

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

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PATRIOTS, REPORTS
AUG. 1944

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

City of Florence

Patriots Section,
ANG Fifth Army.

Subject :- Patriots in Florence.

To :- Lt.Colonel T.J.Michie,
SMAO City of Florence.

1. On the 27th August, 1944, together with Capt.T.W.Glasspool and Capt. W.I. Cunningham of Region XII, I was ordered to take over the handling of Patriots in the City of Florence, under the direction of Lt.Col.Michie.

2. The position in Florence with regard to the patriots is very unusual, in as much as not only did they assist in the fighting prior to and at the time of the Allied entry into Florence on the 4th August, but since that date large numbers of them have fought steadily by our side, in driving the Germans from the City. They have suffered heavy casualties and at the present time are materially assisting in holding the line on the northern outskirts.

3. Since arriving in Florence we have been fully occupied dealing with various Patriot problems as they arose. We have been exceedingly fortunate in having the valuable assistance and ad-

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3. Since arriving in Florence we have been fully occupied dealing with various Patriot problems as they arose. We have been exceedingly fortunate in having the valuable assistance and advice of Major J. Henderson, no 1 Special Force, the liaison officer between the Army and the Patriots, but before dealing with our activities I will endeavour to give a short history of the local patriots to enable the present position to be fully appreciated.

4. The story of the Patriots has been obtained from various sources, including the leaders of the movement. It may well

be the some of their description of the various episodes have been somewhat coloured, but the main facts I believe to be true.

5. At the time of the Armistice with Italy, about 8th September 1943, groups of men in Tuscany first commenced to band together on account of the changed attitude of the Germans towards the Italian people.

In the first instance they were without arms but gradually collected some by raiding local Fascist and German garrisons.

6. In the mountainous districts they formed themselves into Companies and Brigades; whilst in the towns and cities they organized "Action Groups".

7. At first they did little beyond roam the mountains obtaining their food from the local farmers.

8. There is no record of any great activity prior to May 1944 when Groups were formed in all districts namely : The Garibaldina Potente Division, consisting of four Brigades i.e. Sinigallia Brigade, Lenciotto Brigade, Cal and Brigade and the Mancinellacci Brigade.

On the 8th June 1944 the Joint Military Command of the Tuscan

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On the 8th June 1944 the joint Military Command of the Tuscan Committee of National Liberation was formed in Florence and controlled the various groups of patriots, see appendix, page

1. Para. 1.

9. As will be seen the story in the attached appendix, the Patriots did exceedingly good work in Florence and the surrounding districts, prior to our occupation on 4th Aug. by acts of sabotage, interfering with lines of communication

destroying and damaging vehicles, supplying information to the Allied Arms and, when circumstances were favourable, openly attacking small German concentrations.

10. With regard to their activities at the time of, and since the occupation of Florence, it will be seen in the Appendix Page 9 that on the 3rd August 1944, the Germans proclaimed a state of emergency in the City of Florence, and ordered the evacuation of all houses on and near the River Arno. The Patriots did their utmost to save the various bridges across the river but this was impossible owing to the superiority of the German Forces, nevertheless they gave invaluable aid to the first Allied advance patrols in supplying military information, effectively dealing with fascist and German snipers in the city, and in the street fighting. Later they took over positions in the line in the City itself by manning strong points. The Military Commander Brigadier C.B.A. Firth, D.S.O., has spoken very highly of the services rendered by the Patriots.

11. The attached appendices give a full account of the Patriots activities before and during the occupation of Florence and although it will be appreciated that all the facts shown there cannot be verified, there is no doubt at all that a large

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11. The attached appendices give a full account of the Patriots activities before and during the occupation of Florence and although it will be appreciated that all the facts shown there cannot be verified, there is no doubt at all that a large number of them performed yeoman service in the Allied cause. They suffered fairly heavy casualties, the exact number is not at present known. A casualty list is attached but this does not include casualties suffered during recent fighting.

12. On the other hand, from enquiries made and as a result of our own observations, there is not the slightest doubt that an equal or even greater number of Patriots were not

actively-engaged fighting the enemy. These in fact had no wish to fight but had joined the ranks of the patriots as the lesser of two evils.

This was brought about them being forced to take to the hills to avoid being taken for forced labour in Germany, and although having no desire to fight on either side, they joined the Patriots as by so doing they were more or less assured of being fed, and for their own self protection.

13. When the Allied Forces first entered Florence the Patriots although working independently nevertheless kept in the closest touch with the military commander, through Major McIntosh, liaison officer, WOI Special Force.

14. Rations for them were drawn through Corps. They had various headquarters located throughout the city and their total strength amounted to about 3,000 men. Of this number not more than 600 were actually in the line.

15. After a few days Major McIntosh was relieved by Major J. Henderson, also of WOI Special Force.

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16. On the 15th August as fighting had ceased on the South side of the River Arno and had receded to the northern outskirts, all the patriots in this area were directed to hand in their arms. This, so far as I can ascertain, they did without incident. Later the patriots in a very small portion of the City North of the Arno gave in their arms. There were then left on the Northern side approximately 1,600 patriots armed with light automatics, rifles, pistols and hand grenades.

17. This was the state of affairs when we arrived on

the 27th August, 1944, I at once contacted Major J. Henderson and Lt. Colonel Nicolli (the patriots leader), and ascertained that the patriots were fighting in shifts of eight hours supporting the Gordons, North Staffs and the Loyal North Lancashire Regiments. Generally 50 to 60 patriots with their officers were in the line with each regiment at one time.

18. This number together with their various headquarters staffs made a total of approximately 800 men. So far as I could ascertain, the remainder did nothing beyond roaming the city and guarding their own headquarters.

19. The whole organisation was extremely loosely knit, so much so that Lt. Colonel Nicolli, who had 6 Brigades under his command, could not tell me the name of any one of his Brigade Commanders.

20. The political element was very strong in each of the Brigades, particularly so in the "Potente" Division which consisted of five brigades, namely : -

Simigella Brigade	)	
Lanciotto "	)	
Fanciullacci "	)	Communist Brigades.
Caiani "	)	
Buonai Brigade	)	Socialist.

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Sinigaglia Brigade	)	
Lanciotto "	)	Communist Brigades.
Pencinillacci "	)	
Caiani "	)	
Brozzi Brigade	)	Socialist.

There was also the "Giustizia e Libertà" Division consisting of the "V", "Rosselli" and the "Compagnia Manale" Brigades. In each of the four communist brigades of the "Potente" Division a political commissario was attached; who apparently ranked with the commander of the Brigade. It was necessary for all orders given by the commander to be counter-signed by the political commissario, otherwise the others would not

be acted upon.

21. It was also found that although all of the patriots were under the command of Lt. Colonel Niccoli, each Brigade was entirely independent of the others and would not loan arms to another Brigade, in the same or in another division, even if ordered to do so by Lt. Colonel Niccoli. Apparently they looked upon their arms as their own personal property.

22. To enable disarmament of the Patriots to be more effectively carried out and obtain better command over them we, in conjunction with Major J. Henderson arranged for all the small Patriot Headquarters, which were spread through the city to be moved into the Fortezza da Basso (a former Military Barracks-). The completion of this is now in hand.

23. On the 31st August, 1944, acting on the advice of Brigadier C.E.A. Wirth, D.S.O., it was decided to extend the area of disarmament to approximately half of the northern part of the city, this leaving about 800 patriots armed, who were fighting in the line.

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I communicated this fact to Col. Niccolli and his Lieutenants and they agreed, but during the 31st August the enemy retired some distance beyond the boundaries of Florence, with the result that the whole of the City was turned over to A.M.G. on 1st Sept., the need for the Patriots to continue fighting then ceased to exist.

The order to the Patriots to return their arms in the extended locality was therefore not proceeded with.

Another order embracing the whole of the City was prepared: in view of the unusual conditions, and the number of Patriots to be dealt with, the order will not be operative for a few days.

24. To assist the return of the Patriots to civil life, Col. Niccoli has been asked to supply us with lists of the names and occupations of all genuine Patriots.

The Labour Officers have been contacted and they have promised to do their utmost to absorb them into various jobs at the earliest possible moment.

I have explained to the Patriot leaders that at the moment it will not be possible to put all men back into trades they followed in peace time but that this would be done where vacancies existed, whilst the remainder would as far as possible, be given work in Florence.

25. Passes are being given to Patriots who desire to return to their houses in southern Italy. Arrangements have also been made through A.M.G. 5th Army for Lt.Col. Sansone, of M.L.I.A. to visit Florence, as soon as possible to interview Patriots who wish to join the Italian Army.

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26. To show our appreciation to the Patriots for the assistance they have given the Allied Cause, it is proposed to hold a parade of all Florence Patriots in the Square of the Portazza da Basso on Thursday, 7th September. If possible they will be inspected and thanked by an Allied General (if possible by the Division Commander of troops in this area) who will hand the patriots certificates to the Brigade Commanders for distribution to their men. They will

be the last parade of the Patriots such, at the conclusion of the ceremony all arms will be collected and guarded. The Patriots will return to civilian life.

27. It is thought that a small ceremony of this nature will show the Patriots that their services havenot been overlooked and will encourage them to return to a normal way of living.

28. During the short time we have been working with the Patriots in Florence we have come to the following conclusions with regard to methods of dealing with them :

I) It is vitally necessary to gain the full confidence of their leaders and convince the Patriots through them that their return to civil life is far more necessary than continued fighting.

II) That all Patriots are considered good citizens, therefore it is essential they should always be careful to obey the law. That for the time being the Allied Military Government is in complete control of the territory and all Proclamations and orders must be strictly observed.

III) The only law enforcement agencies are the Military Police Carabinieri and Agents of the Gassatura and that Patriots

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- II) That all Patriots are considered good citizens, therefore it is essential they should always be careful to obey the law. That for the time being the Allied Military Government is in complete control of the territory and all Proclamations and orders must be strictly observed.
- III) The only law enforcement agencies are the Military Police Carabinieri and Agents of the Questura and that Patriots must not take the law into their own hands by unauthorized entry into houses and illegally arresting persons alleged to be Fascists.

Note.. In connection with this instances have occurred in Florence where Patriots have broken into houses, arrested the inmates, also they have broken into warehouses, taken the contents under the pretext, real or pretended,

of feeding the population.

IV) Although showing sympathy to their cause, we nevertheless have found it very necessary to always show firmness in handling them. Many of the Patriots apparently drunk with success are inclined to take the law completely into their hands, riding roughshod over the civilian population and generally reverting to Fascist methods.

V) Although there was a headquarters in Florence, where the Commander had a staff of Officers, we found also many small sectional headquarters scattered throughout the city.

The Commanders control over these Headquarters was almost negligible. In any city where large numbers of patriots exist it is of primary importance they should all be concentrated in one barracks, where adequate control can be maintained until they are finally disbanded.

VI) It is essential that members of M M I A, and Patriot Officers, are dispatched to Towns immediately they are liberated.

VII) One of the principal problems is feeding the Patriots

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VI) It is essential that members of M M I A, and Patriot Officers, are dispatched to Towns immediately they are liberated.

VII) One of the principal problems is feeding the Patriots. Whilst fighting with us they are fed by Corps. After the fighting ceases and before they can be finally disbanded it is essential they should still be fed as, until offered suitable work, they are without means of livelihood. Unless they are fed during this period serious disturbances are bound to occur.

We recommend in the interests of public tranquillity authority should be given to feed the patriots through A.M.G. sources during the period mentioned above.

VIII-) We also recommend that all Officers deputed to deal with Patriots should be in possession of posters, certificate, etc. to enable the Patriots to be disbanded at the earliest possible moment.

IX) The large and small posters may be suitable for very small communes where few Patriots are found, but in towns where there are large numbers we suggest the printed posters (specimens attached) are unsuitable for the following reasons :

As is well known the Italians are very prone to denounce persons and make demands for food etc. As mentioned above they have in the past raided warehouses where alleged Fascists held stocks.

We entirely agree with the suggestion that a representative Committee should be formed to meet the Allied Officer, but we suggest that their terms of reference should not be shown in the poster but explained to them by the Allied Officer concerned (whom we presu-

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Lastly, the paragraph inviting all Patriots to report and hand in their arms to the Allied Officer should be omitted, or suitably amended, as in ~~148~~¹⁴⁹ such as

Florence, with between 20 or 3000 patriots, a tremendous staff would be needed to deal with all patriots and their problems at once and the result would be chaos.

The objection to the small poster is the last reason shown above.

A specimen of the poster which is being exhibited in Florence is attached for information.

I would point out that this report has been prepared under difficult circumstances, at short notice, therefore there may well be further important points which may come to notice before our work here is finally concluded.

Should such be the case a further report will be submitted.

A list of known killed and wounded is attached.

Copies to:-

Colonel C.D. McCarthy, Patriots Branch,

RC and MG Section, AGO.

Colonel E.D. Mayne, AMG Fifth Army.

E.D. Mayne, Lt. Col.

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ORGANIZATION OF CLANDESTINE MILITARY FORCES IN TUSCANY.

I. The joint military command of the Tuscan Committee of National Liberation was formed in Florence on the 8th June 1944. It was made up of the following members:

Lt. Col. Nello Niccoli,	known as "Sandri",	Party of Action.
Cap. Pilota Tommasi,	" " "Nereo",	Commander.
		Christian Democrat: Deputy Commander.
Aldo Comaschi,	" " "Aldo",	Socialist, Deputy Politician.
Major S.F.E. Mazzi,	" " "Livi",	Liberal.

