

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

ACC

10000/109/1246

2215

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

109/1246

AC PRESS RELEASES, GENERAL
OCT. 1944 - OCT. 1945

119.

Note: These press releases will be of enormous importance in the compilation of the September A.C. Monthly Report.

26.1x.45.

DU.

B/u 15/10.

122

Abundant
12/10

CSO - files 120-121 for info. Para 1 sums a little optimistic in the light of what I read in their monthly reports and the press

Lined 2/10

125.

Held

2d. Com. would probably like to see 123-124. I don't know if he thinks any action is necessary - ? a letter to Col. Bowman.

Bos. 30/10. P.T.

Lined 31/10

385

112
Loto For your E.C.'s info - folio 111
CABO
9/17/9

113
Mr. Rubin
110 asked for
memo to go straight
to P.R. Mr. Take 111 off
file and hand to P.R.
with explanation.

9/17/9

114 388

Note: Folio 111 was taken as contribution
contained in letter LSC 110/606 dated 14 Sep 45
— passed to P.R. by Tuesday

14 Sep 45. 114 113

to P.R. Mr. Take III off
file and hand to P.R.
with explanation.

See 1711.

114

388

Note: Felix III was taken to contribution
contained in letter LSC 1110/606 dated 14 Sep 45
- passed to P.R. Co. Today.
14 Sep 45.

1A 11/19
11/19

118

~~by~~
C.R.O. Please see file 116 for info.
11/19

2 2 2 0

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783017

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

100

Chief Commissioner.

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

Pg 8 →

772 187

101

Ex. Com.

Please note CC's approval on folio 98.

FW Stearns
Maj AGC
So to CC

102

Release made

387

109.

C.S.O.

Please note CC's approval on page 10.

FW Stearns
Maj. ASD
SO & CC

102

Ex Com

Release made

385

Worm
Maj
SO

109.

C.S.O. May has be approved please (see 108) so Maj. CA. Section

may take action. JH.

S. 12. 45

2223

93

Capt. H. H. H. H.

Note:

Spoke with Gen. H. H. H. H. who
says H. H. H. H. is trying to stop
publication of para 6 of 92. R. H. H. H. H.

12/6.

94

L.H.H.

Talked with Mr. H. H. H. who informs me that on 12/6/45
signed sub to all concerned (HQ # 9549) referring to signed
9549 stating - "Delete para 6 & substitute following:-
'A decree on the subject will immediately be issued by
Army'".

Mr. H. H. H. further stated that he drafted a decree &
submitted it to Deputy Sec/C. who has agreed in 383
promising & will send it out as quickly as possible

Capt. H. H. H. H.
12/6/45

13/6

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

C.C.S. Lacked with Mr. Braine who informs me that on 12/14/48

signed letter to all concerned (NY # 9599) referring to signed

954r stating - "Elite para 6 & substitute following:-

'A decree on the subject will immediately be issued by

Army".

Mr. Braine further stated that he drafted a decree to
submitted it to Deputy Sec/C who have agreed in 383
promising & will reach it out as quickly as possibleC.C.S.
12/14/48

NY 134/134

97

Ex. 134/134 for information.

12/20/48

Seen by Ex. 134/134
20/48

2223

77.

C.S.O. to Ex Com:

You will see from pencil note at foot of 75. that C.E. concurs in Brig Upjohn's proposal to draft reply to AFHQ & go ahead with collection of New Material.

I have spoken to Secretary of Advisory Council who will shortly be writing to A.C. asking for the presentation of an up-to-date statement on progress in purging of Forecasts.

J. A. Quynh
16. 3. 45.

78.

V.D. C.A.

Pl see 76, & 77.

Epithelium
1673.

79.

E.C. Kess see folio 80. *gh*

CHS
18 Nov 45

385

81

M. Wyetham

385

G.D. CAS

Pl See 76, & 77.

Epistola
1673.

79.

Kenno see folio 80. all

EC.

CMS
18 Nov 145

81

Mr Wyndham

Ref 57 See pp 61 & 80

82 — Epistola
15/12.

Thank you.

John Wyndham,
22.3.

96

Ex. Com.

To see folio 86. for 30 Mar

54.
For all officers to read folios 48 to 53 for information. J.B. 2/12

Should look at
Presumed copy. M. 1st
one. 2/13

56
NOTE: Copy handed to M of Tuller 2 MAXUS

58
Exec. Com
To see folio 57. 12 Mar.
VP CAS to see DR/12/13

60
To. Ex. Com.
Rep. 57, 58, 59.
There appears to be some duplication in this matter.
At folio 61. has been placed in the file a letter
rec'd from AFHQ and addressed "c/c C.C." 3882
VP CAS has already prepared his remarks which
are at folio 75. he was intending to forward them
through you to C.C.
CAS
J.P. Gipper

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

VP CAS to see DR/1213

60

To Ex. Com.

Ref: 57, 58, 59.

There appears to be some duplication in this matter.

At this pt. has been placed in the file a letter rec'd from AFHQ and addressed 'c/c C.C.' 38 is

VP CAS has already prepared his remarks which are at this 75, he was intending to forward them through you to C.C.

CAS

13 MAR 55

x.608.

76.

R. R. Cripps

MAR 14 1955
CC 687

So to CC

Will you please obtain 'CC's' instructions on this matter. 57, 61, 75.

Refer.

8/14/55.

To clarify I have borrowed the minutes of 22nd meeting of ACC and they are attached to p 75. The relevant parts of the minutes are to be found on p 4 and appended I.

VH

2229

(44)

CC 302
FEB 8

Chief Commissioner.

P42 Attached is submitted for your information/consideration/

May I speak?

MS/2/2

$\frac{b}{2}$ Yes EWS
CC

B-7 days
MW 6/2

note to the
13th Nov 91

45

17/2/45

P.R.O.

I am directed by the Executive Commissioner to ask if you agree with the Draft Directive at 42.

P. Russell.
PA to Ex. Com.

46

P.R. to Ex. Com.

I agree with the Directive as submitted.

With reference to Para 5, para 383 station is called the fact that Mr. Mason is returning to England & her name should be eliminated from the Directive.

11 Brown

2230

PA to Ex: Com.

46

C. J. v. Ex. Com.

I agree with the Directive as submitted.

With reference to Para 5, para 383 citation is correct. The fact that Mr. Mason is returning to England & her name should be eliminated from the Directive.

James Brown
J.P.D.

18/2/45.

Issue DV/121

47

May Stearns
Cyril Stearns

Settle with para 1 problem and then issue please.

D 17/2

Stencil cut and being issued for 21 Feb

(36)

CSO Bf -t next COS meeting 18/10/1955.
See folios 35

34

RRW

Am i going to be discussed
in Ther. at LOS meeting but
meanwhile I would appreciate
your views on COJ Deussen's
letter at 38.

SCOTT Dwyer
27/11

40

C.S.O.

We can certainly do what COJ Deussen
suggests under a and b, but it won't
nearly prevent encircling / overclass
from asking answers questions.

382

Sheldon.
25/1

St John
H

Deussen at LOS
meeting 30/1 See Minutes

30/1

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785617

C.S.O.

we can certainly do what Col. Jensen
 suggests under a and b, but it won't
 really present surprising questions.
 from asking answers questions.

382

Sheldon.
 28/1

St. Gall
 #1

Dis'cuss at Col
 looking for See Minutes

St. Gall
 30/1

43

Col. Draft letter to all heads of
 Sections & Sub-sections on interview
 with Sheldon. Participants in
 Submitted at 42 St. Gall 1/2.

23

Way Talbot.

I was reading another copy of 22 + as I see you are taking action on this file I would draw your attention to para 5.

Whe

26 Dec 44

24

P.R.O. May comments on 546 of p 22

7/2/45

Chief of Staff.

25

Only list is representative a loss of control of publicity at HQ and is how out of line with our previous policy. On the whole I think is a good thing in a city where there is to some extent excess to the local officer. But if the Regions start it and they all speak with different voices and all agree to please on H.Q. I/C's don't blame P.R.O!

Richard 27/12

PRO

26

Drop please a letter to L-V. Region putters in the proper case

Dr 28/12

Chief of Staff.

25

Only list is representative a loss of
control of publicity at HQ and is taken out
of line with our previous policy. On the
whole I think it is a good thing in a city
where there is to grow in some excess to the
local officer. But if the Regions speak it and
they can speak with different voices not
celebrated to please an H.Q. S/C's don't 383
blame P.R.O!

PRO

26

Draft please a letter to L-U Region putting matters

in the proper context

27

CSS. I have spoken to Barbara Carlson who is
already rather alarmed at some unexpected
developments. I do not think a letter is
necessary, as L-U Region is busy very
much about reporting matters back to us
wherever necessary.

28

Richard.

7/1/45

P.R.O. 7 copies. W (8/1/45)

See by P.R.O. 24/1.

2235

14

TO: C.C.S.

1. Major Fielden has submitted a draft circular letter to officers on the subject of press interviews but does not think it wise for it to be sent off, *and* I agree with the rest of para 1 of PRO's minute. However, I think that a short statement in the Daily Bulletin on the lines of 7 would not be amiss. I recommend that you reply to Civil Affairs Section on the lines of the draft submitted.
2. With regard to the draft order which PRO says he submitted on August 18th (reference para 2 of his minute) this was a very much stronger draft than 11 and he does not now wish this followed up.

For Supp letter

C.S.O.,
Office, Chief of Staff.

30th October, 1944

15
Issue 7 as amended *DS/2/21*

Capt Under Pl. v. v. v. 2/11

C.C.

17

Page ~~16~~ ¹⁶ for your information (Received her y' day.)
 Original & translation passed *7/15/25/21*
 to RA CC. 25/10 *2/11*

~~19~~ 20

380

C.S.O.

Ref minute from PRO at 18 + 19 this subject is not recorded in the Minutes of COS meeting of 19 Dec, but I imagine it is a matter which will need further

2233

C.C. 17
 Page 16 for your information (Received y' day)
 Original translation presented 7/25/25/21
 to RA CC 25/11

1920 380

CSO
 Ref minute from PRO at 18 & 19 this subject is not
 recorded in the Minutes of COS meeting of 19 Dec, but
 I imagine it is a matter which will need further
 discussion.

20 Dec 44

21
Discussed at COS meeting. Agreed that Italian

Press Reps. should be given opportunity of seeing Diss.

Sub Commission at discretion of Heads of Section.

Major Talbot.

PRO is drafting - see Minutes of meeting.

Plan follow up. 22/12

2237

Cut. 3
To do 132.

12/10

A/c.c.

We shall never get reputation to pass checks to us - the remedy must lie with our own officers in exercising more than ordinary care in what they say. Normally I should not continue the correspondence by passing it on to G.S. & Gen. Hilliering.

MS/13/1

5

Dayce

Wry

Capt Warden

6

Pl draft reply to Sec, CHS.

15/10

375

9

C50

Drafts 12) files 7 & 8 submitted for approval

16/10

Discussed at COS meeting. PRO will

MS/17/1

submit a report.

10/10/10

By 21/10

C.O.S

-12-

Capt Warden

6

PL draft reply to Sec, CHS.

373

15/10

9

CSC Drafts 12) files 7 & 8 submitted for approval

10/10

Discussed at COS meeting PRO will

17/5/1978

submit a draft

10/10/10

By 21/10

-12-

C.O.S

I am sorry but has been delayed, but I have found it extremely difficult to draw up any precise draft. I check on but I do not like it. Frankly I feel it is very rare one (and Womburn's case is a very rare one) and in fact it was due to his Editor or his other and NOT to his correspondent) and hardly merits another special order.

Incidentally I submitted a draft order of 1000 tons on August 18 but no action, so far as I know, was even taken on it.

Divided 28 Oct

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 185017

1258

Ex. Com., AC

PRESS CONFERENCE

IL LAVORATORE

27 October 1945

News

WE AND THE ALLIES

1945

Yesterday at the beginning of the Press Conference, Colonel Bowman, noticing the echo from his abandonment of the teachers' meeting, believed it his duty in front of "his friends" of the other side to point out that "his friends" of "Il Lavoratore" had said too much when saying that he was "disgusted" by the demonstration into which the meeting had degenerated at a certain point. He declared, however, having been "voiced", and as evidence of his reasons he quoted the words of Colonel Washburn which had started the demonstration; words of incitement for reciprocal understanding and collaboration which should exist now and then last, no matter what the solution of the Giulian problem, whether Italian, Yugoslavian or autonomous. That which we have always upheld, by word and deed; but which our opponents from time to time have said they accepted while, in reality, they have always, in a Fascist manner, rejected in the name of superiority of race as keepers of a "2000 year old civilization."

At the conclusion of the question which had more consequences than necessary, Colonel Bowman said that one must not see in his conduct now "pro Italy", now "pro Yugoslavia" or "pro something-in-between", because he, as fiduciary governor, was absolutely impartial. If it is the case, it is of the introductory talk which we discuss, not the second part of the Conference. Otherwise we would have said: "Be sure, Colonel, that the Communists have never, on any occasion, seen you as 'pro Italy' and even less as 'pro Yugoslavia', but simply as 'pro England and America'. You have been sent here with that aim and you do your duty."

And it was not necessary, even at the end of the Conference, for us to say it to him. He said it himself at the end of several answers which were not favourable to the Slav side. He observed that he had been called a Slav Colonel for his impartiality, and perhaps after this Conference someone would call him an Italian Colonel, while instead it was necessary to see in him that, which he really is, is simply an American Colonel. The observation recalls to our mind a conversation held with another "friend" of ours, also a Colonel, who with great politeness and showing himself extremely... democratic, first threw us out of the offices in Piazza Oberdan in order to put in his officers, then compelled us to issue our newspaper in the afternoon instead of the morning, then had the "Giornale Alleato" publish two issues a day when we were in a strike, and so forth. One of these times he told us, smiling: "Perhaps you will say that I am a Fascist", to which we objected: "But not for a moment,

123

Colonel, you are sin / English!" And with that we do not intend at all to say that the English are almost synonymous with Fascists, but to not as a good Englishman or American in Trieste, means to sustain the interests of imperialism with which the interests of our people and our movement can only be contrary. On the other hand, besides these "friends" who are political adversaries, we have had, amongst the English and Americans, friends who are in complete agreement with us, who are the best of Communist comrades, who have shaken our hand, not with urbanity, but with warm fraternity. And this goes to show that in truth we do not at all intend that being English signifies in itself something hostile, that only that which is hostile to us is imperial politics, no matter of what nation.

It is, however, perfectly useless for "L'Espresso" to come out at this point with guitars and mandolins. We have never serenaded anyone, only the Nazi-fascists with the sound of machine guns. If our relation with the Allies is kept on a courteous and dignified tone, it means that we descend to "sax slinging" and "braying like asses" and exchanging other gross courtesies with our press adversaries only then they sling sax and bray. If the Anglo-Americans instead are different, and with them we can discuss in another way, why should we insult them? Certainly neither in front of one nor of the other have we ever been afraid of expressing our opinion or of fighting our good battle.

Tel. 237

CF/ml

Ref. AC/5522/IND

28 September 1945

SUBJECT : Press Release

OCT - 1 1945

TO : Public Relations Branch

FROM : Industry Sub-Commission.

It is difficult to give a concise picture of the achievements in Italian industry since May 1st without going into great detail but generally speaking the picture for Italian industry is good, although much depends on the arrival of raw materials and coal. About one third of the prewar coal requirement is now coming in, so that more plants are going into production. Further, quantities of raw cotton have arrived enabling the textile industry, Italy's prewar biggest, to absorb many more workers, and wool, which has been requisitioned, is expected to be here shortly.

May was VE month and brought a complete change in the whole economic and industrial picture in Italy. The probability of wholesale destruction of hydro-electric plants, rail facilities, industrial installations and communications had long been a preoccupation of Industry Sub-Commission. It was feared that the Germans would contest every foot of ground and would destroy every hydro-electric and industrial plant, right back to the Brenner line, leaving in their trail destruction which under the most favourable conditions, would take a decade to restore. Luckily for Italy and indeed for Europe as a whole, considering the reduction in industrial potential and the crying need of liberated Europe for clothing, for food, for fertilizers and for consumer goods, the enemy surrendered leaving industrial installations in the North as to 90% virtually intact. More important than all, hydro-electric stations were still functioning in this area to practically 100% capacity, and therefore there is power and to spare.

