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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE
DEC. 1944 – MAY 1945

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INFORMATION FILE

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OFFICE OF

CHIEF OF STAFF

484 - 503

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

SUB-COMMITTEE

E.I. 30 DEC 1944
COS 8 Jan 45
COS 13 Jan 45

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
JCS 1/4/74
DJ NARS, Date 4/2/74

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SUB-COMMITTEE

SEI. 30 DEC 1944
COS 8 Jan 45
COS 13 Jan 45

DECLASSIFIED
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JCS 1/4/74
By ___ NARS, Date 4/4/74

10000 109 1249

THIS FOLDER
CONTAINS PAPERS
FROM DEC 44
TO MAY 45

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15

Chief of Staff.

I submit comments as requested. I don't think "briefing" is necessary. The C.C. knows all the points such may arise. I have drawn attention to anything which in my view might raise difficulties.

L. Fielden Major

Jan. 10.

16

Chief of Staff

The Chief Commissioner would like to have the comments of the Political Section on this matter.

J. A. Quarles Major
10-1-45

17

508

Pol. Sect.

Please see 16 above.

Talbot Major
for DOS

10.1.45.

CC 112
13 Jan. 45

18

All these points were dealt with at yesterday's

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[redacted]

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J. A. Quarles - Rayer
10 - i - 45

17

508

P.R. Sect.

Please see 16 above.

E. Talbot Rayner
for W.S.
10.1.45.

18

cc 112
13 Jan. 45

All these points were dealt with at yesterday's meeting with Mr MacMillan.

[illegible] Jan. 13.

(19)

Noted

EWS
CC

15/1

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4.

COS/

Please read 3. I will then pass to CA Section since Education S/C will be interested. P.R. Branch have a copy.

[illegible] 30/12.

[illegible] 30/xii

5.

CA Sect./

To you for information

[illegible] 30/12

507

Office of COS

Ed.

3. for information

30 DEC 1944

[redacted]

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

4.

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CA Sect. /

To you for information

Galbraith Maj Gen
30/12

Office of COS

6

Ed.

3. for information

[illegible]
for COS

30 DEC. 1944

7

Seen. Thank you.
[illegible], Ed 3/1

11

COS/ To read 10. Will then pass to CA Sec
Ed 8/1

12

PRO/ We discussed. Please submit briefing memorandum for C.C. after consultation with PO Sec.
MS 8/1/45

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat

PsWSC (45) 3rd Meeting
23rd May 1945

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

MAY 24 1945

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD IN THE G-1 (B) CONFERENCE ROOM AT 1200 HOURS ON THURSDAY 24TH MAY 1945

AGENDA

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
(PsWSC (45) 2nd Meeting - already circulated)

2. PWB FUNCTIONS IN NORTH ITALY
(Paper No. PsWSC (45) 6 - to be circulated)

TO TAKE NOTE ONLY:

3. PRESS PLAN FOR NORTHERN ITALY
(Paper No. PsWSC (45) 5 - already circulated)

Robert T. Hanley
ROBERT T. HANLEY,
[illegible], G.S.C.,
SECRETARY.

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British Resident Minister	9-12
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission	13-14
G-2	15-16

508

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1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
(PWSC (45) 2nd Meeting - already circulated)

2. PWB FUNCTIONS IN NORTH ITALY
(Paper No. PWSC (45) 6 - to be circulated)

TO TAKE NOTE ONLY:

3. PRESS PLAN FOR NORTHERN ITALY
(Paper No. PWSC (45) 5 - already circulated)

Robert T. Hawley
ROBERT T. HAWLEY,
[illegible], C.S.C.,
SECRETARY.

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Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission	13-14
G-2	15-16
G-3	17-18
G-5	19-20
Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat	21-23
Spares	24-26

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EC Dist - 24 MAY 45
COPY
13 Ex Commr
14 P.R. Br

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

PsWSC (45) 1st Meeting
24th January 1945

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COPY NO 13

JAN 26 1945

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE HELD IN THE G-1 (B) CONFERENCE ROOM AT 1430 HOURS ON SATURDAY, 20TH JANUARY 1945

PRESENT :-

Brigadier General A.J. McChrystal,
Chief, INC

Mr. C. Offie, representing
U.S. Political Adviser

Mr. A.C.W. Russell, representing
British Resident Minister

Mr. Russell Barnes,
Director, PWB

Brigadier W.P. Jeffries,
Deputy Director, PWB

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT :-

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone,
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission

Colonel S.S. Hill-Dillon, representing
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, AFHQ

Colonel T.R. Henn, representing
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, AFHQ

Lieutenant Colonel S.L. McKenney, representing
Chief, G-3 Special Operations, AFHQ

Lieutenant Colonel L.P. Reeves, representing
Chief Signals Officer, AFHQ

SECRETARY

CoS Dist
26 Jan 45

Chief Comm R (12)
CoS 505 (13)

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

Mr. A.C.M. Russell, representing
British Resident Minister

Mr. Russell Barnes,
Director, PWB

Brigadier W.F. Jeffries,
Deputy Director, PWB

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT :-

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone,
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission

Colonel S.S. Hill-Dillon, representing
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, AFHQ

Colonel T.R. Henn, representing
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, AFHQ

Lieutenant Colonel S.L. McKenney, representing
Chief, G-3 Special Operations, AFHQ

Lieutenant Colonel L.P. Reeves, representing
Chief Signals Officer, AFHQ

SECRETARY

Major W.A. Bannister

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(PsWSC (44) 8th Meeting)

THE SUB-COMMITTEE approved the minutes of the 8th Meeting held on 26th December 1944.

