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

ACC

10000/109/621
(VOL. II)

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

10000/109/621
(VOL. II)

LOCAL GOV'T ELECTIONS
JULY - OCT. 1945

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

NUMBER

MAIL CONTROL RECORD AND RECEIPT

FROM: CRO, OCMH

DATE: 27 Feb 56

FILE: 56-44

SUSPENSE DATE:

SUBJECT: Loan of Document

SUMMARY: AO 946 10000/109/621

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET.

ROUTING AND RECEIPT

TO, DATE, TIME: 27 Feb 56 to Miss I. Allen

SIGNATURE:

TO, DATE, TIME:

SIGNATURE: Ina Allen

TO, DATE, TIME:

SIGNATURE:

TO, DATE, TIME:

SIGNATURE:

TO, DATE, TIME:

SIGNATURE:

ACTION TAKEN

REMARKS

OCS FORM 463
1 NOV. 53

EDITION OF 1 JUN 53 MAY BE USED

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1956-340722

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

NUMBER	MAIL CONTROL RECORD AND RECEIPT	ROUTING AND RECEIPT
FROM: CRO, OCMH	DATE: 27 Feb 56	TO, DATE, TIME: 27 Feb 56 to Miss I. Allen SIGNATURE
FILE: 56-44	SUSPENSE DATE:	TO, DATE, TIME: SIGNATURE: Ina Allen
SUBJECT: Loan of Document		TO, DATE, TIME: SIGNATURE:
SUMMARY: AG 946 10000/109/621 CLASSIFICATION: SECRET.		TO, DATE, TIME: SIGNATURE: TO, DATE, TIME: SIGNATURE:
ACTION TAKEN	REMARKS	

OCS FORM 1 NOV. 53 463 EDITION OF 1 JUN 53 MAY BE USED

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1955-340995

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

NUMBER

MAIL CONTROL RECORD AND RECEIPT

FROM: CRO, OCMH

DATE: 27 Feb 56

FILE: 56-44

SUSPENSE DATE:

SUBJECT: Loss of Document

SUMMARY: AG 946 10000/109/621

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET.

ACTION TAKEN

REMARKS

ROUTING AND RECEIPT

TO, DATE, TIME	SIGNATURE
27 Feb 56 to Miss I. Allen	

OCS FORM 463
1 NOV. 51

EDITION OF 1 JUN 53 MAY BE USED

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1953-346914

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

NUMBER

MAIL CONTROL RECORD AND RECEIPT

FROM: CRO, OCIH

DATE: 27 Feb 56

FILE: 56-44

SUSPENSE DATE:

SUBJECT: Loss of Documents

SUMMARY: AG 946 20000/109/621

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET.

ACTION TAKEN

REMARKS

ROUTING AND RECEIPT

TO. DATE. TIME	SIGNATURE
27 Feb 56 to Miss I. Allen	

OCS FORM 1 NOV. 52 463

EDITION OF 1 JUN 53 MAY BE USED

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1953—340983

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

NUMBER 1

MAIL CONTROL RECORD AND RECEIPT

FROM: CRO, OCIME

DATE: 27 Feb 56

FILE: 56-44

SUSPENSE DATE:

SUBJECT: Loss of Document

SUMMARY: AO 946 10000/109/621

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET.

ACTION TAKEN

REMARKS

ROUTING AND RECEIPT

TO, DATE, TIME	SIGNATURE
27 Feb 56 to Miss I. Allen	
TO, DATE, TIME	SIGNATURE
TO, DATE, TIME	SIGNATURE
TO, DATE, TIME	SIGNATURE
TO, DATE, TIME	SIGNATURE

OCS FORM 1 NOV. 53 463 EDITION OF 1 JUN 53 MAY BE USED

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1953-348798

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201.

NOV 1 RECD
1531

Chief Commissioner.

199

Attached is submitted for your ~~signature~~ approval
information

5612

DS (A)x. Noted by CC

Ex Com has already seen on matter filing [illegible]

C.S.O. 600. Ex Com 12/10.

193 is in reply to 187 a memo by Ex. C.
Ref para 2 of 193 the memo is that at 20
a copy of which was previously presented
to Ex C. prior to a meeting.

EBB 11/10

A/CSO.

~~27.~~ 195

Ex. C. will want to see 193 a encl.

BD 30/10.

~~28~~ 196.

Ex Com. The substance of fol. ~~193~~ was discussed at Ex Com. meeting today. The enclosed memo rounds it out a bit

Encl 30/10

~~33~~ 200.

Ex Com. Fol. ~~198-199~~ 198-199 for info

Encl 31/10

~~34~~ 205

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

Es Com. [illegible]
at Es Com. meeting today The enclosed
memo rounds it out a bit

Ernst 30/10

~~13~~ 200.

Es Com. Jul. ~~30~~ 198-199 for info

Ernst 31/10

~~39~~ 205

5671

CLOSED

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

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191.

Note Ref 46[17] spoke L.G. S/C - They are sending down a letter explaining that subject is covered in a report of theirs.

B.U. 12/10 if letter has not arrived 5/70

9/10

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144

V.P. CAS Bldg — all enclosures.

DR 1715

178.

L.G. Sub Commission

To see 175-176 summaries. Suggest we take a copy of 176 for our relevant file. Turned back to Admin re 176 1/19. MC. V.P. C.A.S.

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173.

Executive Commissioner:

The Chief Commissioner desires to see you re the attached letter from the American Ambassador.

10/9

I.M.S.
80 to CC

9.10.19.

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C A Section 149

24 Sept. Ref. minute 178, for which noted: copy of 76. taken as instructed. We have spoken (Brig. Carr - Col. Coffin) re 146.

Lt Director G.S.(C)

EC.6. 179A

Noted thank you

CA.3
24 SEP. 1942

CA Section 149

24 Sept. Ref. minute 179, for which noted: copy of 176 taken as
minuted. We have spoken (Brig. Carr - Col. Griffin) re 176.

4
6

EC.5. 179A

noted thank you

CA.3
24 SEP 1945

185

C.S.O. 184 for info.

5669

190

Ex-Com. P. 189 for info only

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

to
Sir.

169

Executive Commissioner.

Ref. Col. Bowman's letter at 164, at 170 is submitted draft letter for signature by CC, and at draft memorandum to Col. Bowman for signature by you, both for your approval.

3 Oct. 45.

T-Hine

C.S.C.

PA. Will see CC

WW 4/X

Action taken on file 7003/EC.

P to Brsen. WW 24/X

Ex. Com.

171

Sir,

Action has been taken on the part of Col. Bowman's letter, marked in red at F. 62, on another file.

No action WW 1/XI

Do you wish to take any action on the first part of his letter. Folio 64 opposite was a draft reply with which you did not agree.

PA. 1/11

P 10 to 15 Jan 1921 → Action taken on File 7003/EC.

Ex. Com.

171

Sir,

Action has been taken on the part of Col. Boosmans letter, marked in red at F. 2A. on another file.

No action HH 1/11/21

Do you wish to take any action on the first part of his letter. Folio 4 opposite was a draft reply with which you did not agree.

P.A. 2/11

5668

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Ey. Comm. 165.

I find Col. Bowman's remarks to the press quite in order. Regarding local elections in V. G. I feel we should confine our thinking & activities & the preparations & the electoral lists only in that area for the present. By the time necessary preparations for voting have been completed we may know more about the future of V. G. - In any event we can cross that bridge when we come to it.

J. W. Kelly Jones - Pol. Adl. (Am)
Sept. 5/45

166.

I think Col. Bowman might properly leave out with the open or the last question and said, what is the legal fact. that the whole of Venezia Julia remains Italian until otherwise disposed of in the peace treaty. otherwise I agree with Mr. Jones.

5837

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

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

...military preparations for voting have been completed we may know more about the future of V.G. - In any event we can cross that bridge when we come to it.

J Wesley Jones - Pol. Adv. (Aus)
Sept. 5/45

166.

I think Col. Bowman might properly have come out with him open on the last question and said, what is the legal fact, that the whole of Venezia Julia remains Italian until otherwise disposed of in the peace treaty, otherwise I agree with Mr. Jones.

5637

Pol Adv. (B)

Executive Commissioner 4 167 Sept. 6

Ref folio 166 + attachments - Please see memos 165-6 & 167 above - Pol. Adv. views on Col Bowman's press conference. Both appear to agree with Col. Bowman's statement.

(See Folio 166)

T/9.

Encl.

(161)

Declaration of Col. G AFHQ. 785017

P. A. M Sgt.

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

55066

(151)

Civil Affair Section

P Folio Kind enclosures passed to you for information as instructed by C.C.

Please return to this office.

Lt Col Kenneley for Maj Gen.
29/8

Office of Executive Commissioner

(3)
152

Local government Section

Ref Minute (A)15. On page 1566 of the Journal officiel de la Republique Française for 23 march 45 will be found the action taken at recent elections in France to ensure that the inadequate supply of paper available was distributed as equitably as possible amongst the candidates. Passed to you for information in view of present paper shortage here.
Please return.
29 Aug 45

H H Sbladley Col
CSO CA Sec

noted. RPT
30 aug.

ECS

153

Passed to you

H H Sbladley Lt Col.

CA.S
4 SEP 1945

160

E.C

Ref: 156.

Ambassadors

5605

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

Ref Minute ② on page 1566 of the Journal officiel de la République Française for 23 March 45 will be found the action taken at recent elections in France to ensure that the inadequate supply of paper available was distributed as equitably as possible amongst the candidates. Passed to you for information in view of present paper shortage here.
Please return.
29 Aug 45

H H Stabler Col
CSO CA Sec

noted. RRT
30 aug.

ECS

153

Passed to you

CA-5
4 SEP 1945

160

E.C

Ref: 156.

Ambassadors

favor both

your proposals,

see doc I.

Pls implement

(156 Refers) Enc

cc

5605

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

Mr. Lucas

140

Copy of a letter to the Lt. P.M has already been submitted to Ex Comm + C.C. + has been approved. on 16/8/45. - Presume Copy will be sent when Typed in final form. for C.C to sig.

Sd
16/8/45

144

Ex Comm

Troops please see folio 143

Sd
21/8

21/8 Noted. 2.

