

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

785017

ACC

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PRESS REPORTS
NOV. 1943 - AUG. 1944

1393

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10/CA

~~Confidential~~

*Don't forget to
get the
GOS report 1/1/81*

4/1/81

PRESS REPORTS.

6281-6319

10000 / 109 / 1293

THIS FOLDER
CONTAINS PAPERS

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6281-6319

10000 109 1293

THIS FOLDER
CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM Nov 43
Aug 44
ENCLOSURE

~~SECRET~~

785017

107
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Executive
Director

PRB/R10

AUGUST 4, 1944
5 AUG Recd

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

NOYES ("Washington Star")

Gives an account of a visit to a black market in Rome at Tor di Rona near the Tiber. There were many small stands set out similar to those in the legal market. One man had 10 tins of condensed milk for sale at 170 lire per tin, or equal to \$1.70 each.

Following are some of the prices for goods.

	Black Market price	Legal price
Natural rock salt (not the refined powder variety as this is adulterated with marble dust)	280 Lire Kilo	5 Lire
Rice	280 "	"
Sugar	430 "	"
Olive oil	500 "	30 "
20 Italian cigarettes	50 Lire	"
20 American cigarettes	100 "	"
Flour	190 "	Kilo
Eggs	40 "	each
Tomatoes	40 "	Kilo
Potatoes	50 "	"
Onions	60 "	"
Pepper	50 "	"
Egg plant	40 "	"
		25 Lire

Cheese was selling at around 350 lire per kilo for a cottage type and up to 700 lire per kilo for more expensive varieties, while steak was costing 1300 lire a kilo.

Most of these prices were considered fairly low as they were not more than double or three times the legal price.

4313

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Sugar	430 "	"
Olive oil	500 "	30 "
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Eggs	40 " each	"
Tomatoes	40 " kilo	25 Lire
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Onions	60 "	"
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AMG and Italian officials have long been aware of the Tor di Nona market and say there are a number of other places similar to it in Rome. There is not a great deal that can be done about it. The day after the correspondent visited the place it was raided by the police and 50 arrests were made. Within 24 hours different vendors were operating, but this time they remained in their houses. The sum result was that prices rose 10% overnight.

INGRAM (Time)

American officers scouring the Italian countryside for supplies of olive oil for the Italian troops discovered that this commodity was particularly scarce although they knew it could be obtained in the black market. The alertness of a Carabinieri officer helped partly to solve the mystery. He was controlling passengers arriving by train and noticed that an uncommon number of the women passengers were apparently pregnant. This roused his suspicions. Investigation showed that many of them had special containers strapped round their

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2.

waiters under their clothes and that these were filled with olive oil. American sources state that already 10 tons of olive oil have been recovered by this discovery.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

Sends a long account of the work being done by the Monuments and Fine Arts Sub-Commission of the ACC in saving Italian artistic treasures. "Archaeologists and artists in uniform" he describes its members. He gives an excellent and favorable account of the work and mentions Major de Wald and Major Ward Perkins as Director and Deputy Director. Considerable sums have been advanced for this work. In Calabria alone 15 million lire (£37,500) will be spent in the next three months restoring monuments and buildings and works of art, and disbursements will not increase seeing that the army is fighting on artistically far richer soil of Tuscany.

PACKARD (UPI)

The Italian newspaper "Voce Repubblicana" declares that Le Guardia will soon be making a trip to Rome. The Journal says this will be one of many trips by Italian-Americans. Two labour organisers Antonini and Baldanzi are expected to arrive shortly. These signs of increasing American interest in our cause, it says, show that things are moving on the other side of the Atlantic - and it is high time.

SPRIGGS (Reuter)

1398

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PAGHARD (UP)

The Italian newspaper "Voce Repubblicana" declares that La Guardia will soon be making a trip to Rome. The Journal says this will be one of many trips by Italian-Americans. Two labour organisers Antonini and Balducci are expected to arrive shortly. These signs of increasing American interest in our cause, it says, show that things are moving on the other side of the Atlantic - and it is high time.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

Two negative events have contributed to the present feeling in Allied and Italian relations. First the Armistice terms not being published; secondly that no successor has yet been appointed to General Macdon MacFarlane who has now been gone for two months. There is probably some simpler shallower explanation of these negative events, but they contribute to the feeling that the Allies are groping towards a formal revision of the system whereby affairs of liberated Italy have been conducted since last September.

Attlee's statement acknowledging the aid which Italian troops and workers have rendered, together with Churchill's statement that the Allies intend to accept an increase in armed co-operation of Italians, plus the statement by Stettinius that Lese lend aid for Italy is being considered have all combined to arouse speculation here about possible changes in Allied relations towards Italy.

SEWARD (CBS) : "Winston Churchill in the Commons named with praise all the peoples who are fighting together to cleanse the soil of Italy, but made no mention of the Italian, whose soil this happens to be; Italian Democrats have fought for us here, and if their partisans have done more than their regular troops, it is because we have not permitted some of their regular soldiers to fight..... Official agreement has been made that the Italian army shall be increased but the situation today is such that the only way an Italian

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3.

39

of principles, and there are many, can be sure of fighting the enemy, is by joining the French Foreign Legion; the Legion has a recruiting centre in Rome.."

MATTHEWS ("New York Times")

It has been a source of complaint for two months now that at Papal audiences the front seats have been reserved for officers. An American soldier recently complained to the Pope and the Pope had his sympathy. It is now a case of first come first served and only a few seats in the front are reserved for generals.

4318

1400

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RESTRICTED

10
20

1938

HQ ACC - P.O. & M.C. SECTION

88/29

HQ ACC REGION 2

R2/63

RESTRICTED

ROUTINE

JUL 27 1900

30 JUL 1900

REF NR 999 (RESTRICTED). REGRET MY R2/50 OF 29TH JULY WRONGLY TRANSMITTED. STATEMENT SHOULD READ "1500 LIRE WILL BE PAID FOR GRAIN TO CULTIVATORS BUT ONLY 500 LIRE WILL BE PAID TO PROPRIETORS".

HEADQUARTERS
30 JUL 1944
A. C. C.

ACC LIST

ACTION: CA BN 2
INFO: A/CC
Agriculture
File 2
Float

P.R.O. Support Agriculture
be asked to let Fuller to deny
Statement. Spoke Hartman
who will act and reply to C. Zeller

31/7

4317

Pjm

SK

RESTRICTED

JUL 29 1900

1401

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TOP SECRET

37

TROOPERS

ACC HQ

29 July 1944

TOP SECRET

PRIORITY

Civil Affairs Br.

REFERRING

REFERENCE YOUR SIX ZERO FIVE SEVEN SEVEN ~~AND~~ OUR EIGHT NINE ZERO PD PARIN TO
TROOPERS FROM ACC HQ PARIN ACKNOWLEDGED

4318

L.T. MONTAG, Jr.
1st Lt. AGC
ADJUTANT.

TOP SECRET

1402

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TOPSEC

29 Jul Recd

13036

FARGO (ADNAP PASS) RPTD FREEDOM

TROOPERS

63794(612)

JULY 28/1940

86/28

TOP SECRET

MOST IMMEDIATE

CITE: NONE

31

33

REFERENCE MY 60577 16TH JULY AND YOUR 891 24TH JULY (NOT RPTD AFHQ). ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO GLIATTI AND ITALIAN CORRESPONDENTS TO AND FROM DAILY WORKER TO BE HELD AND REFERENCE TO BE MADE HERE FOR INSTRUCTIONS AS TO FUTURE ACTION. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT

HEADQUARTERS
20 JUL 1944
A. C. C.

Acc Hist

Action C A B V (2)

INFO: A/C C

P. R. B.

Ex lant.
M. Cacciari is seeing Sir Noel Charles
with P. R. O. & will let me know
result. S. 29/7.

III FILE 4315

14/8/44
29/7

See 321

TOPSEC

JULY 29/0715

1403

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785017

RESTRICTED

997

35

[Handwritten signature]

DIRTAD

ACT NO

RESTRICTED

ROUTING

Civil Affairs Branch

34

26 July 1944

YOUR R TWO (RELIED NINE ZERO OF TWENTY THREE JULY NOT UNDERSTOOD TO RECOMMENDATION
TO BEHAVE FOR AGE REASON FROM AGE IN PARENTH TO PLEASE GIVE FURTHER DETAILS OF SITUATION
YOU SAY IS CAUSING UNREST IN PORTUGAL

[Handwritten initials]

4314

L. T. W.
1st Lt.
Adj.

1404

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24 JUL Recd

10

+ CMA BR

1552

34

LRAR V MEAV N 175 T MAAZ QVR 1

FROM HQ ACC REGION 2 231700

TO 1 RC AND MG SECTION HQ ACC

INFO 2 PWB BARI

QQY GR -- BT

R2/50 RESTRICTED (.)

COMMUNIST NEWSPAPERS IN POTENZA TODAY

PUBLISH STATEMENT ALLEGED MADE

BY ~~YOUNG BULL~~ AT COMMUNIST HQ POTENZA

ON FRIDAY TWO ONE JULY (.) QUOTE

" 1500 LIRE WILL BE ~~PAID~~ PAID TO PROPRIETORS

STATEMENT CAUSING GREAT

UNREST IN POTENZA (.) SUGGEST DENIAL

BE PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS CMA

RADIO CMA ETC CMA AT ONCE (.)