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378

As a result of the above situation the Sub-Commission has been chiefly occupied in preparing plans for the distribution of fuel and raw materials and for the requisitioning of these items. This work has been done in close liaison with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and our efforts have been directed at handing over control of industry to the Ministry as rapidly as possible. This hand-over has resulted in far more work being given to the Ministry but the Sub-Commission has been ready to help with technical and administrative advice at all times.

See MF 122

170
The same situation is found in the north, where, as far as possible, the bulk of the work is left to the North Italy Industrial Council and its Committees; this Sub-Commission giving them all the assistance requested but encouraging the Italians to run their own show.

Among the industries now handed over is the production of steel, the control of which was returned to the Government in July; at the same time a detailed plan was formulated to produce 1,000,000 tons of steel during the next 12 months.

Food processing, in particular the production of sugar, has received a great deal of attention. Due to various causes, chiefly rather heavy damage to plants and the poor beet crop, the estimated production will be only about 23,000 tons but if the rehabilitation plans laid down are followed full production should be achieved in 1946. A plan for the distribution and efficient use of the 42,000 tons of molasses has been prepared and is being followed.

Chemical Division has been particularly busy in the fertilizer field and a number of plants has been put into operation; it is hoped that the early resumption of activities by these plants will do much to ease the food situation.

Regional Industry officers have been working close to the rehabilitation problems and their reports indicate that a great deal of work has been carried out in this field enabling plants to get rapidly into production as soon as materials etc. are available.

Copy to:-
Executive Commissioner.

Charles Keating
CHARLES KEATING
Major RASC

for D. L. ANDERSON
Brigadier,
Deputy Vice-President
Economic Section.

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Copy to:-
Executive Commissioner.

Robert Fawcett
CHARLES FAWCETT
Major RASC

for D. I. ANDERSON
Brigadier,
Deputy Vice-President
Economic Section.

375

2245

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

92584

HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION
NAVY SUB-COMMISSION APO 384

HQC/3542
15 September 1945.

SEP 19 1945

From: Navy Sub-Commission, Hq. Allied Commission.
To: Public Relations Branch, Hq. Allied Commission.
Subject: Press Release on Allied Commission accomplishments.
Reference: (a) Executive Commissioner, AC, ltr. 9258/110/EC,
undated.
Enclosure: (A) Proposed material for press release on Allied
Commission accomplishments between 1 May 1945
and the present.

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (A)
is submitted herewith.

(Sgd) G. L. WARREN

REAR ADMIRAL
CHIEF, NAVY SUB-COMMISSION, AC.

Copy to:
Executive Commissioner, AC.

374

(Copy destroyed)

SW
Sent
11/20/45

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

PROPOSED MATERIAL FOR PRESS RELEASE ON ALLIED COMMISSION ACCOMPLISHMENTS BETWEEN 1 MAY 1945 AND THE PRESENT:

1. Between the period from 1 May 1945 to the present date, there has been no change in the basic directives which outline the Navy Sub-Commission's responsibility in connection with the administration and supply of the Italian Navy; however, during this period every effort has been made to increase the self sufficiency of the Italian Navy by encouraging the Ministry of Marine to seek assistance from Allied Authorities only after exhaustive efforts to secure the assistance from Italian sources. Also, the Flag Officer Italy and Liaison, who is responsible for the operation of Italian Navy vessels, has permitted the Ministry of Marine to exercise an increasing degree of control over a certain large category of Italian Naval vessels.

2. During the period in question Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean made available a number of Italian Naval vessels, including a cruiser for the purpose of transporting displaced persons. Approximately 10,000 displaced persons have been ferried from the North in Italian Naval vessels both to the South of Italy and to Sicily, and approximately 5,000 to Sardinia. A ferry service of destroyers has been instituted between Naples and Cagliari, Sardinia. Over 600 such personnel will be transported every month.

3. The Ministry of Marine has made an effort to recover various Italian Naval and Mercantile units which have been held outside Italian waters as a result of the war. By agreement with the Turkish Government, three minor Italian Naval vessels and five fishing vessels will be returned to Italy at approximately the middle of September.

4. During May agreement was reached for the return of a portion of Naples harbor to Italian Government control. One discharge berth was released without restriction and three berths were released on Vigliena Mole subject to the right of Allied Naval Authorities to use one berth as required for the discharge of Allied tankers.

5. On 9 May Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean issued a communication which altered the fishing regulations and permitted day and night fishing in a large area surrounding Italy and the adjacent islands. The Ministry of Marine appointed Italian Naval Liaison Officers to a number of the Regional Commissioners for the purpose of assisting the fishing control and increasing the haul of fish.

6. At the end of June a large amount of machinery and equipment was released from the British Royal Navy dockyard, Ancona in order that it might be returned to the Railroad Wagon Works for the purpose of expediting rehabilitation of the Italian State Railways. This prompt return of the machinery was made possible by the releasing by AMG of the original Ancona Dockyard machinery which was found in the North after its liberation. 873

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7. Approval has been given for Italian merchant vessels in the Mediterranean which carry Italian armament manned by Italian Naval personnel to be disarmed. Such action has permitted a considerable number of Italian Navy gun crews to be released for other naval duties.

8. A large number of Italian Navy personnel have been employed in disposing of mines that have drifted on to the Italian beaches and in operating minesweeping equipment along the coasts and in the ports.

9. During the period in question, a progressively greater share of responsibility has been given to the Italian Navy for the control and operation of Italian ports. A large number of important ports, including Genoa, La Spezia, Messina and Augusta, have been made the complete responsibility of the Italian Government.

2248

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HEADQUARTERS ARMED COMMISSION

ALG 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

RECEIVED:

5 SEP 45

Ref: 9253/110/EC.

Subject: Press Release on AG Accomplishments.

To: Distribution below.

1. It is considered that our withdrawal from the North provides an excellent opportunity to obtain wide publicity in the Italian and Allied press on the achievements of AG in the last few months.

2. I am therefore writing to ask you to prepare very brief statements setting out the facts and not attempting in any way to write a report. These statements should not be longer than two foolscap pages, single-sided and double-spaced, and should be addressed to the Public Relations Branch of this HQ. The Public Relations Branch will rewrite and consolidate the statements for a Press Release.

3. The period to be covered is from 1st May 45 up to the present day. The AG/AGC Review fully covers events prior to 1st May 45.

For Chief Commissioner:

W. Bragg

Briggier,
Executive Commissioner.

See 111, 117

DISTRIBUTION:

Navy Sub-Commission.
Land Forces Sub-Commission.
Air Forces Sub-Commission.

brief statements covering the period to be covered in from 1st May 45 up to the present day. The AC/AMU Review/fully covers events prior to 1st May 45.

3. The period to be covered in from 1st May 45 up to the present day. The AC/AMU Review/fully covers events prior to 1st May 45.

For Chief Commissioner:

See 111.111
See 111.111
Educational Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

- Navy Sub-Commission.
 - Land Forces Sub-Commission.
 - Air Forces Sub-Commission.
 - VI, Civil Affairs Section
 - VI, Economic Section
 - Regional Commissioner
 - "
 - "
 - "
 - Commissioner, Naples Command.
 - AC Liaison Officer, Bologna.
- with copies for Sub-Commissions.
- with copies for Provincial Commission etc.
- with copies for Provincial Commission etc.

Copies to:-
Pol. Ad (A)
Pol. Ad (B)
Public Relations Branch.

9258

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

G3B/cb

R102/PRB

September 3, 45

SEP - 3 1945

SUBJECT: Press Releases on AC Accomplishments

TO : Executive Commissioner

1. Our withdrawal from the North would be a good occasion to obtain wide publicity on our achievement's up there as we bow out.
2. With our limited staff we cannot cover all the regions and sub-commissions concerned to obtain the pertinent facts.
3. I am, therefore, suggesting that the four regions and all sub-commissions be asked to prepare brief statements as to their records in the North which we can re-write and consolidate here for issuance to the Italian and Allied press.
4. It is requested that such an order be issued, covering the period from May 1 to date and that the statements be transmitted to the Public Relations Branch.


G. STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

373


(Miss L. L. L. L.)

225

9258
108H
⑤

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

Ref. 102/408/PRE. 21 August 1945

Press Release - Immediate.

Scheduled arrival of coal in Italy will enable the basic steel industry to operate to at least 50 per cent. of capacity and give employment to 500,000 persons in related industries, the Allied Commission announced today.

The coal allotted will probably amount to 350,000 tons a month for the rest of 1945 and will permit a steel production at the rate of 1,000,000 tons a year by using only the most efficient plants, according to a master plan drawn up by the Italian Government and the Allied Commission.

"The shipment of coal, together with the well-conceived steel plan of the Italian Government, should see Italy turn the first corner of the long road to eventual economic recovery," said Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USN, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission.

"As ever, the hard work and ingenuity of the law-abiding and democratic forces of the Italian people, will be, in the last analysis, the hope and salvation of the new Italy," the Admiral added.

The imported coal will be allocated according to needs - railroads, public utilities, industry, hospitals, bakeries and feed plants - by a central board in Rome composed of Allied

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The imported coal will be allocated according to needs: railroads, public utilities, industry, hospitals, bakeries and food plants - by a central board in Rome composed of Allied Commission and Italian Government representatives. Distribution will be made by bulk to the regions where allotments to the most essential industries will be made. Recommendations on industrial use are made on the advice of the National Industrial Council, made up of representatives of all industries, and the Italian Government.

The keystone of the industrial recovery plan is the steel industry. In discussing to operate only the most efficiently productive plants, consideration was given to utilizing electric power as far as possible in order to conserve coal. Indeed, to produce the second 1,000,000 tons of steel annually, there will

363

1a (Copy not 500/1000)
(Copy Answer) (17)
NA

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Praetia campicola, *Cyathocaulalis*, *Rhodopis*

The cumulative effect of steel production will aid other industries. Textiles, for example, will also be sharply restricted to virtually full production. Such normal production restrictions monthly imports of 13,000 tons of cotton and 2,500 tons of wool. Both raw materials are scheduled to arrive.

Discontinuing the temporary effects of the record dry weather on water reservoirs, the Italian power system should also be in an improved position as a result of efforts by the Allied Commission, Italian Government and private electrical company engineers.

The universal introduction of the 50-cycle frequency system into Italy will make it possible for the first time to transfer power between all stations and so bring energy to areas needing it most. The table that follows speaks for itself on this point.

attained:

Area	Power capacity (-in kwatts)	Capacity available on Allied insurance	Present Installation Capacity
North Italy	4,645,000	4,200,000	4,245,000
Central Italy	1,292,235	45,000	351,000
Southern Italy	350,035	133,200	205,000
Sicily	31,673	45,800	64,000
Sardinia	26,080	26,080	26,000
	6,476,024	4,543,780	5,042,000

2255

- 3 -

The water deficiency in the South unfortunately, will have a direct result in less power available this winter.

The fertilizer industry is necessary to the country's agriculture is also returning to normal. There are two complementary fertilizers used in Italy - nitrogenous and superphosphate. The superphosphate industry is normally dependent upon the importation of 1,000,000 tons of phosphatic rock a year. For the rest of 1945, 500,000 tons of this rock have been contracted for with French authorities.

National production depends on electricity power. One third of these plants are in the North and are adequately supplied. One third are small, scattered plants using coal, of which supplies are now arriving. The remaining third of production comes from the Sesto San Giovanni plant, which unfortunately has had to shut down because of the previously mentioned lowering of power reservoirs in the South.

A further favorable factor in the economic picture is the return of Sardinian coal production to a more satisfactory level. Italy had an output of 50,000 tons, which was about 50% above the average production of the 17 months ending 1944 April.

DECLASSIFIED - E.O. 12356
PASSED FOR PUBLICATION BY FIELD PRESS CENSOR

2256

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

9258

107

441/PRE

2 AUG. 1945

SUBJECT: Interview on coal.

AUG 2 1945

TO : Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region.

1. The Rome newspaper IL GLOBO on July 27 published the following INS despatch from COMO :

" POLETTI AND COAL FOR ITALY, Como, July 26th.

In an interview with the RIFORMA COMARCO Poletti declared that Italy's deficiency of coal could be avoided if the Russians would authorize the importation of coal from Czechoslovakia and Poland. Importation could reach the figure of 1,000,000 or more tons per month. Poletti concluded saying that measures were being taken to favor private initiative by abolishing the restrictions which until now have been a hindrance. "

2. I should be interested to know if you were correctly quoted. For your information this is a delicate subject and should not be discussed in public as it may have political repercussions.

3. In this instance I hope you have been incorrectly quoted.

M. S. LUSH

✓

HILARY E. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]

Noted 10/8
367
[Handwritten signature]

2257

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785617

9258
21

106

30 July 1945.

JUL 31 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Director, Public Relations Branch.

105

Referring to yesterday's Daily Digest of the Rome Press, will you please check the source of the stories referred to in paragraphs 4 and 8 on page 1.

As you know, I did not clear the story on the transfer of additional territory to the Italian Government and have been holding it until all points have been cleared.

I am particularly interested in finding out who in A.C. stated that the investment of foreign capital in the Italian economy would depend on the results of the elections.

13/ Henry St. Lane

ELLEN W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

cc: Exec. Commr.

for
(Mrs. Kinsley)

Noted BU
6/8
368
11/18

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 584
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

RE/PRE

July 29, 1945.

Daily Digest of Rome Press.

GENERAL

1. At the foreign press conference Parri, after stating that Italy awaits a collaboration from the new British Government which will mean a guarantee of peace for the whole world, said that the victory of the Labor party has been very optimistically received in Italy, because of the economic international collaboration and just distribution of food which appear in the program of the victorious party. He then recalled Levin's words that Italy should not be treated as if Mussolini were still in power. Parri illustrated the program of the Italian Government which aims at a financial rehabilitation of the country and at ensuring every Italian his daily bread and work. Questioned about the elections he said that they cannot be held until Italy's international status is changed. He ended by saying that Italy's participation in the war against Japan will, naturally, be small but that he hopes that a corps of volunteers may be set up.

2. Yellow stamped dollars and British military authority sterling will cease having any value in the territory under Italian administration after the 31st of July, announces the press office of the Presidency

3. Work for reconstruction, using salvaged materials, of 10,000 railway trucks has already started in Milan.

4. On the night between the 4th and the 5th of August all the provinces of Emilia and Romagna will pass under Italian administration.

5. The press office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announces that four Russian Consulates will be opened in Italy very shortly.

6. Milan newspapers welcome the victory of the British Labour party and express the hope that the new British Ministers will show more understanding of the needs of Italy and will speed up her admission among the United Nations.

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7. It seems that the French Authorities are still making propaganda to induce the inhabitants of the Val d'Aosta to become French citizens. A clandestine transfer into France of 500 Vallois had recently been organised, but only 250 managed to cross the border while the others were taken back to Aosta without great difficulty. (Aosta. It)

8. It seems, according to the A.O., that the Americans and British are unwilling to invest capital in projects for the reconstruction of Italy until the elections have been held. (INS)

9. Trains between Rome, Florence and Bologna, three times a week will start on Monday; there will also be sleeping cars between Rome and Florence.

365

See 106

- 2 -

10. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS : At yesterday's Council of Ministers it was decided to address a formal request to Allied Governments to give back to Italy her prisoners of war, and to consider them as free workers until their return is possible. The Council then examined the possibility of assigning and putting on sale the amount of textile materials still available. A decree on the functions of the Ministry of Labour and Welfare was then approved.
11. One of Nitti's sons, who is at present in France as representative of the Italian Red Cross, said that 20,000 Italian prisoners of war liberated from the German camps, have been held in France and put on work of reconstruction.
12. General Bellomo has been sentenced to death.
13. A.M.C. announces that price of bread and pasta will be increased, in the North, starting on the first of August.
14. The corpses of four hundred people murdered by Tito's partisans have been discovered near Trieste.
15. 26,000 tons of coal have been given by the Allies to the Veneto region for rehabilitation of local industries.
16. More trains are functioning in the North. (ANSA)
17. The interregional Commissariat for Food for the North has been formed in Milan.
18. The A.C. says that during the last few weeks the American Army has handed over to the Italian Government 10 million plurivitamin tablets.
19. The London weekly "Spectator" seems to think that Italy should be deprived of all her colonies.
20. Rumor has it that Carandini may be appointed Minister of the Treasury. (ORBIS)
21. The clauses of the Italian armistice will not become public until the Government of the three Big Powers agree on it.

CAPITALE N.Y.

EPOCA (Independent Leftist)

14. The corpses of four hundred people murdered by Italian partisans have been discovered near Trieste.
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21. The clauses of the Italian armistice will not become public until the Government of the three Big Powers agree on it.

CAPITALE N.N.

