

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/1331

EXECUTIVE CO
FEB. 1944

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

785017

10000/109/1331

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING, MINUTES
FEB. 1944

1525

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 394

9th February, 1944

Correction to Minutes of Executive Council
23rd Meeting, 4 February 44

1. At the request of Lieut. Col. Jenny, para. 244 (c) of the Minutes of the 23rd Meeting of the Executive Council is corrected to read as follows:

"The Public Works Ministry is not yet certain as to where the division will be in the functions between Public Works and the Industry and Commerce Ministry. Whatever that will be, it is quite apparent that there will have to be close co-operation between our Public Works and Industry and Commerce Sub-Commissions."

6493

Lewis H. Van Dusen, Jr.
LEWIS H. VAN DUSEN, Jr.,
Major, Ord.,
Secretary.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Deputy Chief Commissioner.
A.C.A.O. of all regions.
S.C.A.O. 5th and 8th Armies.
Chiefs of all Sub-Commissions.
All Vice-Presidents.
All Deputies to Vice-Presidents.
Spores (25)
Secretary (2)

1526

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

785017

Chy/Comman

Defining C.C.

Via Private Ec

Adm.

Executive Commission

Major Gen. S. Medvedev

6483

1527

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

785017

Agricultural Sub Commission

1528

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

8 February 1944.

Ref/44/ /CA.

SUBJECT: Suggested Correction in Minutes
of Executive Council Meeting, 4 Feb 44.

TO : Lt.Col.L.A.Jerry, Director, Public Works
and Mines Sub-Commission.

1. Your communication of 7 Feb 1944 suggesting a change in the minutes of the Executive Council Meeting of 4 Feb 1944 is very much appreciated. The contents of the suggested correction have been noted and attached to the original minutes contained in the file of the Secretary.

NORMAN E. FISKE.
Col., Cavalry.
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

6482

1529

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

CONFIDENTIAL

HEAD OFFICE,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 392

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

6th February, 1944.

Correction to Minutes of Executive
23rd Meeting, 4 February 44

1. At the request of Lieut. Col. Jany, para. 24(c) of the Minutes of the 23rd Meeting of the Executive Council is corrected to read as follows:

"The Public Works Ministry is not yet certain as to where the division will be in the functions between Public Works and the Industry and Commerce Ministry. Whatever that will be, it is quite apparent that there will have to be close co-operation between our Public Works and Industry and Commerce Sub-Commissions."

LEWIS H. VAN DUSEN, Jr.,
Major, Ord.,
Secretary.

6485

1530

785017

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

44

10 FEB Recd

LAIJ/cw

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Works and Mines Sub-Commission

7 Feb 44

ACC/117/PWM

Subject: Correction in Minutes of Executive Council Meeting
4 Feb 1944.

To : Major L.H. Van Dusen, Jr.

John Z.

1. The following correction should be made in these minutes:-

Pg 7 Section 244, para. C, states that I had said:
"Therefore, it is not only this Sub-Commission but also the
Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission will have to deal with
that Ministry ". That statement is incorrect and should
be revised to read as follows, which is what I did say:-

"The Public Works Ministry is not yet certain as to where
the division will be in the functions between Public Works
and the Industry and Commerce Ministry. Whatever that
will be, it is quite apparent that there will have to be close
cooperation between our Public Works and Industry and
Commerce Sub-Commissions".

2. Will you, therefore, please make that correction as, under
A.C.C. procedure, only one man is to deal with a Minister ~~or~~ other-
wise there is bound to be confusion. _{as}

L.A. Jenny
L.A. JENNY.

Lt. Col. C.E.

Director. 6488

R.D. & Wm. H. L. L. L.
Brig. Gen.

6 February 1944.

MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
23rd Meeting
4 February 1974

Lt. General Sir Noel F.N. Mason	MacFarlane (Chairman)	Chief Commissioner.
Major General S.S. Solodovonik		Soviet Rep. with A.C.O.
Brig. General Erskine E. Hume		S.C.A.O. 5th Army.
Brigadier M.S. Lush		R.C. & M.G.S., Exec. Comm.
Brigadier Parkinson		Director F.H. Sub-Commission.
Brigadier Gueterbock		Chief of Staff.
Brigadier Carr		R.C.A.O. Region IV.
Brigadier Dunlop		R.C.A.O. Region VI.
Mr. Henry Cady		Economic Section.
Mr. Ian Campbell		MEMO.
Mr. Caocia		Political Section.
Mr. Reber		"
Col. Whittley		"
Col. Young		R.C.A.O. Region V.
Col. Evans		Security and Intelligence.
		Director, Industry &
		Commerce Sub-Commission.
		Chief Staff Officer, Econ. Sec.
		D.C.C.A.O.
		Deputy Exec. Commissioner.
		Director Labor Sub-Commission.
		Director Legal Sub-Commission.
		Director Finance Sub-Comm.
		Director P.S. Sub-Comm.
		Director Int. Transportation
		Sub-Commission.
		Chief, Naval Section.
		C.S.O. Econ. Section.
		Region 5.

