

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/964

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

785017

10000/109/964

RUSSIAN LABOUR DELEGATION
OCT., NOV. 1944

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Liaison Division
Office of Chief of Staff

Tel: No. 478001

14 November 1944

Ref: 3205/15/COS

SUBJECT: Soviet Labour Delegation

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

Telephone conversation : Lt Col Brown- Lt Col Jackson on
12 November, and Capt Lord Ranfurly - Lt Col Jackson on 13 November.

In the above conversations AFHQ, G-5 Section, instructed
the Liaison Division that travel orders were to be published immedi-
ately for the Soviet Labour Delegation to proceed to Naples, Cairo,
Tehran and Moscow. All regulations were, therefore, waived, and the
Adjutant published the necessary orders, and tickets were obtained from
MATS for their departure on 14 November.

Ranfurly Capt.

LORD RANFURLY
Captain

Why?

NY 6/1/45

~~See 14, 15, 16~~

See Shipp to see

See 2804 *Sh*

Sh

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION

AFD 394

5205/605

File - 108

*Liaison Division
(Lt Col Brown)*

39

12 November 1944

16

Adj/ 300.4

SUBJECT: Travel Orders

TO : All concerned

1. The following named Russian officials of the Soviet Trade Union Delegation, having completed their assigned mission this Headquarters will return to proper station, Moscow, Russia, via Teheran and Cairo, on or about 14 November 1944:

Mr. Michail Petrovic Tarasov
Mr. Vasili Dementievic Aksenov
Mr. Piotr Vasilievic Shuvleev
Mr. Dimitri Petrovic Shvliagin

2. Travel by military aircraft and/or any other available transport is authorized.

3. Authority: Transmitted by telephone conversation from Lt Col JACKMAN, G-5, AFHQ to Lt Col BROWN, Liaison Officer, this Headquarters, on 12 November 1944.

By command of Commodore STONE:

Nicholas Lombino
NICHOLAS LOMBINO
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

DISTRIBUTION:

2 - As Official record
1 - Dispatch (ATO)
1 - G-5, AFHQ
1 - Liaison Div
1 - Labor Sub-Com
2 - Files

see 15

3
2903

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS OF THE
SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

File - Cos.

15

11th of November, 1944

SUBJECT: Departure of the members of the Soviet Trade Union
Delegation to Teheran.

To : Lt.Col. Enoch Brown, Liaison Officer AC

14

In reference to my letter of the 10th of November I
communicate that the members of the Soviet Trade Union
Delegation will have to proceed to Teheran on the 14th of
November 1944 instead of the 13th of November.

Kindly take the necessary steps to ensure the tickets
for a British plane and priority II.

The four members of the Delegation will each carry
25 kilograms of luggage plus in all 50 kilograms of
official materials.

With Thanks

Susloparov

IVAN SUSLOPAROV

Major General R.A. USSR

3962

*Maj Scicluna - promised
to call me this afternoon
but didn't* *EB*

File

HEADQUARTERS OF THE
SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

38
14

10th November, 1944.

SUBJECT: Travel Orders & Tickets for air transportation of the
members of the Soviet Trade Union Delegation to Teheran.

TO : Lt.Col.Enoch Brown, Liaison Officer, AC.

It is hereby kindly requested that the travel orders and
tickets for air transportation for 14th of November 1944 be
prepared for the following four members of the Soviet Trade
Union Delegation: Mr. TARASOV, Mr. AKSENOV, Mr. SHUVLECEV and
Mr. SHEVLIAGIN.

The above mentioned persons have to proceed to Teheran by
a British plane.

The payment for the tickets will be made in cash. They will
carry personal luggage.

With Thanks *Susloparov*

IVAN SUSLOPAROV

Major General R.A.USSR.

MTA
Freedom 541

*This was referred
to Maj Auduna 2901
Lohn S/c 10 Nov 44
GB*

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED COMMISSION
Liaison Division
Office of Chief of Staff
APO 394

Ref: 5205/13/003

26 October 1944

SUBJECT: Visit of Soviet Labour Delegation

TO: AFHQ G - 5 Section

Ref our 5205/6/003 of 16 Oct.