This Giunta Militare or Command controlled more or less directly the following groups of partisans:

1. "Brigata Garibaldi", a group organized by the Communist Party, but free for all to join.
2. 23rd Garibaldi Brigade, approximately a thousand strong and operating in the region of Volterra.
3. Garibaldi Brigade "Spartaco Lavagnini" approximately six hundred strong, operating in the region of Siena.
4. Garibaldi Brigade "Lanciotto" operating in the region of Pratomagno; (transformed later into the "Divisione Arno" commanded by Potente and sub-divided into four Brigades as below, with headquarters in Florence):

22nd Garibaldi Brigade "Lanciotto", commanded by "Romeo" = Com. Pol. Berto, (Pratomagno and later Florence.)

3th Garibaldi Brigade, "Fanciullacci", commanded by "Ottone"; (Monte Morello)

22nd bis; Garibaldi Brigade "Sinigaglia", commanded by "Gracco" (Monte Scallari, Chianti).

10th Garibaldi Brigade "Baleri", commanded by "Brunetto", com. Pol. Merotto; (Monte Giovi)

Garibaldi Brigade (in formation) at Carrara.

Major S.F.E. Mazzi,

" " " Livì " , Liberal.

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22nd Garibaldi Brigade " Lanciotto ", commanded by " Romeo " = Com. Pol. Berto, (Pratomagno and later Florence.)

8th Garibaldi Brigade, " Panciullacci ", commanded by " Citone " ; (Monte Morello)

22nd bis; Garibaldi Brigade " Sinigaglia ", commanded by " Gracco " (Monte Scallari, Chianti).

10th Garibaldi Brigade " Baisani ", commanded by " Brunetto ", com. Pol. Moretto; (Monte Giovi)

Garibaldi Brigade (in formation) at Carrara.

Garibaldi Brigade " Pio Borri ", commanded by " Siro ", (capt. Rossetti) at Arezzo. (This Brigade was rather different from the others mentioned above inasmuch as it started on the initiative of the Christian Democrats and had an apolitical commissar (Fulvaro) of the Party of Action.

The full account on the Garibaldi Brigade and the G.A.P. in Florence is in preparation under the auspices of the Communist Party.

1884

GROUPS ORGANIZED BY THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT PARTY.

Banda "Perseo" formed in January 1944 by a group of approximately 120 men and later increased. It was first commanded by "Attilio" (Lt. Bergamini) and came into conflict with the Germans at Madonna dei Poesi (Pelago) on the 17th of March 1944, killing 3 Germans and wounding 7. In May Bergamini joined the "Lanciotti" Brigade with a part of his band and was later wounded. The remnant of the "Banda Perseo" re-formed and came into action with the Germans again at the Cecchiets on April 16th, suffering casualties of 8 dead and 10 taken prisoner. The group re-formed itself a third time, coming under the orders of "Braccio forte", (Lt. Politi). From May 3rd to June 30th it organized itself and disarmed the posts of the Guardia Nazionale Repubblicana or Republican Guard at Borselli and S. Eiler. It also brought about the desertion of 20 Russians incorporated in the German troops. On July 18th it blew up a bridge on the Reggello-Gallino road, interrupting the traffic for 24 hours and destroying a German auto-car. It had other small encounters with German troops in various molestation actions in July: (1 killed, Nocentini Renato). In the beginning of August it came into contact with Allied troops with which it continued the struggle, after having received adequate armaments, carrying on explorative actions, and also public order and combat services. It occupied Reggello and held it, until the arrival of Allied forces, for four days. It is now serving in collaboration with the Allies. It has a strength of 120 well-armed men.

A.R.N.O. Group.

This was formed in January in the Region of Imagna and Pozzuello under the command of Lt. Pilot Del Luce. It numbers about 200 men scantily armed. Both in this and in the "Perseo" much shrewdness had been exercised in the choice of the men, so as to have none save elements morally and politically irreproachable. The formation was in 4 bands: Imagna, Pozzuello, Bagnolo and Gallinzo.

These have carried on the ordinary work of disarming fascist centres of action; of sabotage of German lines of communication; of incitation to desertion among German soldiers, (to whom an appositive leaflet in German was distributed); of collection of military information. A patriot of this band succeeded in traversing the lines and carrying important information respecting fortifications of

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A.R.N.C. Group.

This was formed in January in the Region of Impruneta and Pozzolatico under the command of Lt. Pilot Del Laca. It numbers about 200 men recently armed. Both in this and in the "Perseo" much shrewdness had been exercised in the choice of the men, so as to have none save elements morally and politically irreproachable. The formation was in 4 bands: Impruneta, Pozzolatico, Bagnoles and Calluzzo.

These have carried on the ordinary work of disarming fascist centres of action; of sabotage of German lines of communication; of incitation to desertion among German soldiers, (to whom an appositive leaflet in German was distributed); of collection of military information. A patriot of this band succeeded in traversing the lines and carrying important information respecting fortifications of the Gothic Line to the Allies. About August 3rd the group had some encounters with German troops in the region between Pozzolatico and the Impruneta.

Further details will be obtainable from a detailed report which is being compiled under the auspices of the Christian Democrat Party.

FORMATIONS OF THE "PARTITO D'AZIONE", (PARTY OF ACTION).

"CARLO ROSSELLI" Brigade.

"Rosselli" is

Operating in the mountain region of the Tre Potenze, and the Lima valley. Commanded by Marzio Ducceschi (- "Pippo"). Organi-

0200

ing in rd1 with about a score of men, it soon attained to considerable strength (more than 300 men at the Tre Potenze and 250 in Val di Lima). Supplies, arms, and a Major of the American army reached them by parachute. In June the band had secured entire control of the region between Cutigliano and Piazza al Serchio, which they had cleared of fascists. It also disposed of a telephonic system of its own, contrived, by means of interruptions of lines, from that of the Province of Lucca. Between June 6th and 7th it blew up three bridges in Val di Lima, among which was that of the Bastione, (of vital importance for communications with the north), killing some German soldiers on guard there. Attacked immediately after by some 300 Germans, it fought for more than 50 hours, causing the Germans a loss of more than 65 dead, and having only 1 killed and 2 seriously wounded itself.

About June 14th the region where the band was operating was invaded by about 3000 Germans, who mercilessly devastated the villages, hanging or shooting the men whom they found. "Pippo" then gave the order to his men that part of them should join the band in the Modenese region; part disband; and, with a part of his men, he sought to reach the 5th army towards Leghorn. Having failed in this attempt he turned back, and must be now (if he has not been captured and killed) towards the mountains of Pesania or Pistoia with some 1500 (150) survivors.

"Rosselli" 20.

Organized in the Anguillio and Monte Giovi by "Rio" and Di Don. This formation always had a very variable strength because scantily armed. On July 31 it had an encounter at Monte Giovi with German troops, causing the enemy the loss of 5 dead. It had, while there, a delivery of arms from the air. Under the command of Vittorio Barbiere ("Grimani") it sought to fall back on Florence. Another conflict took place on August 4th, and others in the following days, in which it lost the Commandant (captured together with various others) and had numerous hijacking. Only a score of men with Di Don succeeded in escaping and in reaching Florence on August 12th. From that time it amalgamated with the "Rosselli III".

"Rosselli" 30

Organized to the south of Florence in the region of Montespertoli-Scandicci in March 1944, it numbered 100 men.

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About June 14th the region where the band was operating was invaded by about 3000 Germans, who mercilessly devastated the villages, hanging or shooting the men whom they found. "Pippo" then gave the order to his men that part of them should join the band in the Medenese region; part disband; and, with a part of his men, he sought to reach the 5th army towards Leghorn. Having failed in this attempt he turned back, and must be now (if he has not been captured and killed) towards the mountains of Pescia or Pistoia with some 1500 (150) survivors.

"Rosselli" 2°.

Organized in the Mugello and Monte Giovi by "Rio" and Di Don. This formation always had a very variable strength because scantily armed. On July 31st it had an encounter at Monte Giovi with German troops, causing the enemy the loss of 5 dead. It had, while there, a delivery or arms from the air. Under the command of Vittorio Barbieri ("Grimaldi") it sought to fall back on Florence. Another conflict took place on August 4th, and others in the following days, in which it lost its Commandant (captured together with various others) and had numerous missing. Only a score of men with Di Don succeeded in escaping and in reaching Florence on August 12th. From that time it amalgamated with the "Rosselli III".

"Rosselli" 3°

Organized to the south of Florence in the region of Montespertoli-Scandicci in March 1944, it numbered 4 companies

- 1° Company : Pian de' Cerri and Cerchia : Ten. Carli
- 2° Company : Lastra a Signa and Scandicci: Capt. Nappi.
- 3° Company : Montespertoli and Montagna: Ten. Fossi.
- 4° Company B. B. I. (communist) : neighbourhood of Florence.

Commandant Captain SPE (servizio permanente effettivo) of the Genio (Engineers) Del Meco.

The brigade has carried on the usual activities of eliminating the fascists, particularly risky being the action which was carried out in full daylight in April at the "Baldissere" barracks in Florence; and that of the Comp. di Sicurezza (Security Company) of the Provincial Command of Florence effected at Galunzo: (some twenty deserters then joined Tenente Carli's company). It also liberated 42 civil internees, the majority English and American, at La Selva (Signa), the disarming of the barracks of Scandicci, etc. With the approach of the VIII Army the 3rd Company, having remained almost autonomous, carried out combing-out actions and explorations with patrols of New Zealanders, causing some losses to the enemy; and also assumed the Public order service under the Allied Military authorities: among the services rendered was the furnishing of a guard for the works of art of the Florentine museums conserved in the ville Guicciardini at Poppiano. It also saved a bridge at Bacciano from the German wreckers.

The other companies withdrew upon Florence, after encounters at Scandicci (II German dead and wounded; I Patriot dead and wounded). In Florence they took part in the defense of the city, suffering considerable losses. Among others, there fell, successively, 4 commandants of the brigade (Capt. Del Monaco wounded; Capt. Mannoni, killed; Ten. Marsiali, killed Tenente Marcello shell-shocked.) In view of its losses it was reinvigorated by the fusion of the remains of the "Rosselli" 2 & 4.

"Rosselli" 4.

Formed in the neighbourhood of the Impruneta under the command of Major Nardi, with a strength of about 100 men. It has carried on scant military activity. It had an encounter at Ribola on August 3rd resulting in 3 Germans killed and 1 partisan killed. It has carried on a guide and signalling service in collaboration with the allied troops. About 45 men of the "Rosselli" 4 have entered Florence and have joined up with the "Rosselli" 3.

With the remnants of the "Rosselli" 3, 2 & 4, and the more efficient elements of the squadrons of action a group has been formed and is fighting in the suburbs of Florence under the name of "Divisione Giustizia e Libertà". Its actual strength is 600 men, a third of whom derive from the partisan

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MILITARY FORMATIONS IN THE INTERNAL PART
OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE.

Besides the formations of partisans, operating outside the city through the various parties, other military formations were under the orders of the C.T.I.K. and operated or were destined to operate inside the city itself. These were:

1. The patriotic groups of action: (G.A.P.) organized by the Communist Party, but with the participation of members not belonging to the communists. This organization started in October and their activities in the middle of December. In the beginning, they only numbered about thirty persons. After the death of Fanciullacci (of which more will be said later), the members of the G.A.P. in order to be saved from the search of the police, were sent by the Communist Party to other towns or to other bands of partisans. The G.A.P. was re-formed with other members and numbered about one hundred persons. As regards the names of the heads or the system of the organization of the G.A.P., the Communist party maintains the greatest reserve. It can be said in a general way that small groups of seven or eight persons at the most were formed, destined to actions or "coups de main" of the greatest audacity, aided by a service of espionage and counter-espionage, which aided them in the preparations of their activities. Each of these as a matter of fact, was only undertaken after the most meticulous preparation and accuracy which could guarantee the assured success of the enterprises (or coup).

The aim of the G.A.P. was to strike and cause disorganization to the heart of the belligerent machinery of the adversaries, destroying the communications and transports (doing sabotage), paralyzing the belligerent production of the factories, suppressing men of particular political or organizing importance to the enemy. Among their most important activities (regarding which it is rather difficult to have particularized details, given the secrecy which is generally observed inside the Communist organization) are to be indicated:

- a) interruptions to the railways, by the placing of bombs (made by the members of the G.A.P. themselves), on the lines of Rome, Bologna etc. the destructions of junctions, the setting to fire of wagons of benzine or belligerent goods, the destruction of armoured cars by bombs of the "Molotov" type.

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- b) the sabotage of various factories, among which the railway depot and the Pignone Society, of which one of the central machines was blown up; the damaging of the machinery by throwing sand in the works and the engines.
- c) the sabotage of the political strike of the month of March, when the members of the G.A.P. blew up the tramway lines and connections by bombs in front of the tram depots, thus totally interrupting their circulation; the men on strike were also protected from any fascist violence.
- d) the killing of various traitors, among which Col. Ingaramo (killed in full daytime on the Lung'Arno), Giovanni Geniale, the spy Volpini, who was guilty of at least 14 homicides (murders). He was killed in the church of Santa

26. Maria Novella a few days before the Allied troops entered Florence; there was also an attempt against the life of Gino Me-schiari by a bomb thrown at the theatre of the "Pergola"; various minor figures were suppressed.

- d) the liberation of political prisoners, among which the liberation from the hospital of S. Maria Nuova one of the heads of the G.A.P. group - Bruno Fasciullacci - where he was lying wounded, under guard. There was also the assault by 8 members of the G.A.P. in S.S. uniforms, commanded by a German captain who had deserted against the prison for women of Santa Verdiana in order to liberate a woman who was a communist prisoner, this brought about the liberation of 17 other political prisoners, among which two British subjects.

The Members of the G.A.P. had some very sad losses, owing to which the entire formation of this organization had to be changed. The Head of the G.A.P. group - Elio Chianesi - (so-called "il babbo"); was stabbed by fascists; the other head of the G.A.P. group - Bruno Fasciullacci - was arrested and tortured and therefore committed suicide in prison.