Fur Ex Comms. meeting (re electricity in V.G)

DISCUSSED

DV 28/8

DV 28/8

5664

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E, Cmar

130 (124)

I have every sympathy with the suggestion contained in AMG letter of July 28 from Naples. If the Italians could accomplish this themselves, which is not improbable, it would undoubtedly be of great benefit to their political system and stability. I feel, however, that it cannot be accomplished by imposition from without but is something which can be achieved only through experience by the Italians themselves.

J. Wesley Jones
Political Adviser (A)

Copy to Political Adviser (B)

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131

Secretary Commissions

Please see Pol Adv's comments on folio 125 at numbers 129 & 130. Suggested DO reply to Col. Pennycook enclosed at folio #134 133.

4/8/45.

C&O.

132
Issue DS/C/18.

5603

134
Note. At 120 and 127 for Bolvi - read BOERI. He will go to get a personal

131

Executive Commission.

Please see Pol Adv's comments on folio 125 at minutes 129 & 130. Suggested DO reply & Col. Remyonck enclosed at folio ~~134~~ 133.

4/8/45.

C&O.

132

Issue DS/C/18.

5603

134

Note. At 120 and 127 for Belmi - read BOERI. He will go to get a personal opinion on the situation for BOERI and has no powers.

DSK/18.

138 -

Sec Comm

You should read 136 & 137 before the meeting (3 pm) tomorrow

139. Sec 13/8.

C.S.O,

I understand V P CAS is drafting a letter to the P.M. confirming his original suggestion DS/C/18

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Sir Evans

112.

Please see folio 111 for info

RWK.

113.

R.C. Smith has sent us his proposals
to L.O.S (in file 7002) in a letter
which crossed with 111

MV 24/7

24/7

Sir Evans

117

F.S.O.

Folios 114, 115 and 116 for information. Refer to statements on Italian elections
attributed to spokesman of A.C.

RWK 27/7

27/7

MV

Please have copy sent to GSAFHQ for
whom I provided one. Done See 121

MV 27/7

126.

Postals A & B.

5602

letter of 125 would

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

E.S.O.

117

Folios 114, 115 and 116 for information. Refer to statements on Italian elections attributed to spokesman of A.C.

RWK 27/7

117

Fr. 27/1

Please low copy sent to GS AFHQ to whom 9 forwarded one. Done. See 121

MS (27/5

126.

Potads A & B.

5602

Your comments on letter of 125th would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely
L.K.Comm

1/6

128

C.S.O. — Please see at 122. P.M.'s reply to C.C.'s letter re election statements by A.C spokesman

RWK 1/8

Ex Comm 8

129

I am afraid I do not think that the Italians are capable of putting through such a drastic plan by themselves, on the other hand, given our present relationship to the Italian front, I do not think we could or should try to impose it on them

Attorney

3

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2806

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AC/45/A/LG

Tel: 478706

SUBJECT: Elections.

30 October 1945

TO : Executive Commissioner.

OCT 30 1945

1. Last week the Chief Commissioner requested a short note to be prepared upon the difference between voting for single-member constituencies and the proportional representation system in Italy, and the annexed note has been prepared by Local Government Sub Commission accordingly.

M. CARR
Brigadier
VP CA Section

CARR/pec

Copy to: Polad (A)
" (B)

5681

(MISS SAMPSON)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSI
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

(48)

MEMORANDUM on "Single-Member Constituencies" and Proportional Representation

1. "Single-member constituencies" are those where the voters of a given area have to choose one representative only out of the various candidates. The Italian term for constituency or election district is "college" and single-member constituencies are called "uninominal colleges". Where the electors of a constituency have to return 2 or more representatives, it is called a "multi-member constituency", or, in Italian phrase, a "multi-nominal college".

2. The time-honoured method of evaluating the votes cast is to consider as elected the candidate or candidates who receive the highest number of votes. This is called the "majority system".

3. An objection generally taken to the majority system is that the minority receives no representation. Under a two-party political system, such unrepresentated minorities are often large. Where there are several political parties in the field, the sum of the unrepresented minorities in each constituency is almost certain to be a majority of the country as a whole.

4. To meet this last criticism, there are alternative methods of evaluating votes which are intended to give representation to minorities by proportioning the numbers of those elected to the votes cast. There are numerous devices and combinations of devices for effecting this purpose, but they are all classified as "proportional representation".

5. Any system of proportional representation pre-supposes multi-member constituencies. There can obviously be no question of apportioning seats if there is only one to be filled. Moreover, the bigger the constituencies, and the greater the number of seats assigned to each, the more accurately can the distribution of the seats in proportion to the votes cast be effected.

6. An elementary form of proportional representation was used in Italy for local elections under the 1915 Law. The elector was only allowed to vote for four-fifths of the seats to be filled. Thus, if the Communal Council consisted of 20 members, the elector had only 16 votes. The idea is that thereby the majority party on the elected body should never have more than four-fifths of the seats and that the minority must get the other one-fifth. In practice, however, it has been found that a powerful party can capture all the seats by ingenious instructions to its supporters as to just which of its candidates to vote for at the various polling stations.

7. In the 1919 Law for Parliamentary elections a more truly proportional representation system was adopted—and one of the simplest. The constituencies were the provinces (or combined provinces) and they returned from 5 to 20 Deputies each. The "list system" was adopted, i.e. the elector voted for the party's list of candidates and not for the individuals composing the list. The seats belonging to the constituency were then distributed among the parties in proportion to the votes given to the lists.

8. Having distributed the seats among the parties, it remained to be de-

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8. Having distributed the seats among the parties, it remained to be decided which of the candidates on a party's list were to fill its seats. For this purpose the voter was allowed, in addition to voting for the list, to express preferences as to the candidates he would like to see elected and the party's candidates who received the highest number of preference votes were declared elected. The elector was not obliged to state a preference and if preference votes were not expressed then the order in which the candidates were named in the lists determined those who filled the seats. The elector had from 1 to 4 preference votes, according to the number of Deputies assigned to his constituency.

9. This system, in essentials, is now suggested for (a) the Constituent Assembly elections and (b) local elections in Communes of 30,000 or more inhabitants. For Communes of less than 30,000 people the "limited vote" of the 1915 Law is proposed.

C. G. R. WILLIAMS, Major
Executive Officer
Local Government Sub Commission

CGRW/pec

Distribution:
Chief Commissioner
Exec. Commissioner
Polad (A)
" (B)
AC/45/A/LG
Spare

7491

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

28 6 46

Ex b.

199

AC/45/12/LG

19 October 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

You will recollect that I wrote to you on 20 August 1945 as to the proposal to appoint a Special Commission for the Province of Bolzano and neighbouring territories for the examination of doubtful cases of citizenship, in connection with the preparation of the electoral lists. I wrote to you again on 21 September, pointing out the urgency of a decision, but I have not yet had any reply from you.

From reports submitted to me, it appears that the authorities in the areas in question will shortly reach the point at which they will be unable to make any further progress in the preparation of electoral lists, because of the unsettled problem of the citizenship of many of the inhabitants. Moreover, the nature of the duties which the Special Commission itself will have to perform is such as will require time. There is accordingly a danger that the electoral lists for Bolzano and the neighbouring areas may not be completed until a date considerably later than the rest of Northern Italy. Such a situation might in turn raise serious problems as to the date for the holding of elections.

The Allied Commission therefore considers that the Special Commission ought to be appointed and begin its labours immediately.

As an alternative to the appointment of the Special Commission by the Italian Government, it would be within the power of Allied Military Government itself to appoint the Special Commission and to define its functions and to ensure that it discharges its duties with all possible speed: and its acts would, of course, be binding on the Italian Government. It is much to be preferred that the Commission be constituted by the Italian Government with the approval of the Allied Commission. If, however, the Italian Government is not able to establish the Special Commission in the immediate future, it may be necessary for the Commission to be appointed and set in motion by the Allies. In my letter I also drew attention to the desirability of your Government making as full a statement as possible on its intention in respect of the Upper Adige.

I trust that the Italian Government will take immediate action in these matters and that you will reply to my letter very shortly.

Yours very truly,

1/ 5659

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

See J. 221

cc:
Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Polad (A)
Polad (B)

Regional Commissioner,
Venezie Region. (Copy for Provincial Commissioner,
Bolzano Province).

(PA)

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2806 46

193

ALLIED [redacted] COMMISSION

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Tel. Ext. 525.

SUBJECT:

FILE No.

TO : Executive Commissioner. 9 Oct 1945

KG

OCT 10 1945

Reference attached.

1 A memorandum has already been prepared and circulated on the situation as regards electoral rolls and procedure for elections.

2 The CC is fully informed on the subject because he was present at the meeting of the Advisory Council for which a memorandum was prepared and at which it was read. A copy of the memorandum was sent to your office and a further copy is now attached.

I think you were away at the time this memorandum was prepared but your staff should be aware of its existence.

3 A close watch is being kept on the progress in the compilation of electoral lists being made in AMG territory.

MCS

56.10

Ack h 194-5-6

M. CAUL, Brig.
VI CA Section.

10

(CAPT BARNACLE) eKO 10/10

(197)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Background and Present Status of Plans for the Holding of Local and National Elections in Italy. 27 September 1945

1. PRESENT SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT

The Fascist system of central and local government has been totally abolished. In the place of Fascist local authorities, the essential democratic bodies envisaged by the pre-Fascist law of 1915 have been restored throughout Italy on an appointive basis. This system of local government is a temporary one, pending the restoration of elections. No elective national legislature is yet in existence.

2. Before elected central or local governments can be established, the following preparations must be made:--

(i) Those who have the right to vote must be defined:

(ii) Registers of the electors must be prepared:

(iii) The types of elective local authorities to be established must be determined:

(iv) A procedure for voting for these local authorities must be laid down:

(v) The procedure for voting for the national legislature must also be determined:

(vi) The necessary accessories for the actual holding of the elections, e.g. booths, urns, stamps, voting places, etc., must be provided.

3. FRANCHISE

By Italian law all Italian citizens, men and women, who have reached the age of 21 by 31 December 1945 are qualified to be registered. The law prescribes certain persons who may not be registered, some of whom are lunatics, bankrupts, persons habitually receiving public assistance, persons sentenced to a number of specified crimes and persons found guilty of Fascist activity. The last named group includes high-ranking officials of the former Fascist Party, those persons convicted by regular Courts for Fascist crimes and those declared to be subject to loss of civil rights by special Provincial Commissions set up under article 8 of Decree No. 159 as to sanctions against Fascism.

5657

4. PREPARATION OF ELECTORS LISTS

The voters lists are prepared from the registers of permanent population kept in every Commune. From these the Mayor extracts the names of all qu...

