either side, until about the last ten days of April, when it was obvious that the question of the Alto Adige was going to be discussed, and its future most probably decided, at the Council of Foreign Ministers in Paris, which commenced a new session within recent days.

2. Both parties threw bricks at each other through their party newspapers - Italian "Alto Adige", South-Tyrolean "Dolomiten". In many cases both sides lost any appreciation of the truth and the most insignificant incidents were distorted and incorrectly reported.

3. In view of the recent decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers that the Province of Bolzano, with the exception of certain minor frontier adjustments, will remain in the framework of the Italian State, particulars of the various Party Propaganda during the month of April will not be dealt with in detail in this report, but certain outstanding instances follow:

4. a) On the 5th April 1946, with the permission of the Questura of Bolzano, a demonstration by the Südtiroler Volkspartei was held at Brunico.

This resulted in exchange of blows and some shots at several places in the Pusteria Valley (Pusterthal) during the day, and unfortunately one death occurred. 1706

The death was that of a man of 35 years of age, and the post-mortem revealed that his death was due to natural causes. There were no marks of violence on the body and there is no doubt that he died as the result of over-excitement, during one of the fracas.

- 7 -

35

The undersigned feels that the Italian elements in the Province were not without blame in this matter.

For some time now there has been a strong rumor in the Province amongst the Italian elements that the Province of Bolzano is going to remain within the framework of the Italian State, but that there would be certain minor frontier adjustments in the vicinity of S. Candido. As a result, on the 1st of April the Italian newspaper Alto Adige printed a report alleged to have come from S.Candido area - copy attached marked C).

It would appear from this report that the inhabitants of the S.Candido district do not want to leave the framework of the Italian State.

In addition to this newspaper article there appeared on the walls of buildings in the S.Candido area notices written in German to the same effect.

This so incensed the local inhabitants especially the more politically-minded that the demonstration on the 5th April was held.

The demonstration commenced in Brunico at 1100 hrs and lasted until about 1300 hrs, during which time the local SVP leaders made speeches, demanding the return of the South-Tyrol to Austria. They in fact made five points which they set out in a motion which was presented to the Prefect, copy of which is attached, marked D).

The fourth point in the attached motion marked D) dealing with Senator Tolomei is rather like climbing a mountain before you reach it, as this man is not in the area, and the undersigned understands he does not intend to return; but all SVP public meetings Tolomei comes in for his full share of abuse. 1705

The story of Tolomei is that he was, during the early part of the Fascist Regime, the head of the "Centro Studi Alto Adige",

785017

- 8 -

34 ¹⁰

the duty of which was to Italianize the Alto Adige after it had been given to Italy in 1919.

When the Germans were in charge of the Alto Adige he was sent to Dachau Concentration Camp for the work he had done in Italianizing Alto Adige.

Tolomei is now living in Rome and it would appear is quite happy to remain there. As far as is known in this Office, there are no suggestions that Tolomei ever abused the position he held under the Fascists.

Although the official demonstration ended about 1300 hrs there were fights up and down the valley until after midnight, as the demonstrators were returning home and encountering Italians on the way. Several people were hurt, but none seriously. The most seriously injured was the Maresciallo of CC.RR. of Monguelfo who was kicked in the groin by a South-Tyrolean - since arrested - whilst he, the Maresciallo of CC.RR., was endeavouring to stop a group of South-Tyroleans attacking one Italian.

- b) The Andreas Hofer League has taken a new lease of life in recent days, and appears to have some very constructive ideas.

The Head of the League is Hans Egarter who is very pro-Ally and was the chief of the South-Tyrolean underground movement during the war. This was not a very large movement but it is within the knowledge of the undersigned that they did some excellent work.

The main theme-song of the League at the present moment is that all Fascist and Nazi elements be cleared from the arena - in whatever capacity they may be - before there is any talk of party-politics.

1704

Egarter is a South-Tyrolean and has sentimental attachment to Austria. The undersigned feels it would be true to say that Egarter would prefer to see South-Tyrol annexed to Austria, but he is not fanatical about this,

- 9 -

33

and is quite prepared to abide by any decision that is made by the Council of Foreign Ministers.

The propaganda that has been put out by the League, whilst stressing the importance of first ridding the area of the Fascists, and Nazis is rather ambiguous as to its ultimate objects. This may well have been done on purpose to enable Egarter to support the side that wins and as a result will not be able to be a "turn-coat".

The local reaction to this propaganda at the moment is that neither the South-Tyrolean nor the Italians trust Egarter. He has undoubtedly much to learn in the gentle art of propaganda, as one big mistake he made was to have his propaganda printed only in the German language, when his avowed main object at the moment is to be politically impartial, until the Fascists and the Nazis in the area have been eliminated.

- c) A new political party has been formed, known as the Partito Social-Democratico Sud-Tirolese, the president of which is Lorenzo Unterkircher.

Unterkircher is 63 years of age, of South-Tyrolean extraction and took a commercial degree at the Accademia Commerciale Superiore, Trento. He is reported to be a well-balanced person and one of the more moderate members of the Bolzano Socialist Party. He opted for Italy in 1939 and his political activities have always been anti-fascist and anti-nazi.

Attached, marked E), is a translation of the first propaganda notice set out by this new party. It will be seen from this notice that the Party is composed of members that have broken away from the Italian Socialist Party, and their main object would appear to be local autonomy within the framework of the Italian State.