There were also killed the nephew of Elio Chianesi - Giuliano, Caravellio Rocco, together with his wife and cousin, as well as two others whose authentic names are as yet unknown. These losses brought about the reconstruction of the G.A.P. group as mentioned above.

The G.A.P. communists operated also during the period of military activities in the internal part of the city of Florence. They received orders to occupy the "Vallacchi" printing establishment in the Viale dei Mille and they were thus cut off from the rest of the patriots during the first days of fighting.

Assailed within the establishment they defended themselves for two days, killed two Germans and wounded others. Then one night, they succeeded in escaping the vigilance of the enemy and reached the lines of the patriots taking five wounded with them. They took part in the search for the fascist, killing numerous spies and traitors, among which the pugilist Magnolfi, who was used by Major Carvita to torture his victims and was the murderer of Chianesi. From the 20th of the month, the G.A.P. group having terminated its functions has been dissolved.

N.B. It is necessary to accept the above informations with a certain reserve. They have been submitted by a member of the G.A.P., whose true name has not been obtainable. It is not to be excluded that he may have given a certain propagandistic tone to his account. As a

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Assault squadrons of the "Partito d'Azione" (3.43) This corps was constituted in October, and had the same duties or aims as those of the G.A.P. of the Communist Party. They never had a precise and absolute organization, but were chiefly formed by groups of volunteers, who from time to time undertook activities (or missions) upon indications received from the military command of the party. They state that the accomplished the following missions:

- 1) the sabotage of German communications by seizing German and fascist cars, the destruction or damaging of military lorries, the destruction or damaging of various telephone cabins. On July 6th, by a simultaneous action all the wells containing the telephone cables were blown up, which relayed Florence to the rest of Italy. For some time the German communications were thus entirely paralyzed, so that the German Command took up the system of arresting hostages to prevent the repetition of these actions.
- II) Industrial sabotage. The removal from the electrical factories of Carobbi of electrical motors and apparatuses amounting to the value of several millions. The removal by sudden action or coupe de main of the arms belonging to all the police centres of Florence and the commissariate offices etc. The launching of bombs against the fascist barracks.
- III) The killing of spies and traitors; among which - in January - that of a Bulgarian spy called Boris Naidaroff. The liberation of 9 political prisoners, placed in the Prison Scuole Leopoldine as prisoners. The killing of the secretary of the fascio of Borgo S. Lorenzo - Fusi - etc. The members of the S.A.S. dispute with the communist members of the G.A.F. the fact of the killing by these last of Col. Gobbi, commanding the District of Florence and that of the spy - Nocentini -.
- IV) Assistance given to prisoners of war of the allies, for whom a kind of place of transit at Ancona had been arranged, with the help of the parish priest of Ancona and through which there passed various hundreds of escaped prisoners, who were assisted in various ways to proceed upon their journey to Southern Italy.

Squadrons of Action.

Foreseeing the possibility of operations in the interval of time between the German retreat and the arrival of the first Allied troops, "squadrons of action" were created within the city upon the following basis:

The entire city was divided into four zones, each entrusted to a zone inspector:

- 1st Zone - Over the Arno, Insp. Dami (Communist).
- 2nd Zone - the Western part of the town and Rifredi, Insp. Trenti (Democratico Cristiano Party).

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- 1° Zone - Over the Arno, Insp. Demi (Communist).
- 2° Zone - the Western part of the town and Rifredi, Insp. Trenti (Democratico Cristiano Party).
- 3° Zone - the centre of the City, Insp. Albertoni (Partita D'Azione).
- 4° Zone - the Eastern part of the City and Campo di Marte, Insp. Giorgi (Socialist).

Each Inspector of a zone had at his command 5 zone commanders, one for each of the five parties, of which each in his turn had at his command a number which varied of men of the Squadron of Action, organized by the aid of his party, counting ten in each (about).

There existed within the ranks of the Squadrons of Action the Communist Party, the Squadron of the "Fronte della GJ" (The front of youths); About 100 of these grouped in a company operated with the 1st Zone. As many also in company formation operated with the 3rd Zone. After the format. of the "Partito D'Azione", the formations of the "Front della Gioventu".

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are those which have given the large tribute in proportion of killed or wounded in the fight.

The members of the S.A.S. already mentioned were incorporated in the squadron of the Partito d'Azione.

There were nearly 3000 volunteers incorporated in the squadrons of action. Of these a good half of the number were not armed or were only armed with pistols.

The "V" Brigade:

During the last period a certain - Vittorio Grossi - organized and independent formation of about two hundred men, which was called the "V" brigade, and had no affiliation or connection with the other parties. It was chiefly composed of ex- carabinieri and ex-officers. This group offered to collaborate with the C.T.L.N. to liberate the city and the offer was accepted with a certain reserve as it seemed that its character of independence of the parties did not give a sufficient guarantee as regard the political integrity of its members. This formation was however unable to start fighting before August the 18th, when the Germans retired from the zone where the brigade was to be. It was about 180 men strong.

As well as these formations, the Military Command of the C.T.L.N. could dispose of several important services:

Information and Liaison services: entrusted to Col. Poccetti and Major Bindi.

Sanitary Service: was cared for by Dr. Danti. His services rendered were of great importance to those fighting and to civilians during all the days of fighting in the city. A separate report regarding this will be made later.

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Military Operation in Florence from the 3rd to the 20th August, 1944.

At 3 o'clock on the 3rd of August the Germans declared a state of emergency in the city of Florence, which enabled them to draw closer to the Eighth Army Forces. They compelled the inhabitants near to the river to evacuate their houses at very short notice, ordered everyone to remain indoors and prepared to blow up the bridges.

The forces in Zone 1 under the command of Ispettore Dami were there organised and armed in the following way. Strength 780 men; 180 rifles, light automatic weapons 10, hand grenades 490.

In spite of this insufficient armament the Patriots tried to carry out the orders received from the military command to save the bridges.

The operation was impossible because the German Forces were far superior to those of the patriots, and because the Allied forces were still too far away to reinforce the Patriots if they should start an action. The first Allied patrols arrived in fact about four hours after the bridges were blown up, and then with such a small force that they could not have changed the situation. The patriots tried an attack at the Ponte della Vittoria in an attempt to try and cut the wires of the mines (1 dead and 1 wounded); at the Ponte Carrara (1 dead, 4 wounded) German casualties not ascertained. At Ugnagno, where the Patriots succeeded in saving the bridge of the Mantignano and the aqueduct of S. Mari S. Maria of Mantignano (five dead); and at the Ford of Isclento (several German losses not ascertained, and two patriots wounded).

In the course of the morning of the 4th August the following episodes occurred :- In the sector of Ugnagno and Ponte Vittoria 28 mines were neutralised and 122 removed. Advancing Allied troops were informed of mined fields and places and Patriots acted as guides and scouts.

Sector Ponte della Vittoria to Piazzale Enrico Foggi there was active combat against snipers hidden in the houses.

Sector Foggi to Grassano a bridge on the Lira was saved; road obstructions prevented; joint action with Allied troops in surrounding 150 Germans near Villamagna.

In the following days up to the 11th August action against snipers continued in the Oltr'Arno (South of the river) in which groups of the "Arno" Division, recently arrived, took part. About 150 fascists and suspects were arrested. Patriot losses were 8 dead (three of the "Arno" Division) and sixteen wounded.

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While this action was going on in the Oltr'Arno the military command of the C.T.L.M. (The Tiscon Committee of Liberation) had installed itself ever since the declaration of the state of emergency in the office of the Lariarello in Piazza Strossi, and from there it maintained contact by means of runners with its own forces dependent on it. The Squadre D'Azione were mobilised and brought together at various points, and an observation post was established on the cupola of the cathedral from which the movements of the enemy and the effects of Allied artillery fire could be observed. This observation post was later transferred to the Tower of the Palazzo Vecchio, from which the signal was to be given for the entry into action of the Squadre D'Azione by means of the ringing of its bell. The strength of the Squadre D'Azione at the time when the State of Emergency was declared was as follows :-

Zone	Men	Rifles	Automatic Arms	Pistols	Light	Heavy
				188		

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Zone	Men	Ri	as	Automatic Arms		Pistols	Bombs
				Light	Heavy		
11	420	170		8	2	150	275
111	940	371		17	"	402	364
1V	756	230		13	2	187	316
Totals	2066	771		38	4	749	955

The amount of ammunition available was approximately 4 magazines per rifle, 200 rounds per automatic weapon, 20 rounds per pistol.

On the 6th August the first contact with the Allied command was made, across the ruins and through the secret passage of the Ponte Vecchio Col. Niccoli, military commander of the clandestine military forces, crossed over to that side of Florence already held by British troops. The British Military authorities gave the Patriots complete freedom and responsibility to decide the right moment for entering into action.

At 6 o'clock on August 11th the signal was given, after the Germans had blown the bridges on the Mugnone, thus showing their intention of retiring.

The fact that the Germans still occupied a large portion of the town meant that a greater part of the Patriot Forces in Zones 11 and 1V were cut off from the central command and either never went into action, or if they did so, were cut off by the Germans, and had to fight their way through to the main central forces. The military command of Florence was thus able to command about half of its effective forces only, as shown in the preceding table. On the other hand it could rely on two companies of the 1st "Rosselli" Division and on 200 men of the "Arno" Division, who became in fact, the backbone of the resistance on the perimeter of Florence during the first days of fighting. The "Arno" Division waded across the river on the morning of August 11th and entered into action in the afternoon, re-inforcing the squadrons of actions.

After the signal of action had been made, the military command transferred itself to the Palazzo Riccardi. The Palazzo Vecchio and the Questura had already been occupied by trusted elements, and the Tuscan Committee of National Liberation had begun to function in its offices there.

The operations developed in the following manner: In Zone 11 the "Carlo Rosselli" Brigade chased the German parachute troops in the course of the morning from the railway houses and drove German rearwards beyond the Mugnone in the district of the Palestino, afterwards falling back on this side of the river for reasons of security. Three commanders

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In Zone 111 the centre of the town was occupied without incident, but the action squads met with considerable resistance, on the circumference. Lively combat developed on the Romito, at Piazza Cavour, where two German armoured cars were stationed, and against fascist snipers at Viale Margherita and Piazza Indipendenza.

At 16.00 hours a German outpost succeeded in getting control of the ground floor of the Fartherre of San Gallo, which was transformed into an outpost supplied with automatic weapons. Strong enemy fire developed Via Masaccio. The "Arno" Division is brought into action, being distributed by companies along the outer boundaries of the avenues (bordering the town), in place of the squadrons of action, ¹⁴¹thinned by serious losses sustained during the morning and by the increasing scarcity of ammunition.

In Zone III encounters of minor importance took place along the avenues skirting the town.

12th August.

On August 12th Germans penetrated into the zone of San Jacopino, compelling the patriots to fall back to the Porta al Prato. Encounters took place at the Tobacco works between Tersolile and Macelli (where the Germans also had two armoured cars); at Villa Favard, where the Germans succeeded in advancing only to be hurled back again eventually by the Patriots. Continuous and intense firing was aimed against the German forces in Piazza Cavour and the sharp shooters of Via Mazzecio, who terrorized the entire population in that area.

In Zone IV, on the other hand, only round-ups of fascists and snipers occurred.

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Organisation of "Addestine Military Forces" in Tuscany. SECRET.

13th August, 1944.

Also during the day of the 13th August the 11 Zone (Ponte all'Asse - San Jacopino) continued to be that in which the enemy pressure was the strongest. The situation is particularly delicate as regards the forces of the patriots in that the squadrons of action had been organised in view of an action which should continue at the most 48 hours, and they were by now in large number without munitions and hence inefficient. The "Roselli" Brigade, which during the day of the 12th August had for the fourth time lost its commandant, had already suffered heavy casualties in dead and wounded. The "Arno" Division under the command of Aldo Comaschi (after the death of Potente) was also feeling the strain of three days of uninterrupted fighting against an enemy indubitably superior in means. There were also conflicts at the tobacco manufactory (where the commandant of the "Sinigaglia" Brigade was killed); at San Jacopino and at Villa Demidof. In the morning there was also a German attempt to pass the Mugnone, in the Ponte all'Asse zone, with the support of an armoured car. The attempt was frustrated; the German losses were six, between dead and wounded; the partisans lost one dead, two wounded.

In the 111 Zone there were lively encounters around the Fortezza da Basso, in the hands of the Patriots, who began from there to push their fire beyond the Mugnone and at Via Masaccio against the tenacious resistance of the snipers installed there.

A detachment of the IV Zone, finding itself besieged in the Via delle Forbici, succeeded in reaching Piazza San Marco and in rejoining the main body, passing through the drains of the City.

On the days of the 14th/15th of August the situation remained on the whole stationary, while the first Allied patrol made its first appearance. On the 15th August a reorganisation of the defences of Florence took place on the following basis :-

The four zone inspectors were abolished and in their places three sector commands were created, each one backed by a Brigade of partisans.

- 1. Sector. From the Arno to the Fortezza. "Sinigaglia" Brigade.
- 2. Sector. From the Fortezza to Via Degré; "Roselli" Brigade (then transformed into the "Giustizia e Libertà" Division).
- 3. Sector. From Piazza Torino to Piazza Alberti; "Lanciotto" Brigade.

The work of the patrols in communication with the Allied

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3. Sector. From Piazza Torino to Piazza Alberti; "Lanciotto" Brigade.

The work of the patrols in communication with the Allied commands continued. The squadrons of action were indefatigable in aiding the population of the zones under enemy fire, both as regards food supplies and the care and transport of the wounded. The combing out of the snipers continued.