2. LIQUIDATION OF PWB FUNCTIONS IN ITALY
(Paper No. PsWSC (45) 1)

3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROPAGANDA DIRECTED TO THE PARTIZANS
(Paper No. PsWSC (45) 2)

THE SUB-COMMITTEE had before them a paper by the Director, PWB, recommending discontinuance of its activities with reference to liberated ITALY, with 1 March

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Chief Comm (12)
CoS 505 (13)
P.R.B. (14)

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1945 as a tentative date for discontinuance of all such activities, and recommending the turn-over, to various other agencies, of specified responsibilities of PWB. THE SUB-COMMITTEE also had before them a paper by the Director, PWB, recommending the restriction of the responsibilities of PWB to certain specified propaganda activities, and the discontinuance of present propaganda activities of PWB directed to the Balkan countries. Upon the recommendation of Mr. Barnes, these two papers were considered together.

MR. BARNES stated that the two papers submitted by him constituted a blueprint for the future of PWB. He stated that his recommendations resulted from four principal causes:-

(a) The need for a rolling-up of the rear and flank of PWB activities to free personnel and equipment for operations with respect to enemy occupied ITALY and AUSTRIA.

(b) The already accomplished fact of removal of PWB control over news in ROME, rendering it no longer practicable for PWB to execute its previous directives for liberated ITALY, and therefore making it desirable that its functions in respect to liberated ITALY be turned over to other agencies.

(c) Pressure from CWI for discontinuance of PWB's operation in liberated ITALY.

(d) The announced desire of Mr. Macmillan, as President of the Allied Commission, to effect certain changes in the structure of Allied organisation in ITALY.

In answer to a question by Rear Admiral Stone, Mr. Barnes stated that PWB did not intend in future to direct propaganda to disturbed populations in liberated ITALY. In his opinion, this would become a function of the Italian government. In answer to a question by Brigadier General McChrystal, as to what, if anything, PWB would expect to do in the event of issuance of propaganda by the Italian government deemed prejudicial to the Allied interests, Mr. Barnes replied that under those circumstances PWB would have to seek a special directive from AFHQ. He emphasized that PWB had no intention of upsetting any needed psychological warfare service, and that PWB intended to continue all present functions until such functions were taken over by other agencies in accordance with current instructions.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE, in answer to an enquiry by Colonel Hill-Dillon, stated that in respect of its propaganda activities, the Allied Commission would expect to give advice to the Italian Government.

BRIGADIER GENERAL MCCHRYSTAL enquired of those present whether

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other agencies.

(c) Pressure from CWI for discontinuance of PWB's operation in liberated ITALY.

(d) The announced desire of Mr. Macmillan, as President of the Allied Commission, to effect certain changes in the structure of Allied organisation in ITALY.

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REAR ADMIRAL STONE, in answer to an enquiry by Colonel Hill-Dillon, stated that in respect of its propaganda activities, the Allied Commission would expect to give advice to the Italian Government.

BRIGADIER GENERAL MCCHRYSTAL enquired of those present whether there was any objection to the principle of turn-over of PWB responsibilities as set forth in the two papers. No objections of principle were raised.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE stated that in the course of consultations held outside the present committee, including meetings of the Technical Sub-Committee on News Distribution appointed by the Supreme Allied Commander, conclusions had been reached which led him to consider inadvisable the designation, at this time, of the Allied Commission as the agency to assume responsibility for supply of materials and facilities for the Italian press and radio, distribution of motion picture films, and collection of intelligence on certain items (Paper No. PsWSC (45) 1, Part VI, para 3 (b), i, iii, iv). He recommended that the determination of the new agencies to be responsible for these things be worked out together between the CWI, MOI and the Allied Commission. He also questioned Part VI, para 3(e) of the same paper, stating that it seemed impracticable

50

SECRET

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to make requests to private Italian news and radio agencies to undertake activities of the same sort as had heretofore been carried on by PWB, when such activities might not be commercially profitable to them. He furthermore stated that in his opinion Part VI, para 3(g), referring to the activities of Italian partisans, was outside the province of the Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee.

COLONEL HILL-DILLON likewise queried whether Part VI, para 3(g) was within the province of the Sub-Committee.

MR. BARNES pointed out, as an example, the fact that through an order issued to them by AMGI, the partisans had preserved an excellent printing plant in LEGHORN.

BRIGADIER GENERAL MCCHRYSTAL agreed with Mr. Barnes' statement of the facts, but was of the opinion that the matter should be embodied in purely operational directives.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL REEVES stated that he regarded Part VI, para 3(h) as unnecessary since as field service regulations stand at present, it is the duty of the 'S' Force as soon as it goes in to effectuate seizure of radio stations.