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(iii) The types of elective local authorities to be established must be determined;

(iv) A procedure for voting for these local authorities must be laid down;

(v) The procedure for voting for the national legislature must also be determined;

(vi) The necessary mechanics for the actual holding of the elections, e.g. booths, urns, stamps, voting places, etc., must be provided.

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4. PREPARATION OF ELECTORS LISTS

The voters lists are prepared from the registers of permanent population kept in every Commune. From these the Mayor extracts the names of all over 21. He then obtains from the appropriate authorities lists of those disqualified and strikes them off. He then sends the lists for approval to the Electoral Commission, after which they become final. This procedure is enacted by a Decree of the Italian Government published in January 1945. A citizen is usually registered in the Commune in which he has permanent residence and in whose register of permanent population he is inscribed. However, refugees and evacuees may be registered in the Communes in which they are temporarily living. Provision is also made for citizens to be registered in the commune in which they have their principal seats of business or interests.

5. In February 1945, the Italian Government began the preparation of registers of voters in the territory then under its jurisdiction. The Italian Decree, however, was so drawn up that the preparation of the lists could not be undertaken in territory under Allied Military Government. At the request of the Allied Commission, the Italian Government amended their Decree so as to permit this. Shortly after this had been done, July 15th was set for beginning the compilation in Military Government Territory. Before that time, however, necessary preliminaries were put in hand. Instructions were issued for the bringing up-to-date of

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

(1949)

offered for their improvement to the end that this bottle-neck be eliminated. Fortunately, the Italian Government has approved a decree which will make it unnecessary for searches of criminal records of women to be made at the Provincial or the Central Registries. Since there is only 3% female criminality in the country it is held that a record search in the police offices will be sufficient in the case of women.

(c) Work of the Electoral Commissions. Some delay has been incurred in the completion of the lists of these Commissions due to the lack of judicial personnel, but principally due to the delay on the part of the Criminal Registries to send the lists to the proper authorities with exception of penal certificates.

2. REVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM:

The Italian Government has not yet decided what kinds of elective local bodies and officials are to be set up. Obviously elections cannot be held until people know when and what they are to vote for. In June 1945, the Ministry of the Interior published a project for this purpose. It envisages the re-establishment of the elective Communal and Provincial Councils provided for in the pre-Fascist local government law of 1915. The project is merely a technical study, submitted for consideration by the appropriate authorities in the Italian Government and is not necessarily the one that will ultimately be adopted, nor the only one to be considered. Any proposal for the establishment of local authorities has to be submitted for the opinion of the National Consultative Assembly.

3. VOTING PROCEDURE FOR LOCAL ELECTIONS

The above-mentioned project also contains a procedure for voting at local elections likewise based on the local government Law of 1915. The Allied Commission has made representations to the Italian Government, (both to the BONOMI and PARRI Governments) criticising the methods of voting as provided for in the Electoral Law of 1915 and suggesting that this Law be amended. The points raised were:

(i) No prior application of candidates is provided:

(ii) No official printed ballots by the state:

(iii) No guarantee against electioneering at the polls: 5656

(iv) No provision for voting by soldiers and non-commissioned officers while on service, although this right is afforded officers.

No response has been received from the Italian Government with regard to these criticisms, although the Allied Commission has recently been informed by the Minister of the Consultative Assembly that the criticisms would be submitted for consideration by the Council of Ministers.

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

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(i) No prior nomination of candidates is provided:

(ii) No official printed ballots by the state:

(iii) No guarantee against electioneering at the polls:

(iv) No provision for voting by soldiers and non-commissioned officers while on service, although this right is afforded officers.

5656

No response has been received from the Italian Government with regard to these criticisms, although the Allied Commission has recently been informed by the Minister of the Consultative Assembly that the criticisms would be submitted for consideration by the Council of Ministers.

11. VOTING PROCEDURE FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

No indication has been received from the Italian Government as to the voting procedure they propose to adopt for any national legislative body. The Minister for the Constituent Assembly has, however, established a Commission in his Ministry to study this subject and in particular the last pre-Fascist law on national elections, that of 1919. Any Law as to elections for the national legislature will also have to be submitted for the opinion of the National Consultative Assembly.

12. PRIORITY OF LOCAL OR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

It should be noted that the Italian Government has not decided whether national elections will precede local or vice versa. However, it will be possible to hold local elections at various dates as parts of the country, particularly in Southern and Central Italy, have completed the necessary preparatory work. The holding of national elections, however, will necessarily be dependent upon the

completion of all preparations in all parts of Italy. No elections can be held until decisions have been made on the foregoing important questions of local government system, voting procedure at local elections and voting procedure at national elections.

13. MECHANICS FOR VOTING

No difficulty is expected in connection with provided urns, booths, stamps and premises, in spite of the lack of material. It has been stated that the actual making of urns and booths will be completed by the end of October in Central and Southern Italy. Allied Force Headquarters has ordered the making available for the holding of elections of premises requisitioned by the military. The work of dividing the communes into voting districts is proceeding on time and should not be a factor for delay of the elections.

14. ESTIMATED ELECTORATE

It is estimated that of the total population of 43,000,000 in the country, about 26,000,000 will be put on the Electoral Registers of 1945. Of these, 15,000,000 are women. By way of comparison it may be noted that at the last General Election held in 1921, based upon the 1920 electoral list, 11,500,000 or 31% of the total population were registered and approximately 6,900,000 took part in the election. The lists for 1945 are more than double the 1921 lists because for the first time women will have the right to vote.

R. R. CRIPPS
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

RRC/GCA/pec

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

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

DO/BCS/10.

From :- Brigadier T.S. AIREY.

Headquarters,
13 Corps.

2nd October, 45.

Dear Lucius

Thank you for your DO letter of the 26th September. We will endeavour to keep you posted on all matters of likely interest, and I have given instructions for copies of correspondence such as 13/C/AIR/72/2/16 to be sent to ALCOM in future.

Yours

Brigadier M.S. LUSH, CBE, MC,
Executive Commissioner,
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION,
ROME.

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

2 Encl

186

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/1.4/LG

Tel: 470190

4 October 1945

OCT - 6 1945

SUBJECT: Preparation of Electoral Lists.

TO : Distribution as below.

1. Reference is made to Directive AC/45/1.4/LG dated 3 September 1945 on the appointment of Provincial Commissions under Art. 6 of ACA 159.

2. Some doubt has arisen as to the precise meaning of the reference to the "Presidents of the Courts of Appeals of each Province" in para 5 of the above-mentioned Directive.

3. This is not meant to imply that a Court of Appeals exists in each Province, but that Presidents of the Courts of Appeals serving each Province (one Court may serve many Provinces, are to be instructed to nominate 2 popular judges in each province under their jurisdiction.

/s/ ...

Ralph R. Bates
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

PB/poo

Distribution:

RC Liguria, Lombardia, Piemonte, Veronie } with copies for PCs

Chief Commissioner
Econ. Commissioner
Polad (A)
" (B)
Legal Sub Commission

ACC Commissioner - Naples
" " - Aosta
" " - Pian-Livorno
CAO Fertoleria (through Liaison Officer, Palermo)
" Lampedusa

5654

(Capt Bernabeau) DCS 8/10

Ref/210/EC

(187)

To: V.P., C.A.C.

4th October, 1945

You mentioned at the Vice Presidents meeting yesterday that the compilation of the Electoral lists was very much behind schedule confirming Mr. Jones statement that the real reason for delay in holding elections was the inadequacy in this work.

This is very disturbing. I should be glad if you would prepare a short memorandum for the Chief Commissioner giving such facts and figures as are available to you (a) in Italian territory (b) in AMG territory.

You will no doubt draw the attention of Regional Commissioners to any delay in AMG territory and instruct them to concentrate on fulfillment of the task.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

4/10/45

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

~~C.C.~~

See No. 191
" 193

B/V

5653

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

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You will no doubt draw the attention of Regional Commissioners to any delay in AMG territory and instruct them to concentrate on fulfillment of the task.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

/s/ H S Lush.

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

See No. 191
& 193

B/U
5653

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

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

2806 FI

15 A

~~15 A~~

116

G-5: 000.1-1

28 September 1945

SUBJECT: Elections in Venezia Giulia.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394

~~T.J.D.~~ T.J."D" (4)

1. Reference your AC/45/19/LEG of 19 September 45.

2. Your views on the preparation of electoral lists for that part of Venezia Giulia administered by AMG are fully agreed. It is confirmed that there is no objection to obtaining the advice of Italian expert officials on technical questions of law and drafting.

A. L. HAMBLEN
Brigadier General, GSC
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

Copy to: AMG, Venezia Giulia
British Resident Minister
U.S. Political Adviser

See 209.

5652

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25069

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/14/LG

184

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Preparation of electoral lists - extension of time-limits.

28 September 1945

TO : Distribution as below.

OCT - 1 1945

1. Some Prefects have in recent fortnightly reports referred to the fact that certain communes have compiled their electoral lists as far as they can and are now waiting for the return of penal certificates from the various Judicial Record Offices before they can forward the lists to the Electoral Commissions for approval. The Prefects have suggested that these communes might be authorized to send their lists to the Electoral Commissions at once (without waiting for all the penal certificates) and to send the certificates to the Electoral Commissions afterwards, as and when they come in.

2. As regards the male electoral lists, this procedure is NOT permissible. The estimated percentage of disqualifying criminality among men is such that the course suggested carries too grave a risk of unqualified persons obtaining the right to vote. The point has been dealt with in Ministry of Interior circular 15600 L. of 18 July, forwarded by this Sub Commission for distribution to Prefects on 20 September 1945.

3. As regards the female electoral lists, it is permissible to forward them to the Electoral Commissions without waiting for all the penal certificates to come in, seeing that the estimated percentage of disqualifying criminality among women is much lower than among men. This was authorized by DLL 12 April 1945 No. 201, Art. 3, published in Official Gazette No. 59 of 17 May 1945.

4. The attention of Prefects should be drawn to the Decree and the circular above-mentioned. If for any reason they are not in possession of them, they should apply to the Ministry of the Interior for copies.

5. As regards extensions of time-limits generally, the cases when such are to be granted are strictly limited by two considerations:--

(a) Extensions are only applicable to the initial stage, i.e. the preparation of the "elenco", as to which see Ex. Memo. No. 5, paras 9 and 10 of the Schedule: extensions must not be granted in respect of any subsequent stage.