1. Further details regarding the tour of the Soviet Labour Delegation are as follows:

Oct 24 - 25 At Messina
Oct 26 - 27 At Agrigento
Oct 28 Leave Agrigento by special plane for Cagliari
(Sardinia)
Oct 31 Leave Cagliari for Rome

For the Chief Commissioner

STROGH BROWN
Lt. Col.

2830

12/11

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

JRE/rw

25 October 1944

GBL.4472

SUBJECT: Soviet Labor Delegation

TO : Economic Section

Further details regarding the tour of
the Soviet Labor Delegation are as follows:

At Messina	October 24 - 25;
At Agrigento	October 26 - 27;
Lv. Agrigento for Cagliari, Sardinia, by special plane	October 28;
Lv. Cagliari for Rome by plane,	October 31.

Junius R. Smith
JUNIUS R. SMITH
Colonel, GMC
Acting Director
Labor Sub-Commission

Copies to:

Brigadier Lush
Liaison Section ✓
G-5 AFHQ

2899

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

15 October 1944

Ref Lab. 4472

SUBJECT: Soviet Labor Delegation Tour.

17 OCT Recd

TO: A/Director Labor Sub-Commission.

FROM: Major E. Scicluna, Labor Relations Officer

1. In connection with above subject, refer copy of my letter to Provincial Commissioner, Taranto, dated 13 October, and my previous report dated 7 October, 1944.

2. According to your instructions to summarize our conversation of even date in an aide-memoire, I am herewith outlining the highlights of my observations during the present tour. I am expressing certain opinions with the reservation that future experience only can afford the opportunity of testing them fully.

3. The tour has, to my mind, been organized with a view to furthering the spread of Soviet ideals and creating a spirit of confidence and respect for Soviet Russia rather than as an opportunity for the Soviet delegates to see the conditions of the working classes and to study the trade union organization in liberated Italy. This is confirmed by the fact that the absence of Lizzadri in Naples has been the occasion for this demagogic tactic to be adopted not only by the delegates themselves, but more particularly by Di Vittorio. Colassanti (representing Grandi), joined the party at Naples, but he is treated as a "necessary impedimentum", a cumbersome adjunct that can be ignored when present and that can be discarded if and when opportunity presents itself. Colassanti is not informed and certainly never consulted over the question of the delegation's plans or activities. He was forgotten (deliberately, I dare say, by the circumstances in which it occurred) at Foggia, and if he succeeded to re-join the party it was only because he managed to hitch-hike his way to the next stop. He was again ditched at Manfredonia, when I went back to pick him up.

4. Special meetings have generally been arranged in advance by the Provincial Secretary of the Communist Party, and undoubtedly by prior order of Di Vittorio. Speeches delivered in the various places vary in their content according to the locality and the directives given by the Provincial Secretary. At Naples, for example, addresses were more guarded and certainly not full of invective and provocation of class hatred. Outside of Naples, on the other hand, in the smaller centers, the addresses of Di Vittorio have been more directly aimed at Communist propaganda and though the message is substantially the same, the form changes as occasion demands. This change of front, I suggest, is not unconnected with the

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fact that speeches received publicity in a place like Naples but not in the smaller towns, notwithstanding the presence throughout the tour of the Editor-Manager of "La Voce" which is published in Naples and circularized throughout the South.

5. The original plan of going direct to Bari and visiting towns from there was abandoned the moment we reached Naples. I was only advised on our departure from Naples that we were not headed for Bari but rather for Foggia, where we would sleep that night. Instead of reaching Bari on 10 October, we eventually got there on the night of Friday the 13th, having visited Lucera, San Severo, Serracapriola, Manfredonia, Cerignola, Canossa, Barletta, Andria and Ruvo. The whole tour had been planned when we left Rome, but I was not given access to this information and I was never told any more than just our current day's plan. It is significant that this period which appears as just BARI on the schedule coincides with (a) the period that Di Vittorio was expecting to be alone with the delegation, and (b) that part of Southern Italy which has always been a hot-bed of Communism, particularly notorious being San Severo and Cerignola, which is the birth-place of Di Vittorio.