16th August, 1944.

The outstanding episode of the day was a German attack at Piazza Donatella. The Germans were driven back and dislodged from the neighbouring schools, leaving 2 dead and 4 wounded. A heavy machine gun was captured.

Continuance at the Ponte al Pino and at Piazza Savonarola of the hunting down of the snipers. A partisan of the "Lanciotto" known as "Vandello", individually killed 2 snipers, wounded a third, and captured a heavy machine gun.

17th August.

Continuance of the struggle around the Fortezza da Basso. In the course of the day the Germans abandoned the part of the City adjacent to the Viali and fell back beyond the Mugnone and the railway also in the zones of the 11 and 111 sectors. A clearing up action by the "Giustizia e Libertà" finally dislodged the snipers from the Via Masaccio also.

18th August.

The patriots pushed their patrols as far as Piazza Dalmazia (Rifredi); beyond the Mugnone (as far as the centre of enemy fire at the convent of the Cappuccini at Montugli); and to Camerata. Here the men of the "Lanciotto" had a lively skirmish with the Germans: 2 German killed and 2 heavy machine guns captured - 5 partisans wounded.

Encounters took place with snipers placed in Piazza Pietro Leopoldo. In view of the German retreat, numerous elements of the 11 Zone, having first remained cut off from the main body of the Patriots, reunited with these.

The "Brigata V" which had never hitherto been able to be utilized enters, among others, into action.

19th August, 1944.

Continuance throughout the day of patrol actions and clearing up operations in the region beyond the Mugnone towards the Via Vittorio Emanuele. Lively encounters took place with the German rearguards at the Viale Morgagni. Two German mortars of 81 calibre were captured.

Official news is lacking respecting the patriot losses during the conflicts from the 3rd to the 19th August, Major Mazzi, chief of staff of the Military Command of the C.F.L.N. is of the opinion that the numbers will amount to about 500 men. Between these there will be about 150 dead and 350 wounded. Particularly grave losses have been suffered by the "Rosselli", engaged in the severest conflicts of the first three days, and of various squadrons of action made up of youths endowed with greater daring than war experience; who have been at times mown down in the first encounters by the volleys of the heavy, accurately placed, German guns.

It is interesting to note that, in the conflicts of the last days on the front of the 111 sector, groups of machine gunners of the Fascist formations have been observed.

The Patriots of the "Arno" and "Giustizia e Libertà" formations continue to fight also now on their own sectors of the front, in collaboration with the Allied troops deployed there.

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LIBERATION PARTY

RAISE ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM THE TUSCAN PATRIOTS GROUPS FROM SEPTEMBER 1943 TO THE PRESENT DATE -

10) - THE FORMING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE TUSCAN PATRIOTS -

The 8th of September 1943 marked the beginning of persecutions and tortures of the Italian people by the Nazi-fascist party -

In Tuscany, as in all other cities of Italy immediate reaction was taken against them - Rebels were formed, the majority of which was made up by young men who had for many years suffered in silence -

Groups were made up by all classes, countrymen, workers, artisans, students and men who had left the Army - They left their houses and lived in mountains and valleys, gathering together secretly.

At first they were few, going from place to place looking for food and getting away from Nazi persecutions -

They got the first rifles from the fascists and German prisons by the risk of the lives -

As soon as they found arms they began work against the fascist forming groups and later on brigades and divisions up in the mountains, while in the cities they organized action groups -

20) ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT BY THE TUSCAN PATRIOTS FROM THE 8th OF SEPTEMBER 1943 TO AUGUST THE 3rd 1944 -

From Patriots in the mountains and in the countries -

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2°) ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT BY THE TUSCAN PATRIOTS FROM THE 8th OF

SEPTEMBER 1943 TO AUGUST THE 3rd 1944 -

From Patriots in the mountains and in the countries -

The parties could not move easily owing to the difficulties of the country in Tuscany, small hills and many communicating roads, and the life of the Patriots was very dangerous. In this sector as the Nazi-fascist could get at them easily and they practically had no way of escape.

They had very hard moments and managed to get away from being surrounded only by knowing the country very well and by the help of the farm people -

Since May 1944 Tuscany, not including the cities, had groups in all regions. -

There was the 4th Garibaldi Brigade in the Senese, in the Volterrano, on the Amiata Mountains and at Pratomeno - Other Groups

15
 were in the Garfagnana Mountains, in the zone of Arezzo, Pistoia, Mugello, Vallombrosa, Istioiese, Signa, Fiesole, Livorno, Piombino, in the Alpi delle Tre Potenze, in the Alpi di Catenaia and in other smaller places -

The said groups at the beginning of June were composed of 6000 men of which 60% were more or less armed with automatic weapons, rifles, hand grenades -

Very scarce was the help from the allies, who only sent things down in the zone of Maremma and Appennino Lucchese -

Great activity was done by these groups from the 3rd of August 1944.

The Garibaldina Potente Division, constituted by 4 brigades - "Sirtigallia", Lanciotto, "Cassari", "Panciatelliacci", seriously blocked the German traffic along the main roads of Arezzo, Consume, Senese and Chiantigiano, destroying and damaging 400 Auto - vehicle and two tanks.

In the locality of Gagra the Germans attacked them twice and 50 patriots were killed and two tanks were destroyed.

At Cetica the Germans were sent back several times, after hard fighting - The Germans in this action lost a hundred men and had a good number of wounded.

At Piand'Albero other German attacks were repulsed, causing the enemy 40 casualties and one damaged truck -

Republican garrisons were assaulted in many localities of which Borgo S. Lorenzo and Vicchio.

Armoured columns were frequently attacked and on the Consume road an armoured column of 20 cars was nearly completely destroyed.

Many isolated attacks were done to Nazi-Fascist and auto-transport -

Very active was the work of the patriots assisting the population, who had been robbed by the Germans of all their farming equipment.

The activities of this Division since the 3rd of August 1944 are the following :

100 bridges blown up -
 500 auto-transporte destroyed and damaged.

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about

600 Germans and fascists were killed in the fighting

100 Germans and fascists sentenced to death in the spot -
250 Patriots have been killed in the fighting.

16

- Patriot Party "Purges" (Banda, 1940-1941) began to operate in the 17th against German interests in the sub-urban zone. There the Germans suffered 2 killed and 7 wounded.
- While 16 a group of this party engaged in a fierce battle with the German at Sarmiento. In this fight the patriots suffered 8 killed and 10 prisoners and many disappeared. The group was later reactivated.
- During the month of May and June, operations on sub-urban zone and patrols secured for the party arms and food.
- Helped 20 Spanish soldiers in the German army to desert, helping with them arms and ammunition.
- This Party in the beginning of July transferred to Prieto, including many German patrols in the Rio Colorado zone.
- July 15, assaulted the Military Hospital Garrison of Villahermosa, eliminating 13 military men.
- In the night of July 15th destroyed the important bridge of Valle in the Rayo-Villahermosa road.
- In the beginning of August this party moved to Sarmiento where they made contact with the first allied patrols. They proceeded north also by side with these allied patrols occupying the towns of Pineda and Aguascalientes. Presently they were operating with advanced patrols north of Rayo.
- Due to the impossibility of communications, this command can not give any information of the activity carried out by various units which were located in the zones of Santa Anita and Rayo, of Arizaga and of Sarmiento.
- At the end of May, thinking it was necessary to organize the activities of these numerous groups working in Sarmiento, the Committee of National Liberation is formally declared to make one single command, which was called "Comando Militar Sarmiento".
- Three tanks of the Committee were:
 - 1) To organize the operation of the patrols in Sarmiento and in the country around.
 - 2) A very careful plan to occupy the city of Florence, the organization of the Action Squads dividing up the work between the various brigades.

- This Party in the beginning of July transferred to Pratolino, engaging many German patrols in the Reggello-Pratolino zone.
- July 15, assaulted the Militia Forestale Barracks of Vallombrosa, dispersing 10 Militia men.
- In the night of July 15th destroyed the important bridge of Fallo in the Reggello-Vallombrosa road.
- In the beginning of August this party moved to Castelluccio where they made contact with the first Allied Patrols. They proceeded north side by side with these Allied patrols occupying the towns of Poggio a Caiano and Reggello. Presently they are operating with advanced patrols north of Reggello.
- Due to the impossibility of communications, this command can not give any information of the activity carried out by various which were located in the zones of Monte Amiata and Grosseto, of Arezzo and of Livorno.
- At the end of May, thinking it was necessary to organize the activities of these numerous groups working in Tuscany, the Committee of National Liberation in Tuscany decided to make one single Command, which was called "Comando Militare Toscana".
- Three tasks of the Committee were:
 - 1) To organize the operation of the Patriots in Tuscany and in the country around.
 - 2) A very careful plan to occupy the city of Florence, the organization of the Action Squads dividing up the work between the various brigades.
 - 3) Information about the fortified places, finding out the mine areas and where the Germans had changed their troops.
- For the last matter, things were settled at once very satisfactorily considering the many difficulties and dangers.
- The advanced reconnaissance patrols had no rapid means of communication and danger became so great that women were used to go forward and gather information.
- Many of these heroic reconnaissance patrols lost their lives after being captured and tortured.
- To all the groups were given orders, which were checked by the Allied Command.

12/14
 With the incoming Allied troops in a zone of Florence, many patriots worked with them in the commissions which were going on at the moment, but we do not know in what actions they took part.

Another group of patriots near Florence worked up to the very last giving information. Of these, very few managed to get to Florence before the arrival of the Allies. The others reached the town on the 4th and 5th of August, fighting their way through the German lines.

Operations began on the night of August the 4th trying to blow up the two bridges "Vittorio" and "Garibaldi" on the Arno.

It failed owing to the enormous difference of men and rifles between Germans and patriots. The patriots had no hope of help from the Allies on the first morning. Patrols arrived at the south of the city five hours after the bridges had been blown up.

In violent fighting on the head of the bridges, the patriots had two casualties and 5 wounded. During the 4th and the 10th of August, patriots on the left of the Arno did as follows:

- They took away the mines which had been put by the Germans on bridge Montignone.
- They managed to save the remainder of Montignone: in this action 5 patriots died.
- Also at Grosseto they saved the bridge on the River Arno.
- The bridge at Ponte a Lima was made up before the Allies arrived -
- Other roads and bridges were repaired before the arrival of the Allies.

A group of patriots with the help of the Allies surrounded 150 German soldiers cutting them off between Villanova and the incastro.

Fighting with Germans on the little island on the Arno called "Fiorino".

- Working with the Allies taking them across the river Arno and giving them military information.

In the first two days of fighting the patriots had 8 casualties 16 wounded, meanwhile from the 14th of June to the 1st of August, they had 5 casualties, 4 wounded, 5 arrests by the fascists 3 of whom we know nothing more.

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- They took away the mines which had been put by the Germans on bridge Martignano.
- They managed to save the remnant of Martignano: in this action 5 patriots died.
- Also at Grassano they saved the bridge on the River Sena.
- The bridge at Ponte a Sena was made up before the allies arrived.
- Other roads and bridges were repaired before the arrival of the allies.

A group of patriots with the help of the Allies surrounded 150 Germans cutting them off between Villamagna and the Lucanetro. Fighting with Germans on the little island on the Arno called "Isolotto"

- Working with the Allies guiding them across the mined areas and giving them military information.

In the first two days of fighting the patriots had 8 casualties 16 wounded, meanwhile from the 14th of June to the 3rd of August, they had 5 casualties, 4 wounded, 5 arrests by the fascists 3 of whom we know nothing more.

The strength of the patriots available to the Military Command in August 3, 1944 was the following:

2840 Patriots
951 rifles and guns
54 automatic weapons
240 pistols
1445 hand grenades.

These numbers do not include the various squads of action located in the vicinity of Florence, for example: Fiesole, Settignano, Peretola, Campi Bisenzio, Santo Spirito and Galluzzo, which had altogether a strength of 300 men.

- August the 3rd. The Germans declared martial-law 1700 total-ly enforced it till the night of August the 11th.

BRIGADES "REDA" No. 1 - 2 - 3 - 18.

These Brigades have operated individually in the zones of the Appennine Lucchese, Pistoiese, of Mugello, Lastra a Signa, Montedice, Montespertoli, Impruneta and Grosseto.

Results :

- the total control of the Appennine Lucchese, Pistoiese and of the Valley of Lima, from North of Bagni di Lucca to Ontigniano, during the months of May and June -
- completely defeated the Legion of Fascist Militia of Lucca, which had been assigned to destroy the camps of the brigades. At the end of May the Militia was forced to retreat with great losses of material and personnel -
- a second attack by 300 German SS men was repulsed in the first week of June; after a fierce battle, in which 70 Germans were killed -
- a third attack by a large German force was also repulsed by the end of June, resulting in another great loss by the German -
- sabotage - wire-cutting - blocking of bridges and roads - destroying of two large warehouses at S. Martino alla Palma and of 4 railroad cars full of material destined for Germany.
- disarmed and forced to desert an entire company of the Republican Army at Galluzzo -
- assault of a Concentration Camp in Villa la Selva, freeing 42 prisoners of which 7 were British and 5 Americans -
- assault of the Caserma Baldassera in Florence, recovering many arms and other material.
- demolition of 103 anti-tank mines and the clearing of 22 road blocks near Certosa, facilitating the advance of the New Zealand 2nd Div.
- attacked 22 groups of Germans near Pian del Cervi, killing 11 Germans while suffering only 1 dead and 5 wounded.
- the 3rd of August in another engagement near Rodris three Germans were killed whilst only one patriot was killed and one wounded. On the same day a group of patriots made their way to the British Army through a mined area.