EPOCA (Independent Leftist)

1. The national council of the Socialist party, which is to meet tomorrow, will discuss, among other things, the creation of a united workers' party. The program of this large party would really represent "labor", that is the greatest fact of modern civilisation; it would create, in the international field, a trait d'union between the Eastern and the Western world. (Umberto Calosso)

INDIPENDENTE

1. There are still plenty of relatively cheap medicines in the North; their price is about twice what it was in 1937, while in Rome they cost three or four times as much.
2. Don Gil says that sometimes it is necessary to be very strict with the black market but that in some cases leniency is

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

9250
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFC 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSB/cb

R1/P/PRB

21 July 1945

JUL 21 1945

SUBJECT: Hometown Press Releases

TO : Chief Commissioner

1. It may be of interest to you to know that our News Production Division has sent out hometown releases covering nearly 700 U.S. officers and enlisted men for publication in the hometown newspapers of the personnel concerned.

2. Releases, on the average, have been sent to two and three papers for each individual. The publications contacted are located in every state of the Union and in all the large cities.

3. Each release describes the work of the individual in the Allied Commission and briefly explains the work of the Commission. Thus, at one and the same time, we are able to give news about the soldier to his family and friends and tell about the Allied Commission in a manner not usually possible in ordinary news releases.

PAQ 24/7
G. STEWART BROWN,
Director,
Public Relations Branch 364

cc: Executive Commissioner
Deputy Executive Commissioner
Col. Parkin
Major Leacacos

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

103

Ref: 9258/103/EO.

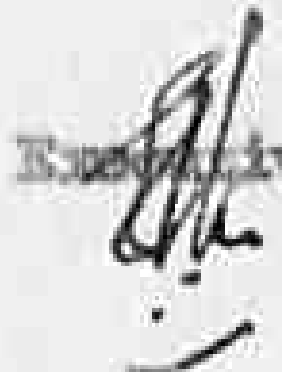
20 July 45.

Subject: Press Release.

To: VP, CA Section (For FRO).

Reference inter-office memorandum of 17 July attaching press notice in draft. This is returned herewith for release as amended.

For Chief Commissioner:


Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Encl - 1.

PA 11/14363
7

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

103A

No foundation whatsoever exists in recently published reports that the Allied authorities have given permission for the former prefect and the former mayor of Bolzano to proceed to Paris, London and Washington for political purposes, the Allied Commission announced today.

The Allied Commission reiterated that the aforesaid reports are entirely baseless. No authority has been granted by Allied authorities for such travel.

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

9258

1

ALLIED [REDACTED] COMMISSION

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: *Proc. Record*TO: *Exec Comm*

File No.

1945
JUL 17 1945

1. The attached has been approved by the

2. The attached has been approved by the

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361

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

9258

(96)

PRB/3

19 June 1945

JUN 20 1945

SUBJECT: Statements to Press and Radio

TO : Col. G. Poletti
Regional Commissioner
Lombardia Region

1. Several times recently in the Roman press we have seen statements or announcements attributed to you. In the Sunday papers you were quoted as discussing the treatment of Italian prisoners of war in Great Britain.

2. To avoid possible misunderstandings we believe that you should refrain from commenting on problems which are outside the province of a Regional Commissioner. We further desire that you seek the advice and assistance of our PRC in Milan, who at present is Lt. Charles E. Robbins, on any press statements or radio broadcasts you may wish to make in the future.

H. Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Copy to:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Lt. C. E. Robbins
PRB Files (2)

see 366

P/A 23/6

22/6

2267

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

9258

95

FIVE ARMY AMG CMA ONE FIVE ARMY GROUP PWB CMA IV CORPS CMA RC OF
VENEZIE CMA LOMBARDIA CMA PIEMONTE CMA LIGURIA AND EMILIA REGIONS

9589

12 June 1945

URGENT

13 JUN 1945

RESTRICTED PD

9542
11.
PARA ONE PD REFERENCE NUMBER NINE FIVE FOUR TWO DATED ONE ONE JUNE
ONE NINE FOUR FIVE CMA ON LABOR PRESS COMMUNIQUE PD

PAREN FIVE ARMY AMG CMA ONE FIVE ARMY GROUP PWB CMA IV CORPS CMA RC OF
VENEZIE CMA LOMBARDIA CMA PIEMONTE CMA LIGURIA AND EMILIA REGIONS
FROM PRB HQ ALCOM PAREN

PARA TWO PD DELETE PARA SIX OF TELEGRAM REFERRED TO PD

PARA THREE PD SUBSTITUTE PARA AS FOLLOWS COLON A DECREE ON THE SUBJECT
WILL IMMEDIATELY BE ISSUED BY AMG

Handwritten signature and initials.

From: PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

478719

353

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO
CWO - A.U.S.
ASS'T ADJUTANT

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850179258, 5204 + 3201

(92)

TO: 5 ARMY AVG, 15 AB GROUP F/W, IV CORPS, RE OF VERONA, LOMBARDIA,
PIEMONTE, LIGURIA, and EMILIA REGIONS

9542

11 June 45

PRIORITY

12 JUN 1945

RESTRICTED PD

1. URGENTLY REQUEST IMMEDIATE SIMULTANEOUS PUBLICATION OF TWO FOLLOWING PRESS COMMUNIQUES FROM LABOR SUB DASH COMMISSION ALCON.
2. VITAL THAT RELEASE BE MADE ONLY REPEAT ONLY IN NORTHERN ITALY.
3. TEXTS AS FOLLOWS: EMPLOYMENT OF MANPOWER IN NORTH ITALY.
4. ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT HAS CONSULTED THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WITH REGARD TO THE REGULATION OF EMPLOYMENT OF LABOUR IN NORTHERN ITALY IN INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS WHERE THERE IS AT THE MOMENT A SURPLUS OF WORKERS.
5. THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IS OF THE OPINION, WHICH ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS, THAT IT IS DESIRABLE TO AVOID LARGE SCALE DISMISSALS OF LABOUR FOR WHICH AT THE MOMENT THERE IS NOT FULL EMPLOYMENT: AND THAT UNTIL FURTHER NOTIFICATION IT IS NECESSARY TO ADVISE EMPLOYERS IN NORTH ITALY TO REFRAIN FROM LARGE SCALE AND UNREGULATED DISCHARGES.
6. ORDINANCE NUMBER 3 OF THE CMAT, WHICH RELATES TO THIS ISSUE, IS ACCORDINGLY TO BE REGARDED AS CONTINUING IN FORCE UNTIL A LATER DECREE ON THE SUBJECT IS ISSUED.
7. IT IS THE DESIRE OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT, TO ARRANGE FOR SURPLUS MANPOWER TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS TO OTHER EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE, PUBLIC WORKS, ETC., AND ACTION TO THIS END WILL BE COORDINATED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH THE COLLABORATION OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.
8. In the MEANTIME THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO FINANCE, UP TO JULY 31, THE CASSA INTEGRAZIONE SALARI TO enable IT TO CONTINUE FUNCTIONING IN NORTH ITALY SO AS TO ASSIST EMPLOYERS IN MAKING PAYMENTS TO SURPLUS WORKERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREEMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE OR WHICH MAY BE MADE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

358

M93,94,

9. Premio/.....

(91)

-2-

CONTINUED

9. PREMIO DI LIBERAZIONE IN NORTH ITALY.

10. ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT HAS CONSULTED THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE PAYMENT OF PREMIO DI LIBERAZIONE IN PIEMONTE, LOMBARDIA, LIGURIA, EMILIA AND VENETIA, AND HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE PAYMENT OF THE BONUS CANNOT BE REFUSED, SINCE IT DERIVES FROM A PROMISE MADE TO WORKERS DURING THE PERIOD OF CLANDESTINE FIGHTING TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO DEFEND INDUSTRIAL PLANTS.

11. ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT THEREFORE MAKES THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE SUBJECT, WITH WHICH THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IS IN FULL AGREEMENT:

- (i) THERE IS NO LAW OR DECREE WHICH COMPELS THE PAYMENT OF A LIBERATION BONUS.
- (ii) NEITHER AMG NOR THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD, HOWEVER, OPPOSE THE OPERATION OF ANY AGREEMENT REGARDING THE PAYMENT OF SUCH A BONUS, IF SUCH AN AGREEMENT IS FREELY MADE BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS.
- (iii) TO PREVENT HARMFUL REPERCUSSIONS ON THE FINANCIAL POSITION IT IS DESIRABLE THAT AGREEMENTS SHOULD PROVIDE FOR PAYMENT TO BE MADE BY INSTALLMENTS SPREAD OVER THREE OR FOUR MONTHS, AND AMG GIVES PROMISE TO THE DESIRE OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT THAT, ESPECIALLY IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTORS, PAYMENT SHOULD BE SPREAD OUT IN SUCH A MANNER.
- (iv) THE GENERAL UNDERSTANDING REGARDING THE PAYMENT OF PREMIO DI LIBERAZIONE RELATES TO INDUSTRY. THE QUESTION WHETHER EMPLOYEES OF OTHER CONCERNS SHOULD RECEIVE SIMILAR BONUSES IS ONE FOR FREE NEGOTIATION BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS.

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

(90)

-3-

CONTINUED.

- (v) THE QUESTION OF PAYMENT OF LIBERATION BONUS TO STATE EMPLOYEES AND PARASTATAL AND COMMUNAL EMPLOYEES IS TOBE CONSIDERED BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AFTER PURATION REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN FIXED.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

478719

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO
CWO USA
ASST ADJUTANT

Copy to files 5204 - Unemployment Problem H. Italy
3201 - Patriotic Policy

353

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783017

NY QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APD 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

9254

Tel: 473009

ref : DF/3.37/CA

2 April 45.
APR - 6 1945

SUBJECT : Epuration of Fascists.

TO : AFHQ, G-5 Section.

Reference your G-5: 091.112-2 dated 28 Mar 45.

- 1 In reply to your request six copies of the report by Brig. UPJOHN to the Advisory Council for Italy, made on the 6 Oct 44, are enclosed. It is emphasised that this is very much out of date and should be so treated.
- 2 As you are aware, the responsibility for epuration rests entirely with the Italian Government and full details have to be obtained from that Government in order to compile the new report to be made by Brig. UPJOHN. It is anticipated that all the returns will be received by this Commission by the 7 Apr 45, the various Branches of the Italian Government are the present working on this matter. As soon as they are received, the necessary work on the compilation of the report will be undertaken immediately. Up to date, only one draft report of one Section for the first quarter of the year has been seen informally in this Commission and this has been returned for necessary amendments.
- 3 It is regretted that it is not possible in the circumstances to produce the abridged or interim report suggested at this date, but every endeavour will be made complete the full report within 10 days.
- 4 The monthly reports of this Commission, submitted to you, regularly contain information on this subject and your attention is particularly drawn to that for December, which gives the progress made up to 31 Dec 44. (Vide part II, paras 1-7, ACHQ Monthly Report, DECEMBER, 1944, dated 17 Feb 45.)

2272

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

CONFIDENTIAL

88

Tel: 289

Ref: 9258/88/EC

31 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Epuration of Fascists.

TO : Civil Affairs Section.

84 With further reference to letters 9258/EC of 17 Mar 45 and 9258/84/EC of 26 Mar 45, herewith copy of AMHQ letter, G-5:091.112-2 of 28 March, for necessary action by you. Please submit copy of your reply to this office. 87


Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

Incl:
as above

Blu ⁴/₄
Noted J 353

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4/3

CONFIDENTIAL

Exec. Comm. (81)

4052

9258 *W*
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/jjjr

G-5: 091.112-2

28 March 1945

SUBJECT: Epuration of Fascists.

MAR 30 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394

1. Reference is made to G-5: 091.112-2 of 22 March informing you that the contents of your 9258/EC of 17 March had been passed to the Office of the British Resident Minister.

2. The Office of the British Resident Minister states that while the Foreign Office have been informed accordingly the Resident Minister has expressed the view that "a delay of three weeks may well be too late and thinks that the Foreign Office ought to make what use they want of the material already available." The Office of the British Resident Minister has enquired whether in the circumstances it would be possible to expedite the report or an abridged version thereof.

3. Your views on the above are requested urgently.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

T. B. Jackman
28.03.45
T. B. JACKMAN
Lt. Colonel.

Copy to:-

Office of the British Resident Minister
(your 5/150/48 of 27 March refers).

353

See 88

CONFIDENTIAL

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

COPYHEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the President
APO 394

To: Chief Commissioner.

MAR 2 1945

From: Mr. Macmillan.

I went to Civitavecchia yesterday. I was much impressed by the work done on the port since it was transferred to the control of the Italian Government. The Allied Commission officers, Major Goldsten and Captain Bowes, have done very well and seem to be carrying out their exact function of creative advice, which is the duty of Allied Commission officers in Italian territory.

I wondered whether Mr. Brown's attention could be called to the work at Civitavecchia. It would make a good story, especially with photographs of the berths, the repair of the mole, and so on. Daphanis should be laid on the work of the Italians, who are now responsible for the port.

(Init) H.M.

28th March, 1945.

Action - PRB.
INFO - EXEC Comm
CC files

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

84

Ref: 9258/84/EC

Tel: 735

26 March 1945

SUBJECT: Epuration of Fascists.

TO : Civil Affairs Section

70 83
With reference to letter 9258/EC dated 17 Mar 45 signed by VP Civil Affairs Section, attached is copy of letter from AFHQ reference C-5: 091.112-2 dated 22 Mar 45 for action by you in due course.

[Signature] Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

Incl:
as above

135
351

[Signature]
27/3

2275

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

DS EXEC. Comm 83
34/2

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512 TBJ/ask

G-5: 091.112-2 22 March 1945.
MAR 24 1945

SUBJECT: Epuration of Fascists.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394 So

1. Reference is made to your
9258/EC of 17 March and the Office of
the British Resident Minister has been
informed accordingly.

2. It is requested that 4 copies
of your further report be forwarded to
this Section in due course.

For Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

HEA 11 75
27-201
A C

T. B. Jackman
T. B. JACKMAN,
Lt. Colonel.

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

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

80.

9258/EC.

17 Mar 45

SUBJECT: Question of Fascists.

TO: G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters.

61.

Reference your G-5: 091.112-2 dated 10 March 1945.

1. The principle that publicity should be given to this question is entirely agreed in by this Commission. The suggestion, however, that it should be based on the report made by the Chief Commissioner to the Allied Advisory Council in October 1944, is considered to be an unsatisfactory arrangement in view of the fact that this will give a false impression at this time as the report is now considerably out of date; furthermore, it would be unfair to the Italian Government.

2. It is anticipated that a further report will be made by this Commission to the Advisory Council in about three weeks' time. Details are at present being compiled by Brigadier Upjohn. It is therefore recommended that after the report has been completed and delivered it might be the basis for the publicity which you suggest.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

G. R. Upjohn
G. R. UPJOHN, Brig.
VP CA SECTION.

See 83

WKC/ir

Copy on DF/3.37/CA.

B/U

H/4
H/4
H/4

350

see 1781

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

75

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

13 March 1945

SUBJECT:

MEMORANDUM TO: Executive Commissioner

1. Reference the attached, this Section is entirely in favour of giving publicity as suggested. However, the report was given as long ago as October and is now entirely out of date; any information based on that report would therefore be misleading and unfair to the Italian Government.
2. I should be quite willing to give a further report to the Allied Advisory Council at their meeting after next and such a report would, I think, be of much interest. The information contained in that report could then be used as suggested by A.F.H.Q.
3. It will, of course, be necessary to clear the matter with the Italian Government but I apprehend no difficulty on that score.
4. Will you please let me have the Chief Commissioner's decision on this matter as soon as possible so that I may prepare an appropriate draft reply to A.F.H.Q. and commence the collection of information for the delivery of the report. As you know, we keep complete returns over epuration; we do not do so over Fascist crimes, illegal profits or unjust enrichment and this takes some time to extract from the Italian Government.

J. R. Upjohn

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

GRU/pr

Encl:

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

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SECRETARIAT
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

Rome, October 17, 1944

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The Secretariat has the honor to transmit herewith a copy
of the minutes of the 22nd meeting of the Advisory Council
for Italy.

Enclosure:

Minutes of Meeting.

Mr. William Schott,
Political Section,
Allied Control Commission.
R o m e .

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UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

MINUTES OF THE 22nd MEETING
OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY.