PRESENT

Lt. General Sir Noel F.N. Mason MacFarlane (Chairman) Chief Commissioner.
Major General S.S. Solodovnikov Soviet Rep. with A.C.C.
Brig. General Erskine E. Hume S.C.A.O. 5th Army.
Brigadier K.S. Lush R.C. & M.C.S., Exec. Comm.
Brigadier Parkinson Director P.H. Sub-Commission.
Brigadier Gueterbock Chief of Staff.
Brigadier Carr R.C.A.O. Region IV.
Brigadier Dunlop R.C.A.O. Region VI.
Mr. Henry Grady Economic Section.
Mr. Ian Campbell MEDO.
Mr. Caocia Political Section.
Mr. Reber " "
Col. Whittley R.C.A.O. Region V.
Col. Young Security and Intelligence.
Col. Evans Director, Industry &
Commerce Sub-Commission.
Col. Adams Chief Staff Officer, Econ. Sec.
Col. Spofford D.C.C.A.O.
Col. Fiske Deputy Exec. Commissioner.
Col. Bain Director Labor Sub-Commission.
Col. Upjohn Director Legal Sub-Commission.
Col. Grafftey-Smith Director Finance Sub-Comm.
Col. Kirk Director F.S. Sub-Comm.
Col. Fitch Director Int. Transportation
Sub-Commission.
Commodore Palmer Chief, Naval Section.
Col. Adams C.S.O. Econ. Section.
Col. Belser Region 5.
Col. Henderson Director, Telecommunications
& Postal Sub-Comm.
Lt. Col. MacGaffery R.C.A.O. Region II.
Lt. Col. Poletti R.C.A.O. Region I.
Lt. Col. Smith D/Director Labor Sub-Comm.
Lt. Col. Carl Miller D/Director Finance Sub-Comm.
Lt. Col. French Liaison Officer.
Lt. Col. Jenny Director P.W. & Mining Sub-
Commission.
Lt. Col. Harris Director Prop. Control Sub-Comm.
Lt. Col. Reiter Chief Industrial Planning
Staff.
Lt. Col. Monfort D/S.C.A.O. 8 Army.
Lt. Col. The Lord Forrester D/A.C.A.O. Region III.
Lt. Col. Hancock D/R.C.A.O. Region I.
Lt. Col. Cripps S.O. Admin. Section.
Lt. Col. Spicer Director Int. Sub-Comm.
Lt. Col. Legg Director Food Sub-Comm.
Lt. Col. Feasey Chief of Staff, Region 5.
Major Dickie D/Director Ag., For., & Fish.
Major John Ames Executive Officer, S.O. 5 Army
Major Sir P. Magnus Conductor to Gen. Solodovnikov.
Major Friend James A.C.C. Liaison HQ. ICMF.
Major Washburn Education Sub-Commission.
Major Barry Electric Power Mission.
Major Van Dusen Secretary.

6485

785017

-2-

230. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1430 hrs.

231. The Chairman stated that he wished the Director of each Sub-Commission to give a brief statement of the principal activities of that Sub-Commission during the past two weeks, so that all present both from H.Q. and the field would have a general idea what each Sub-Commission was doing and the chief problems which confronted it.

232. Interior Sub-Commission.

(Lt. Col. Spicer)

(a) The chief activities of this Sub-Commission during the past two weeks was the translation of the text of various Italian laws and decrees relating to local government, and the checking of reports from the Italian Government relating to conditions in King's Italy.

(b) The Sub-Commission has also dealt with a number of applications for the appointment and removal of public officials. The Italians often desired the appointment of officials in unoccupied territory which A.M.G. had removed. In a few cases the Italians had tried to put forward men who were of poor calibre.

(c) Little had been done as yet on the ecclesiastical side and no difficulties had been encountered.