THI 241005

RPTN 175 1 2 231700 1 RC MG 2 PWB 2/50

GULLO 1500 241005

SENT NCC BB

HEADQUARTERS

21 JUL 1944

A. C. C.



PRO.
Info
(Hci) Cntbr 2
(Hci) HLC 1
Gut 2
FLVAT 1

ACTION

4313

see 35

see 38

241200

241

1405

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SECRET

33

891

TROOPERS

ACC HQ

891

24 July 1944

SECRET

IMMEDIATE

Civil Affairs Branch

YOUR SIX ZERO FIVE SEVEN SEVEN CHARLIS ABLE TWO OF JULY ONE SIX PD PAREN TO TROOPERS
FROM ACC HQ PAREN TELEGRAMS WERE HED UNTIL MONDAY EVENING SO AS TO GIVE HIGH
COMMISSIONER OPPORTUNITY OF OBTAINING VIEWS OF HMG FROM PD AS NO REPLY RECEIVED
TELEGRAMS WERE DELIVERED THIS MORNING PD THERE IS NO POLITICAL CENSORSHIP AND
PRESUMABLY ANY TELEGRAMS TO DAILY WORKER SHOULD ONLY BE SUBMITTED TO SAME MILITARY
CENSORSHIP RULES AS APPLY TO ALL OTHER CORRESPONDENTS

see 36

11A

PD

4312

L.T. MONTANT, Jr.
1st Lt. AGD
ADJUTANT.

1406

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

20 JUL 1944

32

PBB/P24

19 July 1944.

Subject: Daily Worker correspondent.

To: Executive Commissioner.

The following reply is suggested by Jacchia, and I agree:

" Telegrams were held until Monday evening so as to give High Commissioner opportunity of obtaining views of H.G. from EC.

As no reply received telegrams were delivered this morning. There is no political censorship and presumably any telegrams to Daily Worker should only be submitted to same military censorship rules as apply to all other correspondents.

Lionel Fielden

LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major,
Public Relations Director.

23/7
By Foster discussed this subject with High Com before the reply was sent
8/24/44

No. 891

V.P. Pd. Sec.

A. ✓

Q. Are you satisfied that a cabinet minister should telegraph to a British journal his views on position in Italy. I am not.

4311

TW 20/7

Discussed & agreed at war

Can't stop it @ if there is political censorship
G. London group in head has 21/

1407

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SECRET

10 18 JUL Recd

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

INCOMING MESSAGE

108631

CAB 2

TO: FARGO RPTD FREEDOM

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 9/18

FROM: TROOPERS

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

REFERENCE No: 60577 CA 2

PRECEDENCE: IMMEDIATE

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JULY 16/1945 OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE: NONE

FOR RC AND LGS. ONE. INFORMED DAILY WORKER HAVE TELEGRAPHED A ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY FOR PERMISSION APPOINT CORRESPONDENT TO ITALY. B TOGLIATTI REQUESTING HIM TO CABLE ARTICLE ON PRESENT POSITION IN ITALY. TWO. PLEASE TAKE ANY ACTION CONSIDERED NECESSARY

HEADQUARTERS
18 JUL 1944
A.C.C.

ACC DIST

ACTION PR BR

INFO A/CC
CA BR (2)
FILE (2)
FLOAT

*PPB
In June B...
he...
action for...
18/11*

4310

see 33 + 36

DATE and Time of RECEIPT JULY 18/1945

Distribution:

SECRET

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

FEB 20.

22 APR 1944

1088

28 APRIL 1944.

TREND OF COPY FILED BY CORRESPONDENTS 27 APRIL 1944

Correspondents' copy covering the first meeting of the new Italian cabinet and its declaration of policy was mainly characterized by flamboyant and inaccurate reporting of the scene of the meeting. A multitude of words were cabled about the mahogany table, the size and shape of the armchairs, the exact dress of the carabinieri, the type of blotting-pads and inkwells used, the murals and the view and even the carafe of water on the table. Correspondents clearly regarded the declaration itself as boring and L'Espresso (Times) summed up the general view by saying that it was "an unexceptionable catalogue of good intentions: the country now wants to see what the Government will really do." The two points which attracted most attention were (a) the intention to set up a "limited advisory body as a symbol of parliament" and (b) the call to workers in German-occupied territory to celebrate May day.

CHINIGO (INS) cabled a long interview with Omodeo, whom he called the "fiery Hector of the Naples Alliance." The interview was dramatically anti-fascist and anti-clerical. It was essential, Omodeo is quoted as saying, "to stress the true terms of the quarrel between Church and State." At 1300 Chinigo telephoned a despatch from Salerno containing an exact translation of paragraphs 1 - 5 and paragraph 6 of the declaration (which was not released until 1730). He made no comment except that it was a "resounding declaration of new policy."

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...to set up a "limited advisory body as a symbol of parliament" and (b) the call to workers in German-occupied territory to celebrate May day.

CHIRIACO (IME) called a long interview with Chiodo, whom he called the "fiery Rector of the Naples assembly." The interview was dramatically anti-fascist and anti-clerical. It was essential, Chiodo is quoted as saying, "to stress the true terms of the quarrel between Church and State." At 1800 Chirico telephoned a despatch from Salerno containing an exact translation of paragraphs 1 - 5 and paragraph 8 of the declaration (which was not released until 1730). He made no comment except that it was a "resounding declaration of new policy."

Only one other correspondent, ELMAR PACKARD (U.P.) filed copy at this time (1315) from Salerno. He gave details of the declaration and quoted all six points on the agenda, giving them as (1) French Committee of Liberation (2) Participation of Italian forces in war effort (3) Government's relations with Russia (4) Government's relations with AUS (5) May Day celebrations (6) Epuration. SPRIGGE (Reuters) filed a straight story of the declaration from Naples at 1630. He did not, as usual, use its exact terms, and later, after the general release had been made, sent alterations of his previous despatch. PACKARD (Exchange Telegraph) filed a descriptive story, with vague hints of the declaration, from Naples at 1830. He described the Council Chamber in detail. "Radiolele was evidently too pre-occupied to smoke, as there was only one cigarette-stub in his ash-tray after the two-hour sitting."

RODNEY TALBOT (BBC) filed a straight descriptive story from Naples at 1850, getting neatly round the censorship stop by stating that the windows overlooked "a beach made famous in war."

4303

MACDONALD (News Chronicle) filed a story from Naples at 1708. "I learn that relations with Russia were discussed and Roglietti spoke at length on this".... "When I was allowed briefly to watch the cabinet discussion, Roglietti held the floor." He stated that the release of 50,000 prisoners in Russian hands was discussed, and also defascistization, which was listed rather summarily on the cabinet agenda."

This concludes the list of correspondents who filed stories before the release of the declaration.

COOPER (Daily Express) filing at 1745 sent a straight story of the declaration, giving the agenda of the meeting. He described the setting in details, mentioning the murals as "depicting the ancient history of the town."

/ WIDHICK (News Chronicle)

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VLADIMIR (News Chronicle) in a 1947 article to 1948
 sent a descriptive story of a completely unorganized nature,
 at which the huge staircase to the Council Chamber...
 a ceiling fifty feet high with walls topped by paintings
 of lovely women in various poses of undress.... "the
 carafe of water and the glass on the table were untouched.
 HADGARD (Sunday Times) also gave prominence to the untouched
 carafe. His statement of the declaration was factual without
 comment: he gave the full agenda.

ELIZABETH PACKARD (U.P.) in a later despatch sent at 1948
 said that the cabinet had allotted 200 million lire to public
 works, and added that the next meeting would be on May 4.

KENNEDY (A.P.) writing at 1947 sent a perfectly straight
 story of the declaration. He included no mention of the
 agenda.

HOWARD BRIGHT (New York Herald Tribune) and JOHNSON
 (Chicago Sun) did not send stories till later and then gave
 the declaration without comment.

It seems clearly established that several correspondents
 entered the council chamber during the lunch recess and
 examined the documents left on the table. This was unfortunate,
 especially as a notice had been posted in the correspondents'
 room at Naples on Wednesday giving the location of the Italian
 Government Press Bureau in Salerno and stating specifically that
 correspondents would not be allowed in the Council Chamber.
 At the same time, if State papers are left lying about in a
 room not properly guarded, it is difficult to bring accusations
 against particular correspondents, especially since it is clear
 that the information was spread amongst nearly all of them:
 CHAMBER and PACKARD were merely quicker to access.

4308

785017

Col. Fiske to see

I T A L Y

Ext. from TIME 28
APR Recd March 17.What's the Matter?

Three of southern Italy's antiroyalist parties proposed to call a ten-minute strike in Naples last week. Object: to protest once more against the British-U.S. alliance with dilapidated little King Vittorio Emanuele III and Marshal Pietro Badoglio. Specifically, Italian anti-Fascists felt that Winston Churchill had let them down again in his recent declaration of Allied policy. Said Count Carlo Sforza: "In London they seem so busy mistrusting anti-Fascism that they forget... thousands of Fascists... eager to stab Britain and the U.S.A. in the back."

There was no strike. Explained an anti-Fascist spokesman, the republican Action Party's Prince Caracciolo: "We had to give in to precise orders from General (Sir Henry Maitland) Wilson."

Nobody was happy. Allied control authorities felt that troublesome Italians had again put their internal politics ahead of a very troublesome war. Those Italians who cared at all felt that the Allies had once again demonstrated a complete contempt for everything the war was supposed to be about.

Amateurs at Work. Field Security officers in Italy move into newly occupied towns along with, or only a few steps behind the front-line combat troops. The security men make a quick check on the townspeople, find out who were the Fascist leaders and send them back to the lines at the tail end of batches of German prisoners. It doesn't take much detective work to uncover the town roundabouts. No overpowering display of authority is needed to get rid of them.

Yet the U.S. and British Governments, acting in concert, have failed to do the same thing with Fascists of higher rank. One reason for this failure - and for most of the specific mistakes in Italy - is that amateurs at European problems are attempting to deal with chaotic and revolutionary situations. A more basic reason is that Allied officials in Italy have no firmly laid-down and well understood policy to guide them.