The meeting was held at the British Embassy on October 6, 1944 under the chairmanship of Sir Noel Charles, British Representative on the Council. Present at the meeting were:

Sir Noel Charles	United Kingdom
Mr. Hopkinson	
Mr. Nosworthy	
Mr. Halford	
M. Couve de Murville	French Committee of National Liberation
M. de Beaumarchais	
M. Exindariis	Greece
M. Kapsambellis	
H. Sgourdeas	
General Vasiliev	Soviet Union
M. Ouraevsky	
Mr. Kirk	United States
Mr. Goshie	
M. Smiljanic	Yugoslavia
M. Macun	

The agenda for the meeting included the following items:

- (1) Political Review - by Commodore Stone, Acting Chief Commissioner of Allied Control Commission.
- (2) Report on Evacuation - by Brigadier Upjohn, Deputy Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Section, Allied Control Commission.
- (3) Transfer of Certain Provinces to Italian Administration.
- (4) War Crimes Problem with Reference to Italy.

Greece

M. Exindari
M. Kapsambelis
M. Skourdeos

Soviet Union

General Vasiliev
M. Guraevsky

United States

Mr. Kirk
Mr. Goshie

Yugoslavia

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- (3) Transfer of Certain Provinces to Italian Administration.
- (4) War Crimes Problem with Reference to Italy.
- (5) Roosevelt-Churchill Statement regarding Italy.
- (6) Miscellaneous.
- (7) Press Communique.

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The Chairman, Sir Noel Charles, opened the meeting and called on Commodore Stone, Acting Chief Commissioner of the Allied Control Commission, to present his report.

1. Political Review.

- (a) Report by Commodore Stone.

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The following report was presented by Commodore Stone:

"In my last report to you a fortnight ago I took up most of your time with an account of the serious incident which took place in Rome in connection with the Caruso trial. That incident was bound to reflect upon the capacity of the Government to govern. In addition there have been for many weeks attacks against the Government in the newspapers of the parties that were represented in it. Some of these attacks were concerned with the slowness of spuration and on that subject Brigadier Upjohn who is the head of the Civil Affairs Section of the Control Commission, is going to make a statement to you today. Other attacks had been on the Government's inability to improve the daily difficulties of life in Italy. The unshot inevitably was a reconsideration by the Prime Minister and the leaders of the parties in the Government of their position. The result of that reconsideration was satisfactory and reassuring. At their meeting on the 26th September the Council of Ministers reasserted the solidarity of the six parties in the Government. In the official communiqué it was stated that the parties would postpone the solution of major political problems, would resolve the differences in the Government, would bring their party papers in line with this principle and would maintain the impartial authority of the State and defeat all attempts of reactionaries to return to power. This statement was welcome generally and may be accounted a considerable success by the Prime Minister as well as an achievement of good sense in present circumstances.

"This initiative on the part of the Government to reassert its own authority was coincidentally supported by the declaration on Italy which appeared simultaneously in the names of President Roosevelt and Mr. Winston Churchill. The declaration has been described as a vote of confidence in the Italian Government and it has certainly been taken as such in Italy. It seems plain that this was indeed the intention of the President and the Prime Minister, for the statement looks towards giving to the Italian administration more autonomy beginning by the elimination of the word 'Control' from the Allied Control Commission and by the invitation to send Italian representatives to London and Washington. In addition civilian technicians are to be sent over to Italy to help in reconstruction particularly with a view to increasing the assistance which Italy may be able to give in the war against Germany and Japan. But I should here make plain that the Allied Control Commission have received no detailed instructions as a result of the declaration and we do not know in what way, if any, the structure and functions of the Commission will be altered. While the Italians, like ourselves, are waiting for elucidation they have welcomed this declaration as far as it goes in all respects except for certain misgivings about the advisability of a declaration of war by Italy upon Japan. The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Visconti Venosta, in a press conference indicated the Government's willingness. However, no Government decision has as yet been taken and questions have been asked in some of the party newspapers, for instance

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to each for the political side. But the Council will recognize that the economic situation in Italy at the present time dominates the political. The capacity of the Italian Government to carry on and indeed of the Control Commission to ensure peace and good order on the lines of communication of our armies depends primarily in my opinion upon supplying the population of Italy with a sufficiency of food and other necessities without which in any country there would be trouble. As to this aspect, the Council will be aware that it was decided at the Quebec meeting of UNRRA that fifty million dollars may be assigned to Italy for emergency relief measures for certain specified classes of Italians: for instance, refugees, expectant and nursing mothers, etc. Exactly how this relief will be administered has not yet been laid down. In addition the Council will no doubt have seen the declaration made by President Roosevelt on the 4th October in which assurances are given that increased wheat and flour as well as transport will be made available. No details beyond those appearing in the press have been received by the Commission, but from the statements that have been made by Colonel Lagg on food and Colonel Adams on transport, you will realize that assistance in these matters is vitally and urgently needed if this Commission is to carry out its fundamental duty - that is to see that good order is maintained on the lines of communications of our armies.

"I should take this opportunity briefly to explain to you certain measures of reorganization which have been taken in the Headquarters of the Commission with the objects of saving manpower and increasing the efficiency of our organization. Most important is the creation of a Chief-of-Staff under the Chief Commissioner and Brigadier Lush has been appointed to this post with Colonel Norman F. Piske as his American Deputy. The Commission will still retain its four sections but there will be two changes of title and a certain reallocation of duties. The Political and Economic Sections remain as before, but the Administrative Section, under Brigadier Upjohn, is renamed the Civil Affairs Section and what was known as the Regional Commissioner and Military Government Section is abolished, an Establishment Section, under Colonel Piske, taking over certain of its duties. The Vice-Presidents of the Economic, Civil Affairs and Establishments Sections will also be Deputy Chiefs-of-Staff. In addition a forward echelon of A.G.C. Headquarters will be established at A.A.I. Headquarters to administer to the emergency operational needs of the Allied Military Government officials with the Fifth and Eighth Armies. The need for this has become apparent as A.A.I. Headquarters gets further and further away from Rome. In mentioning these points I should emphasize that this reorganization has no connection whatever with the declaration made by President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill; but, as said, is for the sole purposes of increased efficiency and conservation of manpower within the Commission.

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"Finally as the Council is aware I have been instructed to request your views on a proposal submitted by the Commission and approved by Commander-in-Chief, Allied Forces in Italy, that six further provinces should be turned over to the Italian Government on October 18th. The details have, I understand, already been circulated to you and I trust that this proposal will be favorably received. It is a step in line with the policy which has already received your approval on other occasions and from an administrative point of view would be welcome to the Commission. I should be glad therefore if I may know what advice from this Council I may transmit to the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean, on this subject."

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(b) Discussion.

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman thanked Comodore Stone for his report and invited discussion thereon.

There was no discussion on this report.

2. Report on Epuration.

(a) Report by Brigadier Upjohn.

Brigadier Upjohn presented the following report:

(see Appendix No. 1)

(b) Discussion.

On behalf of the Council the Chairman thanked Brigadier Upjohn for his report and invited discussion.

M. Exindariis, with reference to the reported progress on epuration, inquired whether any Fascist elements still remained in the Italian administration.

Brigadier Upjohn replied that in his opinion all high-ranking Fascists had been removed from public office, but that he thought there were still Fascists in minor public positions.

General Vasiliev inquired whether the progress in epuration was considered satisfactory.

Brigadier Upjohn stated that progress had been slow, but that with the new pending decree requiring the elimination of high-ranking officials within two months after publication of the decree, the rate of epuration would be accelerated.

General Vasiliev asked whether all Fascist organizations had been disbanded and whether there were any indications of underground Fascist activities.

Brigadier Upjohn replied that all known organizations had been disbanded in liberated Italy and that he did not know of any underground activity.

General Vasiliev stated that during the Fascist regime a considerable volume of Fascist literature had been published and inquired what had been done on this subject.

On behalf of the Council the Chairman thanked Brigadier Upjohn for his report and invited discussion.

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Brigadier Upjohn replied that all known organizations had been disbanded in Liberated Italy and that he did not know of any underground activity.

General Vasiliev stated that during the Fascist regime a considerable volume of Fascist literature had been published and inquired what had been done on this subject.

Brigadier Upjohn said that the property of the principal Fascist publishers had been sequestered and that according to his own experience there were no Fascist books on display. 44

M. Exindariis inquired whether the Italian Government had taken any measures to punish persons who in occupied countries had acquired large fortunes by illegitimate means.

Brigadier Upjohn said that he did not know of any measures taken by the Italian Government in this matter and stated that he assumed that most persons within this category were not in Liberated Italy.

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M. Rindaris stated that if his information were correct there are many persons now residing in liberated Italy who had stolen property in Greece and said that if he could secure a list of such persons he would forward it to the proper Allied authorities.

M. Smiljanic noted that the Italian Government is taking measures against the Fascist regime and against Fascist leaders responsible, generally speaking, for the conduct of Italian state affairs and, particularly, for Fascist excesses committed in domestic politics. However, he stated that the attitude of the Italian people and the present Italian Government toward those who have committed crimes in the international field is a matter of more particular interest to him. These crimes are: the attack against France, the attack against Greece, and the attack against Yugoslavia. An investigation of the circumstances of the decisions to commit these crimes and of the persons responsible therefor would constitute, for the neighbors of Italy, the best proof of a change in Italian policy.

The Chairman stated that he thought the points raised by the Yugoslav and Greek Representatives should be considered in connection with the war crimes problem which was scheduled for discussion on the agenda of this meeting.

General Vasiliev inquired how many Fascists had been arrested since the day the Allied Forces landed in Sicily.

Brigadier Upjohn stated that there were no statistics available on this subject but that he thought several thousand persons had been arrested.

3. Transfer of Certain Provinces to Italian Administration.

The Chairman referred to the memorandum on this subject dated September 30, 1944 which reads as follows:

" S E C R E T .

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

A P O 394

"Ref: 276/129/CA

30th September 1944

"Subject: Handover of territory to Italian Government.

"To : Secretary, Advisory Council for Italy.

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"1. The Italian Government have recently been pressing for an early restoration to their control of the Provinces of TERAMO, AQUILA, PESCARA and CHIETI, on the grounds that, among other things, the Province of CHIETI was liberated over nine months ago, and that in TERAMO and AQUILA the activities of the patriots has given ample proof of anti-German and anti-Fascist sympathies. These headquarters are in full agreement that from the administrative point of view these Provinces could be handed back at any moment and would suggest October 16th as a suitable date.

"2.

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"2. In order to conform to the new boundary of AFM administrative responsibility in Italy, and thereby to simplify certain aspects of administration and legislation, it is considered that the Provinces of VITERBO and RIVITI might also be handed back to the Italian Government at the same time. The damage suffered in these Provinces was not so great as in the areas where the Armies halted for a period. Public works are now well in hand, the Italian provincial administration is working, and except for a small portion of VITERBO, the whole area is South of the Rear Army Security Control Line.

"3. An additional advantage in this proposal is that it would enable the Allied Control Commission to withdraw at once a small number of officers badly needed in the North.

"4. The matter has been referred to C-in-C, Allied Armies in Italy, who has replied that he has no objection to the proposed transfer.

"5. Before referring the matter to SAC for final consideration we have been directed to enquire the views of the members of the Advisory Council. Perhaps you would kindly arrange to have the matter brought up for discussion at the next meeting of the Council on October 6th.

Ellery W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner "

Mr. Kirk inquired whether the safeguards established in the previous terms of transfer are maintained in the present ones and whether there were any adverse military considerations.

Commodore Stone stated that the safeguards were identical and that there were no adverse military considerations.

M. Exindariis called attention to the fact that the provinces recommended for transfer to Italian administration were on the Adriatic side and expressed the fear that some of the Fascist Italian public officials may try to reach an understanding with the Albanians.

The Chairman stated that he would make a note of the Greek Representative's fear and convey it to the proper authorities for consideration.

Commodore Stone inquired whether the Greek Representative had any specific province in mind.

M. Exindariis replied that he was thinking primarily of Teramo, Aquila, and Pescara.

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Comodore Stone inquired whether the Greek Representative had any specific province in mind.

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Comodore Stone inquired whether the Greek Representative had any specific information on this subject. 342

M. Exindari stated that in Bari there were many Albanians, some of them presumably had served the Italian administration and perhaps they would prefer a continuation of the former status.

Comodore Stone inquired whether M. Exindari was particularly concerned about the situation in Bari.

M. Exindari stated that any dealings between Italians and Albanians were a matter of concern to Greece. He admitted that such dealings could not be prevented, but indicated that he thought it was a matter deserving consideration and observation.

Comodore

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Consodora Stone inquired whether the Greek Representative had any complaints to make on this point with reference to Bari. M. Exindariis stated that he did not have any specific complaint.

In response to a motion raised by the Chairman, the Council agreed to recommend to the Supreme Allied Commander that the proposal of the Allied Control Commission on this subject be implemented and accepted the following formula drafted by the Chairman:

"The Advisory Council for Italy have examined the proposal made by Captain Stone in his memorandum No. 276/122/CA of the 30th September for the transfer of certain territories to Italian administration and they recommend that this proposal should be immediately implemented." (For text of transmitted note see Appendix No. 2)

4. War Crimes Problem with Reference to Italy.

The Chairman stated that on instruction from his Government he would like to put forward their views on this subject and suggested that the representatives correspond with their respective Governments so that at the next meeting the subject may be discussed further. He then read the following statement:

"I have been instructed by His Majesty's Government to place the following matter before you for your consideration. As you are aware, the United Nations Commission for the Investigation of War Crimes, which has its seat in London, has hitherto dealt only with war crimes committed by the enemy against nationals of the United Nations or on United Nations territory. In the course of operations in Italy evidence has, however, come into the possession of the Allied Military authorities of crimes committed by the Germans against Italians. Some of this evidence is already in the hands of the Combined Chiefs of Staff and a decision will, sooner or later, have to be taken as to what is to be done with it. The Governments of Great Britain, the United States of America and the Soviet Union are, in any event, committed by the Moscow Declaration on German activities to secure redress for such crimes. His Majesty's Government have been discussing this question with the United States Government and have reached a general agreement in principle that while Italy should not have a seat on the Commission, the British and the United States Governments should, in view of Italy's co-belligerent status, act for the Italian Government in transmitting to the War Crimes Commission information relating to German crimes against Italians. There is, however, another aspect of this question to which I should draw your attention. The War Crimes Commission has examined the question of recommending that its terms of reference should be extended so as to enable the Commission to deal with crimes committed by the Germans against Italians in Italy. The Commission was unable to reach any decision in this matter, apparently because it felt that it could not recommend the examination of the cases of

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His Majesty's Government believe that both aspects of this question could be dealt with if the following procedure were to be adopted. The Allied Control Commission should be invited to act as the agents for the Italian Government in the collection of information regarding crimes committed by the Germans against Italians. This information could be

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communicated to the War Crimes Commission through the Combined Chiefs of Staff by the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Command in his capacity of President of the Allied Control Commission. At the same time the Allied Control Commission could ask the Italian Government to give them access to military archives, records and information regarding the war crimes committed by Italians against nationals of the United Nations and could transmit any such information through the same channels to the War Crimes Commission in London."

The Chairman stated that he appreciated that at this meeting the Representatives could not comment on the proposal of His Majesty's Government and again requested the other Representatives to submit the matter to their respective Governments so that it may be discussed at the next meeting. The Council agreed to this proposal.

5. Roosevelt - Churchill Statement Regarding Italy.

M. Gault de Murville explained that this item was placed on the agenda at his request for the purpose of obtaining information. Among the measures announced in the Roosevelt-Churchill Declaration he said there were some which have a great political and economic importance for Italy and others affect directly the future relations between the Allies and Italy. Through a transformation of the Allied Control Commission, more liberty of action will be given to the Italian Government. On the other hand, it is planned to resume official and semi-official diplomatic relations between the Italian Government on one side and the British and American Governments on the other. Taking into consideration the importance of these measures the Advisory Council should be given precise information. It must also know what the repercussions will be on the Advisory Council itself and to what extent the Council should give its advice on the measures announced for the modification of the statutes of the Italian Government. The question may even be raised whether the Advisory Council itself can exist once, after the Soviet Union, two main powers represented on the Council will have direct relations with the Italian Government."

The Chairman stated that so far no precision had been given by the Governments as to how this declaration will be put into effect. The ACC has requested information regarding details and the Chairman understands that also the Supreme Allied Commander has done so. He stated that in his opinion the declaration was intended to be a statement on broad lines of principles and that the details thereof were not yet worked out.

M. Exindariis inquired whether the implementation of this statement would involve a revision of the terms of armistice.

The Chairman stated that he did not know and that he assumed that the announcement of the details would give an answer to this question.

