

2281

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

785017

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10000/109/482

2282

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

785017

10000/109/482

CONDITIONS IN SICILY  
NOV. 1945 - JAN. 1946

2283

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

785017

Ex. Com.

Please see 1-13 - a most interesting report.

Suggest forwarding ~~para~~ 3, 3, 4, 6, 8, last  
para of 9 - last para of 10a to Mr. Galt, also  
recommendations.

WLS 29/10

T-100

15.

I agree Mr. Galt

WLS 29/10

20.

18 for signature psc - 16 refers.

19 for signature psc - 14 refers.

1840

WLS 6/12

T-100

22

22-  
CPO. Please see 21 for reply in conditions in Turkey.

SPT.  
10/1/46

2284

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

785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Economic Section

Ref. ES/ 3.01

9 January 1946

SUBJECT: Conditions in Sicily  
TO : Executive Commissioner

1. Reference your memorandum 856/18/EC dated 7 December 1945.
2. It is a well known fact that there are insufficient personnel to adequately supervise shipments and distribution of coal in Sicily. This matter has been for some time in the hands of the Italian Government through the High Commissioner in Sicily.
3. It has been reported before that these irregularities in distribution existed and that some of the coal had found its way into the black market. The matter has previously been brought to the attention of the Italian Government and very little improvement resulted. However, upon receipt of the report forwarded by your office, this matter was again forcefully taken up personally by Chief of Coal Division with the Italian Government through the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, who were requested to make an enquiry and take the necessary action to improve these conditions.

1942

*Harlan Cleveland*  
HARLAN CLEVELAND  
Acting Vice President

See M. 22

SPH  
10/1/46  
(MAJ H)

PA  
11/1  
10

2285

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

785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Office of the Executive Commissioner

19

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref: 856/19/EC

7 December 1945

SUBJECT: Conditions in Sicily.

TO : the Presidency of the Council of Ministers  
Italian Government  
Rome.

I am directed to forward for your information the  
attached report on conditions in Sicily.

*[Signature]*  
Brigadier,  
Executive Commissioner.

*[Handwritten initials]*  
SPH  
12/12/45

1941  
PA  
10/12  
*[Signature]*



785017

C o p y

- 1 -

C o p y

19A

With regard to the first part, that is, conditions in RACALMUTO and CANESCATI, the situation can best be summed up by calling these two towns small growths in the large cancer of Sicily. Conditions, especially sanitary conditions, are very bad but they are also bad in all other sections of the Island. The lack of a summer rainfall has resulted in a scarcity of water and consequent uncleanliness, sickness and disease. American property is sold at exorbitant prices, particularly articles of clothing that are bought or stolen in Naples, transported by small craft to Sicily and sold there. UNRRA clothing has not been sent to Sicily as yet and only medicinal articles of UNRRA have appeared on the black market at fabulous prices. The entire situation in these towns can be best revealed by reading the rest of this report dealing with life in Sicily at the present time.

The first and most alarming point to consider in Sicily is that of Public Security. The MAFFIA or black hand society of thirty years ago would have to hang its head in shame in view of the exploits of the Sicilian bandits of today. Youths from the ages of fourteen to eighteen have joined forces with deserters, common criminals, returned prisoners of war, and the unemployed, to form several large well-organized bands, who roam the countryside at will, kidnapping the wealthy, robbing both rich and poor, extorting money and goods from the rich and the poor, and killing anyone who dares to defy them. These bands are most active in the provinces of AGRIGENTO and CALTANISSETTA, and the town of FAVARA in the province of AGRIGENTO continues to be the "university of crimes". As an example of conditions in this area, one can cite the fact that in the months of August, September and October, no less than forty-six (46) persons have been kidnapped on the broken-down road between AGRIGENTO and LICATA, a stretch of thirty-three kilometres.

To combat the crime wave, there are the Public Security agents and the Carabinieri. The Public Security has lost much prestige of late, due to the lackadaisical attitude and black market activities of some of their members, and also due to the fact that a Commissario in PALERMO was recently arrested as being the head of a band of kidnappers.

