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

785017

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785017

10000/109/1355

PWB REPORTS
APR., MAY 1944

5 March 65

PUBLIC AFFAIRS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSIONTHE SC. THIRD OF COPY FILED BY CORRESPONDENTS ON MAY 4

The second meeting of the new Italian cabinet failed to attract the flood of correspondents who attended the first. Maybe they felt that, having described the Palazzo del Governo with such a wealth of detail, there was nothing left to describe. As far as is known only CHINIGO (INS) and RACKARD (U.S.) SPRIGGS (Reuters) and LUNDY (Times) were in Salerno, the last two only because the car which was taking them down to Sicily had broken down there.

Both FLEASON RACKARD and CHINIGO obtained scoops as they had done the previous week. The former certainly had the full text of Badoglio's message when she filed her story at 1620. She quoted his "gratitudes of the people" (which this Branch had persuaded him to include) "equitable compensation" and "deeply felt discipline" which can "achieve results far superior to those obtained by exclusively coercive measures." She also gave, once again, the full agenda, including the purging of fascists in key posts, the composition of the consultative body, the living conditions of State employees, communications (especially buses and trams for suburbanites) and volunteers for the Italian army. At 2100 she filed a despatch stating that Onorato had been appointed head of the anti-fascist purge.

CHINIGO had clearly got similar information at the same time and wrote a similar despatch (Both correspondents were hours ahead of the official release). He also sent a story to the effect that Marshal Badoglio had had an hour's interview with Sir Noel Charles and had stressed the need for material, particularly aircraft, to permit full Italian cooperation in the war. CHINIGO (who was certainly busy) also sent a long interview with Sforza who was quoted as saying that "co-belligerency must go" and "the Allies must decide once and for all whether Italy was to be allowed to take a serious part in the war."

This note, stressed by CHINIGO in his account of both interviews and underlined by his own comments which suggested strongly that a better deal was now called for, was also struck by SPRIGGS (Reuters) in a despatch sent two days previously, in which, after concentrating at some length on the "delicate negotiations" concerning prisoners of war, he worked up to the conclusion that "co-belligerent status is a source of much bewilderment to friendly Italians and to allied authorities controlling populations which it can treat neither as enemies nor as full friends." SPRIGGS and LUNDY (Times) filed despatches covering Badoglio's declaration on the evening of 1 May. In the evening after it had been officially released (2115).

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South African PACIFARD and CHINIGO obtained scoops as they had done the previous week. The former certainly had the full text of Badoglio's message when she filed her story at 1600. She quoted his "gratitudes of the people" (when this branch had persuaded him to include) "equitable compensation" and "demply felt discipline" which can have results far superior to those obtained by exclusively coercive measures." She also gave, once again, the full agenda, including the purging of fascists in key posts, the composition of the consultative body, the living conditions of state employees, communications (especially buses and trams for suburbanites) and volunteers for the Italian army. At 1600 she filed a despatch stating that Unodes had been appointed head of the anti-fascist purge.

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BRIGHT (Herald Tribune) filed a long article in praise of Colonel Polazzi whom he described as "a man often criticized as a loud unacath extrovert," who has nevertheless "enlivened and buoyed the populace out of its bemused attitude of defeatism and despair."

A great deal of censorship was concealed by correspondents' references to the statement which appeared in IL CORRIERE OF May 3 to the effect that there were large troop concentrations in Italy. This statement was a gross infringement of 12.1 military security.

Exec. Council

to see pl.

Dep. Ex. Council
see
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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 29.

2 May 1944.

Subject: PWB development in Southern Italy.

To: Chief Commissioner (through Secretary-General).

The attached letter contains an attractive bribe charmingly offered. Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes. A propaganda organization is not suitably housed in an ACC office, unless it is controlled by the ACC.

On the other hand you may consider that it can be controlled and that this presents a way of doing the controlling. In that case I think the following points need careful consideration:

1. The teletype at Catanzaro is intended for an extension of the United Nations News Service to that area. Is it desirable that the UNNS be thus extended, or is it more desirable - as Colonel Harcock has stressed - that the Italians be encouraged to run their own press?
2. Can PWB, so long as it is directly under AFHQ, be in fact controlled by the ACC? If it can, a directive should be issued establishing the lines of such control clearly so that there is no question (as there definitely is at present) as to whether the PWB is a propaganda agency accepting our directives or whether it is an autonomous organization deciding its own policy. It is true that we have gained some measure of control, but it is as yet by no means, as you know, a control which avoids disasters.
3. The establishment of a PWB officer in the office of a Regional Commissioner is, of course, a precedent for similar steps in all Regions and this will automatically re-assert the principle of Regional Public Relations Officers which you abolished, since a PWB officer in such close touch with a Region would inevitably cover Public Relations activities.