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 - the 3rd of August in another engagement near Robbia three Germans were killed whilst only one patriot was killed and one wounded. On the same day a group of patriots made their way to the Eighth Army through a mined area.
 - various examples of escaping and retreating Germans.
- The activities of the Rosselli Brigade up to the 3rd August caused the following :-
- Into rubble of 35 bridges.
 - Blocking of 45 roads.
 - 400 or more Nazis and Fascists killed.
 - 100 vehicles damaged or destroyed.
 - 20 railroad cars destroyed (fire in the Prato-Bologna railway caused inactivity almost a week).

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17 12
Description of mines during the German retreat -

The Brigade "Rosselli" numbering 550 men was forced to leave its hiding in the middle of July after heroically repelling it two months against a German division.

The leader, Buccarelli, after the defeat, with about 100 men tried to cross the line to the 5th Army. Failing he tried to reach Florence but also failed having no transportation nor food.

The Rosselli Brigade in the zone of Monte Giordani (Mugello), moved towards Florence in the beginning of August. After having repulsed a first German attack was faced by a second attack in which resulted many killed and wounded. From 50 men only 77 patriots were successful in evading the enemy. In this battle the leader and another patriot were captured.

The Rosselli Brigade No. 3, located between Montepertoli and Florence sent the 2nd Company to Florence, while the 1st Company remained near the hills carrying out sabotage to the advantage of the arriving Allied, the 3rd company operated in the zone Montepertoli - Carbide.

The Rosselli Brigade No. 4 in the zone Impruneta - Grosseto were fighting German rearwards. They entered Florence the 4th August with the advanced allied patrols.

The Rosselli Brigade in the zone of Monte Giovi (Mugello), moved towards Florence in the beginning of August. After having repulsed a first German attack was faced by a second attack in which resulted many killed and wounded. From 80 men only 77 patriots were successful in evading the enemy. In this battle the leader and another patriot were captured.

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The Rosselli Brigade No. 4 in the zone Impruneta - Grezzina were fighting German rearwards. They entered Florence the 4th August with the advanced allied patrols.

At the end of May thinking that it was necessary to organize the activities of the numerous groups working in Tuscany the Committee of National Liberation in Tuscany decided to make one single command which was called "Comando Militare Toscano".

Three tasks of the committee were :-

1. To organize the operations of the patrols of Patriots in Tuscany and in the country around.
2. A very careful plan had to be made to occupy the City of Florence; the organization of the Action Squads for dividing up the work between the various Brigades.
3. Information about the fortified places; finding out the mined areas and when the Germans had moved their troops.

For the first matter things were settled at once very satisfactorily considering the many difficulties and dangers. The advance reconnaissance patrols had no rapid means of communication and danger became so great that women were used to go forward and gather information. Many of these heroic reconnaissance patrols lost their lives after being captured and tortured. All orders to the groups were checked by the Allied Command first.

With the advancing allied troops in the zone of Florence many patriots worked with them in the operations that were going on at the time but we do not know in what actions they took part.

Another group of Patriots near Florence worked up to the very last giving information. Of these very few managed to get to Florence before the arrival of the Allies. The others reached the town on the 4th and 5th August fighting their way through the German lines.

Concerning the 2nd Command and the Tuscan Military Command worked on a plan for the occupation and defence of the City of Florence.

The said plan was to be carried out before the arrival of the Allies.

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Concerning the 2nd Command the Tuscan Military Command worked on a plan for the occupation and defence of the City of Florence. The said plan was to be carried out before the arrival of the Allies, with the general co-operation of all the Patriots. The tasks of these Patriots were :-

1. To attack rearguards of the retreating Germans on the outskirts and in the streets of the City of Florence.
2. To prevent the destruction of the Arno bridges if the Germans decided to demolish them.
3. To occupy and defend objectives of military, industrial, political, social or cultural importance existing in this City.
4. To maintain law and order of the public till the arrival of the Allies.
5. To fight against snipers. For this task the city was subdivided into four zones; at the head of each would be a trusted leader, responsible directly to the Tuscan Military Command.

1788

21.
ACTION ON 7 AUGUST 1944

20 AUGUST 26, 1944

In the night of August 11th the Germans retreated from the center of the city.

In the early hours of the same day by order of this Command the signal was given to all patriots that time had come for action.

All groups of patriots, which had been already secretly reunited and waiting for his hours were assigned on the highway railway line with orders to attack the enemy, preventing them to return.

Another Group was detailed to occupy objective of most importance, to patrol for aripers and to maintain law and order among the people.

Below are listed a résumé of their activities.

DIVISION GARCILLO, ICA "PORTUGAL"

In the morning of August the 11th two squads of the Division "Portugal" were detailed to cross the Arco and get information in the enemy occupied city.

While one squad successfully crossed the River at Reyesano and made their way to the city, the other was repulsed by German forces in the Caserio zone. The squad leader was killed in this action.

The Division Command with the Sigüella Brigade and a part of the Laredotto Brigade crossed the Arco the 11th of August. Two companies of the Laredotto Brigade were already engaged in this side of the Arco, patrolling the zones of Punta alla Mosca and Portuques de Basco.

The 12 of August the Sigüella Brigade was detailed to maintain law and order among the people in the zones of between Viala Brindine Umberto - Via Calle Caserio - Via del Puerto.

August the 12th a company of the Brigade "Laredotto" was sent in the A. Jacodine zone to reinforce another group from the same Brigade engaged against the German in the zone "Viala" - Romito.

After five hours of fierce fighting the enemy were forced back of

ted and waiting for his hours were assigned on the Mignone railway line with orders to attack the enemy, preventing them to retreat.

Another Group was detailed to occupy objective of most importance, to patrol for snipers and to maintain law and order among the people.

Below are listed a resume of their activities.

DIVISION CARABINIERI "PODIATA"

In the morning of August the 11th two squads of the Division "Podiate" were detailed to cross the Arno and get information in the enemy occupied city.

While one squad successfully crossed the River at Rovereto and made their way to the city, the other was repulsed by German forces in the Cascina zone. The squad leader was killed in this action.

The Division Command with the Sinigaglia Brigade and a part of the Lanciotto Brigade crossed the Arno the 11th of August. Two companies of the Lanciotto Brigade were already engaged in this ride of the Arno, patrolling the zones of Porta alla Massa and Portofino di Bagno.

The 12 of August the Sinigaglia Brigade was detailed to maintain law and order among the people in the zones of between Viale Principe Umberto - Via della Sanita - Via dei Turchi.

August the 12th a company of the Brigade "Lanciotto" was sent in the S. Jacopo zone to reinforce another group from the same Brigade engaged against the German in the zone "Mancini"-Rovito. After five hours of fierce fighting the enemy were forced back of the zone. The Patriots suffered one killed and one wounded.

On the same day another Company of the Lanciotto Brigade engaged German patrols hiding in the Manifattura Tabacchi in this battle 5 patriots were wounded.

5 snipers captured in action were justified on the spot.

A company of the Lanciotto, August 12, while making their way to Molini Biondi, to help a nucleus of Patriots surrounded by Germans met the enemy in Piazza Cavour, forcing the Germans to retreat to the railroad. Following a German reinforcement of tanks and a great concentrated mortar fire the company was forced to retreat.

August 13th, groups of the Sinigaglia Brigade, after fierce engagement with Germans in the Tobacco factory were forced to

withdrew. 1 patriot killed and 5 wounded.

- The same day 13 small groups of the Lanciotto Brigade heroically held German patrols armed with machine-guns and mortar in the Portosan da Basso. 5 Germans were killed, one patriot killed, one wounded.

- August 14 small groups of the Potente Division, by orders of the Allied Command patrolled the zone in the central station. In the encounters which followed, five Germans were killed against one patriot killed and one wounded.

- Patriots patrol captured and justified two snipers August 16th

- In the same day small groups of the Lanciotto Brigade engaged German Patrols near Ponte del Pino. The enemy suffered three killed and one wounded.

- August 17. The Germans again attacked in great strength small groups of the Lanciotto Brigade surrounded in the Portosan da Basso. 4 German were killed and two patriots were wounded.

- August 18, small groups of the Brigata Division in two successive encounters in Piazza Italiana forced the Germans to abandon this zone taking with them their casualties.

- In the same day the brigades Caland and Pacellagel arrived in Florence, both of these Potente Division had fought in the zone south-west of Florence.

- August 19, a company of the Central Brigade infiltrated in the enemy lines capturing one heavy-machine-gun and 50 rifles.

- During another patrol, small groups of the same brigade captured two 80 mm mortars.

- In the night of August 22nd, in three encounters with German patrols in the zone of Ponte di Basso, the enemy were repulsed. One patriot was killed.

- In the same day, patrols from the Lanciotto Brigade in fierce encounters with German patrols armed with machine-gun in the zone of S. Giovanni-Via Boccaccio suffered one killed and three wounded. 2 Germans were killed.

- August 23, encounters of patrols in the zone of Riffredi and in Via Centostallo, in this last encounter the German suffered one killed and one wounded, the patriots one wounded.

German patrols near Ponte del Pino. The enemy suffered three killed and one wounded.

- August 17. The Germans again attacked in great strength small groups of the Lancietto Brigade surrounded in the Fortasse de Basso. 4 German were killed and two patriots were wounded.
- August 18, small groups of the Brigallia Brigade in two successive encounters in Piazza Delmasia forced the Germans to abandon this zone taking with them their casualties.
- In the same day the brigades Caland and Pendiullesci arrived in Florence, both of these Potente Division had fought in the zone south-west of Florence.
- August 19, a company of the Cadenti Brigade infiltrated in the enemy lines capturing one heavy-machine gun and 50 rifles.
- During another patrol, small groups of the same brigade captured two 80 mm mortars.
- In the night of August 22nd, in three encounters with German patrols in the zone of Ponte di Basso, the enemy were repulsed. One patriot was killed.
- In the same day, patrols from the "Lancietto" Brigade in fierce encounters with German patrols armed with machine-gun in the zone of S. Garvasio-Via Boccaccio suffered one killed and three wounded. 2 German were killed.
- August 23, encounters of patrols in the zone of Riffredi and in Via Santostella, in this last encounter the German suffered one killed and one wounded, the patriots one wounded.
- August 24-25-26 various encounters of patrols in the zone between Cascina and Ponte di S. Donato in the zone of Riffredi.

ROMA 11.01.40 :

The "Boselli's" brigade, from the very first days of their action in Florence had been completed and incorporated in the "Boselli no. 2, 4 brigade".

On the 11th of August a part of this brigade occupied the garrison of BIR - EL - GORI and Carlo CUNZI while another platoon attacked and drove away beyond the railway line in Viale Belfiore a group of German parachutes.

In Via Belfiore a company, commanded by Captain Lei Monaco went in help towards Viale Belfiore : occupied a house by night.

23

After 1 hour fighting the enemy retreated up the on the other side of the bay one - After it more German arrived and the company, afraid to be surrounded, had to retreat - Many wounded, no casualties -

The brigade was reorganized and reduced to two companies under the Command of Capt. Del Monaco and Capt. Marzoni and was sent out to push away the German which were still in the zone of Via Toselli, Via Bellero, Marzoni, where they were under concentrated fire -

Capt. Del Monaco, Commander of the Brigade, was wounded and Capt. Marzoni took the command of the Brigade, who again made the attack - In this attack he heroically died -

The command of the Brigade was taken on by Lieutenant Marzoni, who managed to push away German patrols back of the line - who managed to push away German patrols back of the line - During this action Lieutenant Marzoni, heroically died.

August 12th patrols of the "Monselli 90 3" Brigade attacked a large German patrol of about thirty men, who during the night had reached Piazza O. Jacchino from the Mugone and pushed them back, leaving on the ground 3 casualties. One patrolist died and two were wounded. On the same day the Brigade was attacked by a large number of Germans at Casarone Rosso "La Rovere", and had to withdraw in the zone of Forte di Trento. On the 13th there was great German machine gun and mortar fire activity. On the 14th the Brigade still held up the fire. On the 15th they forced back German patrols to the other side of the Mugone and took 4 prisoners.

August 17th groups of the Brigade managed to take several snipers in the zone of Viale di Circonvallazioni up to Via S. Felice. On the 18th the Germans retreated and the Monselli Brigade immediately went forward and came in contact with the enemy. In the afternoon of the same day German infiltration infiltration managed to get up to Via Vittorio Emanuele. Fierce fighting took place and the Monselli Brigade with the help of "9" Brigade and the Italian Italian Party held them back all night long, but retired themselves alone, the Mugone. On the 19th patrols of the Brigade on reconnaissance in Viale Marzoni attacked German patrols, killing one German and capturing one light machine gun.

Cont. 22nd and 23rd

Cap. Del Remo, took the command of the Brigade, who again made the attack. In this attack he heroically died.

The command of the Brigade was taken on by Lieutenant Persin-14, who managed to push some German patrols back of the Pugione - who managed to push some German patrols back of the Pugione - during this action Lieutenant Persin-14, heroically died.

August 12th patrols of the Bonaselli 1st Brigade attacked a large German patrol of about thirty men, who during the night had reached Pianon 1. Occupied from the Pugione and pushed them back, leaving on the ground 5 casualties. One Patriot died and two were wounded. On the same day the Brigade was attacked by a large number of Germans of Casserone Rosso "La Riva", and had to withdraw in the zone of Porta al Prete. On the 13th there was great mortar machine gun and mortar fire activity. On the 14th the Brigade still held up the fire. On the 15th they forced back German patrols to the other side of the Pugione and took 4 prisoners.

August 17th troops of the Brigade managed to take several snipers in the zone of Viale 41 Cordonvillaggio up to Via S. Gallo. On the 18th the Germans retreated and the Bonaselli Brigade immediately went forward and made contact with the enemy. In the afternoon of the same day German infiltration managed to get up to Via Vittorio Emanuele. Fierce fighting took place and the Bonaselli Brigade with the help of 7th Brigade and the Citizen Action Party held them back all night long, but retired themselves along the Pugione. On the 19th patrols of the Brigade on reconnaissance in Viale Morgagni attacked German patrols, killed one German and captured one light machine gun.