THE CHIEF, INC:

Directed that the Secretary prepare a paper* on behalf of the Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee recommending to the Supreme Allied Commander in Conference the following:

(a) That he direct PWB to discontinue its activities with reference to liberated ITALY at such time as will allow proper coordination with the extension of the operation of private news agencies to areas outside ROME.

(b) That he direct PWB to prepare for 1 March 1945 as a tentative date for total discontinuance of PWB functions with reference to liberated ITALY.

(c) In connection with the discontinuance of activities of PWB with respect to liberated ITALY:

(i) That he endorse the assumption by CMI and MOI of PWB's present task in presenting the American and British Governments' viewpoints.

(ii) That he direct the Allied Commission, in cooperation with CMI and MOI, to assume the following responsibilities or to determine by what agencies and to what extent such responsibilities shall be assumed:

(1) The supply of materials and facilities for the

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Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee [illegible] recommending to the Supreme Allied Commander in Conference the following:

(a) That he direct PWB to discontinue its activities with reference to liberated ITALY at such time as will allow proper coordination with the extension of the operation of private news agencies to areas outside ROME.

(b) That he direct PWB to prepare for 1 March 1945 as a tentative date for total discontinuance of PWB functions with reference to liberated ITALY.

(c) In connection with the discontinuance of activities of PWB with respect to liberated ITALY:

(i) That he endorse the assumption by CCI and MOI of PWB's present task in presenting the American and British Governments' viewpoints.

(ii) That he direct the Allied Commission, in cooperation with CCI and MOI, to assume the following responsibilities or to determine by what agencies and to what extent such responsibilities shall be assumed:

(1) The supply of materials and facilities for the Italian press and radio.

(2) The carrying out of official directives demanding that all efforts be made to prevent the Italian press and radio from becoming Government monopolies or falling into the hands of Fascists.

(3) The distribution of motion picture films.

(4) PWB's responsibility for collection of intelligence on particular economic, political and social topics.

(iii) That he direct PWB to continue to furnish such advisory assistance as may be requested by the Italian Government or private news or radio agencies.

*Prepared as paper No. SAC(P)(45)3.

SECRET

503

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SECRET

(iv) That he direct PWB to be prepared to carry on news and radio services in newly liberated territories when AFHQ, meet security requirements, may so direct.

(v) That he direct the Allied Commission to encourage Italian news and radio agencies to restore news and radio service in Italian areas as fast as they are liberated.

(vi) That he direct that PWB retain the privilege, in each instance with the authorisation of AFHQ, to undertake intelligence tasks in liberated ITALY which PWB may consider to be in the interest of operations against the enemy, or in support of Italian partisan groups in enemy- occupied ITALY.

(4) That he direct PWB to prepare, and coordinate with Allied Commission, OWI and MOI, a phased plan in detail for the turnover of appropriate functions by PWB to OWI, MOI, and such other agencies as may be determined, and to submit the plan to the Psychological Warfare Subcommittee.

MR. BARNES, referring to the paper on propaganda directed to the Balkans, stated that much of PWB planning in the Balkans had been based upon the following assumptions: (a) an Allied entry in strength into JUGOSLAVIA, (b) a willingness of the JUGOSLAV and ALBANIAN authorities to permit PWB operations as projected, and (c) the possibility of getting PWB officers in. He remarked that these premises no longer appeared to obtain; that already under partisan auspices a considerable propaganda and information service was operating in JUGOSLAVIA; that the present authorities in JUGOSLAVIA and ALBANIA were unlikely to admit PWB officers and activities to any appreciable extent, and that in fact it had already proved impossible to introduce PWB officers into those countries for other than very specific and limited purposes. The foregoing, he stated, were the reasons for the present proposals with respect to propaganda directed to the Balkans.

COLONEL HILL-DILLON and COLONEL HUNN agreed that the factors described by Mr. Barnes called for a change in psychological warfare plans of the nature he proposed.

MR. BARNES stated that in addition to the activities listed in para 1 of the paper under consideration, there should be added, in response to recommendations of G-5, a further item:-

Support of NL in other areas as requested by G-5.

In answer to an enquiry by Rear Admiral Stone, he stated that the reference to Greek and Jugoslav forces and refugees in ITALY and the MIDDLE EAST contained in para 8(b) of Paper No. PsBC (45) 2, referred entirely to personnel in camps. He further pointed out that para 8(b) would in fact regularise what has been going on for some time.

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Support of NL in other areas as requested by G-5.

In answer to an enquiry by Rear Admiral Stone, he stated that the reference to Greek and Jugoslav forces and refugees in ITALY and the MIDDLE EAST contained in para 8(h) of Paper No. PsHEC (45) 2, referred entirely to personnel in camps. He further pointed out that para 8(b) would in fact regularise what has been going on for some time.

THE CHIEF INC:

Directed that the Secretary include in the paper to be presented to the Supreme Allied Commander in Conference on behalf of the Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee the following further recommendations:

(a) That he direct PWB to concentrate upon, and restrict its propaganda activities to, the following tasks:-

(i) 'Tactical' propaganda in local support of operations by Fifth and Eighth Armies.

(ii) 'Strategic' propaganda of incitement or instruction on the one hand to resistance elements in the general area of 15th Army

SECRET

502

Group's operations and on the other to disturbed populations in the area of AMG behind the front,

(iii) Depressive or surrender propaganda to German troops in Northern ITALY and in JUGOSLAVIA.