(b) Extensions of time for preparing the "elenco" must only be granted for reasons arising from the war: in practice this means only when communal records have suffered serious war damage.

Robert

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

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5650

R. R. CRIPPS
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

Distribution:
RCs Liguria
Lombardia
Piemonte
Venezie
} with copies for RCs

Chief Commissioner
Exec. Commissioner
Polad (A)
" (B)

See M.185

(Cafe Blanchard) 218 Ho

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

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

2806'98

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 093 MEI

19 September 1945

SUBJECT: Elections in Venezia Giulia

SEP 27 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394
Deputy British Resident Minister
US Political Adviser

Attached is a copy of Comd. XIII Corps reply to this Headquarters letter of 6 September 1945 on the above subject, a copy of which was sent to you.

/s/ F.C.A. Parsons
F.C.A. PARSONS
Brigadier G.S.
Deputy Asst Chief of Staff G-5

(ORIGINAL ON CASE
FILE AC/45/19/LC
SEEN THEREON BY CAPT BRAYBROOKE
C 30 X EX CMAR.)

5619

(PA)

(1 SPACE)

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

182

COPY

SUBJECT: Elections in Venezia Giulia

HQ 13 Corps

13C/AMG/72/2/16

15 September 1945

AFHQ for G-5

1. Your letter of 6 September 1945 refers.

2. I quite agree with your general comments concerning the desirability of introducing democratic institutions into the occupied portion of Venezia Giulia.

3. It is essential, however, that certain terms first be defined. A great deal of the talk about early elections has presupposed Italian elections, that is, elections accompanied by all of the formalities and preparatory work required by Italian law -- necessitating the use of Italian officials under, and the receiving of instructions from, the central Italian Government in Rome.

4. I feel that elections of this type would be inconsistent with our status as stakeholders and trustees, and should not be held at any time during the occupation.

5. Your letter is the first received which definitely implies that the elections under discussion might be elections to fill offices created by General Order 11, having no necessary relation to the permanent government of the territory and not necessitating communication with Italy. Elections of this type, I feel, could be held at some time during the occupation if it lasts long enough.

6. The principal consideration is the existence of a police force sufficient to guarantee the maintenance of order and an honest expression of choice, unaffected by duress or hysteria. Such a force would have to be not only adequate in size but well-trained. This will take time.

7. Even if a much less complicated system than the Italian one is adopted, registration and other preparation for elections is bound to be a lengthy process. Southern Italy has been occupied for over two years and preparation for tabulation of electoral rolls has been in progress for at least six months, yet informed persons are very doubtful that it will be possible to hold even local government elections in Italy before the spring of 1946.

8. It is my present opinion that in view of the facts that Venezia Giulia has as yet no operating civil police force at all, and that a considerable period of time will necessarily be consumed in preparing electoral rolls, no such election should be planned in Venezia Giulia to take place prior to January 1st, 1946.

9. As requested, six copies of General Order 11 are enclosed.

(sgd) John Harding

Lieut-General,
COMD.

5648

FILE

181

2806/Sc.

26th September 1945.

I have written to Brigadier Airey asking 178.
him to send copies of letters such as 13/G/AMG/72/2/16
to Alcon. You can help too by ensuring that this is
done.

/s/ M S LUSH

Brigadier.
Executive Commissioner.

Colonel A. Bowman,
S.C.A.C., A.M.G.,
Venezia Giulia.

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

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Brigadier.
Executive Commissioner.

Colonel A. Bowman,
M.C.A.C., A.M.G.,
Venezia Giulia.

5647

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

FILE
180

2806/Ed.

26th September 1945.

In order to keep contact with your thoughts it would be much appreciated of copies of letters such as your 13/G/AMG/72/2/16 could be sent to Alcon.

/s/ M S Losh

Brigadier.
Executive Commissioner.

Brigadier T.S.Airey, CB. CBE.,
XIII Corps.

See 7.181
189

5946

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

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/s/ M S Losh

Brigadier.
Executive Commissioner.

Brigadier T.S.Airey, CB. CBE.,
XIII Corps.

See 7.181
189

5946

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

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

COPY

(176)

Rome, September 15, 1945

My dear Mr. Minister,

I refer to Admiral Stone's letter of July 7, 1945, to the President of the Council of Ministers recommending that the basic Italian electoral laws be amended in certain respects to ensure the possibility of holding an independent, free and secret vote in Italy. Certain of the more glaring defects of the Italian electoral law were pointed out. I understand that the Chief Commissioner has not received any assurances from Professor Parri that the Italian Government intends to enact the necessary legislation.

I have been instructed by my Government to support in the fullest possible manner the Chief Commissioner's previous representations to Signor Bonomi and to Professor Parri on this subject and to urge upon the Italian Government early and serious consideration of the defects in the existing electoral system. My Government has particularly stressed the desirability of

1) providing for the control of electioneering at the polling places;

2) making adequate provision for formal nomination of candidates prior to the voting;

3) making provision for official ballots to be furnished by the local or national government (depending upon the type of election);

4) permitting non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Italian army, as well as officers and members of any other military corps in the service of the State to vote.

In this connection I should like to recall my conversation with you on August 24, after I had been received by the Prime Minister, in which I expressed the earnest hope of the Government of the United States that communal elections will have been held throughout Italian metropolitan territory before the end of this year, and to refer to my personal letter to you of September 11 containing further observations of my Government in regard to the desirability of beginning to hold immediately administrative elections in Italy. While my Government is of the opinion that a modification of the Italian electoral system along the lines described above is highly desirable, it does not consider that the holding of local elections should be delayed by failure to enact promptly the necessary amending legislation. It is the view of the United States Government that, as I have had occasion to point out previously to you and to the Prime Minister, the Italian Government should begin immediatly to prove to the world that Italy is a democratic nation where the normal democratic processes, expressed in local elections, exist.

Sincerely yours,

ALEXANDER KIRK

See ltr 9-9

(ORIGINAL COPY ON CC FILES)

5 Enc 21/9

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

COPY

(175)

The Government of the United States desires to reiterate its views that administrative elections demonstrate the workability of electoral machinery and, therefore, in the opinion of the Government of the United States should commence at once and should precede national elections. Furthermore, the arguments sighted for the postponement of elections have not impressed the Government of the United States.* It is felt that a Government which insists upon its democratic character should take the initial step of seeing that at least local officials in some sections of the nation should have achieved their powers through election by their fellow citizens. Likewise, no reason is seen why local elections in such communes as were first returned to the administration of the Italian Government should be further postponed, while the Council of Ministers is debating the question of first holding national elections. It is noted in addition that the law for the Constituent Assembly is still being discussed, and that therefore the national elections could not be held immediately, while on the other hand local elections in some of the communes could begin at once, and it would thus seem most desirable to begin holding these local elections immediately in the light of the many previous statements on this subject by the Italian Government. In this connection, it is finally noted that if the decision is later taken that the national elections should be held at once, a suspension of local elections would be possible until such time as national balloting might be completed.

The Government of the United States, in conclusion, will watch with interest the steps taken by the Italian Government with regard to this matter.

* On August 24th the President of the Council of Ministers informed the American Ambassador that the Italian Government has not as yet been able to reach an agreement as to when the elections should be held and also indicated the danger of local uprisings and Government crises during the elections.

5344

(ORIGINAL COPY ON CC FILES)

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

2806

CC 204 10 September 1945

Dear Mr. Kirk:

Thank you for your letter of 7 September 1945 relative to your official instructions from the U.S. State Department concerning elections and electoral procedure in Italy.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

The Hon. Alexander Kirk
The American Ambassador
119 Via Vittorio Veneto
Rome

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

2706

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERIC

AMERICAN EMBASSY

172

Rome, September 7, 1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

I have received official instructions from my Government concerning elections and electoral procedure in Italy which will be of interest to the Allied Commission.

On the assumption that the Italian Government will proceed with its plans for electoral lists for communal and provincial elections and will hold such elections at an early date, my Government is of the opinion that the Italian Government should be permitted to hold elections anywhere in Italy whenever it is ready, provided, however, that in those areas where Allied Military Government is to be maintained, pending the official settlement of frontier questions, local elections, must not be permitted to interfere with Allied Military Government administration.

My Government is of the opinion that the Allied Commission, operating through its Local Government Subcommission, should continue its function of rendering advice to the Italian Government to ensure that the procedure in local elections is fair, free and democratic, and, furthermore, that the Allied Commission should renew to the present Government of Italy the suggestions made earlier to the former government that the basic electoral law of 1915 be so modified as to provide for 1) adequate provision for nomination of candidates prior to the voting; 2) control of the electioneering of the polling places; and 3) the supplying of official ballots. Within these recommendations, however, it is felt that the Allied Commission should not insist on changes so elaborate that they would tend to place an excessive burden on the smaller communes and that the Allied Commission should be receptive to such views as may be expressed by Italian officials regarding Italian experience in democratic procedures in local elections.

It is the desire of the Government of the United States that local elections be held as soon as possible and, although we must insist that the procedure be fair, free and democratic, technical objections to minor details should not be permitted to delay the calling of these elections. In any case it is probable that the procedure followed in the first elections in Italy will be subject to subsequent revision.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ A. Kirk

CC LIST:
Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section (2)
CC Files

See n. 173 & 174

5642

(CSA)

11032

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

DRAFT DO LETTER.

Ref: 2806/ /EC.

October 15.

Dear Colonel Bowman,

Thank you so much for your letter 130/AMG/62/ of the 26th August, which I fear has taken a little time to reply to. I can assure you that your remarks to the press were quite in order.

Regarding local elections in Venezia Giulia I feel that for the present we should confine our thinking and activities only to the preparation of electoral lists in this area. By the time the necessary preparations for voting have been completed, we may know more about the future of Venezia Giulia.

I think that on the last question you might quite properly have come out into the open and said what is the legal fact, that the whole of Venezia Giulia remains Italian until otherwise disposed of in the Treaty.

My heartiest congratulations to the well deserved award to you of the Legion of Merit.

On the subject of Italian decorations for AMG officers in Venezia Giulia I have instructed the Executive Commissioner to take up with you and you will be hearing from him very shortly.

Very truly yours,

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Colonel A. C. Bowman,
S.C.A.C.
Venezia Giulia.

5641

PA 1/11

Copy of Minutes from File AC/45/19/LC

Chief Commissioner.