On the 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th August, 1944, patrol activities of the Bonaselli Brigade against the Germans was especially active in the zone of Piazza Valassia. On the 24th one German patrol pushed forward to the south of Pianon Defensibile but they were repelled and the Bonaselli had many losses. On the 26th and 27th they were active in the line.

Citizen Arm of Action.

These squads of the City of Florence worked in three zones on the right of the River Arno at the orders of their military commander. They suffered many casualties in the first few days and joined forces with the "Volunteers", forming a "Liberty" Division. These covered three different fighting zones.

No 1 Sector. San Felice Brigade.

No 2 Sector. San Felice & Liberty Brigade.

No 3 Sector. Libertas Brigade.

The squads of action, considering the strong German resistance held their places in the zones of Rifredi-Sorghi-In Core- S.S. Division and Borgo di Porta, although they were cut off from the other patriots -

Many of said patriots successfully crossed the lines to return to the main forces; others are still defending themselves, surrounded in the houses back of the line.

- August 11th the patriots were only part successful in preventing the demolition bridges in the Mugello River. They were successful preventing the total destruction of Ponte Rosso, which can be used by foot-soldiers.

- The same day the patriot repeatedly assaulted, the Tobacco Factory though failing to subvert the hard German resistance. Fierce encounters with the enemy patrols in the zones Romito and near the Mugello River. Fierce and hard battles against the soldiers in the zone of Piazza Indipendenza, Via Nazionale, Via Garibaldi and Borgo Santi. In the zone of Via Mamerto, Via Via Martelloni, Piazza Savonarola, small groups of patriots had fought all day against the soldiers. The patriots suffered 7 killed and 6 wounded.

- August 12th they again assaulted the Germans in the Tobacco Factory where the Germans were still firmly holding on.

- August 13th the patriots were wounded in a battle against the soldiers in Piazza Sesto. In the night of the same day squads of patriots attacked the soldiers in Via Mamerto in the corner of Via Via Martelloni, which had for three days resisted against our attacks, causing many casualties to the civil population. After two hours of fierce fighting, the enemy was defeated, leaving on the ground many casualties. On the 15th August patriots pushed back some German patrols in the zone of S. Jacopino. In the same day of patriots immediately fired back against small groups of

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and Cippo di Marte, although they were cut off from the river by
trials -
Many of said patriots successfully crossed the lines to return
to the main forces; others are still defending themselves, surround-
ed in the houses back of the line.

- August 11th the patriots were only part successful in preventing
the demolition bridges in the Muzone River. They were successful
preventing the total destruction of Ponte Ronco, which can be used
by foot-soldiers.

- The same day the patriot repeatedly assaulted, the Tobacco Photo-
ry though failing to achieve the hard German reinforcements. There
encounters with the enemy patrols in the zone of Ronco and near the
Piazza d'Arno. There are hard battles against the soldiers in the
zone of Piazza d'Arno, Via d'Arno, Via d'Arno and Largo
Pinti. In the zone of Via d'Arno, Via d'Arno, Piazza, Piazza
Savonarola, small groups of patriots had fought all day against
the soldiers. The patriots suffered 7 killed and 5 wounded.

- August 12th they again encountered the Germans in the Tobacco
factory where the Germans were still firmly holding on.

- August 14th the patriots were wounded in a battle against the
soldiers in Piazza d'Arno. In the night of the same day squads of
patriots attacked the soldiers in Via d'Arno in the corner of
Via d'Arno, which had for three days resisted against our
attacks, causing many casualties to the civil population. After
two hours of fierce fighting the enemy was defeated, leaving on
the ground many casualties. On the 15th against patriots pushed
back some German patrols in the zone of S. Jacopo. In the same
day squads of patriots immediately fired back against small groups of
of Italian S.S. in the Ponte del Pino zone.

- August 16th a German group of 20 men with one tank managed to
get into the lines kept by the patriots and killed troops in Piazza
d'Arno. The patriots commanded by a Guard d'Arno Venturini
attacked them while another group of the patriots advanced on the
other side of the enemy. The Germans taken by surprise shot
themselves in a school and in the air raid shelter of the Piazza
d'Arno, but the patriots attacked them and they were compelled
to withdraw. In this action the enemy had two casualties and four were
wounded; they also lost one Tommy-gun and one rifle.

- August 17th the patriots on night patrols with groups of Italian
soldiers had 2 wounded going to the enemy mortar fire. In the same
day clearing up of the soldiers in the Piazza d'Arno zone. 140 action
was prevented by a killed tank. Other attacks are not unique

11 25
 were at near Via Mazzocchio and Vi. Farina. In these actions two patriots were wounded.

On the 18th the patriots compelled the Germans to leave their position in Piazza Univesale, expelling away their wounded. Fierce fighting went on, all the evening and the patriots were engaged with other groups of action with the help of the Roncella Regio Brigade in the home of Via Vittorio Emanuele; in this part the army tried to push forward with the help of mortar fire. The same day patriots pushed forward towards San Domenico in the locality of Colonnate and Valle Palmetti in a brief but violent encounter 2 Germans were killed, whilst five patriots were wounded.

- August 18th an observation post had been spotted and was attacked by patriots who were on the ammunition plant of the Germans. Three Germans were killed in this action. The same day three groups of the patriots with the help of an allied tank cleared up the area of the Via Vittorio Emanuele between Villa Garbale and the servant of the Dagnocini. On the 20th in an action against the Univeso in the zone of Ponte alle Spese three Germans were killed. In the same day the patriots pushed forward towards S. Domenico and found very little reaction by the enemy. On the 21st August in the zone of Ponte alle Spese and Ponte di mezzo, there was patrol encounter, all night long.

The Germans at Torre degli Agli were successfully attacked by the patriots - Other German patrols were attacked by patriots near the Clatterodigi Ford, beyond the Ponte di mezzo - 2 Germans killed and some wounded.

In the same day fierce patrol fighting between Germans and patriots. In this action several Germans several Germans were hit, one patriot was killed. Other encounters took place in the sector of Via Biancamano, Piazza Univesale, Ponte sul Versello at the Officina d'Alce. During the night of August 22nd three successive encounters took place in the railway side in the Viale Univeso and Ponte di mezzo. After a very violent firing the German retreated and one patriot was killed. On the same day at the Officina d'Alce occurred by the enemy the day before patriots made a surprise attack on the enemy. The action was not successful. Two Germans were killed and two patriots were wounded. A German officer in the Goldgrasse in Via Univeso was driven back by intense fire on the

11-10-68, while five persons were transported.

• **Business owner** may collect evidence

de Villia Subdiocat 3.

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The order in which options are presented

to the Mupone line.

The night of the same day the British again attacked positions held by the patriots in Via Orlando on the corner of Via Bologna.

The patriots were forced back about 150 metres.

On the break of the day on the 25th the patriots, supported by allied tanks, repelled the assault against German.

In the meanwhile other patriots patrols supported by allied armoured cars, were making their way along Via Bologna north of La Pietra.

In the night of August 25th there were many encounters between patrols between German and British S. M. units.

Patriots patrols supported by allied armoured cars, were making their way along Via Sanction to the Lago.

In the first hours of the morning August 25th allied armoured and foot troops took over the line held by the patriots in the zone of Mifred. Squads of patriots cooperated with allied guides, and with them made their way to Cayado de la Cruz.

August 26th, two patriots patrols made their way up to the summit of La M. without meeting any resistance.

In the afternoon of the same day, by order of the Allied, two patriots escorted an American soldier on reconnaissance along Via Capuccini. They were met by German fire near Capuccini Church. The American made his way back to the line, while the two patriots were killed, one German was wounded.

These are the facts in which took part the patriots of all the army.

No other action can be added all the others, which are many that have continued since Sept. the 8th.

- In the night of August 25th there were many more German patrols between Gasoline and Ponte S. Donato.

- Patrols supported by Allied armoured cars, were making their way along Via Pantheon to the Lago.

- In the first hours of the morning August 25th Allied armoured and foot troops took over the line held by the patriots in the zone of Rifredi. Squads of patriots cooperated with Allied guides, and with them made their way to Capodale di Careggi.

August 25th, two patriots made their way up to the Convento di S. Marte without meeting any resistance.

- In the afternoon of the same day, by order of the Allied, two patriots escorted an American soldier on reconnaissance along Via Campaccio. They were met by German fire near Cappuccini Church. The American made his way back to the line, while the two patriots were killed, one German was wounded.

These are the facts in which took part the patriots of all the scene.

To these action can be added all the others, which are many that have continued since Sept. the 8th.

1430

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LIST OF PATRIOTS OF THE TUSCAN MILITARY COMMAND
KILLED IN THE LIBERATION OF FLORENCE

Surname	Date of Birth	Brigade	Date of Death
Gianaccini Fernando		Sq. Azione D.C. IV Zona	11 / 8
Folli Ugo		Btg. Libertà V Cpg.	id.
Cintelli Gino		id.	id.
Galizia Paolo		id.	id.
Gaudio Giorgio		Sq. Azione 3a zona	id.
Nannoni		id.	id.
Marziali		id.	id.
Finì Mario		id.	id. disperso
Luciano		id.	id.
Mario		id.	id.
Strombi Silvano di Alfredo	30/6/24	Banda Perseo	12 / 8 reclusi a Pinerole come cor- riere della ben- da
Sammarco Luciano di Alberto	8/8/23	Sq. Azione D.C. 2a zona	13 / 8
Di Carlo Achille		Sq. Azione 2a zona	id.
Casini Alberto	20/5/20	Brig. Sinigaglia	id.

Cintelli Gino	id.	id.	
Galizia Paolo	id.		
Gaudio Giorgio	Sq. Azione 3a zona	id.	
Hannoni	id.	id.	
Marzielli	id.	id.	
Pini Mario	id.	id.	disperso
Luciano	id.	id.	
Mario	id.	id.	
Strombi Silvano di Alfredo	Banda Persico	12 / 8	recatosi a Firenze come corriere della banca
Sampiere Luciano di Alberto	Sq. Azione D.C. 2a zona	13 / 8	
Di Carlo Achille	Sq. Azione 2a zona	id.	
Casini Alberto	Brig. Sinigallia	id.	
Gadesti Danilo	Rep. id.	id.	
Palmieri Agostino	guardia finanza	id.	
Pombé Salvatore	Brig. " V "	id.	
Casini Alberto	Brig. Sinigallia	id.	
Lombroso Giacomo	Com. 8a armata inglese	13 / 8	
Giannileto Erminio	Com. Genio Lavoratori zona Firenze	13 / 8	proveniente ant. al Sud al se Rovigo 13 / 8 al- 16 / 8 leati per

26.

Surname	Date of Birth	Brigade	Date of Death	
Torrini Vasco fu Giuseppe	25/5/88	Com. Genio Lav. Zona Fir.	16/8	capo famiglia
Martelli Nello fu Egisto	23/9/96	id.	id.	celibe con madre ricco.
Pelacani Gaetano fu Giuseppe	5/9/95	id.	id.	ver. p. It. Cura : Salsomaggiore. c.f. moglie e carico figlio 1919 morto in guerra.
Duri Aldo fu Ferdinando	8/1/1917	id.	id.	c.f. 2 sorelle a carico. Madre ebrea prigioniera dei tedeschi
Fentechi Alberto		8° Centro C.R.I.	id.	
Consani Bruno		Sq. Azione D.C. 4 zone	19/8	moglie e 4 figli a carico.
Valenzani Piero		Div. "Potente" ant. al Ia Comp.	20/8	
Cioni Rino		Div. "Potente" 2a Comp.	id.	
Bellesi Marcello		id.	id.	
Vacca Cosimo		id.	id.	
Giannelli Arnaldo		id.	id.	
Bonanni Ferrero		id.	id.	
Beghioni Sergio		id.	id.	
Mirallesi Nello		Div. "Potente"	id.	

Duri Aldo fu Ferdinando	8/1/1917	id.	id.	o.f.2 sorelle a carico. Madre ebrea prigioniera dei tedeschi
Pantechi Alberto		6° Centro C.R.I.	id.	
Consani Bruno		31. Azione D.C. 4 zona	19/8	moglie e 4 figli a carico.
Valenzani Piero		Div. "Potente" al 1a Comp.	ant. 20/8	
Cioni Rino		Div. "Potente" 2a Comp.	id.	
Bellesi Marcello		id.	id.	
Vacca Cosimo		id.	id.	
Giannelli Arnido		id.	id.	
Bonanni Ferrero		id.	id.	
Beghioni Sergio		id.	id.	
Miralesi Nello		Div. "Potente" 4a Comp.	id.	
Rigacci Enrico		Div. "Potente"	21/8	
Bedoni		Sq. Azione Sq. Acquedotto	22/8	
Gamondi Ettore			ant. 22/8	fucilato dai tedeschi
Cozzi Eugenio		Brig. Rosselli	24/8	ucciso a Villa Carobbi.

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Surname	Date of Birth	Brigade	Date of death
Bonaiuti Loredano di Umberto	3/3/26	Div. Potente	25/8 ucciso a P. alla Ba- dia.
Meucci Pierluigi		Brada Pargno	24/8 ferito 24/8 da Franco ti- ratore.
Ciullini Nello		Sq. d'Azione D.C. Ia zona Oltremare.	

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Oltrarno.