The Carabinieri still maintain some of their prestige and the individual officers and men continue to do their utmost to combat crime, however they are hampered by lack of personnel, arms, ammunition and transport. When a raid in any province has to be made, it is necessary to call in all Carabinieri of the province of AGRIGENTO declared that if they were not given more men, equipped and transport, the bandits could take over the various Carabinieri stations. The Commander of the Carabinieri in Sicily, Colonel 'CALABRO', has requested an additional three thousand men, with modern arms and transport and radio equipment, and has stated that then, and only then, could law and order be obtained.

In substance, there is a crying need for every type of transport from bicycles to trains. Auto transport is very difficult as the streets and roads are in such a poor condition that all types of vehicles break down and due to lack of parts and machine shops to make new parts, all repairs work must be improvised. Trucks are scarce and what few good ones there are are occupied with the transport of black market merchandise.

1940

Regarding the trains, an over-crowding exists in the very limited train service. People must use the trains in order to go to work and then

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785017

- 2 -

19B

return to their homes. A good percentage of the train cars are uncovered and in many instances humans, animals and baggage are treated alike. The large number of ex-prisoners and refugees all land at Messina and are usually stationed there for days because there are only two daily departures from Messina, one for PALERMO and one for CATANIA.

The theoretical monthly assignment of coal for the Sicilian railways is nine thousand (9,000) tons, in itself insufficient, and is a quota that has never been given. The difference in the amount of coal assigned and that given has brought about the suspension of several passenger and train services.

The ferryboat service between MESSINA and the mainland is very poor, as the boats continually break down and take ages to repair.

Bus service is very poor in all sections because of the lack of tires.

Tram service in the larger cities is remarkably good, although the trams are in poor condition and always overcrowded.

Sicily was never famous for its sanitation, but was never in the uncivilized state in which it is today. The lack of disease can best be attributed to personal immunity of the Sicilians rather than to any preventative measures. Some cases of abdominal typhus have appeared in CALTANISSETTA, ENNA, and PALERMO, but they are very few in number so as not to cause any grave concern. Malaria is practically non-existent due mainly to the lack of rainfall. About ten cases of meningitis have appeared in the last three months. Intestinal influenza is fairly prevalent in all sections of the Island.

Living conditions are such that disease is invited. For fear of having animals stolen, many of the smaller farmers bring their pigs, sheep and goats to their homes and in many cases sleep in the same rooms. The lack of water for washing has resulted in many skin diseases in all sections of the Island. Medicinal supplies are very low and prices are exorbitant. The aqueducts are either dry or in poor condition because of lack of repair to the turbines.

The reason for the black market in foodstuffs is not from lack of food, but because the landowners refuse to bring the grain to the "ammasso" or common food pool. They do not wish to sell the grain to the government at legal prices, but prefer to hoard it and sift it into the black market. An example of this is that in the province of PALERMO, five hundred (500) of the larger landowners did not turn in any grain to the "ammasso." Most of the Sicilians are in favour of doing away with the "ammasso" as they claim that if this were done, more food would go into the open market and prices would be lower. All in all, the black market condition could be summed up as follows: in food - better than Italy proper; in other articles - worse than Italy proper.

The Separatist movement is still very strong and if the Italian government does not aid the people of Sicily in some manner, violence is liable to occur.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) The first and most important is coal, without it the trains do not run, the lights do not light, the water does not flow, and the factories do not manufacture. An increase in the shipment of coal is urgently necessary if public order is ever going to be restored.

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- 3 -

19c

(2) Improvement in transportation - The poor condition of the roads, bridges and streets is not conducive to good transportation. If these conditions were improved and more transport made available, the manufactured goods from Northern Italy would be available on the Sicilian market, more people would have employment and crime would decrease.

(3) Enlarging of the Carabinieri - The number of Carabinieri in Sicily is too few to actively cope with the crime situation. Not only more men are needed, but also more vehicles, arms and ammunition so that they will learn to respect the laws.

(4) Clothing - Clothing is scarce in Sicily, particularly in the internal provinces. If Sicilians are to pass the winter without disease they must be clothed and shod immediately.

(5) In order to insure public order in Sicily, the Italian Government must take all possible steps to see that a just percentage of all equipment bought from the Allies is allocated to Sicily. In this manner the Sicilian would not consider himself a step-child and more confidence in the government could be obtained.

1938



2289

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

785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref: 856/18/EG

7 December 1945.

SUBJECT: Conditions in Sicily.

TO : Economic Section.