1703

- 10 -

32

5. The reaction of the South-Tyroleans as the results of the announcement of the meeting of the Foreign Ministers that the South-Tyrol shall remain within the framework of the Italian State, is that they cannot bring themselves to believe it, and what their real reaction will be when they fully appreciate the significance of the decision is not known.

6. The undersigned feels that generally speaking there is no fear of violence being resorted to in a large scale, but it is known that there are a few extremists who will resort to some form of violence, if given the opportunity.

7. Whilst compiling this report, it has been reported to the undersigned that during the night of the 2nd - 3rd of May 1946, a bomb weighing about 12 Kilos was found at the Prefettura, Bolzano. A more detailed report on this will be submitted when the full facts come to hand.

8. If left alone, the undersigned feels that the South-Tyroleans will accept the decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers in London quite calmly, but they may be infected, I repeat may, by the events in Austria.

9. It has been reported to this Office, that when it was heard in Austria of the decision of the Foreign Ministers respecting Alto Adige, a general strike was declared on the 2nd May. In Innsbruck the French Military Government ordered a curfew commencing at 2100 hrs on the 2nd May, and armoured cars patrolled the streets. It is also reported that during the night of the 1/2nd May the Church bells of Innsbruck tolled until 0300 hrs. These reports were received from the Brenner Frontier control and no further steps have been taken to confirm them.

LEGAL

1702

1701

1. The situation of the Courts in the Province is causing some concern as they are very much in arrears with their work.

2. Fortunately they have cleared up all the cases in which Allied personnel or Allied property was involved, but the Procuratore del Regno, Dott. dell'Antonio,

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

- 11 -

31 9

has 359 denunciations awaiting investigation by him, before they can be taken before the Courts.

3. The Procuratore del Regno has two main difficulties. One is shortage of staff. There should be himself and three assistants, whereas there is only himself and one assistant. The second is the bi-lingual problem - only the Procuratore del Regno can speak Italian and German, his assistant only Italian.

4. The Corte Straordinaria d'Assise is moving forwards slowly but surely, with very little public interest being shown in the proceedings.

5. It commenced it's work at the end of July 1945 and up to date has dealt with 43 cases. There are ten cases ready for trial, but a further 180 cases are awaiting investigation.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

1. The Italian Authorities are gradually finding their feet in the question of frontier-control, and overcoming the difficulties mentioned in the last Monthly Report.

2. The illegal export of wine spirits food etc by Allied personnel has now ceased and the question of French Military from Innsbruck entering the area is also under control. Only five French Military Personnel are allowed to enter Italy each morning, and five each afternoon. It is understood that those numbers are irrespective of military rank.

3. It is reported by the local FSS that the work of the French Security Officer in Merano is finished and that his departure is imminent.

4. During the month of April 27 forged AMG one thousand lire notes; 13 forged AMG 500 lire notes and two forged AMG 100 lire notes were taken possession of by the Questura. **1701**

W.R. Hare
W.R. HARE,
Major,
I.C. (P.S.)

Encl.

ALTO ADIGE - 30 April 1946

Fascist provocations!

On Sunday, 28 April, the Communist Party organized in Merano, with authorization of PS, a demonstration in Piazza della Rena. Several thousand persons were present.

During the speech certain persons, instigated by agitators, made a violent counter-demonstration, which rapidly degenerated in typically fascist actions, such as insults to persons, Party and Party-flags, attempts to come to blows etc. The communists, called to order by the speaker, reacted by maintaining a calm and correct attitude, avoiding further incidents.

Said behaviour was favourably noted by the population and the PS authorities who, at the end of the demonstration, expressed their satisfaction at this example of dignity and discipline.

In spite of the fact that the speaker repeatedly asked the agitators to come to the fore and explain their point, nobody volunteered to do so. To the contrary, three prisoners returned from Russia (reduci) asked to speak, contradicting the usual lies about the cruel treatment of Italian prisoners in Russia. From the first enquiries it appears that the principal agitators were ex-fascists, ex-republicans and even ex-SS-men.

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

B)

CC.RR. MERANO

28 April 1946

At 1030 hrs, in Merano, a communist demonstration took place. About 2000 people were present of which 200 were communists. The speaker was Karl Bernhard ZANETTI, communist, and he was continually interrupted by about 300 "reduci" who boed and hissed. The reduci requested and obtained that the Italian flag be hoisted on the truck where Zanetti was speaking, and upon which red flags were flying. At the end of the Communist speech, two "reduci" spoke about the way they had been ill-treated in Russia, and were applauded by the crowd.

The demonstration ended at about 1200 hrs, without untowards incidents.

Signed: Capt. POSTA

1699

28
C)
"Alto-Adige" 1st April 1946

The rurals of San Candido want no practical jokes!

They mean to remain with Italy and are collecting
adhesions therefor.

San-Candido, 31

From news collected in many circles in San Candido we gather that there is a certain feeling of alarm amongst the rural population of San Candido and surrounding area caused by a rumour according to which frontier⁴ correction would bring a/m territories within the territory of the Austrian Republic.

It appears that the population of that area wishes to collect votes as a formal expression of their desires to remain within the Italian State.