(iv) Propaganda of general political incitement to the population of AUSTRIA.

(v) Propaganda (carried out exclusively by a unit of the Branch's British element) in support of Land Forces and Military Liaison GREECE.

(vi) Support of Military Liaison in other areas as may be requested by G-5.

(b) That he direct PWB:

(1) to discontinue non-operational propaganda, both British and American (including the distribution of films), into liberated JUGOSLAVIA, ALBANIA, ROUMANIA and BULGARIA, and among Greek and Jugoslav forces and refugees, in ITALY and the MIDDLE EAST;

(2) to inform the appropriate United States and British governmental agencies of such discontinuance and to invite them to take necessary measures forthwith to assume the same responsibilities through their own respective organisations.

(c) That he direct PWB to cease regular broadcasts on Radio Bari in Serbo-Croat and Albanian by 1 March 1945, unless operational developments in the meantime require reconsideration of this course.

4. MEETINGS OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

THE CHIEF INC:

Directed that whenever possible, the Secretary arrange for meetings of the Sub-Committee to be held upon the same days as meetings of the Supreme Allied Commander's Conferences (Political).

5. PROPAGANDA DIRECTED TO PARTISANS IN NORTHERN ITALY

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MCKENNEY said he had noticed great emphasis upon leaflet and newspaper propaganda directed to enemy soldiers. He said that the morale of the pro-Allied partisans in Northern ITALY was very low and recommended that more efforts should be made to give them propaganda and information that would improve their morale.

MR. BARNES stated that he agreed this was highly desirable and that

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MR. BARNES stated that he agreed this was highly desirable and that he would have the PWB Liaison Officer with 15th Army Group confer with Lieutenant-Colonel McKenney on the subject immediately.

THE CHIEF INC:

Took note of the above.

N R Bannister
N. R. BANNISTER
MAJOR, F.
SECRETARY

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Secretary, IS & PS	23-25
Spares	26-30

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(27)

Chief Commissioner
(Through C.OS)

(10) JAN 19 1945

I see that you have a meeting of the Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee on Saturday, 20 Jan '45. It seems that they will consider Paper No. PsWSC(45)1 of 3 Jan '45 although in fact the recommendations at the end of that paper have already been implemented by our Meetings here. I attach, in case you may need them, some notes modifying the original Paper in the light of our subsequent meetings.

18 January 1945.

(26)

493

(ORIGINAL SUBMITTED ON PR file — PRB/9 ON 18 JAN 45)

NOTES ON P..CHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COM..TTEE

Paper No. PsWSC(45)1 of 3 Jan 45

I)
II) No comment. AC agrees.
III)

IV. 3. If any ammunition is required, it might be asked whether these somewhat exaggerated statements are really correct in fact. In fact PWB turned over nothing to the Italian radio except music - and that with limitations: and what "agency supervisory boards, to achieve at least a measure of democratic control, and to avoid the evils of monopoly and government dictation, have been submitted and approved by AFHQ," are, we do not know.

7&8. Present requisitioning of newsprint and printing machinery by PWB will have to be drastically curtailed or stopped altogether in AC Italy.

V. No comment.

VI. 1. Agreed.
2. No objection.
3(a) The task will be assumed by OWI, MOI and the Embassies.

(b)(i) No. The AC does not assume such responsibility. The responsibility will be the Italian Government's, AC naturally assisting in so far as it can do so.

(b)(ii) No. Function of the Italian Government.

(b)(iii) No. This to remain a responsibility of PWB until such time as the Film Board can arrange to pass it to ordinary commercial control.

(b)(iv) No. PWB itself wishes to continue its intelligence reports. AC furnishes its own reports and would prefer to see such reports coordinated.

(c) Presumably AC admits this. It leaves a large loophole for things like ANSA.

(d) Agreed.

(e) Agreed.

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V. No comment.

VI. 1. Agreed.
2. No objection.
3(a) The task will be assumed by OWI, MOI and the Embassies.

(b)(i) No. The AC does not assume such responsibility. The responsibility will be the Italian Government's, AC naturally assisting in so far as it can do so.

(b)(ii) No. Function of the Italian Government.

(b)(iii) No. This to remain a responsibility of PWB until such time as the Film Board can arrange to pass it to ordinary commercial control.

(b)(iv) No. PWB itself wishes to continue its intelligence reports. AC furnishes its own reports and would prefer to see such reports coordinated.

(c) Presumably AC admits this. It leaves a large loophole for things like ANSA.

(d) Agreed.

(e) Agreed.

(f) This falls into the same category as intelligence reports. It gives very wide potential powers to PWB in AC Italy.

(g) No comment.

(h) No comment.

498

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(25)

Folios 20/21

COS

To see. I will shew to Pol. Sec.

[illegible] 13/1 [illegible] 13/1

5.

Pol. Secretary.

Please see 2 & 3.

[illegible] 15/1.

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[illegible] Jan. 16.

Minute Sheet from Temporary Jacket refer to flags 20-21

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Polsackin.

See Minutes 2 & 3.

E. Walton 15/1.

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Jan. 16.