The Italians have heard Allied political advisers and generals make speeches about liberation, promise food for the civilian population, but the Italians have a certain Latin practicality. They are aware of the lack of ships to bring promised food. They are aware that Allied troops are liberating Italy only from the Germans - and are not doing that very rapidly. The politically conscious, democratically minded minority in southern Italy is aware by now that "expediency" is as much an excuse as a policy.

Militarily, Italy is an available place in which to "fight Germans." Politically, Italy is a place where Britain and the U.S. have lost a great opportunity to build up European good will, to prove that the Allies really do know what they want, and that they know how to get it. **4307**

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27

The Heavy One. Mussolini's abdication caught Allied political advisors with their brief cases down. There was no man, either political or military, to turn such a development to account. Hasty conferences followed with some of the King's and the Marshal's emissaries. The armistice was signed, but its announcement was withheld to coincide with a proposed airborne invasion of Rome and the beachhead landing at Salerno. The Germans moved quickly. They prevented the airborne venture by disarming vastly superior numbers of Italians to whom the Allies had looked for help, then concentrated everything available at Salerno.

The Allies held Salerno, but they also had on their hands the King and Marshal Badoglio. The Italian fleet came over militarily the Allies gained some advantage by having Italian troops help out as dock workers, on railway and bridge repairs. But the Allied command miscalculated when it expected the Italian armies - beaten, demoralized and waiting only to go home to their families - to be useful as combat troops. They, like the people of Italy, wanted only peace and food.

The Small One. To Italian democrats, King Vittorio Emanuele is still a rankling symbol of the Mussolini regime. Once il piccolo (the small one) was a sentimental nickname for the King. Now it is a bitter epithet. His son, Umberto, has won the title of stupido nazionale. Even such democratic political leaders as Benedetto Croce and Count Carlo Sforza were willing to join a new Government if the King were kicked out and a regency established for the "little prince", the seven year-old Prince of Naples. But the King was kept on.

When Italian anti-Fascists assembled in Bari on Jan. 25 to demand his abdication, the left-over Fascists and opportunists still in office in Apulia tried to stop the meeting by declaring that visitors to Bari must have special health permits to enter the city. The meeting, held nevertheless, received its answer a few days later; the Allies turned over the whole, received its answer a few days later; the Allies turned over new and additional parts of liberated Italy, including Germaine and Sicily, to the control of the Emanuele Badoglio Government.

Burden of the East. In the final analysis, it is up to the Italians to put their house in order. That is a job which they may not be able to do alone. One of the great misfortunes of Italian anti-Fascists in the south is that they have been unable to bring help from German-occupied northern Italy, where political groups are stronger and the national fiber is tougher. Behind the Italians are centuries of overbreeding, underfeeding, superstition, illiteracy and ignorance. More recently they have been weakened by 20 years of Fascism. Their food supplies are low. Typhus and a half-dozen other diseases follow in the wake of the Allied armies. As the advance goes forward, more Italian cities are left in ruins, more civilians are killed, more are made homeless, more problems of rehabilitation pile up. Many of the U.S. and British control officers are well-meaning; locally, some of them are good. But Italy needs more such officers who know and have a feeling for her people and her language. She needs, above all, a clearly stated Allied policy which will give the capable and articulate minority of Italians a real basis for faith in Britain, the U.S. and postwar Italy.

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10 29 MAR Recd

27 26

Col Fiske to Sec
No action EC

DIGEST OF BRITISH PRESS OPINIONS

28th FEBRUARY - 12th MARCH 1944.

9/PRE/5

L. U.N.R.R.A.

There has been some disappointment expressed in the last fortnight that U.N.R.R.A.'s actions are too restricted to a short term policy to have the lasting effect on world affairs which had been expected. Not only have the plans laid down been too narrow in their action, but at the foundation of U.N.R.R.A.'s limits were set beyond which the organization had no powers. This boundary includes planning for industry and finance, both of which seem to be an integral part of world economics. It is felt with some justification, the view of U.N.R.R.A.'s very narrowed field of operations, that countries are afraid to face problems and state their intentions. There is a great need for thought and planning on a global scale, and although on the inception of U.N.R.R.A., hopes ran high that here at last was an organization capable of overstepping national feeling and encouraging the smaller nations to forget their own problems in an attempt to solve the more important international difficulties, since more detail has been learnt about that organization, disillusionment has crept in and nations have once more begun to think selfishly of how to put the war to their own best use. This attitude of mind is greatly to be deplored as only in an attempt to form a world economic system does there lie any hope of a lasting peace. The Federation of British Industries, at its annual conference, has stressed this point and proposes that an International Council be set up to decide a policy of long term investment. In order that Great Britain should be enabled to play her full part in this suggested Council she must be a sound economic unit internally and thus the Federation of British Industries also suggests that it is time our post war agriculture policy was decided and also our policy towards the Empire in conjunction with Empire representatives.

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The recent, in fact, is laid on the urgent necessity for world economic planning and co-operation between the nations to ensure a sound basis for life in every country, as all are inter-dependent and insecurity in one country is reflected by its neighbours.

2. A.M.G.O.F.

The outcry against the transfer of administrative authority to the Boerleic Government was revived and led by the indignation felt by many at the Prime Minister's support of Victor Emmanuel. While it is admitted that the allies could not countenance a rival government to be set up behind their lines, they are running more risk of this by supporting an irregular regime under an out-dated king than by allowing the active democratic parties to exert their unambiguously strong influence. It seems unfortunate that the allies who invaded to liberate Italy, and the democratic parties whom they should in theory support, are becoming daily more estranged. A.M.G. has been much criticized for threatening to arrest the leaders of the democratic parties if the ten minute strike to protest against Mr. Churchill's speech were not called off, and the fact that a mass meeting was allowed instead is not considered any compensation. The refusal to allow the strike - which might have been understood had it badly in aid of the war effort - is regarded even more ludicrous since the workers who stayed work for ten minutes in the afternoon were to work an extra 15 minutes at night to demonstrate their enthusiasm for the war effort. This is generally hailed as an undeniable example of Egypt's real anti-democratic policy.

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3. MISCELLANEOUS

The Prime Minister's speech has brought forth further repercussions on our post war policy towards Germany, particularly with regard to her Eastern frontiers and the question of compensation for Poland. While it is admitted that there must obviously be readjustments and that Poland must be allowed compensation for her loss of territory to Russia in the form of expansion towards the west, it is felt that the United Nations should have the courage to admit that they do not intend to abide by the Atlantic Charter instead of trying to evade the fact by claiming that the Charter stands but does not apply to Germany.

Great satisfaction has been expressed at the fact that arrangements having been completed and agreements reached with Norway, Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg about the Civil administration to be put into force when those countries are liberated. It only remains for Washington to approve plans submitted by General De Gaulle for the Military Government of France, and the Civil Affairs for the Western Front operation plans will be completed.

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 PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
 ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
 APO 894

Trend of Correspondents' Copy for Week Ending March 19

Food and the Black Market drew attention of the Allied Press during the week.

United Press, Reuters and Associated Press picked up the editorial in the Stars and Stripes entitled "Don't be a Sucker" in which it urged troops not to pay exorbitant prices for souvenirs.

Associated Press used in whole the story from ACP on exports of lemons and citric extracts to UK.

Massock (of AP), apparently responding to a query from his home office, cabled:

"Lieut-Col Charles Poletti laughed loudly and said he had never heard of such a thing when he was informed of reports in New York that four attempts had recently been made on his life.

"Absolutely false," he added, and expressed concern lest his wife take the report seriously and be worried about him."

AP also cabled the order of Region III abolishing the Fascist system of commune and provincial government in Naples area.

There were two special articles on the food and Black Market situation.

Bracker (New York Times) cabled in part:

"The food situation in this war-gripped metropolis is fraught with paradox. On one side of a street confectioners display luscious cream-and-almond pastry priced at 15 cents each. On the other side of the same street ragged mothers holding sickly babies wait outside American military messes with cans and jars which they hope to fill with the leavings from the soldiers' tables. The explanation for this situation was provided by Major S.F. Sealey, British Officer (in the Naples area) with ACP. He explained that sugar, which is a basic ingredient for luxury foods, probably comes from stores pilfered or scavenged from the Germans. Sugar is strictly rationed but can be bought on the Black Market at a price 20 times the ration figure."

"Allied authorities are unconcerned with the possession by confectioners of sugar which they presume was obtained while the Germans were here . . . It has been officially proposed to close down the pastry shops or at least to order a stop on production

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of luxury s etc. But the proposal was turned down because of the fear that it would lead to a greater evil: bootlegging of sweets at higher prices under less sanitary conditions than those prevailing in the shops . . . Meanwhile AMG has stepped up its drive against the Black Market, which admittedly thrives here in Naples. Not a day passes without sacks of flour disappearing from trucks or warehouses, and cases are known wherein the Military Police are being offered bribes up to \$300 to let vehicles pass or be hi-jacked." 24

Massock (AP) cabled in part: "Allied authorities have started cracking down on the Black Market in the Naples region. The situation has reached gang-like proportions. Lieutenant Corea, former Federal district attorney in New York State, as chief prosecutor, is conducting the drive with a staff which he has organized . . . Swift and sure punishment for soldiers as well as civilians . . . is promised."

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108 PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
13 March 1944

Digest of Press Dispatches on Publ Meeting in Naples
of March 12, 1944

Dispatches reporting the mass meeting sponsored by the three Leftist parties in the Galleria Umberto I were uniformly mild, factual and with no references to ACC other than the fact that the meeting was permitted by Allied authorities.