The initiative taken by these villagers is symptomatic of a sense of balance and reality which might have a beneficial effect on more extensive areas and a repercussion in areas where common sense and understanding are slow to assert themselves.

It is quite clear that this population has understood that history cannot be built-up backwards, but only by looking ahead and following the path that has already been traced.

-----1698

NOTIONTranslation

The population of Val Eusteria is tired of the violation of its rights on the part of the pre-war Italian regime, and of all the promises, not followed by facts, of the actual Roman Government.

This population, which has been living in this area for over a thousand years,

PEREMPTORILY REQUESTS

that, at length, it be conceded its most elementary rights.

First

Nearly all the State and Communal Offices are run by elements who came to Alto Adige under the protection of the fascist regime, who, for twenty five years treated us as a colonial people, and who still today agitate the population. We therefore ask that same be replaced by bi-lingual local employees.

The a/m elements are the same that upheld Mussolini's policy of importing into Alto Adige people coming from the old provinces of the Realm, thereby changing the structure of our region, putting aside the native population, or placing it at the orders of strangers.

Second

Our forests, which protect us from natural catastrophes, and which are the basis of our economic life, must be controlled by technically instructed native personnel. We peremptorily request that all our forest personnel be immediately re-employed, and that they only be allowed to deal with matters concerning our forests. We do not want "temporary interpreters" on the job (we hate this arrangement, it is a sign of contempt). We want our forest employees for our forests!

1697

Third

The Allied Military Government always approved that the despicable Hitler-Mussolini agreement re options be cancelled. The Roman Government, to the contrary, tends to keep it in force, so as to keep our population in a condition of submission. They are even trying to deny us our right to vote, basing their arguments on this detestable agreement, although the Allied Military Government had found a simple and logical solution to the matter.

The fact that our relations are still held as POW's in concentration camps is connected with a/m policy, therefore we remind the Government of the promise made by His Exc. the Prefect in his proclamation dated the 29 May 1945,

- 2 -

and we beg and insist that the Allies release our relations who are POW's.

Fourth

We protest against the return of our arch-enemy Senator Tolomei, who in 1923 in the Town-Theatre of Bolzano announced the plan for our de-nationalization, and since then has done his best to carry it out. Said Tolomei started the "extirpation" policy, and was a co-responsible for the Bolzano massacre in 1922, and should therefore be prosecuted like the murderers of Matteotti.

Fifth

Bi-linguinity, which has been so often promised us, has since the 1st January given way to a decided "monolinguity". Nearly all the authorities, in their relations with the population, use exclusively the Italian language, although during AMG an attempt had been made to have both languages used.

The population sees in all this a serious violation of its rights, and therefore asks that all public affairs be discussed in both languages. At the same time it is requested that the German-speaking schoolmasters have the same rights as the Italian-speaking schoolmasters, both as regards their legal position and the financial position. We cannot tolerate that red tape should be made an excuse for not setting this matter right, and for setting difficulties in the way of organizing German schools.

Sixth

This population speaks for all the South-Tyroleans and asks the victorious Nations to apply to our country also the principles of justice, giving us the right of Autodetermination, as solemnly promised by the Atlantic Chart.

The Head of SVF Val Pusteria
Signed: Josef Graber.

1698

3)

75

SOUTH TYROLEAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

ANNOUNCEMENT!

The general assembly of the German Section, on the 26th April 1946, has unanimously decided to leave the Italian socialist Party of Proletarian Union, as the latter has always obstinately refused the South-Tyrolean the right of auto-decision. AUTO-DECISION FOR THE PEOPLE must be the basis for every socialist movement, and it's spirit and aim. If this first and fundamental principle is not respected, there is danger of nationalistic friction. This has always been and shall be the principal reason of wars. War is contrary to Socialist principles, as it is the working masses who have to bear the burden thereof. THE SOUTH TYROLEAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS DO NOT WANT TO BE CORRESPONSIBLE of this grave error committed by the Italian Socialist Party, which is not respecting the great example set by it's famous men: Cesare Battisti, Leonida Bissolati, Turati, Treves. THEREFORE IT HAS NO CHOIS BUT TO SEPARATE.

THE SOUTH TYROLEAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS HAVE FOUNDED THEIR OWN PARTY, AND WILL FIGHT SIDE BY SIDE WITH ALL PROLETARIAN PARTY FOR THE REALISATION OF SOCIALIST JUSTICE IN THEIR SOUTH TYROLEAN MOTHER COUNTRY.

The President

Lorenzo UNTERKIRCHER

From the 2nd May on, meetings every thursday at 2031695 hrs. For information, apply every wednesday and saturday from 1900 hrs to 2100 hrs at the Hotel Favone, Bolzano, Via Bottai 5.

23
ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF LIAISON GROUP OF
BOLZANO

Date: 2 March 1946

SUBJECT : Monthly Report for ~~March~~ February

of Education Officer

(Alto Adige and Udine)

FILE : RXII/ED/2/4.10

MAY 9 1946

TO : Director of Education Sub-Division
C.L.O., Bolzano, Liaison Group
Provincial Commissioner, Udine

1. SUMMARY. (a) The Prefect of Bolzano has been nominated by the Government to observe and report on the local education problems. He has held a conference with the educational officials of Bolzano and Trento, and may himself accompany a deputation to Rome to put forward suggestions regarding the decrees legalising German schools. (b) Inspection of elementary and secondary schools in Bolzano Province has shown them to be functioning well, with the German schools now generally having more and better textbooks than the Italian. In the province 27,528 children are enrolled in German-speaking schools, as against 9,214 in the Italian.