6. The delegation is accompanied by the Editor of "La Voce" (ostensibly an organ of workmen's organizations but run by a warm Communist) but the provincial Secretary of the Communist Party (change of guard takes place as we cross over from one province to another), and by the provincial Secretary of "Camera del Lavoro", who so far has always turned out to be a Communist.

7. On our arrival the crowd is generally waiting at the entrance of the village, sometimes with a band of musicians, invariably with a number of Soviet flags, and sometimes exclusively that flag and no other. The singing of "Bandiera Rossa" is the order of the day. I have had occasion to notice that the Communist Party is regimented in all these places, organized in squads, catering for a woman's section and a juvenile section. In Andria the procession was organized in some form of squads, judging by the orders given by the organizer as soon as the cortege went out of alignment as the crowds surged around them. Red shirts, red symbols of all sorts and Soviet labor badges were in great evidence amongst the cheering crowd, particularly everywhere between Foggia and Bari.

8. I am excluded from attending any of the sessions held in the Camera del Lavoro, but I am led to believe that Di Vittorio makes it a point of preaching complete sabotage of the Labor Offices, as well as direct action and agitation as the best means of achieving the economic and political aspirations of the working classes. When it was pointed out that ACC was still supporting the Labor Offices (Regional and provincial Labor Offices set up by AMG and recognized by the Italian Government), that these offices were responsible for compiling the lists of persons entitled to workmen's benefits, and when mention was made that there have been occasions when agitators were threatened with imprisonment, Di Vittorio's answer was as follows:

2897

- 3 -

"(1) The Labor Offices must be ignored and all their activities must be taken over by the Camera del Lavoro;

(2) The Confederation of Labor would find some other means of establishing the rights of individual workmen to get their due benefits;

(3) There was no reason why one should not face imprisonment — we have all gone through it — but if and when you are faced with the predicament, just ask the prefect to give you an interview and remind him that it is quite all right for you to be put in jail while he is powerful enough to do so, — later when we are powerful we shall put him in jail for a change."

9. On October 19 Lizzadri is likely to rejoin the party and I dare say this open Communist momentum will have to be slowed down. The last meeting to be arranged without Lizzadri is scheduled at Taranto — so I expect FOTALI may have something to say about it. Colassanti was planning to withdraw when Lizzadri arrives, but I expect he may change his mind in view of his experiences. In spite of his lack of forcefulness, Colassanti appears to be determined to bring the whole affair to the attention of Grandi. He considers that Di Vittorio and his party have unmasked themselves on this occasion but I doubt whether he has as yet realized that by unity of trade union organizations the Communist elements are meaning absorption and not fusion. In various addresses it has been made quite clear that the Camera del Lavoro is regarded as (a) the melting pot in which every political tendency will be unobtusively assimilated, and (b) the center from which action must spring in the attainment of immediate objectives.

E. SCIOLUNA,
Major,
ACC Labor Relations Officer,
O 1/c Soviet Labor Delegation Tour

2896

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

7 October 1944

SUBJECT: Tour Soviet Labor Delegation
TO: A/Director Labor Sub-Commission
FROM: Major E. Scicluna, O i/c of Tour

1. Information following is excerpted from report above referred to, as submitted by Major Scicluna on 7 October:

"...3. I saw Lt. Col. Jackman at Caserta and discussed the following points:

a. Military Escort. I gave Lt. Col. Jackman details about the initial misunderstanding respecting military escort for the tour and we discussed my future attitude during the tour. I submitted the itinerary and informed him of possible changes (with a view to curtailment) which the Delegation was intending to make.

b. Air Transportation Palermo-Sardegna, Sardegna-Rome. He is putting the matter up for a special plane in order to facilitate curtailment of tour's duration."

