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

ACC

10000/109/969

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

10000/109/969

STRIKE, BARI
JAN. - AUG. 1945

(40)

AUG 3 REC'D 1035

Chief Commissioner.

P34 Attached is submitted for your signature/information/approval.

I regret the breach occur in procedure. Please see (41)

38.

Noted by CC

NV/3/8

Explanation

43

For your info. please see folio 41

CAB 16/8

19/8 Noted. J.

3169

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

35

6A0

Further reference to min 33 - talked to Econ Sect who inform me that H. Govt have not yet reached a definite decision as no Min of Finance has been appointed. The strike scheduled for Thursday (according to Econ Sect) has been postponed to Aug 15th. The Stat Govt is being pressed for a decision & it is felt that one will be forthcoming very soon & perhaps even before new Min of Fin is appointed. Issue follow up.

ABR 30/7

Still keep going please

SE 30/7

37

C.S.O. Executive Commissioner.

Please refer to folio 34A. The C.C. wishes to know what reply was made to Paris. The reply is on folio 36. Your attention is also invited to signal on folio 34 by which it was ~~arranged~~ confirmed that arrangements had been made to provide project with 12 trucks.

ABR 31/7

39

Ex Comm

3168

1. On 34A C.C. asked to see the reply to Paris. The reply is at 36 and 34 confirms that Project will get 12 trucks.

2. At 38 is a letter to Econ Sect

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

a reason & it - felt that one will be forthcoming very soon & perhaps even before new Min of Fin is appointed. Have fallen up.

ABD 30/7

Still keep pressing please

S.F. 30/7.

37

C.S.O. Executive Commissioner.

Please refer to folio 34A. The C.C. wishes to know what reply was made to Paris. The reply is on folio 36. Your attention is also invited to signal on folio 34 by which it was ~~arranged~~ confirmed that arrangements had been made to provide project with 12 trucks.

ABD 31/7

39

Ex Comm

3168

1. On 34A C.C. asked to see the reply to Paris. The reply is at 36 and 34 confirms that Project will get 12 trucks.
2. At 38 is a letter to Scandect pointing out the incorrect procedure at 36

S.F. 1/8.

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

25

CSO: for COS to see D/O Letter (folio 24) for info. JCR 8/2

26

COS

See 24 pl. ASST CAO
agree with form last
sentence of 22

JF 8/2. Good MS 8/2

27.

Note: Labor S/C notified by phone of info. in folio 24. JCR 9/2

31

Sec Cmd
Cds

For info - folio 30.

JF. ABD 25/7/45

32.

30 seen by G.G & R.G.

JS 27/7.

3167

33

CSO

To date the following is position with ref. to Strike at Bari:—

1. L/S/C has taken matter up with C.S.L.
2. C.S.L. has " " " " Pres. of Camera del Lavoro at Bari who undertook to keep workers on job until their complaints were heard & a decision taken.

[illegible] meeting of Council

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

agree with you last
sentence of 22

Good
S 8/2. MS/8/2.

27.

Note: Labor S/C notified by phone of info. in folio 24. JCP 9/2

31

Secure
Cds

Info - folio 30.

143.

S. CBB 28/7/45

32.

30 seen by C.C & E.C.

S. 27/7. 3167

33

C.S.O

To date the following is position with ref. to Strike at Bari: —

1. S/S/C has taken matter up with C.S.L.
2. C.S.L. has " " " Pres. of Camera del Lavoro at Bari who undertook to keep workers on job until their complaints were heard & a decision taken.
3. Matter was discussed last night 27/7 at meeting of Council of Ministers & Labor S/C is waiting to hear results of this meeting.

CBB 28/7/45

Keep going!
S. 28/7

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

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

12

Major Reidy.

The delegation arrived in Rome on Sunday last but have not contacted either AC or the Italian Ministry of Labour but only C.G.L. Labour S/C are preparing an interim report on this for Econ Sect to send to G.S. Please see we get a copy. I have telephoned G.S. Lt Col Tuckman on this matter.

G. 19/1

13.

CSO: Labor S.C. letter is awaiting signature now and copy will be sent to COS. JCB 20/1

G. 20/1

19.

COS: Mr. Braine's report is submitted. folios 17-18. JCK 21/1.

3166

(20)

Chief Commissioner.

CC 191 REC'D JAN 23

P18/ Attached is submitted for your information/signature/approval.

A poor effort in intelligence (in both interpretations)

[illegible] Sub Com. I will correct [illegible]

contacted either AC or the
Italian Ministry of Labour but
only C.G.L. Labour S/c
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report on this for Sub Sect to
send to G.S. Please see
we get a copy. I have
telephoned G.S. to Col Tuckman
on this matter.

G. 19/1

13.

CSO: Labour S.C. letter is awaiting signature now and copy will be sent to COS. 20/1

SH 20/1

19.

COS: Mr. Braine's report is submitted. folios 17-18. 21/1

3166

(20)

Chief Commissioner.