Minute Sheet from Temporary Jacket refer to folios 30-31

497

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PWSC (45) 1st Meeting
16th January 1945

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

JAN 18 1945

The next meeting of the Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee has been further postponed from Friday, 19th January to Saturday, 20th January 1945. It will be held at 1430 hours in the G-1 (B) (formerly Chief Administrative Officer's) Conference Room. Agenda, and sections invited to attend or be represented, will be as previously announced.

W. A. Bannister
W.A. BANNISTER,
MAJOR, FA,
SECRETARY.

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Secretary, General Staff	22
Secretary, IS & PS	23-25
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498

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T.A. BANNISTER,
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G-3 Special Operations	17
G-5	18-20
Chief Signals Officer	21
Secretary, General Staff	22
Secretary, IS & PS	23-25
Spares	26-30

see 4

COS DIST - 18 JAN 45

CHIEF COMMISSIONER (12)
COS (13)
P.R.Br (14)

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

PsWSC (45) 1st Meeting
15th January 1945

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Psychological Warfare Sub Committee has been postponed from Tuesday 16th January 1945 to Friday 19th January 1945. It will be held at 1430 hours in the G-5 Conference Room (Archway A, entry 26 - through and beyond the Visitors Bureau and Billeting Office). Agenda, and sections invited to attend or be represented, will be as previously announced.

W. A. Bannister Maj. FA
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MAJOR, FA,
SECRETARY.

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ALLIED FORCE HEAD UARTERS

PsWSC (45) 1st Meeting
12th January 1945

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD IN THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S CONFERENCE ROOM AT 1430 HOURS ON TUESDAY 16 JANUARY 1945

A G E N D A

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
(PsWSC (44) 8th Meeting - already circulated)

2. LIQUIDATION OF PWB FUNCTIONS IN ITALY
(Paper No. PsWSC (45) 1 - already circulated)

3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROPAGANDA DIRECTIVE TO THE BALKANS
(Paper No. PsWSC (45) 2 - already circulated)

NOTE: G-2 and G-5 are invited to attend or be represented for Items 2 and 3. Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, G-3 Special Operations and Chief Signals Officer are invited to attend or be represented for Item 2.

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3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROPAGANDA DIRECTIVE TO THE BALKANS
(Paper No. PsWSC (45) 2 - already circulated)

NOTE: G-2 and G-5 are invited to attend or be represented for Items 2 and 3. Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, G-3 Special Operations and Chief Signals Officer are invited to attend or be represented for Item 2.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

PsWSC (45) 2
9th January 1945

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB COMMITTEE

JAN 12 1945.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROPAGANDA DIRECTED TO THE BALKANS

pa folio 25

Note by Director, PWB

1. The Psychological Warfare Branch of AFHQ is responsible for the following principal activities :-

(a) 'Tactical' propaganda in local support of operations by 5th and 8th Armies.

(b) 'Strategic' propaganda of incitement or instruction on the one hand to resistance elements in the general area of 15th Army Group's operations and on the other to disturbed populations in the area of AMG behind the front.

(c) Depressive or surrender propaganda to German troops in Northern ITALY and in YUGOSLAVIA.

(d) Propaganda of general political incitement to the population of AUSTRIA.

(e) Propaganda (carried out exclusively by a unit of the Branch's British element) in support of LF & ML GREECE.

2. Until recently, PWB also had an output of propaganda of the first importance to YUGOSLAVIA and ALBANIA. The developments in those countries, however, and the German withdrawal, greatly reduced the significance of Allied propaganda there.

3. SACMED has recently instructed that measures be taken whereby PWB is relieved of responsibility for consolidation propaganda and control of information services in liberated ITALY.

4. In the course of its work, however, the Branch has become to a certain extent the channel for the introduction of non-operational propaganda material both British and American (including the distribution of films) into liberated YUGOSLAVIA, ALBANIA, and to a very small extent ROUMANIA and BULGARIA. This activity grew from the demands of missions and liaison officers in these countries for goodwill and informative propaganda, and was extended to distri-

493

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and in YUGOSLAVIA.

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5. The responsible U.S propaganda agency, the Office of War Information, has expressed the wish that the introduction into liberated Balkan territories of such general U.S material should no longer be handled by the Branch, but by the appropriate governmental agency. The British element of the Branch (Psychological Warfare Executive) concurs in the propriety of this proposal, and endorses its application to British propaganda also.

6. At the same time, the development of radio and press facilities in ALBANIA and in liberated YUGOSLAVIA tends to reduce the value of the news broadcasts in Serbo-Croat and Albanian which are conducted by PWB from Radio Bari, and should shortly make them redundant as a source of essential information. It may be noted that broadcasts in Roumanian and Bulgarian from BARI were stopped some time ago, and that certain services from PWB radio stations in the MIDDLE EAST are being discontinued.

see Minutes 3, 5 & 6 17....

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7. PWB have received requests from G-5 that in the event of ML Missions entering YUGOSLAVIA and ALBANIA the Branch should support them with its services. The work involved, however, is very small in relation to PWB's total output; retention of Serbo-Croat and Albanian language broadcasts is moreover not considered essential to the task of assisting ML.

8. The Psychological Warfare Branch therefore requests the Sub Committee to recommend to the Supreme Allied Commander that he should direct :-

(a) That propaganda conducted by the Branch should be restricted to and concentrated on the tasks stated in para 1 above.