1. Attached please find copy of a report on the distribution of supplies in Sicily.
2. It is understood that the supplies referred to were sent by Allied Commission.
3. Your comments would be appreciated.

W. H. M. ...  
Brigadier,  
Executive Commissioner.

1937

see 21

BU

17/12

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COPY

18A

In the three month period, August-September-October, the following amounts of MIL/FEA merchandise have arrived in Sicily:

Coal	41,593 tons
Wheat	30,703 tons
Flour	4,015 tons
Peas & Sugar	3,403 tons

The following procedure is used. - The goods arrive from America under the supervision of the War Shipping Administration. The Ships are unloaded and the goods are placed on the wharves. There, the "Consorzio Agrario" or state controlled agricultural pool takes charge of transporting the merchandise to the warehouses. This transportation is by horse and wagon and no trucks are used. In the case of the transporting of the coal, the Italian Chamber of Commerce allots the quantities to private contractors who transport the coal to the points where it is needed most, that is, to the railroad, the gas and electric company, the chemical factory, and a few small industries. In view of the fact that there are insufficient personnel to adequately supervise shipments and distribution, there results the usual graft and all of the merchandise is not distributed but instead, finds its way into the black market. The allocation of the contracts to the individual transporters is a matter of favoritism and who offers the largest bribe. Some ex-Fascists have found their way into important positions and consequently the people are very resentful.

1936

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

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17.  
04 Com  
979  
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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
G-5 Section  
APO 512

G-5: 093 Sicily

30 November 1945

SUBJECT: Report on Conditions in SICILY.

DEC 3 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,  
APO 394.

13.

Further to G-5: 093 Sicily dated 26 November.  
16.

You are requested to attach the inclosed memorandum,  
CBI.339.453/4 dated 23 November, to the report forwarded with  
the above mentioned letter.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

*A. L. Hamblin Col*  
A. L. HAMBLIN  
Brigadier General, G.S.C.  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

Incl: as above

1935

*(miss)*

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY

856 86

16

8 8  
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2  
APO 512, U.S. Army

GBI.389.453/4.

23 November 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Supreme Allied Commander.  
Deputy Supreme Allied Commander.  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

SUBJECT : Report on Conditions in Sicily.

1. Paragraph 5 of the report forwarded by this Section, Subject: "Conditions in Sicily", indicates that certain large quantities of coal, wheat, flour, peas and sugar were received in Sicily as UNRRA supplies.
2. Further investigation reveals that these were ALCOM supplies rather than UNRRA.
3. The error in so reporting them is due to the complex method of shipping and receiving supplies from the States. A purchasing agency consisting of representatives of the War and Treasury Departments obtain such supplies and ship them to ALCOM or UNRRA in Sicily.
4. Because these had come in with other UNRRA supplies, the representative of the War Shipping Administration in Palermo just assumed they were for UNRRA and so informed the G-2 investigator.
5. The CIC agent had no reason to suspect these were other than represented to him by the WSA.
6. It is requested the paragraph in error be corrected.

See 7

/s/G.S.S.

GEORGE S. SMITH  
Brigadier General, USA  
A.C. of S., G-2

1934



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

2293  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
G-5 Section  
APO 512

G-5: 093 Sicily

856  
610  
17  
13  
Ex Comm  
26 November 1945

SUBJECT: Conditions in Sicily

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,  
APO 394.

12  
Herewith are duplicate copies of a report submitted to AFHQ on the above subject for your information. While the report in its present form should not be transmitted to the Italian Government, you are authorized to convey thereto such included information as you believe desirable.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:



A. L. HAMBLER  
Brigadier General, G.S.C.  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

2 Incls:  
as above

See M. 14. 15.

See 17.