"...4. I brought Col. Temperley into the picture with reference to the circumstance in which the Soviet Delegation is travelling in Southern Italy. I made arrangements with Col. Temperley for:

- a. Hotel accommodation at Bari.
- b. An officer or a trusted nominee of provincial Commissioner (Bari) to take over from me during my absence from Bari, when reporting to Rome as intended.
- c. The Head of the Delegation to pay him an official visit.
- d. A further conference tomorrow in order to issue orders for Hotel accommodation at Cosenza and Reggio.

5. On arrival yesterday, the Delegation went to a press conference (where a number of local workmen's representatives were also present) at the offices of the newspaper "Voce".

2895

- 2 -

"To-day the Delegation paid a visit to:

- a. the port (without military escort), all arrangements having been made by the Camera del Lavoro. They addressed a number of workmen (approx 300);
- b. visited a steel factory, where they addressed the workmen (over 1000);
- c. visited a small Cotton Industry;
- d. were received at the Communist Party Headquarters and
- e. held a conference with labor leaders of the Camera del Lavoro.

I personally did not attend any of these engagements as I was neither notified nor invited. They continue to be very courteous, but evasive and reticent thus maneuvering me into a position of 'splendid isolation'. I have not considered it opportune to force myself on to them, but I may have to alter my attitude if they do not respond better to my present methods. So far I have been relying on second hand information in order to keep track of their activities. I gather that at 1000 hrs tomorrow they are holding a mass meeting at the Teatro Politeama. I will be attending this public meeting, unless I have trouble over my lost car in which case I have made arrangements to obtain a report on the meeting.

6. Di Vittorio and Lizzadri (but not Grandi) are escorting the Delegation. The latter will be returning to Rome on Tuesday 10th Oct and he has had occasion to remark to me this evening that soon 'it will be an All-Communist picnic for a while'. He will not re-join the Delegation until the 19th Oct, but in order to preserve some 'balance of power' he is trying to work in Colassanti (Gen Sec of the Demo Christian Labor organizations in Naples), as a nominee of Grandi."

"...8. May I suggest that AOC HQ inform FOTALI of the Russian Delegates' visit to Taranto. I am not in a position to state when this visit is likely to be arranged during the Bari sojourn but I believe that Oct 19 and 20 are being devoted to Matera and Potenza and Oct 15 to Bari, so that the Taranto visit should be some time between Oct 12 and Oct 14 or Oct 16 and Oct 18. I think it essential to inform FOTALI not only in view of their protest over the Anglo-American Delegation but also because I find (to my surprise) that the Soviet Delegation was able to enter the port area on a visit, without any military escort. I am still not in a position to say whether proper permit had been obtained from R.B.S. I will be able to inform you of this later."

Junius R. Smith
Junius R. Smith,
Colonel, QMC
Acting Director,
Labor Sub-Commission.

2894

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CIC
Office of the Chief of Staff
+++++

Ref: 5205/6/COS.

16 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Visit of Soviet Labour Delegation.

TO : AFHQ, G-5 Section.

A revised itinerary for the Soviet Labour Delegation
is attached, which replaces the previous itinerary.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner.

R
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

C/P 2893

5205.

ALLIED COMBAT COMMAND
SOUTHERN REGION
BARI-FOUR

Chief of Staff
HQ. ACC

CONFIDENTIAL

13 Oct 44

SUBJECT : Soviet Labour Delegation Tour

TO : Provincial Commissioner - Taranto

FROM : Maj. E. Scicluna ACC Labour Relations Officer
O i/c Soviet Delegation Tour.

16 OCT Recd

Ref. above subject.

1. The Soviet Labour Delegation touring the South of Italy are accompanied by the Hon. Di Vittorio, Communist Joint Secretary of the Confederazione Generale del Lavoro. Ostensibly the Delegation's objectives are (a) to study the conditions of the Italian workmen and the organization of Trade Unions in Italy (b) to deliver a message of good will from the people of Soviet Russia (c) to inform the Italian people of the barbarous way in which the Nazi have wage war unsuccessfully in Russia.