CC 171 REC'D JAN 23

P18/ Attached is submitted for your information/signature/approval.

A poor effort in intelligence (in both interpretations) on part of Labour Sub Com. I will correct (& I hope Mr Brayne will help)

23/1 I concur with first sentence TDS/23/1 → CC TDS/23/1

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

(4)

8 Jan 45. C.O.S.

Reference 1, 2 and 3 opposite, I spoke to you about this yesterday. This paper arrived at 5.30 this evening, and two copies were immediately sent up to Economic and Civil Affairs Section.

Brig. DUNLOP had already primed both Brig. UPJOHN and Col. DENNIGNE on these points yesterday, and I suggest that the matter is discussed at tomorrow's conference.

Lt.Col.
C.S.O.

(5)

C. F.A.

Have you any matutiral comments MS/9/1/45

(6)

10 Jan 45. C.S.O.

Ref. 1,2,3 Col. GRATTEY-SMITH says the matter has been passed to Labour Sub Commission, who have held several meetings on the subject.

M. Thank you. Please follow up. 10/1.

(7)

10 Jan 45. C.S.O.

Received the following comments from Col. J.R. SMITH, Labour Sub Commission:

He is keeping in constant touch with BARI to find out when the Delegation is expected to arrive in ROME. The Italian Government has been requested by the Economic Section that A.C. participate in the discussions between the Government and the delegation.

Brigadier WAGHORN, Director of Military Railway Service, called on Col. SMITH this afternoon, and expressed his concern about the part the railway workers might take in this development, and has also asked to be allowed to participate in the discussions inasmuch as any stoppage in railway transportation may seriously affect the war effort.

10.

11 Jan 45. C.O.S. Ref.9.

The commission representing the Government employees who wish to strike at BARI is due today according to Brigadier DUNLOP.

Copies have been sent of his letter together with the points agreed on at their meeting to C.A.S. and Economic Section. Both these Sections have been warned, and I know that Labour Sub Commission have been having meetings with the Italian Minister of Labour.

I do not think any further action is necessary, but you might wish to raise the subject at tomorrow's C.O.S. meeting.

Lt.Col.
C.S.O.

C.O.S. meeting MS/11

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

C.F.A.

Lt.Col.
C.S.C.

Have you any matutinal comments MS/9/1/45.

(6)

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M. Thank you. Please follow up. 10/1.

(7)

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I do not think any further action is necessary, but you might wish to raise the subject at tomorrow's C.O.S. meeting.

Lt.Col.
C.S.C.

C.O.S. MS/14/1
meeting

11

Chief Commissioner.

Attached is submitted for your information/signature/approval.

Econ Sec, Labour Sub Com & H. Gov. have the matter in hand

Noted MS/13/1

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

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

5209

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION

PF/00

AUG 16 1945

TEL : Ext. 493

14 August 1945.

REF : LSC/222.

SUBJECT : Threatened Strike of Railway Workers in Bari.

TO : Vice President, Economic Section.

1. Reference LSC/222 of 31 July 1945.

2. Following the decision of the Italian Government to authorize the payment of a Liberation bonus of 3,000 lire to State and Para-Statal employees, it has been ascertained from the Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro that the strike of railway workers which was threatened to take place on the 15 August 1945 has now been called off.

DAVID C. SACHS
Deputy-Director
Labour Sub-Commission.

Copy to: Executive Commissioner,
Transportation Sub-Comm.,
Lt.Col. L.C. Pannell,
MRS. (TN.- F. British Finance)

316 M.43.
see

(Chief Archivist)

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

5209/8

(41)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION

FF 66

TEL. : 489081 - 493

31 July 1945.

REF. : LSC/222.

AUG 1 1945

SUBJECT: Threatened Strike of Railway Workers in Bari.

TO : Vice President, Economic Section.

(30)

1. Reference LSC/222 of 24th July 1945.

2. It is understood that the general question of the rates of wages payable to railway workers, and also the question of the grant of an "anticipo" to the workers in Bari pending the solution of the problem of the authorisation of a Liberation bonus, was considered at the meetings of the Council of Ministers held in Rome on Friday and Saturday last, the 27th and 28th July 1945.

3. It was resolved that full consideration of these matters cannot be accorded until such time as a new Minister of the Treasury was appointed.

4. The position at Bari is that the strike which was threatened to take place on the 27th July was averted, but a further strike is now scheduled to take place on the 15th August if no remedial action is taken by the Government in the meantime.

W.H. Braine

W.H. BRAINE
Director
Labour Sub-Commission

Copy to: Executive Commissioner,
Transportation Sub-Comm.,
Major G.H.B. Davis
MRS. (TN.- F. British Finance)

See 31103

(Capt Hinchley)

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

38

Ref: 5000/30/02. 2 Aug 45.

Subject: Correspondence with Italian Government.

To: VP, Economic Section.

36

Your attention is drawn to letter AG/300/65/DS of 30 July 45 from the Chief of the Needs Division, Transportation Sub-Commission to Professor Ford.