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Lionel Fielden

LIONEL FIELDEN.

Major, Public Relations Director.

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copy to : Executive Commissioner.

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COPY

PWB ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PWB UNIT NO 8 APO 512

29 April 1944.

Dear Major Fielden,

Captain Anderson, Chief of our News Operations, plans to visit Catanzaro and other points in Southern Italy next week in connection with the development of our news and press plan.

Shortly we expect to be in a position to link Catanzaro and other points to Naples by teletype and I wonder if it would be helpful to ACC if we had our machines stationed in the ACC offices, not only because of the control factor but also because it might enable you, and other ACC officials, to have closer ties, thus promoting our common interest.

We should like our press officer in Catanzaro to be in close touch with your ACC office, in fact, if possible and practical, to have desk space with ACC. This is not only because of PWB/ACC problems alone but because of APB as well.

I should very much like to have your and General MacFarlane's reactions to this proposal as soon as possible. If you think well of it, may I suggest that a letter of instruction for Captain Anderson and our press officer, Anthony Ellison, would be valuable and appreciated?

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) GEORGE W. EDMAN,
A.D.P.W.O. ITALY (L15)

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Major Fielden,
PRO,
Allied Control Commission.

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTION
ADDED CONTROL COM 13510

2 May 1944.

PMB 37.

Subject: Distribution of a special material to AGC
For Executive Council.

It seems to me rather awkward and perhaps dangerous to ask the PWB to put Region III and IV and General Hume from the distribution of the PWB D Section reports, as you have suggested. These reports have a wide circulation and so only as far as I could ascertain in fact the cut in distribution would prevent those concerned from seeing it. The PWB would also find it strange and the order might be reversed back to General Hume and others. I would suggest that a better way would be to ask for these reports to be channelled through us for distribution, which would fit in fairly reasonably with other arrangements. I am now a draft for your signature.

The real problem is not the question of distribution or there but the question as to whether these reports should be distributed at all in this country.

Ex Comm
To see 2-3
3/5

Major Fielder
advised 4/5/44.

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asily M. H. S.
Lower Fielder.

Major Fielder,
Public Relations Director.

PIA

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
H.Q. & P.O. Section
APO 334.

10

PRB 25.

2 May 1944.

Subject: Distribution of D Section material to ACC

To : Mr John Baynes, Deputy Psychological Officer, RWS,
Italian Theatre.

1. It is requested that, effective at once, all distribution
of PRB D Section material to ACC personnel be channelled through
the Public Relations Branch, Allied Control Commission. This
~~arrangement~~ cancels all previous ~~arrangements~~ *arrangements*

H.S. LUSH,
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 78501765
27 APR 1966

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Ref: 65/1/GA.26th April 1966.

SUBJECT: PWB Report on "Conditions and Developments in Naples Area".

TO : Political Section.

1. I notice that the distribution list of PWB Report attached included only two AMG Regional Commissioners and I asked PRO to see that it was sent to all Regional Commissioners. His reply raises a question of principle. He states that the document is mischievous and malicious, founded on gossip and guaranteed to create (a) alarm and despondency, and (b) a strong anti-Madoglio feeling. He makes several comments on the body of the report.

2. If this is true then it seems to me that the report should be stopped. I shall be glad of your comments on Major Fielden's criticisms and value of the report.

3. If you agree with Major Fielden it seems to me that the matter should be taken up with the Chief Commissioner by you and some reform instituted.

ESI/JG.

M.S. Lush
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Executive Commissioner

a. Washington
ProB & Ken parent organisations in London
find reports of gossip (useful & recognize that they are not
meant to be objective. Another series does that job. This series
has a classification after each item & 'C3' is common! To
make certain that all readers appreciate this, ProB are considering
the inclusion of a paragraph No. 13. at the end of the report. At

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^{Not suggest,}
It is not suitable material for Regional Commissioners:
Even for information only!

hac

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8
COMBINED REFERENCEALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship SectionPSYCHOLOGICAL WARTARE BRANCH
Unit No. 8
APO 512

Issued by "PR" SECTION (Naples Local)

20 April 1944

CONDITIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN NAPLES AREA

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT NO. 2.