Sprigge (Reuters) said in part: "Five thousand lustily cheered denunciations against the King and the Badoglio Government by orators representing the Communist, Socialist, Action and Republican Parties in the biggest open meeting yet held in liberated Italy. . . . Apart from one incident when a junior Italian Army officer was assailed with an umbrella by those nearby when he emitted shouts in favour of the monarchy, the proceedings passed off in perfect order. . . . Not one orator mentioned Churchill. It was noticeable, however, that cheers for England and the United States, which hitherto featured all demonstrations and manifestations, did not figure in to-day's proceedings, whereas each reference to Russia brought tumultuous applause." The dispatch carried in full the resolutions adopted at the meeting.

Massock (Associated Press): "A crowd estimated variously from 6,000 to 12,000 attended the meeting. Two indirect references were made to Churchill's recent endorsement of the Badoglio Government. Socialist Oreste Longobardi said: 'If the Allies still believe that the King and Badoglio Government represent the Italian people they are mistaken.' Communist Paolo Tesechi asked: 'Has the King any authority to make the Italian Army fight?' and the crowd answered with loud shouts of 'No.' The Communists, with red flags, placards, and a band, were the most showy group, flourishing clenched fists and cheering and slinging when their speakers appeared. During the meeting there were frequent shouts of 'Out with the King' and there was booing and whistling whenever the monarchy or the Badoglio Government was mentioned. The meeting was orderly, and a score of American police on motor-cycles scooted through the main streets around the Arcade to see that traffic was not impeded. Allied personnel was not allowed near the meeting in order to keep it strictly Italian."

Packard (United Press): "Between 7,000 and 8,000 enthusiastic Neapolitans - a majority of whom were Communists - participated in the biggest political demonstration of any kind permitted by the Allied authorities to date. The purpose of the meeting was to demand the abdication of the King and the removal of the Badoglio Government, a theme eloquently presented by eight speakers. . . . The most tense moment came during a speech by Enrico Russo, General Secretary of the Confederation of Labor, when a 19-year old youth in a crowd near the speakers' tribunal suddenly started shouting and . . . Some Communists overpowered him, took

Italy. . . . Apart from one incident when a junior Italian Army officer was assailed with an umbrella by those nearby when he emitted shouts in favour of the monarchy, the proceedings passed off in perfect order Not one orator mentioned Churchill. It was noticeable, however, that cheers for England and the United States, which hitherto featured all demonstrations and manifestations, did not figure in to-day's proceedings, whereas each reference to Russia brought tumultuous applause." The dispatch carried in full the resolutions adopted at the meeting.

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Lumby (London Times): "The prime purpose of the meeting was to demonstrate the Leftist parties' whole-hearted support of the Allies and their desire above all for more effective Italian cooperation in the war effort against the common enemy. Speakers produced much the same arguments as those heard at the Bari Congress. References were made to the need for better-organized food supply and the opportunity to work, and it was emphasized that no measures in those directions had been taken by the Badoglio Government which was so closely associated with Fascism that it was not likely to command the confidence of working classes. Communists predominated in the audience, but the group on the platform was a motley one comprising several who in England would rank as Conservatives."

ML 1413

10
PRESS CONFERENCE
held at the Provincia Bu ding
NAPLES
on Friday, 10 March 1944.

Present:- Lieut General Sir Noel F.N. MacFarlane
 Mr Caccia
 Mr Reber
 Col Fiske
 Lt Col Legge
 Major Lionel Fielden, DPR, ACC.
 Major T.L. Bullock, DDFR, ACC.
 Capt E.B. Smith, PRO, ACC.
 Capt J.P. Leadacoe, PRO, Region 4, AMG.
 Mr James M. Minifie, PWB.
 Capt Davis, PRO, AFHQ Adv.
 Capt Jack Angelman, Censorship
 Mr Atcheson, PWB.
 Commander Burrows, RE, Censorship
 Capt Angus MacNaughton, Censorship
 Capt Kassler, 5th Army Press Liaison
 Mr Busvine, Times of India
 Mr Lumby, The Times
 Mr Stoneman, Chicago Daily News
 Mr Morgan, Chicago Daily News
 Capt MacFarlane, The Maple Leaf
 Mr Reyburn, The Standard (Montreal)
 Mr Sprigge, (Reuters)
 Mr Schmidt, United Press
 Mr Helliwell, London Daily Herald
 Mr Stead, Christian Science Monitor
 Mr Massock, Associated Press
 Mr Brendan, Sunday Times (London)
 Mr MacDonald, News Chronicle and Sydney Morning Herald
 Mr Beckwith, BBC.
 Mrs Packard, United Press
 Mr Hawkins, Reuters
 Mr Tatlow, Daily Mail
 Mr Smart, Daily Express
 Mr Buckley, Daily Telegraph
 M Lecomte, La Patrie
 M Tissier, Dernieres Nouvelles
 M. Peonnet, Jouraux du Maroc
 M Mazella, Radio-France
 Mr Pearce, Daily Herald
 Mr McDermott, Cleveland Plain Dealer

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General MacFarlane said that correspondents might like to hear the story of the recent threatened strike from his point of view, although they probably knew most of the facts already. He had been informed that the opposition parties wished to call a

/ strike

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strike as a protest against the Prime Minister's speech. He had asked the Executive Council of the Giunta to come and see him and told them that such a decision would be unfortunate and that strikes in forward areas could not be permitted. Those were the C-in-C's orders. They agreed and realized that their procedure was unsound, except for the Federation of Labour, who asked permission for their three leaders to meet him. He told them again that a strike was out of the question and that they must find some other method of demonstrating their aims. They then asked if they could have a public meeting and a popular petition. They were told that there was no objection whatever to any orderly procedures of that nature. It was decided to hold the meeting in the Galleria on March 12 and the parties were warned that personal protests against or abuse of Allied leaders would not be tolerated. The three centre parties had disassociated themselves from the proposed strike. As regards the meeting on March 12, there would be no live broadcast but there would be a broadcast resume as at Bari. Any resolutions would be published. Abuse or wild statements would come under the umbrella of the existing stops.

General MacFarlane then passed briefly over some ACC/AMG activities. The reorganization had improved matters and the machine was running smoothly. Food was looking up. He had recently visited refugee camps, and, while they were not yet all that they should be, more places were being taken over for billeting and the situation was improving. The biggest problem arose when they got back into Italian areas. It was up to the prefectures and communes to see that refugees were taken in and

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locked after. Every family must take a family of refugees. We had evacuated 55,000 since the end of January and 1,000 a day were passing through Naples.

Sprigge (Reuters) asked what compulsion there was to accept refugees.

General MacFarlane said there was no compulsion. It was up to the Italian authorities.

Lusby (Times) asked what percentage came from beyond the lines.

General MacFarlane said comparatively few. There were three types of refugee (a) those fleeing from battle areas, (b) those who had been made homeless or destitute and (c) those whom the army wished to evacuate for operational reasons.

Sprigge asked if the Germans were passing refugees through the lines.

General MacFarlane said he thought only a small quantity. Most refugees at the moment fell under category (c).

Questioned about the incidence of typhus, General MacFarlane said that he hadn't got the statistics in his head, but the peak was long past, the number of cases in Naples was now very small, and though there were sporadic cases elsewhere, all of which could be traced to Naples, there was no sign of epidemic anywhere. Over two million people had been de-loused and research work was still going on.

Dana Schmidt (U.P.) asked if there was any likelihood that the ban on troops entering Naples might be lifted.

General MacFarlane said it wasn't a matter for his decision. He thought not yet awhile. Naples should have a clean slate for at least a week.

/ Lusby

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Lumby asked whether more information could be given about food. General MacFarlane asked Colonel Legg to make a statement.

Colonel Legg explained, off the record, that in the early days of the occupation the forecast had been incorrect and it had been necessary for him to take this up and suggest a drastic solution, based on raiding built-up stocks, which would make a satisfactory over-all solution possible. The solution has not yet been accepted, but he hoped it would not be long delayed. He gave a brief resume of the position as it had been two months ago and said that the bread ration had now not only been increased, but also assured. Other commodities, such as olive oil, dried peas and pulses, sugar and milk, had been put into circulation. In a few days time there would be a ration of cheese and soap. The food situation was in fact better than at any time since the occupation. Wheat was coming into the country.

Question: Where from?

It was coming from U.S. and Canada and would shortly be coming from Australia.

Question: From the Mediterranean area?

Practically nil. We were hoping to make an issue of pasta shortly and the pasta machinery was being got ready. Italian-produced commodities were flowing more freely. Plans were under way to hand over more responsibility to Italian officials. 4298 The main difficulty there was that so many officials had been displaced. During the coming harvest we planned to process and preserve soft fruits and tomatoes. In that way we hoped to

/ save

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effect of reducing black market prices.

Colonel Legg said the price had fallen by 30 to 40 lire; sometimes more.

Dana Schmidt asked if there had been any attempt to use other oils or fats.

Colonel Legg said that they had obtained 160 tons of cotton seed oil. There was a world shortage of fats and little likelihood of importation into a country normally rich in them.

Stoneman asked what was the bread ration in Rome.

Colonel Legg said that his information was that it was 150 grammes and that that was not always available.

Sprigge asked whether flour was always equitably distributed or was there leakage.

Colonel Legg said that leakage was certainly a problem, but on the whole he believed that distribution was equitable and steps were being taken to stop losses.

General MacFarlane said that distribution was always one of our biggest problems. It was a question of personnel. We were in process of forming a large fleet of lorries, but it was not yet completed. We had a fixed ceiling of personnel for the whole of Italy. Strict guarding required a mass of people whom we could not provide; therefore, as in all other aspects of the work, the AOC had to make Italians do the work with a minimum of supervision. We were taking every step to see that reserves were built up against difficult times.