Letters on routine matters to the President of the Council of Ministers and other Ministers of the Italian Government may be prepared for the signature of the Vice President and, at his discretion, may be signed by Directors of Sub-Commissions on his behalf. In no circumstances are letters to be sent to Italian Ministers over the signature of Junior officers of Sub-Commissions.

I shall be glad if you will take the necessary action to ensure that the above procedure is strictly adhered to in future.

For Chief Commissioner:

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

3102

copy to file 212/EC

PA 7/8

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

5209

36

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION

GF/op

30 July 1945.

Ref: AC/100/85/Tn5

34A

My dear Professor Parri:

I have received your telegram reference number 21461N27353 dated 27 July 1945.

Our Senior Transportation Officer at Bari spoke to the Capo Compartimento of the Italian State Railways in Bari on 27 July requesting him to release 12 trucks to the Prefect for use in transporting Carabinieri. The Capo Compartimento agreed to provide the trucks and the Senior Transportation Officer informed the Prefect accordingly.

It was confirmed on the morning of 28 July with the Deputy Director General of the Italian State Railways in Rome, that provision of the 12 trucks was approved. The Prefect is now satisfied that adequate transportation has been put at his disposal.

It is hoped that these arrangements will enable the patrol service to be continued to your satisfaction.

Very truly yours,

G. C. GROSS Jr.
Chief,
Roads Division

Professor Ferruccio Parri,
The Minister of the Interior,
Rome.

cc: Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Economic Section
Civil Affairs Section
Public Safety
Transportation S/C (Tn1 and Tn5)

see M 39

3161

(CAPT ARNOLDY)

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

5209/8

34

MINISTER OF INTERIOR - ~~BARI~~ ROME

JUL 29 1945

2698 28 JULY 1945 ROUTINE

34A

IN CLEAR

PARA ONE PD REFERENCE YOUR SIGNAL TWO ONE FOUR SIX ONE NICHOLAS TWO SEVEN THREE FIVE THREE DATED TWENTY SEVEN JULY PD

PARAM TO MINISTER OF INTERIOR BARI FROM ALLIED ONE AFPT PARAM

PARA TWO PD ALLIED COMMISSION SENIOR TRANSPORTATION OFFICER AT BARI SPOKE TO GAPO COMPARTIMENTI OF ITALIAN STATE RAILWAYS IN BARI ON TWENTY SEVEN JULY REQUESTING HIM TO RELEASE TWELVE TRUCKS TO THE PROPOST FOR USE IN THE TRANSPORT OF CARABINIERI PD THE GAPO COMPARTIMENTI AGREED TO DO SO AND THE SENIOR TRANSPORTATION OFFICER INFORMED THE PROVOST ACCORDINGLY PD IT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED THIS MORNING WITH THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE ITALIAN STATE RAILWAYS IN ROME THAT THE REQUISITION OF THESE TWELVE TRUCKS IS APPROVED PD THE PROVOST IS NOW SATISFIED THAT ADEQUATE TRANSPORT HAS BEEN PUT AT HIS DISPOSAL PD

PARA THREE PD IT IS HOPED THAT THESE ARRANGEMENTS WILL ENABLE THE PATROL SERVICE TO BE CONTINUED TO YOUR SATISFACTION PD

COPY TO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER
ECONOMIC SECTION
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PUBLIC HEALTH
TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION (TR1 and TR3)
TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMM/
Plans Div.

3460

SSS

NICHOLAS FIGUERINO
CAO USA
ADJUT/ ADMINST/

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

COPY

21461 N 27353

JULY 27

F/1467

JULY 2 71045

ROUTINE

34A

ROME

CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF ALLIED COMMISSION ROME

IN CLEAR

THE PREFECT OF BARI INFORMS THAT SINCE THE 23TH LAST, THE WELL KNOWN PATROL SERVICE HAS NOT BEEN CARRIED OUT DUE TO INEFFICIENCY OF THE MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION. HE ALSO INFORMS THAT HE HAS REQUESTED THE LOCAL ALLIED AUTHORITIES FOR THE ALLOTMENT OF SOME OF THE VEHICLES TURNED OVER TO THE SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAYS. IN ORDER THAT THE CONTINUANCE OF THIS IMPORTANT SERVICE BE ASSURED AND THE REPRESSION OF THE COUNTRY DELINQUENCY BE SUCCESSFULLY ATTAINED, IT IS BEGGED THAT YOU HELP THE PREFECT IN HIS REQUEST. WE THANK YOU.

THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR -- PARRI

DIST

JUL 3 0 RECD

Chief Commissioner.

Attached is submitted for your signature/information/approval.

3159

See Min 40.41

MR 30/7

May I see reply to Parri - Pls. EMS

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

5209 To. Executive Commissioner

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

FP/ab

TEL : 204 24 July 1945

REF : LSC/222 JUL 24 1945

SUBJECT: Threatened Strike of Railway Workers in Bari Area.

