

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 78501.7

ACC

10000/109/709
(VOL. I)

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

10000/109/709
(VOL. I)

CIVIL DISTURBANCES, BARI AREA
DEC. 1944 - AUG. 1945

11/18/7

84

C.S.O. folio ⁸³ for information. 25th 218

88

Executive Commission

Please see this ⁸³⁻⁸⁷ 7-10 for information
re latest situation in matter

7/8/45.

89

C.S.O.

5981

Inform to 85 86 87

Major Kennedy - ⁹⁰ further please

Note

85 86
folio 8 and 9 was returned to GS ACHS.

25th 218

8 folio. 7/8.

LA Clark

82

1. Please see at 9:19:00 AM Col. Miller's preliminary report on the Andean-Himelins area. The Report's report: It is substantially vague, as usual.

2. Ref. the memo mentioned at 9:10 PM 5. Col. Delaney has instructed the CCLE to send down downers — also have incidentally already been trained. Col. also has conference with CC, GR, Kanner.

3. At 9:10 AM 99, 96 and 95 — the report on the matter disturbances, which seem to have been their investigation in the main.

4. Ref. the bundles mentioned on 97 Para 6. AFHQ will not release bundles to H.M.A. for this purpose. At the moment 10 trucks borrowed from S.E.P.A. are being used.

2/26/78

5. Folio 10, also seems to be investigation.

8/8

10/1/78

9/20

By the funds mentioned on 77 para 6 AFM-2 will not receive funds
for M.A. for this purpose. At the moment 10 funds borrowed from
SEPA are being used.

Rev 7/8

3. 40101 also seems to be insignificant.

2/8
3/8

10/48

9-20

5980

67

C.S.O. Submitted in draft letter to P.M. for C.C.'s approval.
 G.3 Ops, who initiate signal at 66, say that State Govt's
 report at 66 is the original
 20/2/8

68

Major Kennedy

Draft approved. Is an interim
 reply to 66 required in letter to
 General that in the Telephone - if so
 record in the file please.
 4/2/8

69

C.S.O. I made G.3 Ops aware, on the telephone, that we should have to
 approach the Italian Govt for further details limit, for the record, will send an
 interim reply. 20/2/8

70

C.S.O. Submitted for C.C.'s signature is better, draft of which arrived at 66.
 (5) for your signature. Interim reply to 66.
 20/2/8

71

SoCane

Bari Area Intelligence

Record on the file please.
4/2/68

69

C.S.O.

I made G 30ps aware, on the telephone, that we should have to
approve the Italian Govt for further details but, for the record, will send an
internal reply. DAK 2/8

70

C.S.O. Submitted for C.O.'s signature is letter, draft of which appeared at 4/1/68.
(b) for your signature, internal reply to G.O.
DAK 3/8

71

ExCame

Bari Area Instructions

Ref 66. AFHQ has been contacted
re telephone (3 ops from whom 66
requested) and the 2 letters
submitted for signature - one by G.O.
and one by yourself - are the
result.
Di 3/8.

10

5979

55

55 Executive Commission

54 is the PM's answer to CC's letter asking for a report on the numerous incidents. CC's letter is on file in EC's possession or can be seen on the attached. PM's report is substantially the same as the reports we have had already but the question as to what steps have been or will be taken to prevent a repetition is not answered satisfactorily. See last ^{four} ~~three~~ paras.

by

17/7/45

54 has clearly

DA
Crossed with 48. If you agree I will

2 copies of 53 sent
to AFHQ and the Embassy. 18/7

by

Approved: M. 18/7

(58)

20/7 CC send interim reply today. No further action until 20 Jan 1946
replies. 2

the question as to whether or not
a will be taken to prevent a repetition
is not answered satisfactorily. See
last ~~four~~ paras. *EL*

17/7/45

54 has clearly
Crossed out 48. If 4- agree will

26 a copy of 53 sent *5/18/7*
to AFHQ and the Embassy.

52

Approved

No 15/7

(58)

20/7 CC sent interim reply today. No
further action until Italian Govt
replies. 2

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Exline

CSO

49

EC. shd see 47 & 48

[Signature]

14/7/45

14/7

(seen by ExComm - 14 June 45)

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5977

38.Chief Commissioner:

It does not appear of record that the movement of the CARPARDI Regiment to the BARI area, which I understand is now in progress, was requested by Italian Government. Perhaps such request followed your conversation with PARRI.

10/7/45

Jr
NEFJUL 10 1945
162039.Ex. Com

Col Kerr - MMIA informs this office that no further action is required either by this HQ or the allusion POW's. Carabinieri Regt. is reported to be on the move to Bari area today (10th July).

10 July.

W. Stewart
Maj ASD
Sob CC

43

see Executive Summary.

42 is latest action on MINERVINO - ANDRIA troubles. See also 45.

Sh

Col Kerr - MMIA informant says that
no further action is required either by this
HQ or the Italian Gov't. Garibaldi
Regt. is reported to be on the move to
Bari area today (10th July)

W. Stewart
Maj ASD
506 CC

10 July.

43

see Executive Commission

42 is latest action on MINERVINO - ANDRIA
troubles. See also 45

Sh

11/7/45

W. J.

Chap Commission is taking action.
Copies to Embassy of Dada.

W. J.

5986

Ex. Con.

Please see Folio 15-17 for information.

(Intd) N.T.
(Intd) N.T.
25. Mar. 45
29. Jun. 45Executive Commissioner.

Folio 18 for information.

(Intd) N.T.
28. Jun. 45

Sent by CC and RD.

(Intd) J.O.
30. Jun. 45Executive Commissioner.

Ref 21 - RD S/O is in touch with Italian Govt and is preparing draft reply. I have requested that draft is submitted to M. I. am checking on statement in which that 4 Allied prisoners were released.

(Intd) N.S.M.
31. Jun. 45

23

Please see above. Col Miller has now telephoned - the 4 Allied prisoners are 4 prisoners awaiting trial in Italian Courts on Allied charges of a minor character - a rather different story. Col Miller will be here tomorrow and says that all is now quiet.

(Intd) S.T.
30. Jun. 45

24

He should have informed AFM before.

(Intd) N.T.L.
30. Jun. 4534

C50/

Pl see 33

A1

Executive Commission

22

Ref 21 - 15 5/0 is in touch with Italian Govt and in preparatory draft reply. I have requested that draft is submitted to MG. I am checking on statement in original that killed prisoners were released.

(Intd) E. T. 30 Jun 45

23

Stamps are shown. Col Miller has now telephoned - the killed prisoners are 4 prisoners awaiting trial in Italian Courts on killed charges of a minor character - a rather different story. Col Miller will be here tomorrow and says that all is now quiet.

(Intd) E. T. 30 Jun 45

24

We should have informed Army before.

(Intd) E. T. 30 Jun 45

34

C50

Pl see 33

Pl 31/45

37

C50 A/Executive Commission

36 is Satisfactory + is action on CCs signed at 38. See also 35.

2/7/45

Pl 2/7

2/2. CC for information. 7

Noted by CC *Pl* 9 July

78501.7

Complexes of the type $\text{M}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$

10

10

Please see 4. The JST Court will give some help to do.

1. $\log_{10}(10) = 1$

10

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(1992) 2.4.1.2

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I returned to the office today at 11:30. I read up on the latest today and by 1:30 I had to check on the six others. We think that there is no anti-African feeling and no sign of any subversive movement. Apparently our earlier view was due to a rather tentative handling of the suit notes, as the search was conducted on Sunday evening when there was a large number of people about.

2. Nothing has occurred since this incident, but Eric Dugas is awaiting a report from Lt. Col. GUNTER as to the situation yesterday evening (Sunday) in case anything further happens when the same circumstances are present. He will phone through immediately he hears something.

(intd) 0.003,
G.R.O. 11. Dec. 44.

U.S. District Court
District of Columbia
Case No. 1:11-cv-00001-AMC

4. *How many people are in the room?*

(Total) 3.7. 20,766.45

0.0000

1970-1980, mean-flooded in 7 h in Dec. Proportion lost at pop at approx 2000

 $(T_{\text{eff}} + \tau) \cdot T_{\text{eff}} = T_{\text{eff}}^2$

3629 SECRET 99

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON OFFICE
BARI

TEL. 14152

Ref : LB/65.a. 5th August, 1945
SUBJECT : Civil Disturbance - MATERA Province. 7 AUG 1945
TO : Executive Commissioner, (3)
HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, C.M.F.

The following is a report on the recent civil disturbance at MATERA:-

1. On 1st August, 1945 about 1,000 people (many patriots and unemployed labourers) suddenly rioted in MATERA and demanded of the Prefect
 - a) The abolition of ration cards.
 - b) the cancellation of orders for the hoarding of grain.
 - c) the requisitioning and control of mills by the people.
 - d) the allocation of uncultivated grounds to labourers.
 - e) at leastly a wage of 200 Lire a day to each unemployed person.

The Prefect stated he could not meet their request.

2. The crowd then commenced the destruction by fire of the following buildings and offices:- Dazio, SEPRAL, UPSEA, Consorzio A-Giarlo, Conciliazione, together with furniture and records contained in them.
3. The crowd also demanded of the Procuratore del Regno the release of certain prisoners awaiting trial. This demand was refused.
The prison was then forced and 49 of the 70 prisoners were released. (Four have since been recaptured. 21 refused illegal release).

Meanwhile reports of the disturbance had reached BARI.

the Prefect

- a) The abolition of ration cards,
- b) the cancellation of orders for the amassing of grain,
- c) the requisitioning and control of mills by the people,
- d) the allocation of uncultivated grounds to labourers,
- e) lastly a vote of 200 Lire a day to each unemployed person.

The Prefect stated he could not meet their request.

2. The crowd then commenced the destruction by fire of the following buildings and offices:- Dazio, SEFALL, UPSEA, Consorzio Agrario, Conciliazione, together with furniture and records contained in them.

3. The crowd also demanded of the Procuratore del Regno the release of certain prisoners awaiting trial. This demand was refused.

The prison was then forced and 49 of the 70 prisoners were released. (Four have since been recaptured. 21 refused illegal release).

4. Meanwhile reports of the disturbance had reached BARI, and 150 Carabinieri were sent by road to MATERA where they arrived just before midnight on 1st August.

5. During the night 1-2nd August the Prefect of MATERA requested help from the Comando Territoriale Militare di BARI and at 0800 hrs. on 2nd August one battalion (214 men) of the GARIBOLDI Regiment left TRANI by road for MATERA, whilst two more battalions left by train later in the day.

6. On 2nd August the presence of the GARIBOLDI Regiment and the CC.MM. reinforcements had a deterrent effect in MATERA, but the trouble had then spread to FERRANDINA where some 1,500 rioters (50 of whom are reported as armed) had cut communications and destroyed the Ufficio Annonario, the UPSEA and the Pretura;

(P181 K) Report

5923
W.D. (1 June 1977)

para. 6 cont'd.

- 2 -

Of 6 alleged fascists arrested by the leaders of the Socialist and Christian Democrat parties, one named Vincenzo CAPUTI, aged 63, ex Podesta of the town, was first shot and wounded and afterwards killed by the crowd. This is the only case of its kind reported.

7. The disposition of the 300 Carabinieri and 700 men of the GARIBOLDI Regiment in the area is as follows:-

<u>MATERA</u>	-	CC.RR. Garibaldi R.	284 250
PERRANDINA	-	CC.RR. Garibaldi R.	60 250
MONTESCAGLIOSO	-	CC.RR. Garibaldi R.	12 50
PISTICCI	-	CC.RR. Garibaldi R.	12 50
IRSINA	-	CC.RR. Garibaldi R.	12 50
mobile patrol	-	CC.RR. Garibaldi R.	20 50

8. Avv. Michele BIANCO of MATERA was one of the leaders of the mob.

9. The Prefect of MATERA assumes no "visitors" from the ANDRIA-MINERVINO area took part in this disturbance.

10. Yesterday, 4th August, the Minister of Communications, Sig. SCALBA talked with Party leaders and asked them to use their influence to pacify the people.

11. On 3rd August Sig. PARRI sent the following telegram to the Prefect of MATERA:- "Notify Rioters Government will try to meet their needs and will help them as soon as possible, but advise calm because Government cannot stand imposition of a mob and will not accept demands unless they are made in a sensible, reasonable and quiet way, by representatives."

MONTESCAGLIOSE -

CC.RR. 12
Carabinieri R. 50

PISTICCI -

CC.RR. 12
Carabinieri R. 50

TUSINA -

CC.RR. 12
Carabinieri R. 50

Mobile patrol -

CC.RR. 20
Carabinieri R. 50

8. Avv. Michele BIANCO of MATERA was one of the leaders of the mob.

9. The Prefect of MATERA assures me no "visitors" from the ANDRIA-MINERVINO area took part in this disturbance.

10. Yesterday, 4th August, the Minister of Communications, Sig. SCILIBA talked with Party leaders and asked them to use their influence to pacify the people.

11. On 3rd August Sig. PARRI sent the following telegram to the Prefect of MATERA:- "Notify rioters Government will try to meet their needs and will help them as soon as possible, but advise calm because Government cannot stand imposition of a mob and will not accept demands unless they are made in a sensible, reasonable and quiet way, by representatives."

CONCLUSIONS

1. This disturbance took place suddenly and without warning.
2. There cannot be sufficient police in any town to meet such abnormal circumstances.
3. It follows there should be a highly mobile central police reserve to cope with such emergencies.
4. In the present case 10 hours elapsed between the request for and the arrival of police reinforcements. MATERA is out 30 odd miles away.

5972

97
4. Twelve Italian tanks sent to the Commandant, CC.RR. BARI, nearly a month ago, are lying idle, as neither crews, petrol nor ammunition have yet been made available for them.

The effect of tanks on morale is known, and they would have been invaluable in this and previous disturbances. Can action please be taken to put this matter right?

5. The 25 trucks promised as a priority for Internal Security duty have not yet arrived. The need for them is shown in this and in previous reports.

S. W. Miller
S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Liaison Officer, A.C.,
BARI.

Copies to : V.P., Civil Affairs Section, (2)
HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, C.N.F.
HQ, 52 Area.

3629

PERSONAL and CONFIDENTIAL

LB/65.a.12.

Colonel S. W. MILLER,
Liaison Officer, A.C.,
RASI.

31st July, 1945.

2 AUG 1945

Dear Brigadier Upjohn.

The District Commissioner, when here on 27th July, asked for an urgent report on the AMORIA-MISSOYING situation to date, and Brig. CLARK, Commander 54 Area, asked me to report etc. by Monday, 30th July, 1945.

I attach copies of the reports submitted to him, and my covering letters. I also sent him a D.O. letter containing my personal views which are known to you.

I believe the situation is calm only on the surface, and will again erupt in due course.

Conditions at present are not favourable to the rebels, and they will naturally lie doggo and bide their time.

The defiant retention of arms is an indication of things to come.

Assuming these points to be correctly assessed, then an eventual "show down" appears almost a certainty. How much better would it be for the Government to take the initiative now, when they have the force, arrest the known leaders, and make the carrying of arms punishable by death (in extreme cases), after a certain date. I think such a policy would pay a dividend.