233. Public Safety Sub-Commission. (Col. Kirk)

(a) The activities of this Sub-Commission to-date had been advisory rather than operational.

(b) In connection with the police little direct contact was made at H.Q. because dealings with the Italian Police were largely handled by the Regions. The coordination of civilian internees had been worked out between the various Headquarters. It is believed that in the future this will largely be handled by the Army. Considerable effort has been made to procure arms, equipment and pay for the Carabinieri.

(c) Studies have been instituted of prisons in an effort to alleviate the congestion in Region 2. This could be done either by obtaining the release by the military of some of the prisoners now used by them; by turning over to the Italian Government the problem of caring for prisoners sentenced by Allied Military Courts, and by the removal of any civilian internees that still might be incarcerated in prisons.

1 5 3 4

785017

appointment and removal of public officials. The Italians often desired the appointment of officials in unoccupied territory which A.M.C. had removed. In a few cases the Italians had tried to put forward men who were of poor calibre.

(c) Little had been done as yet on the ecclesiastical side and no difficulties had been encountered.

233. Public Safety Sub-Commission. (Col. Kirk)

(a) The activities of this Sub-Commission to-date had been advisory rather than operational.

(b) In connection with the police little direct contact was made at H.Q. because dealings with the Italian Police were largely handled by the Regions. The coordination of civilian internees had been worked out between the various Headquarters. It is believed that in the future this will largely be handled by the Army. Considerable effort has been made to procure arms, equipment and pay for the Carabinieri.

(c) Studies have been instituted of prisons in an effort to alleviate the congestion in Region 2. This could be done either by obtaining the release by the military of some of the prisoners now used by them; by turning over to the Italian Government the problem of caring for prisoners sentenced by Allied Military Courts, and by the removal of any civilian internees that still might be incarcerated in prisons.

(d) A study has been instituted in connection with the Fire and Civilian Defence organisations and their equipment. An effort was being made to coordinate the various agencies for registration and licensing.

234. Public Health Sub-Commission.

(Brig. Parkinson)

(a) The typhus epidemic in Naples has been stayed for the moment. Cases have fallen from 35 to 40 down to 17 to 25 a day. However, there are still a substantial number of cases and the epidemic is far from over.

Experiments were being made of the new disinfection equipment. A Typhus Board has been set up on which representatives of the Army and Navy and A.C.C. sit. This Board will not exist permanently as the Army and Navy are anxious for A.C.C. to take over the problem as soon as possible.

(b) A survey had been made of the hospital situation. One of the chief problems is securing an adequate ration of food for hospital and institutional purposes, as the inmates were not able to supplement the regular ration with additional food from outside sources.

-3-

- H
- (c) Contacts have been made with the various veterinary sources and laboratories are being set up for the provision of serum.
 - (d) The Venereal Disease problem in Naples and in the 5th Army area is still tremendous. The authorities are trying to combat the evil by putting un-licensed houses out of bounds to troops, and by instituting hospital treatment for the cases found, but the figures are still high.
 - (e) Red Cross clothing has recently arrived and is being distributed.
 - (f) A Program has been undertaken for the control of malaria during the coming season which promises to be a sizable problem, as the irrigation ditches have been destroyed. Every effort must be made to restore adequate malarial controls.

The Chairman emphasized the necessity of each R.C.A.O. recognizing, treating and reporting every case of typhus in his area. A.C.C. will have to take over the typhus problem even in Naples as soon as possible, and the situation must be watched closely to prevent any spread.

235. Legal Sub-Commission.

(Col. Unjohn)

- (a) The Minister of Justice was not very strong but could act on a low level as he had in Foggia when he set up a Court of Appeal there because the usual Court of Appeal operating from Bari was unable to function in Foggia.
- (b) The publication of decrees originating in King's Italy was frequently desirable in occupied territory, as it would mean fewer general orders and a more unified system. A program has been instituted for making such decrees effective in occupied territory. Each Sub-Commission should submit any decrees promulgated in Italian territory which it thought should be made effective in occupied territory.
- (c) The Italian Government has been very cooperative in connection with the suggestions of this Sub-Commission for the appointment and promotion of judicial officials. He seldom allowed men to leave posts in occupied territory, as they had been trying to do in Region 2, and then secure judicial appointments in Italian territory. No recommendations of this nature were made or approved except after careful vetting, in an effort to see that they were in the interest of all concerned.