TO : Vice-President
Economic Section

1. Reference LSC/222 of todays date.

2. It is understood that Gott. La Malfa, Italian Minister of Labor reported the position in regard to the threatened strike of Railway Workers to the Council of Ministers at the Council meeting held at 17.30 hours on Monday 23 July 1945.

3. As the question of rates of wages payable to Railway Workers is one that affects the whole of Italy and cannot be dealt with in the light of the position at Bari alone. It is understood that it was decided that the matter should be considered by the Council of Ministers at the earliest opportunity, possibly at the next meeting on Friday next, the 27th July 1945.

4. In the meantime the headquarters representatives of the Confederazione Generale del Lavoro undertook to do what they could with the view to averting the threatened strike at Bari.

Econ Section
Report being sent up.
11/8 DLL B/U 13/8

A. H. BAILES
Director
Labor Sub-Commission

Copies to:
Executive Commissioner
Transportation S/C
Brig. R. D. Raghorn, R.E.
Maj. D.H.B. Davis, MRC (TWT - British Finance)

SEE FOLIO 41

Econ Section
Who will keep this
noted on file. DLL 10/8
B/U 11/8

Matter in hands
of Council of Ministers
Econ Trend internal situation
report DLL 10/8

3158

(Mr. Arnold)

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

5209. To: Executive Commr

(29)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

FP/ab

TEL : 204

24 July 1945

JUL 24 1945

REF : LSC/222

SUBJECT: Threatened Strike of Railway Workers in Bari Area.

TO : Vice-President
Economic Section

1. A representative of Labor Sub-Commission proceeded to Bari on 20 July 1945 in company of Ing. Palmerio of the Italian State Railways, to investigate and report on the labor unrest in that area and the threatened strike of Railway Workers. The position was discussed with officials of the Italian State Railways and representatives of the workers. The Labor Sub-Commission representative returned to Rome on 22 July 1945.

2. It is understood that Dott. La Malfa, Italian Minister of Transport, arranged to refer the matter to the Council of Ministers for discussion at the meeting to be held at 17.30 hours on Monday 23 July 1945.

SEE FOLIO 28

W. H. BRAINE
Director
Labor Sub-Commission

Copy to:
Executive Commissioner
Transportation S/C

SEE F.30

3157

(CHIEF PEOLOGY)

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

5221 & 5209

(28)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

Tel : Ext. 416 — 24 July 1945

Ref : LSC/208/222

SUBJECT : Labor Activity in Northern Italy. — JUL 24 1945

TO : Acting Vice-President
Economic Section

1. This is to inform you that, to assist in clarifying the labor situation in TRIESTE and VENZIA-GIULIA, Mr. David Sacks, Deputy Director, Labor Sub-Commission, proceeded by air to Trieste on 22 July 1945. As you are aware, the labor unrest in Trieste is of a political rather than of an industrial nature. However, Mr. Sachs will assist the Regional Labor Officer, Major Albright, in establishing the labor administrative machinery on a firm basis and will also advise on the social insurance measures.

2.. The threatened strike of Italian railway men at Bari, about which M.R.S., and A.F.H.Q., have been disturbed, was referred, to the Council of Ministers on 23 July by Minister La Malfa. On this question A.F.H.Q. and A.C. must proceed with caution since :

(a) The matter cannot be localized at Bari but must affect the entire Italian State Railway Service;

(b) Concessions to these grades of State employees will affect other grades of Italian Government workers;

(c) Military operational necessity can no longer be pleaded.

3. The disturbances by the women workers at Turin are the subject of consideration by the Italian CGIL, who deplore the violent and unconstitutional action of the demonstration.

W.H. BRAINE
Director,
Labor Sub-Commission.

3156

ec: Brig. Anderson
Lt. Col. Evan Talbot

Copy to:- 5221/EC "Strikes in the North"
5220/EC Venezia Giulia Labour

seen on file
5220/EC.

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

52099 BOS 7695 (2d)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

6 February 1945
FEB 8 1945

SUBJECT: Threatened Strike of Government Employees at Bari

(12)

Dear Maurice

The full report contained in your ISC 412 of 27 January has been read here with interest and I have brought it to the attention of the Assistant CAO. He agrees with the view expressed in your last paragraph namely that investigation should await the next evidence of subversive activities.

Yours

T. R. Hemm

T. R. HEMM, Colonel
Deputy Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5

7 FEB 1945

A. C.

Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, CB, CBE, MC
Chief of Staff
Headquarters, Allied Commission

see M 25 & 26.
3155
9/2

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

5209

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

28

REF : LSC/412 27 January 1945

SUBJECT : Threatened Strike of Government Employees at Bari.

TO : G-5, AFHQ

JAN 27 1945

1. Following is a complete report regarding the developments arising from threatened strike of Government employees at Bari. In brief, the reception of the delegation of State employees and the granting of some of their demands by the Italian Government, has averted any danger of precipitate action on the part of these employees.