The Prefect admits that the Communist leader in AMORIA, De GASTANO, is the bad lad of the party, but will not arrest him for fear of political repercussions. This places the "King" above the law and permits the tail to wag the dog.

I feel much better and walked yesterday for a few yards, which is something. I hope to get control of my legs to-day. My illness has cost me 2 stones 7 lbs in weight (10 stones 3 lbs yesterday) and my appearance can perhaps best be judged by the delicate remark of Lieut. JONES who said: "Sir, you look like a b...y 'op pole".

With kind regards

Yours sincerely,
S. W. Miller.

5971

Brigadier C. R. UNGER, V.P., Civil Affairs Section,
H.Q., ALLIED COMMISSION, C.M.F.

Copy to : Brig. H. S. LUSH, Executive Commissioner, BQ, A.C., C.M.F.

SECRET

SWH/10

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON OFFICE
BARI

Tel. 14152

Ref : LB/65.4.14

30th July, 1945

SUBJECT : Situation Report - MINERVINO-ANDRIA Area
as at 29th July, 1945.

TO : H.Q., 54 Area. (2 copies).

1. The attached translation is forwarded in accordance with conversation Major SAXON-MILLS - Colonel MILLER.

2. I am sorry not to be able to bring it myself.

3. Ten A.C. Lorries have been placed at the disposal of the Prefect for normal internal security duties. More can be made available should the necessity arise and the Prefect has been so informed.

4. Yesterday a cable was sent to my H.Q. asking for pressure to be placed on the Italian Government for the provision of 25 3-Ton lorries for internal security duties here. I see no reason why these should not be produced.

5. Last night I learned that the 12 tanks provided for the CC.RR. were without driving teams or petrol. I telephoned this ~~unpleasant~~ state of affairs to Colonel COHERTY, head of Public Safety at H.Q., Allied Commission, who promised to move at once and I am sure he will.

6. You will now, I think, be aware of the policy of the Italian Government regarding the non employment of the Garibaldi Regiment and I am afraid there is nothing more I can do in this matter.

S. W. Miller

S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Liaison Officer, A.C.,
BARI.

Copy to : Executive Commissioner, HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION, U.S.P.
V.P., Civil Affairs Sec. " " "

SECRET

TRANSLATION OF A REPORT BY THE PREFECT OF BARI

A.C. LIAISON OFFICER, BARI

L. MONTESANO, BARI

Dir. AFM. No. 05466

29th July, 1945

SUBJECT: Situation in MIGNOVINGO-ANDRIA area.

TO: Liaison Officer, ALLIED HIGHCOM, BARI.

In accordance with your request I am now able to notify you that although arms have not been handed in as directed in the MIGNOVINGO-ANDRIA area the situation, though far from normal, gives no cause for alarm. Since disturbance in June no untoward incidents have taken place in the area and this is chiefly due to the activity of the G.C.I.F. and to the collaboration of the Communist Party. The latter are endeavouring to separate their flock into a) political adherents, b) criminals.

Clear instructions have been issued to the G.C.I.F. throughout the area to identify and arrest the chief offenders in the case of thefts and murders etc. last June. Fourteen people have already been denounced in MIGNOVINGO, and two of the murderers of the family De VEO have been identified. These, together with others already listed, will shortly be arrested as it is desired to make all arrests in one single police operation. So far efforts to discover the murderers of two Carabinieri have failed but enquiries are still going on.

Most of the 46 prisoners illegally released from BIELLA police have returned and surrendered. The search continues for those still at large.

In order to control movement in the MIGNOVINGO area a system of road blocks and patrols has been instituted which is proving effective. The recent allocation of Allied Commission lorries will improve the situation and from July, 30th it is intended that motorised patrols shall operate in this area.

I am glad to have this opportunity of expressing to you my great gratitude for your hearty and willing help which has enabled us to carry out our job in trying to normalise this situation. This work is still going on and will improve as it has done since the institution of our activities during July.

I believe this improvement will continue, and working under instructions issued to me by the Italian Government I feel convinced that, provided the political parties continue to collaborate, excellent results will eventually be achieved without the employment of too much force, which might invite people to a new burst of violence.

This could be made possible by the fact that the hoarding in of arms has been unsatisfactory. Up to date fifteen hundred arms have been collected, of which 1300 had long since been declared by owners who took no part in the disturbance.

Therefore follows that only 200 belong to people concerned. The remaining weapons are hidden away in places unknown to the Police and I do not consider a search for these arms by force would achieve a satisfactory result.

As to the particular political importance of ANDRIA, where it is known that the Communist leader, Vincenzo Di CASTANO, is the main spring of these disturbances, it is hoped that in the forthcoming elections another leader will be found, who may perhaps normalise the situation in a very short time.

TRANSLATION

93
Restricted and Personal

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE dei CARABINIERI di BARI

No. 84/60 di Prot. R.P.

Bari, 29th July, 1945

SUBJECT : Situation in the SURGE Area.

TO : Col. MILLER, Liaison Officer, A.C., BARI.

Reference your verbal request for a report on the above subject, I notify you the following:-

1. In the MINERVINO-ANDRIA-CORATO area the situation, though far from normal, appears calm. No incidents occurred since the disturbance of June.
2. Nevertheless dangerous elements still exist and a new burst of violence might suddenly take place. Moreover, unemployment, and bad conditions of living, together with increased delinquency and restlessness, do anything but help in this matter.
3. Political parties have promised to eliminate all dangerous subjects, and not to defend them for political reasons, and apparently are doing their utmost to keep their promise.
4. Handing in of arms is unsatisfactory. Of the 1,472 arms collected

761	at ANDRIA
408	at CORATO
303	at MINERVINO

1,270 (guns, rifles, pistols, revolvers, knives) had previously been declared by the owners. The more important arms, owned by criminals and bands are well hidden in unknown places.

5. Squads of CC.RR. are patrolling and searching the area, and thanks to them no thefts, violence, or murders occurred recently. Criminals prefer to remain in their nests in the towns, where search is more difficult and defence easier.

6. The Government issued instructions not to employ too much force in large operations, which might cause the disturbance to spread to other areas, but to wait for the trucks recently allocated to the CC.RR. by the Allied Commission.

7. When it is certain that in one single operation we can arrest all persons responsible for the disturbance and violence and murder, then action will be taken. Meanwhile enquiries are being made to identify and denounce them.

8. The 12 tanks allocated to the CC.RR. will help very much provided driving teams, petrol and ammunition are produced in order to enable us to use them.

9. The CC.RR., however, will continue to make all possible efforts to carry out their job and achieve the best result.

/s/ Francesco TUCCARI, Comdt CC.RR., BARI.

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
Minister of the Interior

Rome, 3 August 1945

8 AUG 1945

Dear Admiral,

following the informations I already gave you in my letters of July 15th and 20th, I communicate what follows:

1) The Government, realizing that the incidents which took place in the Bari province have deeper and more serious causes than it was at first thought, i.e. the ever-increasing misery, and the widely spread unemployment, not only in the Bari Province, but also in the Puglie zone, ordered the Ministry of public works to start at once the carrying out of a plan of urgent public utility works, which would make it possible to employ without delay the greatest possible number of unqualified manpower. A similar action is being taken by local organisms with landowners to absorb the greatest possible number of agricultural manpower.

The situation of repatriated prisoners and ex-combatants is taken in particular consideration to use and employ them for the above mentioned works; I issued orders to have them assisted.

2) For what concerns the situation of public order, there is no doubt that it has been improving lately. Disarmament is taking place methodically, though with slowness and difficulty because of the extreme reluctance of the persons concerned spontaneously to hand over the arms in their possession. The total amount of the arms handed over for all the Bari zone is of about 1700. Mopping up and combing actions are still being carried out by special squadron services, the functioning of which has greatly improved, thanks to the use of the vehicles which have lately been put at their disposal by the Allied Authorities and which have considerably contributed to improve the safety conditions of part of the region.

3) I can assure you that the Government is carefully following the situation and takes care gradually to eliminate all the motives which might bring about further trouble and delay the complete normalization of the situation.

THE MINISTER
S. Ferruccio Parri

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
R o m e

trans. e/s

LC DIST 8 Aug

ACTION EX COMAR

INFO CHIEF COMAR

CA Dec 5967

8/8

Spoke with Perry Upjohn

Who will put up a letter

to reply to CCI signature

(MAJ K)

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

AUG 7 1945

IL PRESIDENTE
DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI
MINISTRO DELL'INTERNO

Roma, 3 agosto 1945

Caro Ammiraglio,

A seguito delle notizie già fornite con le mie lettere del 11 e del 20 luglio u.s., Le comunico quanto segue:

10) Il Governo, conscio che i fatti verificatisi nella città di Bari sono stati originati da cause più gravi e profonde di quelle che, al primo momento, apparivano e, precisamente, dal crollo economico e dalla disoccupazione molto estesa, non solo della città di Bari, ma in tutta la zona pugliese, ha disposto che i lavori pubblici dia subito inizio all'attuazione di un piano di opere urgenti di pubblica utilità, che consentano l'immediato del maggior numero possibile di mano d'opera non qualificata. azione si sta svolgendo dagli organi locali presso i proprietari, al fine di assicurare il maggior numero possibile di manodopera agricola.

La situazione dei reduci dalla prigionia e degli ex-attivi viene tenuta in particolare considerazione al fine della loro rieducazione ed impiego nei lavori predetti; ho dato disposizioni per l'assistenza.

20) Per quanto riguarda la situazione dell'ordine pubblico, dubbio che essa è andata alquanto migliorando in questi ultimi tempi. Il disarmo procede metodicamente, sia pure con qualche lentezza e difficoltà, dovute alla estrema riluttanza degli interessati a versare spontaneamente le armi di cui sono in possesso. Il totale delle armi versate, per tutta la zona di Bari, ammonta a circa 1700. Con le azioni di rastrellamento e le battute a mezzo degli appostamenti di squadre, il cui funzionamento ha potuto notevolmente contribuire all'utilizzazione degli automezzi recentemente messi a disposizione dalle Autorità Alleate, e che hanno notevolmente contribuito a migliorare le condizioni di sicurezza di una parte della regione.

30) Assicuro, comunque, che il Governo segue sempre con la massima cura la situazione ed ha cura che gradualmente vengano eliminate le cause di disordine e di insicurezza ed ulteriori disordini e ritardi.

A seguito delle notizie già fornite con le mie lettere del 1° e del 20 luglio u.s., Le comunico quanto segue:

1o) Il Governo, conscio che i fatti verificatisi nella città di Bari sono stati originati da cause più gravi e profonde di quelle che, al primo momento, apparivano e, precisamente, dal crollo economico e dalla disoccupazione molto estesa, non solo a Bari, ma in tutta la zona pugliese, ha disposto che i lavori pubblici dia subito inizio all'attuazione di un piano di opere urgenti di pubblica utilità, che consentano l'immediato del maggior numero possibile di mano d'opera non qualificata. azione si sta svolgendo degli organi locali presso i proprietari, al fine di assorbire il maggior numero possibile di manodopera agricola.

La situazione dei reduci della prigionia e degli ex-cattolici viene tenuta in particolare considerazione al fine della loro rieducazione ed impiego nei lavori predetti; ho dato disposizioni per assistenza.

2o) Per quanto riguarda la situazione dell'ordine pubblico, dubbio che essa è andata alquanto migliorando in questi ultimi tempi. Il disarmo procede metodicamente, sia pure con qualche lentezza e difficoltà, dovute alla estrema riluttanza degli interessati a versare spontaneamente le armi di cui sono in possesso. Il totale delle armi versate, per tutta la zona di Bari, ammonta a circa 1700. Con le azioni di rastrellamento e le battute a mezzo degli appostati di squadre, il cui funzionamento ha potuto notevolmente grazie all'utilizzazione degli automezzi recentemente messi a disposizione delle Autorità Alleate, e che hanno notevolmente contribuito a migliorare le condizioni di sicurezza di una parte della regione.

3o) Assicuro, comunque, che il Governo segue sempre con la massima cura ed ha cura che gradualmente vengano eliminati i motivi che possono dar luogo ad ulteriori disordini e ripristinata completa normalizzazione della situazione.

Ammiraglio Eilery W. STONE
Comissario Capo della
Commissione Alleata

ROMA

IL MINISTRO

Ferruccio

See 197

3629

91

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AS 324
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref: 4/35 B/GA.

7 AUG 45.

SUBJECT: MATERIA - AGENT/AGT.

AUG 1945

TO: AMTR, (C) Section.

86

Reference our letter 4/35 B/GA dated 3 August 45.

- 1 Reference para 3 - Report received on 3 Aug 45. - sub para 4.
Please read to read - "The number of rioters is estimated to be 200."

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

G. R. Upjohn 4/61

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

Copy to: Executive Commissioner
Public Safety Sub-Commission
Col. S.E. Miller,
As Liaison Officer
BARI.

5965

PA

7/8

2231

Ex Com

3629
85

cc
AUG 8 1945

87

Report received from A.G. I.O. BARI on 3 Aug 45.

AUG 4 1945

SUBJECT: BARI.

Barra quiet. Minor trouble at FICCAIDIA, where communications are cut, and reported burning of buildings.

500 Carabinieri troops plus 250 Carabinieri are already there and are able to restore order.

Sgt. SCHIA (Minister of Communications) is expected arrive from Rome to report at MACIA today.

The number of victims is estimated to be 100. They are buried so far as is known.

The report that the Municipality was destroyed (1 Aug 45) is untrue. Only the outbuildings were involved.

P. D. Benham
CAS 1/61

TO: Chief Commissioner,
Economic Section,
Land Forces Sub-Commission.

88-91

5964

(Mrs. Kinsley)

3629
86
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFC 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref: 4/35 B/GA.

3 Aug 45

SUBJECT: MATERA.

AUG 3 1945

TO: AFHQ, G-5 Section.

The following telephone reports have been received from Allied Commission Liaison Officer BARI:

- 1 Report received on 1 Aug 45. - "Reports just received from Quarters of rioting in MATERA; Municipio and Food Offices burnt down. All telephonic communication with MATERA is out. Have informed Carabinieri and reinforcements are en route from BARI. Commander 52 Area informed and he is ascertaining situation from Polish Headquarters located in MATERA.

"Riots believed to be a protest against Provincial Orders regarding the amassing of grain but there is no proof of this and it is not certain when verification can be obtained.

"Developments will be reported from time to time."
- 2 Report received on 2 Aug 45. - "MATERA - Quiet last night. Large crowds tried to seize all mills and grain stores. Demands are abolition of ration and free permission to buy and sell own grain.

"Crowd broke into the prison and released some 50 prisoners some of whom have already returned. Others refused release.

"150 CC.BB. reinforcements are already in the area. Italian Government have authorized 2 Companies to move from TRANI to MATERA today. They are fully armed and the situation is believed to be in hand.

"There has been no shooting or bloodshed."

See Report received 3 Aug 45.