Colonel Legg said that we were planning to make Southern

/ Italy

-5-

save 25,000 tons of shipping space. We had obtained the raw material for producing yeast and hoped to produce very shortly.

Stoneman (Chicago Daily News): How much olive oil has been issued in the last six months, and what steps have been taken to bring it to Naples by road?

Col Legg said that there was an issue of oil on February

1.

Stoneman: How much has been issued on ration cards since the occupation?

Colonel Legg said he could only be answerable for the period since the Food Commission was formed.

Stoneman: Don't the ration cards exist?

Colonel Legg said he thought that no records existed. Doubtless over the whole six months the figure would be small.

Stoneman: What steps have been taken to bring it by road?

Colonel Legg said that a special commission had been set up to hunt out olive oil, and as a result 800 tons had been issued on February 1. Another 800 tons was now in transit by rail from the East Coast.

Stoneman: But why not by road?

Colonel Legg said that olive oil was very precious 4298 and there were thefts even from rail cars. Road haulage would be uneconomical and the provision of sufficient guards impossible.

Lumby asked if increased flour supplies had had the

/ effect

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Italy and Sicily more self-sufficient. The Food and Agriculture Sub-Commissions were taking steps to see that crops were carefully controlled, and releases from the ammassi would be made according to regional requirements. We had already, on the basis of harvest expectations, cut down our July tonnage demands.

Sprigge asked about the rumoured cession of part of the Italian fleet to Russia.

General MacFarlane said that the versions of what the President was supposed to have said had naturally caused anxiety in Italian, not only Italian government, circles. But the Badoglio Government had been ready to await clarification. They had had their answer in the Prime Minister's speech (General MacFarlane read an OWI report of the relevant passage in Mr Churchill's speech).

Dana Schmidt asked if an official message had been given to the Italian Government.

General MacFarlane said not to his knowledge.

Macdonald (News Chronicle) asked why the Italians had been so worried.

General MacFarlane said that it was not clear that the Italian ships would fight under their own colours. They were ready to fight anywhere under their own flag.

Dana Schmidt asked if there had been any reply to the Giunta's project.

General MacFarlane said that the project had been forwarded in full. He had not yet had any reply.

Sprigge asked what limitations would be set on what could be said at the meeting on March 12.

/ General

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General MacFarlane said they could demonstrate their views, but protests or abuse directed against the Prime Minister or Allied Leaders could not be allowed.

The Conference ended at 4.10 p.m.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

11 March 1944.

Summary of Press Dispatches on General Mason MacFarlane's
Press Conference of March 10, 1944

Probably because much of what General MacFarlane said was "off the record" and the remainder unsensational, only two Special Correspondents, plus the main press associations (AP, UP and Reuters) sent cables.

Press associations treated the story in routine fashion, each of the major three filing about 300 words. The food story and the refugee story were combined, except by Sprigge of Reuters, who quoted General MacFarlane on the refugee situation and used Colonel Legg with direct quotes on what he said of the food situation.

Lumby (London Times) and Stoneman (Chicago Daily News) were the two specials.

"Definite assurances that the food situation in liberated Italy is looking up were given to-day by General Mason MacFarlane, Chief of the Allied Control Commission," Lumby began, and in a short dispatch quoted facts given by Colonel Legg.

Stoneman's piece did not use any of the material given out at the Conference, and was rather sharp. "After 5 1/2 months of Allied occupation," he wrote, "the Neapolitan black market not only shows no signs of losing its grip, but is in many respects worse than ever. A survey just completed shows prices uniformly higher and virtually all foods except the bread ration have to be secured at prices dictated by the black market.

"Prices bear no relation to those officially established by AMG. An outstanding example is flour, supposedly to cost 1,000 lire a metric ton, but actually selling at 18,000 lire.

"The daily bread ration is insufficient for anyone except an aged invalid, and only one issue of olive oil, to a part of the population, has been made. But olive oil can be bought on the black market for 280 lire a litre - a price few honest people can afford - which is 100 lire above the price at Christmas. This reflects the tendency of price increases.

"While political consequences of the food shortage cannot be described as serious, it is clear that the population is not pleased. They properly expect us to do something to stop the black market racket. In the estimation of most observers, including high-ranking officers, it is time that drastic steps are taken . . . A permanent solution is possible only if Washington and London really apply themselves to the problem."

Although off-the-record comment was made on the Italian fle matter, the story appears dead from this source at the moment, only two correspondents had anything to say in cables after the meeting.

/ Lumby

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Lumby of the Times said: "Churchill's announcement that no change is contemplated in present Allied arrangements concerning the Italian fleet has greatly relieved Italian feelings. His remarks are read in both Government and opposition camps as meaning that Allied treatment of Italy will be determined mainly by her contribution to the war effort."

Chinigo (International News Service) filed a speculative dispatch in which he said:

"In what is regarded here as a surprise move by Stalin is revealed in a message sent to Marshal Badoglio offering to exchange ambassadors as an expression of Moscow's recognition of the solidarity of Badoglio's government."

"Marshal Badoglio would not personally comment, but members of his Cabinet acknowledge a momentary confusion, in the first place because the Russian lead amounts to an official disownment of the Italian Communist forces, whose leaders have been claiming an intimate Moscow tie-up."

"The second element of confusion is represented by the fact that both the U.S. and Britain are at present limiting their relations with the Badoglio Government to the Advisory Council and its constituted consulates under the Allied Control Commission."

"The Italian Government is wondering whether Britain and the U.S. are aware of the Soviet move and if they are prepared to follow suit."

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91 MAR RecdDIGEST OF BRITISH PRESS OPINIONSFEBRUARY 8th - 23rd, 1944.

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U.N.R.R.A.

The French National Council of Liberation has expressed some fears that the undisturbed difficulty of feeding and clothing the French people will lead to political chaos and lack of confidence in the government then in power. It is felt that U.N.R.R.A. has so many commitments and its command over the means of supply is still so uncertain as to render it extremely doubtful that all countries can be entirely satisfied. Such being the case, it leaves the French people more liable to listen to destructive political agitation for, in their desire to make life return to normal they will do extreme things which they would not otherwise consider. The fact that the National Committee of Liberation is not as representative of the French people as other free governments such as Holland and Norway, causes them to be more fearful of what will be the outcome of lack of supplies, as they feel that support of and faith in them will not be strong enough to keep the French united as a nation in face of difficulties after liberation.

It is noted that 90% of British help to the Continent will probably be in the form of clothes, vehicles and machinery, and not food supplies.

Sir Arthur Salter's appointment to U.N.R.R.A. was made much of in the recent storm in the House of Commons against M.P.s taking offices of profit under the Crown.

A.M.C.O.T.

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A.M.S.O.T.

Angot has again had some recognition of its good work in Italy, although at the same time it is thought that more time should be spent in political considerations which have a big effect on the morale of the country concerned, and the opinion has been expressed that the wrong people have in many cases been put into power simply because the Angot officers have no active desire to encourage democracy. It is regretted that the organization, which has done an efficient piece of work in many practical ways should fall down so badly where politics are concerned apparently through lack of interest and failure to estimate their true importance.

Propaganda against King Victor Emmanuel is continuing and Count Sforza who is very much against the transfer of administrative authority in part of South Italy to the Italian Government, has warned the Allies to watch Badoglio very carefully as he suspects him of double-dealing and thinks he may be willing to do whatever harm he can to the Allied cause.

As regards Allied Military Government in Europe, agreement has been reached and articles signed with Luxembourg, Holland and Norway, as to the procedure to be followed in handing over civil administration of liberated countries to the governments concerned. It is generally agreed that this transfer should take place as quickly as possible and the question has been asked whether the next development will be a similar agreement with France, since the National Committee of Liberation in Algiers is not entirely representative of French public opinion and it is not known whether their government would be welcomed, or effective.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Armistice Terms.

Great interest has been aroused by the news that the three Powers of the United Nations have submitted draft armistice terms to the European Advisory Council and for some reason this at first aroused a feeling that either this was

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premature or the end of the war was at hand. However, it is recognized that such terms must be considered long before the actual peace comes and the present is not too soon. The public does not appear to be excessively interested in the details of the various draft peace terms as it is generally felt that they will all run on the same lines, that is unconditional surrender and its ramifications.

2. The Prime Minister's Speech.

The Prime Minister's speech in the Commons on the 22nd has not roused as much interest as might have been expected. On the whole there was no startling news in it, and it appears mainly as a commentary on the general past and present situation. Mr. Churchill was very reassuring on the question of Allied relations, about which the public has of late been rather doubtful, particularly since the rumours of a separate peace was given substantiation by its being published in Pravda. The Prime Minister remarked that after so many years of misunderstanding, it would be too much to expect that there would be no friction or suspicion between the Nations, however, it is generally felt now that the good work done by the Teheran and Moscow conferences has not been in vain.

Mr. Churchill's remarks on the territorial question have been hailed as very wise in letting it stand over till the end of the war, and although there has been some adverse comments on the apparent breach of the 1939 agreement with Poland re her frontiers, it is generally accepted as a political necessity that Russia be allowed to extend her territory towards the west up to the Curzon line suggested by Britain in 1919. The problem of compensation for Poland's reduced Eastern boundaries also raises the question of Germany's disarmament, for obviously if Poland is to extend her western boundary at the expense of Germany all precautions must be taken to avoid a future German - Polish war.

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3. The change in the U.S.S.P.'s constitution.

The recent change in the constitution of the U.S.S.R. which gives each state the right to have her own army and decide foreign policy has aroused a great deal of press comment and speculation as to the reason. It is considered to be a triumph for M. Molotov.

