

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

ACC

10000/109/649

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

785017

10000/109/649

PATRIOT ACTIVITIES
OCT. 1944 - FEB. 1945

0318

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15:
10-12 seen by CC and COS. pg. 14/2

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785017

1032

0350

5

LOS
Reference 3 from A/Cc. I Submit
an o/c D.O. to Brig Maci waring.
from person D.O is at 1.

Stable 1/11

6

Major Quayle.

Pl. See 4 opposite which is the
result of A/Cc's instructions
at 3. Letter 2/11

W 3/11

8.

Cos
To see 7 which is reply to 4/11 letter at 4.
I will send copy to CA Sec. W 2/11
Capt. Hadden 9
Pl send relevant correspondence to Office to info

W 4/11

Tab 1/11

6

Major Ameyle.

Pl. See 4 opposite which is the
result of Acci instructions
at 3. Letter 2/11 19/11

8

Col

To see 7 which is reply to your letter at 4.
I will send copy to CA Sec. MS 24/11 19/11
Capt. London 9

Pl send relevant correspondence to Office to info

Per 18 24/11 1033

13

CSO

Please see 12 in reply to 10.

Ref para "A" BENIGNONA + CHIASSO are both in
the north.

Ref para "B" the newspaper mentioned is
published in MILAN.

14 Feb 68

14

Col. Gm might be interested to read 10, 11, 12
14/12

12/7/45

12th February 1945

To: Chief of Staff,
Allied Commission.

From: S/Lt. Brock,
No. 1 Detachment,
No. 1 Special Force.

FEB 13 1945

Subject: Patriot Activities against Public Utilities

With reference to your 3705/10/002 of 6th February 1945, we received this letter to P.W.S. and have replied as follows:

"The report that 'Merrons Sabotage has been carried out on the power stations which provide Milson with electric current. The Municipal and Milson power stations have been forced to limit the electricity supply' - was taken from the 'Globe' newspaper in Melbourne dated 16th January 45, based on reports from CHIASSO.

By itself, this would not be considered a very reliable source, but the following notice in the CORRIERE DELLA SERA of 10 January 45 which appeared at later, confirms and explains the matter.

"From Jan 11th to April 20th electric power will be suspended for three hours daily. For various reasons connected with the state of the war, certain important sources of Hydro-electric power have failed. At the same time it has been necessary to use immense quantities for supplies of an extraordinary character."

I think that this explains the situation. No damage seems to have been inflicted on the Municipal and Milson power stations in Milan itself, but some of the Hydro-electric generating stations, probably in the Alps, have been either damaged by

Subject: Patriot Activities against Public Utilities

With reference to your 2405/10/COS of 6th February 1945, we refer to this letter to P.W.E., who have replied as follows:

"The report that 'Serious sabotage has been carried out on the power stations which provide Milan with electric current. The Municipal and Edison power stations have been forced to limit the electricity supply' - was taken from the 'TRIUMPH' newspaper in Bologna dated 15th January 45, based on reports from CHIASSO.

By itself, this would not be considered a very reliable source, but the following notice in the CORRIERE DELLA SERA of 10 January 45 which reached us later, confirms and explains the latter.

"From Jan 10th to April 20th electric power will be suspended for three hours daily. For various reasons connected with the state of the war, certain important sources of Hydro-Electric power have failed. At the same time it has been necessary to use immense quantities for supplies of an extra-ordinary character."

I think that this explains the situation. No damage seems to have been inflicted on the Municipal and Edison power stations in Milan itself, but some of the Hydro-electric generating stations, probably in the Alps, have been either damaged by air raid, or by partisans, or have merely fallen into the hands of the patriots, who have stopped the supply of electricity to Milan.

After all, it is possible to sabotage a supply of electric power without necessarily destroying it. I hope the latter case has occurred and I shall certainly let you know if I hear anything fresh."

Resident

S/121,
O.C. No. 5 Detachment,
No. 1 Special Force.

see M 13 to 15
PA

3205

EW/7/236

6th February 1945

To :

Chief of Staff,
Allied Commission.