2. A mass meeting of five thousand Government employees was held in Bari on 5 January 1945 to ventilate their grievances. It is firmly alleged by the CGIL (General Confederation of Labour) that agitators of ex-fascist origin endeavoured to incite these workers to violent and direct action and that the Local Camera del Lavoro exercised a moderating and restraining influence. At the mass meeting, a delegation of 15 workers was appointed to proceed to Rome to present demands to the Italian Government and to the "Allied Authorities". The delegation, on arrival in Rome, made contact with the CGIL who strongly deprecated to them their threats of strike action and of public demonstration; indicated in forceful terms that their demands in some instances were exaggerated; and pointedly enquired whether ex-fascist agitators were behind the violent threats that have been made. CGIL agreed to present the delegation to Prime Minister Bonomi, but to support only certain of the demands. CGIL claims to have advocated moderation and to have assisted in disposing of an awkward problem. Prime Minister Bonomi, Minister Soleri (Treasury) and Food Commissioner Bergami, received the delegation accompanied by Lizzadri and Di Vittorio of the Joint Secretariat of the CGIL, on Thursday 18 January, 1945. As a result, the following concessions were made:-

(a) Recognition of Bari and certain larger Communes in the Province as areas of "difficult residence", carrying right to payment of a special bonus dating from 1 December 1944.

(b) Immediate payment of the Christmas bonus of 2000 lire.

3154

CONFIDENTIAL

(Copy sent to 'A' Branch)

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

(22)

(c) An undertaking to extend the establishment of canteens to all Statal and Parastatal employees, and the establishment of cheap restaurants for such employees, particularly bachelors.

(21)

For purposes of comparison, a list of demands following the mass meeting at Bari is attached.

3. On the advice of the CGIL the further mass meeting planned for 25 January at Bari was cancelled, and in its place, separate meetings of various categories of workers were arranged, and are now understood to be in progress for the purpose of communicating the results of the deputation to such categories.

4. It is evident that a serious situation threatened to develop and that it was avoided by timely concessions on the part of the Italian Goverment together with the prevalence of moderating counsels on the part of organised Labour. It is for consideration whether further investigation should be made into the alleged activity of fascist agitators; unless deemed to be urgent, such investigation might await the next evidence of subversive activities.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff,
for the Chief Commissioner.

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

(21)

TRANSLATION

CLAIMS MADE BY STATE EMPLOYEES DELEGATION OF BARI

1. Revision of tables and decree 18. 11. 1944 No. 128, to be rapidly performed with the help of a Commission of the Confederation.

2. Indemnity for "difficult residence" for Bari and some of the Communes of the Province indicated by the Prefect of Bari by telegrams No. 446 - 30. 11 and 5. 12. 1944.

3. End of year Bonus - insist that it be equalled to a 13th month with a minimum of 2000 lire for everyone this year; to be paid immediately to all Statal and Parastatal employees of the Communes and Provinces and of charitable Institutions, without difference between small and large Communes, and without taking count of the assiduity of the employees during the year.

4. 75 hours overtime monthly to all employees - this measure is already in effect in some organizations, ~~it is~~ to be extended to others.

5. equalisation of salaries between permanent and non-permanent employees.

6. 70% on "bombardment indemnity" as from 1 February 1943 (already granted to war employees)

7. Greater freedom to the Prefects for the distribution to canteens and cooperatives , all confiscated and sequestrated goods.

8. Age limits.

9. Food in kind.

3152

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

WHB/rmw

TEL : Ext. 204 22 January 1945

REF : LSC/412

JAN 23 1945

SUBJECT: Threatened strike of Government employees at Bari.

TO : Chief of Staff

1. The Bari delegation arrived in Rome on Wednesday, 17 January 1945.

2. The delegation made contact first with the CGIL (General Confederation of Italian Labor), who arranged for them to be seen by Italian Government representatives. On Thursday, 18 January, the deputation, accompanied by secretaries of CGIL, was received by Prime Minister Bonomi and by Minister Soleri.

3. The Labor Sub-Commission appears not to have been informed of the arrival of the delegation until after the event.

4. Labor Sub-Commission appears to have requested interested parties to keep them informed, but they received information too late to participate in any discussions. This is regretted and in the future Labor Sub-Commission will endeavor to keep abreast of, or ahead of, events.

5. The result of the meeting between Prime Minister Bonomi, Minister Soleri and the deputation was that the Italian Government agreed to most of the demands presented by the delegation on behalf of the Government employees. There were, however, some points on which a decision was reserved or which were refused. Full details of the settlement will be obtained immediately and reported to higher authorities.

6. The delegation returned to Bari Saturday, 20 January, generally satisfied with their reception, and it is now thought that all danger of strike, or precipitate action, has passed. There will be no further mass meetings of Government employees on this subject at Bari. This appears to dispose, for the moment, of the particular issue but there is no doubt that it will be referred to at the General Congress of Italian Trade Unions to be held at Naples from 28 January to 1 February. Labor Sub-Commission will send observers to this Congress and

3151

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

the Director of the Labor Sub-Commission will personally attend the first and last sessions in company with Minister Gronchi.