(containing information additional to that incorporated in "Report on Conditions in Liberated Italy", No. 15, of 18 April 1944.)

C O N T E N T SITEM NO.Italian Government officials nervous about Russia..... 1
Laziness and immorality in Ministry of War..... 2

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Partito d'Azione, Socialists and a new government..... 3
Salerno Speculations as to constitution of new war Cabinet 4
Development of the Italian Republican Party..... 5
Italian magistrates and Christian Democracy..... 6
Social Democratic Party..... 7

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Unemployment..... 8

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Sterling and Collier Black Market..... 9
Decrease in prices of precious metals in Campania..... 10

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State of mind in Italian army..... 11
Unjust treatment of Italian troops..... 12

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Engagement of Italian personnel in Allied offices..... 13

C O N T E N T S

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'Gorda Tratres' and 'L'Associazione Goliardica Napoletana' Appendix

C O N T E N T S

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ITALIAN GOVERNMENT1. Italian Government officials nervous about Russia.

An informant who had recently seen Capasso, Under-Secretary for the Interior, said that there was considerable alarm in Italian Government circles as to the possibility of Russian influence in Italy. He stated that a proposal by Russia to release all her Italian prisoners of war was received with some misgiving for the reason stated above. (C-3).

Capasso got the sack. He is a tailhead anyway.

2. Laziness and immorality in Ministry of War.

Minor functionaries in the Ministry of War complain of the persistence of the old mentality among these in responsible positions in the Ministry at Brindisi. Their over-pretentiousness, excessive laziness, attachment to exterior form and futile detail, and the lack of scrupulousness in dealing with rations and salaries are said to give rise to much unfavorable comment amongst those working under them, to the detriment of discipline. (C-3).

Who complains? He is sheer gossip. He is a tailhead anyway.

POLITICAL

3. Partito d'Azione, Socialists and a new Government.

An unconfirmed report states that the Partito d'Azione and the Socialists are prepared to collaborate with the King, Badoglio and Ministers who do not belong to the anti-Fascist parties, on the following conditions:

- (a) That no Ministers remaining in the Cabinet must be ex-Fascists (e.g. Jung)
- (b) That the Government when formed will promise solemnly to call a Constituent Assembly at the end of the war. (B-3).

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Who complains? Two is Sforza's group. intended to appear in Government. POLITICAL

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- (a) That no Ministers remaining in the Cabinet must be ex-Fascists (e.g. Jung)
- (b) That the Government when formed will promise solemnly to call a Constituent Assembly at the end of the war. (B-3).
- 4. Salerno speculations as to constitution of new war Cabinet.

Some people think that there will be a radical change with the formation of a new ministry, that that only three or four "technical" portfolios will remain in the hands of their present holders. Others consider, on the contrary, that the Ministry will remain "democratic" and that only four or five "political" portfolios will go to the six officially recognized parties. It is believed by many people that Badoglio will remain President of the Council, with Sforza as Vice-President.

It is generally thought, however, that the new Ministry, although reinforced with men from the various parties, will consist mainly of elderly people. Also, in view of the accommodating spirit shown in the agreement reached between the various political groups, it will inevitably have a tendency towards compromise

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and half measures, keeping to the same lines as the present Ministry, and lacking the force and energy to impose on the country that character of total war which is desired by all the parties.

Among the Ministers who will, it is considered, almost certainly be eliminated, are Reale, Cucco, Siciliani and, possibly, De Cezzo. It is thought that Tano, at present Under-Secretary to the Ministry of Communications, may become Minister for Communications.

Members of the six parties who are named as probable choices as Ministers include Rodino (Christian Democrat) who is suggested as a possible Minister for the Interior, Tedeschi and Roale for the Communist Party (Micali to remain head of the party), Avv. Taormina (Christian Democrat). (C-3).

5. Development of the Italian Republican Party.

if course The following report has been received from a left-wing informant about recent developments and activities of the Italian Republican Party:

"Dott. Capece is taking over the direction of the Party, and is reorganizing it according to criteria which are more uncompromising, more clearly defined and more anti-Fascist as far as regards the admission of new members; he is also guiding it slowly further to the left."

"Several representatives of the party from other provinces in liberated Italy have recently arrived in Naples. It has been learnt in this way that the party has 10,000 members in Calabria, where it is numerically as strong as the Communist Party. It was also disclosed that the Italian Government has granted permission for the publication of a weekly paper in Salerno."