From :

S/Ecr. Brock,
No. 5 Detachment,
No. 1 Special Force.

FEB 9 1945

10

Subject: Patriot Activities Against Public Utilities

1. With reference to your 3205/10/COS of 6th February 1945, it is not at the moment known whether the report quoted in your Para one is correct.
2. Directives have, of course, been sent out to all partisan formations and Allied missions that public utility works are not to be sabotaged but protected. However, it is possible that, for some reason unknown to us, the partisans concerned may have considered it desirable to carry out local or reparable sabotage in order to slow down industrial production on the part of the enemy.
3. We are enquiring further into this matter and will inform you if any additional information comes to light.

Adams
For Commander, R.A.V.R.,
Comd. No. 1 Special Force.

Subject: Patriot Activities Including Public
Utilities

1. With reference to your 3205/10/038 of 6th February 1945, it is not at the moment known whether the reports quoted in your page one is correct.
2. Directives have, of course, been sent out to all partisan formations and Allied missions that public utility works are not to be sabotaged but protected. However, it is possible that, for some reason unknown to us, the partisans concerned may have considered it desirable to carry out local or regional sabotage in order to slow down industrial production on the part of the enemy.
3. We are enquiring further into this matter and will inform you if any additional information comes to light.

Adams
S. Adams,
For Commander, R.A.V.R.,
Comd. No. 1 Special Force.

PX 2/10/45

1029

Adams 10/2

10

Ref: 3205/10/008

Tel: 478202

6 February 1945

SUBJECT: Patriot Activities.

TO : Sqn.Ldr. Brock,
No.1 Special Force, C.M.F.

see 10A 10C.

1. In their Report on conditions in Enemy Occupied Italy - No.36 dated 27 Jan 45, PWB have a paragraph under the heading "Recent Partisan Activities". I quote from this:

"Serious sabotage has been carried out at the power stations which provide Milan with electric current. The Municipal and Edison power stations have been forced to limit the electricity supply."

2. Similar items have appeared in past issues of "Basic News" to which I drew the attention of HQ AAI, as it then was.

3. Of course the incident quoted above is not necessarily correct as to fact but we must do all we can to preserve installations vital to the economic life of the country. I therefore bring it to your notice in case you can assist in curbing any over enthusiasm on the part of patriots.

Capt. E. S. Mordant

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to: AFHQ. - 65.

pt 10

102
1/2

L

10A
8

I
cos
The marked sentence
underneath is exactly
congruent to phos.
Shall I raise with
the special Force?

8 5/2

II
Yes - with copy to AFH &
It is refuted by PHB that ch 1027 -

M/6/2

III
Capt Mader
M. a. a. with
(7 SEE 10.) 8 5/2

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SECRET

"D" Section (Occ). Italy.

27th January, 1945

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
UNIT No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 36.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

SECRET

-2-

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

Other members of the Command are:

A Vice-General Commissar "FRANCESCO SCHINI" (a physician directing the health service of the Commando Unico).

A Chief of Staff "ALDO" of Reggio Emilia, infantry officer.
Two other officers "GERLON" and "ECLE".

A General Superintendent "BARBARERA", Major of the Air Force.

A Vice-General Superintendent "TITO" of Reggio Emilia, Lt. in the Bersaglieri, assisted by "POMPEO", Commissario dell'Intendenza.

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

MODENA By the action of a partisan sabotage group in the Modena region a large tug loaded with construction material for fortifications foundered on the way from BRISCELLO to ISOLA PESCAROLA. (Libera stampa, Lugano 15.1.45).

MILAN As a result of a number of attacks recently made against Fascist and German soldiers in MILAN, which caused the advancement of the curfew from 20.30 to 19.00 hours, the Fascist authorities have carried out many arrests. Corriere della Sera reports that the Special Tribunal in Milan tried 27 persons accused of participation in several attacks. Twelve were sentenced to death and immediately executed, three condemned to life exile and the rest to imprisonment, the terms varying from 20 to 30 years. The newspaper reports that immediately after the trial, a bomb placed by unidentified persons exploded in a cafe in the Casani, killing two German soldiers and six Italians, including four Fascist soldiers, as well as wounding several people.