(c) In Trento, contrary to allegations in the local German Press, the Provveditore is dealing fairly and efficiently with the German school problem which is somewhat different from that in Bolzano; one difficulty has been a teacher shortage (a course for 100 Tyrolean teachers is to be shortly started); another is the fact that some parents who speak only Italian at home have wanted to send their children to German schools ~~in order to learn German~~ - the teachers finding that these children knew insufficient German to follow the lessons.

(d) In Udine province extra-curriculum German classes are to be started in two schools near Tarvisio.

2. ALTO-ADIGE.

(a) The Prefect of Bolzano has been nominated by the Government as their observer in the local education field. He has held a conference with the education officials of Bolzano and Trento, and may accompany to Rome the deputation which will go in March to present the views and desires of the Tyroleans, mainly with regard to the decrees for elementary and secondary schools.

(b) BOLZANO. Nearly all elementary and secondary schools in the main centres have been visited and found to be in excellent didactic order, clean and well-disciplined. The Education Officer was accompanied on these visits by the Provveditore and Tyrolean representatives and several minor matters were put right. At one school at Bressanone a number of Nazi and Fascist doctrinaire books were found to be on view in the library; the Provveditore therefore has now repeated his June directive to all directors and presidi to rid their schools of such material and has threatened them with severe disciplinary action should they be found not to have done so.

Date: 2 March 1946

SUBJECT : Monthly Report for ~~March~~ February
of Education Officer
(Alto Adige and Udine)
FILE : RXII/ED/2/4.10

MAY 9 1946

TO : Director of Education Sub-Division
C.I.O., Bolzano, Liaison Group
Provincial Commissioner, Udine

1. SUMMARY. (a) The Prefect of Bolzano has been nominated by the Government to observe and report on the local education problems. He has held a conference with the educational officials of Bolzano and Trento, and may himself accompany a deputation to Rome to put forward suggestions regarding the decrees legalising German schools.
- (b) Inspection of elementary and secondary schools in Bolzano Province has shown them to be functioning well, with the German schools now generally having more and better textbooks than the Italian. In the province 27,528 children are enrolled in German-speaking schools, as against 9,214 in the Italian.
- (c) In Trento, contrary to allegations in the local German Press, the Provveditore is dealing fairly and efficiently with the German school problem which is somewhat different from that in Bolzano; one difficulty has been a teacher shortage (a course for 100 Tyrolean teachers is to be shortly started); another is the fact that some parents who speak only Italian at home have wanted to send their children to German schools ~~in order to learn German~~ - the teachers finding that these children knew insufficient German to follow the lessons.
- (d) In Udine province extra-curriculum German classes are to be started in two schools near Tarvisio.

2. ALTO-ADIGE.

(a) The Prefect of Bolzano has been nominated by the Government as their observer in the local education field. He has held a conference with the education officials of Bolzano and Trento, and may accompany to Rome the deputation which will go in March to present the views and desires of the Tyroleans, mainly with regard to the decrees for elementary and secondary schools.

(b) BOLZANO. Nearly all elementary and secondary schools in the main centres have been visited and found to be in excellent didactic order, clean and well-disciplined. The Education Officer was accompanied on these visits by the Provveditore and Tyrolean representatives and several minor matters were put right. At one school at Bressanone a number of Nazi and Fascist doctrinaire books were found to be on view in the library; the Provveditore therefore has now repeated his June directive to all directors and presidi to rid their schools of such material and has threatened them with severe disciplinary action should they be found not to have done so.

(cso)

see M 2/24

785017

2010

22
The two well-run Volkshulen in the Val Garza were inspected by the C.L.O., and a few days later by the Director of the Education Sub-Commission (2 March). All the staffs of these schools are now native to the locality except the Director at Ortisei, Prof. Lirosi; he first came as director in 1937; he would be very willing to be transferred elsewhere once his di ruolo status has been established; there is one other professor who is titular in the school and could be made director if judged competent on interview. Prof. LIROSI has done much to enliven and organize this school with a regular 3-year course plus evening classes for senior students, but as he himself says his own art would more advantageously be practiced in a less secluded place.

With the distribution of German elementary and secondary schoolbooks (from Switzerland) the German schools are now, especially in the secondary schools, better provided than the Italian schools. Prof. BENEDEKTER, attached to the Provveditorato, has been largely responsible for carrying through the transactions in Switzerland, which he has done very efficiently.

In the province 27,528 children are enrolled in German-speaking schools, as against 9,214 in the Italian. A commune by commune analysis shows that Italian outnumber German speaking children only in Bolzano (3615 : 854), Merano (1578 : 991), Laives (571 : 355), and Fortezza (127 : 33).

(c) TRENTO. The propaganda in the local German papers that space and teachers for German schools are allotted in an unfair proportion was proved false, the figures quoted being about half the true figures for teachers and classrooms. A German teacher shortage does exist and the Provveditore is shortly instituting a course for about 100 Tyrolean teachers to make up his numbers, which were even shorter of requirements than expected owing to 60 teachers of Bolzano province having refused to go to Trento.