1933

**CONFIDENTIAL**

2294

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

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12

APO 512, U. S. Army

16 November 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: Conditions in Sicily.

1. On 30 October 1945, these agents were instructed to proceed to AFHQ for instructions regarding a mission in Sicily. At AFHQ these agents were directed by Col. and Major to go to Sicily and conduct an investigation of the distribution of American and MILITARY/FEA merchandise in Sicily, and particularly in the towns of Canecatti and Racalmuto. These agents were also instructed to observe the social, economic and political situation on the island of Sicily. Accordingly these agents prepared the following report from personal observation, interviews with police officials, UNRRA officials, War Shipping Administration representatives, Naval Officers, friends and confidential informants:

2. With regard to the first part, that is, conditions in RACALMUTO and CANECATTI, the situation can best be summed up by calling these two towns small growths in the large cancer of Sicily. Conditions, especially sanitary conditions, are very bad but they are also bad in all other sections of the island. The lack of a summer rainfall has resulted in a scarcity of water and consequent uncleanness, sickness and disease. American property is sold at exorbitant prices, particularly articles of clothing that are bought or stolen in Naples, transported by small craft to Sicily and sold there. UNRRA clothing has not been sent to Sicily as yet and only medicinal articles of UNRRA have appeared on the black market at fabulous prices. The entire situation in these towns can be best revealed by reading the rest of this report dealing with life in Sicily at the present time.

3. PUBLIC SECURITY:

The first and most alarming point to consider in Sicily is that of Public Security. The MAFFIA or black hand society of thirty years ago would have to hang its head in shame in view of the exploits of the Sicilian bandits of today. Youths from the ages of fourteen to eighteen have joined forces with deserters, common criminals, returned prisoners of war, and the unemployed, to form several large well-organized bands, who roam the countryside at will, kidnapping the wealthy, robbing both rich and poor, extorting money and goods from the rich and the poor, and killing

1932

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11

anyone who dares to defy them. These bands are most active in the provinces of AGRIGENTO and CALTANISSETTA, and the town of FAVARA in the province of AGRIGENTO continues to be the "university of crime." As an example of conditions in this area, one can cite the fact that in the months of August, September and October, no less than forty-six (46) persons have been kidnaped on the broken-down road between AGRIGENTO and LICATA, a stretch of thirty-three kilometres. As another example, attached and incorporated in this report as Exhibit "A", is a chart of the number of crimes committed in the Province of PALERMO in the months of August, September and October. PALERMO is but one of the ten provinces of Sicily, so the chart is attached to give the reader an idea of existing conditions on the island.

#### 4. POLICE AND CARABINIERI:

To combat the crime wave, there are the Public Security agents and the Carabinieri. The Public Security has lost much prestige of late, due to the lackadaisical attitude and black market activities of some of their members, and also due to the fact that a Commisario in PALERMO was recently arrested as being the head of a band of kidnappers. In this branch of law enforcement, even some of the best officials are becoming discouraged at the rise in crime and consequently take a "don't give a damn" attitude. There is a definite lack of transport for the agents and a shortage of arms. As in Fascist days, the political sections of the various stations are too large and the criminal sections are much too small. All of the agents attempt to work with the political sections because the work is more pleasant, the hours are better, and there is much less personal risk. The lack of lighting in many large cities has assisted the criminals and hampered the work of the police.

The Carabinieri still maintain some of their prestige and the individual officers and men continue to do their utmost to combat crime, however they are hampered by lack of personnel, arms, ammunition and transport. When a raid in any province has to be made, it is necessary to call in all Carabinieri from the outlying towns and villages in order to have enough manpower and fire-power to cope with the bandits. The Captain of the Carabinieri of the province of AGRIGENTO declared that if they were not given more men, equipment and transport, the bandits could take over the various Carabinieri stations. The Commander of the Carabinieri in Sicily, Colonel 'CALABRO', has requested an additional three thousand men, with modern arms and transport and radio equipment, and has stated that then, and only then, could law and order be obtained. Countless words could be written about this phase of life in Sicily, however this report is being written to present a general picture of conditions on the island.

#### 5. MILITARY/FEA SUPPLIES:

1931

In the three month period, August-September-October, the following amounts of MIL/FEA merchandise have arrived in Sicily:

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COAL - 41,593 tons  
WHEAT - 30,703 tons  
FLOUR - 4,015 tons  
PEAS & SUGAR - 3,403 tons

The following procedure is used. - The goods arrive from America under the supervision of the War Shipping Administration. The ships are unloaded and the goods are placed on the wharves. There, the "Consorzio Agrario" or state controlled agricultural pool takes charge of transporting the merchandise to the warehouses. This transportation is by horse and wagon and no trucks are used. In the case of the transporting of the coal, the Italian Chamber of Commerce allots the quantities to private contractors who transport the coal to the points where it is needed most, that is, to the railroad, the gas and electric company, the chemical factory, and a few small industries. In view of the fact that there are insufficient personnel to adequately supervise shipments and distribution, there results the usual graft and all of the merchandise is not distributed but instead, finds its way into the black market. The allocation of the contracts to the individual transporters is a matter of favoritism and who offers the largest bribe. Some ex-Fascists have found their way into important positions and consequently the people are very resentful. An example of this is that the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, one CANTELAROTTE, is a former Squadrista wounded while fighting for Fascism.