(b) That the proposal of the Office of War Information at paragraph 5 above is approved, and that PWB should so inform the appropriate US and British governmental agencies and should invite them to take the necessary measures forthwith to assume responsibility, through their own organisations respectively, for the introduction of American and British propaganda material (including the distribution of films) into liberated YUGOSLAVIA, ALBANIA, ROUMANIA and BULGARIA, and among Greek and Yugoslav forces and refugees in ITALY and the MIDDLE EAST.

(c) That PWB should cease broadcasts on Radio Bari in Serbo-Croat, Slovene and Albanian by March 1st 1945, unless operational developments in the meantime require reconsideration of this course.

(Intd) R.B. by R.M.

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COMMENTS ON PWB NOTE REGARDING LIQUIDATION OF PWB FUNCTIONS IN ITALY

The general sense of the document is in conformity with AC policy and with the proposals contained in Mr. Macmillan's memorandum. Detailed points which may be taken up are as follows :

Under 1V 7 it must be pointed out that PWB has always claimed a very large share of the newsprint available. The most recent plan sets aside 300 tons a month for PWB papers, and 400 tons to be stockpiled in the North, out of an expected total import of 1000 tons a month, thus lea ving the Italian press 300 tons of imported stock. A new allocation of paper stocks is necessary.

Under 1V 8 it should be remarked that PWB still operates considerable amounts of printing machinery and supplies in Liberated Italy and furthermore will have the right to requisition all such in newly-liberated territories. Unless PWB gives up a part of its present equipment and paper it can scarcely expect "the Italians themselves or the Allied Commission" to supply it.

Under V1 (Recommendations) 3(a) it seems desirable to bear in mind Mr. Macmillan's proposal for an integrated staff and also to avoid, if possible, the arrival of new and formidable bodies to replace PWB. It would seem that Mr. Macmillan considered that this work could be handled by the Press Officers of the Embassies. They would perhaps need OWI and MOI assistance but anything resembling a new set-up of distinct OWI and MOI officers geared to high-powered propaganda would obviously defeat the very objects which have led to the winding-up of PWB.

Under 3(b)(i) it must be re-stated that the Allied Commission cannot produce non-existent materials and facilities like rabbits from a hat; PWB has to give them up.

Presumably 3(b)(ii) will be dealt with by the Technical Sub-Committee and also by this Branch.

3(b)(iii) is new. I doubt if AC can do it, although it can send for experts, or take them over from PWB. There must be expert handling of distribution until such time as the

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3(b)(iii) is new. I doubt if AC can do it, although it can send for experts, or take them over from PWB. There must be expert handling of distribution until such time as the Temporary Film Board has made its recommendations. But it is not understood whether this clause implies the complete shutting-down of PWB's film production activities also : it is presumed that PWB would still require to make and distribute films in AMG and newly-liberated territory.

I am sure that AC can take over 3(b)(iv) without any harm resulting!

3(c) leaves a very large loophole. Under this clause PWB can obviously plant its staff in any news agency or radio station. However, it seems a reasonable clause and I do not see how it can be refused.

3(f) raises a most controversial issue. It may cover almost anything, and gives PWB just that ability to act independently of AC which has been deplored and deplorable in the past and which Mr. Macmillan does not appear to favour. I would strongly suggest that Mr. Macmillan's point be fully

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taken and that PWB should work under AC in AC and Italian territory. It can be pointed out that PWB officers and operations are indistinguishable from those of AC, and any propaganda or mass-observation stunts will react on AC. "Intelligence tasks" is a wide phrase which can cover a multitude of activities which AC might find completely at variance with its policy in Liberated Italy.

Conclusions

If the endorsement at (i) is effected, presumably (ii) will give the opportunity of working out the plan. It seems particularly important, in view of recent misapprehensions, to avoid the possibility of PWB presenting a fait accompli in the sense of having made agreements with OWI and MOI before the plan is co-ordinated with AC. Therefore AC should have the strongest possible representation on the Sub-Committee which will presumably be created under (ii). and on which the Press Attaché's of the Embassies should also be.

9 January 1945.

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

9 January 1945.

499

see Minutes 15 to 18

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

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PsWSC(45)1
3 January 1945

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUBCOMMITTEE

LIQUIDATION OF PWB FUNCTIONS IN ITALY

Note by PWB

I. Present Operations of PWB.

1. The primary function of PWB is psychological and political warfare directed against targets selected by AFHQ.

2. The basic weapon of PWB is the distribution of news by radio, posters, leaflets, and sound trucks. Individual stories in the flow of news are expanded, contracted, or suppressed to create effects ordered, through official guidance, by the Combined Chiefs of Staff, AFHQ, OWI, and PWB.

II. Effect of the Admission of Private News Agencies.

1. With the admission of private news agencies into liberated Italy, (already authorized as to Rome newspapers for 15 January 1945) it will be impossible for PWB to carry out directives for shaping, by news and radio, the attitudes of the Italian people toward Allied forces and the Allied plans for world reconstruction.

2. It is, furthermore, the declared policy of AFHQ to remove all except military security controls from Italian media of expression.