6-83

1538

785017

...season which promises to be a sizable problem, as the irrigation ditches have been destroyed. Every effort must be made to restore adequate malarial controls.

The Chairman emphasized the necessity of each R.C.A.O. recognizing, treating and reporting every case of typhus in his area. A.C.C. will have to take over the typhus problem even in Naples as soon as possible, and the situation must be watched closely to prevent any spread.

235. Legal Sub-Commission. (Col. Upjohn)

(a) The Minister of Justice was not very strong but could act on a low level as he had in Foggia when he set up a Court of Appeal there because the usual Court of Appeal operating from Bari was unable to function in Foggia.

(b) The publication of decrees originating in King's Italy was frequently desirable in occupied territory, as it would mean fewer general orders and a more unified system. A program has been instituted for making such decrees effective in occupied territory. Each Sub-Commission should submit any decrees promulgated in Italian territory which it thought should be made effective in occupied territory.

(c) The Italian Government has been very cooperative in connection with the suggestions of this Sub-Commission for the appointment and promotion of judicial officials. He seldom allowed men to leave posts in occupied territory, as they had been trying to do in Region 2, and then secure judicial appointments in Italian territory. No recommendations of this nature were made or approved except after careful vetting, in an effort to see that they were in the interest of all concerned.

(d) At present as in the past many cases were unnecessarily tried in the Allied Courts, particularly in Sicily. Many of these cases could be handed over to the Italian judicial system. The Allied Courts should try only cases in which Allied interests were directly involved, after the Italian Courts began to function in any area.

(e) All R.C.A.Os. should notify the Legal Sub-Commission at once if any legal personnel were placed in office so that the Legal Sub-Commission could be kept informed of the work being done by their personnel.

The Chairman emphasized the importance of the last two items mentioned by Col. Upjohn and also indicated that the decrees of the Italian Government should not be published in occupied territory unless separately promulgated or approved in some form.

236. Education Sub-Commission. (Major Washburn)

(a) The vetting of all personnel for previous Fascist activities continues. The higher officials are vetted by H.Q., and the lower officials by the Regions.

785017

-4-

- (b) Some textbooks have been completed and are being printed in Palermo for use in Sicily and Calabria. Those intended for the balance of Italy would be printed in Naples as soon as paper became available.
- (c) A Local Committee was being set up to handle youth problems, using Naples as a test ground.
- (d) A survey was being made of the Italian School system, including the allocation of the various schools and statistics relating to their condition and capacity.
- (e) Detailed instructions were given to all Directors of Education in the provinces indicating how they were to proceed in educating the youth.

The Chairman asked to what extent Italian youth had become saturated with Fascist doctrine. Major Washburn replied that he thought that they were not as badly affected as the German youth were by Nazism, and many of them in the south were thoroughly sick of the Fascist teachings.

237. Property Control Sub-Commission. (Lt.Col.Harris)

- (a) Administrative Instructions are being brought up-to-date for use in Regions III and IV so that a coordinated and uniform program will be in operation.
- (b) Efforts are being made to regularise the position of Allied and French property in King's Italy.

238. Fine Arts and Monuments Sub-Commission. (Lt.Col.Cripps, S.O.Admin.Section)

Since most damage to historical and artistic objects was done by our troops rather than by the enemy, the representatives of this Sub-Commission should be sent forward with the troops to prevent damage. Brig. Lush said that he thought that it was the Lines of Communication troops that did the damage and not the fighting troops. The Chairman said that he thought that it was a question of constantly educating the troops as to the objects and buildings which must be preserved. Lt.Col. Harris stated that in Region IV Allied property was posted by the P.C.A.O. indicating that it was out of bounds to troops, and that a similar program might be used in respect of historical or artistic monuments.

The Chairman asked to what extent Italian youth had become saturated with Fascist doctrine. Major Wesburn replied that he thought that they were not as badly affected as the German youth were by Nazism, and many of them in the south were thoroughly sick of the Fascist teachings.

237. Property Control Sub-Commission. (Lt.Col.Harris)

- (a) Administrative Instructions are being brought up-to-date for use in Regions III and IV so that a coordinated and uniform program will be in operation.
- (b) Efforts are being made to regularise the position of Allied and French property in King's Italy.