Many suggestions have been made, chief among these being that Russia intends to demand a vote for each state at the peace table. However, many people consider that Russia is merely showing her internal strength in that she can give her states the opportunity to make their own decisions without fear that they will differ from the policy of the U.S.S.R. as a whole.

4. Police.

The workings of Civil Affairs are still practically unknown to the Press of Great Britain and one would hazard that the public have no knowledge of this organization at all. However, despite this a release in late December on the good work of C.A. P.O.'s has resulted in a feature article in one London newspaper setting down several instances of the excellent work of the C.A. P.O.'s in Sicily and Italy. This in turn has brought forth a demand for a pictorial record of the training of the police for their duties with Civil Affairs and an article for release in U.S. and friendly and neutral countries.

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HEAD OFFICE,
ALLIED OFFICE, GOVERNMENT,
APO 30.

4th February 1944.

We were discussing yesterday the question of learning
what the Allied Public Opinion thinks of us. I find that
Military Government section, A.P.O. 1. sent out a digest twice a
month. I will see that you and Mr. Gandy receive a copy.

The Right Honourable The Viscount Stansgate.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

ATM/FEC/thh
29 January 1944

MGS-000.75

SUBJECT: Digest of British Press Opinions

TO : See Distribution Below

2 copies of "Digest of British Press Opinions-
January 6 to January 20" (C.A. 3(b)/9/2.) are forwarded for
distribution.

Distribution:

Hq. A.C.C.	2
ACMF (AMG)	2
5 Army	2
8 Army	2
Region VI	1
M.C.C.	2

for *Atkinson* Cpt & In- D.G.
A. T. MAXWELL,
Colonel,
Acting Chief.

Incls:
As above

4283

INDEX OF BRITISH PRESS OPINIONS.January 6th to January 20th, 1944.CA3(b)/9/2.A.M.G.O.T.

Once again, A.M.G.O.T.'s political methods have been criticised and disgust expressed at the failure of this organisation to stimulate and encourage democratic thought in conquered Italy. A resolution to this effect was passed by the University Labour Federation at its annual meeting and, in spite of the continued publicity given to the purge of Fascist officials which has taken place and continues to do so, articles in the various papers and periodicals still tend to stress the continued use of Fascists in important positions. Some of the most bitter opposition to A.M.G.O.T., is rooted in the fact that Victor Emmanuel and Badoglio are still in command of the Italian Government. It is noted how the King's broadcast to the Italian people, calling on them to rally round him, was received with ironic amusement by these people, and there is an attempt to drive home the lesson that Victor Emmanuel, for so long upholder of Mussolini's Fascist regime, whether willingly or not is unimportant, is still and must always be identified with that regime and is no fit head, even if only nominally, of a state which is striving to reach democracy. Furthermore, it is thought that Badoglio is doing his utmost to render abortive the democratic Parties' meeting to be held at Bari on January 28th, by sending troops and generally trying to create an atmosphere of unrest, in order to make the Italian people fear that this congress will endanger their future peace.

Apart from its political side, A.M.G.O.T., has had a little more welcome publicity than before. One article explains A.M.G.O.T.'s three stages - first as a preliminary measure while the front line is still in the immediate vicinity; then a more static administration and finally the handing over to the Allied Control Commission about a hundred miles behind the battle front.

William Hickey has congratulated A.M.G.O.T., on a good attempt to bring the country back to normal and has said that as a utilitarian substitute for the country's own administration it has been fairly successful. The organisation has also been formally thanked by an Italian cardinal for the excellent work it has done in alleviating suffering in Naples. Further congratulations have been offered to A.M.G.O.T., for its initiative in instigating a poll taken in Sicily upon welfare, and it is taken as a hopeful sign for the future that A.M.G.O.T., is prepared to learn from the civilians who are living under its regime.

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U.N.N.R.A.

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Great satisfaction has been expressed at the transfer of Sir Arthur Salter to Washington to help in the organization of U.N.N.R.A., particularly as it has been felt that not enough time was being spent upon the settlement of organizational channels over here, and especially with regard to shipping, the majority of which it is understood will be supplied by Great Britain. Fears have been expressed that U.N.N.R.A., is being viewed in too hopeful a light, and the point has been made that rationing must continue for some time after the war, and no "Little Englanders" must be allowed to spread their gospel founded on a spirit of selfishness, and that even in spite of rationing there will be no difficulty in finding enough food and other essential supplies to set Europe on her feet.

All these problems have been considered and discussed continually and it was with a general feeling of relief that the report on U.N.N.R.A.'s first session and the white paper were received since, until their issue although U.N.N.R.A., was looked upon as the only hope for lasting peace, very little of its actual detailed workings had been known.

/ MISCELLANEOUS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. One of the most important problems at the present time is that of the relations between Poland and the U.S.S.R. This question has taken up a great deal of news space since the Russian Forces crossed the Polish border in pursuit of the German army. The claims of the two countries have aroused much controversy and it is recognised that a great deal hangs on the amicable settlement of this most delicate problem. The outcome of this frontier question cannot yet be foretold, though many speculations are being made. However, it is generally recognised that although the protection of Poland's integrity was the final cause of the war, friendly relations with Russia must be maintained in order to ensure her co-operation in the peace, and the question of Poland's frontiers must be settled once and for all.

2. As might be expected, the New Year has been the signal for articles looking both backwards to 1943 as a year of conferences - Moscow, Tehran, Hot Springs Atlantic City - and forwards to 1944 as a year for action in the West and the possible end of the European war. This has given rise to renewed discussions on the peace, and the "Daily Mail" has run a series of readers' articles on "What to do with Germany" which have aroused great public interest. The main conclusions reached by a study of this series are that Germany must be beaten in the field and made to understand what invasion means, the realisation of which she has successfully evaded since the establishment of Germany proper in 1871. Then the Nazi Government must be destroyed and the leaders and war criminals punished and, finally, she must be educated to take her place as a unit in the European economic system and make the big contribution to civilisation in science, philosophy and the arts, which is well within her power.

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6942-114 Recd
ARMED CONTROL COMMISSION
Military Government Section

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AMS/SP/141

WFO 000.7

22 January 1944

SUBJECT: Digest of British Press Opinions.

TO : Headquarters, AMC (Rear).

Forwarded herewith are two (2) copies, "Digest of British Press Opinions", December 21 - January 6, received from the War Office.

Incls: as above.

A. T. WAXELL
Colonel
Deputy Chief.

DISTRIBUTION:

Hq AMG
Hq ACC (Rear)
Hq ACU
Hq AMG, Hq ACMP ✓

4287
5/12/44

785017

DIGEST OF BRITISH PRESS OPINIONS

C.A.3b/9/1 December 21st, 1943 - January 6th, 1944

ANGOT

The general feeling throughout the Press seems to be that the great test of Angot has now begun in Italy where threats of famine are universal, and it is apparent that there will be great privations throughout the winter. Many accusations have been made that the measures taken to combat the black market were ineffectual and not widespread enough. It is true that last month many glowing accounts of the arrest of black market leaders and sellers of "hooch" were published. However, since that time the first enthusiasm over the break-up of a gang of illicit liquor sellers, has now passed and it is realised that this was only one of many and while the one has been arrested, the many still remain at large and no word of their arrest has been received. It is suggested that this is due largely to a lack of co-operation between Angot and the fighting services; and that steps should have been taken from the very beginning of the invasion of Italy to ensure that British troops, who are adequately fed, clothed and equipped by their own army organisation, should be forbidden to buy up the small stocks remaining after the retreat of the Germans. Correspondents writing from Italy have been horrified at the starvation prevailing amongst the majority of the civilian population and have bitterly told how it was possible to get an excellent meal if only one had the money. They suggest that the time is long overdue for Angot to take a firm stand and exercise rigid control over the movement of goods until the terrible abuses are stamped out and a universal ration established.

Angot has been unfortunate in its publicity in respect of its political angle also, in the last fortnight. The ban laid on political meetings, which covered democratic party meetings as well as all others, roused a great storm of protest, particularly where it was held to include the Combined Committee of Italian National Liberation. A letter was handed to the Angot authorities in Naples accusing them of Neo-Fascism and was only withdrawn and apologised made after a stormy discussion lasting two hours. It is much regretted that Italy appears to be divided in more places than one and that our differences with the Germans can be settled in a more straightforward way than our internal difficulties with conflicting parties and policies. The atmosphere of disapproval around Angot lightened a little when it was made known that the ban on the Combined Committee of Italian National Liberation was to be raised and the meeting might be held under certain conditions, but it is unfortunate that this storm should arise just after the good impressions of Angot created last month by the publication of the arrest of Fascists and leaders of the black market.

The work of the police in Angot has, however, been highly praised by the Home Secretary.

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the break-up of a gang of illicit liquor sellers, has now passed and in its place has been a more orderly and more honest one. The one has been exposed, the other still remains at large and no doubt the business is increasing. It is suggested that this is due largely to a lack of co-operation between the British and the fighting services, and that steps should have been taken from the very beginning of the invasion of Italy to ensure that British troops, who are adequately fed, clothed and equipped by their own Army organisation, should be forbidden to buy up the small stocks remaining after the retreat of the Germans. Correspondents writing from Italy have been horrified at the starvation prevailing amongst the majority of the civilian population and have bitterly told how it was possible to get an excellent meal if only one had the money. They suggest that the time is long overdue for Amgot to take a firm stand and exercise rigid control over the movement of goods until the terrible abuses are stamped out and a universal ration established.

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The work of the police in Amgot has, however, been highly praised by the Home Secretary.

U.N.N.R.A.

There has been very little further news of any great importance about U.N.N.R.A. within the last fortnight: the main interest being placed on the meeting of the European Commission and the future already noted that supplies are not sufficient to cover the requirements of the Atlantic City Conference decisions.