5. Roosevelt - Churchill Statement Regarding Italy.

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M. Arindaris inquired whether the implementation of this statement would involve a revision of the terms of armistice.

The Chairman stated that he did not know and that he assumed that the announcement of the details would give an answer to this question.

M. Salljanic stated that he had the same preoccupation as the French and Greek Representatives and that he would like to know if their respective Governments had been informed.

The Chairman stated that the Governments of the Soviet Union, Greece, Yugoslavia, and the French Committee of National Liberation had been informed about the declaration prior to its release.

General Vasiliev inquired what the proposed change in designation from Allied Control Commission to Allied Commission implied.

The Chairman stated that until such time as when he received information on the implementation of this declaration and instructions he was not in a position to give any details and that presumably in due course this information would be forthcoming.

Comodore

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Comodore Stone stated that the A.C.C. had asked for instructions as to whether they were to change the name from Allied Control Commission to Allied Commission and had not yet received a reply.

6. Miscellaneous.

There was no miscellaneous business to discuss.

7. Press Communique.

The Council agreed to release the following press communique:

The 22nd Meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy was held in Rome on Friday 6th October 1944 under the chairmanship of Sir Noel Charles, British Representative. The Representatives of the five other Allied Nations attending the meeting were:

Gouva de Murville	French Committee of National Liberation
Georges Exindari	Greece
General Vasiliev	Soviet Union
Alexander Kirk	United States
Miloje Smiljanic	Yugoslavia

The meeting was attended by the Acting Chief Commissioner of the Allied Control Commission, Commodore Hilary Stone, and the Deputy Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Section, Brigadier Upjohn. The Council examined a report presented by Brigadier Upjohn on the progress made by the Italian Government in the matter of expatriation. It also examined the general political situation."

8. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council agreed to convene the next meeting on October 20th 1944 at 10:30 under the chairmanship of the United States Representative.

Couy de Murville	French Committee of National Liberation
Georges Exindari	Greece
General Vasiliev	Soviet Union
Alexander Kirk	United States
Miloje Smiljanic	Yugoslavia

The meeting was attended by the Acting Chief Commissioner of the Allied Control Commission, Commodore Eilery Stone, and the Deputy Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Section, Brigadier Upjohn. The Council examined a report presented by Brigadier Upjohn on the progress made by the Italian Government in the matter of epuration. It also examined the general political situation."

3. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council agreed to convene the next meeting on October 20th 1944 at 10:30 under the chairmanship of the United States Representative.

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Enclosure:

Report on Epuration
Note addressed to Captain Stone
by Sir Noel Charles on Oct.7, 1944.

JLG/hp

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APPX 1 64

RESTRICTED

Speech to the Allied Advisory Council
on Friday 6 October 1944

by
Prime Minister S.M. UNGHER

EXPLANATION

I must ask the members of the Council to treat the information given in this paper as entirely confidential. The Italian Government have been good enough to tell me of their future plans in this matter of expatriation and it is not desirable that there should be any publication thereof.

The Italian Government published its first decree to purge the administration of Fascists while still at Brindisi on the 24th December 1943 but in view of the shortage of personnel and the manifold difficulties then facing the Government the decree was treated more as a declaration of policy than an operational decree and liable if any practical results were achieved thereunder.

On the 26 May 1944 the Government passed a decree for the punishment of Fascists and immediately thereafter had under consideration a further decree redesignating the purely purging decree of the 24th December and the punishment decree of the 26 May, 1944, and integrating the operations thereunder. However, the then Badoglio Government fell and was succeeded by the present administration.

The present Government produced its decree which is entitled "Provisions Against Fascism" on the 27th July 1944. It is much broader in scope than the earlier decrees and is divided into four separate parts as follows:

- I. Punishment of Fascist crimes.
- II. Purging of the administration.
- III. Disposal of profits made by Fascists.
- IV. Confiscation of Fascist property.

The decree created the office of a High Commissioner for Operations Against Fascism to supervise the execution thereof and an Assistant High Commissioner in charge of each of the four parts.

P.E. Count Ercoli has been as no doubt you are aware, appointed to the important post of High Commissioner and he has four assistants whom I will mention as I deal with each department.

On the 26 May 1944 the Government passed a decree for the punishment of Fascists and immediately thereafter had under consideration a further decree punishing the purely punitive decrees of the 28th December and the punishment decrees of the 13 May, 1944, and integrating the operations of the Government "all and was succeeded by the present administration.

The present Government produced its decree which is entitled "Decree against Fascism on the 27th July 1944. It is much broader in scope than the earlier decrees and is divided into four separate parts as follows:

- 1. Punishment of Fascist crimes.
- 11. Purgings of the Administration.
- 144. Disposal of profits made by Fascists.
- 17. Confiscation of Fascist Property.

The decree creates the office of a High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism to supervise the execution thereof and an assistant High Commissioner in charge of each of the four parts.

H.E. Count Sforza has been as no doubt you are aware, appointed to the important post of High Commissioner and he has four assistants whom I will mention as I deal with each department.

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Part I. ORDERS AGAINST FASCISM

M.M. Borlinghieri is in charge of this Department.

Notably this part of the decree provides first for the trial by a special High Court of Justice, of which Mazoni is President, of members of the Government and high ranking members of Fascism who are guilty of annulling the guarantees of the constitution, of destroying the liberty of the people, of creating the Fascist regime and of betraying the fortunes of the country, bringing it to its present disaster.

The punishment is up to penal servitude for life or in specially grave cases, death.

/Secondly it

Secondly it provides for trial in the courts of Rome of all persons who were members of the armed forces or not collaborated with the Germans between 28th Oct. 1922 and 25th Sept. 1943.

Thirdly it provides for the punishment for those who sheltered members of the armed forces or not collaborated with the Germans between 28th Oct. 1922 and 25th Sept. 1943.

The court will before the High Court of Justice that of Rome and has assisted the court to look place it is well known on the 21st and 22nd Sept. resulting in the death sentence for the former and 30 years prison for the latter.

The trial of the former directors of the bank of Italy is fixed for the 24th October in Rome before the High Court of Justice.

On the 22nd October Generali Benvenuto and his wife will be tried in Rome for collaboration with the Germans and for not having defended the City of Rome from them and on the 22nd October Benvenuto will be tried in Rome for collaboration with the Germans. His defence is an interesting one, namely that he acted on the orders of the puppet Government then located in Rome although of course he well knew it was dominated by the Germans. If his defence will a number of other prosecutions on the same lines will follow.

In addition 6 persons have been arrested and are awaiting trial in Rome including the following well known figures: Benvenuto, former Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Biagi, former Under Secretary of Communications, Benvenuto, former Under Secretary of Communications, and Giambattista, former Ambassador and President of the Council of State.

In a short time further 141 persons will be arrested and placed on trial they were all members of the notorious Special Tribunal for the Defence of the State.

In addition to the foregoing 600 denunciations have been sent to the Procure del Regno throughout liberated Italy; these cases are now under investigation and in many cases the persons denounced will soon be tried before the appropriate Justice Courts, Benvenuto and Benvenuto throughout the country.

The High Court of Justice will also shortly sit to consider the records of the cabinet and voting members of the Senate and it has power to initiate disqualification even holding public office or a loss of political rights.

tried in Rome for collaboration with the Germans and for not having defended the City of Rome from them and on the 22nd October 1946 the Court of Appeal in Rome ordered the arrest of the defendants. His defence is an interesting one, namely that he could not have known it was dominated by the Germans. If his defence will be a number of other prosecutions on the same lines will follow.

In addition 66 persons have been arrested and are awaiting trial in Rome including the following well known figures: Benito Mussolini, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Luigi Einaudi, President of the Republic, Giuseppe Bottai, Minister of the Interior, and Giuseppe Bottai, Minister of the Interior.

In a short time a further 144 persons will be arrested and placed on trial they were all members of the notorious Special Tribunal for the Defence of the State.

In addition to the foregoing 600 demonstrations have been held in the Province del Regno throughout liberated Italy; these cases are now under investigation and in many cases the persons concerned will soon be tried before the appropriate Assize Courts, Tribunale and Pretori throughout the Kingdom.

The High Court of Justice will also shortly sit to consider the records of the conduct and voting members of the Senate and it has power to punish disqualification from holding public office or a loss of political rights for not more than 10 years. If such persons are moreover considered a danger to society they may be sent to an agricultural colony or labour institution for not more than 10 years.

The peace of the peninsula is understood well that they were in danger of their lives and could not vote against the Government though 25 of them had in fact done so.

A section of the peninsula appear to think that there has been too much unnecessary delay in bringing offenders to trial but having in mind the Government's task in having to organize a completely new officer and the time necessarily spent in pre-trial investigations I think you will agree there has been no undue delay.

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PART II. OPERATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

H. E. S. Secretary is in charge of this Department which is concerned not with punishment but with the purging of the administration of those (particularly those in high government offices) who have participated in the political life of Fascism, who have been consistent apologists of Fascism, and of those who have obtained high Governmental office through Fascist favoritism. Likewise those who have been guilty of Fascist bias, incompetence or corruption or who have collaborated with the Germans since 8th Sept., '43 are subject to dismissal.

This from a purely administrative point of view is the most important part of the Decree and Count Storm has repeatedly laid down the policy that the operation must be carried out rapidly and that the high ranking officials must be dealt with first.

There is now before the Council of Ministers a further decree which will shortly be published compelling operation down to officials of the rank of Grade IV to be completed within two months from the date of the publication of the decree.

The machinery set up by the Decree of 27th July is to provide in each Ministry one or more commissions each commission consisting of a Judge as President and an official of the Ministry and is appointed by the High Commissioner as members. These Commissions consider the cases sent to them by the High Commissioner and after considering the record may propose the employee for dismissal. The employee may appear before them and if they decide against him he may appeal to a central commission appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers and consisting of 7 members.

The Commission of First Instance may recommend to the Minister the suspension of employees pending the hearing of his case.

Considerable progress has been made as is shown by the following figures. It is proposed to form a total of 126 Commissions and of these 64 are already appointed and sitting.

The office of the High Commissioner has had or now has under consideration up to the 27th September a total of 6054 cases. Of these 3674 having already been referred to Commissions with a proposal for the suspension pending hearing of 644. Ministers have ordered suspensions in 167 cases. This last figure is a little misleading however for in a very large number of cases Ministers have on their own initiative and frequently on the advice of unofficial commissions set up by them before the Decree came into force, ordered suspensions on their own account. In many other cases employees have wisely accepted a hint that their continued attendance at the office would serve no good purpose. The figures of these unofficial suspensions are not however available at present.

Looking in mind the magnitude of the task the somewhat slow progress that has been made is to be expected but now that the machine is running a

Commissioners as members. These Commissions consider the cases of the High Commissioner and after considering the record may propose the employee for dismissal. The employee may appear before them and if they decide against him he may appeal to a central commission appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers and consisting of 7 members.

The Commission of first instance may recommend to the Minister the suspension of employees pending the hearing on his case.

Considerable progress has been made as is shown by the following figures. It is proposed to have a total of 426 Commissions and of these 64 are already appointed and sitting.

The office of the High Commissioner has had or now has under consideration up to the 27th September a total of 6054 cases. Of these 2474 having already been referred to Commissions with a proposal for the suspension pending hearing of 644. Ministers have ordered suspensions in 467 cases. This last figure is a little misleading however for in a very large number of cases Ministers have on their own initiative and frequently on the advice of unofficial committees set up by them before the decree came into force, ordered suspensions on their own account. In many other cases employees have wisely accepted a hint that their continued attendance at the office would serve no good purpose. The figures of these unofficial suspensions are not however available at present.

Hearings in line with the magnitude of the task the somewhat slow progress that has been made was to be expected but now that the machine is running a greatly accelerated speed of operation is to be hoped for especially having regard to the provisions of the new decree which I have already mentioned.

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In addition to these Ministerial Commissions, in each provincial Commissions will be set up to purge organizations such as the Ufficio Sanitario which depend entirely from the prefect. Until the purge of prefects is completed however it is not proposed to appoint provincial commissions. The purge of prefects is of course having the urgent attention of the High Commissioner.

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PART III. DISPOSAL OF PROFITS MADE BY FASCISTS.

This Department is under the charge of H.F. Cingolani and is concerned with the collection and disposal of the profits of Fascists. Briefly an increase of property obtained after the 28th October 1942 by persons holding public offices or in any way engaged in political activity as Fascists is presumed to constitute a profit from the Fascist regime unless the owner is able to prove the contrary. Where such property has been parted with such increase is constitut ed a gift from the former owner.

The investigation and assessment of the amount of the profit derived from the regime is placed within the jurisdiction of a Special Section of the Provincial Taxation Commission of each province.

Down to date denunciations have been received in respect of 1427 persons and in some alone protective measures for the sequestration of the property of 20 persons have already been taken. I will mention the names of 7 of the best known, Pedemonte, Lotuli, Vasolli, Farinacci, Pino Grandi, Starace and Lazzolini.

The property of these 20 persons is estimated to amount to 3 billions of lire.

In addition investigations are being carried out in Rome with respect to the property of 95 other persons.

In the province of Naples the Intendants of Finance there

inform us that protective sequestration has been taken against the property of 945 persons and the sequestered property of the five brothers Fincitelli alone amounts to nearly 5 1/2 million lire.

Beginning with this month the Provincial Taxation Commissions have been instructed to send to the Government on the 1st and 16th of each month lists of persons considered to be profiteering and the action taken so that in future more complete figures will be available. The preliminary figures which I have briefly given above however seem to indicate a satisfactory start.

The Council of Ministers has under consideration the creation of an organization to deal with the assets collected, to run businesses where they are taken over and generally to prevent a dissipation of the assets permitted under the provisions of the decree.

PART IV. CONFISCATION OF FASCIST PROPERTY.

This Department is under the charge of H.F. Stangoni. It is charged with the collection and disposal of Fascist organizations and societies dissolved by the Regiolegio Decree of 28th August, 1943.

The properties of the organizations which have been dissolved run into many millions of lire but it is obviously not possible at this stage

billions of lire.
The property of these
in addition investigations are being carried out in Rome with
respect to the property of 75 other persons.

In the province of Naples the Intendants of Finance there
inform us that protective sequestration has been taken against the property of
915 persons and the sequestered property of the five brothers Pisanielli alone
amounts to nearly 5 1/2 million lire.

Beginning with this month the Provincial Taxation Commissions
have been instructed to send to the Government on the 1st and 16th of each
month lists of persons considered to be profiteering and the action taken so
that in future more complete figures will be available. The preliminary figures
which I have briefly given above however seem to indicate a satisfactory start.

The Council of Ministers has under consideration the creation
of an organization to deal with the assets collected, to run businesses where
they are taken over and generally to prevent a dissipation of the assets
forfeited under the provisions of the Decree.

PAGE IV. CONFISCATION OF NAZI PROPERTY.

This Department is under the charge of M. E. Stangoni. It is
charged with the collection and disposal of fascist organizations and societies
dissolved by the Badoglio Decree of 2nd August, 1943.
The properties of the organizations which have been dissolved
run into many millions of lire but it is obviously not possible at this stage
to give any figures which would be of value.

Purely by way of example, in Rome alone cash to the value of
265000 lire and other movable property to the value of 6 million lire have
already been absorbed.

So far as real estate in concerned Commissioners have been
appointed to manage any properties or they have been handed over to deserving
purposes; I need only mention one property in Rome the C.I.D. property at
Marte Mario now headed over to the Ben Sion Institute for assistance to
abandoned and exiled children.

In conclusion I hope my remarks have not been too long or too
statistical but perhaps they have assisted to present a fair picture of the
progress of liquidation by the Italian Government, a picture to which I feel that
full justice is not always done in the Italian Press.

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Index 2

COPY OF NOTE REGARDING TRANSFER OF TERRITORIES

TO ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

7th October 1944

1/ /44

Sir,

With reference to your memorandum No. 276/123/CA of the 30th September addressed to the Secretariat of the Advisory Council for Italy, I have the honor to inform you that at their meeting on the 6th October, the Council unanimously approved the following resolution regarding the transfer of certain further territories to Italian administration.

2. "The Advisory Council for Italy have examined the proposal made by Captain Stone in his memorandum No. 276/123/CA of the 30th September for the transfer of certain territories to Italian administration and they recommend that this proposal should be immediately implemented."