Serious sabotage has been carried out at the power stations which provide Milan with electric current. The Municipal and Edison power stations have been forced to limit the electricity supply.

A time bomb placed by unidentified persons behind the door of the Cafe Centrale in the Viale Vittorio Veneto, at the corner of Piazzale Fiume, exploded on Saturday, December 30th, at 21.00 hours. About 20 people, mostly members of the 10th MAS Flotilla, were in the cafe. Three members of the 10th MAS were killed and eight wounded, of whom two subsequently died in hospital, as well as a German civilian. (Corriere della Sera, Milan 1.1.45).

The Republican Prefecture of Milan announced: "Whereas, especially during the Christmas period, some people who evidently aimed at disturbing the calm and sense of discipline of the Milanese by acts of violence, have suddenly broken into public establishments and meeting places, scattering manifestos inciting to acts of violence against the public peace:

Firstly, all public establishments without exception must from today shut at 19.30 hours. Proprietors of public establishments who do not implicitly comply with this order will have their licences withdrawn and will be sent to the compulsory labour service.

SECRET

VENETO The formations of patriots in the Veneto are feeling the effects of the bad weather and lack of food, but notwithstanding this they continue their work. On the night of 15th-16th December a train was destroyed near the station of PONTE DI PIAVE (TREVISO) and the following night two German convoys were damaged in the same locality. Near CASTELFRANCO a motor vehicle loaded with ammunition was destroyed during the night of 20-21 December. Recent news specifies that during the period October-December patriots of TREVISO have in all disarmed 47 Fascists and 12 Germans, executed 43 Fascists, a German Colonel and another three Germans. They interrupted the TREVISO-UDINE line for 200 hours and destroyed 28 loaded trucks and 6 locomotives. A patriot of the "Martiri del Grappa" group killed a Colonel of the Fascist Republican Army near ASCLO. (P.M.B. Rome 16.1.45).

Patriots of a "Giustizia e Libertà" Division sabotaged 400 metres of the ASTI-CHIVASSO line in December. The Second-in-Command of the NINTH Black Brigade of ALESSANDRIA was captured, together with the Vice-Regent of Alessandria, 2 Captains, 1 Lt. and 5 soldiers.

Groups of the GAP in PIEDMONT have sabotaged the railway line five times, interrupting the traffic for a total of 142 hours. (P.M.B. Rome 18.1.45).

TURIN It is reported from Turin that, on the initiative of the Gestapo and Serlonetti, Chief of the SAI (Servizio Politico Investigativo) in Via Asti, an attempt has been made to infiltrate into the partisan formations fake patriots. These spies, in order to spread confusion, made the partisans themselves eliminate elements distasteful to the Fascists and denounced to the partisan Commands people who were above all suspicion. The trick was quickly discovered and led to the capture of several Fascists. (Libera Stampa, Lugano 5.1.45).

LIGURIA In Liguria the Germans and Fascists are trying to conclude a pact with the partisans: In IMPERIA they asked the Second Garibaldi Division "F. Cascone" for a truce; in SAVONA, high officers of the Fascist "San Marco" Division, alarmed by continual desertions, are proposing "pacification pacts"; in GENOA the German Command is trying with promises to induce the Third Garibaldi Division "Cichero" to permit the free transit of German transports along the GENOA-ILAN road.

The General Command of Volunteers announces that the Garibaldians indignantly rejected all these offers. (Libera Stampa, Lugano 9.1.45).

SECRET

From : Lt. Col. P. Miller.

Adv Headquarters,
Allied Armies in Italy.

16 November 1944,

19 NOV Recd

Dear *Brigadier*

Brig Mainwaring is away, and in consequence I am replying to your letter 3205/4/COS of 1 Nov. I apologise for the delay but PWB have taken some time to provide a satisfactory answer. PWB are very apologetic, and admit that this was published in error.