238. Fine Arts and Monuments Sub-Commission. (Lt.Col.Cripps, S.O.Admin.Section)

Since most damage to historical and artistic objects was done by our troops rather than by the enemy, the representatives of this Sub-Commission should be sent forward with the troops to prevent damage. Brig. Lush said that he thought that it was the Lines of Communication troops that did the damage and not the fighting troops. The Chairman said that he thought that it was a question of constantly educating the troops as to the objects and buildings which must be preserved. Lt.Col. Harris stated that in Region IV Allied property was posted by the R.C.A.O. indicating that it was out of bounds to troops, and that a similar program might be used in respect of historical or artistic monuments.

239. Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission. (Col.Evans)

The program of this Sub-Commission fell into three branches :

- (a) Re-habilitation of industry, which was limited by shortage of coal and power.
- (b) The allocation of raw materials and collection of information thereon for the Local Resources Boards.
- (c) The export of surplus commodities.

Mr. Grady said that Col. Koenig of the Public Works and Mines Sub-Commission had indicated that Sardinian coal was much better than the local people thought. If certain equipment is received as expected these mines will be able to produce a million tons annually by June. The chief limiting factor was transportation.

-5-

240. Electric Power Mission. (Major Harry)

The program for supplying power to Rome from the south in the event that the installations in Rome itself were destroyed by the retreating forces was explained. Power needed for operating the Vatican, which would probably not be cut off by the Germans, would not assist the population very much.

241. Labor Sub-Commission. (Col. Bain)

(a) The re-organization of the employee exchanges in Sicily was being undertaken, as the present system of registration was found to be useless. In Catania reports of a black market in skilled labor had been received. In order mobilizing all labor was being prepared to prevent it.

(b) The Provincial Labor Offices were about to be placed under the Ministry of Labor rather than under the Prefects, because appointments had been influenced by politics.

(c) Orders had been issued recently permitting labor unions to organize freely. King's Italy had agreed to abolish the syndical system of labor organization. An officer has been assigned to keep in touch with newly formed labor organizations. He has talked to the leading members of the recent Bari Conference and believes that the political parties will not disturb the unions until they are formed, after which they will no doubt have some political connection. The people organizing unions were for the most part groping in the dark and have received considerable advice from the Sub-Commission.

(d) The Italian social insurance system was extremely complicated. It was being studied and overhauled.

242. Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Sub-Commission. (Major Dickie)

(a) Every effort is being made to plant the seed for the coming season in time and to secure an equitable distribution of the available fertilizers and insecticides.

1540

785017

organization of the employee exchanges in Sicily was being taken, as the present system of registration was found to be useless. In Catania reports of a black market in skilled labor had been received. In order mobilizing all labor was being prepared to prevent it.

- (b) The Provincial Labor Offices were about to be placed under the Ministry of Labor rather than under the Prefects, because appointments had been influenced by politics.
- (c) Orders had been issued recently permitting labor unions to organize freely. King's Italy had agreed to abolish the syndical system of labor organization. An officer has been assigned to keep in touch with newly formed labor organizations. He has talked to the leading members of the recent Bari Conference and believes that the political parties will not disturb the unions until they are formed, after which they will no doubt have some political connection. The people organizing unions were for the most part groping in the dark and have received considerable advice from the Sub-Commission.
- (d) The Italian social insurance system was extremely complicated. It was being studied and overhauled.

242. Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Sub-Commission. (Major Dickie)

- (a) Every effort is being made to plant the seed for the coming season in time and to secure an equitable distribution of the available fertilizers and insecticides.

(b) A census is being taken of the present agricultural productive capacity, because the existing statistics were found to be so old as to be of no real value. 6483

- (c) Efforts are being made to organize more effective control of agricultural production, which program is being worked out with the Italian Government. The cooperation of the Italian Government including the Ministry of Agriculture has been very satisfactory.

- (d) A survey of forests and the creation of a system for their control is in progress.

- (e) Efforts are being made to remove as many restrictions as possible from the fishing areas, and to find proper equipment for the fishing fleets.

The Chairman asked if any collective farming had existed in Italy. Major Dickie thought there had been some but that it was not very widespread. Owing to the fact that his staff in the Regions was limited, there had been little opportunity to go into this question thoroughly.

In response to a question by the Chairman, Major Dickie stated that it would probably be necessary to release on leave certain soldiers during the coming harvest. Already the calling up of young men had produced complaints in Foggia.