"Three members of the party, including Dott. Capece and Prof. Vincenzo Dattilo, recently had an interview with Togliatti, in the course of which they discussed at length: (a) The eventual union of the Republican Party with the Party of Action, such a union, outlined in theory by Togliatti, was discussed at length by Capece who, without excluding the possibility a priori, said that the

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"In this connection, the following observations may be made: firstly, there is no doubt that among the political parties that are not represented in the Committee, this party has the longest tradition, and is the most serious and widespread throughout Italy. Certainly its entry into the Committee of Liberation would change the balance of forces between the right and the left, and would therefore be strongly opposed by all the parties, except the

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Communist and Socialist, and it would also create a precedent for other parties which are not at present represented on the Committee. It may be said that the qualifications necessary for a party to aspire to representation on the Committee of Liberation are (1) that it should have a national character, (2) that it should have taken part in the struggle against Fascism, and (3) that it should have historical traditions." (I-2).

6. Italian magistrates and Christian Democracy.

Against express orders from the Badoglio Ministry to people working in the Ministry of Justice and the Ministries of the three armed forces, forbidding them to join political parties, it appears that several Italian magistrates have decided to "adhere" unofficially to the Christian Democratic Party. This unofficial attitude is in keeping with the traditions of Italian judges, who have always had strong links with Catholicism, because, in order to influence public opinion in the small centres where Italian judges generally began their careers, it was necessary - indeed indispensable - to display religious sentiments, even if they did not spring from any inner conviction. (A-2).

7. Social Democratic Party.

At a recent meeting of the Social Democratic Party, the constitution of a War Cabinet consisting of all the parties, with the aim of driving the Germans out of Italy, and initiating the reconstruction of the liberated territories, was approved. (Dispersanto, April 11th.)

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LABOUR

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LABOUR

8. Unemployment.

The Neapolitan labour market of supply and demand seems to be functioning more normally than last month. The institution of the D.A.D.L. of the Port Labour Office to supplement the slow, bureaucratic methods of the Provincial Labour Office, has made it much easier and quicker for Neapolitan workers to find employment. The only thing still needed is that wider publicity be given to demands for labour, in order that workers may hear of them in time, and that the Allies may have a larger number of elements from which to choose.

There are complaints from some workers that certain organizations which employ labour, e.g. the British Navy, only engage people belonging to a limited number of families or recommended by certain people. Others say that engagement is conditional on gifts of money or kind. (G-3).

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ECONOMIC
Black Market

Bar, restaurant and brothel proprietors are said to have formed black stock exchanges where genuine sterling and dollars are sold at fantastic prices. People pay as much as 250 lire for a dollar note and up to 900-1,000 lire for a pound note. The promoters of this traffic profit from the fact that many members of the Allied armed forces return from leave with money from their own country, which they have not yet changed into military currency, and use this to pay for food, drink and women. They are able to make a profitable exchange with this money, as many wealthy Italians are ready to get rid of military notes in order to acquire the eagerly sought for British and American currency. (C-2)

19. Decrease in prices of precious metals in Campania

	February	April
Fine gold	730 lire	500 lire per gram
Silver	7,000-6,800 lire	5,500 lire per kilo

The reasons for this decrease are said to be: (1) The relative stabilization of money, following the measures against inflation announced by the Badoglio Government. (2) The increased supply as compared to the demand which has remained unchanged (because the aforesaid Government measures have to a certain extent removed public mistrust of the paper money at present in circulation. The increased supply is due to the fact that many people find themselves obliged to sell precious objects in order to have at their disposal the ready money needed to satisfy their most elementary requirements. (C-3)

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ITALY

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ARMY11. State of mind in Italian army.

Towards the end of March it is reported that the population of Polignano a Mare, in the Province of Bari, were very restless, on account of the fact that there had been no distribution of rations. A considerable number of troops had been sent there to maintain order. The brother of an Italian informant, who was passing through the town, asked one of the soldiers why they were there, and after explaining, the latter added: "The authorities have brought us here to keep order, but if there was an uprising among the population, and our officers ordered us to take action against the population, we would first fire on the authorities and then make common cause with the people." (C-3)

How true? A pure guess.