Further complaint by the German propagandists concerned the action of a Commission set up by the Provveditore in ordering some 23 children to transfer from the German to the Italian school in Salorno. The truth is that the home language of these children and their parents is Italian, and the children speak practically no German; in fact the reason given by the parents for sending them to the German school was so that they could learn to speak the German language.

3. UDINE. The only development has been the request from the German-speaking minority in the Tarvisio area for extra-curriculum German classes, which will therefore be instituted in 2 schools with the Commune paying the teachers appointed by the Provveditore. No similar request has come from the Slavic minority since permission to set up German and Slavic schools was refused. The question of modifying an obsolete 1933 law regarding payment of certain teachers for work outside their own curriculum is to be taken up with the Minister; at present the rate laid down is L.3 per lesson less taxes - clearly inadequate.

I.W. SCOTT,

Captain, I.C.,

Education Officer

Sub-Commission (2 March). All the staffs of these schools are now native to the locality except the Director at Ortisei, Prof. LIROSI; he first came as director in 1937; he would be very willing to be transferred elsewhere once his di ruolo status has been established; there is one other professor who is titular in the school and could be made director if judged competent on interview. Prof. LIROSI has done much to enliven and organize this school with a regular 3-year course plus evening classes for senior students, but as he himself says his own art would more advantageously be practiced in a less secluded place.

With the distribution of German elementary and secondary schoolbooks (from Switzerland) the German schools are now, especially in the secondary schools, better provided than the Italian schools. Prof. BENEDIKTER, attached to the Provveditorato, has been largely responsible for carrying through the transactions in Switzerland, which he has done very efficiently.

In the province 27,528 children are enrolled in German-speaking schools, as against 9,214 in the Italian. A commune by commune analysis shows that Italian outnumber German speaking children only in Bolzano (3615 : 854), Merano (1578 : 991), Laives (571 : 355), and Fortezza (127 : 33).

(c) TRENTO. The propaganda in the local German papers that space and teachers for German schools are allotted in an unfair proportion was proved false, the figures quoted being about half the true figures for teachers and classrooms. A German teacher shortage does exist and the Provveditore is shortly instituting a course for about 100 Tyrolean teachers to make up his numbers, which were even shorter of requirements than expected owing to 60 teachers of Bolzano province having refused to go to Trento.

Further complaint by the German propagandists concerned the action of a Commission set up by the Provveditore in ordering some 23 children to transfer from the German to the Italian school in Salorno. The truth is that the home language of these children and their parents is Italian, and the children speak practically no German. In fact the reason given by the parents for sending them to the German school was so that they could learn to speak the German language.

3. UDINE. The only development has been the request from the German-speaking minority in the Tarvisio area for extra-curriculum German classes, which will therefore be instituted in 2 schools with the Commune paying the teachers appointed by the Provveditore. No similar request has come from the Slavic minority since permission to set up German and Slavic schools was refused. The question of modifying an obsolete 1933 law regarding payment of certain teachers for work outside their own curriculum is to be taken up with the Minister; at present the rate laid down is L.3 per lesson less taxes - clearly inadequate.

I.W. SCOTT,
Captain, I.C.,
Education Officer

~~SECRET~~ 847 50
ALLIED COMMISSION
OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICE
BOLZANO

REF: ACLO/BZ/36

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: 6 April 1946
SWH/lc

APR 9 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - March, 1946.
TO: HQ, Allied Commission, CLE.

Reference your cable no. 346 dated 2 Feb 46.

Enclosed herewith please find 6 (six) copies
of my monthly report for the month of March 1946.

CONFIDENTIAL

Sgt. Laima
S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer,
BOLZANO.

1692

EC DIST. 9 ap

- 1- EC
- 1- CAC
- 1- Econ Sec
- 1- PROR
- 1- In Rep. ①
- 1- PROR ②
- 1- Working copy

PA. 13

(1/2000 m)

785017

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

ALLIED COMMISSION
OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICE
BOLZANO

REF: ACLO/BZ/36

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: 6 APRIL 1946
SWM/lc

APR 9 1946

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - March, 1946.
TO : HQ, Allied Commission, CMF.

Reference your cable no. 346 dated 2 Feb 46.

Enclosed herewith please find 6 (six) copies
of my monthly report for the month of March 1946.

CONFIDENTIAL

Sgt. Laima
S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer,
BOLZANO.

1692

EC DIST 9 Apr

- 1- EC
- 1- CA Sec
- 1- Econ Sec
- 1- PR Sec
- 1- For Rep. ①
- 1- PCAD B. ②
- 1- Working copy

PA 13

(1/222 MC)

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED COMMISSION
OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICE
BOLZANO

REF: ACIO/BZ/36

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - March 1946.

TO : HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, CMF.