3. I shall be grateful if you will be so good as to communicate the foregoing to the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Command, for appropriate action by him.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(344) NOEL CHARLES

30th September addressed to the Secretariat of the Advisory Council for Italy, I have the honor to inform you that at their meeting on the 6th October, the Council unanimously approved the following resolution regarding the transfer of certain further territories to Italian administration.

2. "The Advisory Council for Italy have examined the proposal made by Captain Stone in his memorandum No. 276/129/CA of the 30th September for the transfer of certain territories to Italian administration and they recommend that this proposal should be immediately implemented."

3. I shall be grateful if you will be so good as to communicate the foregoing to the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Command, for appropriate action by him.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) NOEL CHARLES

Captain Ellery W. Stone,
U.S.N.R.,
Acting Chief Commissioner,
Allied Control Commission.

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

CA Sect

(61)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 091.112-2

10 March 1945

13 MAR 1945

SUBJECT: Epuration of Fascists

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
(Attention Chief Commissioner)
APO 394

1. The Office of the British Resident Minister has informed this Section that the Foreign Office are considering the desirability of releasing for publication such Allied material regarding the purge of Fascists as was contained in your report to the Advisory Council and is embodied in the minutes of the 22nd meeting of that body. The suggestion is that publication might take the form of replies to Parliamentary questions or of releases to the Press and the British Broadcasting Corporation.

2. In informing this Section the Office of the British Resident Minister state that the War Office have no objection in principle to the above subject to appropriate examination of each item before release. The War Office and the Foreign Office agree that the consent of this Headquarters and of the Allied Commission would be essential before any material furnished by the Foreign Office could be published.

3. It is requested that you will inform this Section of your views in the matter as a preliminary to interested staff sections here being consulted. It is also requested that you will attach to your reply a full copy of the minutes to which reference is made.

CHARLES M. SPOTTED
Brigadier General, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

HEADQUARTERS
12 MAR 1945
A. C.

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(Handwritten mark)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785617

FREB/45802/G.

10th March 1945.

TO:- Chief Commissioner.
(Copy to Executive Commissioner) ✓

MAR 10 1945

FROM:- Acting President.

I have been informed in my capacity as Resident Minister that the Foreign Office is considering the desirability of releasing for publication such allied material regarding the purge of fascists as the report of the Allied Commission, the text of which was embodied in the minutes of the 22nd meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy.

The War Office have no objection in principle, subject to appropriate examination of each item before release. But it has been agreed that the consent of A.F.H.Q. and the Allied Commission would be essential before any material furnished by them could be published.

I propose to inform A.F.H.Q. that the Allied Commission has no objection to the project being carried out on the basis stipulated by the War Office.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

FEB 25 1945

240/PL/PES

25 Feb 45.

Handwritten: All Officers to See
Signature

Transcript of informal remarks of Lt. Hon. Harold Macmillan
At Press Reception on 24th Feb. 45.

M. S. LUSH

It is nearly eighteen months since I stood with my friend and colleague Mr. Robert Murphy and watched the signing of the Armistice Agreement which brought to a conclusion hostilities between the Allied forces and those of Italy. At that moment our minds turned naturally to the months that had passed since operation TORCH was first launched under General Eisenhower's command. This was the first, the prototype of joint operations by land and sea. They had been months of common difficulties jointly surmounted, difficulties both in the military and in the political sphere. Then, after the conquest and defeat of the German and Italian armies in Tunisia, came the successful landings in Sicily. Now came the collapse and surrender of Fascist Italy, at that time the puppet of Nazi Germany.

A few days later Murphy and I landed by plane between Taranto and Brindisi; and here, in the scope of Marshal Badoglio and his few Ministers, the conception of a legitimate

months that had passed since operation TORCH was launched under General Eisenhower's command. This was the first, the prototype of joint operations by land and sea. They had been months of common difficulties jointly surmounted, difficulties both in the military and in the political sphere. Then, after the conquest and defeat of the German and Italian armies in Tunisia, came the successful landings in Sicily. Now came the collapse and surrender of Fascist Italy, at that time the puppet of Nazi Germany.

A few days later Murphy and I landed by plane between Taranto and Brindisi; and here, in the wraps of Marshal Badoglio and his few Ministers, the conception of a legitimate Italian Government was kept alive although its authority was reduced to a tiny enclave of territory.

Under the conventions of international law the landings at Salerno and the occupation of Southern Italy were followed by proclamations setting up Allied Military Government. But even in those early days the concept of an independent Italian Government was kept in being; and from that moment all our minds were directed to the purpose of rebuilding, through such a Government, Italy as a free and democratic nation.

Handwritten signature

Handwritten text

Considering the enormous injuries inflicted upon the Allies, and more especially upon the British, by the closing of the Mediterranean, the threat, the imminent danger, the almost mortal blow to Egypt and the Suez Canal, and the vast corresponding burdens placed upon us, never in the history of war have victorious armies so rapidly and with such efficiency turned from battle to the task of reconstruction.

That was because we knew that the Italians, under a cruel dictatorship and held in fee by Germany, were being forced against their true interests and their long-standing traditions. As in the days of the Risorgimento, freedom-loving Italians had looked to the Anglo-Saxon people for sympathy and practical aid; so now, when they were escaping from something worse even than King Bomba, it was to the same old friends that they turned for sympathy in their new trials. Those trials continue. The armistice brought, alas, for Italy no peace. The cruel hand of war is passing from South to North through Italian territory, and we still do not know the final total in this horrible addition of destruction. Nevertheless, from the earliest moment an Italian Government has been nurtured by the Allied authorities. From Brindisi it was moved early in 1944 to Salerno and then began, although subjected to great physical difficulties of communication and location, to grow in strength and stature. As soon as possible

after the capture of Rome, arrangements were made for the members of the Government at Salerno to enter into close discussion with

As in the case of the Risorgimento, freedom-loving people looked to the Anglo-Saxon people for sympathy and practical aid; so now, when they were escaping from something worse even than King Benito, it was to the same old friends that they turned for sympathy in their new trials. Those trials continue. The Armistice brought, alas, for Italy no peace. The other hand of war is passing from South to North through Italian territory, and we still do not know the final total in this somber addition of destruction. Nevertheless, from the earliest moment an Italian Government has been nurtured by the Allied authorities. From Benitoist it was moved early in 1944 to Salerno and there began, although subjected to great physical difficulties of communication and location, to grow in strength and stature. As soon as possible after the capture of Rome, arrangements were made for the members of the Government at Salerno to enter into close discussion with the heads of the parties in Rome. Thus Signor Bonomi's first administration rapidly emerged. It has seemed a long and dreary winter with a comparatively static military line. But those months have not been wasted. There has been a steady and continuous development of the authority of the Italian Government; more and more territory has been handed over from Military Government to their control; and within that territory wherever possible the Italian authorities are taking over functions that properly belong to them.

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Section II

For instance, since we felt that, the food distribution in Southern Italy has become an Italian problem, an Allied responsibility. It is the idea of responsibility as presented under EMOO under Italian control is taking over progress in the difficult task of organization and administration in the state of Sicily. Under the Italian Government the Italian state has been completely controlled.

There is a further item that I should mention of interest to you concerning that is, as you know, instead of news being distributed by a network of the Allied military authorities, the normal means of distribution through the press has been completely broken down.

Meanwhile, the Italian press, as is well-known, has maintained the combat line. Even along the frontier the most valuable work has been done by all the Italian forces to the command and control. Now should there be only of military functions in terms of combat there is a great deal of work being done in terms of control with the services behind the lines. Towards these essential services the Italians have made great contributions. But of course they are right in seeking the honor of participation in the battle; and it is a great satisfaction to feel that this position is being realized. Nevertheless, there are, from a practical point of view, many limitations in the making of a new army. There is little Italian

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...has been restored.

Meanwhile, the Italian Navy, as is well-known, has been entered the combat line. Even since the outbreak of the war, Italy has been given by the Axis powers to the common war effort. Her largest navy ever existed, and with it a fleet of modern vessels, which were the backbone of the Italian Navy. However, these vessels suffered the Italian Navy's defeat in the Battle of Cape Matapan, and it is a great source of regret to the Axis powers that they were not in a position to participate in the battle. It is a great satisfaction to feel that this condition is being realized. Nevertheless, there are, from a practical point of view, many limitations in the making of a new navy. There is little Italian equipment in liberated Italy suitable for modern combat. Moreover, we can only be manufacturing ships. Italian combat vessels have to be furnished with Allied equipment. After this equipment has been shipped to Italy it takes some months before the combat strength can be trained in its use and ready for battle. And shipping is a great difficulty. Shipping today is demanded not so much by the enemy as it was in the previous years of our intense war effort and even the ships the Pacific War, the Burmese War, the War on the Eastern Front and the Mediterranean War. We have

[illegible]

When I speak of the Italian Army I must mention two most notable things. Namely, the excellent recruiting center, and the

Erwin Scharif, Ltd.

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our contacts and those of the Italian Government with the patriot movements allow us a confident hope that this will be the case.

This steady development of the Italian Government to its own authority is taking some further steps. The Chief Commissioner and I have to-day called upon the Prime Minister, Bonomi, and the Foreign Secretary, De Gasperi, to inform them of certain changes which are being made immediately. They are intended to carry out to the full the changed relationship between the Allied Commission and the Italian Government, which will in future be one of consultation and advice. Although the requirements of the Italian campaign and overriding military needs must be protected, the rights of the Allied Governments will be held in reserve in the matter of day to day administration.

Section III

What are the conditions of a Sovereign State? I would say that they consist first, in control of the external relations of that State; and secondly, in the control of the legislative functions and internal administration. Judged by this criterion, under the decisions which we have to-day communicated, the position of the Italian Government will be from a practical point of view incomparably reinforced. We have informed the Italian Government that it should conduct its relations with other Governments no longer indirectly through the Allied Commission but directly. They have absolutely free right to appoint and receive Ambassadors

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Section III

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Externally, therefore, the Italian Government will resume once more those normal relations which every Sovereign Government has with the Governments of all countries with which it is at peace.

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Internally, since there is no legislature, decrees and laws are passed by the Government. Up to now they have been submitted for the approval of the Commission. This requirement is abolished. Therefore the Italian Government retains full control over its legislative authority. As regards administration it was up to now been the practice that all appointments of the Italian Government must be approved by the Commission. This requirement also is abolished; and all appointments, from members of the Government down to the minor functionaries, will be the sole responsibility of the Italian Government itself. You may remember that in the first directive issued to General Eisenhower the task of ensuring the removal of undesirable or Fascist functionaries from their posts was placed upon the Commanding General. But all that is out of date. We have full confidence in the democratic purposes of the Italian Government; it is far better that they should freely choose their officials, and we have confidence that they will do so with efficiency and probity. At any rate they can in future do so without even formal approval from the Allied Commission. There is of course one exception, that is, the appointment of certain officers of military importance must be made with the approval of the Supreme Allied Commander. But that merely follows the normal practice where one nation has placed its armies under the command of another, and there is nothing, I am certain, in this which could be either derogatory to the Italians or dispensable on by them. The officers of an

from their posts was placed upon the Commanding General. But all that is out of date. We have full confidence in the deservents purposes of the Italian Government; it is far better that they should freely choose their officials, and we have confidence that they will do so with efficiency and probity. At any rate they can in future do so without even formal approval from the Allied Commission. There is of course one exception, that is, the appointment of certain officers of military importance must be made with the approval of the Supreme Allied Commission. But that merely follows the normal practice where one nation has placed its armies under the command of another, and there is nothing, I am certain, in this which could be either derogatory to the Italians or misinterpreted by them. The officers of an army fighting under the Supreme Allied Commander are naturally a subject on which he must be consulted.

There is another aspect of the changes which we have to-day announced to Signor Bonomi which I think may interest you. We have had, in order to take effective the transfer from Allied Military Government to Italian control and to get through the interval before a new stage could be reached, a considerable number of Regional Officers of the Allied Commission permanently stationed in areas under Italian jurisdiction. All these will

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be withdrawn. Certain Italian officers will be left to assist the military authorities in their duties in the various areas, and a number of technical experts, whose services are needed for the Italian Government, will remain available; but the general objective of the Italian Government is to get the Italian Government back on its feet as soon as possible. It is not yet clear what the Italian Government will do to get the Italian Government back on its feet as soon as possible. It is not yet clear what the Italian Government will do to get the Italian Government back on its feet as soon as possible.

There are a number of other points which are common to all of the Italian Government's policies. I am hoping that the Italian Government will be able to get the Italian Government back on its feet as soon as possible. It is not yet clear what the Italian Government will do to get the Italian Government back on its feet as soon as possible. It is not yet clear what the Italian Government will do to get the Italian Government back on its feet as soon as possible.

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I want, therefore, to make it clear that the Italian Government is not in a position to make any commitments at this time. I want, therefore, to make it clear that the Italian Government is not in a position to make any commitments at this time. I want, therefore, to make it clear that the Italian Government is not in a position to make any commitments at this time.

of war here in Italy can be easily liquidated. Arrangements are being made to re-establish in every possible way the cultural relationships between the Italian people and the allies. One of the great disadvantages of war is the break in the flow of knowledge and literature between one country and another. In an effort which I consider equally as a historian and as a publisher, we will make arrangements for the flow between Italy and the United Nations of books and other publications of a scientific, political, philosophical and artistic nature. Later on we hope to make similar arrangements for the movement between Italy and the United Nations of professional men, scholars and artists.

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I remind, therefore, these chambers which I have been authorized by the two governments to take in the political field as marking not indeed the final, but perhaps the penultimate stage in an evolutionary process begun in 1945. It is certainly a long way from the division of the globe where we started the Armistice Terms on that earlier September afternoon. It is a long way from the medieval chaos in which Italy began her independent life. It is the present, guided by a common purpose, but alive. It is a long way from the old and with surroundings of a government trying to get itself up in Western culture. It is a great advance even from the day when an Italian government presented none. It is a policy of steady development and it has nearly reached its final point.

So much for the political aspects, external and internal.

AT 9672045

Section IV

It is often to look forward with satisfaction, we must turn the
to time occasionally look back with understanding. Five years ago,
in the Spring of 1940, the vast power of the Nazi war machine was
about to be launched on Europe. The phrase of "Victory" was -
advance and ironic expression - was turning to its place. That
machine had been built up by fraud and in secret; although many
had predicted its rise the whole purpose of the machine's, now
had properly assessed its strength. Within a few weeks it was
decided, like a silent fleet, to overwhelm almost the whole of
Europe. Fortified by the temporary security of her Eastern

frontier - an advantage regarded to be wondrously strong, many within
another year - Germany was able to subdue, successively Norway,
Denmark, Holland, Belgium, France, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugo-
slavia, and Greece - and destined to fall beneath the terrible
weight of the final impact. Meanwhile was dramatically established
powers brought into uneasy alliance. After the virtual conquest
of Europe, as the German Fascist Italy under Mussolini's
early leadership - Africa was reached by the same impulse and al-
most irresistible surge. In the following years the great
expansion movement reached its peak, with the advance to a few
miles from Cairo and the conquest of huge tracts of Russian
territory. Great Britain in those days could but struggle to

232

49

step the advance- tide. But at a certain point in time (about the exact definition of which historians will long debate) the movement of expansion was halted. For long months and even years, the Allied forces could withstand its further progress, but not to any great degree force a retreat. An uneasy equilibrium followed, in the course of which almost irreparable wounds have been inflicted upon the suffering body composite of Europe.

And now in the West, starting from the Autumn of 1942 with Alexander and Eisenhower's African campaigns, from the triumphs of 1943, the Battle of Tunisia, the capture of Sicily, the end of Fascist Italy and the liberation of North Italy in 1944, the episode culminates in the vast enterprise of the landings in and liberation of France, Belgium and part of Holland, and the advance into German territory. On the east, the splendid Soviet armies have driven the invader from the sacred soil of Russia and are advancing further each day into the very heart of Germany. Day by day the Germans are being pushed back into their steadily retreating zone. Day by day the noose is being drawn tighter. Day by day their vital and utter collapse is growing more sure and more inescapable. And the vast, swollen river of aggression which starting from its impure sources, five years ago threatened to overwhelm Europe, has already begun to take a manageable stream and will soon be dry forever.

But when clouds recede, light and demonstration remain behind 323
 and we must be in concert with our Italian friends,

2327

story culminates in the vast enterprise of the landings in and liberation of France, Belgium and part of Holland, and the advance into German territory. On the east, the splendid Soviet armies have driven the invader from the unroved soil of Russia and are now driving forward each day into the very heart of Germany. Day by day the Germans are being pushed back into their steadily retreating zone. Day by day the noose is being drawn tighter. Day by day their final and utter collapse is growing more sure and more inescapable. And the vast, swollen river of aggression which, starting from its impure sources, five years ago threatened to overwhelm Europe, has already begun to quite a manageable stream and will soon be dry forever.