- 2 -

- 3 Report received on 2 AM A5. - "MATERA Quieter. Minor trouble at FERRANDINA, where communications are out, and reported burning of buildings.

*500 Garibaldi Troops plus 350 Carabinieri are already there and are ample to restore order.

*Sig. SOLBA (Minister of Communications) is expected to arrive from Rome to speak, at MATERA today.

"The number of rioters is estimated to be 400. They are unarmed as far as is known.

"The report that the Municipio was destroyed was untrue. Only the outbuildings were involved."

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER,

P. D. Bunker L. 161
G.R. WITSON, Brig.,
VP CA Section.

Copy to: Executive Commissioner,
Public Safety Sub-Commission,
Col. S.W. Miller,
A.C., Liaison Officer,
RAH.

5962

3629
83
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref 4/35R/CA

2 August 45

SUBJECT : Situation in Matera

AUG 2 1945

TO : CC Ecom Sec MEDIA
Ex. C. Pub Saf.

Following message from Col MILLER was received this morning:

"Matera Quiet last night. Large crowds tried to seize all mills and grain stores. Demands are abolition of ration and free permission to buy and sell own grain.

Crowd broke into the prison and released some 50 prisoners some of whom have already returned. Others refused release.

150 COHR re-inforcements are already in the area. Italian Government have authorized 2 Companies to move from TRANI to MATERA to-day. They are fully armed and situation is believed to be in hand.

There has been no shooting or bloodshed."

A.D. Bonham-Carter
A.D. BONHAM-CARTER
Lt Colonel,
for VP CA Section

1784
5961

2187

(Mrs. Karsner)

Ref: 3629/TL/20.

August 1945.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

With reference to your letter 4.26527 of 20 July 1945, the Supreme Allied Commander has observed that it does not contain sufficient detail to give him the information which he desires.

For example, in paragraph 2 of your letter it is stated "the Government issued various regulations"; in paragraph 3, "Squadron services proceeded to arrest numerous people". The Supreme Allied Commander wishes to know, in detail, what regulations and orders were issued, the names of the people who were arrested, of what were they accused and what punishment was meted out. Furthermore, he wishes to know if all the instigators of the disorders have been arrested and if not what are the steps being taken to bring them to justice.

I shall be grateful, my dear Mr. Prime Minister, if you will provide the information required at your earliest convenience.

Yours very truly,

Elmer W. Stone
ELMER W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

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

Despatched by C.O. 60000 - 1 AUG 45

Copy to: CA Sec

92 1109
353/112

70

Ref: 3629/70/NO.

Tel: 478603

3 August 1945.

SUBJECT: Disturbances in the Bari Area.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters,
Attn: G3 Ops.

1. With reference to your signal P.30048, time of origin July 30/20256, the Italian Government is being asked for supplementary information on this subject.

2. As soon as the information is to hand it will be forwarded to you.

For the Chief Commissioner:

N. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to CA Sec.

5957

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

Chief Commissioner.

Attached is submitted for your signature/information/approval.

3629
70A
70A
MSL
7
File

Telephone message from COLONEL MILLER.

Received 1600 hrs. 1 August 45.

reports just received from Questura, Bari of rioting in BARI;
Municipio and Food Offices burnt down. All telephonic communication
with BARI is cut. Have informed Carabinieri and reinforcements are
en route from Bari. Commander 52 Area was informed and he is ascertaining
situation from Police Headquarters located in Bari.

Riots believed to be a protest against Provincial Orders regarding the
exporting of grain but there is no proof of this and it is not certain when
verification can be obtained.

Col. Miller will report developments from time to time.

MSZ

M

5005

(Not Known)

3629
INCOMING MESSAGE
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: I 30012
Date/Time of Origin: JULY 31/1945

66
Ex. Comm
Message Centre No: 7/1951
Date Time Rec'd: JULY 31/1945
Precedence: URGENT

FROM: AMERICAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON
TO: ACTION 1-5-100 I 30012

JUL 31 1945

RESTRICTED

65
RESTRICTED.

1. Report furnished under reference 30012/5/45 of 21 July 1945 has provided specific information desired by the Supreme Allied Commander as indicated in our message of 18 July. This information is desired urgently.



DISC
ACTION : IN CONNECTION (5)
INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FHE
C.A. Sec

ACTION
See 110

RESTRICTED

65

Tel: 478201

24 July 1945

Ref: 629/69/20.

SUBJECT: Disturbances in the Bari Area.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters.
Attn: G-5 Section.

1. Reference AFHQ signal F2130 (also HCOF) dated 12 July 45 on the subject of civil disturbances.

48- 2. Enclosed for your information is a copy of letter dated 13 July 45, O 3601, from the Chief Commissioner to the Prime Minister, which crossed the Prime Minister's letter 25330 dated 14 July 45 giving a report on the situation. A copy of the latter is also enclosed for your perusal.

3. The Prime Minister replied to the Chief Commissioner's letter O 3601 of 13 July 45 by letter 26527 dated 20 July 45, a copy of which is attached.

48 For the Chief Commissioner:

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Encls: 3, as stated above.

Copy to: CA Sec

See by CL [signature]

5956

PA 24/7

785017

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
Minister of the Interior

4.25587

Dear Admiral,

46, 48, 59, 60
Also Rused

Rome, 20 July 1945

54?

23 JULY 1945

64

reference my letter of the 14th, in which I enclosed a report on the arrest in Anzio and Andria, explaining the criteria followed by the Government provided by me, to reestablish order and legality in this zone. I now answer the points of your letter of July 1st, n. 3001.

1) As I have already said in the former report, the Government rejected the solutions which implied a demonstration of force, to prevent the episodes of delinquency which had caused the arrest from increasing the motives for dissatisfaction brought about by the economic, political and social situation of the zone, bringing about, in the case of a deployment of force, a reaction which might certainly have caused the arrest to increase; this was, very justly too, a cause of preoccupation for you, and ever since the beginning, the Government wanted to avoid it.

The localization of the arrest, and the quick return to normality assured in the places where the arrest took place, have proved that the system followed was the right one.

2) Further to clear up the situation, and to prevent such episodes from happening again, the Government issued various regulations, going from the police regulations now enforced to repress rural delinquency to the appeal made to the local parties to normalize the political situation, and to the execution of a plan for the immediate execution of public works, which was to help the population and fight the ever increasing unemployment.

The keeping of reinforcements of agents and carabinieri on the spot and the transfer of the "Garibaldi" Regiment should help to secure peace in the zone.

3) For what concerns disarmament, up to the 19th, 1945 weapons have been spontaneously handed over, while at a hour on the 14th, a partisan service began their action on the roads, proceeded to arrest numerous people, occupied and ~~arrested~~ ^{seized} farms, identified and ~~arrested~~ ^{seized} suspected persons, sequestered the first arms, munitions and material abundantly retained. These services began in spite of the difficulties caused by the insufficiency and inefficiency of the means of transport, difficulties which will be gradually overcome till the operations foreseen have been completely organized.

4) I instructed the Prefect of Bari to prosecute with energy all those who are responsible for offences or acts of violence, and strongly to repress rural delinquency. I am waiting for definite news about the number of the people arrested or denounced to the judiciary authorities, and the result of the relative proceedings. Meanwhile, I have been informed that various arrests took place, and that those who were responsible for the aggression against the relatives of the sworn guard who have been arrested, while a great part of those who escaped the Andria jail have been put in prison again.

THE MINISTER
G. Ferruccio JARRI

RC 1115 - 23 July 45

SECTION: LEGAL COUNCIL

INFO: CHIEF COUNCIL

C.A. Sec.

To Admiral Stone
Chief Commissioner - A.C.
s/c

See 65

5955

06431

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

IL PRESIDENTE
DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI
MINISTRO DELL'INTERNO

Roma, 20 luglio 1945

Caro Ammiraglio,

a seguito della mia lettera dell'11 corrente mese, con allegata la relazione sui disordini avvenuti a Minervino e Andria, nella quale Le precisavo i criteri seguiti dal Governo da me presieduto e l'azione di ripristino dell'ordine e della legalità in quella zona, rispondo ora ai punti della Sua lettera del 13 luglio n. 3601.

1) Come ho già detto nella precedente relazione, il Governo ha scartato l'adozione di soluzioni dimostrative di forza, per evitare che gli episodi delinquenziali che erano stati all'origine delle agitazioni, continuassero ad alimentare le ragioni di malcontento derivante dalla situazione economica politica e sociale della zona, determinando, di fronte ad uno spiegamento di forze, una reazione che certamente avrebbe potuto portare ad una estensione delle agitazioni, da cui giustamente Lei si è preoccupato e che il Governo fin da principio ha voluto evitare.

La localizzazione delle agitazioni e il pronto ritorno alla normalità, assicurati nelle stesse località ove si sono verificati i disordini, hanno confermato la bontà del sistema seguito.

2) Per la ulteriore chiarificazione della situazione e per prevenire il ripetersi di simili episodi il Governo ha fatto ricorso ad una serie di provvedimenti che vanno, dalle misure di polizia in corso per la repressione della delinquenza rurale, all'appello fatto ai partiti locali per normalizzare la situazione politica e all'applicazione, infine, di un immediato piano di esecuzione di lavori pubblici diretti a venire incontro alla popolazione, onde lenirne la disoccupazione crescente.

Il mantenimento in loco dei rinforzi di agenti e carabinieri e il trasferimento del reggimento "Garibaldi" dovrebbero concorrere ad assicurare la tranquillità della zona.

3) Per quanto attiene al disarmo, sono stati consegnati spontaneamente alle armi, mentre alle ore 4 del 14

Caro Ammiraglio,

a seguito della mia lettera dell'11 corrente mese, con allegata la relazione sui disordini avvenuti a Minervino e Andria, nella quale ho precisavo i criteri seguiti dal Governo da me presieduto nell'azione di ripristino dell'ordine e della legalità in quella zona, rispondo ora ai punti della sua lettera del 13 luglio n. 3601.

1) Come ho già detto nella precedente relazione, il Governo ha accertato l'adozione di soluzioni dimostrative di forza, per evitare che gli episodi delinquenziali che erano stati all'origine delle agitazioni, continuassero ad alimentare le ragioni di malcontento derivante dalla situazione economica politica e sociale della zona, determinando, di fronte ad uno spiegamento di forze, una reazione che certamente avrebbe potuto portare ad una estensione delle agitazioni, da cui giustamente lei si è preoccupato e che il Governo fin da principio ha voluto evitare.

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Il mantenimento in loco dei rinforzi di agenti e carabinieri e il trasferimento del reggimento "Garibaldi" dovrebbero concorrere ad assicurare la tranquillità della zona.

3) Per quanto attiene al disarmo, sono stati consegnati spontaneamente fino al 19 corrente 1401 armi, mentre alle ore 4 del 14 sono stati iniziati i servizi di squadriglie lungo le strade, che hanno proceduto al fermo di numerose persone, ad appostamenti e ispezioni di case rurali, identificazioni e perquisizioni di persone sospette ed al sequestro delle prime armi, munizioni varie e materiale illegalmente detenuto. Tali servizi hanno avuto inizio malgrado le

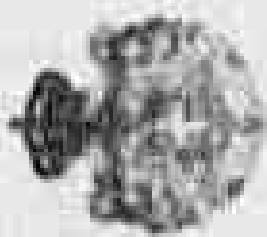
Ammiraglio Ellery W. STONE

Commissario Capo della Commissione Alleata

R.O.M.A.

23.5.57

./.



IL PRESIDENTE
DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI
MINISTRO DELL'INTERNO

- 2 -

62

difficoltà derivanti dalla insufficienza e inefficienza dei mezzi di trasporto, difficoltà che saranno gradualmente superate fino al completo potenziamento delle operazioni previste.

4) Il Prefetto di Bari ha ricevuto da me istruzioni di perseguire fermamente coloro che si sono resi responsabili di delitti e di atti di violenza, oltre a perseguire fermamente la repressione della delinquenza rurale. Attendo notizie precise circa il numero delle persone arrestate e denunciate all'Autorità giudiziaria e l'esito dei relativi procedimenti. Intanto mi risulta che diversi arresti sono stati operati e tra gli altri sono stati asscurati alla giustizia i responsabili dell'aggressione a danno dei familiari della guardia giurata De Feo, mentre buona parte degli evasi dalle carceri di Andria sono già stati nuovamente associati alle carceri.

IL MINISTRO

Terenzio Lami

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IL MINISTRO

Teodoro Lomi

5453

3629h
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL STAFFS SECTION

JUL 23 1945

Ref: AC/14602/10/RS

21 Jul 45

SUBJECT: Minervino Murga Incident.

TO: Political Adviser (A)
Political Adviser (B).

Attached herewith please find copies of a report on the above subject received from the President of the Council of Ministers, forwarded for your information.

G. R. Upjohn
G. R. UPJOHN, Brig.,
VF SA Section.

Copy to: Chief Commissioner,
Executive Commissioner

5852

(Mrs. MORFEN)

3629

CONFIDENTIAL

AFHQ CITE FIDOT

2201

20 JULY 1945

PRIORITY

JUL 21 1945

CONFIDENTIAL PD

REFERENCE YOUR FOX TWO FOUR FIVE FOUR FOUR OF ONE EIGHT JULY PD

ALTHOUGH REPLY TO MY LETTER OF ONE ZERO JULY HAS BEEN RECEIVED CMA

PAREN TO AFHQ CITE FIDOT FROM ALCON FROM ADMIRAL STONE CITE ACSOC PAREN

PRIME MINISTER IS HAVING COMPLETE DETAILED INFORMATION COMPILED ON ALL POINTS

COVERED IN YOUR FOX TWO ONE THREE THREE ZERO OF ONE TWO JULY PD

PRIME MINISTER APOSTROPHE SUGAR OFFICE EXPECTS TURN OVER HIS COMPLETE REPORT

ON MONDAY CMA TWO THREE JULY PD

WILL FORWARD TO YOU IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT

DISTRIBUTION:

Exec Commr
CA Sec
Pub Safety S/C
Land Forces S/C
CC

Chief Commissioner

222

MILERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

CONFIDENTIAL

See 65

23/7

Noted
Luo

5951

(Ans Answer)

3629-7A
~~RESTRICTED~~

Com (59)

2

F 24544
JULY 18 1945

P/242
JULY 18 1945
ROUTINE

From: AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE PHOTO

JUL 19 1945

To: ALCON

46

RESTRICTED.

Request you expedite reply to our F 21330 of 12 July.

DIST

ACTION - SO TO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
INFO - CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EXEC COMMISSIONER 2
SA 3 SC
P SAFETY SC
L FORCES SC 2
FILE

RESTRICTED

5950

(Has Answer)

58

Tel: 476201

Ref: 3629/58/80.

19 July 1945.

SUBJECT: Disturbances in the BAKI Area.

TO : U.S. Ambassador
Br. Ambassador
Political Advisor (A)
Political Advisor (B)
VP Civil Affairs Section
Chief Commissioner

48

54

1. With reference to the Chief Commissioner's letter to the Prime Minister of 3601 dated 13 July 1945, attached for your information is translation of a letter from the Prime Minister dated 14 July, together with its enclosure.