DATE: 5 April 1946
SWM/gq

1. GENERAL.

- a) The general political situation is quiet and both groups are awaiting a decision about their future.
- b) There is a split in the South Tyrol Volkspartei between the moderates and others who desire a more active policy.
- c) The South Tyrol Volkspartei still refuse to furnish members on a Commission formed to discuss Autonomy embracing Bolzano and Trento.
- d) Preliminary discussions on this subject, however, have begun between the Prefect and influential South Tyrolians outside of the South Tyrol Party.
- e) The Prefect has had meetings with the judiciary in order to prepare for the use of the German language in the Courts and in judicial procedure.
- f) A Commission to discuss the subject of citizenship has already met and heard views from both ethnical groups. Meetings will take place from time to time.
- g) The number of signatures collected by the South Tyrol Party for annexation to Austria is believed to be in neighborhood of 120,000. It is understood the lists have been sent to the "Landesstelle für Südtirol" at Innsbruck and photographic copies are to be forwarded to London.
- h) The two Autonomistic movements reported last month viz. M.A.R. (Movimento Autonomistico Regionale) and A.S.A.R. (Associazione Studi Autonomistici Regionali) have slowed down their individual activity as the more tolerant elements among them

785017

2015

feel they should combine and form a solid block as the South Tyrol Volkspartei.

i) 60 Sub-Area was disbanded on the 15th of March and the Military administration now devolves on 217 Area at Bologna.

j) The Questore has taken up his duties (Dr.PIZZUTTO) and the retiring Questore Dr.Radnich has been promoted to the rank of Commendatore and is now a judge in the Province.

2. SECURITY.

a) The strength of CCRR is 976.

b) Morale is high, but there is a shortage of clothing, arms and transport.

c) A large number of aliens in the Province still await repatriation. Orders have been received to hand over No.23 D.P.Camp to the Italian Government. (Please see para.8, Displaced Persons).

d) Frontier Control is being carried out as outlined during a meeting between the French and Italian Authorities on the 18th of Feb 1946. The Prefect is visiting the French Military Authorities in Innsbruck at the end of this week.

3. ECONOMIC.

Negotiations are continuing for the export of wine, fruit and food to Switzerland and Austria.

4. FOOD.

a) The general food situation is satisfactory.

b) There has, however, been a cut-down in soup-items which is resented by the population, sugar, oil and fat are insufficient, whilst jam is not available.

c) One to three weeks supply of grain and flour is stored in the Province.

5. AGRICULTURE.

a) Fertilizers and insecticides are required.

b) There is still a shortage of labour and farmers are asking for the release of their POW's.

-3-

6. LABOUR.

- a) There are some 2.000 unemployed in the Province.
- b) The percentage of "returnees" from Army Service to be employed by firms and offices has been raised by the Prefect to 10% against 5%.
- c) A few small strikes have taken place for increase of wages, but all strikers have returned to work pending a decision from Rome.

7. PUBLIC HEALTH.

- a) No.35 Reception Centre has closed down.
- b) General health is satisfactory.
- c) There are still 6 hospitals in the Merano Hospital Centre which will shortly be reduced to 4.

8. DISPLACED PERSONS.

- a) Arrangements had been made with the Prefect to ^{take} ~~hand~~ over the buildings of No.23 D.P.Camp when the 400 Germans at present there have been repatriated. They are discontented to remain so long in the Camp, but cannot be despatched from Bolzano until the D.P. Sub-Commission receive acceptance from Germany. It is urged that every endeavour be made to expedite this acceptance on the highest level.
- b) Many thousands of aliens (including enemy aliens) are still in this Province and even if No.23 D.P.Camp is handed over to the Italian Government, it is difficult to see how their repatriation can be effected. I know of no channels of repatriation other than No.23 D.P.Camp and have sent a telegram to this effect to Rome asking for the deferment of handing over until other machinery for repatriation exists.

9. PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

- a) Restrictions on the use of electric power have been cancelled.
- b) Winter supply of electricity is ensured and optimistic views exist regarding the summer supply.

S.W. Miller
S.W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO.

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

ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF CHIEF LIAISON OFFICE
BOLZANO 447. 40

CONFIDENTIAL

REF: ACLO/BZ/36.

DATE: 5 March 1946.
SWM/eq.

Subj: Monthly Report - February 1946.

TO : HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, CMF.

MAR 11 1946

1. GENERAL.

a) The general political situation is closely followed in Bolzano and opinion is rife that unless the Italian Government soon obtains agreement between the various parties, another Cabinet crisis may ensue and a new Government.

b) The South Tyrol Volkspartei is active collecting signatures for annexation to Austria. They are to be mimeographed and copies handed to the various Commissions due shortly.

c) The Volkspartei has detailed representatives for the Commission to study the laws of citizenship, but has refused similar representatives on a Commission to study the possibilities of autonomy embracing BOLZANO and TRENTO Province.

d) Autonomist movements are increasing, namely :

I. Movimento Autonomista Regionale (M.A.R.) has a policy of autonomy to include BOLZANO, TRENTO and three German speaking communes of Belluno.

II. Associazione Studi Autonomistici Regionali (A.S.A.R.) has a membership of some 60 000 and declares its policy to be autonomy within the Italian State, but its activities point to other aspects, namely :

A total independence and
Annexation to Austria.

1688

e) The local Press has become aggressive during February. The "Alto Adige", which on the Italian side was moderate, is harsh in its arguments with the German paper "Dolomiten" which in turn has not published a "soft answer which turneth away wrath".

f) The Prince Bishop of Bressanone has been the subject of attacks in the "Alto Adige" on several occasions during February.

E.C. DIST - MAR 11 1946

Ex. Com. /

CAS /

Ec. Sec. /

P. R. B. /

FRENCH REP. /

P. R. B. /

WORKING COPY /

(PLEASE RETURN)

-2-

(Miss S.)