POST WAR CONSIDERATIONS.

Now that the end of the European War seems to be in sight there has been a revived interest in post war international planning. The Federal International Bureau expresses public opinion in the speech of one of its members who brings up the debated question of post war credit for Germany. He emphasises the fact that it will be impossible to exact reparations from a country whose economic system is shattered and who has no means of earning money to pay for war damage. He reiterates the suggestion that former labour

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from Germany should be used to rebuild the destroyed cities and considers that this would be an excellent way of exacting reparations and, at the same time would not sow the seeds of the next war by ruining Germany, part of the European economic unit, and making her determined to rise again and revenge herself.

The problem of Nazi-impregnated children has also been raised and stress laid on the point that here, in children of early adolescence who have only known the Nazi regime and teaching, lie the real and most inaccessible roots of future wars, which must be destroyed as soon as possible.

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ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HEADQUARTERS,
15 ARMY GROUP,
C.M.F.

V. A

DPD 13/12

AMV/69/5

13th December 1945

Thank you for your letter of the 3rd December, AMV/7001/1E, enclosing the Press Review, which Lord Rennell was pleased to receive, and he has asked me to thank you for arranging that one copy be sent to him in future.

Would you please arrange with the War Office that a copy is also sent personally to Brigadier H. S. Lush, at this address.

DPD

Captain Charles Poore,
Public Relations Officer,
Headquarters,
Allied Military Government,
Palermo.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Public Relations Office

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AMC/7001/FR

3 December 1943

Dear Major:

I am enclosing the Press Review sent to us by the War Office through the kindness of Lord Rennell. As you will see, the British press was not precisely in a kindly mood toward us during the week covered by the report--29 October to 6 November. I hope their position has changed since then.

The War Office asked, in an accompanying letter, whether Lord Rennell would like to have copies sent to him personally in the future. I am venturing to reply that I think he would. Will you please correct me on this if I am wrong?

Here all goes on very much the same as before, and I shall soon be out of office when the AGC PRO takes over.

Faithfully yours,

Charles
Charles Poore
Captain, AUS
Public Relations Officer

Thank you
10/12
Major D.C. Pirie
Military Assistant to
Chief Civil Affairs Officer

Enc.

Would you ask if copies could be sent to me

MR 12/12/43

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CAS/PM/308

PRESS REVIEW 24 Oct - 6 Nov 42.

ALLOT AND RUSSIAN OPINION

The general trend of public opinion as expressed in the British papers seems, unfortunately, to be mainly critical of ALLOT in operation and owing to this, much stress has been laid on the political inferences of ALLOT's policy and too little on its main aim.

The criticisms of ALLOT was mainly threefold, centred on the fear of Fascism in Badoglio's Government and apparent lack of unity among the Allies, with emphasis on the need for Russian support in any projected government of occupied territory and the feeling that ALLOT was not representative of the countries applying it, for the reason that the actual people knew next to nothing about it.

CRITICISM OF BADOLIO'S GOVERNMENT AND THE USE OF FASCIST MACHINERY.

It is recognized in a constructively critical article of the "Daily Telegraph", 29 Oct, that ALLOT is working under great difficulties and must use the tool nearest to hand; at the same time, the fact that the members of the Fascist Secret Police after arrest reappeared as fully accredited officials of ALLOT is to be deplored, but is a fact which successive reports from such varied sources as "The New Leader", "The Economist", the "Yorkshire Evening News" and the "New Statesman" render undeniable. Mistrust for Badoglio's Government is widespread, as is the feeling that while protesting vehemently that it is only a temporary measure and that its main aim is the infusion of democratic ideas and methods into the administration of Italy, it appears to be carrying on Italian Fascist tendencies by the employment of Fascist officials and the use of Fascist machinery.

On October 30th "The Daily Worker" published, with great indignation, a story complaining that two men, who, inspired by the B.B.C. broadcasts, had travelled from Milan under circumstances of great danger and difficulty to join up, had found on their arrival that they were expected to remain in a camp indefinitely doing nothing, and there seemed very little chance of their being allowed to join the army. This story is supported by "The Manchester Guardian" of 30th October, but emphasis is there laid on the fact that Count Sforza, commenting on this story, explained that he believed in Marshal Badoglio's honesty, but the delay arose because of the problem of reassembling the cumbersome machinery of the disorganised Italian Army. The story was given publicity, however, and the inference must clearly be that public opinion fears that ALLOT, in its desire to set up an effective Government as soon as possible, uses the Fascist officials and appears not as a liberating force but merely as another totalitarian Government under the name of Democracy. Great distrust is felt at the report on 3rd November in "The Daily Worker" that Badoglio wishes to attend his control to cover the three zones, Calabria, Lucania and Campania, under

CRITICISM OF BACCHIOLO'S GOVERNMENT AND THE USE OF FASCIST MACHINERY.

It is recognized in a constructively critical article of the "Daily Telegraph", 29 Oct., that MGOI is working under great difficulties and must use the tool nearest to hand; at the same time, the fact that the members of the Fascist Secret Police after arrest reappeared as fully accredited officials of MGOI is to be deplored, but is a fact which successive reports from such varied sources as "The New Leader", "The Economist", the "Yorkshire Evening News" and the "New Statesman" render undeniable. Mistrust for Bacchiolo's Government is widespread, as is the feeling that while protesting vehemently that it is only a temporary measure and that its main aim is the infusion of democratic ideas and methods into the administration of Italy, it appears to be carrying on Italian Fascist tendencies by the employment of Fascist officials and the use of Fascist machinery.

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/ D.F. Pitts,

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D.H. Britt, reported in the "Mass Chronicle" on 1st November, inveighing against AEGF and "the political illiterates of Whitehall" held that AEGF had been unsuccessful in Italy and if allowed to continue would pave the way for a third world war. In two papers only between 30th October and 6th November was any mention made of AEGF's successful work in starting the normal life of the country as quickly as possible. "The Sphere" showed several pages of pictures in which officers of the AEGF Organisation are shown giving food to the population, supervising the clearance of roads and the repairing of damage; and there is general rejoicing at the liberation from Fascism. The Aberdeen Press and Journal also complimented AEGF and remarked on the great problems which it has to face in attempting to feed all the people of Italy, particularly in view of the transport difficulties.

CRITICISM OF APPARENT LACK OF UNITY AMONG THE ALLIES.

Criticism was mainly based on the fact that AEGF is an Anglo-American organization and obviously not approved by Russia, but great things are expected of the Moscow Conference, and the further Anglo-Russo-American Cooperation to be held later on. "Reynold's News" of 31st October suggested that the Government accept the suggestion that the Trades Unions should be represented and a general re-organization of AEGF is expected now that the Moscow Conference is over and the views of Russia ascertained. It is significant, as the "Daily Sketch" points out, that the Fighting French Movement has refused to have anything to do with AEGF and has succeeded in gaining the Allies' promise that no such organization shall be set up in France when the invasion actually takes place. A special commission has been set up at Algiers to prepare some kind of substitute administration and this seems to show fairly conclusively that AEGF's political attachments are considered regrettable and its name coupled with Fascism. A further point of difficulty is stressed by the "Daily Telegraph" of 23rd October, where Frank Stanton puts in a plea that there be some difference in attitude made between Hitler's victims and his satellites.

CRITICISM OF AEGF'S LACK OF AUTHORITY.

One great and, unfortunately, well-founded complaint raised by the British public is, that although we are now governing the territory we have occupied, the general public hears nothing about the organization which has to face this situation. It is a reasonable complaint, for among all the criticisms of AEGF that appear in the Press it is obvious that the ignorance of AEGF's aims is universal. "Cavalcade" on October 30th suggests that it is essential

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to the population, supervising the clearance of roads and the repairing of bridges, and there is general rejoicing at the liberation from Nazism. The Aberdeen Press and Journal also complimented AEGOT and remarked on the great problems which it has to face in attempting to feed all the people of Italy, particularly in view of the transport difficulties.

CRITICISM OF AEGOT LACK OF UNITY AMONG THE ALLIES.

Criticism was mainly based on the fact that AEGOT is an Anglo-American organization and obviously not approved by Russia, but great things are expected of the Moscow Conference, and the further Anglo-Russian-American Conference to be held later on. "Reynold's News" of 1st October suggested that the Government accept the suggestion that the Trades Unions should be represented and a general re-organization of AEGOT is expected now that the Moscow Conference is over and the views of Russia ascertained. It is significant, as the "Daily Sketch" points out, that the Fighting French Movement has refused to have anything to do with AEGOT and has succeeded in gaining the Allies' promise that no such organization shall be set up in France when the invasion actually takes place. A special commission has been set up at Algiers to prepare some kind of substitute administration and this seems to show fairly conclusively that AEGOT's political attachments are considered regrettable and its name coupled with Nazism. A further point of difficulty is stressed by the "Daily Telegraph" of 22nd October, where Frank Stanton puts in a plea that there be some difference in attitude made between Hitler's victims and his satellites.

CRITICISM OF AEGOT'S LACK OF PUBLICITY.

One great and, unfortunately, well-founded complaint raised by the British public is, that although we are now governing the territory we have occupied, the general public hears nothing about the organization which has to face this gigantic task. It is a reasonable complaint, for among all the criticisms of AEGOT that appear in the Press it is obvious that the ignorance of AEGOT's aims is universal. "Cavalende" on October 20th suggests that it is essential for the public to understand all that AEGOT is doing since it will be the first indication of Allied political aims that liberated territories will receive. As such, it must be made clear that it is democratic by nature and, being not only a physical and mental first aid, this must be emphasized from the moment the first AEGOT officer lands on occupied territory.