As yet no clothing has been received and that is one of the articles needed most. A shipment of medical supplies was distributed in Sicily, with good supervision, but the people who were the recipients of this merchandise have preferred old-fashioned methods and have sold their new medical supplies. An example of this is the selling by expectant mothers of their obstetrical kits for as high as eight thousand (8,000) lire, and then requesting more aid when the baby arrives.

#### 6. TRANSPORTATION:

In substance, there is a crying need for every type of transport from bicycles to trains. Auto transport is very difficult as the streets and roads are in such a poor condition that all types of vehicles break down and due to lack of parts and machine shops to make new parts, all repair work must be improvised. Trucks are scarce and what few good ones there are are occupied with the transport of black market merchandise.

Regarding the trains, an over-crowding exists in the very limited train service. People must use the trains in order to go to work and then return to their homes. A good percentage of the trains are uncovered and in many instances humans, animals and baggage are treated alike. The large number of ex-prisoners and refugees all land at Messina and are usually stationed there for days because there are only two daily departures from Messina, one for PALERMO and one for CATANIA.

1933

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The theoretical monthly assignment of coal for the Sicilian railways is nine thousand (9,000) tons, in itself insufficient, and is a quota that has never been given. The difference in the amount of coal assigned and that given has brought about the suspension of several passenger and train services.

The ferryboat service between MESSINA and the mainland is very poor, as the boats continually break down and take ages to repair.

Bus service is very poor in all sections because of the lack of tires.

Tram service in the larger cities is remarkably good, although the trams are in poor condition and always overcrowded.

7. TELEPHONE SYSTEM:

Here is one of the bright spots of this report as four-fifths of the pre-war telephone service has been reactivated and the only reason that the other fifth is not functioning is due to the lack of telephone sets. The long distance phone service works fairly well and it is comparatively easy to phone from MESSINA and CATANIA to PALERMO.

8. SANITARY CONDITIONS:

Sicily was never famous for its sanitation, but was never in the uncivilized state in which it is today. The lack of disease can best be attributed to personal immunity of the Sicilians rather than to any preventive measures. Some cases of abdominal typhus have appeared in CALTANISSETTA, ENNA and PALERMO, but they are very few in number so as not to cause any grave concern. Malaria is practically non-existent due mainly to the lack of rainfall. About ten cases of meningitis have appeared in the last three months. Intestinal influenza is fairly prevalent in all sections of the island.

Living conditions are such that disease is invited. For fear of having animals stolen, many of the smaller farmers bring their pigs, sheep and goats to their homes and in many cases sleep in the same rooms. The lack of water for washing has resulted in many skin diseases in all sections of the island. Medicinal supplies are very low and prices are exorbitant. The aqueducts are either dry or in poor condition because of lack of repair to the turbines.

9. BLACK MARKET:

Food is more abundant in Sicily than in other parts of Italy and consequently the black market prices are much lower than in other sections. Following are the current prices:

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Macaroni	120 Lire per kilogram
Bread (White)	100 Lire per kilogram
Oil	330 Lire per litre

Meals in restaurants are much cheaper than in Italy proper as one can obtain a good meal with wine for two hundred fifty to three hundred lire.

Black market prices of clothing (mostly American) are very high. Most of the American clothing is brought from Naples and sold in Sicily. Blankets sell for thirty-five hundred (3,500) lire, shirts for eighteen hundred (1,800) lire, and shoes for five thousand (5,000) lire. Recently there has been a large influx of American cigarettes and the price has dropped from three hundred and fifty (350) lire to three hundred (300) lire a package.