2. Clearly this letter has crossed with the Chief Commissioner's letter of 13 July and is not therefore a direct reply thereto.

For the Chief Commissioner:


Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

50-54

Incl:
ltr fr the President of the
Council of Ministers, No. 25530
dtg 14 Jul 45, with enclosure.

5949

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
Minister of the Interior

25530

JUL 17 1945

Rome, 14 July 1945

Dear Admiral,

In answer to your letter of the 10th, I
enclose a report on the Andria and Minervino Murge in-
cidents, and on the present situation in this zone.

The above mentioned relation is followed by a brief
note about the news which arrived today.

Yours truly,

G. Ferruccio Parri

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

EC - 11.15.45 - 16 July 45
(3629/EC)

Action: C A SEC 12)

INFO: CHIEF COMAR

EXEC COMAR

5840

(15 fac copies) (See 64)

Translation

Ministry of the Interior

Unrest in the Bari Province

On June 25th, at about 8 hours, common offenders, mostly stragglers or deserters, made an excuse of the arrest of three communists charged with robbery and released after a short time. Investigations having proved they were not guilty, and started hostilities against the barracks of the Carabinieri of Minervino Murge, asking for the release of other common offenders, who acknowledged having robbed in Minervino, Gravina, Spinazzola, and Palazzo S. Gervasio.

During the transfer of these prisoners, shots were fired at the Carabinieri, but without result.

On the 26th, during the afternoon, reinforcements of Carabinieri and P.S. Agents were summoned to Minervino, to unblock the soldiers of this station, but on reaching the periphery of the village, these reinforcements were well-armed with shots from rifles and automatic weapons, light and heavy, pinned in favourable and commanding positions.

To avoid a violent conflict and the ensuing bloodshed, - and also on the advice of the Secretary of the Bari Communist Federation, who nevertheless demanded the arrest of ex-fascists to be submitted to the Commission for Internment - the reinforcements were withdrawn. During the shooting, a civilian was shot, and a carabinieri and a civilian wounded; two war rifles with the corresponding ammunition and a handbomb were sequestered.

During the night, shooting went on between the Carabinieri of the Minervino barracks and the rioters.

The reinforcements withdrawn from the Vico Murga were concentrated in Andria, where other deplorable incidents were to take place.

As a matter of fact, during the afternoon of the 26th, a patrol of Carabinieri was attacked in the woods with handbombs, and one soldier was killed while several others were wounded.

Then, a truck transporting Carabinieri who were coming back from Minervino, was shot at at the cross roads to Andria; three carabinieri were wounded.

Another truck sent to the rescue was attacked with automatic weapons which caused the death of another carabinieri and wounded three or four others.

The other soldiers were taken to the Communist Station of Andria and the station of the leader of this Communist Section,

On the 27th, during the afternoon, reinforcements of Carabinieri and P.S. Agents were summoned to Minervino, to unblock the soldiers of this station, but on reaching the periphery of the village, these reinforcements were welcomed with shots from rifles and automatic weapons, light and heavy, placed in favourable and commanding positions.

To avoid a violent conflict and the ensuing bloodshed, - and also on the advice of the Secretary of the Bari Communist Federation, who nevertheless demanded the arrest of ex-fascists to be submitted to the Commission for Internment - the reinforcements were withdrawn. During the shooting, a civilian was shot, and a carabinieri and a civilian wounded; two war rifles with the corresponding ammunition and a handbomb were sequestered.

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Another truck sent to the rescue was attacked with automatic weapons which caused the death of another carabinieri and wounded three or four others.

The other soldiers were taken to the Communist Station of Andria and later on released, on the intervention of the leader of this Communist Section, but their uniforms were taken from them.

Meanwhile, a Captain of the Corps, who had reached Minervino (urge to persuade the people, was taken as hostage and later set free, on the condition that he would express to the authorities the desire of the Communists to obtain the release of eleven people arrested the day before, on a charge of robbery.

It was judged advisable to release the said persons who were denounced to the Legal Authorities.

On the 27th, the situation in Andria got worse. After the arrest of dangerous "squadrini" chosen in agreement with the Local Committee for Liberation, and with the Secretary of the communist party, a mass of ~~thugs~~ ^{fascists}, composed of men and women, proceeded to the arrest of over a hundred citizens, who were not known to be dangerous elements. Immediately after that, the armed and agitated mob proceeded to the prison, imprisoned the gaoler and freed 16 prisoners. Besides, all the vehicles were requisitioned to concentrate in Andria the communists of the neighbouring communes, who, after having been given arms, also heavy ones, were asked to defend the access to the city.

- 2 -

52

A group of twenty rioters broke suddenly into the office of the local guards (Vigili ompestri), and burnt their furniture; then they broke into the premises of the P.S. Offices where they tore up some files, and finally, they destroyed part of the files of the Industry Office, on the first floor of the same building where the P.S. Commissioner is located. At 22.00 hours, most of the furniture and files of the Night Guards (Vigili notturni) Office was burnt; the ensuing fire was spent by the Mariette firemen.

Meanwhile, the Government ordered to send the reinforcements required - 300 carabinieri and 300 agents - and instructed the Bari Prefect to try and quiet down the unrest, and to this end, ordered him to isolate incidents of delinquency from the political, social and economic factors which had added themselves to the first and made it to be feared that unrest would spread over the entire population. With this intention, the Government sent two Ministers on the spot, Barberischi and Roccaforte, to try persuasion to reestablish calm and avoid more expenses, and also the Deputy Chief of the Police to coordinate the action of the Authorities that were to reestablish order.

The rain was reached, for after the 28th, except for a few sporadic acts of violence which took place outside inhabited centres (fight in the open country between a group of communists and a sworn guard, believed to be an ex-fascist, in which two communists were killed) and two cases of robbery which also took place in the open land, the situation has gradually improved, and calm has definitively returned among the populations of Andria and Minervino.

To avoid new unrest, the local Authorities, in agreement with those which came from Rome, gave up the idea of using force to collect weapons and catch the offenders; this action would have presented considerable difficulties and uncertainty available means being insufficient and the nature of the places unfavourable; they started an intense work of persuasion, working personally, and through the channel of the political parties, for weapons to be voluntarily handed over.

Nevertheless, as the results obtained up to now must be considered as modest if not altogether bad, and as it is necessary to proceed without delay to the repression of the offenders who infect this area - the hypothesis of a demonstrating military operation on a large scale having been rejected for the above mentioned reasons, for it might cause repercussions and strong reaction in the inhabited centres, - strong instructions have been issued: a) for the arrest of those who are guilty of the offences which have been committed; b) for the immediate organization of fixed posts and evening operations by agents and carabinieri, operations which are most adequate for the repression of rural delinquency.

...of the Carabinieri Regiment is

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The aim was reached, for after the 20th, except for a few sporadic acts of violence which took place outside inhabited centres (flight in the open country between a group of communists and a sworn guard, believed to be an ex-fascist, in which two communists were killed) and two cases of robbery which also took place in the open land, the situation has gradually improved, and calm has definitely returned among the populations of Andria and Minervino.

To avoid new unrest, the local Authorities, in agreement with those which came from Rome, gave up the idea of using force to collect weapons and catch the offenders; this action would have presented considerable difficulties and uncertainty available means being insufficient and the nature of the places unfavourable; they started an intense work of persuasion, working personally, and through the channel of the political parties, for weapons to be voluntarily handed over.

Nevertheless, as the results obtained up to now must be considered as modest if not altogether bad, and as it is necessary to proceed without delay to the repression of the offenders who infect this area - the hypothesis of a concentrating military operation on a large scale having been rejected for the above mentioned reasons, for it might cause repercussions and strong reaction in the inhabited centres, - strong instructions have been issued: a) for the arrest of those who are guilty of the offences which have been committed; b) for the immediate organization of fixed posts and combing operations by agents and carabinieri, operations which are most adequate for the repression of rural delinquency.

As it is well known, the transfer to F. C. I. of the Garibaldi Regiment is now taking place, and the Government will have it employed where and when it will deem it necessary.

Agreement among the parties which was necessary for a work of pacification has been reestablished. The situation of the public spirit has greatly improved in Andria, and a rapid normalization, including the elimination of the elements responsible for disorder, is to be hoped for. Regulations have been issued to meet the requirements of the unemployed, thus eliminating one of the main causes of the unrest. I think that this will not only prevent the spreading of the unrest to the neighbouring areas, but also assure the return of calm and respect of the law within the whole zone.

I cannot help pointing out that the Government provided by us was faced in Puglia with an exceptional situation, of remote origins, and which matured only during the last few weeks: the presence of numerous weapons, coming from remote regions, not under Italian control, the miserable living conditions of an important part of the population, the unemployment of part of the farmers, the exasperation of political passions, because of the insufficient elimination of the ex-fascists particularly compromised; ancient traditions of

- 3 -

51

unrest; all these factors have enforced a line of conduct based on the preventive adoption of conciliating regulations, to avoid big and dangerous conflicts, and followed by repressing regulations concerning those who were guilty of violence, and especially in case of rural delinquency; this action will be inflexibly carried on till the aim is reached.

The unrest in question is limited to a restricted zone, which, for the above mentioned reasons, has always been, unfortunately, one of the most troubled zones in Italy; such local unrest has a local importance, and I think that their importance has been exaggerated by the press.

I must also point out that the Government is faced with situations of which it cannot be held responsible; authorities which haven't resumed the necessary efficiency after the collapse of fascism; insufficient public force, not always adequate, the reconstruction of which is slow and difficult because of the scarcity of available means.

THE MINISTER

S. Ferruccio Parri

e/c

I must also point out that the Government is faced with situations in which it cannot be held responsible; authorities which haven't resumed the necessary efficiency after the collapse of fascism; insufficient public force, not always adequate, the reconstruction of which is slow and difficult because of the scarcity of available means.

THE MINISTER

S. Ferruccio Perri

o/e

5945

(50)

Unrest in the Bari Province

The Carabinieri regiment has reached Trani.

As I had the Bari Prefect inform the Commander of the 24 Area of the British military forces, the presence of the Regiment in this zone gives us greater security; the Government may ask for its intervention if and when it is deemed necessary.

For the moment, we only need reinforcements in vehicles, and a few armoured cars, to assure the success of the police expeditions which are taking place; the Prefect has already obtained these means, some of which were given by the Allied commands.

I repeat that the Government has resolved to see through this matter; it is nevertheless choosing the most appropriate means and regulating their employment, for, at present, it does not deem it necessary to compromise the action of political disarmament, and the pacifying work of the parties by military operations on a large scale, and it thinks that well planned and efficaciously carried out combing operations are at present sufficient to repress the bands of highwaymen at present entrenched in the Agro di Minervino and in the Murgia.

THE MINISTER

G. Ferruccio Parri

e/s

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THE MINISTER

S. Ferruccio Parri

e/c

5941

CSO
To see 1 + 2 ³ 500

16/7/45

Sh

Executive Commission

To see 1 + 2 for operation 584.3

16/7

SH
CSO

50A

Ref: L3/65.a

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON OF THE
COLEG 54 AREA
C.M.F.

11th July, 1945

Dear Brigadier Upjohn

JUL 15 1945

In accordance with Colonel FISKE's wishes I have explained to the Area Commanders the action taken by HQ., Allied Commission regarding the recent disturbances at ANDELA and MINERVINO.

The following reply received from Brigadier CLARK, Comdr 54 Area is forwarded to you as a matter of interest.

"Dear Miller

Thank you for your letter and the information it contained.

I am pleased that some definite action is at last being taken to clear up the Area.

As a result of the recent set back suffered by the administrative authorities, it is essential that the self respect and prestige of the Carabinieri are completely restored.

This can only be achieved by a carefully made plan to be put into operation when the Garibaldi Regiment is ready, to seize all illegally held arms, arrest criminals at large, and to intimidate potential trouble makers by a strong show of force.

The Italian Military Commander, General BOSCELLI, agrees that this must be done quickly and finally, but it rests with the Prefect to initiate the action.

Yours sincerely

/s/ G.P. CLARK."

Trues over.
S. Miller.

Brigadier G.R. URJOEN,

V.P. Civil Affairs Section, HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION

C.M.F.

Copy to: Brigadier M.S. LAMM,

3629
SECRET

Ex Comm 50A

EX 19530

JULY 10/1945

E/7676

JULY 11/21003

ROUTINE

JUL 11 1945

AFR. SERVED SACRED CITE FROM

DESTROYER, DMS, ROSE AREA, MOV ROSE, PGO BARI, INFO: DESTROYER FOR MOV LG, MOV BARI
MOV NAPLES, BELLA(ROSE AREA PLEASE PASS)

HEADQUARTERS

JUL 11 1945

A. C.

REPORT.

Subject is move of Garibaldi Regt. Reference EX 18951 dated 7 July not to all.

1. Garibaldi Regt strength 2000 all ranks 150 tons stores will move by rail VITERBO to TRANI in 2 special trains under arrangements MOV ROSE on 10 and 12 July. Timings as follows. VITERBO depart 0700 10 and 12 July ROSE arrive 1200 depart 1400 ROCCASSICA arrive 2100 depart 2200 CASERTA arrive 0600 depart 0700 11 and 13 July BENEVENTO arrive 1130 depart 1230 CERVARO arrive 1830 depart 2035 TRANI arrive 0041 12 and 14 July.

2. Meals by types under arrangements MOV Areas at ROSE "C" ROCCASSICA "B" BENEVENTO "C". Forty eight hours rations will be carried.

3. On arrival TRANI personnel will remain in stock and detrain first light

DISC

INFO-ACTION : CA DEC

INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EX COMMISSIONER
FILE

SECRET

Lu H 30A

CONFIDENTIAL ³⁶²⁹

(48)

CG 3601

13 July 1943.

JUL 1 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Supplementing my letter of 10 July on the Puglia incidents, I have just received an urgent communication, as quoted below, from the Supreme Allied Commander, Field Marshal Sir Harold A.L.G. Alexander, which I am instructed to pass to you:

- "1. I take a very serious view of the recent civil disturbances in the Andria and Minervino areas and do not consider the action taken to be adequate.
- "2. It is directed that I be informed urgently what action the Italian Government has taken:
 - (a) To clear up the situation in the Andria and Minervino areas and to ensure there is no recurrence in the future;
 - (b) To hunt down, disarm, and speedily bring to justice the instigators and those who took part in these disturbances.
- "3. I expect that persons convicted of taking part in the disturbances will be severely punished and I wish to be informed of the sentences meted out in each individual case."

I shall be grateful for your reply to my letter of 10 July, as supplemented by the Supreme Allied Commander's communication, at the earliest possible moment.