LIST OF PRISONERS OF THE TUSCAN HILLS BY OVERLAND
 ROUTE - THE FIGHTING FOR THE LIB. ACTION OF RUGGIONE

Surname	Date of Birth	Regiment	Date wounded
Maffioletti Giulio		Reg. "Libertas" V. Comp.	11/8
Toninetti Luciano		id.	id.
Rotta Alvaro		id.	id.
Supino Pasquale		id.	id.
Landi Tersilio		id.	id.
Zori Franco		id.	id.
Gremantieri Francesco		id.	id.
Stefani Sergio		id.	id.
Cortesi Enzo		34. Azione	id.
Corelli Vittorio		Brig. "V"	id.
Cattaneo Giorgio		34. Azione IVa zona	id.
Periccioli Mario		34. Azione	id.
Storti Vittorio		34. Azione IV zona	id.
Guglielmi Amerigo		34. Azione	id.
Prossini Cesare		id.	id.
Aprile Salvatore		id.	id.
Barbero Rocco		Div. "ARM"	id.
Longoni Fabio		Brig. Lanciottto	id.
Venturo Luigi		id.	id.
Felli Luciano		34. Azione	id.
Lucino Pasquale		id.	id.

non ricoverato

non ricoverato

non ricoverato

Supino Pasquale	id.	id.	
Landi Tersilio	id.	id.	
Boni Franco	id.	id.	
Crescenziotti Francesco	id.	id.	
Stefani Sergio	id.	id.	non ricoverato
Cortesi Enzo	Br. Azione	id.	
Corelli Vittorio	Brig. "V"	id.	
Cattaneo Giorgio	Br. Azione	id.	
	IVa zona		
Periccioli Mario	Br. Azione	id.	
Storti Vittorio	Br. Azione	id.	
	IV zona		
Engelismi Amerigo	Br. Azione	id.	non ricoverato
Prossini Cesare	id.	id.	id.
Aprile Salvatore	id.	id.	id.
Barbero Rocco	Div. "A" ARMA	id.	
	Brig. Lambrusco		
Longoni Fabio	id.	id.	non ricoverato
Venturo Luigi	Br. Azione	id.	id.
Pelli Luciano	id.	id.	id.
Lusino Pasquale	id.	id.	id.
Sleni Giuseppe	id.	id.	id.
Calatti Giuseppe	id.	id.	id.
Pirano Antonio	id.	id.	id.
Cilea Luciano	id.	id.	id.
Galli Giulio	id.	id.	id.
Grassi Filippo	id.	id.	id.
Giovannelli Pilade	id.	11/8	id.
Masini Mario	id.	id.	id.

31.

Surname	Date of Birth	Brigade	11/8	non ricoverato
Giovannelli Paolo		3a. Azione	id.	id.
Marini Mario		id.	id.	id.
Covini O millo		id.	id.	id.
Rotondi Giuseppe		id.	id.	id.
Piematttei Aldo		id.	id.	id.
Pencini Luigi		P.3.	id.	id.
Samataro Nello		Btg. Apollonio V. Compagnia	id.	id.
Amerighi Guglielmo		Fr. Piov. Ital. IV Compagnia	id.	id.
Loretto Giuseppe		P.3.	id.	id.
Mascherini Bruno		P.O. IV Comp.	id.	id.
Chiarroni Vittorio		Guardia Finanza	id.	id.
Battaglioni Mario		Brig. Lanciotti	id.	id.
Giugno Rolando		3a. Azione	id.	id.
Ricci Mario		id.	id.	id.
Giudetti Danilo		Brig. Lanciotti 2a Compagnia	id.	id.
Rondinelli Silvano		3a. Azione	id.	id.
Renna Gaetano		Legione CC. Vir.	id.	id.
Setti Tito		3a. GAP	id.	id.
Di Grazia Alfio		-	id.	id.
Bartolotti Enrico		3a. Azione IV zona	id.	id.
Esposito Luciano		Brig. Lanciotti	id.	id.
Del Monaco Mario		3a. Azione 3a zona	id.	id.
		id.	id.	id.

Amorighi Guglielmo	Pr. Giov. Ital.	id.	id.
	IV Comp. min.		
Loratti Giuseppe	P. J.	id.	id.
Kascherini Bruno	P. G. IV Comp.	id.	id.
Chieroni Vittorio	Guardia Finanza	id.	id.
Buttaglini Mario	Brig. Lanciotto	id.	id.
Giugno Rolando	Sq. Azione	id.	
Rico Mario	id.	id.	
Giudetti Danilo	Brig. Lanciotto		
	2a Compagnia	id.	
Rondanelli Silvano	Sq. Azione	id.	
Renna Gaetano	Legione G. C. Vir.	id.	
Satti Tito	Sq. GAP	id.	
Di Grazia Alfio	-	id.	
Bortoletti Enrico	Sq. Azione IV	id.	
	zona		
Zanagnani Luciano	Brig. Rousselli	id.	
Del Monaco Mario	Sq. Azione JA	id.	
	zona		
Pontani Giulio	id.	id.	
Barbanti Domenico	id.	id.	
Magnolfi Gino	id.	id.	
Gaidotti Renato	id.	id.	
Vinanti Renato	id.	id.	
Magherini Chierito	id.	id.	
Paciulled Enzo	Sq. Azione JA	id.	
	zona		
Mezzoni Renzo	id.	id.	

1733

22

Surname	Date of Birth	Brigade	Date wounded
Berti Bruno	1	10. Azione 3a zona	11/8
Bartolatti Carlo		10. Azione 2a zona	12/8
Berti Bruno		10.	10.
Agnelli Guglielmo		10.	10.
Fantechi Enzo		10.	10.
Franchi Franco		10.	10.
Caudio Giorgio		Brig. Rosselli	10.
Alami Orlino		10. Azione 2.0. 1a zona	13/8 ferito in Via Mercantile
Salvetti Maurizio		Brig. Sinigaglia	10.
Tacconi Enrico di Gino		10.	10.
Padovani Mario		2a Sq. Tiberno.	10.
Sanfoni Roberto		13a Squadra	10.
Stina Alfio		Pr. Giovan. Azione	10.
Gracci Angelo		Brig. Sinigaglia	10.
Pieratta Michele		7a Compagnia di Sanità	10.
Jacopini Carlo di Giovanni 12/6/20		10. Azione 1.0.	14/8 ferito Via Mar-
Tartori Dino		Brig. Sinigaglia	10/8 scoppio
Bonini Lorenzo		Brig. Lanciotto	10.
Taccone Enrico		Brig. Sinigaglia	10.
Cav. Lonsi Valerio		Brig. Rosselli 2.0.2	10.
Mazzoni Renzo		10. 2.0.3	10.
Di Lorenzo Raffaele		10.	10.
Fantechi Arturo		Brig. Lanciotto	10.

Agnelli Guglielmo	id.	id.	
Fantechi Enzo	id.	id.	
Franchi Franco	id.	id.	
Gaudio Giorgio	Brig. Roselli	id.	
Alinari Oreste	Br. Alinari D.C. in zona	12/8	ferito in Via Sordani
Salvetti Maurizio	Brig. Sinigaglia	id.	
Tacconi Carlo di Cino	id.	id.	
Pedovani Mario	2a D. Libera.	id.	
Santoni Roberto	13a Squadra	id.	
Stina Alfio	Tr. Giovan. Alona	id.	
Gracci Angiolo	Brig. Sinigaglia	id.	
Pianetta Michele	7a Compagnia di Sanità	id.	
Jacopini Carlo di Giovanni 1/6/20	Br. Alona D.C.	14/8	ferito Via Sordani
Tinetti Dino	Brig. Sinigaglia	15/8	succio
Donini Lorenzo	Brig. Lanciotto	id.	
Taccone Enrico	Brig. Sinigaglia	id.	
Cavallani Fulvio	Brig. Roselli n.2	id.	
Masseni Renzo	id. n.3	id.	
Li Lorenzo Raffaele	id.	id.	
Fantechi Arturo	Brig. Lanciotto	id.	
Galli Plinio	id.	id.	
Tassi Cino di Deodato 15/9/30	Com. Mario Lav. com. Firenze	id.	ab. V. Camidoli c.f. 4 figli e carico.
Tassi Emilio di Deodato 1/10/32	" id.	id.	ab. V. Camidoli 12 c.f. 6 figli 1 nipote e cari- co.
Sacchetti Luigi fu Giovanni 12/3/31	id.	id.	ab. V. Camidoli c.f. moglie e 4 figli e carico.

Surnames	Date of Birth	Brigade	Date wounded
Galli Attilio		Don. Genio-Lavor. d. d. Piemonte	15/8
Bartoloni Rinaldo di Giovanni	3/9/33	id.	id.
Puccini Enzo di Carlo	22/7/30	id.	id.
Palini Dante Fr Cesare	16/8/35	id.	id.
Gracchi Angiolo	1/2/20	Brig. Liguria II	id.
Pozzoni Enrico	23/4/25	id.	id.
Salviotti Marino	2/2/25	id.	id.
Paruchiani Renato		id.	id.
Pasquanti Emilio		Divisione Ia corp.	12/8
Galvani Vexio		id.	id.
Marentini Luciano		id.	id.
Ciccoli Vasco		id.	id.
Galabotti Danilo		Div. Arno IIIa corp.	id.
Pieri Luigi		id.	id.
Garrai Vincenzo		id.	id.
Pesci Aldo		id.	id.
Battaglini Mario		id.	id.
Scandaglioni Lorenzo		id.	id.
Piras Pietro		Div. Arno IIIa corp.	19/8

ab. V. Crise
21
ab. V. Garra
della d.f.
6 a Garra
vedovo
ab. B. S. Fr
diano 55
ab. V. Crise
25 d.f. 10-
della 4 2.
ab. V. Fel-
anti 35
ab. V. Costa
del Reno
46
ab. Garra
(Novara)
ab. V. di VI
anno 15

Name	Date	Location	Remarks
Gracci Antonio	1/7/20	Brig. Min. 1118	12.
Tronchi Enrico	23/4/26	14.	14.
Salviotti Massimo	2/8/25	14.	14.
Turchiani Renato		14.	14.
Pianzanti Emilio		14.	14.
Calgani Vezio		14.	14.
Quarantini Luciano		14.	14.
Ciselli Vasco		14.	14.
Guidotti Danilo		14.	14.
Pieri Luigi		14.	14.
Camari Vincenzo		14.	14.
Pecchi Aldo		14.	14.
Battaglini Mario		14.	14.
Scandaglioni Lorenzo		14.	14.
Pires Pietro		14.	14.
Rocco Barbero		14.	14.
Chiarri Ferrero		14.	14.
Longoni Fabio		14.	14.
Gianessi Mario		14.	14.
Vargioli Luciano		14.	14.
De Maria Mariano		14.	14.
Patti Mario		14.	14.
Morici Primo		14.	14.
Degli Innocenti Ferruccio		14.	14.

1753

Date wounded

Brigade

Date of Birth

Surname

Bottai Lido

20/6

Div. Arno IVa
Comp.

Biancellani Lino

id.

id.

Gambacciani Raffaele

id.

id.

Cecchi Onorio

id.

id.

Morri Edoardo

id.

id.

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

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1652

Cecchi Onorio

Morri Edoardo

id.

id.

id.

id.

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

8

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to the public without prior approval of the appropriate authority.

Governo Militare Alleato

Ordine ai Patriotti e Partigiani di Firenze

Con i vostri propri sforzi avete affrettato la liberazione del vostro Paese. Le Forze Alleate vi hanno visto aiutare nella dura battaglia e apprezzano il coraggio e l'ardimento che avete dimostrato.

Adesso dovete lavorare per la rinascita dell'Italia, il Paese vostro per il quale avete dovuto combattere così duramente per liberarlo.

Dietro le Armate Alleate combattenti viene il Governo Militare Alleato, per aiutare il Paese attraverso il primo stato di ricostruzione. Il maggior compito del Governo Militare Alleato è restituire la vita alle sue condizioni normali; allievare la sofferenza, causata non dalla guerra soltanto, ma dalla selvaggia brutalità dei nazi e fascisti; e, soprattutto, mantenere l'ordine e la legge. Comprendete che la legge e l'ordine sono la responsabilità della forza della polizia regolare e che è impossibile di permettere, ad altre persone che loro, d'essere in possesso di armi, senza uno speciale regolare permesso.

Il Governo Militare Alleato ha quindi diramato un ordine a coloro di voi che non stanno più combattendo in prima linea di consegnare le armi. Queste armi potranno

dura battaglia e apprezzano il coraggio e l'ardimento che avete dimostrato.

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Il Governo Militare Alleato ha quindi diramato un ordine a coloro di voi che non stanno più combattendo in prima linea di consegnare le armi. Queste armi potranno a loro volta essere mandate ai Patriotti nel Nord. Il Governo Militare Alleato quindi ha piena fiducia che i Patriotti di Firenze, che hanno dato un così brillante esempio di se stessi in duri e accaniti combattimenti contro il comune nemico, capiranno la necessità, per radunare queste armi, e con ciò collaboreranno in questo primo compito di ricostruzione pienamente come hanno fatto i loro confratelli nel Sud.

Firenze, 2 Settembre 1944.