7. A report to G-5, AFHQ, on the subject of the threatened strike of Government employees at Bari is being prepared separately.

W. H. Braine

W. H. BRAINE
Director
Labor Sub-Commission

cc: Deputy Chief of Staff
Economic Section

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

ALLIED [redacted] COMMISSION

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT:

FILE No.

TO : Labor S/C

22 Jan 1945

See Brig. Lush's note attached.

Please reply direct to Chief of Staff's office by time specified, copy to this office.

(Rel)

ROBERT E. DOR
MAJOR, A.C.A.

3149

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

7.00

DCOS Econ Sec.

Please let me know by 1500 hrs. for C.C.

(1) When the Bari delegation arrived in Rome
(2) Whom they met.
(3) When did Rabaul Sub Com. know of their arrival
(4) What did Rabaul Sub. Com. do.
Any other information.

3148

MS 21/2

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

8 8 10

Possible Labour Strike at Bari

As we had heard nothing from Allied Commission concerning the possible labour strike ~~xxx~~ of State and semi-state workers in the Bari area which it was rumoured might start on the 21st or 25th of January I rang Allied Commission this afternoon.

Major ~~Quayle~~ Talbot told me the file was with the Chief Commissioner and that he would ring me back. He did so and told me that the delegation from Bari had not so far as he could find out arrived in Rome and that they had not contacted either the Italian Ministry of Labour or the Labour Sub-Commission. I suggested that they might ~~hell~~ had arrived and have contacted the General Confederation of Labour. Major Quayle said that reports from Bari indicated that the situation there was better.

Major ~~Quayle~~ Talbot later rang again and informed Captain Slaughter that he had ascertained that the Delegation arrived in Rome on Sunday the 14th of January and had contacted the General Confederation of Labour. He confirmed that they had not contacted the Italian Minister of Labour or the Labour Sub-Commission. The Labour Sub-Commission had now however contacted the Federation of Labour and had asked to sit in on any further meetings which might be held.

Should have followed through

147

464081

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

File 114

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 12 January 1945.

- -

JAN 16 1945

Threat of Strike of Government Employees in Bari. It was stated that the Director of Labour Sub-Commission was arranging to be present at the meeting of the delegates of the Government employees from Bari in Rome. There was some discussion on comparative wage rates and COS stressed that Allied officers present at meetings must be observers only and were not to participate in any way. G. Sod read a memorandum put out by MC setting forth the advance points of the Bari Committee. COS emphasized that any idea of a strike at Bari must be stopped and a firm line taken with the Italian Government. The matter would be raised at the VPS meeting.

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

5209

File 14B

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting - 9 January 1945.

Threat of Strike of Government Employees in Bari. Government officials and employees in Bari were dissatisfied with their wages, and claimed that the recent increases in wages paid to manual workers was not followed by an equivalent increase in the wages of Government employees. It was stated that the increases are in fact comparable in the lowest grades only. CA Sec quoted figures showing the comparable rates. COS stated that while we should not interfere with the Italian Government, Econ Sec should advise the Government of what MC reported, with our comments. On the question of the threatened strike CA Sec should warn Public Safety Sub-Commission to see how the Italian Government proposed to handle this. This was to be treated as a matter of urgency.

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

5209 (11)

(9)

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

R/1419

11 January 1945.

JAN 11 1945

SUBJECT: Theatened strike Bari Zone.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission.

1. With further reference to our report R/1392 8 January 1945, I have now learned that the commission representing statal and parastatal employees in the Bari Zone is due to leave Bari today in order to proceed to Rome to place their demands before the Italian Government and the Allied Commission.

2. I attach, for your information, a copy of the points agreed to on the Order of the Day at the meeting of 5th January 1945.

J. K. DUNLOP
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner.

incl. 1

JD/TT

2. Have copies made

1 Refer to: Cit Sec
Comm Sec
(for 3 Branch SC)

see Minutes 10 to 12

copy

Results of Meeting - 5 January.

The following points were agreed to as the Order of the Day:-

(a) Salary adjustments to meet the cost of living, or fixed on a sliding scale to fluctuate with the cost of living.

(b) A grant of 3 months salary, and gratuity of Lire 2,000.

(c) An indemnity called "disagiatissima residenza", due to local high prices, etc. in Bari.

(d) Payment of 75 hours overtime, pending the revision of overtime rates.

(e) Adjustment of pay of temporary employees to equal that of permanent ones.

(f) Provision of shoes, clothing, and food through various co-operative societies.

In addition a permanent "Committee of Agitation" was elected with the following duties:-

(a) Keep in constant touch with the Allied and Italian authorities in order to demand the above concessions.

(b) Control and discipline any possible independant movement.

(c) Plan a meeting in Bari, national in scope, of all agitation committees to be held on 25 January.

3143

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

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

(3)

R/1392

8 January 1945

SUBJECT: Labor - Threat of Strike at Bari.