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

Very truly yours,

HENRY S. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION:

US Ambassador
UK Ambassador
PCL ADVIS (A)
PCL ADVIS (B)
WF CA Section
Pub. Safety S/C
Exec Comm.
CR

CONFIDENTIAL

(See 64) see M49 5510

3629
RESTRICTED

EX 22211
 JULY 13/2037E

2/9574
 JULY 14/08508

URGENT

FROM: AMIR, SIGNED SIGNED CICH FIBOT

TO: ALGERIA DIVO: 3 DISTRICT

JUL 14 1945

RESTRICTED.

1. Reference your 1653 of 11 July para 3.
2. Confirming telephone conversation General LEBETHE-Admiral STRECK on 11 July. Move of GABRIELLI Regt will be completed in accordance with instructions laid down in our EX 18343 of 6 July and EX 19530 of 9 July.
3. Reply to para 5 of ref signal will be subject of separate communication



RLK

ACTION	:	GAS
INFO	:	CHIEF COMMISSIONER SO TO CO EC COMMISSIONER (2) POLAD (A) POLAD (B) LAND FORCES PUBLIC SAFETY FILE

RESTRICTED

5939

3629
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

46

F 21330
JULY 12/1945

2/9150
JULY 12/1945
PRIORITY

From: AMB, BRUSSELS (AIR) (P) (P)
To: AMB, BRUSSELS

JUL 12 1945

HEADQUARTERS
12 JUL 1945
A. C.

21

35

NR 12

CONFIDENTIAL.

Reference our EX 14947 of 29 June and F 15113 of 5 July and your 1137 of 4 July and 1137 of 5 July.

33 The Supreme Allied Commander takes a very serious view of the recent civil disturbances in the ASEMIA and BERNARD areas and does not consider the action indicated in your cables quoted above to be adequate.

The Supreme Allied Commander directs that he be informed urgently what action the Italian Government has taken:

- A. To clear up the situation in the ASEMIA and BERNARD areas and to ensure there is no recurrence in the future.
- B. To hunt down, disarm and speedily bring to justice the instigators and those who took part in these disturbances.

The Supreme Allied Commander expects that persons convicted of taking part in the disturbances will be severely punished and he wishes to be informed of the sentences noted out in each individual case.

47-59

3/0-14/7
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LINE 3938

ACTION : SO TO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
INFO : CHIEF COM. IN CHARGE
CAN. LAND F. (2) FOR MAP. FILE

3629

(45)

JUL 12 1945

TO: AMHQ GEORGE FIVE SECTION

1659

11 JUL 45

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

SECRET PD

PARA ONE PD SUBJECT IS MOVE OF GARIBOLDI REGIMENT TO TRAMI PD

PARA TWO PD SEE PARA FOUR OF MY ONE ONE FIVE SEVEN OF FOUR JULY FOUR FIVE AND YOUR FOX XRAY ONE EIGHT NINE FIVE ONE OF SEVEN JULY FOUR FIVE PD ON THE ADVICE OF MY POLITICAL ADVISERS I HAVE NOT YET ASKED THE PRIME MINISTER TO USE TROOPS IN THE BARI AREA BUT I HAVE WRITTEN TO HIM ASKING FOR A FULL REPORT ON THE SITUATION AND FOR A STATEMENT OF THE STEPS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT IS TAKING OR INTENDS TO TAKE TO PREVENT A REPETITION PD

PARA THREE PD I AM INFORMED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAS SENT A SIGNAL TO THE PREFECT OF BARI STATING THAT THE GARIBOLDI REGIMENT SHOULD NOT BE EMPLOYED IN THE PRESENT EMERGENCY IN THE BARI AREA PD UNOFFICIALLY I BELIEVE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAS MADE PLANS FOR THE HANDLING OF THIS INCIDENT WITHOUT USING TROOPS PD IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AND PENDING AN OFFICIAL REPLY AS TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S INTENTIONS CMA IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE MOVE OF THE REMAINDER OF THE GARIBOLDI REGIMENT TO BARI BE POSTPONED PD IN VIEW OF THE TIME FACTOR INVOLVED I HAVE TEMPORARILY POSTPONED THIS MOVE WHICH IS DUE TO TAKE PLACE TOMORROW PENDING YOUR DECISION PD

PAGE 1 TO AMHQ GEORGE FIVE SECTION FROM ALCON CITE ADMOC PAGE 1

PARA FOUR PD NEW SUBJECT IS SECURITY IN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TERRITORY PD

5937

1953

(Nas. Am. Sec.)

(44)

- 2 -

1653

11 JUL 45

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

(SEE FILE 3606 FALM 93)

PARA FIVE PD THE PRIME MINISTER HAS RECENTLY ASKED ME IN GENERAL TERMS FOR
 ADDITIONAL INTERNAL SECURITY TROOPS UNDER ITALIAN OPERATIONAL ^{AL} COMMAND FOR THE
 SOUTH PD THIS WHOLE QUESTION IS BOUGHT UP WITH YOUR DECISION ON MY PROPOSALS
 IN MY EIGHT TWO FIVE ONE SLANT ONE EIGHT ZERO SLANT EASY CHARLIE DATED SEVEN
 JUNE FOUR FIVE IN WHICH I PROPOSE THE FORMATION OF ONE INTERNAL SECURITY
 BRIGADE PER ITALIAN MILITARY TERRITORIAL REGION FORTH EXCLUDING SICILY FORTH
 AND WOULD REQUEST AN URGENT DECISION ON MY PROPOSALS AS ABOVE PD IN VIEW OF
 THE BARI INCIDENT I STRONGLY URGED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MY PROPOSALS AS SOON
 AS POSSIBLE

Internal Distribution:

Chief Clerk
 Executive Commissioner.
 Civil Affairs Section.
 Public Safety Sub-Commission
 Land Forces Sub-Commission
 Rome Area Allied Command

Personal Adv (A)

Personal Adv (B)

Civil Affairs Section

45

NICHOLAS PIERRE
 CWO USA
 Asst. Adjutant.

5936

3629

File

427

Extract of Minutes of Executive Commissioner's Meeting - 10 July 45.

Movs of Carabinieri Division.

Land Forces 3/D reported that the Carabinieri Division
were moving to Trani, near Bari, to-day.

5935

3629

43

U-R-G-E-N-T

10 July 1945.

JUL 11 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Italian press accounts report a series of incidents which occurred in the Minervino-Andria-Spinazzola areas in Puglia late last month which, if correct, would appear to be cause for serious concern, particularly if the reported disturbances should spread into the Bari area where substantial Allied installations still exist.

I should be grateful, my dear Mr. Prime Minister, if you could give me at the earliest possible moment an official report of these incidents, together with a statement as to what steps the Government is taking or intends to take to prevent a repetition.

Very truly yours,

cc. Chief Counsel
VP SA Section
Public Safety S/C
CC Files

ALM (A) }
" (O) } *entirely correct*
AM AMO }
CR AMO } 1/7

ELMER W. Stone

ELMER W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

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

see M.43
255 148
✓ 1010 54

(Mrs. [illegible])

Ex (Commissioner)

Reference attached:

1. Paper 'A' is a summary prepared for the Chief Commissioner.
2. Paper 'B' a draft memorandum he asked for (since approved by him) for presentation to the Govt., if Ambassadors agree. (He is seeing the latter today).
3. Up to date picture is -
 a 350 C.R. R.R. reinforcements have arrived in S.R.R.

10 T to be ordered to 12

asked for (since approved by him) for presentation to the Comd, if Ambassadors agree. (He is seeing the latter today).

3. Up to date picture is -
a. 350 C.R. R.R. reinforcements have arrived in BAR.

b. The 12 Tanks referred to in B para 5 are due in BAR today

c. A.F.H.Q. have advised that 500 personnel in B 4 (a) is agreed in principle and use of Garibaldi Regt is being "urgently considered". Sukh Jear

1100 hrs 1024 45.

785017

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM

(This cannot be presented, of course, until the S A C has agreed to 4(a))

14th July, 1945

1. The recent disturbances in the Commune of MINERVINO and ANDREA have caused widespread concern which is shared by the Allied Commission.

2. It must be pointed out that this is the second occasion on which a serious disturbance has taken place in the District. The Police Forces have been subjected to large and organized attacks, have suffered casualties and indignities and have been seized and treated as hostages.

Murder and arson have been rife and buildings and official records have been destroyed. ANDREA Jail was forcibly entered and 16 prisoners illegally released. Armed bands at one time assumed control of a substantial area.

3. The Allied Commission emphasizes that, unless steps are taken to apprehend and punish the responsible persons and also to prevent a recurrence of such lawlessness, the authority of the Government will be seriously undermined.

4. It is, therefore, recommended that the Italian Government be urged to consider the following immediate measures:

- (a) The concentration of a regiment of Italian troops in the BARI area. (The Garibaldi Regiment is at present at GESSIA on their way to the North and I have asked the Supreme Allied Commander to postpone their move pending consideration of this matter by the Italian Government).
- (b) Immediate and forcible steps to re-arrest all illegally released prisoners.
- (c) Immediate and forcible steps to apprehend and try the ring-leaders of the disturbance.
- (d) The Regiment and all Police Agencies to carry out a co-ordinated plan for the collection of all arms in the area, including a house-to-house search.
- (e) The allocation of twenty-five 2 or 3-ton trucks to the BARI CC.RP. Region for the rapid transportation of police services. If necessary civilian trucks already allocated to the Government should be used for this purpose.
5. The formation and activation of the Carabinieri Mobile Battalion for BARI should be completed at the earliest possible date. Immediate instructions should be given for the dispatch to this area of twelve Italian armoured vehicles already allocated to the CC.RP.

been seized and treated as hostages.

Murder and arson have been rife and buildings and official records have been destroyed. ASDRIA Jail was forcibly entered and 46 prisoners illegally released. Armed bands at one time assumed control of a substantial area.

3. The Allied Commission estimates that, unless steps are taken to apprehend and punish the responsible persons and also to prevent a recurrence of such lawlessness, the authority of the Government will be seriously undermined.

4. It is, therefore, recommended that the Italian Government be urged to consider the following immediate measures:

- (a) The concentration of a regiment of Italian troops in the SADI area. (The Carabinieri Regiment is at present at GASTUA on their way to the North and I have asked the Supreme Allied Commander to postpone their move pending consideration of this matter by the Italian Government).
 - (b) Immediate and forcible steps to re-capture all illegally released prisoners.
 - (c) Immediate and forcible steps to apprehend and try the ring-leaders of the disturbance.
 - (d) The Regiment and all Police Agencies to carry out a co-ordinated plan for the collection of all arms in the area, including a house-to-house search.
 - (e) The allocation of twenty-five 2 or 3-ton trucks to the HARI CC.RR. Region for the rapid transportation of police services. If necessary civilian trucks already allocated to the Government should be used for this purpose.
5. The formation and activation of the Carabinieri Mobile Battalion for HARI should be completed at the earliest possible date. Immediate instructions should be given for the dispatch to this area of twelve Italian armoured vehicles already allocated to the CC.RR.

5932

SECRET

FX 18349
JULY 061753B

E/8412
JULY 061845B
URGENT
JUL 7 1945

From FREEDOM SIGNED SAKED CITE PHOCT
ALCOM 3 DISTRICT INFO 1 DISTRICT 2 DISTRICT RAAG 5 ARMY MILIA

SECRET

1. CARIVALLI Regiment under command 3 DISTRICT forthwith for employment in BARI area on such internal security duties as may be directed by Italian Govt.
2. Move orders follow separately.
3. For 5 ARMY and 2 DISTRICT. This cancels our 17838 of 5 July. Leading Regt MANTOVA Gruppi will arrive MILAN area 9 10 and 11 July. Details follow.

Dist

Action - P Safety SC
Info - Chief Commissioner
Exec Commr
CA Sec
Land Forces
File

SECRET

See M 35931
F 47

(Not Answer)

785017

SECRET

E. L. Brown

7 18113
JUL 061059Z

3629 + 1
=

E/8370
JUL 061615B
PRIORITY

JUL 7 1945

From: AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE PROCT
To: ACTION ALCOM

SECRET.

Reference your 1157 of 5 July.

1. Your proposed line of action is strongly supported.
2. Possibility of making GARIBOLDI RECT available for internal security duties in BARI area is under urgent consideration.

DELT

ACTION: SO to Chief Commissioner
INFO: Chief Commissioner
Ex Commissioner 2
CA Sec
Land Forces S/C 2
P. Safety S/C
File
POL. ADVSR. (A)
POL. ADVSR. (B)

See Mr 57

HEADQUARTERS
6 JUL 1945
A. C.

SECRET

5930

(33)

3629

10: AME GIVE PHEAT

JUL 5 1945

1457

4 JULY 45

PRIORITY

21

URGENT PD

PARA ONE PD REQUESTING YOUR FOR KRAY ONE FOUR NINE FOUR SEVEN OF TWO FIVE NINE
AND FURTHER TO ADVISE ONE ONE THREE SEVEN OF FOUR JULY PD

PARA TWO PD THE URGENT DISCUSSIONS IN AREA AND THE SINKING OF THEIR KIND IN

THE CONTEXT THIS THAT PD I TAKE A MOST SERIOUS VIEW OF THEM AND WISH TO URGE
THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE VERY STRONG LINE OF ACTION PD

PARA THREE PD I AM DISBURSED WITH THE AMBASSADOR THE NECESSITY OF MOVING
ITALIAN TROOPS INTO THE AREA TO SEARCH FOR ARMS AND TAKE A VERY FIRM HAND ON
THE WHOLE SITUATION PD

PARA FOUR PD I REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS MATTER REGARDING THE USE OF TROOPS
AND THAT YOU CONSIDER POSTPONING THE MOVEMENT OF GARIBOLDI REGIMENT NOW SCHEDULED

POL. ADVIS (A)
POL. ADVIS (B)

INT DIST-
Chief Comm
Exec. Comm
Pub Safety S/C
Land Forces S/C
Civ Affairs Sec

FROM:

Chief Commissioner

243

ELBERT S. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

NICHOLAS PIERRO
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

B. K. C. 12/7
6/7
1A. 8/2

3629
7

SUMMARY OF INCIDENTS DURING THE CIVIL
DISTURBANCE IN BARI PROVINCE - JUNE 1945

JUL 5 1945

OPENING SITUATION

- 1 For some time past, groups of armed men have been operating in the MINERVINO-AMERILIA-SPINAZZOLA areas. Under the pretence of "Food Control" they stopped trains, looted farms, searched houses and seized goods.
- 2 To restore order, the police at SPINAZZOLA were reinforced in mid-June, with the result that 24 men were identified and denounced to the judicial authorities.
- 3 On the 24th June, eleven persons were caught in the act of robbery near AMERILIA, were arrested and removed to TRAMI gaol.
- 4 Events then moved quickly:

25 June: (a) Bands of armed men demanded the release of 4 arrested men held by the MINERVINO police.

(b) When attempting to remove these arrested men, the police were fired on and returned the fire. (Result: 1 civilian killed, 1 Policeman and 2 Civilians wounded.)

(c) Armed men surrounded and shot up the Police Barracks at MINERVINO, established road blocks (covered by machine guns and rifles), and opened fire on 150 Police reinforcements sent from BARI as soon as they approached the town.