File AC/45/19/LC

168

1. I would ask you to read Minute 9, submission of which I have postponed until I had the Political Advisers' opinions on Colonel Bowman's statement made to the press referred to in his letter to you of Aug 26. You will see the minutes on this subject in File 2806/EC attached. (46-47)

2. Decision is now needed on the points raised in para 7 of Minute 9. My own views are that we should start the compilation of the electoral lists, advising AFHQ and asking for comment, and that we should certainly consult the Italian Government for advice and suggestions in the preparation of the Regional Order which it will be necessary to issue.

3. Do you agree ?

/S/ M.S.LUSH

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

8 Sep 45.

10/9

Yes

E.W.S.

V.P. C.A.S.

Action as approved.

M.S.L. 10/9

5640

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

Polad (US)
Polad (Br)

164

1. The Chief Commissioner would be glad to have your views on the press conference given by Colonel BOWMAN in TRIESTE referred to in the first page of his letter. You will notice that his reported views on the holding of elections differ from AMG 13 Corps telegram of August 17th in which he stated that it was not considered expedient to allow local elections at this stage. 163

2. I should be grateful for early return of these papers in order that they can be considered with a proposal submitted by Civil Affairs Section to carry on with the compilation of electoral registers, a proposal which was discussed at a meeting which you attended on August 24th.

31.Aug.45

M.S.L. Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

See M. 165-6-7-9. 171
F. 168. 170.

5039

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

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M.S.C. Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

31.Aug.45

See M.165-6-7-9. 171.
F. 168. 170.

5039

to M 2-4-6

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

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

2806

AUG 29 RECD 1545

1-A

163

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

13C/AMG/62/

26 August 1945

AUG 31 1945

My dear Admiral,

As you must know, one of the favorite lines of attack against Allied Military Government in this area has been, "Where is this democracy you promised us?" Now that other conditions are somewhat quieter, I have, in my interviews with the press and local people, been replying in effect, "We do not claim this is democracy; it is military government. But if you cooperate with us, our government may serve as a springboard for democracy."

At the press conference yesterday, I asked Colonel Robertson, in response to the written question submitted in advance, to outline the method it is intended to use in selecting the members of our local committees or councils. When he concluded I took over in response to questions. The proceedings reported in Par. 10 et. seq. of the attached A.I.S. Basic News Report ensued.

There was much that does not appear in the report and some of the omissions may be fairly important. For example, on page 14 of the report the words "of the more desirable" should be inserted between the word "many" and the word "characteristics".

In general, however, the statement is accurate.

I am sending it to you in hope that you will read it at once and let me know if you think I am seriously off base on any point. I stated the position to the press quite frankly, as I understand it, and there has been nothing in any conversation or communication between your headquarters and mine which would lead me to expect any disagreement. Having, however, sometimes misjudged such matters in the past, I would be glad to have an expression of your reaction to this reported statement.

See 164

5638

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

162

I have received a copy of MTOUSA General Order 187, 15 August, notifying me that I have been awarded the Legion of Merit. I know that this was initiated by you personally and am particularly pleased and grateful on this account. (Please excuse excessive adjectives in this case.)

On the subject of decorations, I noted recently in the A.C. Daily Bulletin that the former restrictions against the acceptance of decorations from the Italian Government have been withdrawn. Presumably, the Italian Government will shortly award a certain number of decorations to Allied Military Government officers.

ACTION ON FILE 7003/EC

So far as I have been able to learn, no special machinery has been set up in the Commission or in the Regiment for this purpose and action will in each case be initiated by the Italian Government. If this is true, it would be a little hard on the officers of Venezia Giulia, who in the nature of things are out of contact with the Italian Government but who have nevertheless in the past made contributions to the rehabilitation of Italy equal to and in many cases greater than officers now employed in Italian Government Territory or in the territory which will be turned over next month.

I am thinking particularly of officers like Robertson, Freese, Weil, Simoni, Albright, Burns, Kucera, Foden, Natale and others whose work toward the reconstruction of a sound Italy has been far above and beyond normal requirements of duty. I have also a considerable number of enlisted men and other ranks who should have their share of kudos, if and when they are passed out.

I should be glad if some means could be devised to insure that the last thin red line of heroes over here, who are no longer working for Italy proper, might be remembered in this connection.

Regards

Colonel, JAGD
Senior Civil Affairs Officer

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Civil Affairs Officer
HQ Allied Commission

5637

2806

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

159

AC/A3/2/TC

Tel: 473706

SUBJECT: Preparation of electoral lists.

3 September 1945

SEP - 5 1945

TO : Distribution as below.

1. Para 19 of the Schedule attached to Executive Memorandum No. 5 of 1 July 1945 refers to the work of Provincial Commissions established under Article 8 of AMLL 159 of 27 July 1944. The Ministerial Decree of 24 October 1944, in setting forth the rules concerning the compilation of electoral lists, provides in Article 2, para 11, for the exclusion from the electoral lists of those found guilty of Fascist activity under the law.

2. By virtue of Article 8 of AMLL 159 of 27 July 1944, as modified by Article 2 of AMLL 2 of 4 January 1945, both of which have been duly implemented and are in effect in AMG Territory, the presiding officer of the Commission is a magistrate appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers after consultation with the Minister of Pardon and Justice and the High Commissioner for Sanctions Against Fascism. The Italian Government is at present selecting the Presidents of the said Commissions for each province, whose names will be published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale and duly implemented so that they are to be effective in AMG Territory. You will be notified of these names as soon as they are appointed.

3. Inasmuch as said AMLL 159 and AMLL 2 do not specifically indicate who should actually appoint the other 2 members of the Provincial Commissions, but merely indicate that they shall be selected by lot from popular judges referred to in Article 4 of said Decree, it has been agreed with the Italian Government that the following procedure for the appointment of the remaining 2 judges shall prevail:

(a) The Provincial Commissioner should request the First President of the Court of Appeals to nominate the members;

(b) the Provincial Commissioner should then by formal order appoint those persons as members of the said Commission from the date of the order.

4. This order referred to in the foregoing paragraph need not be printed. It can be mimeographed and handed to the necessary officials and authorities. A copy of this order in both English and Italian is appended hereto for use of Provincial Commissioners.

5. Pending receipt of the names of the President of each Provincial Commission, please instruct the Presidents of the Courts of Appeals of each province to nominate 2 popular judges, who should then be formally appointed by Provincial Commissioners. Names of those appointed for each province should be sent to this HQ for transmission to the Italian Government.

FOR BOARD OF THE INTER COMMISSIONER:

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

and are in effect in AMG territory, the presiding officer of the Commission is a magistrate appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers after consultation with the Minister of Pardon and Justice and the High Commissioner for Sanctions Against Fascism. The Italian Government is at present selecting the Presidents of the said Commissions for each province, whose names will be published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale and duly implemented so that they are to be effective in AMG Territory. You will be notified of these names as soon as they are appointed.

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(b) The Provincial Commissioner should then by formal order appoint those persons as members of the said Commission from the date of the order.

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BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

H. CARR
Brigadier
P CA Section

Distribution:

HC Liguria
Lombardia
Piemonte
Venezia
} with copies for RCs

Chief Commissioner
Exec. Commissioner
Poland (A)
" (B)
Legal Sub Commission

AMG Commissioner - Naples
" " - Ancona
" " - Pisa-Livorno
CAO Pantelleria (through Liaison Officer, Palermo)
" Lampedusa " " "

(Mr Kemsley) Rush

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

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ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

_____ REGION PROVINCE OF _____

_____ September 1945

WHEREAS by virtue of Art. 8 of DEL No. 159 of 27 July 1944, as modified by Art. 2 of DEL No. 2 of 4 January 1945, it has been provided that the two members of the Provincial Commission therein mentioned shall be selected by lot from the lay judges described in Art. 4 of the said DEL No. 159 of 27 July 1944

AND WHEREAS the said DEL No. 159 of 27 July 1944 and DEL No. 2 of 4 January 1945 have been rendered operative in AMG Territory

AND WHEREAS the President of the Court of Appeals of _____ has nominated _____ and _____ being two of the lay judges described as aforesaid to be members of the said Commission

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____ Provincial Commissioner of _____ in pursuance of authority granted to me by the Chief Civil Affairs Officer, Allied Military Government, for and on behalf of the Military Governor hereby order:

1. Insofar as the said Art. 8 of DEL No. 159 of 27 July 1944 provides that the two members of the Provincial Commission shall be selected by lot, the same is hereby amended. The said two members of the Provincial Commission for the province of _____ shall be appointed by me as Provincial Commissioner of the AMG of the said province.

2. I hereby appoint _____ and _____ to be members of the said Commission from the date of this Order.

_____
Provincial Commissioner of _____

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

AND WHEREAS the said [illegible] January 1945 have been rendered operative in AMG Territory

AND WHEREAS the President of the Court of Appeals of _____ has nominated _____ and _____ being two of the lay judges described as aforesaid to be members of the said Commission

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____ Provincial Commissioner of _____ in pursuance of authority granted to me by the Chief Civil Affairs Officer, Allied Military Government, for and on behalf of the Military Governor hereby order:

1. Insofar as the said Art. 3 of BLL No. 159 of 27 July 1944 provides that the two members of the Provincial Commission shall be selected by lot, the same is hereby amended. The said two members of the Provincial Commission for the province of _____ shall be appointed by me as Provincial Commissioner of the AMG of the said province.