2. The Delegation's activities are completely in the hands of Di Vittorio and the original schedule worked out in Rome has been elaborated considerably. I am not being duly posted with regards to the innovations and I glean my information from casual remarks and tactful questions at the opportune moment. I have reasons to believe that the programme for the next few days is as follows:-

Oct 15th Sunday Mass meeting at a Bari Theatre
" 16th Monday Visit of some important factories in Bari
" 17th Tuesday Visit to Brindisi and Lecce
" 18th Wednesday Visit to Taranto

In all probability Thursday 19th Oct and Friday 20th Oct will be devoted to Potenza and Matera area. I expect we shall be in Cosenza for a Mass Meeting on Sunday 22nd Oct. We are due at Reggio on Monday 23rd Oct for a meeting there, crossing to Messina on Tuesday 24th Oct.

3. Judging from experiences in the past week, the visit is likely to take a political turn with subtle Communist propaganda being put across by the Soviet Delegates and a more obvious attempt by Di Vittorio. The trend of their addresses have so far been as follows :-

(1) The Russians explain that they were being living peacefully in their own homes, having achieved an economic well-being for all which was unprecedented. The Nazi attacked the peace-loving Russians in order to enslave them and deprive them of their national wealth but as "one man" the Russian people rallied round Stalin and soon gave the Nazi to understand that their forecasted walk-over in Russia was not coming off. ~~This~~ Russian unity behind the Red Army has been the salvation of Russia. The Russian workmen want to

785017

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(11) Di Vittorio generally opens up by welcoming the Soviet Lab^r representatives, Ambassadors of the people who first succeeded in breaking all chains and in tracing out the real road to progress for other peoples. Italy has been plunged into an anti-national war and has suffered destruction the working classes will have to reconstruct it, materially and spiritually, and return it to the democratic fold. The Democracy which we will set up must not be that of pre-fascist Italy. It must be an Italy built by the people for the people. No real democracy can exist as long as tens of thousands of acres of land are centred in the hands of the few while there are hundreds of thousands of persons who do not have enough land in which to bury themselves. Unity of organisation of all workmen (intellectual and manual) has been achieved through the Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro. We have seen the first victories viz:-

- (a) An extraordinary indemnity of High cost of living will be paid to all wage earners with effect from 15th Aug.
- (b) A decree has been recently promulgated whereby farmers who have no land will have the right of moving in on any uncultivated or badly cultivated land;
- (c) We have advanced the plea that the present allotment of half the produce to the land-owner (who makes no contribution on work or in expence towards cultivation) is revolting and that the allocation should be two-thirds to the farmer and one-third (which is already too much!) to the land-owner. While we have had no definite answer from the Government over this rightful claim, we shall not rest until this objective is gained. These successes do not solve the economic problems of the masses but they are only a beginning. Our final aim is that the land be wrested from the hands of the big land owners in order that it might be given to the farmer. Other tasks before us are (a) to ascertain that all fascists be ousted from the National life and that they should be punished for their past activities (b) to eliminate from national life the big land-owner and big financier both of whom were responsible for the Fascist Regime; (c) to lend every support to the Partisans, who are fighting alongside the allies, in order to bring to an early end this unjust war.

4. ~~ITALI~~ should be informed of the contents of this letter, especially in view of the fact that on the occasion of the Anglo American Labour Delegation's Tour a protest was registered ~~2851~~ no information had reached them of the visit to Taranto.

5. The policy outlined at ACC HQ is that the Soviet Delegation's activities could not be curtailed in view of their official presence in Italy with the approval of AF HQ. Instructions have however been issued by ACC HQ and again by HQ Southern Region that mass meetings should not be allowed at such times as would interfere with the normal working hours of essential services.

Esilwa way

Esilwa way, Major

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4. ~~To~~ He should be informed of the contents of this letter, especially in view of the fact that on the occasion of the Anglo American Labour Delegation's Tour a protest was registered 2894 no information had reached them of the visit to Taranto.