785017

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

-6-

243. Food Sub-Commission.

(Lt. Col. Lush)

- (a) It was explained that although this Sub-Commission was only two weeks old, efforts were already being made to secure an equitable distribution of the available sources of food. Close collaboration is being maintained with the Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, because the handling of bulk wheat from warehouse to consumer was chiefly a question of road transport.
- (b) A conference is being held this weekend of all the Supply Officers. The chief problems are those relating to milling, the provision of sacks, and the allocation between maintenance and build-up. At the conference it would be ascertained how the Regions wanted the jobs done, and this H.Q. if possible would try to do it that way.
- (c) One of the chief present problems is the existence of different ration scales in different areas. For instance in the 6th Army area 150 grams is allotted to light workers, and as much as 500 grams daily to heavy workers. Such rations could not be supplied. In other Regions a pasta ration had been set up even though it was not included in the basic standard ration. The standard ration scale should be adhered to until there was enough available to increase it for all. Heavy workers were entitled to more food than light workers, but that they should secure this additional quantity by the issuance of a supplementary ration over the standard ration, and not by fixing different scales.
- (d) Additional warehouse space was necessary in order to provide for the bulk supplies which were being imported. An example of this was the expected receipt of 9,000 tons of sugar at Bari and Reggio to last for a considerable period of time. Owing to the exigencies of the shipping situation, this quantity was being received at once instead of over the period during which it was needed.
- (e) Sufficient extra supplies existed to care for the needs of hospitals and institutions. If the Director of the Public Health Sub-Commission made recommendations for supplementary rations, they could in large part be granted.

Brig. Lush emphasised the importance of letting the Regions know at all times what could be expected in the future in the way of food supplies.

A discussion then followed concerning the new A.F.H.Q. memorandum authorising all labor employed by the Armed Forces to receive a midday meal from Army rations. Lt. Col. Poletti emphasised the impossibility of supplying a midday meal for workers spread over a large area, and considered that there was no great demand for it. It was opposed by No. 1 District, by the Navy and by

785017

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

It would be ascertained how the Regions wanted the jobs done, and this H.Q. if possible would try to do it that way.

- (c) One of the chief present problems is the existence of different ration scales in different areas. For instance in the 8th Army area 150 grams is allotted to light workers, and as much as 500 grams daily to heavy workers. Such rations could not be supplied. In other Regions a pasta ration had been set up even though it was not included in the basic standard ration. The standard ration scale should be adhered to until there was enough available to increase it for all. Heavy workers were entitled to more food than light workers, but that they should secure this additional quantity by the issuance of a supplementary ration over the standard ration, and not by fixing different scales.
- (d) Additional warehouse space was necessary in order to provide for the bulk supplies which were being imported. An example of this was the expected receipt of 9,000 tons of sugar at Bari and Reggio to last for a considerable period of time. Owing to the exigencies of the shipping situation, this quantity was being received at once instead of over the period during which it was needed.
- (e) Sufficient extra supplies existed to care for the needs of hospitals and institutions. If the Director of the Public Health Sub-Commission made recommendations for supplementary rations, they could in large part be granted.

Brig. Lush emphasized the importance of letting the Regions know at all times what could be expected in the future in the way of food supplies.

A discussion then followed concerning the new A.F.H.Q. memorandum authorizing all labor employed by the Armed Forces to receive a midday meal from Army rations. Lt.Col.Poletti emphasized the impossibility of supplying a midday meal for workers spread over a large area, and considered that there was no great demand for it. It was opposed by No.1 District, by the Navy and by I.B.S. in Sicily, and it was used only as a bribe to pirate good workers away from their present employment. Lt.Col.Poletti said that the best way to control the workers was to insist on absolute equality.

The Chairman then requested Brig. Lush to call in all R.C.A.Os. for a meeting with the Food Sub-Commission in order to work out the policy on the subject.

244. Public Works and Mines Sub-Commission. (Lt.Col.Jerry)

- (a) A.F.H.Q. has started a program for the maintenance of military highways in Regions II, III, and IV under the supervision of this Sub-Commission. There are 5,000 kilometres of highways now included in the program. Under this program the Army fixed priorities, the Italian Engineering authorities made a survey of the materials needed and of the local availability of these materials. The Army furnished those materials that were not locally available. The Sub-Commission supervised the execution of the work, and made certain that the money was properly spent and that the priorities were maintained. Most of these jobs were handled from H.Q. rather than from the Regions so that one group could deal with the organized Italian engineering authorities. It is impossible to provide food for workers on highways covering 5,000 kilometres.