2. I hereby appoint _____ and _____ to be members of the said Commission from the date of this Order.

_____
Provincial Commissioner of _____

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

(157)

GOVERNO MILITARE ALLEATO

REGIONE_____ PROVINCIA DI _____

_____Settembre 1945

PREMESSO che in virtu' dell'articolo 8 del DLL No.159 del 27 Luglio 1944 come modificato dall'articolo 2 del DLL No.2 del 4 Gennaio 1945 era stato disposto che i due membri della Commissione Provinciale di cui ai detti articoli siano scelti a sorte tra i giudici popolari di cui all'art. 4 del detto DLL No.159 del 27 Luglio 1944;

E PREMESSO che detto DLL no.159 del 27 Luglio 1944 ed il DLL no.2 del 4 Gennaio 1945 sono entrati in vigore nel territorio del Governo Militare Alleato;

E PREMESSO che il Presidente della Corte di Appello di _____ ha designato _____ e _____ essendo essi due dei giudici popolari summenzionati, per essere nominati membri componenti della detta Commissione;

IO _____Commissario Provinciale di _____ _____ in virtu' dell' autorita' a me conferita dal Capo dell'Ufficio Affari Civili del Governo Militare Alleato in nome e per conto del Governatore Militare ordino :

1. Poiche' il detto articolo 8 del DLL No.159 del 27 Luglio 1944 dispone che i due membri della Commissione Provinciale siano tratti a sorte, detto articolo subira' la seguente modifica. I due membri della Commissione Provinciale della provincia di _____ saranno nominati da me,

5634

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

Luglio 1944;

E PREMESSO che detto DLL no.159 del 27 Luglio 1944 ed il DLL no.2 del 4 Gennaio 1945 sono entrati in vigore nel territorio del Governo Militare Alleato;

E PREMESSO che il Presidente della Corte di Appello di _____ ha designato _____ e _____ essendo essi due dei giudici popolari summenzionati, per essere nominati membri componenti della detta Commissione;

IO _____ Commissario Provinciale di _____ in virtu' dell' autorita' a me conferita dal Capo dell'Ufficio Affari Civili del Governo Militare Alleato in nome e per conto del Governatore Militare ordino :

1. Poiche' il detto articolo 3 del DLL No.159 del 27 Luglio 1944 dispone che i due membri della Commissione Provinciale siano tratti a sorte, detto articolo subira' la seguente modifica. I due membri della Commissione Provinciale della provincia di _____ saranno nominati da me, nella mia qualita' di Commissario Provinciale del Governo Militare Alleato di detta provincia.

5634

2. Io nomino dunque _____ e _____ membri della detta Commissione a partire dalla data del presente ordine.

_____

Commissario Provinciale di _____

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

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

SECRET. 156

Ref: 2806/XC.

4 September 1945.

Chief Commissioner.

1. In your aide memoire of 13th June you recommended the retention of five divisions of Allied troops whose role "at all times" and especially during the election period would be as representatives of the democracies". In your letter of 23rd June you repeated the recommendation stating that they should be used as a last resort to prevent the imposition of undemocratic methods by force. In the same letter you stressed the duty of the Allies in educating the minds of Italians towards a democratic way of life. At the Regional Commissioners' meeting of 30th June you stated that careful consideration would be given to the views of the Regional Commissioner, Lombardia Region who urged that a statement should be issued by US and UK Governments which would state definitely and publicly that the US and UK Governments were prepared to do all in their power to see that the elections were free. You will remember that Colonel Poletti thought that with the backing of this statement even a relatively small number of mobile troops would go a long way to raise the morale of the Italian police agencies and would help the Italians to follow true democratic procedure at the polling booths.

2. I submit that the time has now come when we must decide whether we should follow up these recommendations, and if so, how. At your Executive Commissioner's meeting this morning, Colonel Demmore voiced, what I think is a feeling among many officers, and certainly is shared by myself, that we as representatives of democracy must do all we can to see that the Italian people have a free opportunity to express their wishes and that Italians should know that we Allies are not only interested but intend to do all we can to ensure it.

3. I think that we should follow up Colonel Poletti's recommendation and ask the US and UK Governments to issue a statement and that we should ask AFHQ to implement such a declaration with the Allied troops at their command (a) by taking an active and sympathetic part in the training and rehabilitation of the CC.RR and police agencies, and (b) by explaining to them the situation in Italy particularly with regard to the elections and the role which (according to our recommendations) they have to play in the country. We should make it clear that we do not ask that Allied troops should function as policemen before or on polling day but should repeat the argument of the psychological value of troops, a value which will be enhanced if they have knowledge of the situation.

4. A further matter in which a decision is needed is the action now to be taken vis a vis the Italian Government in the light of their failure to reply to or act on our letter and constant reminders to Bonomi (27 February) and Parri (7th July and 29th August) with regard to electoral laws. The 1915 law which affects communal elections is very unsuitable. The 1912 and 1919 laws which affect the national election are less noxious, and we have not yet protested

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

(155)

against them. We do not know if the Italian Government intends to use the latter laws. Constant verbal pressure has also been maintained on the Italian Government without success. Has the time arrived for the Allied Governments, urged by the Embassies, to take up the matter? While in process of framing the Peace Treaty they must be fully acquainted with the situation about the elections, and it might be politic to bring pressure on the Italian Government in connection with the Peace Treaty.

5. On the general score of educative publicity I believe that we should take more initiative and that P.R.O. should, by frequent and regular meetings with press attaches of both Embassies, ensure that your recommendations are being implemented.

6. I would suggest this be discussed at your political meeting tomorrow.

M.S.L.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

MSL/JG.

Copy to: Poland (A)
Poland (B)
CA Section

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

(154)

Tel: 735

Ref: 2806/MC. 4 September 1945.

SUBJECT: Attached Correspondence.

TO : S.O. to Chief Commissioner.

Attached letter and enclosures returned to you as requested. They have been noted by Civil Affairs Section and Local Government Sub-Commission.

R. W. KEMSLEY

Chief Staff Officer.
To Executive Commissioner.

Incl:
as above

5631

PA 5/9.

R. W. KEMSLEY

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

2806 (6)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 204

28 August 1945

Executive Commissioner:

AUG 28 1945

Please pass the attached letter and inclosures to the Civil Affairs Section for their general information in connection with the coming Italian elections. It is requested that these papers be returned to the Chief Commissioner's Office as soon as possible.

L. W. STEARNS
Major, AGD
SO to CC

3 Incls:
1 - Ltr of 24 Aug 45 from French Rep, AC
2 - Official Journal, Republic of France, 23 Mar 45
3 - Official Journal, Republic of France, 29 Mar 45

(Mr. Kenney)

5630 - 151-2-15-3
9 F 154

1048

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

2806 (1)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/4/LG

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Preparation of Electoral Lists.

28 August 1945
AUG 30 1945

TO : Distribution as below.

1. Reference is made to CA Section circular AC/45/A/LG of 18th July dealing with the extension of the Italian franchise to those who became 21 years of age during 1945.

2. The Decree referred to in para. 2 of that circular has now been published. It is DLL 2nd July 1945 No. 436 and it appears in a "Supplemento Ordinario" to the Official Gazette No. 96 of 11 August, 1945. The "Supplemento Ordinario" also contains the Order of this HQ putting the Decree into force in Military Government Territory.

3. The Decree will actually come into force in each province by delivery to the Prefect in accordance with the usual procedure. The purpose of this circular is to draw the attention of the PG to the necessity of immediate delivery of the Gazette and Supplement to the Prefect in view of the fact that action under the Decree is already being taken.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub-Commission.

CGKW/pgw.

Distribution:

RC Liguria
Lombardia
Piemonte
Venezia
} with copies for RCs.

AC Liaison Officer, Bologna
AIT Commissioner Naples
Ancona
Pisa-Livorno
CAO Lampedusa (through AC Liaison Officer, Palermo)
CAO Pantellaria " " " " "

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Polad (A)
Polad (B)
Legal Sub Commission.

5629

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

2802 pl (148)

CC 204

28 August 1945

AUG 29 1945

My dear Captain Moullec:

(CC FILES)

Thank you very much for your letter of the 24th concerning French election procedure. The two copies of the Official Journals of the Republic of France dated 23 and 29 March 1945, which you so kindly enclosed, I shall return within the next few days.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Le Capitaine de Vaisseau R. MOULLEC
French Representative to Allied Commission
Rome, Italy

cc: Exec. Comm

29/8

5628

(MAS KLINSLEY) Clk

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

2806

146

21 August 1945.

AUG 23 1945

143

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

Thank you for your letter of 20 August giving the views of the Department of State regarding elections in the Compartment of Venezia Giulia and the Province of Bolzano.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

The Honorable Alexander Kirk,
American Ambassador,
119 Via Vittorio Veneto,
Rome.

Copy to: Exec Comm
VP CA Section

(Bowman 5827)

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

145

COPY. (Complete letter on file 585/EC).

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY.

Rome. 20 Aug. 45.

Dear Admiral Stone,

E X T R A C T .

.....

Regarding our various conversations concerning preparation of electoral lists in the Province of Bolzano and the Italian Government's position with respect to those residents who may be eligible for registration, I am happy to inform you of the views of the Department of State which I have just received. The Department is of the opinion that we should accept the Italian proposal concerning those persons in Bolzano who may be inscribed in the electoral lists but that the Allied Commission should bring to the attention of the Italian Government that expulsion of persons from the province who opted for Germany, emigrated and subsequently returned to Bolzano, should be effected only after agreement with Allied authorities in Germany had been reached. With respect to the sending of an Italian commission to Bolzano to examine individual cases, the Department feels that this is an administrative matter for decision by you.

.....

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) A. Kirk.

5626

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone,
Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
Rome.

& Post

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

COPY

COPY

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Rome, August 20, 1945

AUG 22 1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

Regarding elections in the compartment of Venezia Giulia and the Province of Bolzano, the Department of State has expressed itself in favor of permitting the Italian Government to prepare, at this stage, electoral lists for communal and national elections in these areas. The Italian Government should be permitted, the Department feels, to hold communal elections anywhere and whenever it is ready, including Bolzano Province and the compartment of Venezia Giulia. Whenever the national elections come along it is felt that these areas should likewise take part therein on the same conditions as other Italian provinces.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ A. Kirk

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone,
Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
Rome.

CC DIST:

Executive Commr
Civil Affairs Section
Chief Commr Files

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

AG/45/12/16

20 August 1945

AUG 21 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

With reference to your letter of 23 July, the views of the Allied Commission can now be stated with reference to that part of it which deals with the preparation of the electoral lists in this Province.

The Allied Commission agrees:

(a) that the preparation of electoral lists in Bolzano Province which was ordered to commence on the 15th July, continue:

(b) that a Special Commission be set up to examine doubtful cases of citizenship. The proper authorities can therefore immediately inscribe in the electoral lists:-

(i) persons of Italian citizenship who were never affected by the Italo-German Accords:

(ii) those who opted for Italy under the Accords.

With regard to para 2(b) above, it is considered essential that the duties of the proposed Special Commission be confined only to examining and establishing the facts of citizenship based on the existing Italian law. It is considered highly undesirable that the Special Commission should be charged with the further duties of hearing fresh options until such time as the Italian Government has determined its future policy with regard to the province: for until the policy of the Government in this respect is made known, the population cannot have the material upon which to found a reasonable decision as to the citizenship they desire to adopt.