III. Experience of PWB in Turning Over its Functions in Other Areas.

1. Already in North Africa a pattern has been set whereby PWB has turned over its functions to OWI and MOI in territory already liberated for a long period.

2. PWB experience in France furnishes a basis for recommending that Italian news and radio agencies be requested to restore news and radio facilities in further Italian territory soon after liberation. In France, when the Seventh Army landed, the French required assistance only until they were able to establish news and radio agencies. There the PWB teams moved on after a few weeks.

IV. Capabilities of the Italians with Respect to Assumption of PWB Functions.

483

1. It is the essence of news and radio broadcasts that they know no

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IV. Capabilities of the Italians with Respect to Assumption of PWB Functions. 483

1. It is the essence of news and radio broadcasts that they know no frontiers. Any news distributed in liberated Italy quickly becomes common property with occupied Italy. It therefore seems only logical that Italian news and radio agencies should expand their activities northward just as rapidly as territories are liberated.

2. In Italy, the Italian news and radio agencies are already organized, and are able to assume the responsibilities, as the opportunities become available.

3. The PWB has been working for many months toward preparing the Italians to administer their agencies along democratic lines. All of Italian radio except news and a few propaganda programs have already been turned back to the Italians. The Italian government now has the power to issue and revoke publication licenses, and to allocate supplies of newsprint, in liberated Italy. The PWB has trained an Italian news desk in the technique of a free press. Plans for agency supervisory boards, to achieve at

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least a measure of democratic control, and to avoid the evils of monopoly and government dictation, have been submitted and approved by AFHQ.

4. The Italian agencies possess, or can engage, sufficient radio technical personnel, for the technicians exist in Italy.

5. When it is decided by AFHQ that it would be proper to release Italian news and radio programs over any particular radio station, the Italian news and radio agencies would be requested to furnish necessary personnel and supplies.

6. If equipment and supplies are lacking to recondition captured Italian radio stations, the Italian radio agency should apply to Signals Section, AFHQ, or the Allied Commission. ?

7. In all territories so far liberated, adequate printing machines and some paper for newsprint have always been found available.

8. If printing machinery and supplies should be lacking, they can be supplied either by the Italians themselves or by the Allied Commission.

V. Effects of Passing Radio and News Functions to the Italians.

The effects of passing radio and news functions to the Italian agencies in liberated territory would be these:

a. The Italians would be encouraged to solve their own problems.

b. American and British taxpayers would be saved considerable sums of money.

c. American and British personnel would be made available for American and British teams in Austria, the Balkans, and the Pacific theater.

VI. Recommendations.

1. That PWB discontinue its activities with reference to liberated ITALY at such time as will allow proper coordination with the extension of the services of private news agencies to operation in areas outside ROME.

2. That PWB prepare for 1 March 1945, as a tentative date for total discontinuance of PWB functions with reference to liberated ITALY.

3. In conjunction with the discontinuance of its activities with respect to liberated ITALY, PWB recommends the following programme:-

(a) That OWI and MOI assume PWB's present task in presenting the American and British Governments' viewpoints.

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2. That PWB prepare for 1 March 1945, as a tentative date for total discontinuance of PWB functions with reference to liberated ITALY.

3. In conjunction with the discontinuance of its activities with respect to liberated ITALY, PWB recommends the following programme:- 488

(a) That OWI and MOI assume PWB's present task in presenting the American and British Governments' viewpoints.

(b) That the Allied Commission assume responsibility for:

(i) The supply of materials and facilities for the Italian press and radio.

(ii) The carrying out of official directives demanding that all efforts be made to prevent the Italian press and radio from becoming Government monopolies or falling into the hands of Fascists.

(iii) The distribution of motion picture films. (Although the desirability of operation of commercial film agencies in Italy is recognised, it is recommended that temporarily this be a responsibility of the Allied Commission.) NO

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(iv) PWB's responsibility for collection of intelligence on particular economic, political and social topics.

(c) That PWB continue to furnish such advisory assistance as may be requested by the Italian Government or private news or radio agencies.

(d) That PWB be prepared to carry on news and radio services in newly liberated territories to the extent requested, on account of security requirements, by AFHQ.

(e) That Italian news and radio agencies be requested by the Allied Commission to organise teams and prepare to restore news and radio service in Italian areas as fast as they are liberated.

(f) That PWB retain the privilege, in each instance with the authorisation of AFHQ, to undertake intelligence tasks in liberated Italy which PWB may consider to be in the interest of operations against the enemy, or in support of Italian partisan groups in enemy occupied Italy.

(g) That Italian partisans be requested by AFHQ to seize and hold radio stations at the time of liberation, to prevent, if possible, their demolition or removal.

(h) That actual seizure of radio stations in newly occupied territory, and determination of their use, should be a responsibility of Signals Section, AFHQ.

CONCLUSIONS

The Psychological Warfare Subcommittee is requested:

(i) To endorse the recommendations set forth in part VI, above, and to report accordingly to the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political).

(ii) To recommend to the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political) that PWB be directed to prepare and coordinate with the Allied Commission, OWI and MOI, a phased plan in detail for the turnover of appropriate functions to OWI and MOI by PWB, and to submit the plan to the Psychological Warfare Subcommittee.

(intd) R. B.