As regards the other aspect of this report, the partisans have been given several instructions on this matter, but control of their many bands is extremely difficult and we can only hope that a large number of them will obey our instructions.

Yours sincerely
Peter Nichol.

Brig. S.M. LUSH, OBE, MC.,
Chief of Staff,
Allied Commission.
C.M.F.

see Minute 8

*ACOS cos Dist.
C.A. Sec (for info.)*

*See M 9.
PA $\frac{23}{4}$*

0333

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

4

Ref ; 3205/1/003.

1 November 44.

You will remember I wrote to you on 13 October (reference 3202/20/003) on the subject of the destruction of high tension pylons. I attach another cutting from Basic News dated October 28th from which you will see that your PEO is still allowing the publication of reports - whether true or not I do not know - that Patricks are crippling power plants notwithstanding instructions that they should protect them rather than render them useless.

M. S. LUSH

see 7

Brigadier H. S. K. Mainwaring, CBE., DSO.,
Headquarters Allied Armies in Italy.

P

1 Incl

3/11

1023/MS

3206
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Acting Chief Commissioner
APR 394

3
EAS/cfe

A/CS 324.5

30 October 1944

Subject: Demolition of Power Houses

3 OCT 1944

To: Chief of Staff

1. AAI continues to publicize that patriots are crippling power plants, notwithstanding instructions that they are to protect them rather than to render them useless.

2. Will you please take this up again with Brigadier Whinwaring.

ITALIAN RESISTANCE FRONT

ADVANCE HQ. AAI, October 28 — In fighting which took place between the Trebbia and Panaro rivers, in Piacenza Province, where Fascist troops have replaced German soldiers, 197 Fascists were killed and 104 others were taken prisoner.

In nearby Parma Province, Patriots caused the derailment of two trains in the vicinity of Borgo Val di Taro.

In the Veneto region, attacks and acts of sabotage continue against enemy traffic, which has been intensified, both to furnish the enemy with war supplies and to carry off industrial machinery stolen by the Germans in northern Italy.

On the night of October 19, near Udine, an electric locomotive with a steam locomotive in tow was derailed, and the personnel attacked with hand grenades and automatic weapons. Both locomotives were destroyed.

During the night of October 24, in the same sector, an electric train composed of 30 cars was also derailed. The locomotive was destroyed by fire, and five cars were thrown off the embankment.

Near Ospeadaletto, in Trento Province, Patriots destroyed materials and machinery which were to be used for fortifications.

The power plant at Savorgnano, in Udine Province, was rendered useless.

The Bologna Black Brigade, which moved northward to round-up civilians, is carrying off unarmed citizens for internment at Carpi, rather than face Patriots in the region.

At Marzabotto, in the same area, the Germans massacred 300 persons, including women and children, and buried them in a common grave in reprisal for the activity of members of the Groups for Patriotic Action.

At Casalecchio di Reno, 15 persons were hanged in public. Eight other civilians were shot on the target range at Bologna. Fascist authorities are also carrying out mass executions in Bologna on their own, and without the knowledge of the Germans. They recently massacred seven civilians.
(UNN)

W. H. Stone
W. H. STONE
Commander
Acting Chief Commissioner

Chief of Staff -

The fact that AFI's
PRO would publicize the
destruction of Transmission
line Towers would not
indicate that AFI Patriot
activity was yet geared to
the protection of power
installations & lines.

Pls protest to Mainwaring
Wm. H. Stare
Cambridge

See 20

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OFFICE
Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref : 3202/20/303

16 October 1944

I attach a cutting from Basic News dated 14 October 44, on which I have marked a sentence dealing with the destruction of high-tension pylons. This leaves me with the impression that Patriots were responsible.

If the report is true I suggest that the Patriots be told in the strongest possible terms to stop this practice which seems quite contrary to anti-scorch tactics.

Whether it is true or not do not let us make the unhappy story public. Would you explain to your HQ.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier H. G. K. Mainwaring, CBE., DSO.,
Headquarters Allied Armies in Italy.

1 Incl:
as above. - Page 7 "Italian Resistance Front"

1020

1/1