The reason for the black market in foodstuffs is not from lack of food, but because the landowners refuse to bring the grain to the "ammasso" or common food pool. They do not wish to sell the grain to the government at legal prices, but prefer to hoard it and sift it into the black market. An example of this is that in the province of PALERMO, five hundred (500) of the larger landowners did not turn in any grain to the "ammasso." Most of the Sicilians are in favor of doing away with the "ammasso" as they claim that if this were done, more food would go into the open market and prices would be lower. All in all, the black market condition could be summed up as follows: in food - better than Italy proper; in other articles - worse than Italy proper.

#### 10. COURTS AND PRISONS:

The Sicilian judges and employees are the busiest men on the island. Many arrests are made and the biggest complaint is that many prisoners have to remain in jail from four to six months before they come to trial. Bureaucratic measures still prevail and many claim that the same system of justice is being used as during Fascism. On one occasion one of the Carabinieri in the court room took the law into his own hands and killed the defendant as the defendant awaited his sentence. However, this was only an isolated instance of family revenge, despite the fact that it caused much publicity in the newspapers.

The prison system, though far from modern, is not near as badly in need of amelioration as Regina Coeli in Rome or Poggioreale in Naples. The prisons are always crowded but the prisoners have enough to eat and sanitation conditions are fair.

#### 11. INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE:

Sicily is a non-industrial island and has only the Arendella Chemical Plant, two Cement plants, the Sulphur mines, and a few other factories

1928

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of lesser importance. Despite the damage caused by the war, most of the factories are back in operation and despite occasional strikes have practically reached pre-war production. The mines of sulphur in the province of AGRIGENTO have recently received permission to manufacture by-products and this should help the unemployment situation in that region.

The only goods that Sicilians are able to export in any quantities were lemons, oranges and olive oil. This year exportation should be renewed and inasmuch as the oranges and lemons will be of the highest quality, the fruit growers will be able to employ many people in the picking, crating and loading of these products. Contracts have already been made for shipping a quantity of fruit to England.

12. POLITICAL ASPECTS:

In this second half of the report, these Agents will attempt to give a general picture of the political situation on the island of Sicily.

a. SEPARATIST MOVEMENT:

After the departure of the Allied troops from Sicily, the Separatist movement began a propaganda to have Sicily for Sicilians. The well known leader of this movement was FINOCCHIARO-APRILE and his assistants were the lawyer Antonio VARVARO, the Professor CANEPA, and the lawyer Francesco RESTUCCIA. In the background were the TASCA brothers, Alessandro and Lucio, first Allied appointed mayor of PALERMO.

The Separatists, by their propaganda, led a great number of the people to believe that America and England were backing the movement, that Ford Motor Company was going to open up a huge plant in Sicily and other stores of the same kind. A so-called Separatist army known as E.V.I.S. (ESERCITO VOLONTARIO INDEPENDENTE SICILIANO) was formed under the leadership of Professor CANEPA. However, CANEPA was killed in a fight with the Carabinieri in RANDAZZO and he was succeeded by RESTUCCIA. The Separatist movement gained a great following in Sicily mainly due to the fact that Italy did not send any of the manufactured products to Sicily. All Separatists claimed that Italy was using Sicily only for what it could get out of Sicily in the line of raw materials. In Rome the newspaper "IL RISVEGLIO" (the re-awakening) was printed and though it is not the official organ of the Separatist Party, it does contain most of the Separatist ideologies. It is edited by CRISAFULLI and in Sicily about twenty thousand (20,000) copies are sold each week.

The E.V.I.S. is evidently an army that does not exist despite the fact that all over the island the following inscriptions are seen on the walls:

1927

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"VIVA L'EVIS  
VIVA TRUMAN"

or

"VIVA L'EVIS - VIVA L'AMERICA"

The E.V.I.S. seems to be something built up by shrewd propagandists to lend weight to their demands. When FINOCCHIARO Aprile, VARVO and RESTUCCIA were arrested and sent to the island of POMZA, many disturbances were expected but no trouble was encountered in any locality. The Separatists set up a clandestine radio station (reported to be near TRAPANI) and though all party headquarters were closed, the members of the movement were held together by this station. The order was given by the station for no one to begin any violence and this order was respected. The Separatist movement is still very strong and if the Italian government does not aid the people of Sicily in some manner, violence is liable to occur.

b. COMMUNISM:

In June and July 1944, the Communists in Sicily were fairly strong and very well organized. At that time the ideological Communists and the agitator type were banded together and had a potent nucleus in each province. Since that time the P.C.I. has lost a considerable amount of prestige and supporters for the following reasons:

1. TRIESTE and position of TOGLIATTI.
2. Russia's asking for reparations.
- 3) Return of prisoners of war from Russia.

In PALERMO at one time there were ten thousand (10,000) members, but this number has slowly been reduced. On 4 November 1945 in PALERMO an open air meeting was held and was attended by three hundred (300) people, forty of them being Questura agents, sixty being curious and two hundred being actual Communists.