FURTHER DISCUSSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

AEGOT has been complimented on its organization whose efficiency is nowhere denied; though its policies are often deplored. On 3rd November, "The Daily Herald" printed an article eulogizing AEGOT's part in the saving of Italy's art treasures and ancient monuments, under the title of "War in the world's biggest art gallery". It is gratifying to find that in spite of lack of publicity the successful tackling of this difficult problem is appreciated.

Finally, mention is made in many papers of nation-wide importance such as "The Times", "The Daily Mail", "The Telegraph" and "The Scotsman", of Sir James Craig's promise to reconsider the question of allowing women into AEGOT, and it is suggested that as more territory is occupied and settles down, there will be increasing need for woman-power in all branches of AEGOT administration.

11th November, 1943.

RLP

Digest of Press Reviews7th November to 22nd November, 1943.

The British Press has united to acclaim the success of the Moscow Conference in solving some of the vital problems which have faced the Allies. At last the United Nations have in reality become united and their aims have been clarified, agreed upon and set out for every other nation to read and understand. The terms of the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms have been crystallized, and those cynics who doubted that they would ever become more than a set of high sounding words of encouragement have been confounded.

A. U.N.R.R.A.

Naturally, the greatest interest has been centred upon the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and the climax arose to its height on November 9th when representatives of the 44 nations concerned met at the White House in Washington to sign the agreement constituting U.N.R.R.A. before proceeding to Atlantic City to confer. This conference is held as marking the real beginning of world economic planning, and in every paper published mention is made of the high hopes felt that at last there is a possibility that the peace made after this war may be a lasting one. The basic cause for this feeling lies in the fact that at last economic factors are to be allowed their true importance. It is felt that the Treaty of Versailles was a failure mainly because political interests were observed at the expense of economic necessity and that the formation of U.N.R.R.A. vindicates and accepts the theory that the peace of the world depends on every nation being able to rely on economic safety. At last the realisation has dawned that to drain a conquered country of all resources in a vain attempt to enforce payment of war damage is short sighted. The one great theme runs throughout the whole British press expressing the country's hopes that at last this great conference of nations will not only decide the immediate needs of denuded territories, but will also

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To illustrate the backing which U.N.R.R.A. has in one of the countries most concerned with the supply of relief, the results of a poll taken in America from normal representative American citizens have been published. The question asked was whether the citizens considered that the occupied countries would need help to return to their normal lives. Of those asked 97% answered in the affirmative. They were then asked if they considered that the United States should try to produce more than she needed herself in order to help those

countries, and 88% again replied yes. Although such polls are not entirely to be relied on, they may safely be considered as useful in giving some idea of the way the country is thinking, particularly in America where they seem to be more successful than elsewhere.

Attention must be drawn to the stress laid on the "rehabilitation" side of U.N.R.R.A. The difficulties of such an immense undertaking are recognised as is the fact that we are now facing the prospect of a world shortage of food which must be overcome, and headlines in the "Daily Herald" - "Learn by doing it, says F.D.R." and "Aiding them aids us", show that the people consider that our aid is best given in the form of facilities for the various countries to help themselves. Mere charity does not fill the bill; it is a question of giving first-aid relief to feed, clothe and tend starving people and then providing the machinery, stock and implements for them to restore their own national life and thus their own self respect. Mr. Roosevelt's speech at the White House when the agreement had been signed has been much publicised as outlining the aims which the U.N.R.R.A. conference has in view. He considers that the true spirit in which each country will face problems of peace is now at hand. It is clear that world food supplies will be very short and that not only is there the difficulty of finding and distributing equally the necessary supplies, but also we must face the problem of transport. In all probability the war with Japan will still be in progress when the most pressing need for relief is felt, and under these circumstances it may be difficult to find enough shipping. It should be possible to overcome this difficulty with a real spirit of co-operation, however, allocating and controlling goods in short supply according to need. It has now been stated at the conference that British ships will do most of the carrying of relief supplies.

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Great interest has been aroused by the fact that Mr. H. Lehman, former Governor of New York, has been elected Director-General of U.N.R.R.A. and Mr. Acheson, Assistant Secretary of State, permanent Chairman. Mr. Acheson at first refused the position as he feared it might be misunderstood if two such important positions were held by Americans, when the very importance of the conference lay in the fact that it was truly international. However, on being pressed, he accepted the position unanimously offered to him. It is noted with much satisfaction that the U.N.R.R.A. conference has got down to business at once and is already producing concrete plans. It has been stressed that there is a possibility of the European war being over in six months and that plans must be rapidly prepared for this eventuality. Sir Frederick Leith-Ross, economic advisor to the British delegation has put forward a report estimating the requirements and this is being used as a framework of U.N.R.R.A.s. plan.

The financial problems of U.N.R.R.A. organisation have been considered and Mr. Roosevelt has already asked Congress to approve the suggested expenditure. The possible amount required from each country is 1% of the nation's income, but this has not yet been finally decided. The general feeling seems to be that this would be a fair way of raising the necessary amount which will no doubt be large.

U.N.R.R.A. is also facing the many problems which will arise from the wholesale migration in Europe after the war. Millions of people who have been forcibly transported or who have had to move from their homes will have to be returned and one of the greatest problems will be to prevent the spread of disease. This difficulty has been foreseen, however, and steps are being taken to combat epidemics from the moment Europe is freed.

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Although some disappointment has been felt at the fact that India is not considered eligible for relief under U.N.R.R.A. and therefore the case of the Indian famine is not to come under discussion, on the whole the feeling throughout the country runs high in favour of U.N.R.R.A. and considers it the first, and thus most difficult, step to ensure international security and lasting peace.

B. A.M.G.O.T.

The Allied Control Commission in Italy. General relief is obvious throughout the press at General Eisenhower's statement declaring first that AMGOT is now only A.M.G. as Italy is not classed as occupied territory any longer, and secondly setting up the Allied Control Commission to re-organise Italy for war. For some time AMGOT has been drawing down adverse comments from the press criticising it as politically unsound, and undemocratic and substantiate this accusation by saying that Fascist O.V.R.A. officials are employed by AMGOT. Since the change over in the administration, this attitude has made a complete swing over and stories have been published proving that AMGOT has dismissed hundreds of Fascist officials in Naples alone. The public feels that the Moscow conference has indeed had tangible results and that at last the situation in which Italy was placed when she became a co-belligerent is to be simplified. It has been felt in this country that too much leniency was shown to a state who, when in 1940 she thought the war was going to end at once in Germany's favour attacked a helpless France in the rear and yet who fearing that the tide had turned and the Allies were a safer friend to have, changed again and not only sued for peace, but also declared war on her former Ally. Since the peace with Italy feeling has grown that she has been allowed too easy a time and that we appear to have forgotten the fact that for three years she has been at war with us and fought us in every theatre of operations in which we have met. The "Daily Telegraph" has put forward this point very strongly urging some change in our policy, and it is felt that the setting up of the Allied Commission heralds such a change. The general feeling seems to be that the Control Commission is a step in the right direction. It is particularly noted that the council is to have on it representatives of the United States, the United Kingdom, Russia and the French Committee of National Liberation and that Greek and Yugoslav members will be added, as this tends to emphasize the point that Italy must not forget she has been conquered and that her future depends on her own behaviour and also the fact that the unity of the allied nations cannot be called into question.

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Badoglio is said to welcome this innovation as a first step to the handing over of the administration of Italy to his Government and the release of AMG's hold. This viewpoint is concurred with in several of the nation's papers who consider that AMG will gradually hand over control through the Allied Control Commission as Badoglio's Government broadens its political composition and strengthens its administrative structure. Much satisfaction is felt throughout the country since under Major-General Kenyon A. Joyce, Italy is to be compelled to fulfil the Armistice terms and so "work her passage". While commencing the idea behind the Allied Control Commission the "New Statesman", however, seems to fear that it will be unsuccessful as the Italian Government is not representative of the Italian people, nor has it democratic tendencies. To substantiate this claim, attention is drawn to the fact that Marshal Messe, who may join the Badoglio government does not hold an unblemished record of democratic activity. Disappointment has been felt that the negotiations between Marshal Badoglio and Count Sforza came to nothing over the suggestion that King Victor Emmanuel should abdicate in favour of the six year old Prince of Naples, but as it raises a constitutional problem great difficulties arise. To

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quote a broadcast from an Italian anti-Fascist underground radio station. - "Forming a regency means rashly to decide that there shall be no republican order in Italy. In our opinion this is incorrect and impossible." However well founded this fear may be there are many such problems which cannot be faced until the war is over and the general tone of the press would imply satisfaction at the change over and support of the terms of General Eisenhower's declaration.

C. MISCELLANEOUS.

1. The French Committee of National Liberation. Some slight publicity has been given to the French refusal to allow an AMGOT scheme to operate in France after the invasion has taken place. The suggestion has been made that as the Free French government is possibly less representative of France than any other Free Government of its country, it is proportionately more sensitive of its functions being usurped, and knowing that fear of a Military dictatorship is already rife in France, takes firmer steps to ensure that this shall not take place.

2. AMGOT's success - Sir James Grigg at Oxford

Sir James Grigg, speaking to the Oxford University Conservative Association and the Oxford University Liberal Club on the 5th November, claimed that AMGOT was not the failure it has been stated to have been. It had great difficulties to overcome and admittedly was only fitted for preliminary work after invasion had first taken place; but he insisted that in this respect AMGOT had done its work very well indeed and had restored conditions to as nearly normal as possible within an amazingly short space of time. He deplored the British habit of apologising when there was no call for any apology and reiterated the conviction that AMGOT had been an undoubted success in Sicily and satisfied the people governed while agreeing that any period of military government should be as short as possible.

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