-7-

(b) The rationing of electricity is becoming increasingly important because of the shortage of power, and all users are being urged to cut down wherever that is possible.

(c) The Ministry of Public Works of the Italian Government covers the entire engineering field, including the rehabilitation of all industry. Therefore, it is not only this Sub-Commission but also the Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission will have to deal with that Ministry.

245. Finance Sub-Commission. (Lt. Col. Miller)

(a) One of the most serious existing problems is the failure of the present tax structure to provide the necessary revenue. Officers have been detailed to the field to stimulate the activity of the tax collecting agencies.

(b) The sale of Postal Savings Bonds is about to commence.

(c) Payments to refugees of the United Nations except those from the U.S. or U.K., have been made at the low relief scale paid to Italians. An increase in these payments is being arranged. Remittances to Sicily from the U.S. and U.S. are being authorized through the Combined Chiefs of Staff whereby restricted amounts may be sent from those places to relatives and friends in Sicily.

(d) It is hoped that the Bank of Italy will soon be operating on a completely national basis.

(e) Studies are constantly being conducted concerning currency and revenue in liberated Italy. If the presses and plates in Rome have been destroyed it is probable that private printings of Italian currency will be made in the U.S.

246. Internal Transportation Sub-Commission. (Col. Fitch)

(a) He outlined the difficulties that were encountered in securing sufficient transport from the armies, particularly rail transport. Now that some passenger trains are being run a permit system will have to be worked out which can be operated by the Italian Government.

628

- (a) One of the most serious existing problems is the failure of the present tax structure to provide the necessary revenue. Officers have been detailed to the field to stimulate the activity of the tax collecting agencies.
- (b) The sale of Postal Savings Bonds is about to commence.
- (c) Payments to refugees of the United Nations except those from the U.S. or U.K., have been made at the low relief scale paid to Italians. An increase in these payments is being arranged. Remittances to Sicily from the U.K. and U.S. are being authorized through the Combined Chiefs of Staff whereby restricted amounts may be sent from those places to relatives and friends in Sicily.
- (d) It is hoped that the Bank of Italy will soon be operating on a completely national basis.
- (e) Studies are constantly being conducted concerning currency and revenue in liberated Italy. If the presses and plates in Rome have been destroyed it is probable that private printings of Italian currency will be made in the U.S.

246. Internal Transportation Sub-Commission. (Col. Fitch)

- (a) He outlined the difficulties that were encountered in securing sufficient transport from the armies, particularly rail transport. Now that some passenger trains are being run a permit system will have to be worked out which can be operated by the Italian Government.
- (b) Transport by ship has been impeded by the fact that most small ships which could be used for coastal work have been chartered by some branch of the Armed Forces.
- (c) On the matter of road transport the Chief Commissioner has been able to secure a promise for a thousand vehicles from the Commanding General in charge of the Italian theater, provided that some organization could be developed within the next two months to handle this transport so that formations of the army would no longer be faced with requests for their transport from A.C.C. Two hundred of these vehicles are now available and the rest will be made available when the organization to handle them has been fully established. The operation of these lorries will be handled by a civilian organization created for the purpose and supervised by A.C.C.

The Chairman emphasized the necessity of forming this organization within the next two months so that at the end of this period he could tell General Alexander that he was ready to accept the lorries.

785017

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

-8-

247. Shipping Sub-Commission (MEDCO). (Mr. Ian Campbell)

He said there was two classes of shipping, ocean going ships which had been taken over for military and naval uses, and coastal shipping. Efforts were being made to determine which schooners, if any, were available for coastal shipping, which goods had to be carried in them, and who was to operate them. MEDCO decides which ships ought to be used for essential coastal sea movements.

248. Political.

The Chairman then stated that the recent conference in Bari had indicated that these groups desired the King to abdicate, but beyond this they had no fixed program as to their future operation, or as to the form of Government which they desired to set up in Italy. There were a large number of political currents which were too complex for any brief description. The fact that the Government has not the full support of the people hampers A.C.C. because the Government is not confident enough of its position to press strongly for important action that should be taken. However, it is the job of A.C.C. to treat the existing Italian Government as an Administrative machine rather than as having any particular political complexion, and to work with it to produce as efficient a governmental organization as possible.