From the viewpoint of Italy, the desirability of making as full a statement as possible as to your Government's intentions in respect to the Upper Adige and of issuing a pronouncement thereon as soon as possible would appear to be obvious in order to prevent any apprehensions that might otherwise arise among the population affected.

The Allied Commission further agree that the work of the proposed Special Commission as described above can be carried out contemporaneously with the preparation of the electoral lists. In order that its functions may not unduly delay the work of the preparation of the lists, the Allied Commission will be glad to receive at an early date the names of the proposed members.

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See 254 Vol III

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

(144)

The Special Commission should also be empowered to examine the cases of doubtful citizenship of persons residing in the provinces of Trento, Belluno and Udine who were affected by the Hitler-Mussolini agreement.

Although the provinces affected are at present under Allied Military Government, it is considered that the Special Commission should be appointed and its duties defined by means of a decree of the Italian Government which the Allied Commission would render executory in the provinces in the usual way. The Italian Government is accordingly invited to prepare a draft of such a decree and send it to this Headquarters so that its contents may be agreed with the Allied Commission before publication.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Professor Ferrucio Parri
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

RRC/pec

Distribution:

Polad (A)
" (B)
MC Venezia (2)
No. 2 District (2)

5623

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

137

AUG 14 1945

Ref: AC/45/12/LG. 12 Aug 45

SUBJECT: Electoral Lists in Bolzano.

TO: Executive Commissioner,
Polad (A),
Polad (B).

1 I attach copy of some notes of my meeting with Sig. PARRI on the above mentioned subject. Sig. PARRI was quite firm in his refusal to accept our suggested method of preparing the electoral lists.

2 Yesterday evening I had a very long talk with Sig. BONOMI and the Prefect of Bolzano and they have promised to let me have yet further proposals in writing today for the solution of this difficult matter.

3 The Prefect differs entirely from the Legal opinion which has been expressed by the CLA, and says that the latter has not been referred to all the relevant documents. This matter is therefore again under consideration by the CLA. I am proposing to have a meeting on Tuesday at 1100 hrs with the Local Government and Legal Sub-Commissions to consider this matter further and to make final recommendations for its solution and I shall appreciate it if the Polads would attend. I hope that Brig. DUNLOP can also be persuaded to stay for this meeting.

G.R. UPJOHN, Brig.,
VP CA Section.

Copy to: Local Government Sub-Commission,
Legal Sub-Commission.

(CSO)

See M 129, 134 to 140

4787

CONFIDENTIAL

136

NOTES OF A MEETING
with the
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

at 1230 hrs on 10 Aug 45

PRESENT: Professor PARRI,
Sig. MONTONARI,
Brig. UPJOHN,
Col. CRIPPS.

Brig. UPJOHN referred to the proposal of the Italian Government with regard to the preparation or electoral lists. He said that this proposal had been discussed by the Chief Commissioner with the British and American Ambassadors and they had reached the conclusion that the proposals were slightly cumbersome and might give rise to great delays and possibly to political unrest. Brig. UPJOHN said that he was instructed to suggest to the Government that a better way would be to prepare electoral lists on the footing that everyone would be on the list except those who had actually opted for Germany andhad departed but who had subsequently returned. He pointed out that this would enable the compilation of the lists to proceed apace and that it would be without prejudice as to the final composition or the list when a decision in principle on nationality had been reached. Those who were not Italian citizens would simply be struck off the lists under the provisions of the existing law. Therefore, under the suggested method there would be no prejudgment of any doubtful class while, on the other hand, the lists would be rapidly compiled and there would be no ground for any political discontent.

Sig. PARRI said that he did not see how the Italian Government could put on the list those who had opted for Germany even though they had not actually left Bolzano, because they had thereby shown their desire to become German nationals. He did not, therefore, think that the proposed solution of the problem was practical.

Brig. UPJOHN pointed out that it would, in any event, be necessary for the Italian Government to amend the Epuration laws so as to disqualify from voting not merely Fascists but also Nazis, and this would prevent most of the ardent Nazis from being put on the list.

Sig. PARRI said that he still did not think that it would be [illegible] those who had opted [illegible]

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

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Sig. PARRI said that he did not see how the Italian Government could put on the list those who had opted for Germany even though they had not actually left Bolzano, because they had thereby shown their desire to become German nationals. He did not, therefore, think that the proposed solution of the problem was practical.

Brig. UPJOHN pointed out that it would, in any event, be necessary for the Italian Government to amend the Epuration laws so as to disqualify from voting not merely Fascists but also Nazis, and this would prevent most of the ardent Nazis from being put on the list.

Sig. PARRI said that he still did not think that it would be right to put those who had opted for Germany on the list. He had proposed a Commission as a solution but he quite saw that the operation of the Commission might give rise to some discontent.

Brig. UPJOHN pointed out that the Commission proposed to ask people if they desired to opt for Italian nationality but it would be quite impossible for most people to answer that question until they knew clearly what was going to be the future policy of the Italian Government towards the German-speaking minority. Furthermore, he pointed out, this Commission would almost of necessity assume not merely the functions of a Commission to determine the make-up of an electoral list but something much more and much higher level, namely the complicated question of nationality which might affect the future status of 100,000 inhabitants of Bolzano. It would not be right that such a Commission should have such powers.

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

(135)

Sig. PARRI said that he fully appreciated these points andhe would like to consider this difficult matter further with other members of the Government. He thought it might be better to postpone compilation of the lists until the policy of the Government had been announced and until these complicated questions had been solved.

The inhabitants of the Province should not be permanently disenfranchised because their seats in the Costituente would remain vacant until a proper election had been held in Bolzano.

Brig. UPJOHN said that he would like to consider this suggestion and he would in any event have to refer the matter to higher authority. Regrettable though any delay in the preparation of the electoral lists might be, he appreciated that the lesser evil might be to postpone their preparation until matters of principle had been determined.

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

though any delay in the preparation of the electoral lists might be, he appreciated that the lesser evil might be to postpone their preparation until matters of principle had been determined.

5620

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

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

(133)

Ref: 2806/133/80. 8 August 1945.

(135)

Thank you for your letter 80/30 of 28th July and for the interesting proposal contained therein.

I have shown this to our political advisers here and their opinion is that, whilst it would be of the greatest benefit to the Italian political system if the Italians could put the plan through by themselves, it is not practicable or advisable at the present time for the Allies to try to impose such a plan upon them.

(Sgd) M. S. LUSH

Colonel J.A.C. Pennycuick, DSO,
Commissioner,
Allied Military Government,
NAPLES Commune.

5919

MSL/JC.

PA 10/9

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

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JULY 301950

F/1991
JULY 302120B
ROUTINE

FROM : VENEZIE REGION
TO : ALCOM

JUL 31 1945

UNCLASSIFIED.

Reference P 4574 dated 28 July from BOLZANO Province copy to your Headquarters. Agree that BOLVI be sent immediately to report Provincial Commissioner BOLZANO.

DIST

ACTION CA SEC
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EX COMMISSIONER 2
LOCAL GOVT
FILE 2
FLOAT

5618

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

280b

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
NAPLES COMMUNE
APO. 394.

125

D/O 50.

28 July, 1945.

JUL 30 1945

Dear Brig! Lush

1. I am writing this as a D/O letter to keep it informal, but will also keep it brief as I hope you will read it yourself and possibly the Chief Commissioner will read it. The subject is Italian Elections.

2. The extreme interest taken in Italy over our British elections, has been a remarkable feature in their Politics, it is out of proportion to the general run of interests. Italians want "Democracy" but their experience of it has been either:

(a) - A multiplicity of small and quarrelling parties none of which represent a national spirit or interest, as distinct from personal betterment. From this a sort of jelly-fish Government results with no decision and no constructive criticism. A similar state of affairs exists in France and has not escaped unnoticed; or,

(b) - One party only, Fascism, where you get something done all right, but kill all criticism and end by losing liberty and perhaps take a wrong turning!

3. From this they say how can democracy work? and the facts are that good results are to be found only, in Britain, in the British Dominions, and in the U.S.A. (not South America). In all these territories it works on a two party system. The system is not perfect and sometimes produces anomalies which the proportional representation fanatics don't like, but it does give: a strong government and a strong constructive opposition. It is only by being constructive that the opposition can hope to get into power and if the opposition is too drastic in its suggestions of reform, it never gets the opportunity to try them out.

(CSO)

M126, 129, 130
131 L 132 Del 133

(1 Spare Copy)

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4. Therefore, the problem is to get the Italians on to the two party system. They have tried out multiple parties and don't like it, they have tried out one party and have come to disaster, but they see before them only the same alternatives; the one party of the future being Communism instead of Fascism. The Communists do offer security in exchange for liberty, a two party system, however, also offers strength and hence security, in exchange for far less loss of liberty. Fascism in the past did not bring the expected security, so the time is ripe for a new suggestion, and I think the Italians are looking for something from us.

5. Can a two party system be achieved? I suggest that it can and the suggestion is this: Have two elections, number one a party election, and number two the individual election of representatives. The first election to be absolutely free, any and all parties to put up candidates for a house of say 600.

After this election, by secret ballot of course, the two or at most three, major parties will be found. Well, then, there are the big parties chosen freely, and repeat the elections for the 600 seats but the second time electors to have the choice of voting for individual candidates from two major parties (or at most three parties) only, chosen at the first election. This will then provide a two party house.

6. I have discussed these suggestions with various Italians who I think, really have the good of Italy at heart including Emilio Lussu, and they were definitely interested. I also discussed them with Spicer before he left and he too was interested. We in the Allied Commission have an opportunity now of making a constructive suggestion of this type. Though many details would of course, have to be worked out, I think so many of the good Italians find themselves uneasily drifting back to the old way, that proved to be no good, that they would be glad of an original proposal. What they want is freedom with discipline, and this proposal is, I venture to suggest, at least a constructive proposal towards the achievement of that end. My own view is that in a couple of decades the two major parties would

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establish themselves and the rather clumsy procedure of the double elections could be dropped, but it is necessary to try a device of this sort now at this critical stage, to get Italy out of its rut. Anyhow I hope you will give the idea the benefit of your experienced consideration.

Yours sincerely

H.R.C. Penny-cooke

Brigadier M.S. LUSH, CB, CBE, MC.
Executive Commissioner,
HQ. A. C.