823

But when floods recede, filth and devastation remain behind. Through eighteen active months in concert with our Italian friends, the Commission has been charged with the cleansing and purifying task. When all the difficulties are understood, I believe America and Great Britain have nothing to be ashamed of, either in the spirit which has inspired its representatives in Italy or the efficiency with which they have done their work.

The story has been one of quiet and steady progress towards a clearly defined goal. The developments which I have ventured to bring to your attention as having taken place since our last meeting, together with the specific and important changes which are now to become operative, are part of that policy. Great as

- 10 -

and the difficulties which Europe has to face, let us not be
conceited. Let us rather think, with a due mixture of pride and
modesty, of those from whom she has already been rescued by
the courage and sacrifice of our two peoples and our Allies.

Liberated Italy, excluding territory under AMG admin-
istration, includes the islands of Sardinia and Sicily and
all of the peninsula south of the Northern boundaries of
Viterbo, Rieti and Roma provinces.

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

Executive Commission
9255
FEB. QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 194

Office of the Executive Commissioner

20 February 1945

Ref. R5c/243

SUBJECT: Interviews with Italian Journalists

FEB 22 1945

TO : Distribution 'A'

1. As various responsibilities are handed over to the Italian Government, the Italian press tends to get more and more information from Italian sources, and such information may not always coincide with the views of the Allied Commission. Unless the Allied Commission is willing to extend to Italian press correspondents as much patience, explanation, and information as they obtain from other sources, the Allied Commission is bound to be ignored or misrepresented by the Italian press. It is therefore felt that responsible AG officers should now make it a part of their business to interview Italian journalists when this is requested by PRG. Such interviews will no doubt occasion some misunderstandings and possibly misinterpretations, but these must be regarded as offset by the increased goodwill and understanding which should result from a better knowledge of AG subcommittees and their work by the Italian press. With a view to avoiding difficulties as far as possible, the following procedure is laid down.

2. Journalists will first approach the Public Relations Branch for permission to obtain an interview, and will submit to the PRG a list of the questions they propose to ask.

3. Subjects to be discussed will be carefully screened by the Public Relations Branch and will be kept within the strict purview of the relevant subcommission. In their interviews officers will be careful to confine themselves to factual statements as to what has been done and what is being done, but will not deal with future policy.

4. Articles written by journalists on the basis of the interviews granted will be submitted to the officer interviewed and to the PRG for review before publication.

5. Public Relations Representative who will be regularly assigned to the task of arranging interviews of Italian journalists with subcommittees and of ensuring that the written articles are submitted for review in accordance with paragraph 4 above, will be Mrs. DOMITTA GILIA, Italian civilian. The location is Room 22, 3rd floor, tel. ext. 591.

DISTRIBUTION

A

Brigadier
Major General

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RS 2/PRB
HSC/PRB 42

NOTE

Interviews with Italian Journalists

1. As various responsibilities are handed over to the Italian government, the Italian press tends to get more and more information from Italian sources ~~by connection with the Italian government~~, and such information may not always coincide with the views of AG. Unless the AG is willing to extend to Italian press correspondents as much patience, explanation and information as they obtain from other sources, the AG is bound to be ignored or misrepresented by the Italian press. It is therefore felt that responsible AG officers should now make it a part of their business to interview Italian journalists when this is requested by RCO. Such interviews will no doubt occasion some misunderstandings and possibly misinterpretations, but these must be regarded as offset by the increased goodwill and understanding which should result from a better knowledge of AG Sub Commissions and their work by the Italian press. With a view to avoiding difficulties as far as possible, the following procedure is laid down.
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2. Journalists will first approach the Public Relations Branch for permission to obtain an interview, and will submit a list of the questions they propose to ask to the PRO.

3. Subjects to be discussed will be carefully screened by the Public Relations Branch and will be kept within the strict purview of the relevant Sub Commission. In their interviews officers will be careful to confine themselves to factual statements as to what has been done and what is being done, and will not deal with future policy.

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5. Public Relations Branch personnel, who will be regularly assigned to the task of arranging interviews of Italian journalists with Sub Commissions and of ensuring that the written articles are submitted for review in accordance with para. 4 above, will ~~be~~ and Mrs. JOHANNA QUILLA, Italian civilian. They are located in Room 22, 3rd Floor, Tel. Ext. 591.

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see Folio 48

NOTE BU HOUSE 44 547
PA 11/2

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

9258

42A

File

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 30 January.

Visits of Italian Journalists.
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PRO's memorandum had been circulated to Sections. Eon Sec had discussed at their staff meeting and put forward the suggestion that Italian journalists should be interviewed first by a Public Relations officer and their questions screened before they saw anybody else. COS agreed.

CA Sec considered that officers should not deal with future policy but confine themselves to factual statements as to what had been and what was being done. COS concurred and directed PRO to get out instructions incorporating the suggestions of Eon and CA Secs.

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

9258

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

LHD/as

1.01/RS

25 January 1945

JAN 27 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF: ✓

Subject: Interviews with Italian Journalists

1. Reference 3253/35/COS, your office, 25 January, above subject.

2. The suggested procedure was discussed at length at Economic Section Staff Meeting this morning. The Directors of the various Sub-Commissions indicated that they were prepared to cooperate in connection with interviews with Italian journalists. The following are put forth as suggestions for improving the proposed procedure:

a. Italian journalists to be interviewed first by one of the officers of the Public Relations Branch in order to screen out the list of questions which will be submitted to Directors prior to the interview. It was thought that one of the Public Relations Officers who is familiar with the Commission's policies and the type of information available can readily indicate to the journalists the type of questions that the Directors can properly consider.

b. Questions involving policy which Directors are not prepared to answer may be referred to the appropriate Section for consideration by the Vice President.

3. It is suggested that instructions with respect to the interviews be gotten out and circulated to all concerned.

4. It is assumed that when such instructions are received, Directors and Deputies of Sub-Commissions will thereby be authorized to hold interviews with the press notwithstanding previous restrictions.

PA 30
325
Held 9/1

cc M. 39 to H.I.

PJA
L 3011

L. D. DENSORE
Colonel, P. A.
Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
Economic Section

cc: Pub. Rel. Br.

2 3 3 4

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

9258

(31)

File

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 23 January 1945.
JAN 27 1945

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Visits of Italian Journalists.

Eccon Sec read a long list of questions which Italian newspapermen had asked Transportation and Labour Sub-Commissions, and a report from Director, Labour Sub-Commission giving his reasons why the questions should not be answered.

There was some discussion, and COS said that answers could be given to some of the questions in very general terms, and other questions left unanswered. Many of the matters were the responsibility of the Italian Government, and the newspapermen should be informed accordingly. COS would discuss the whole matter with PRO.

2335

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

35

Ref: 9258/35/COS.

25 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Interviews with Italian Journalists.

TO : DCOG, CA Sec
DCOG, Econ Sec
VP, Pol Sec

34

I am directed by the Chief of Staff to forward you copy of the attached paper by PRO which will be brought up for discussion at the next Chief of Staff's Meeting.

F F 50001

/38.

PA to COS.

Copy to: PRO.

38

Be next meeting
Tuesday 30/1/45
323
H 27/1

2337

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel: 478201

Ref: 9258/33/00S

23 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Press Release.

TO : Regional Commissioner,
Sicilia Region
Sardogna Region
Southern Region
Lazio-Umbria Region
Abruzzi-Marche Region
Toscana Region
Emilia Region
Liguria Region
Piemonte Region
Lombardia Region
Venezia Region
SCAO Fifth Army.
SCAO Eighth Army.

The Acting President held a Press Conference on 3 Jan 45.
Attached hereto for your information is copy of the Press Release.

A. H. ...
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Incl:
as above

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

9258
Pres

File

32

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 16 January 45.

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JAN 16 1945

Relations between PRC and Sub-Commissions. CI Sec cited the instance of a newspaper report concerning Public Health and Italian Red Cross ambulances. C-3 ruled that Sub-Commissions would be responsible for clearing proposed press releases with any third party involved before approaching PRC.

9258

31

File

U.S. PUBLIC RELATIONS
C. 111.

JAN - 8 1945

At. Hon. Harold Ickes's Press Conference - Jan. 11, 1945.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION UNTIL 2000-07-06, P. 4, J45, 42.

I feel I owe some apologies to the Press for a certain elusiveness during recent months. When I was in Algiers I had direct authority as the sole British diplomatic and political representative in French North Africa. In my present field, covering the Central Mediterranean as a whole, my duty is to advise SACMID from the British angle. But of course in Rome the British Ambassador, Sir Noel Charles, and in Athens the British Ambassador, Mr. Leeper, have a direct responsibility. As regards executive action, the President of the Commission and the Chief Commissioner have both the officers to whom you would naturally look for information. Since I do not like interfering with other people, I have therefore not seen as much as I should have liked of my Press friends. I offer this as an explanation if not as an apology.

On November 10th the announcement of my appointment as Acting President of the Allied Commission was made in London and Washington. This of course gives me new and executive responsibilities. On that date I was actually in Greece. I returned to Italy on November 12th and at once began a series of detailed discussions with the officials at A.P.H. and at A.C. on many of the problems of Italy, and especially having regard to the 'New Deal' for Italy contained in the recent statements of the President and Mr. Churchill.

On November 22nd I left for London. During myself on the discussion which I had held in Naples and in Rome, I was able to submit a fairly comprehensive plan to my colleagues. Unfortunately I was delayed in my journey home by a forced descent at Dijon. Nevertheless, by Friday night, December 8th, after prolonged departmental discussions, I had obtained the consent of my colleagues in the British Cabinet to the proposals which I intended to put forward in Washington. It was my intention to leave by aeroplane for America on Saturday, December 9th, and all was ready for the journey. As already stated in the Press, in addition to the political and supply questions affecting Italy, I was charged with the duty of discussing general questions of supply to the liberated countries of Europe, especially France, Belgium and Holland.

Late on the night of December 8th Mr. Churchill asked me to change my plane and leave immediately for Athens. This, of course, I readily assented to, and it certainly sounded an interesting and even exciting assignment. Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander and I left

I have therefore not seen as such as I should have lived of my Press friends. I offer this as an explanation if not as an apology.

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Late on the night of December 8th Mr. Churchill asked me to change my plans and leave immediately for Athens. This, of course, I readily assented to do, and it certainly seemed an interesting and even exciting assignment. Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander and I left London on the following day.

I was naturally very disappointed at having to put off my trip to Washington. I was anxious to pay this visit not merely to carry through this important business, but to make and renew contacts with many American friends. Like the Supreme Allied Commander, as Acting President of the Commission I regard myself as holding an Allied post. Although it may seem rather a strange thing for a British Cabinet Minister to become on one side of his functions an Allied Officer while on the other filling the position of British Political Adviser at A.P.H.A., remaining a purely British figure, yet this war has made possible so close a co-operation and so complete an integration between Great Britain and the United States as to excuse what pedants might condemn. At any rate it follows the theme of Mr. Churchill when he said that Great Britain and America were getting well mixed up together and the more the better.

The European supply problem is being handled by the Minister of State, Mr. Law, in my place, and this has of course included discussions on supply questions for Italy in general.

(SEE FOLIO 33)
contd ... sheet 2

Sheet 2.

The more detailed supply problems (and they are many and difficult) and the political questions are being handled on my behalf by General Spafford, United States Army, head of G-3 at A.P.H.C., and by the British representative on the Joint Staff Mission, to whom I telegraphed all the proposals in full before I left London. Colonel Bratton, Secretary, General Staff, A.P.H.C., who was to accompany me, has come with all the necessary papers to Washington. I am happy to say that I can confidently look forward to a complete agreement. From the telegrams which have been passing from Washington through London to me on detailed points, I do not think that this will now take long to complete.

I hope that a suitable arrangement may be made for the two Governments giving main production to the President's various declarations regarding Italy, and especially the joint statement of the President and the Prime Minister.

Normally, on returning from there last Friday, I have been exceedingly useful in some, with the help of my colleagues, to the study - and I hope towards the solution - of many urgent problems.

The work of the Chief Commissioner, whose production to the issue of demand in the United States Navy was so welcome to all Americans, Britain and Italians, is well known. When the full story is told of what he has done since his arrival in Washington, from those early days of arrival when he was a loyal adjutant to General MacArthur, up till today, his work will be even more generally recognized. And in his official capacity he has a staff of outstanding quality. By such colleagues I feel buoyed up and sustained.

The problems facing Italy's present and future are formidable. The grim facts of her economic and danger of further destruction on a wide scale before the German are finally forced to evacuate the country are potent to all. Some of our critics are saying that even - or only - cursory visits - the liberated territories, may not really represent the difficulties. And such ravages and such destruction of capital equipment of every kind taken place as the result of some aerial bombardment - comparable or rival even - even a peaceful world with its full production available, and all its shipping services at home to bring needed materials would have found it a long and laborious process to repair them. Not only is there the havoc of lands and villages, but, such are serious, of great difficulties. But the resources of the Allied Nations are strained to the utmost for war needs, shipping, however rapidly built on a never great scale, is devoted by the hungry jaws of war both in the West and in the East. At the same time the liberated areas of France, Belgium and Holland have almost no means for help. It is natural, therefore, that with all the goodwill in the world the process of reconstruction in Italy is haphazard and slow.

318

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318

The work of the Joint Commission, whose presence to the ruins of Adami in the hills of Ethiopia was so welcome to all nations, British and Italians, is well known. When the full story is told of what he has done amidst language difficulties, from those early days of arrival when he was a eager adjuster to general common sense, up till today, his work will be even more admirably recognized. And in his office there is a kind of staff of outstanding quality. By men officers I feel brought up and sustained.

The problems facing Italy's present and future are formidable. The grim facts of death and the danger of further destruction on a wide scale before the Germans are finally forced to evacuate the land - or only curbed, visited - the liberated territories, may not wholly appreciate the difficulties. And such revealed and such destruction of organized equipment of every kind taken place as the result of some natural phenomenon - earthquake or tidal wave - even a peaceful world with its full production available and all its shipping services ready to bring reinforcements would have found it a long and laborious process to repair them. Not only is there the havoc of battle and carnage, but, which war brings, of many humiliations. But the restoration of the Allied Nations are striving to the utmost for war needs, shipping, however rapidly built on a never great scale, is demanded by the hungry jaws of war both in the East and in the West. At the same time the liberated areas of France, Belgium and Holland need almost demands for help. It is natural, therefore, that with all the goodwill in the world the process of reconstruction in Italy is tedious and slow. Nevertheless, that process will continue. A good patience and perseverance, a sense of proportion and a sense of urgency, and with these we shall be able to recover if not all, at least a large measure of our high purposes. The Allied Commission serves the cause and the needs of the Allies. It equally serves the Italians. Its hope and its faith is that Italy, with greater independence, let working harmoniously at our side, will aid us to make our further effective. But whatever we can do for Italy as is nothing to what the Italians can and must do for themselves morally as well as materially. I believe that the Italian people will respond to generosity and confidence. Such is the wish of the Heads of our Governments. It is in this spirit that they have made their declaration, and it is in this spirit that on their behalf we in the Commission exude to ourselves to our best.

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

9258

For File 9251.

29

Extracts of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting - 29 December.

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Relations with Italian Press. COS thought the Lazio-Umbria
Region directive had gone a little too far, and instructed PRO
to send a DO letter to the Executive Officer, Lazio-Umbria Region.

.....

9258

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
MADRID REGION
APO 804

5/6/50

21 December 1944

SUBJECT: Advisory Committee and Relations with Italian Press.

24 DEC 1944

TO: All Division Chiefs.

1. There are indications from several quarters that the Italians are beginning to "call our bluff" in territory which is under their control. While, to say this is no more than passive resistance and it is not expected to become "active" in anything more than a few isolated instances, the fact remains that our Office is having no executive authority and, if the bluff is called, are in an extremely undesirable position.

2. "Advisory" is the most difficult state of our work. You may have to step back and see the work of months ruined and a lower-level level of efficiency slip back. But you can stop it slipping too far with your advice, and you will probably find that the Italians will, quite quickly, make progress on their own. They will never do so while we remain in an executive position.

3. You are not precluded from accompanying an Italian Official in the course of his duty. But any executive action necessary must come from the Italian. At the outset this may mean that an Italian Official is acting purely as your mouthpiece - that is all right - but the object must be for us to draw out from that position leaving the Italian in control. You will not be executive unless orders to be so are given by H.Q. Allied Commission.