JAN - 8 1945

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

1. On the occasion of my visit to Rome yesterday, I spoke to Colonel Densmore and Brigadier Upjohn on the possibility of a serious strike in the Bari area. I also left with Colonel Densmore a copy of a memo, produced for me by the Regional Labor Officer. I attach herewith a further copy of this memo. — (2)

2. In brief, the position is, that a meeting was held in Bari on 5 January 1945 at which State and Public Services employees were represented. At this meeting there was a very strong movement in favour of a general strike in order to obtain better wage conditions. Wiser counsels prevailed and it was decided to send a commission, representing the meeting, to Rome, to lay their requests before the Government and the Allied Authorities. A further meeting would be called, provisionally fixed for the 25th, when the delegation returned from Rome and, if the answer obtained were not satisfactory, a strike of all Government employees would take place.

3. I have, on previous occasions, drawn to the attention of the Finance and other divisions the serious state of discontent which exists among all Government employees (our ref R/1305) NFC COS dated 18 Dec 1944. They feel that their salaries have not been raised in a manner commensurate with the increases which have been authorized for commercial employees and employees of the Allied Armed Forces. It is true that an increase was granted in November, but this was so hedged around by reservations that in effect the majority of Government employees did not gain very much.

4. Finance Sub-Commission have very correctly pointed out the danger of an inflationary spiral in wages and prices. Their argument is one which commands respect.

5. I feel, however, that we are faced with the real possibility of serious trouble in Bari, which will in all probability spread to Taranto and Naples. The meeting held on 5 January 1945 was restrained and orderly, but there was a very determined tone apparent. There is no suggestion of any subversive action against the Allies and State employees have, on many occasions, said, that they would endeavour to keep in operation services connected with the war effort.

6. It will be, however, obvious that, once strike action commences, it will be almost impossible to prevent such action injuring the Allied war effort. No 3 District are almost certain to ask for our assistence and I wish to have your guidance as to the action, that I should take. Should a strike eventuate, it will be the first occasion on which there has been a serious, large scale strike in Italian governed Italy. It must be remembered that many of the normal means of enforcing law and order will, either be actually on strike, or at least in sympathy with strike action. 3/42

7. I presume that it would be possible for us to declare AMG rule over the entire territory covered by the strike and to order the strikers back to work on the terms of Allied Military Government. Such an action would have grave, political repercussions, which, I am sure, you fully appreciate. On the other hand, I do not think that No 3 District would be content to allow the strike to drag on until exhaustion compelled the strikers to return. [illegible]

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

and Bari Zone. I also left with Colonel Bensmere a copy of a memo, produced for me by the Regional Labor Officer. I attach herewith a further copy of this memo. (2)

2. In brief, the position is, that a meeting was held in Bari on 5 January 1945 at which State and Public Services employees were represented. At this meeting there was a very strong movement in favour of a general strike in order to obtain better wage conditions. Wiser counsels prevailed and it was decided to send a commission, representing the meeting, to Rome, to lay their requests before the Government and the Allied Authorities. A further meeting would be called, provisionally fixed for the 25th, when the delegation returned from Rome and, if the answer obtained were not satisfactory, a strike of all Government employees would take place.

3. I have, on previous occasions, drawn to the attention of the Finance and other divisions the serious state of discontent which exists among all Government employees (our ref R/1305) NMC COS dated 18 Dec 1944. They feel that their salaries have not been raised in a manner commensurate with the increases which have been authorized for commercial employees and employees of the Allied Armed Forces. It is true that an increase was granted in November, but this was so hedged around by reservations that in effect the majority of Government employees did not gain very much.

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7. I presume that it would be possible for us to declare AMG rule over the entire territory covered by the strike and to order the strikers back to work on the terms of Allied Military Government. Such an action would have grave political repercussions, which, I am sure, you fully appreciate. On the other hand, I do not think that No 3 District would be content to allow the strike to drag on until exhaustion compelled the strikers to return. Moreover such a policy would almost inevitably lead to rioting and looting by hungry strikers.

8. If the Italian Government, advised by the Finance and Labor Sub-Commissions, decided that it is not possible to grant any wage increase, something very dramatic will have to be done to persuade State employees to accept this decision. So far there has been little decisive lead from any senior minister. There was, it is true, a very good article in "Il Giornale", which is the Naples paper of the Liberal Party, entitled "Chi paga?". This article pointed out the whole vicious circle of continually rising wages and costs. I think the Italian people are very

sensitive to the threat of inflation and many have appreciated the object lesson of the catastrophic collapse of the Greek Drachma. A very well conceived and energetically executed anti-inflation education campaign might do a great deal. I doubt, whether at this present juncture, it would entirely satisfy the feelings of the Government employees.

9. We have possibly two weeks before the situation becomes really dangerous. I am very anxious that we should not be caught unawares by serious events.

J. K. DUNLOP,
Brigadier,
Regional Commissioner.

JKD/jh
1 Incl.