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

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reg. u. 24
122

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
566

116

Rome, 28 July 1945

JUL 30 1945

Dear Admiral,

I am most grateful for your kind communication of July 25th. I am glad to see that, while it encourages a rapid summoning of the assemblies of electors, to rehabilitate the democratic methods abandoned by fascism, the Allied Commission means to refrain from expressing opinions and preferences for what concerns the character and the aim of the elections themselves. As you know, these instructions fully correspond to the program of the Government, which is actively working for the preparation of the elections, knowing that their aims and nature are the responsibility of the Italian people only.

I beg you to accept my thanks and I remain, my dear Admiral,

Yours very truly,

s. Ferruccio Parri

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome

128
5C 14

trans. o/a

EC DIST - 30 JULY 45

Action : C A Sec
Info : Chief Commr
Exec Commr
Polad (A)
Polad (B)
P R Br.

(Mrs Kendsley) DLK

1066

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

(120)

Ref: 2006/125/30. 30 July 1945.

SUBJECT: Administrative Elections.

TO : A.F.H.Q.
G-5 Section.

114
115
116
119

The enclosed correspondence on the above subject is forwarded to you for information.

For the Chief Commissioner:

/s/ E. Talbot
Brigadier.
Executive Commissioner.

Encls: 3.

5013

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

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JUL 281045B

F/1641
JUL 281125B

ROUTINE
JUL 28 1945

FROM: ANG BOLZANO
TO : ANG VENEZIA INFO ALCOM

IN CLEAR.

R12/BZ/123/1. PARRI suggested to UIJCHEN on Monday last that BOERI should be sent to BOLZANO to advise on function of the proposed commission to settle difficulties of compilation of electoral list. MCBRATNEY and Prefect welcome this proposal and would like BOERI to come up as soon as possible. If you are agreeable will you signal AICOM to send him up forthwith to report to PROVIZIO Commissioner. Signed UIJCHEN.

DIST

INFO-ACTION: CA Sec
INFO: Chief Commissioner
Ex Commissioner 2
Local Govt
File 2
Float

HEADQUARTERS
28 JUL 1945
12

(Mrs Kennedy) Rush

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

2806

(119)

AC/45/P/18

27 July 1945

JUL 2 / 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

I wrote to you on 7 July upon the subject of administrative elections, informing you of the previous correspondence between Signor Bonomi and myself and of certain definite views which the United States and British Governments have expressed in the matter.

I would again remind you of the great importance that the two Governments attach to this subject and I shall, therefore, be glad to receive a reply to my letter at the earliest possible date.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Professor Ferruccio Parri,
President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
Rome.

COPY TO C. COM.
EX.

5011

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

2806

116

25 July 1945

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

IUL 2 0 1945

My attention has been called to press reports concerning the holding of elections in Italy, distributed by the Associated Press, in which certain statements are attributed to a spokesman of the Allied Commission. Copies of the newspaper articles are attached. (115) (114)

Since these press reports contain certain statements not made by the spokesmen of the Allied Commission and since the holding of elections in Italy is a subject of such vital interest to you and your Government, I hasten to inform you of the true facts.

The Allied Commission spokesman was asked whether it was true that the armistice terms prevented the holding of elections in Italy. He replied that this was not the case and that, on the contrary, the Allied Commission was encouraging and assisting the Italian Government to hold elections as soon as possible. This is, of course, in accord with the well-known policy of the Allied Governments that democratic processes should be restored in Italy as rapidly as conditions permit. The Allied spokesman, however, expressed no opinion with respect to the character, purpose, or actual date of the Italian elections to be held.

I thought you would wish to have this clarification of an article which has gone far beyond any statements the Allied Commission has made to the press.

Very truly yours,

cc: Exec. Comsr.
CA Section
Pol. Adver. (A)
Pol. Adver. (B)
PRB
CC Files

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Professor Ferruccio Parri,
President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
Rome.

(Nat Kensley) Rush

See M 117

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

115

AC SUPPORTS EARLY ELECTIONS FOR ITALY

ROME, July 24--An Allied Commission spokesman said today that it has been encouraging the Italian Government to hold elections for a Constituent Assembly as soon as possible, and that the Assembly can then decide whether it wants to retain a monarchy, it was reported by Associated Press.

This comment was made in reference to the speech in Milan on Sunday by Pietro Nenni, in which the Socialist vice premier urged the Big Three to scrap the Armistice terms to enable the Constituent Assembly to meet quickly.

The spokesman also said that the Milan meeting was "perfectly legal," inasmuch as the ban on political meetings in northern Italy was lifted some days ago, Associated Press said.

STARS AND STRIPES - 25 July 1945.

Doc 116

5369

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

(114)

From Il Giornale del Mattino - 7/24/45

GLI ALLEATI FAVOREVOLI ALLE ELEZIONI PER LA COSTITUENTE

Secondo "L'Associated Press" un portavoce della Commissione Alleata ha dichiarato che la Commissione incoraggia il Governo italiano ad indire le elezioni per l'Assemblea Costituente, al piu' presto possible, affinche essa possa pronunciarsi pro o contro la monarchia.

Il portavoce ha soggiunto che le condizioni di armistizio non prohibiscono che siano tenute elezioni per la nomina dell'Assemblea, elezioni che la Commissione desidera, anzi, siano indette presto.

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

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111A

EXTRACT

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers

Rome, 23 July 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

To Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief of the Allied Commission
Rome

111B

I answer your memorandum concerning the criterions to be followed towards the German population of the Alto Adige for what concerns the preparation of the electoral lists.

1) I observe generally speaking that the exercise of the electoral right implies for everyone the juridical status of Italian citizen. A considerable part of the German speaking population in the Bolzano province has lost the Italian citizenship because of the 1939 option and according to the regulations of the fundamental law of 1912 on citizenship in the Italian State.

2) The Italian Government therefore considers the people who have spontaneously acquired German citizenship through option, and then settled down in Germany to have definitively lost Italian citizenship. This category cannot be allowed to return to Italy, and those who abusively returned to Italy during or after the period of German occupation must be sent back to Germany. It must be remembered that this category had been allowed to sell its property in the province in conditions which were particularly favourable, with a special rate of exchange fixed at L. 4,50 for each R.M., and that the sales are legally perfect.

111B

3) We consider that the other categories mentioned in b.c.d. of your memorandum should be offered the possibility of freely changing their decision. A law cancelling the citions and reestablishing the former situation isn't sufficient to have a really free decision. it is necessary that the wish to re-acquire Italian citizenship, or to give it up to leave the Italian State, be expressed in an individual written statement.

4) The Italian Government therefore thinks that it would be advisable to appoint in Bolzano a special Commission to examine the request of those who are included in the categories mentioned in n. 3). The works of this Commission might be carried out parallelly with the preparation of the electoral lists.

5) If you, my dear Admiral, share the opinion of the Italian Government, the latter might send the Allied Commission the name of the President and members of this Commission, chosen among people that give all possible guarantees. Among the members there should be some citizens of German origin, that would give guarantees of loyalty and correction. The Allied Authorities could closely follow the works of the Commission.

6) Meanwhile, the preparation of the electoral lists can begin at once. First of all, they will include all the Italian citizens of the province, including the German speaking population which formerly choose Italy, than they will little by little be extended to those whose request to re-acquire Italian citizenship have been accepted by the Commission.

ORIGINAL ON FILE 555/EC SEE F 142

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

COPY (16/7/45)

APPENDIX "C"

SECRET

EXTRACT

AIDE - MEMORIES

On conditions in Bolzano Province from the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission to the President of the Council of Ministers.

1. A number of problems have arisen in connection with the German speaking proportion of the population of BOLZANO and of certain other small areas EGNA in Trento Province - CORTINA D'AMPEZZO in Belluno Province and TARVISIO in Udine Province - and I should be glad to recieve the views of the Italian Government thereon at the earliest possible moment..

Election Registers

2. As you are no doubt aware, the Hitler- Mussolini Agreement of 1939 made provision for Italian subject of german descent, resident or originating in those parts, to opt for german nationality and to emigrate to the Reich.

Broadly speaking there are four classes to be considered:

(a) Those who exercised their option and emigrated, but have now returned to Italy:
(b) Those who exercised their option but did not emigrate;
(c) Those who exercised their option and have been struck off the Italian registers, but can produce no evidence of acquisition of german nationality;
(d) Those whose names appear in both the Italian and gemrman registers.

The views of the Italian Government are requested as to which of those classed should be included in the electoral rolls about to be compiled in BOLZANO.

ORIGINAL ON FILE 585/EC

E506
SEE F 114A

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AC/45/A/12

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Preparation of electoral lists.

20 July 1945

TO : RC Emilia
Liguria
Lombardia
Piemonte
Venezie

JUL 21 1945

110

1. Reference is made to the meeting of RCs held at this HQ on 14 July under the presidency of the Executive Commissioner, and particularly to paragraph 17 of the minutes of that meeting.

2. In considering recommendations as to the Liaison Officers to be left in their Regions after Military Government ceases, RCs are requested to take into account the question of supervising the preparation of the electoral lists, and to advise the Executive Commissioner (a) whether in their opinion supervision by Allied officers of the preparation of the electoral lists would be desirable, (b) whether it would be practical and (c) the number and type of Liaison Officers that would be required for the purpose.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

C. D. Bonham Carter
for G. R. UPJOHN, Brig. L'Col
VP CA Section

Copy to: Chief Commissioner
Exec. Commissioner
Palad (A)
" (B)

(COPY TO 4002/EC)

112

(1595)

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

110

NOTES OF A MEETING
TO CONSIDER THE PUBLIC SAFETY SITUATION IN
THE NORTH
HELD AT HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION ON
14 July 45

see 3604/158 D.

EXTRACT

" 17. The Executive Commissioner then asked R.C.s whether they felt they should pull out completely on the restoration to the Government or whether Provincial Commissioners and their staffs should remain for some time in an advisory capacity as had been the case in SICILY. After some discussion which dealt with the necessity for the retention of certain technical officers - e.g. Transport - and the desirability of retaining Liaison Officers with Military Headquarters, it was agreed that in principle Provincial Commissioners should not remain in the field after restoration. However, the EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER stressed the desirability of making the hand-over carefully and slowly so that Provincial Headquarters might not, in some cases, close up until as late as 3 weeks to a month after restoration. In the meantime he instructed R.C.s to let him have their recommendations by the 31 Jul 45 as to what Liaison Officers should be left in their respective Regions after the termination of AMG. "

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