14
3
9

g) The names of streets, shops, noticeboards etc. are to be written in both German and Italian language.

h) On the 20 Feb an unsuccessful attempt was made by unknown persons to blow up the Andreas Hofer memorial at Merano.

i) 60 Sub-Area is to be disbanded on the 15 March 1946.

j) Dr. PEZZUTTO has been appointed Questore of Bolzano.

k) The Medical Stores and Equipment of Sanitätspark Merano have been handed over to the Italian Government.

l) Seven highly placed Italian officials have been arrested in connection with the discovery of 4750 qls of sugar at Merano.

m) The Court of Appeal of Venice has instituted inquiries of a political nature regarding Signor DELL'ANTONIO, Procuratore del Regno of this Province. It is possible that this official will shortly leave Bolzano.

2. LEGAL

a) The Tribunale is in arrears with its work chiefly owing to the shortage in personnel. Of 52 civil cases only 11 and of 62 penal cases 24 have been tried.

b) There are 42 persons in prison awaiting trial before the Court of Assize.

3. SECURITY.

a) Owing to numerous changes in CCRR, it is experiencing difficulties with clothing. During February there were 293 arrivals and 157 discharges.

b) The Questore Dr. RADNIC has been replaced by the Questore of Trento, Dr. A. PEZZUTTO.

c) The control of the Brenner Pass is now in the hands of the Italian Authorities as decided at a meeting in CLO's office on 18 Feb at which representatives of the French Military Government in Austria, the Prefect, the Questore of Bolzano and other officials were present.

d) Four murders and several armed robberies took place during February, but on the whole the state of public safety is satisfactory.

e) The 8 Road-Blocks left in this Province are controlled by CCRR.

-3-

134. ECONOMIC.

- a) The export of wine to Austria and Switzerland continues.
- b) Wood due to be imported from Austria in exchange for fruit, has been blocked by French Military Government. There is evidently a shortage of wood throughout Austria.
- c) Fixed prices for fruit and vegetables have been abolished and these are now a free market.

5. FOOD.

- a) Grain is scarce causing a shortage of pasta. 50 tons of grain are required daily, but only half of this quantity arrives.
- b) Meat is plentiful as cattle are being slaughtered owing to the lack of forage.
- c) Salt ration has been increased to 500 g monthly.
- d) General food situation is satisfactory.

6. AGRICULTURE.

- a) Fertilizers are badly needed.
- b) Agricultural labour is in short supply and requests for the release of POW's have been received from all sources.

7. LABOUR.

- a) There are 2050 unemployed registered as on 28 Feb 46.
- b) Persons returning from Army Service must be re-employed by industries and firms employing them prior to their war service.
- c) Instructions have been issued that one out of every twenty employees will be an ex-service man.

8. PUBLIC HEALTH.

Health is satisfactory. -

1686

9. EDUCATION.

- a) 27 528 children are enrolled in German speaking schools and 9 214 in the Italian schools.
- b) Much progress has been made by students at the school of art at Ortisei and Selva di Gardena where, under efficient direction, excellent work is being turned out.

10. DISPLACED PERSONS.

a) D.P. Camp No. 23 is experiencing difficulties in obtaining trains. On 11 Feb the long expected ghost train eventually arrived and moved 350 Germans to Munich.

b) There are 210 Displaced persons in the camp of whom 151 are Germans awaiting deportation. The train expected daily has not yet arrived, but the possibility of another one on or about the 15 March has been notified.

11. PUBLIC WORKS and UTILITIES.

a) Snow ploughs have done excellent work throughout this Province. Except for the Brenner and the Resia, other passes remain snow bound.

b) Plans for reducing the consumption of electricity have worked satisfactorily.

S.W. Miller

S.W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO.

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

785017

10

Ref: 2204/EC

27 February 1946

SUBJECT: Repatriation to Germany of Persons in Bolzano.

TO : Civil Affairs Section (for D.P. & R. S/O).

1. This office is informed that on 8 February some 420 enemy aliens had been waiting in Bolzano since 31 January for a train to Germany, which had not, at that date, arrived.

2. It is understood that this matter was reported on 8 February to Lt. Col. Fothergill.

3. The Executive Commissioner would like to have a report on the present situation please.

B. SAMPSON

Chief Staff Officer
to Executive Commissioner

Copy to: 84/EC

1684

Further action
on file 2204/EC

27/2

2023

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

785017

SWM/lc

ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of Chief Liaison Officer.
BOLZANO

Tel. 1793

11 FEB 1946

Ref: ACLO/BZ/36

8th February, 1946

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - January, 1946

FEB 11 1946

TO : HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, CMF. ✓

Reference your cable No. 346 dated 2 Feb. 46.

Enclosed herewith please find 6 (six) copies of
my Monthly Report for the Month of January, 1946.

S. W. Miller

S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer,
BOLZANO.

EC DIST - 11 Feb

1683

1-EC

1-CA

1-Econ Sec

1-PRB

1-For Rep the POWs

1-Working copy

See M. 6.7.9.



(1555)

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

785017

SWM/lc

ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO

CONFIDENTIAL

Tel. 1793

Ref : ACLO/BZ/36 8th, February, 1946
SUBJECT : Monthly Report for January, 1946.
TO : HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, CMF.