THIS WAS THE SITUATION FACING THE PREFECT OF BARI AT 2205 HOURS ON 25 JUNE WHEN, FOLLOWING A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH ROMA, HE ASKED FOR BUT WAS REFUSED, ALLIED INTERVENTION.

26 June: (a) During night 25 - 26 June the Prefect was informed the Communists at MINERVINO were prepared to negotiate. Avv. DI DONATO, a Communist leader of BARI, was sent to MINERVINO at daybreak; as the envoy of the Prefect. He later in the morning telephoned the terms (shown in Appendix 7/1 to this summary) under which order could be restored.

(b) A Captain of the Carabinieri was held as a hostage in

On the 24th June, eleven persons were caught in the act of robbery near AMERIA, were arrested and removed to TRIUMI goal.

Events then moved quickly:

- (a) Bands of armed men demanded the release of 4 arrested men held by the MINERVINO police.
- (b) When attempting to remove these arrested men, the police were fired on and returned the fire. (Result: 1 civilian killed, 1 policeman and 2 civilians wounded.)
- (c) Armed men surrounded and shot up the Police Barracks at MINERVINO, established road blocks (covered by machine guns and rifles), and opened fire on 150 police reinforcements sent from BARI as soon as they approached the town.

THIS WAS THE SITUATION FACING THE PREFECT OF BARI AT 2205 HOURS ON 25 JUNE WHEN, FOLLOWING A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH ROMA, HE ASKED FOR HIS OWN RESERVE, ALLIED INTERVENTION.

- (a) During Night 25 - 26 June the Prefect was informed the Communists at MINERVINO were prepared to negotiate. Avv. DI DONATO, a Communist leader of BARI, was sent to MINERVINO at daybreak; as the envoy of the Prefect. He later in the morning telephoned the terms (shown in Appendix 7A to this summary) under which order would be restored.
- (b) A Captain of the Carabinieri was held as a hostage in MINERVINO for some hours, but was released on the condition he demanded from his superiors the release of the 11 men arrested on June 24th.
- (c) A Police patrol was bombed in AMERIA. (Result: one killed and two wounded.)
- (d) A Police lorry was attacked on the road MINERVINO-AMERIA. (Result: 2 wounded.)
- (e) A second Police lorry. (sent to help the first) was attacked. (Result: 1 killed and 4 wounded.) The remainder were taken to the H.Q. of the Communist Party in AMERIA where they were disarmed and undressed and some 20 rifles, 22 pistols, 6 machine guns and the Carabinieri uniforms were taken by the Communists.

1945

- 2 -

These men were eventually released by the leader, sig. DE GAMBINO).

- 27 June: (a) In ABERIA the Communists arrested over 100 people for alleged fascism. (Many unknown to the Duration Committee as such.)
- (b) The Communists forced ABERIA jail and released 16 prisoners.
- (c) The Communists occupied the Municipia, the Post Office and the Telephone Exchange.
- (d) All available vehicles were seized by the Communists, including those used to convey the Police reinforcements from BARI to the town.
- (e) Armed men surrounded the Carabinieri Barracks and Police Officers and men were unable to move out of the building.
- (f) An ultimatum was issued by the Communist leader to the Police that unless reinforcements were withdrawn from ABERIA before midnight, the barracks would be attacked and the police dispersed.

THIS WAS THE SITUATION FACING THE RESISTANCE OF BARI AT 1300 HOURS ON 27 JUNE 1945 WHEN IT AGAIN AWOKE FOR ALLIED INTERVENTION.

- (g) The Commander, 54 Area, placed at the disposal of the Protect. 3 Companies of Italian Pioneers (250 men) under the Italian General BRUGLIA, with 1,000 Hand Grenades and Allied Transport, to convey them to ABERIA. All were ready at 1800 hrs, but were not called upon by the Government and were eventually 'stood down' during the night.

At the same time another Company was made available from 0600 hrs on 27 June but this Co/ was not called upon for duty.

- 28 June: (a) Many public buildings were destroyed by fire during the night 27 - 28 June (Public Security, Industry Buildings, etc.) and the Centre was looted and evidence and exhibits destroyed.

- (b) The Minister of Labour made a public speech at ABERIA.

- 29 June: (a) Communists in ABERIA attempted to arrest a Field Guard. The latter opened fire and killed two of them; the remainder then returned to ABERIA and murdered the Field Guard's brother.

(a) Armed men surrounded the Carabinieri barracks and police officers and men were unable to move out of the building.

(2) An ultimatum was issued by the Communist leader to the police that unless reinforcements were withdrawn from AMBRIA before nightfall, the barracks would be attacked and the police dispersed.

THIS WAS THE SITUATION FACING THE REMAINS OF BARI AT 1300 HOURS ON 27 JUNE 1945 WHEN WE AGAIN ASKED FOR ALLIED INTERVENTION.

(a) The Commander, 5th Area, placed at the disposal of the Prefect, 3 Companies of Italian Pioneers (450 men) under the Italian General BIGNARDI, with 1,000 hand Grenades and Allied Transport, to convey them to AMBRIA. All were ready at 1800 hrs, but were not called upon by the Government and were eventually 'stood down' during the night.

At the same time another Company was made available from 0600 hrs on 28 June but this Coy was not called upon for duty.

28 June: (a) Many public buildings were destroyed by fire during the night 27 - 28 June (Public Security, Industry Buildings, etc.) and the Prefecture was looted and evidence and exhibits destroyed.

(b) The Minister of Labour made a public speech at AMBRIA.

29 June: (a) Communists in AMBRIA attempted to arrest a ~~Police~~ Field Guard. The latter opened fire and killed two of them; the remainder then returned to AMBRIA and murdered the Field Guard's brother, his wife and his daughter.

(b) Communists dispersed the Carabinieri Detachment at ~~AMBRIA~~ ^{29 June}

(c) The Communist Leaders in AMBRIA guaranteed to restore order conditionally on the dismissal of certain public officials and the appointment of others nominated by them. This was done (see App. 'A')

30 June: (a) Area reported quiet. I saw the Prefect and Questura at 1600 hrs and in their view 'calm was restored'.

(b) The Minister of Finance arrived from ROMA to make public speeches in both AMBRIA and ~~INTERVENTO~~ ^{INTERVENTO}.

APPENDIX 'A' TO SUMMARYTERMS DEMANDED BY THE COMMUNISTS

Demands were made to the Prefect of RAPRI as follows:-

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DEMAND</u>	<u>REPLY</u>
26 June 45	<u>MINISTERS</u> 1. Carabinieri reinforcements to be withdrawn to <u>ASINIA</u> 2. All fascists to be arrested 3. No dismissing of rebels 4. Release of 11 prisoners from <u>TRONCHI</u> Jail (arrested 24 Jun 45.)	Reported to Minister and accepted. Accepted in principle. Accepted. Referred to Ministry of Interior and accepted.
27 June 45	<u>ASINIA</u> 5. Carabinieri reinforcements to be withdrawn from <u>ASINIA</u> to their normal station. 6. The dismissal of the present Commissario Prefetto to be replaced by a Communist Giunta Comunale.	I believe this was accepted but was unable to verify if they returned because of this wartime film or because of the improved situation. Accepted. (Sig. Vincenzo <u>ASINIA</u> has been appointed Commissario Prefetto and the Provincial Committee of Liberation has been urged to suggest the names of the Sindaco and of the Giunta Comunale.

2. All fascists to be arrested
3. No disarmings of rebels
4. Release of 11 prisoners from TRIARI
Gaol (arrested 24 Jan 45.)

accepted.

Accepted in principal.

Accepted.

Referred to Ministry of
Interior and accepted.

27 June 45

AMERICA

5. Carabinieri reinforcements to be
withdrawn from AMERICA to their normal
station.

I believe this was
accepted but was unable
to verify if they returned
because of this ultima-
tim or because of the
improved situation.

6. The dismissal of the present
Comandante Prefetto to be
replaced by a Communist Giunta
Comunale.

Accepted. (Sig. Vincenzo
MAGLIA has been appointed
Comandante Prefetto
and the Provincial
Committee of Liberation
has been urged to
suggest the names of the
Giunta and of the
Giunta Comunale.

3928

CONFIDENTIAL

SEM/lc

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON OFFICE
PARIS

Tel. 14152

Ref : LB/65.

30th June, 1945

SUBJECT : Report of Civil Disturbances at
MINEVINO and ANDRIA - 28th-30th June, 1945.

TO : Executive Commissioner,
H.Q., ALLIED COMMISSION,
C.M.F.

Further to my report re civil disturbance at MINEVINO and
ANDRIA sent under this Office letter number as above dated 28th June,
1945.

The following additional information has now been obtained:-

1. 28th June, 1945.

A party of CC.FR. escorting a truck from MINEVINO contain-
ing arms were halted and disarmed by communists who seized 20 rifles, 22
pistols and 6 machine guns in addition to the uniforms of the CC.FR., who
(it is reported) were forced to undress.

2. Night 28th-29th June, 1945.

Certain communists tried to arrest a field guard in the
vicinity of ANDRIA, in which attempt two of them were killed. Others
then proceeded to the guard's house in ANDRIA, murdered his brother,
and his brother's wife and daughter.

3. 29th June, 1945.

A party of communists disarmed 6 CC.FR. stationed at CORARO.

4. 30th June, 1945.

Area reported quiet. The Minister of Finance left for ANDRIA,
where he is due to deliver a speech at 1900 hrs.

2/00 2/00

2/00 2/00

The following additional information has now been obtained:-

1. 28th June, 1945.

A party of CC.FR. escorting a truck from MINGWING containing arms were halted and disarmed by communists who seized 20 rifles, 22 pistols and 6 machine guns in addition to the uniforms of the CC.FR., who (it is reported) were forced to undress.

2. Night 28th-29th June, 1945.

Certain communists tried to arrest a field guard in the vicinity of ANDRIA, in which attempt two of them were killed. Others then proceeded to the guard's house in ANDRIA, murdered his brother, and his brother's wife and daughter.

3. 29th June, 1945.

A party of communists disarmed 6 CC.FR. stationed at CORATO.

4. 30th June, 1945.

Area reported quiet. The Minister of Finance left for ANDRIA, where he is due to deliver a speech at 1900 hrs.

S. W. Miller

S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Liaison Officer, A.C.,
BAPL.

NOTE : Reference para. 6(a) of my report of 28th June, 45, of the 47 released prisoners

36 - have been tried

7 - were awaiting trial

4 - detained pending investigation of minor offences.

Orders for their release had already been received by the Governor of Prison from the Allied Police.

Copy to : Comdr, 54 Area.

P.S. De "Levanti" the Communist Secretary of Andria (Signor DE CAETANO) demanded the dismissal of the Commissioner Prefetto to be replaced by a Communist assisted by a Communist Giunta Comunale. Signor MARZANO BALLE has been appointed. News for MARZANO and Giunta Comunale are awaited.

Committee of Andria. File 206

ROYAL DEPARTMENT OF BANI

File No. 05468

Bani, 29 June 1963

SUBJECT: Andria and Minervino Murge- Public Order

TO : COLONEL MILLER

Liaison Officer

E.A.R.J.

Immediate Action

Following the report of 27 last, we wish to inform you that we have had recent information that in Andria on the evening of 27 and on the morning of the 28th, groups of subversive persons entered the offices of the Prefecture, of the Consular Office of Public Safety and of Industry, and destroyed records and documents. The office of the night guards and that of the country guards were set fire to, put out by the guards of Barietta who ran to the scene. It was learned moreover that the Carabinieri mentioned in the above report, after being taken to the communist section of Andria, were deprived of the arms and uniforms which have not yet been restored to them. The arms in question are twenty rifles, twenty-two pistols and six tommy-guns. According to fragmentary news come in yesterday evening late, a group of communist who went into the country with the intention of using force against a guardhouse was stopped by shots fired by the same and two of them killed. The same communist later entered the house of the guard using violence against the family; three persons were killed and one wounded. The people in Andria and nearby towns were greatly alarmed and 50 Carabinieri arrested all locked up in their barracks. Serious riots took place in Corato in which took part armed groups of persons. The Carabinieri barracks were taken by surprise last night with the intention of clearing the six soldiers occupying them. One of them was wounded. The roads in the district of Murge are still controlled by armed groups.

THE REPORT

Following the report of 27 inst., we wish to inform you that we have had recent information that in Andria on the evening of 27 and on the morning of the 28th, groups of Subbotnik persons entered the offices of the Procuracy, of the Commissariat of Public Safety and of Industry, and destroyed records and documents. The office of the night guards and that of the country guards were set fire to, put out by the guards of Barletta who ran to the scene. It was learned moreover that the Carabinieri mentioned in the above report, after being taken to the communist section of Andria, were deprived of the arms and uniforms which have not yet been restored to them. The arms in question are twenty rifles, twenty-two pistols and six ten-guns. According to fragmentary news come in yesterday evening late, a group of communist who went into the country with the intention of using force against a guard post near Casale stopped by shots fired by the same and two of them killed. The same communists later entered the house of the guard using violence against the family; three persons more killed and one wounded. The people in Andria and nearby towns were greatly alarmed and 50 Carabinieri immediately looked up in their barracks. Serious riots took place in Corato in which took part armed groups of persons. The Carabinieri barracks were taken by surprise last night with the intention of disarming the six soldiers occupying them. One of them was wounded. The roads in the district of Murge are still controlled by armed groups.

7600

1215

LA CARABINIERI, BARI

THE ALLIED COMMISSION
BARI

Representative reports give the following information:

This afternoon, 26th June, communist bands arrested a 'giurata' guard, probably an ex-fascist, in a field between Andria and Corato. Two communists were killed in the ensuing conflict. Serious riot has taken place in Andria and nearby towns in rebellion against fascists. Situation in Andria has become serious again and deaths have resulted from armed conflicts in Corato. Conflicts with the soldiers stationed there have been reported and a carabinieri slightly wounded. Bari and several roads in the north of Bari Province are held under the control of armed bands.

Lt. Col. Lucchese

5920

785017

SMB/lc

ALLIED COMMISSION
HEARING OFFICE
HALLC. A. Lee
Vol. 14152
4306

Ref : LB / 65.

28th June, 1945

SUBJECT : Report of Civil Disturbances at
MINERVINO and ACHIA - 24th-27th June, 1945.TO : Executive Commissioner,
H.Q., ALLIED COMMISSION, C.M.F.

CONFIDENTIAL

Some ten days ago the Prefect of Bari verbally reported the continued misbehaviour of a number of armed civilians in the area of MINERVINO, ACHIA and MANTUA. I telegraphed Col. STURSEN (U.S.A. Provost Marshal) and the D/A.P.M., 54 Area and asked them if, in the circumstances, this area could be more frequently patrolled by Allied Military Police. Subsequently the following events took place:-

1. 24th June, 1945.

The C.M.F. arrested some 12 men in MINERVINO (4 were communists) and removed them to TAMM gaol.

2. 25th June, 1945.

(a) Armed communists took possession of the town of MINERVINO, confined the C.M.F. to barracks, established road blocks, and opened fire on relieving police.