In PALERMO the daily newspaper "LA VOCE DELLA SICILIA" is the organ of the Communist Party. The director of this paper is LI CAUSI, Girolamo, a first-class agitator and probably the most important Communist in Sicily. In CATANIA there is a bi-weekly publication called "CIVILTA' COMUNISTA" edited by one PULVIRENTI MAURIZIO, which specializes in anti-English propaganda. It is poorly written and the typography is poor.

The Communists are fairly active in the interior of the island and in SIRACUSA. In the month of September in some localities, armed Communists seized oil destined for SIRACUSA and other cities and distributed it to the people of the smaller towns.

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The leading Communists in Sicily are:

- 1) LI CAUSI, Girolamo - Via Merchese Ugo #32, Palermo
- 2) GIAMMARINARO, Giuseppe - Via Colonna Rotta #74 (Youth Leader) Palermo.
- 3) GERVASI, Ettore - Via Domenico Costantino # 26.
- 4) DI DENEDETTO, Salvatore
- 5) GROSSO, Franco

**13. STRIKES AND DISORDERS:**

Strikes have become quite the fashion in Sicily in the last two months. The printers, railroad workers, public utility workers, hospital employees, state employees, and even the street cleaners have all taken their turn at striking. All strikes are for higher wages to conform to the increased cost of living.

In addition to the strikes there have been numerous demonstrations including those

- a. By returned prisoners of war who seek employment.
- b. By the bakers for more fuel.
- c. By the members of the "CAMERA DEL LAVORO" to protest against the high cost of living.

**14. POLITICAL PARTIES:**

Sicily has the following political parties, with the names of the leaders written after each party:

- a. PARTITO DEMOCRATICO CRISTIANO - ALDISIO Salvatore (High Commissioner for Sicily); TRAINA, Giuseppe; CORTESE Pasquale; GUARDIONE Raimondo (a physician who enjoys much personal popularity; and PECORANNO Antonino.
- b. PARTITO SOCIALISTA - TROIA Salvatore, ADRAGNA NUNZIO GULLO Recco.
- c. PARTITO COMUNISTA - Given above.
- d. PARTITO DEMOCRATICO DEL LAVORO - LONGO Salvatore, PITRUZZELLA Salvatore, VICARE Francesco.
- e. PARTITO D'AZIONE - SCIALABBA Giuseppe, PURPURA Vincenzo, RAMIREZ, Antonio.
- f. PARTITO LIBERALE RIZZO - G. BATTESTA, LO MONTE Giovanni.

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g. PARTITO REPUBBLICANO - ROMEO GIROLAMO, BARNATI CIRCLAMO and LO CIGERO LORENZO.

h. PARTITO DEMOCRATICO - NOTARBANTOLO Pietro, LA PLACA Gastano, CEBARE GIULIO.

A few more organizations have sprung up recently in Sicily, among them being:

MOVIMENTO CARIBALDINO ANTIFASCISTA PARTOIANO D'ITALIA - The leading exponent of this movement is the lawyer GRISAPULLI Michele.

MOVIMENTO AUTONOMIA SICILIANO - This is the rich man's movement, a front organization for the Monarchists, fairly strong in CATANIA and MESSINA. Leaders are General MARTINEZ and the lawyer LA MONACO.

FRONTE DELL'UOMO QUALUNQUE - The newspaper of GIANNINI L'UOMO QUALUNQUE is extremely popular in Sicily, particularly in CATANIA and AGRIENTO. All copies are avidly read and in many instances resold. Five sections of the movement have been set up in PALERMO, CATANIA, ENNA, SIRACUSA and NIGOLIA, and though the number of enrolled members is small, the movement enjoys much popularity. If GIANNINI should make a positive movement toward forming a party, the number of enrollees would soar. The Sicilian leader is VIOLA, Antonio.