5. The policy outlined at ACC HQ is that the Soviet Delegation's activities could not be curtailed in view of their official presence in Italy with the approval of AF HQ. Instructions have however been issued by ACC HQ and again by HQ Southern Region that mass meetings should not be allowed at such times as would interfere with the normal working hours of essential services.

Edwards way

R. SCICENZA, Major
Labour Relation Officer A.C.C.
O I/c Soviet Labour Delegation Tour.

Copy to:- Director Labor Sub-Commission
Chief of Staff A.C.C.
Commissioner H.Q. Southern Region

785017

C. P. Brown *File 3*

ITINERARY FOR SOVIET LABOUR DELEGATION

(This itinerary replaces the one prepared in Rome on 3 Oct 44)

Oct. 6th	Frid.	d. Rome ar. Naples		
"	7th Sat.	NAPLES	<u>Hotel Accommodation required as follows:</u>	
"	8th Sund	"		
"	9th Mon.	"		
"	10th Tues.	d. Naples ar. Foggia d. Foggia ar. Bari	Reg. Comm. Southern Region	Oct 6th to Oct 9th NAPLES Oct 10th to Oct 20th BARI Oct 21st to Oct 22nd Cosenza Oct 23rd at Reggio
"	11th Wed.	BARI	Reg. Comm. Sicily	Oct 24th at Messina Oct 25th at Agrigento Oct 26th to Oct 27th Palermo
"	12th Thurs.	"	Reg. Comm. Sardinia	Oct 28th to Oct 30th Cagliari
"	13th Frid.	"		
"	14th Sat.	"		
"	15th Sun.	"		
"	16th Mon.	"		
"	17th Tues.	"		
"	18th Wed.	"		
"	19th Thurs.	"		
"	20th Frid.	"		
"	21st Sat.	d. Bari ar. Cosenza		
"	22nd Sun.	Cosenza		
"	23rd Mon.	d. Cosenza ar. Reggio		
"	24th Tues.	d. Reggio ar. Messina		
"	25th Wed.	d. Messina ar. Agrigento		
"	26th Thurs.	d. Agrigento ar. Palermo		
"	27th Frid.	PALERMO		
"	28th Sat.	d. Palermo ar. Sardinia		
"	29th Sun.	SARDINIA		
"	30th Mon.	"		
"	31st Tues.	d. Sardinia ar. Rome		

2890

785017

Acting Chief Commissioner.

801.
cos.
6th October, 1944.
pre-folio 1
FILE 2
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1. Trouble arose over the Soviet Labour Delegation who last night told Colonel Smith that they insisted on proceeding on a five weeks tour in Italian cars and without a conducting officer. I brought General Susloparov into the matter and have hounded out. They will now proceed in the cars provided for them by AFHQ with a conducting officer, Major Scicluna.

2. Although General Susloparov tried to make light of the matter there is no doubt that the delegation has been obstructive and intransigent.

M. S. LUSH 2889

MSL/JG.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.
RA

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
A-0 394

5 October 1944

SUBJECT: Itinerary of Soviet Labor Delegation

TO : His Excellency, the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Labor

Sir:

As you are aware, the Soviet Labor Delegation, after a two-week stay in Rome, is planning to leave tomorrow morning, 6 October 1944, for an extended trip of four or five weeks, covering such points as Naples, Foggia, Bari, Cosenza, Reggio, Messina, Catania, Agrigento, Palermo and Sardinia.

We are informed that Messrs. DiVittorio, Grandi and Lizzadri, of the C.G.I.L. will accompany this Delegation, singly or in a body.

It is desired to learn what is the position of your Government with respect to the free movements of the Delegation in territory now administered by the Italian Government, as well as your views regarding the designation of the three Secretaries of the C.G.I.L. as additional members of this party.

Very truly yours,

Junius R. Smith
Junius R. Smith
Colonel, Q.M.C.
Acting Director,
Labor Sub-Commission

O.K. Smith

2888