Copies to: Labor Div (HQ SR AC)
All Zone Commissioners
No 3 District

Dist.
1 Copy Cit Sec
" " Econ Sec.

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

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

COPY

(2)

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION
LABOR DIVISION
APO 394 U.S.ARMY

LS/321/94 Memo 6 January 1945

SUBJECT : General Strike - Apulia

TO : R.C.

FROM : Regional Labour Officer

1. At a mass meeting held in Bari on 5th Jan. at which all State and Public Service employees were represented there was a very strong movement in favour of a general strike. The leaders however were able to prevent precipitate action and a Committee was elected to proceed to Rome to present their demands to the Government and the Allied Authorities. It was clearly stated that if the Committee was not satisfied in Rome a general strike would be called at once. Another meeting was scheduled for 25th Jan. when the delegates were exspected to be back from Rome.

2. The Labour Officer Bari Zone attended the meeting and he states that although the general strike would be called only in Apulia, the meeting hoped to be able to spread it throughout Southern Italy and Sicily if the Government did not meet their demands.

3. The personnel involved in the strike would be all employees engaged in the Public Service whether directly paid by the State or not e.g. Court employees, Finance, Industry & Commerce, Post & Telegraph, all Public Utilities; University teachers, Railways, Commune employees, etc.

4. In view, of the scope of the strike interference with the war effort seems inevitable and Military intervention might be necessary. It is recommended that 3 District and A.F.H.Q. be kept informed of developments.

5. Original digest from Bari Zone has already been passed by telephone to Labour Sub-Commission.

6. Contact has also been made with Sicily but the Labour Officer there reports that at present everything is quiet although the State Employees, as everywhere else, are more than dissatisfied;

./. 3141

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

7. The grievance of the State employees is one of very long standing and has been reported upon monthly to H.Q. A.C. for at least 9 months. A decree was published in November which purported to increase their salaries, but, as it also cancelled two indennities they were receiving, the increase was reduced almost to vanishing point and in some cases even led to a net reduction.

8. In Naples, the process servers have ceased work for nearly a fortnight on the ground that they are 3 months behind with their pay. At present they merely demand arrears but they also have the other demands very much in mind though at present they are willing to discuss them without a threat of striking.

9. It cannot be too strongly recommended that pressure be brought to bear on the Government by H.Q. A.C. to remedy the manifest and inexcusable hardship to which this class of employee has been too long subjected.

/s/ Denis L. Botham
/t/ DENIS L. BOTHAM,
Capt. R.A.,
Regional Labour Officer.

Copy for Labour Sub-Commission.
(per Brig. Dunlop)

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

3618

1A

Ref. AG/4177/L.

7th January, 1945.

JAN - 8 1945

SUBJECT: Civil Disturbances.

TO : The Director,
Military Railway Services, Italy.

1. In reply to your MS.1/43 of 12th December, 1944, railway personnel in Italian Government territory are divided into two categories. On the mainland they are "mobilitati civili"; in Sicily and Sardinia they are "militarizzati".

2. For personnel of either category it is, under the existing law and without further legislation, an offence to strike or to be absent from their posts for more than five days. For "mobilitati civili" the punishments range from six months to ten years; for "militarizzati" the punishments are heavier, and sentence of death can be awarded under Art. 144 of CPMC if the offence amounted to desertion in the face of the enemy.

3. Italian military courts have jurisdiction over personnel of both categories for the trial of such offences.

4. In military government territory railway personnel are equally "mobilitati civili" and subject to the above provisions of Italian law. They could, if it was considered necessary or desirable, be tried in AMG Courts for the appropriate offences under Italian law.

5. It would, however, probably be simpler in AMG territory for the cases to be dealt with as violations of the AMG proclamations. Suitable charges could be laid under Proc.1 Art. IV.13, or Proc.1 Art. V Secs. 42 and 45. Maximum punishments prescribed by the Proclamation are death (under Art. IV) and imprisonment for life (under Art. V). If, however, it is considered desirable to bring the penalties into conformity with those in Italian Government territory, a directive could be issued for this purpose.

6. The above deals with the judicial remedy for dealing with individual or collective strikes. There is, of course, a further important sanction: if Railway workers struck they would automatically lose the Armed Forces A ration scale to which they alone among Government workers are entitled.

7. I hope the above to some extent resolves your anxieties. If, however, you have in mind extra-judicial action needed to break a sudden strike then I suggest a conference between yourself and members of this Commission.

3139

Brigadier.
Chief of Staff.

COPY SENT TO PA FILES

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

File

(1B)

Tel. 735

Ref. 3610/ - /CON.

2 January 1945

SUBJECT: Civil Disturbances.

TO : Civil Affairs Section.

CA Section

1. Reference is made to letter from the Military Railway Services, M.S. 1./43 dated the 12 Dec 44 passed to you for action on 16 Dec. It is understood that only an interim reply has so far been sent on this and there is no copy on file in this office.

2. It is desired that a full answer should be sent at the earliest possible moment.

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

QU 5/1 3138