1. GENERAL.

(a) The change over from AMG to Liaison has worked smoothly.

(b) The Prefect Dr. Bruno De ANGELIS resigned from 31st December, 1945 and his successor Dr. Silvio INNOCENTI has arrived in BOLZANO.

Discussions between the C.L.O. and the new Prefect have been friendly and satisfactory.

(c) The recent speech of the Italian Prime Minister was not received with enthusiasm by the German speaking population. "Action" not "words" was their reply, and there is perhaps some justification for their attitude.

(d) A Boundary Commission is expected in BOLZANO in the near future.

(e) The Prefect reports that commissions to decide "citizenship" will shortly arrive in BOLZANO.

(f) There is no change in the declared policy of the South Tyrolian Volkspartei, which is openly that of a return of the Province to AUSTRIA.

This Party is bound together in a single party, and seizes every opportunity for propaganda in the hope of realizing its annexionist aspirations. This is different from the Italian Provincial Administration who, by fighting amongst themselves by attending more to individual and personal interests than to the necessity of collective interests, appear to lose some of their respective functions. A new Administration, headed by the new Prefect, will, I think, provide a solution.

(g) The newspaper "Alto Adige" has recently published a letter from the Prince Bishop of BRESSANONE asking his followers to pray "in private" for the future of the South Tyrol and its people.

This plea for separation, on the part of a High Dignitary of the Church, is not well timed. Much political work and propaganda emanates from this South Tyrolian centre of religion, and the influence of Rev. Johannes GEISLER in the political and religious life of this Province is considerable.

- 2 -

3

General (cont'd)

(h) A notice has appeared in the local press inviting Austrian citizens to report to the "Austrian Office" of Herr Fritz RIENZNER to obtain identity cards etc.

(i) The Separation Centre interrogates about 50 enemy aliens a day, and its work, on the whole, proceeds satisfactorily. (See para. 11).

(j) Some 4,750 quintals of sugar, 4,000 litres of petrol etc., have been discovered by the CC.RR. hidden on the premises of Messrs MENZ & GASSER, and ZUEGG of MERANO.

Certain responsible Provincial Officials appear to have been aware of this hidden store, yet failed to denounce it.

The C.L.O. has discussed this with the new Prefect Dr. INNOCENTI who is taking action accordingly.

(1) On January, 22nd the Honorary Citizenship of BOLZANO, MERANO, BRESSANONE and BRUNICO was conferred upon Brigadier J. K. DUNLOP and Colonel S. W. MILLER.

2. LEGAL.

(a) The Italian Tribunal is hampered by a shortage of Judges. 236 cases are awaiting trial before the Italian Courts.

(b) Dr. DELAIRA, President of the Court of Assize has been appointed President of the new Epuration Committee.

(c) Many Communal Secretaries, suspended or dismissed by the Epuration Committee, have now been reinstated. This is causing comment.

3. SECURITY.

(a) The situation is good.

(b) The CC.RR. are working satisfactorily.

(c) Relationship between Allied and Italian Police is excellent. 1681

(d) A number of arrests have been made following a murder and some robberies.

(e) The Questura is at present controlling the civilian movement at the Brenner Frontier.

(f) Many forged AMG notes have been discovered.

- 3 -

2

4. ECONOMIC.

(a) Restrictions on the export of fruit and potatoes have been cancelled.

(b) The Swiss Authorities have forbidden the import of fruit owing to an infection caused by the cochineal S. José bug.

5. FOOD SITUATION.

(a) The food situation is good.

(b) All rations have been regularly distributed.

(c) Meat, fats, vegetables and fruit are plentiful but available only at high prices.

6. AGRICULTURE.

(a) Flour is in short supply.

(b) Owing to lack of fodder cattle are being slaughtered.

(c) Fertilizers are scarce and insufficient to meet requirements.

(d) 400 tons of insecticides are still required.

7. PUBLIC HEALTH.

Health is good apart from 64 cases of diphtheria and 27 cases of typhus which have been dealt with by the Medical authorities.

1686

8. LABOUR.

(a) The general situation is good.

(b) There are about 1,200 unemployed.

(c) The unemployment indemnity of Lire 30 a day will, in future, be given only to registered unemployed.

9. EDUCATION.

(a) The derequisitioning of part of the building occupied by AMG has eased the problem of school accomodation.

.....4/.....

- 4 -

Education (Cont'd)

(b) The provision of text books for the German speaking schools is still unsatisfactory. This will be taken up with the Director, Education Sub-Commission, when he comes in mid February.

10. ELECTIONS.

(a) The preparation of Electoral Lists has been impeded owing to a reversal of the original instructions received late in December.

(b) Some 59 of the 91 Communes had submitted their lists, and all are now busy with amendments.
A comprehensive report about this will follow.

11. DISPLACED PERSONS.

(a) The Officer i/c No. 23 Displaced Persons Camp is harrassed owing to the non arrival of promised Hospital Trains.

(b) At the moment (8th February) some 420 enemy aliens have been sitting on their boxes since 31st January waiting for a train to GERMANY.

The promised train has not yet arrived. Meanwhile the Camp is still accepting deportees from the Separation Centre.

I have telephoned this state of affairs to Colonel Fothergill to-day.

1679

S. W. Miller
S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer,
BOLZANO.