The Monarchists of late have been starting a propaganda campaign to conform with their policy in Italy. The rich and the army officers form the majority of the enrollees and although numerically few they are potentially strong.

15. FASCISM AND EPURATION:

Fascism was never very popular in Sicily and consequently epuration has not been very necessary. In some instances the people complain about former fascists being in public office but it is the exception and not the rule. All public officials have been impregnated with Fascism during the twenty years in Italy, and consequently Fascist methods are often used. One of the most glaring examples of Fascists in Public Office and one that goes against the grain of many Sicilians is the Questore of PALERMO, ROSSELLI, who was a former bodyguard of MUSSOLINI. Another example has already been cited in the first part of this report.

16. OPINION OF AMERICANS, ENGLISH, RUSSIANS:

The Americans are sincerely well liked by the Sicilians, mainly because practically every Sicilian has relatives in America. To strengthen this bond, the prisoners who have returned from America have spread much word of mouth propaganda about the good treatment they received.

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The English are not liked as much personally as the Americans but they are respected and admired. The average Sicilian looks to England for assistance but does not want England to attempt to use Sicily as another base in the Mediterranean. They look to England as a bulwark against Communism and for that reason want to be friendly. Some of the anti-English propaganda instilled by Fascist schools still remains in the minds of many Sicilians.

The average Sicilian did not have any idea about the Russians until the prisoners began to return. The fact that Russia asked for reparations and the fact that the prisoners of war who have returned from Russia have spread much anti-Soviet propaganda have embittered the Sicilians against the Russians. Russia has not done anything to aid Sicily and the Sicilian only likes the people who help him.

### AGENTS' COMMENTS:

War as usual is having its aftermath in Sicily. The "roaring twenties" in America were nothing compared with Sicily of today. The twenty years of Fascism with its handcuffing of liberty has brought about the result that every Sicilian feels like a boy on the last day of school. They believe that liberty means lack of order and discipline and are acting accordingly. The unsettled condition of the Italian government has not helped the situation. The average Sicilian considers the present members of the government as a group of opportunists and speculators who are looking out for their personal welfare rather than the good of the country. All of these reasons make for poor living and the people of Sicily are doing just that, living poorly.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

Thousands of recommendations could be made, but since this report gives only a general picture only the more important will be included.

1. The first and most important is coal, without it the trains do not run, the lights do not light, the water does not flow, and the factories do not manufacture. An increase in the shipment of coal is urgently necessary if public order is ever going to be restored.

2. Improvement in transportation - The poor condition of the roads, bridges and streets is not conducive to good transportation. If these conditions were improved and more transport made available, the manufactured goods from Northern Italy would be available on the Sicilian market, more people would have employment and crime would decrease.

3. Enlarging of the Carabinieri - The number of Carabinieri in Sicily is too few to actively cope with the crime situation. Not only more men are needed, but also more vehicles, arms and ammunition so that they will learn to respect the laws. 1023

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4. Clothing - Clothing is scarce in Sicily, particularly in the internal provinces. If Sicilians are to pass the winter without disease they must be clothed and shod immediately.

5. ~~More active cooperation by the Italian government~~ - In order to insure public order in Sicily, the Italian government must take all possible steps to see that a just percentage of all equipment bought from the Allies is allocated to Sicily. In this manner the Sicilian would not consider himself a step-child and more confidence in the government could be obtained.

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## STATISTICS OF THE GIVEN OFFENCES

KIND OF OFFENCES	Approximate number in August	Approximate number in September	Approximate number in October	Total
1. Homicides	17	21	10	45
2. Attempted homicides	12	9	10	31
3. Infanticides	-	-	-	-
4. Armed injuries	14	13	11	38
5. Abortions	3	2	4	9
6. Sex crimes	6	3	3	12
7. Abductions	3	0	1	4
8. Kidnappings	3	2	3	8
9. Petty thefts	149	183	116	448
10. Serious thefts	189	213	148	547
11. Robbery	44	55	41	140
12. Extortions	6	4	7	17
13. Swindlings	5	4	4	13
14. Embezzlements	1	2	1	4
15. Counterfeitings	9	6	6	21
16. Arson	8	12	5	25

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EXHIBIT "A"

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