4. In conjunction with this it is important for our position to be understood by the Italian Press and People. At the moment the Press prints all kinds of inaccuracies and, in the minds of the People, the Allies are responsible for everything. So long as that situation exists there is no need for the Italian Officials to make any attempt to clear up their own inefficiencies.

5. For that reason it is desirable to provide the Italian Press with accurate information and to make them understand both where various responsibilities lie and their own duty in reporting such matters.

6. H.Q. Allied Commission have agreed that the best method of disseminating accurate news to the Italian Press is to allow them to enter our Offices. The Italian Press has been informed, therefore, that they will be received by Division Chiefs as from today's date.

7. The following points will be observed:-

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H.Q. Allied Commission have agreed that the best method of dissemination
 accurate news to the Italian Press is to allow them to enter our Offices. The
 Italian Press has been informed, therefore, that they will be received by Division **318**
 C.I. as from to-day's date.

6. The following points will be observed:-
- (a) Press Representatives will be received by the Divisional Chief (or such
 Allied Officer as he expressly specifies) only.
 - (b) Information will be confined entirely to accomplished facts which affect
 this Region. On no account will Officers give opinions on policy, on
 future possibilities, or anything which is not covered by the phrase
 "accomplished facts". They are, of course, always at liberty to point
 out where the responsibility lies - that is one part of the plan.
 - (c) Since this morning's conference H.Q. Allied Commission have stated that
 they wish Press Representatives to be interviewed by Divisional Chiefs
 in the presence of either the Regional Commissioner or Executive Officer.
 This will clearly necessitate appointments for those Departments which
 are not in via Lucullo.
 - (d) Any announcement will be made in the name of H.Q. Lazio Umbria Region.

(Continued)

8. Italian Copy file 555/COS

PTA.

7. It is known that some Divisions are pressed by their corresponding Sub-Commissions to be executive. This is appreciated by the Chief of Staff who has undertaken to take the matter up inside N. A. Allied Commission.

For the Regional Commissioner:-

R. A. Buchanan-Smith
R. A. BUCHANAN-CARTER
Lt. Colonel,
Executive Officer.

Copy : Provincial Commissioners (7)
S. A. Allied Commission S. A. A.
S. A. Allied Commission S. A. A.

9258

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFC 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

20/PRB

19 December 44.

20 DEC 1944

SUBJECT : A.C. and Italian Press

TO : Chief of Staff, A.C.

This minute is put up at the request of D.C.O.S. Est. Sec. after the discussion which took place at the Chief of Staff's meeting on December 19.

Our relations with the Italian Press are not, in my view, nearly as close and cordial as they should be. There are three main causes for this, viz:

- (1) I was warned off by Rayner of PWB when I wished to start Press Conferences here. Rayner stated that it was the right of PWB to contact and inform the Italian Press. Later, PWB started to hold Press Conferences which have not been a great success.
- (2) The comparative rarity of Italian-speaking officers in the sub-commissions makes conferences extremely difficult and interviews very lengthy.
- (3) There has been a general tendency to resist granting facilities to Italian journalists, chiefly for security reasons. For instance, when I asked Colonel Jenny to give Italian journalists exact facts about the destruction of the hydro-electric plants at Terni and Tivoli he strongly opposed the idea. (In fact it was done later by PWB). Colonel Densmore, at the C.C.S. meeting of December 19, said that we were "in too much confusion ourselves" to grant such interviews.

In my view the time has come - concurrent with our closer collaboration with the Italian Government and the proposed replacement of UNNS by News Agencies - for a better deal to be given to Italian Correspondents. There is much misapprehension still in the Italian Press about the functions, intentions and personnel of A.C. Press Conferences and Press Release 815 will not correct this, partly because Italian journalists, with their experience of the Fascist regime, view such things with suspicion, partly (in the first case) owing to the language difficulty, and partly because every journalist, whatever his

28/12

11/23/45 B. 5112

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18

- 2 -

nationality, wants personal interviews.

This office is of course in close touch with the Press and it would be a very easy matter to start the arrangement of interviews for Italian Correspondents with the various sub-commissions. We should need to use interpreters but this I think could be arranged; we have two excellent ones in this Branch and could also call on the Italian Liaison Section. But the two following points must be emphasised :

- (a) Publicity of this kind, whatever the control, will undoubtedly result in some indiscretions, because we cannot possibly rely on all Italian Correspondents being good boys always. In my view, however, a closer contact with and understanding of Sub-commissions would result in a very favourable balance of publicity.
- (b) Heads of Sections and Sub-commissions must be prepared to give time, patience and facts to Italian Correspondents. Probably a directive from Heads of Sections or the Chief of Staff will be needed.

It seems to me that, even if risks are attached, it is very desirable to set some such procedure going now, so that Italian journalists may be encouraged to know A.C. personalities and understand their problems.

Lionel Fielden

LIONEL FIELDEN
Major
Public Relations Director.

Copy to : Brigadier Parkinson
Colonel Fiske
Colonel Densmore.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017TranslatDepartment of State
24 April 1945

Rome, 18 November 1944

16 #7

Dear Admiral,

I saw your statement to the correspondent Ray Reynolds in today's 'Stars and Stripes'.

In this statement I found not only the proofs of the sympathy and understanding that you gave us in so many occasions, but also a clear view of the political and military situation of Italy.

I want to express our gratitude for what you said with such competence and authority about the war contribution of our country to the cause of the United Nations, and about the real spirit of collaboration in the relations between the United Nations and the new Allied Commission.

Your statement shows that the Italian effort is being more and more appreciated by the United Nations, and that we shall soon reach the close collaboration in peace and war that the Italian people are ardently wishing.

I remain, my dear Admiral,

Yours very truly,

/s/ H. Truman

Admiral Wilfred J. Stone
Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission
A. C. M. C.

trans. L.J.

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PA
25/11

AC Official Praises War Effort Of Italy

By Sgt. RAY REYNOLDS
Staff Correspondent

ROME, Nov. 17—Through no fault of their own, the British and American publics have "no conception" of the size of Italy's war effort in its struggle to live a new life.

This is the belief of Commodore Ellery Stone, USNR, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, as he talked informally yesterday about the year of work which the Commission completed Nov. 10. One of the least publicized American officers who hold high posts in this theater, 50-year-old Commodore Stone is in a position to point out, perhaps better than any other, the general Italian situation other than military.

Two factors, the Commissioner believes, may have created what he calls a "negative attitude" toward the Italian war effort. These are: first, that the mass of war news has crowded out many stories about Italian reconstruction; and secondly, that much Italian military work must be kept under wraps temporarily for military reasons. When it can be released, it's no longer news.

ITALIANS CONTRIBUTE

If recent news events were fully evaluated, the Commodore asserted, the Italian effort would be better appreciated. The Allies, he pointed out, must have had a solid basis for the faith in Italy they showed when diplomatic channels were recently reopened between this nation and countries with which she hasn't yet signed a peace treaty. The despoiling of the word "Control" from the "Allied Control Commission," he added, means more than a shorter name. It means, he hinted, that a new phase of the Commission's work is about to begin, in which Italians will do their own planning, with the Commission advising rather than executing.

In his liking for the Italians, the Commodore can't understand the patronizing attitude occasionally taken toward them.

"We haven't brought them in democracy. All we've done is enable them to practice it," he said. If some Americans think the Italians haven't yet learned how to use it, he asserted, they should remember that after our own Revolutionary War, the colonies had to "cut and try" too.

In 1922, Commodore Stone collaborated with an Italian engineer who was studying California's hydro-electric system. The work of such men, the Commodore said, has resulted in a fact presently most vital to the Allied Commission. Italy's entire industry is geared to electrical power in an excellent setup which, as an engineer, the Commissioner can ap-



COMMODORE STONE
Italy is underrated

the joint merger of his company and Western Union before returning to active service. But he has never before had such a variety of decisions to make—involving agriculture, armed forces, commerce, economics, education, finance, food, industry, labor, local government, monuments, patriotic activity and public safety.

With all this, Commodore Stone, one of America's early radio "hams," still keeps his hand in at the telegraph code, now and then copying Navy press over the short-wave set in his quarters. Five weeks after his driver, T-5 James C. Cull of Hyde Park, Mass., joined him, the Commodore discovered that Cull had worked for Postal in Boston. The unusual reunion occurred when Cull took a per-foot "D" in Morse as the car drove off one morning.

The Commodore's home is New York City. He is married and has three children and a son One

Stars + Stripes

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TWO BIG PROBLEMS

The Commissioner's other big headaches are transport and food supply. It will not be an easy winter, he warned.

A year ago, entering Italy, the Allied Military Mission, the unit faced two unpredictable factors—the devastation which the ensuing war would wreak, and the political drifts certain to follow capitulation. The first has proven more painful a reality than the second, Commodore Stone stated.

It was a remarkable, encouraging sign, he said, when six different parties joined together so early in a single government which still continues. He thinks this year-old demonstration of the Italian ability to join democratically for the future is worth a prominent place in history books.

Although the Commodore's sparkling gold Navy braid makes him look like a fish out of water in the great AG building teeming with civilian and Army personnel, his record shows he is not. From 1933 to 1942, he was president of Postal Telegraph and helped in



COMMODORE STONE
Italy is underrated.

the giant merger of his company and Western Union before returning to active service. But he has never before had such a variety of decisions to make—deciding on agriculture, armed forces, commerce, economics, education, finance, food, industry, labor, local government, monuments, patrol activity and public safety.

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The Commodore's home is New York City. He is married and has three daughters and a son. One daughter is a Wave. Her rank, lieutenant junior grade, is the same with which her father started service in World War I.

Changes In French
Cabinet Announced

PARIS, Nov. 17.—Rene Pleven, former Minister of Colonies, has been named Minister of Finance to succeed Alime Le Perq who was killed in a motor accident last week.

Other Cabinet changes announced today were the appointment of Paul Giacobbi, former Minister of Food Supplies, as Minister of Colonies to succeed Mr. Pleven and the designation of Paul Ramadier, Deputy from the Aveyron Department, in south central France, to succeed Mr. Giacobbi as Minister of Food and Supplies.

Meanwhile, Pierre Mendes-France, Minister of National Economy, announced that a national planning council to work out a long-term scheme for the nation's economic program will be established shortly. Private enterprise, labor and other interests will be

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

14

Tel. 289

Ref. 9258/7/COS.

3rd November, 1944

SUBJECT: Insertion for Daily Bulletin.

TO : Adjutant.

1. May the following be inserted in Daily Bulletin of 4 and 5 November please.

PRESS RELEASES:
"All officers of the Commission should avoid unofficial discussion of AC affairs with representatives of the Press."

No officer is authorised to give information to the Press or write articles for publication without reference to the PRC."

*See draft
at 7*

[Signature]
Chief-Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

[Signature]
311 3/11

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel. 735

Ref : 9258/8/006

30 October 1944

SUBJECT: A. U. Publicity

TO : D.C.O.S., Civil Affairs Section

1. With reference to your Memorandum 357/Ed dated 11 October 44, the danger of officers of the Commission granting interviews to the Press, authorised or unauthorised, is always present, with consequent risk of misrepresentation.
2. I feel that to demand to see copy before it is despatched would be too unproductive of results for it to be a reliable solution and instead will give instructions for the matter to be brought to the notice of all officers of the Commission warning them to be on their guard and to refer all requests for interviews to the PRO.
3. I consider it is unnecessary to continue this correspondence by sending copies of Major Ashburne's letter to G-5 and General Millaring.

M. S. USH

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

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Draft

Cases have recently occurred of misquotation or misinterpretation by Allied correspondents and PWB representatives of interviews with officers of the Commission.

All officers are reminded:

- ✓ (a) That no interviews should be given unless requested by or cleared with PRO.
- ✓ (b) That officers will be held responsible for misleading or inaccurate statements attributed to them.
- ✓ (c) That correspondents who ask for interviews can be required, when necessary, to submit their material to the officer concerned before it is despatched.
- (d) That the PRO can hold up despatches, if necessary, for examination and can take action against correspondents who misrepresent facts.

Cases of misrepresentation have in fact been very infrequent and it is not suggested that examination of all correspondents' copy is necessary. This order is primarily intended to draw the attention of all officers to the care which they themselves must exercise in making statements for publication.

DRAFT

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SUBJECT: ACO/ Publicity.

TO : DCOS, Civil Affairs Section.

1. With reference to your Memorandum 357/Ed dated 11 October 44, the danger of officers of the Commission granting interviews to the Press, authorised or unauthorised, is always present, with consequent risk of misrepresentation.
2. I feel that to demand to see a copy before it is despatched would be too unproductive of results for it to be a reliable solution and ~~instead I propose to bring the danger to the notice of all officers of the Commission~~ ^{will give instructions for the matter to be brought} ^{Warning} ~~instructing~~ them to be on their guard and to refer all requests for interviews to the PRO.
3. I consider it is unnecessary to continue this correspondence by sending copies of Major Washburne's letter to G-5 and General Hilldring.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

see Minute 9
9/10

Bu 21/10
Noted

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2356

DRAFT

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Daily Bulletin.

All officers of the Commission should avoid unofficial discussion of ACP affairs with representatives of the Press [as there is the danger that personal expressions of opinion may be interpreted as the policy of the Commission.]

No officer is authorized to give information to the Press without reference to the PRO. for direct contact

obscure articles for publication

2357

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

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cos.

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MEMORANDUM

Ref: 357/ad.

SUBJECT: - Education Sub-Commission

TO: - A/CG. ✓

11th Oct. '42.

12 OCT Recd

1. I have discussed with Major Washburne the alleged remarks by him in an interview with the New York Herald Tribune. He fully understands that it is not for him to initiate any reforms, and maintained that he was incorrectly reported on the subject.

2. He states that the whole thing was very much in the air and resulted from a suggestion made by the Minister of Education that consultants to the Italian Government should be brought over from the U.S. It was appreciated of course that the consultants could not be brought over from America for some time.

3. Major Washburne further assures me that he was very careful not to initiate any discussions on reforms which came entirely from the Minister.

4. I am satisfied that Major Washburne fully appreciated the situation, and he makes the following suggestion with which I agree, that in future correspondents who make copy based on interviews with sub-commissions should show the article to the sub-commission head concerned before publication. I propose to bring this up at the next R.F. meeting.

5. Since speaking to Major Washburne I have received the attached letter from him, and if you agree I will send copies as he suggests to General Hillaring and General Spofford.

G. R. Lyster

G. R. Lyster, Brigadier.
V. C. Sec.
Dep. C. of S.

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ymk.

(2427)

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Education Subcommittee

ED/CWW/cg

ED/B/AOC

10 October 1944

SUBJECT: Report of interview given to New York Herald Tribune correspondent.

TO : VE, CA Section, AOC.

Dear Brigadier USJOHN,

I am much concerned about the distorted report of the interview I gave to the New York Herald Tribune on request of the PRO. I am telling Major FIELDEN that I shall give no more interviews unless I may be shown each completed report before it is released.

Faulty reporting is so common that this could be laughed off were it not that it seems to justify a fear that some people have had, as to my work and intentions in Italy. Because in my own country I have pioneered for improved methods of education, it is natural for people to think that I would tend to follow the same pattern here. But what is one's right and duty in one's own country may be folly and impertinence in another. I have studied, first hand, education in many parts of the world and I know nothing is more fatal than for a foreigner to try to impose his ideas, or more futile than for a nation to try to model its social structure on that which arose in another nation of widely different history and tradition.

As an educator, then, it would be contrary to my deepest convictions to attempt to reform the Italian schools. That is a job for the Italians themselves, if they wish to undertake it. The most any outsiders can or should do is to make available, insofar as it is desired, the thought and experience of other Nations. The Italians themselves must then see whether any part of this experience throws light on their own problems.

As an Allied officer, assigned to the educational phase of Military Government, my mission is clear and limited: To get schools opened and functioning on a non-fascist basis, but otherwise in accordance with Italian law and custom. To this, for the year that I have been here, I have given my full energies. Any objective examination of my record here in Italy, or of the school programs and text books issued under my supervision, will show how strictly I have kept within the limits of my mission.

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Since the Herald Tribune report may prove disturbing to my responsible superior officers, I enclose the extra copies of this letter which I will appreciate your transmitting to Commodore STONE, Colonel SPOFFORD, and General HILDBRING.

Carlton W. Washburne

CARLETON W. WASHBURN
Major, A.U.S.
A/Director of Education

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