(b) To deal with the situation approximately 150 C.M.F. reinforcements left Bari for MINERVINO at 1700 hrs. Owing to rifle and machine gun fire and road blocks these reinforcements could not reach MINERVINO.

(c) At 2200 hrs., at a conference with the Prefect of Bari, the Quartermaster and the Command of the C.M.F., the former stated he had reported to HQM and asked for Allied intervention.

I explained that in the circumstances this request could not be met, but the Prefect urged that representation should be made to Brigadier CLARK, Oyster 54 Area. This was done on the telephone and the Area Commander said he could not consider it as Allied interests were not involved.

3. Night 25th-26th June, 1945.

Decorative firing took place both at MINERVINO and ACHIA.

4. 26th June, 1945.

(a) Early in the morning the Prefect of Bari was informed the communists at MINERVINO were prepared to negotiate, and he sent an envoy Avv. Di DUKATO, a communist leader of Bari, who later telephoned that order could be restored.

The O.S.ER. arrested some 12 men in MINERVINO (4 were communists) and removed them to TRIANI gaol.

2. 25th June, 1945.

(a) Armed communists took possession of the town of MINERVINO, confined the O.S.ER. to barracks, established road blocks, and opened fire on relieving police.

(b) To deal with the situation approximately 150 O.S.ER. reinforcements left TRIANI for MINERVINO at 1700 hrs. Orders to rifle and machine gun fire and road blocks these reinforcements could not reach MINERVINO.

(c) At 2245 hrs., at a conference with the Prefect of TRIANI, the Quartermaster and the Consul of the O.S.ER., the Consul stated he had reported to COMB and asked for Allied intervention.

I explained that in the circumstances this request could not be met, but the Prefect urged that representation should be made to Brigadier CLARK, Omdur 54 Area. This was done on the telephone and the Area Consul said he could not consider it as Allied interests were NOT involved.

3. Night 25th-26th June, 1945.

Desultory firing took place both at MINERVINO and AUBELA.

4. 26th June, 1945.

(a) Early in the morning the Prefect of TRIANI was informed the communists at MINERVINO were prepared to negotiate, and he sent an envoy AYO. DI DUKANO, a communist leader of TRIANI, who later telephoned that order could be restored if the following conditions were accepted:-

- (1) O.S.ER. reinforcements to be withdrawn.
- (11) The communists not to give up their arms.
- (111) That known fascists in the town should be arrested.

(b) These conditions were accepted by the Prefect. (It was then known the envoy had requisitioned a lorry and sent it round the area to collect arms from the MINERVINO.)

5. NIGHT 26th-27th June, 1945.

Quiet in MINERVINO but the trouble was transferred to AUBELA where, a good deal of shooting took place in and around the town.

6. 27th June, 1945.

At 0830 hrs. the Prefect reported the situation quiet, but as this was based on scanty information I thought it best to go to AUBELA to see for myself.

9070

Gravi disordini a Minervino Murge

Ci risulta che nella giornata di ieri, nelle prime ore pomeridiane, per cause non ancora accertate, gravi disordini sono scoppiati a Minervino Murge. Vari conflitti hanno avuto luogo fra i dimostranti e la forza pubblica. Pare che il locale presidio dei Carabinieri sia stato assediato.

L'interruzione delle comunicazioni non ci consente per ora di precisare gli avvenimenti e la loro portata. Sappiamo solo che numerosi rinforzi sono partiti da vari centri alla volta di Minervino, si dice da Foggia e da Andria, unitamente a mezzi corazzati degli Alleati.

Attività politica

Quarta. — L'assoluta maggioranza...

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

785017

In riferimento ai fatti avvenuti il 25 corr. a Minervino Murge e di cui fu data notizia nel giornale di ieri, si precisa che DA PARTE DEGLI ALLEATI NON FURONO MANDATI SUL POSTO RINFORZI DI NESSUNA SPECIE. I disordini hanno avuto carattere popolare e di essi si sono occupate soltanto le autorità italiane competenti.

B

Page 6 cont'd.

- 2 -

It was extremely quiet as the following shows:-

(a) The U.S. were practically confined to their barracks by a large crowd, the prison had been entered and 47 prisoners released, and the Municipality, Post Office and Telephone Exchange were occupied by the communists.

(b) The latter had demanded the release from U.S. hands of the arrested men referred to in para. 1 above. This demand had succeeded so.

(c) An ultimatum had been delivered to Lt. Col. SCHLAVET (Command of the U.S. at ARBIA) stating that unless all reinforcements left the town that night an attack would be made on the barracks and the police would be disbanded.

Lt. Col. SCHLAVET told me he could not comply owing to lack of transport, and that if he complied with, he knew the roads were picketed and his police would be shot at on the way.

(d) There were two dead and four wounded police in the barracks and the Count estimated there were some 4,000 to 5,000 armed men in the vicinity of ARBIA. (From my observation. I thought the numbers were overrated).

7. The Prefect of ARBIA had meanwhile asked again for Allied intervention, and at 4:00 hrs. the (near) 54 Area (making it clear that no British Officer or soldier should take part unless or until Allied interests were involved) planned at the disposal of the Italian General ROMOLI, some three Coys of Italian Pioneers with 1,000 hand grenades, and sufficient transport to take them into the affected area. Another Coy. would be placed at his disposal from 0600 hrs. next day. Though ready to move at 0800 hrs., these Pioneers were not called upon by the Prefect and stood down during the night, and to-day (the 28th) are back at their usual work in the Docks.

8. 28th June, 1945.

(a) The Prefect reported the area quiet, though certain public buildings in ARBIA were burnt during the night 17th-28th June, and the Prefecture was looted and exhibits and evidence destroyed.

(b) The Minister of Labor, Sig. Giuseppe BARBARISCHI spoke at ARBIA today and urged the communists to disarm and to lead an orderly life.

9. NEWSPAPER REPORTS.

It will be seen from the attached cuttings that the local press stated Allied armed vehicles took part in the action at LILLYVINO. (See 'A').

Both this Office and HQ, 54 Area wrote at once to the Editor denying this, and asking for a correction to be made in the next issue of their paper.

This was done. (See 'B').

10. CONCLUSIONS.

I do not know if conclusions are required from me, but this civil

From my observation I thought the numbers were exaggerated).

7. The Prefect of Bari had meanwhile asked again for Allied intervention, and at 1500 hrs. the Comair 54 Area (saying it feared that no British Officer or soldier would take part unless or until Allied instructions were involved) placed at the disposal of the Italian General Canali, some three Coys of Italian Pioneer with 1,000 hand grenades, and sufficient transport to take them into the affected area. Another Coy would be placed at his disposal from 0600 hrs. next day. Though ready to move at 1800 hrs., these Pioneers were not called upon by the Prefect and stood down during the night, and to-day (the 28th) are back at their usual work in the Docks.

8. 28th June, 1945.

(a) The Prefect reported the area quiet, though certain public buildings in ASINARA were burnt during the night 27th-28th June, and the Prefecture was looted and exhibits and evidence, destroyed.

(b) The Minister of Labor, Sig. Gaetano RINALDINI spoke at ASINARA to-day and urged the communists to disarm and to lead an orderly life.

9. NEWSPAPER REPORTS.

It will be seen from the attached cuttings that the local press stated Allied armed vehicles took part in the action at MINEVINO. (See 'A').

Both this Office and HQ, 54 Area wrote at once to the Editor denying this, and asking for a correction to be made in the next issue of their paper.

This was done. (See 'B').

10. CONCLUSIONS.

I do not know if conclusions are required from me, but this civil disturbance has shown:-

(a) An abnormal number of armed men are in the area concerned. (With rifles, pistols and machine guns).

(b) The CC.MA. are numerically unable to cope with such disturbances.

(c) The absence of transport in the CC.MA. is a serious handicap to their mobility. (It took some 7 hours for reinforcements to be saved from Bari to the vicinity of MINEVINO).

Copy to : Comair 54 Area.

S. W. Miller

5921

S. W. MILLER, Colonel,
Adjutant Officer, A.C.,
Bari.

R. INFORMATION OF BUREAU

Bull. June 27, 1945

Ref. 05466

SUBJECT: PUBLIC ORDER - MINERVINO MURDER AND AMBUSH
IN CONNECTION WITH

For some time petty crimes have been taking place in the area of Minervino-Murgo and Spimmoles; these incidents of common delinquency have been a cause of great alarm to the public, also because of the uncertain fact, that the thieves operated in bands equipped with modern weapons.

These criminal acts consist of stopping, under the pretext of an inspection for retailing purposes, trains on the Minervino and Spimmoles line, with a stealing train loads from the place of production away from the urban centers, as well as of many illegal acts such as searches, appropriation of items in general and unauthorized sequestration of merchandise, etc. This situation forced the public safety authorities to intervene and suppress the abuses in order to restore gradually liberty and safety which are greatly threatened, with the elimination of the persons responsible. Therefore, the Force of Minervino was accordingly strengthened and measures were taken to identify the persons responsible for the crimes. Forty-four persons were identified in a short time; these had participated in stopping trains. They were denounced to the judicial authorities.

Later eleven more thieves, most of whom are confessed criminals, were arrested while committing the crimes.

The morning of the 26th of this month ex-convicts, disbanded soldiers and deserters, members of armed bands, finding a pretext from the arrest of three criminals charged with rapine, who were released soon after because not found guilty, used violence against the barracks of the Force in Minervino, demanding the release of three other detained men, who had confessed of having committed rapine on trains. Later, while the arrested persons were being taken in, shots were fired at the soldiers which drew their mark, however, and not long after the armed groups surrounded the barracks and opened a heavy fire with rifles and tommy-guns. The soldiers answered the fire and during the conflict a civilian was killed, two civilians and a carabinieri wounded. The rumor spread by the communists that the carabinieri had fired several shots point-blank after making the arrests and before returning to their barracks, was emphatically denied. As soon as reports came in, delayed owing to out communications, reinforcements of I.S. agents and carabinieri were sent to the scene. They were held up, however, by machine-guns and mortar fire. The situation became worse and as disorder was arising in nearby towns and in order to avoid a bloody conflict, the reinforcements were withdrawn to Andria, following an agreement with provincial communist authorities and orders from the Ministry of the Interior. A captain of

0/2/1971 in Rome equipped with...

These criminal acts consist of stopping, under the pretext of an inspection for anti-airing purposes, trains on the Minervino and Grottole lines, with a view to loading from the place of production even from the urban centers, as well as of using illegal acts such as searches, appropriation of items in general and safety and security of merchandise, etc. This situation forced the public safety authorities to intervene and suppress the abuses in order to restore gradually liberty and safety to the persons arrested, with the elimination of the punitive measures taken to which are greatly threatened, with the elimination of the punitive measures taken to force, the forces of Minervino was accordingly strengthened and measures were identified to identify the persons responsible for the crimes. Forty-four persons were identified in a short time, these had participated in stopping trains. They were denounced to the judicial authorities.

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The morning of the 25th of this month ex-convicts, disbanded soldiers and deserters, members of armed bands, finding a pretext from the arrest of three communists charged with rapine, who were released soon after because not found guilty, used violence against the barracks of the force in Minervino, demanding the release of three other detained men, who had confessed of having committed rapine on trains. Later, while the arrested persons were being taken in, shots were fired at the soldiers which silenced their ranks, however, and not long after the armed groups answered the fire and during the conflict a civilian was killed, two civilians and a carabinieri barracks and opened a heavy fire with rifles and Tommy-guns. The carabinieri had fired several shots point-blank after making the arrests and before returning to their barracks. The situation became worse and as disorder was arising in nearby towns and in order to avoid a bloody conflict, the reinforcements of I.S. agents and carabinieri were sent to the scene. They were held up, however, by machine-guns and mortar fire. The situation became worse and as disorder was arising in nearby towns and in order to avoid a bloody conflict, the reinforcements were withdrawn to Andria, following an agreement with provincial communist authorities and orders from the Ministry of the Interior. A captain of the Carabinieri who had gone to Minervino to persuade the men to stop, was held as a hostage for a short time and soon after released in condition that he would obtain from his Superior officers the release of the 11 arrested men.

Meanwhile the situation in Andria, too, threatened to become more complicated, though without any incentive, but simply because of the excellent mentality of rebellious men. In the afternoon of the 26th a platoon of carabinieri was attacked with hand grenades. One of the carabinieri was killed and two were wounded. One of the trucks filled with carabinieri, returning from Minervino, was fired upon after a truck full of carabinieri, returning from Minervino, was fired upon at a country road junction near Andria; two men were wounded. Finally, another truck which had gone to the aid of the first was again attacked with automatic weapons; one carabinieri was killed and four were wounded. The other carabinieri on the truck were taken to the communist section of Andria where they were released by the communist secretary of that section.

The above-mentioned crimes were justified by the allegation that the police had come nothing to apply the sanctions against fascists.

It is to be pointed out on this point that this office, even before the known repressive laws were passed, had given instructions to police bodies under its control to examine without delay the position of dangerous fascists.

The Provincial Commission referred to in art 166 of the P.D. Law met almost every week and 14 fascists were sent to exile (confine), 29 were admonished and 19 more included among 150 cases which are being investigated.

The alleged slowness is due to the fact that the Commission requested an inquiry supplement for many persons, as there was not enough evidence to decide.

An order was therefore issued for the release of the men arrested, who were
 if
 then merely denounced.

After the arrest, fascist and other faction persons chosen during an agreement with the C.I. and the communist secretary of Asturias which took place during the night, a large band of communists began at 8 o'clock arresting about one hundred citizens not known as dangerous fascists.

Immediately after another thousand fully armed communists went to the jail and after capturing the jail-keeper, they released 46 prisoners, 36 of whom were serving their term, 4 were being held for the Allied authorities and 6 were waiting for trial. One of whom for murder.

The same band of communists requisitioned all the trucks in use circulation, including those with which police reinforcements had been sent; these trucks were used to concentrate in Asturias the communists of nearby towns who, after having been armed, even with heavy weapons were placed on guard at the entrances of the building.

At the same time armed forces of the people surrounded the C.I.P.R. HQ. holding the officers, the soldiers and the officials of police gathered there.

The communist secretary El Maestro having been asked to cooperate in clearing this dangerous situation declared he could do nothing to check the excited masses of people who had taken an aggressive attitude while they were asking for the replacement of the present prefectural Commission with a communist whom they trusted, and who was to be assisted by a communist General Board (Junta).

Since the communist leaders had taken it upon themselves to re-establish order, Vincenzo Barile was temporarily appointed as Commissioner (he had been previously being considered as successor of the local Committee of liberation) until such time as the Junta and the Junta were appointed upon the nominations requested from the Provincial Committee of liberation. The appointment of the Commissioner has contributed to the re-establishment of peace that evening, also after the long released the communists that the 11 arrested men of Riberino had been released.

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Since the communist leaders had taken it upon themselves to re-establish order, Vincenzo Barile was temporarily appointed as Commissioner (he had been previously been nominated as assessor of the Local Committee of Liberation) until such time as the sindaco and the Giunta were appointed upon the nominations requested from the Provincial Committee of Liberation. The appointment of the Commissioner has contributed to the re-establishment of peace that evening, also after the news reached the communists that the 11 arrested men of Minervino had been released.