249. Regional Control and Military Government Section. (Brig. Lush).

This Section deals directly with the field. An important branch of the Section is the one which handles refugees and prisoners of war, and other surplus people. There were two parts to this work:

- (a) The amalgamated Prisoner of War and Displaced Persons Sub-Commissions, under Colonel Kirkwood. This group deals with the non-Italian Displaced Persons, including civilian internees, and has the responsibility of caring for them in camps while they are in Italy and then sending them abroad at appropriate times. It has been operating exclusively on the eastern side of the Peninsula, chiefly because there were so many Yugoslavs involved. Approximately 6,000 persons have already left the Peninsula as a result of the activities of this group.

785017

that these groups desired the King to abdicate, but beyond this they had no fixed program as to their future operation, or as to the form of Government which they desired to set up in Italy. There were a large number of political currents which were too complex for any brief description. The fact that the Government has not the full support of the people hampers A.C.C. because the Government is not confident enough of its position to press strongly for important action that should be taken. However, it is the job of A.C.C. to treat the existing Italian Government as an Administrative machine rather than as having any particular political complexion, and to work with it to produce as efficient a governmental organization as possible.

249. Regional Control and Military Government Section. (Brig. Lush).

This Section deals directly with the field. An important branch of the Section is the one which handles refugees and prisoners of war, and other surplus people. There were two parts to this work:

(a) The amalgamated Prisoner of War and Displaced Persons Sub-Commissions, under Colonel Kirkwood. This group deals with the non-Italian Displaced Persons, including civilian internees, and has the responsibility of caring for them in camps while they are in Italy and then sending them abroad at appropriate times. It has been operating exclusively on the eastern side of the Peninsula, chiefly because there were so many Yugoslavs involved. Approximately 6,000 persons have already left the Peninsula as a result of the activities of this group.

(b) Lt. Col. Hulls deals with the Italian refugees displaced by the fighting. An Italian Committee has been set up to assist and work with the Sub-Commission. The duties of this group consist of collecting people in the forward areas and sending them to the rear areas where they are handed over to Italian officials. It is hoped that the provision of food and the curing for these persons can soon be handed over to the Italian authorities.

Brig. Lush emphasized that these groups, both because of the public interest manifested in their operations and because of the suffering which they could avoid, should be given every sort of cooperation in the regions.

250. Telecommunications and Postal Sub-Commission. (Col. Henderson)

(a) It had been very slow work securing the release of circuits by the Army for civilian use, and securing the necessary stores for the rehabilitation of such circuits.

(b) The Italian Government has been handicapped because, for military reasons, it has not been allowed to use the wireless. It is hoped that soon communications to Sicily and Sardinia can be sent by the Italian Government over Allied Military Circuits.

1547

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

785017

-9-

(c) Civilian Postal Service has been started in Regions I and II, but not in Naples or abroad. The availability of the necessary censors is the limiting factor. It is hoped that foreign mails might start on a restricted basis by February 15.

(d) The maintenance of standard rates for such civilian telecommunication and postal services as did exist is most important.

251. The Chairman stated that the Navy Section was operating at Taranto, with a representative in this area, that the Air Section was operating at Bari, and that the Military Section was in Lecce where it would have to stay for the present because the Italian War Ministry was remaining there. As soon as the Comando Supremo moved to Salerno, Brig. Duchesne would accompany it. As soon as Rome fell the H.Q. of these three services on the Italian side would be set up there and the A.C.C. representatives would also be there, although the Naval and Air operations would possibly continue to be directed from the south.

252. The meeting adjourned at 1655 hours.

6481

Lewis H. Van Dusen, Jr.
LEWIS H. VAN DUSEN, JR.

that the Navy Section was operating at Taranto, with a representative in this area, that the Air Section was operating at Bari, and that the Military Section was in Lecce where it would have to stay for the present because the Italian War Ministry was remaining there. As soon as the Commando Supremo moved to Salerno, Brig. Duchesne would accompany it. As soon as Rome fell the H.Q. of these three services on the Italian side would be set up there and the A.C.C. representatives would also be there, although the Naval and Air operations would possibly continue to be directed from the south.

252. The meeting adjourned at 1655 hours.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner.
Deputy Chief Commissioner.
R.C.A.Os. of ALL Regions.
S.C.A.O. 5th and 8th Armies.
Chiefs of all Sub-Commissions.
All Vice-Presidents.
All Deputies to Vice-Presidents.
Spares (25)
Secretary (2)

6481

Lewis H. Van Dusen, Jr.

LEWIS H. VAN DUSEN, Jr.
Major, Ord.
Secretary.

1549