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PsWSC (44) 8th Meeting
26th December 1944

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE HELD IN THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S CONFERENCE ROOM AT 1730 HOURS ON TUESDAY, 26th DECEMBER 1944.

----

29 DEC 1944

PRESENT :-

Colonel A.C.W. Hobson,
Deputy Chief, INC, representing
Chief, INC.

Mr. C. Offie, representing
U.S. Political Adviser.

Mr. Russell Barnes,
Director, PWB.

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone,
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission.

Colonel S.S. Hill-Dillon, representing
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, AFHQ.

Colonel T.S. Henn, representing
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, AFHQ.

SECRETARY

Major M.A. Bannister

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(PsWSC (44) 7th Meeting)

THE SUB-COMMITTEE approved the minutes of their 7th meeting held on 23rd October, 1944.

2. RADIO PLAN FOR LIBERATED ITALY

(Paper No. PsWSC (44) 20)

THE SUB-COMMITTEE had before them a proposal by PWB concerning the future

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

Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission.

Colonel S.S. Hill-Dillon, representing
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, AFHQ.

Colonel T.A. Henn, representing
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, AFHQ.

SECRETARY

Major [illegible] Bannister

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(PsPSC (44) 7th Meeting)

THE SUB-COMMITTEE approved the minutes of their 7th meeting held on 23rd October, 1944.

2. RADIO ELAR FOR LIBERATED ITALY

(Paper No. PsPSC (44) 20)

486

THE SUB-COMMITTEE had before them a proposal by PWB concerning the future organisation and activities of ELAR (Ente Italiano Audizione Radiofonica), the existing Italian radio organisation.

MR. BARNES stated that it would be desirable to have the Italian radio organisation considerably reorganised, and in particular to promote its decentra-

/lisation ...

See Minutes 4 to 7.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

(2)

lisation so that competition could exist among broadcasting stations in the respective areas of northern ITALY, southern ITALY and SICILY.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE stated that the charter of the EIAR was not necessarily fascist simply because it was created during the fascist regime. He thought that a policy of telling the Italians how to manage their radio system should be carefully avoided. He therefore opposed all of the requirements recommended under No. 1 of part III of the paper before the Sub-Committee. He pointed out in particular that the matter of epuration was already being handled entirely by the Italian Government. Referring to the recommendations under No. 2 of part III of MRE's paper he believed that the government should be invited to create the suggested board of governors, but he did not think that any of the remaining proposals should be recommended specifically to the Italian Government. Recommendation 2(d) he regarded especially as too detailed to be urged upon the Italian Government. He felt it should be for the new board of governors to recommend the concrete measures necessary for the improvement of Italian radio.

MR. OFFIE expressed agreement with Admiral Stone's position.

MR. ELLIOTT agreed with Admiral Stone that the recommendations endorsed by the Admiral would be desirable as far as they went but still felt that the original charter of EIAR should be revoked.

THE DEPUTY CHIEF ENG:

Directed that the Secretary report to the Supreme Allied Commander in Conference the recommendation of the Sub-Committee that the Italian Government be invited:

(a) To create a Board of Governors to act as advisers to the management of EIAR with a term of two years composed of the following:

- A nominee of the Minister of Education
- A University Professor
- An Industrialist
- A member of EIAR Employees' Association
- A Musician
- An Author
- A Journalist

Each, with the exception of the first, to be nominated by the appropriate body, e.g., the Association of University Professors, the Chamber of Commerce, The Federazione Stampa, etc; the terms to be staggered in order to preserve continuity of experience.

485

(b) To call upon this Board of Governors to make recommendations concerning the future organization and operation of EIAR consistent with the maintenance of a free radio in ITALY after the time of withdrawal of AMG from the Italian radio field.

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

THE DEPUTY CHIEF INC:

Directed that the Secretary report to the Supreme Allied Commander in Conference the recommendation of the Sub-Committee that the Italian Government be invited:

(a) To create a Board of Governors to act as advisers to the management of EIAR with a term of two years composed of the following:

A nominee of the Minister of Education
A University Professor
An Industrialist
A member of EIAR Employees' Association
A Musician
An Author
A Journalist

Each, with the exception of the first, to be nominated by the appropriate body, e.g., the Association of University Professors, the Chamber of Commerce, The Federazione Stampa, etc; the terms to be staggered in order to preserve continuity of experience.

485

(b) To call upon this Board of Governors to make recommendations concerning the future organization and operation of EIAR consistent with the maintenance of a free radio in ITALY after the time of withdrawal of PWB from the Italian radio field.

3. LOAN OF RADIO TRANSMITTER TO JANL

(Paper No. PWBC (44) 20)

THE DEPUTY CHIEF INC:

Informed the Sub-Committee that the Supreme Allied Commander had already

/ decided.....

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decided to furnish a radio transmitter to the JANL and that arrangements were now being made for its transportation.

4. US AGENCIES VIEWS ON THE FUTURE ORGANISATION OF THE ITALIAN PRESS, PUBLISHING, RADIO AND FILM INSTITUTIONS.

(Paper No. PsWSC (44) 17)

THE SUB-COMMITTEE :

Took note of the paper on the above subject submitted by the Director, PWB.

W. BANNISTER,
MAJOR, FA,
SECRETARY.

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