Investigations will soon be commenced in order to find the persons responsible for the violent acts committed in Minervino and Andria and for the arrest of those responsible for the theft, as soon as the judicial authorities will issue a warrant of arrest.

Those persons who were released unlawfully are being sought at present.

THE REPORT

5/11/49

AFHQ SACRED CITE FEGOT

JUL 3 - 1945

999

2 JULY 1945

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

ITALIAN CHIEF POLICE REPORTS ORDER RESTORED THREE ZERO JUNE
SOURCES OF ARMS BEING INVESTIGATED AND RAIDS PLANNED TO
SEIZE ARMS NOW SEQUESTERED PD VICE CHIEF AND MINISTER
SCOCIMARRO ARRIVED BARI THREE ZERO JUNE AND THREE ZERO ZERO
CARABINIERI ONE THREE FIVE PS AGENTS WITH FOUR OFFICERS
ARRIVED FROM ROME PD FIVE ZERO ZERO ADDITIONAL PS AGENTS
FROM NAPLES AND OTHER PROVINCES ON WAY TO BARI AND SURROUNDING
AREA PD

PARSH TO AFHQ SACRED CITE FEGOT FROM ALCON CITE AUGAS PAREN
EFFORTS TO RECAPTURE RELEASED PRISONERS WILL FOLLOW WHEN
SITUATION SUFFICIENTLY STABLE TO PERMIT USE OF LIMITED
PERSONNEL NOW CONCENTRATING ON MAINTAINING ORDER AND
COLLECTION OF ARMS PD

Seen by C50

Civil Affairs Section

479709

G. R. UPJOHN, Brig.

NICHOLAS FIOREBINO

CWO, USA

Asst Adjutant 5918

AFHQ SACRED CITE PHGOT

JUL 3 - 1945

999

2 JULY 1945

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

ITALIAN CHIEF POLICE REPORTS ORDER RESTORED THREE ZERO JUNE
SOURCES OF ARMS BEING INVESTIGATED AND RAIDS PLANNED TO
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PAPER TO AFHQ SACRED CITE PHGOT FROM ALOOM CITE ACCAS PAPER
EFFORTS TO RECAPTURE RELEASED PRISONERS WILL FOLLOW WHEN
SITUATION SUFFICIENTLY STABLE TO PERMIT USE OF LIMITED
PERSONNEL NOW CONCENTRATING ON MAINTAINING ORDER AND
COLLECTION OF ARMS PD

Scanned by C50

Civil Affairs Section

479709

G.R. UNJOHN, Brig.

NICHOLAS FIGUEROA
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

591

3631

FILE

214

Telephone message from Col. MILLER,
AO LO BARI, at 1145 hrs 29 June

JUN 29 1945

The line was extremely bad. The following facts were reported:

Col. MILLER has sent a full report by air last night. He intends to come to ROME and expects to arrive on Monday, if conditions remain fairly quiet.

Night 27/28 June. Law courts at ANERIA were looted by Communists who took away exhibits of evidence and burnt Labour Exchange and a few other public buildings to the ground.

Night 28/29 June. Two Communists went to illegally arrest two alleged Fascists on the OORATO - ANERIA road. The alleged Fascists killed both Communists. Some onlookers of the scene returned to ANERIA and murdered the brother of the alleged Fascists and his wife and daughter.

At OORATO night 28/29 June the local Carabinieri Garrison of six men were disarmed by Communists. The Italian Pioneer reinforcements, mentioned in previous telephone message, were not in fact sent to reinforce the Carabinieri at ANERIA.

It is reported that Dr. BOCCOMARRO is expected in BARI today.

The above is based on a report received by Col. MILLER from the Prefect of BARI.

Office of the Executive Commissioner,
29 June 45.

J.C.A.

Copy to: Chief Commissioner
Exec Commissioner
C.A. Sec
FEB

See 17th 32

17th 32
6

3631

56
78

Telephone message from Colonel Miller at Bari.
1000 hours, 28 June.

(See telephone message of 1815 hours, 27 June)

Italian Pioneer reinforcements sent to ANDRIA,
1800 hours, on 27 June.

June 28:

Communists have withdrawn their patrols. The Prefect of Bari, in accordance with the Communist request, has temporarily appointed a communist member to the Municipio of ANDRIA. The Italian Minister of Labor is in Bari and intends to make a speech this afternoon at ANDRIA. Providing the situation remains quiet, the Italian Pioneer reinforcements will be withdrawn.

MINSERVINO Prefect reports situation quiet.

J. J. J. J.
Jen.

Copy to:- Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Public Safety
P.R.O.

CFO informed
6/28/68

See M 19

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

27th June 1945.

Telephone Message received from
Colonel MILLER, from BARI at 1815
hours, 27th June 1945.

This morning the Prefect from BARI reported to Colonel MILLER that all was quiet at MINERVINA and ANDRIA. Colonel MILLER visited ANDRIA today and reports following facts:

1. Communists broke into prison this morning and released 47 prisoners.
2. Communists demanded from G.C.R.R. the release of 11 arrested men at the prison at TRANT. (they were arrested on 5 June). The G.C.R.R. released the 11 prisoners.
3. Communists are occupying the Municipal, Post Office and have control of the Telephone Exchange.
4. Communists sent an ultimatum to the G.C.R.R. reserves (about 200 strong; additional to the 40 normally on duty), that unless these reserves were withdrawn tonight from ANDRIA the Communists will disarm them.

54 Area Comd has placed 3 companies, each about 150 strong, of Italian pioneers under General BOZZELLI to proceed to ANDRIA at 1800 hours. One additional company is to leave for ANDRIA at 0600 hours tomorrow, 28 June. 54 Area Comd is providing transport for these men and has given them a 1000 hand grenades and 750 rounds of ammunition for each rifle.

Col MILLER's office telephone number is BARI 14152 and Flat No. BARI 412850.

Note: During sporadic shooting in and about ANDRIA last night, two G.C.R.R. were killed and 6 wounded. Telephone line is out between BARI and ANDRIA. The Communists are said to be 2000 strong with machine guns and hand grenades. Col MILLER said he met with no opposition from them and that they appeared friendly to him.

DM

30/6
6914/6

15

Telephone Report by Lieut. Col. MILLER,
Liaison Officer, BARI, 26 June 1945.

Following the arrest by Carabinieri of twelve armed men at MINERVINO, BARI Province, other armed men attacked Carabinieri Barracks, blocked all roads and opened fire on the relieving police.

Reports are confusing and casualties uncertain up to 1700 hours, 25 June. 125 reinforcements were sent 25 June and at 2205 hours same date the Prefect asked the Liaison Officer for Allied intervention, which was refused.

Shooting took place during last night. Today the ring-leaders made a request for negotiations. L.O. reports that the situation is now in hand and all is quiet. He is proceeding today to the scene of the disturbance to obtain firsthand information.

Office of the Executive Commissioner,
26 June 1945.

Eth
Major.

Copy to: Executive Commissioner
C.A. Sec
Public Safety S/C
Pol Adv (A)
Pol Adv (B)

785017

FILE: 3631

14

10 May 45

SUBJECT: Disturbance at Francavilla Pontana

TO : Executive Commissioner

MAY 1 RECD

Telephone call received from Lt Col Miller, Liaison Officer, Bari, stated that at 10:30 on the night of 8 May a crowd of approximately 3000 civilians moved out to the Francavilla Pontana, 30 miles due west of Brindisi, where two Italian civilians (reportedly former fascists) recently released from jail reside. As the crowd approached the villa they were fired upon by the Chiosso Brothers, whereupon the crowd returned the fire, drove the brothers back into the house and then set fire to it. At this point, driven out by the fire, the brothers were killed and quartered by the mob. Two of the crowd were killed and several wounded. The Carabinieri have the entire matter under investigation. According to Lt Col Miller, there is no Allied interest involved. He will personally inspect the property tomorrow.

(Sgd) L. W. [Signature]
 Chief Staff Officer
 To Executive Commissioner

PA

Seen By Ex Commr And Passed

To CA Sec 11 May 45

[Signature]
 10 May 45

3631

10A

RESTRICTED

SR/1102
MAR 28 1945

FROM: ALCOM SOUTHERN REGION
TO: HQ ALCOM FOR ACPIF

2/6277
MAR 28 1945
ROUTINE

MAR 29 1945

RESTRICTED.

Carabinieri report that Communist Party attacked Liberal Party and private property on 26 at PRASCIVILLA. Disarmed Merasciello Guardia Di Finanza. 50 Carabinieri reinforcements sent from PARI additional reinforcements from LACCE and TARANTO. Disturbances involved robbery of premises. You will be kept advised of any further developments.

LIST

ACTION: Pub Safety
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
CA Sec
File 2
Flora

FOR INFORMATION

Handwritten signature

STAMP

RESTRICTED.

Carabinieri report that Communist Party attacked Liberal Party and private property on 26 at FRASCATILLA. Disarmed Maresciallo Guardia Di Finanza. 50 Carabinieri reinforcements sent from PARI additional reinforcements from LEOCC and TARANTO. Disturbances involved robbery of premises. You will be kept advised of any further developments.

DIST

ACTION: Pub Safety
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
CA Sec
File 2
Float

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

see M 214-425

REC'D
COMMUNICATIONS
SECTION

RESTRICTED

591

- 2 -

(HAS ALLEGATIONS)

IC : 454 444

RESTRICTED

1212
MAR 23 1945

D/5897
MAR 23 1015A
ROUTINE

TO : AC BARI

MAR 24 1945

FROM : AC HOME PUBLIC SAFETY RECOMMISSION INFO AC SOUTHERN REGION PUBLIC SAFETY

RESTRICTED.

Reference MINERINO incident on March 18th. During a religious procession disturbances necessitated intervention of CC RR. Whilst restoring order 1 CC RR was shot dead. Later on the same evening shots were fired on officers of local British unit. No Army personnel hurt. CC RR reinforcements from BAHLETTA and BARI arrived during 18th night. Order reestablished by 19th. No further disturbances. Local SA Sub Area satisfied that all is returned to normal. No further action needed.

DISC

ACTION: P. Safety S/O
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
CA Sec
File & Float 3

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

File 7.10
9.8.11

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Reference MINWIKING incident on March 18th. During a religious procession disturbances necessitated intervention of CC ER. Whilst restoring order 1 CC RN was shot dead. Later on the same evening shots were fired on officers of local British unit. No Army personnel hurt. CC ERs reinforcements from BARLSTTA and BARI arrived during 18th night. Order reestablished by 19th. No further disturbances. Local SA Sub Area satisfied that all is returned to normal. No further action needed.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DATE

ACTION: P. Safety E/C
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
CA Sec
File & Floet 3

RESTRICTED

RECEIVED
21 APR 1978
A.

File 7-10

9-8-11

24(3)

5910

(Car Nelson)

CONFIDENTIAL

10

3/1080

MAR 22/1536A

3/5759

MAR 23/0700

ROUTINE

From: ALCONA SOUTHERN REGION
 To: HQ ALCONA FOR ACTSP

MAR 22 1945

CONFIDENTIAL.

Reference incident reported vide this Hq signal number 11476 of 20 March 45.

Information now received from carabinieri command that on 18 March at 1830 at MINNEVINO MUNICI (BARI) civilians leaving cemetery formed procession and some demonstrators fired shots. 9 Allied Military intervened. Armed civilian was searched and 3 others also armed came to assistance but were interrupted by carabinieri who gave chase. Running fight ensued during which 1 carabinieri (not 3 previously reported) was mortally wounded. No arrest to date in connection with death. Carabinieri consider position not yet normal.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DIST	
ACTION	2
INFO	2
A/RESIDENT	
CHIEF COMMISSIONER	
BY COM	
BY 3RD	
BY 2	
FLOAT	

5905

CONFIDENTIAL.

Reference incident reported vide this Hq signal number 11476 of

20 March 45.

Information now received from carabinieri command that on 18 March at 1830 at MINERVA GARRA (BARR) civilians leaving ceremony formed procession and some demonstrators fired shots. 9 killed Military intervened. Armed civilian was searched and 3 others also armed came to assistance but were interrupted by carabinieri who gave chase. Running fight ensued during which 1 carabinieri (not 3 previously reported) was mortally wounded. No arrest to date in connection with death. Carabinieri consider position not yet normal.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DIST

ACTION F BARRA 3/0 2

INFO

A/PRESIDENT

CHIEF COMMISSIONER

EX COMM

CA SEC

FILE 2

WLOAT

3900



CONFIDENTIAL

785017

3631 A
CONFIDENTIAL

Free Comm

00953
MARCH 19/1940

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

D/5466
MARCH 19/1940
ROUTINE

From: DISTRICT

TO: ACTION: AFH INFO: AFH (02-C1), ALCON, ALCON SOUTHERN REGION, SOHA

MAR 19 1940

CONFIDENTIAL.

1. Sh Area report shooting incidents during last 2/3 days at KINHVINH PROV.
0379. Last night Carabinieri escorting party Brit offrs through town suffered casualties 3 killed several wounded. No Brit casualties. Brit offrs had previously been fired upon.
2. Further trouble considered likely. 50 COM and F/S Sjt proceeding to KINHVINH immediately.
3. CC 2 CDO TBS WINE satisfied that unit can assume full responsibility for own protection but unable continue TBS at present.
4. Further details awaited.

REMIT

INFO-ACTION : PUBLIC SAFETY SC

INFO : A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FREE COMMISSIONER
CA SECTION
FILE (2)
FLAT

See Mail 8 + 9

CONFIDENTIAL

17/16/917-5908
RA 11/23/3

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
APO 394

R/1283

15 December 1944

17 DEC 1944

SUBJECT: Disturbances at BITONTO.

TO: Headquarters, Allied Commission.
(For the attention of the Chief of Staff).

1. With reference to your inquiries in respect of the past disturbances at BITONTO, we have now received a complete mimeographed report from Major HARE, addressed to Lt. Col. ORPWOOD, copy sent to Colonel YOUNG. A complete record is therefore now in the hands of Public Safety Division, HQ Allied Commission.

JRD/jh

The situation is now quiet
J. K. DUNLOP,
Brigadier,
Regional Commissioner.

6 Replied



3618
CONFIDENTIAL

SR/685
DEC 081350

0/3234
DEC 081355
PRIORITY

From: AICOM SOUTHERN REGION

To: HQ AICOM

-8 DEC 1944



WHERE?
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Non So

CONFIDENTIAL.

Minor disturbances at BITONTO 2 and 3 December associated with search for Pilfered
and resulting 2 British GI wounded 1 civilian killed & civilians wounded. Reinforcements
of British troops and CO 1st have been sent and situation is now in hand. Zone Commissioner
has paid personal visit and is submitting further report

DIST

ACTION PUB SAFETY (P)
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
C-6
C A REC
FILE

See Munt 1-5

CONFIDENTIAL

5906

11/20/12

0714