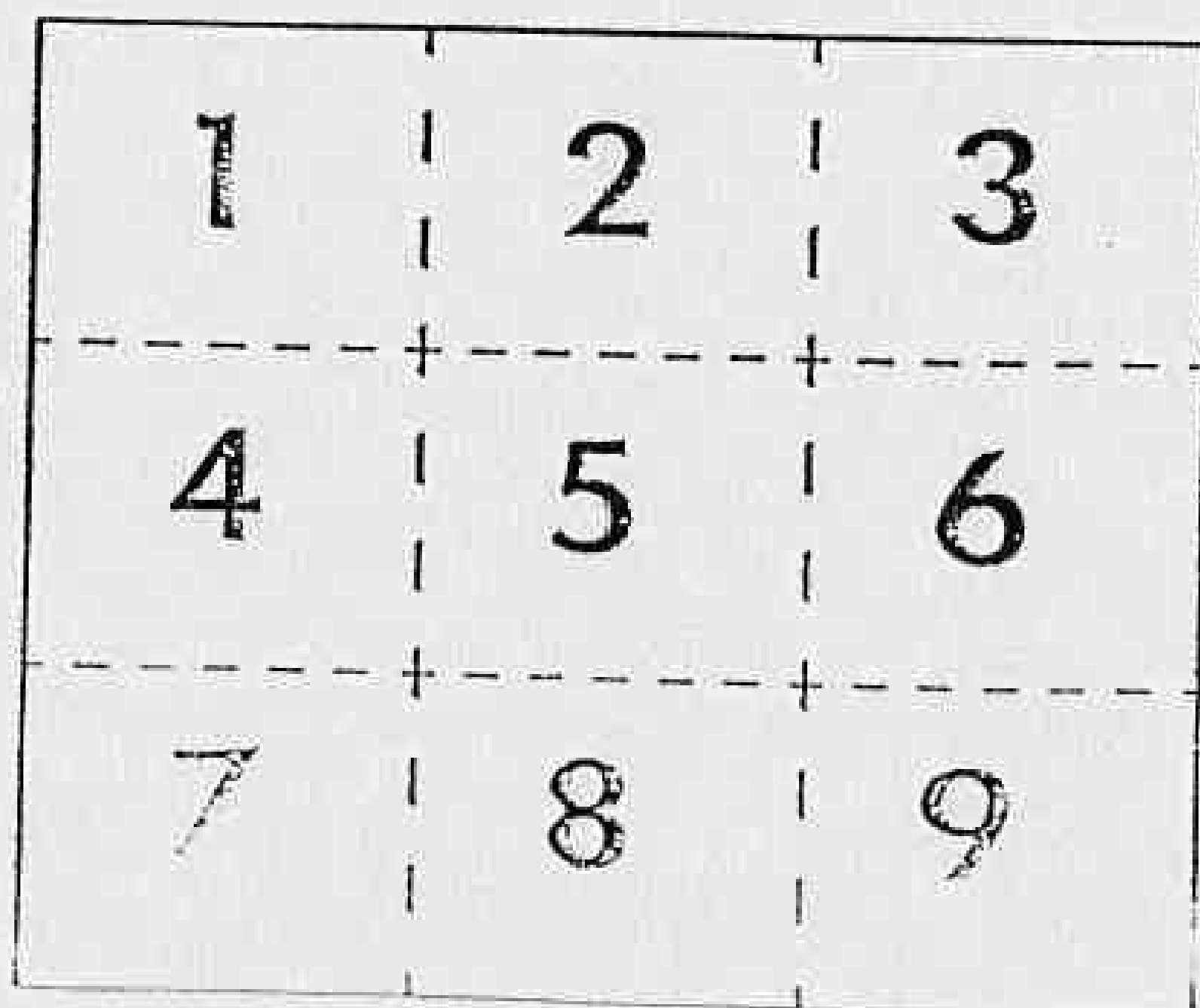
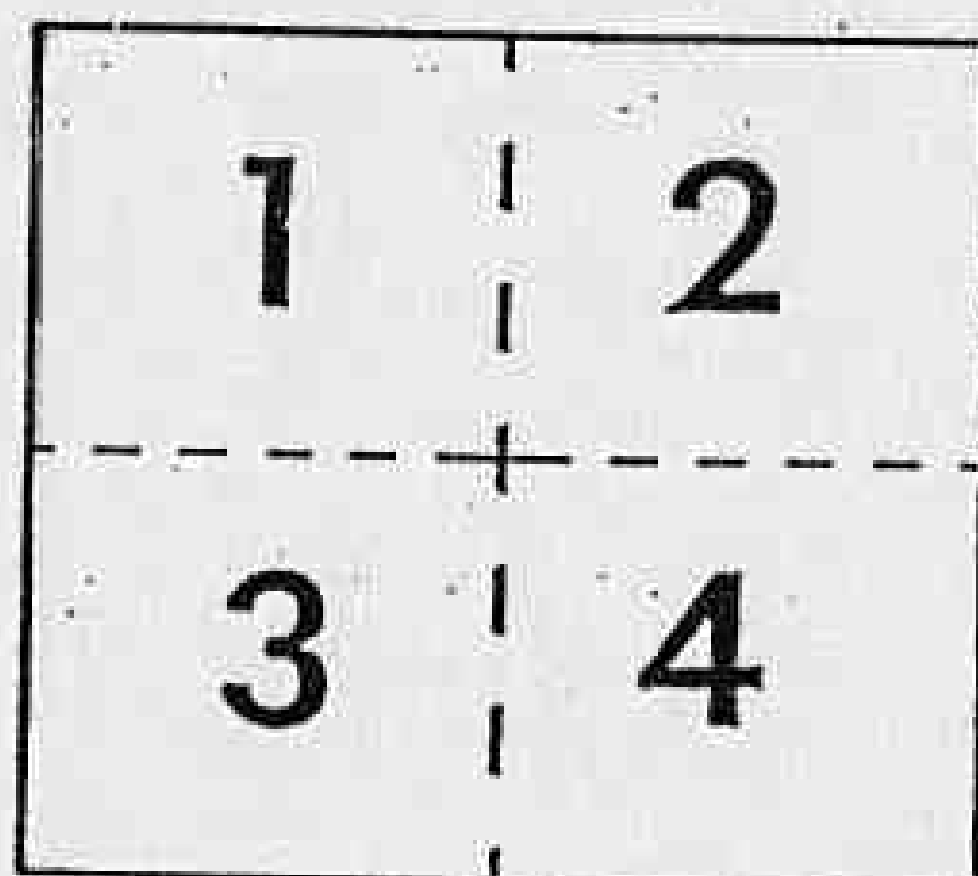
THOMAS J. MICHIE

Ten. Col. A. C.

**Ufficiale Superiore del Governo Militare Alleato
per la Città di Firenze**

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

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.



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1750

AI PATRIOTI ORMAI LIBERI D'ITALIA

Col vostro coraggio, con il vostro spirito d'iniziativa e la vostra abnegazione, avete accelerato la liberazione del vostro paese. Le Nazioni Unite e l'Italia vi ringraziano.

Avete assolto finora un grande compito, ma la vostra missione non sarà finita finchè vi saranno ancora tedeschi sul suolo italiano. Ma vi è ancora, per voi, molto lavoro da svolgere subito per il vostro paese. A misura che le Armate Alleate avanzano, la nuova Italia emerge, una nuova Italia da ricostruire che dovrà essere plasmata e formata, il cui suolo dovrà essere preparato per il massimo rendimento, una nuova Italia che ha bisogno di voi.

Avete combattuto per liberare l'Italia. Adesso dovete cooperare alla ricostruzione di questa Italia che con il vostro aiuto è stata liberata. Più presto sarà provveduto a questo lavoro di

PROTISTI ITALIANI LIBERI CITTADINI ITALIA

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gno di voi.
ovete coo-
ostro aiuto
lavoro di

Il Comitato dovrebbe essere in grado di fornire dati precisi
su quanto segue:

- 1) Nominativi delle persone che maggiormente hanno subito danni o che siano assolutamente indigenti.
- 2) Medicinali più urgenti.
- 3) Condizioni dei pubblici servizi.
- 4) Quantitativi di viveri abbandonati dai fascisti e dai tedeschi.
- 5) Nomi dei fascisti che hanno collaborato attivamente con i tedeschi e di chiunque abbia, con la sua delittuosa attività, tradito la patria: in special modo di chi abbia denunciato i compatrioti ai tedeschi.

Ai capi dei patrioti verrà richiesto di presentare una lista

essere plasmata e formata, il cui suolo dovrà essere preparato per il massimo rendimento, una nuova Italia che ha bisogno di voi.

Avete combattuto per liberare l'Italia. Adesso dovete cooperare alla ricostruzione di questa Italia che con il vostro aiuto è stata liberata. Più presto sarà provveduto a questo lavoro di ricostruzione, più rapidamente le Armate Alleate potranno continuare a svolgere il loro compito: scacciare i tedeschi dall'Italia.

L'Armata della ricostruzione segue passo per passo le Armate Alleate combattenti; questa Armata è il GOVERNO MILITARE ALLEATO. La prima responsabilità assunta dal Governo Militare Alleato è di far rispettare la legge e di mantenere l'ordine nelle zone liberate d'Italia.

Il Governo Militare Alleato si adopera anche, con tutti i mezzi a sua disposizione, per alleviare le sofferenze portate sul vostro suolo, non solo dalla guerra, ma anche dalla selvaggia brutalità dei Nazi-fascisti.

Il Governo Militare Alleato in Italia non si ingerisce, in alcun modo, nelle questioni politiche dei partiti; si rifiuta però assolutamente di trattare con i traditori d'Italia, i fascisti.

Unico scopo del Governo Militare Alleato è di aiutare il popolo italiano e di agire nel suo interesse.

I patrioti italiani e tutti i buoni cittadini delle zone liberate possono essere di grande aiuto al Governo Militare Alleato organizzando un comitato rappresentativo al fine di prender contatto con l'ufficiale del G. M. A. non appena questi avrà rag-

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5) Nomi dei fascisti che hanno collaborato attivamente con i tedeschi e di chiunque abbia, con la sua delittuosa attività, tradito la patria: in special modo di chi abbia denunciato i compatrioti ai tedeschi.

Ai capi dei patrioti verrà richiesto di presentare una lista completa con i nomi di tutti quelli che hanno combattuto con loro o che li hanno aiutati.

I patrioti, che con il loro ardimento, la loro indefessa fatica e la loro forza d'animo hanno cooperato alla liberazione del Paese, dovranno essere i primi a collaborare col Governo Militare Alleato. Essi si dovranno presentare immediatamente all'ufficiale del G. M. A. per denunciare le armi in loro possesso, le munizioni e gli esplosivi, onde permettere che possano essere raccolti e inoltrati per via aerea ai patrioti del Nord che continuano la lotta.

Il Governo Militare Alleato non può sostare: deve proseguire per soccorrere gli altri italiani che vengono man mano liberati. Lascierà quindi l'amministrazione della comunità nelle mani di probi cittadini che ormai non dovranno più subire la tirannide fascista.

H. R. Alexander

Generale Comandante in Capo

popolo italiano e di agire nel suo interesse.

I patrioti italiani e tutti i buoni cittadini delle zone liberate possono essere di grande aiuto al Governo Militare Alleato organizzando un comitato rappresentativo al fine di prender contatto con l'ufficiale del G. M. A. non appena questi avrà raggiunto la sua sede.

TO PATRIOTS OF FREE CITIZENS

By your courage, skill and endurance, you have hastened the liberation of your country. The United Nations and Italy thank you.

You have played your part nobly thus far. But your task is not finished while there are still Germans on Italian soil. There is much more for you to do at once for your country. As the Allied armies go forward, the new Italy emerges — a new Italy which needs rebuilding, an Italy which needs tending and tilling, whose soil must be made to produce its utmost — a new Italy that needs you.

You have fought to free Italy. Now you must help to build the Italy you have helped to free. The more speedily this is done, the more quickly will the Allied armies complete their job of throwing the Germans out of all Italy.

Behind the fighting Allied Armies comes the army of reconstruction; that is Allied Military Government. The first responsibility of Allied Military Government is the maintenance of civil law and order in the liberated areas of Italy. Allied Military Government also endeavours by means within its power to relieve the suffering caused

not by war alone, but by the savage brutality of the Nazis.

The Allied Military Government in no way concerns political parties and factions in Italy; except that it works with Fascist traitors. Its only purpose is to aid the Italian people in their own interest.

Italian patriots and all good citizens in the newly liberated areas can be of great assistance to Allied Military Government by forming a representative committee to meet with the officer of Allied Military Government as soon as possible after his arrival. They should be prepared to report fully on conditions in their communities.

- 1 Cases of prostitution or extreme hunger.
- 2 Medicines urgently needed.
- 3 Condition of public services.
- 4 They should present a list of available food stores and foodstuffs looted by the Fascists or the Germans.
- 5 Names of Fascists who have actively collaborated with the enemy.

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avrà rag-

H. R. Alexander

*Generale Comandante in Capo
delle Armate Alleate in Italia*

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alone, but by the savage brutality of the Nazis and Fascists. Allied Military Government in no way concerns itself with parties and factions in Italy; except that it will not treat traitors. Its only purpose is to aid the Italian people in interest.

patriots and all good citizens in the newly liberated areas great assistance to Allied Military Government by organising a committee to meet with the officer of Allied Military Government as soon as possible after his arrival. They should be able to report fully on conditions in their community:

Cases of prostitution or extreme hunger.

Medicines urgently needed.

Condition of public services.

They should present a list of available food stocks abandoned by the Fascists or the Germans.

Names of Fascists who have actively collaborated with the

Germans, other criminals and traitors — especially those who have denounced their compatriots to the Germans — should be declared.

Italian Patriots, who by their courageous effort and force of arms have helped to liberate their country will be above all others ready to co-operate with the Allied Military Government. They will report at once to the officer of Allied Military Government to declare their arms, ammunition and explosives so that arrangements can be made to collect these together and send them by air to other patriots in the North, who will carry on the good work.

The Allied Military Government cannot stay here; it must move forward to help others. It will leave the administration of the community in the hands of good citizens, who will no longer be under the domination of Fascist tyrants.

Leaders of the Patriots will be asked to produce a complete list of the names of those who have fought with them and helped them.

H. R. ALEXANDER
General
Commander-in-chief of Allied Armies in Italy