12. Unjust treatment of Italian troops

In the course of a conversation which took place at the end of March at Cave with soldiers belonging to cavalry and transport units, one soldier is said to have made the following statement: "Our ration of food is totally inadequate, and our daily pay of 5

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CONCLUSION

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Italy is not even enough to buy two apples. If the Allies treated us in the same way as they treat the French troops in Italy, they would see that we would fight better against the Germans. We have our homes and families in occupied Italy, and we are more anxious than anyone else to drive the Germans out of our country." (C-2)

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LOCAL CONDITIONS12. Management of Italian personnel in Allied offices

It is suggested that the dishonesty displayed by many Italians holding relatively responsible posts in Allied offices is due to the lighthearted manner in which such people are engaged. They are said to consist largely of doubtful elements such as ex-waiters from big hotels, drivers and professional dancing partners, who have been able to pick up a knowledge of English thanks to having worked in ports and places of amusement frequented by foreigners. (C-3)

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PUBLIC OPINION14. Reaction to shooting of hostages in Colosseum

The majority of the population is said to have displayed indifference at the news of the recent shooting of hostages in the Colosseum in Rome. Three explanations are given: egoism - in difference - the public has heard of and seen too much German cruelty to be impressed by further manifestations; spitefulness - when Rome was declared an open city, many inhabitants of the towns in Campania, which were being subjected to air raids, took to envying and stupidly hating the population of Rome, who had such an unfair advantage over them. (C-3.)

12. Movement of Italian personnel in Allied offices

It is suggested that the dishonesty displayed by many Italians holding relatively responsible posts in Allied offices is due to the lighthearted manner in which such people are engaged. They are said to consist largely of doubtful elements such as ex-waiters from big hotels, drivers and professional gamblers, who have been able to pick up a knowledge of English thanks to having worked in ports and places of amusement frequented by foreigners. (C-3)

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15. General impression of rounding up of young men in Naples.

At 2. P.M. on 13th April in the Piazza Carlo III, a large group of carabinieri rounded up all the young men in the district. The latter were made to get into lorries and were taken to the local Military Headquarters. There the military position of each of them was examined, those belonging to the 1923 class were retained, and the others allowed to go away, after being furnished with military papers. Similar proceedings were reported in the Via Cassanese a Salvatore Rosa at 10 o'clock of the same day.

The population in general understands the need for a revision of the military position of young men, but strongly disapproves of these methods, which bear too great a resemblance to those employed by the Germans in September 1943. People are therefore ready to help men escape mobilisation, because their sons and husbands were carried off in a like manner by the Germans. It is suggested that a better method might be found. (C-3).

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16. Rumours concerning coming reorganization of Italian Army.

There is said to be a rumour to the effect that the government intends to form another 10 divisions, recruiting them from the prisoners of war at present in British and American hands. It is doubtful, however, if any practical use can be made of these men, who are certainly very demoralized. *no known*

Badoglio's government is reported to have half a million khaki uniforms, dyed grey-green, ready for use. "Which seems to confirm current rumours about the coming reconstitution of the Italian Army." *Why say "it"?*

The mobilization of Italian reserve officers is thought to be imminent, though the morale and discipline of such elements is regarded as questionable. (C-3).

17. Alarmist rumours at end of March. *How do they know?*

One day at the end of March there was a rumour in Battaglia that the Germans had landed in Bari. At about the same time in Java the news spread that the Allied troops had retired at Cassino, where the coloured divisions were said to have given in because they were terrified by the eruption of Vesuvius; and that the Germans were advancing towards Caserta. These rumours are said to have spread like wildfire, and it is not known if they were of a malar opinion, or started by German propaganda. (C-3).

18. Rumours concerning future military developments. *NOT TRUE*

There is reported to be an insistent rumour to the effect that Messersmith has ordered his troops to withdraw from Italy (or beyond the Po) in order to shorten the front and ease the pressure to the east. This rumour would appear to have been put out by Nazi-Fascist agents in order to lower morale in liberated Italy by the German resistance at Cassino, and turn public opinion in favour of the Germans.

There is much talk again of the coming Allied invasion of France, and it is generally thought that this will take place within 30-60 days. It is not clear if this is a genuine rumour or one circulated by Nazi-Fascist agents in order to affect morale if no operations take place within this space of time. (C-3).

Exceedingly doubtful

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19. Rumour of German surrender to Russia.

A rumour is reported to be circulating to the effect that Germany has been putting out feelers through Von Papen in Turkey, with a view to possible peace negotiations between Germany and the U.S.S.R. It is pointed out that if this were the case, it would be in Russia's interests to give easy terms to the Reich, in order to bolshevize it with greater ease, thus providing a strong foothold for Russian hegemony in Europe. (C-3).

20. Reactions to Royal amnesty.

The Royal amnesty, which was signed on April 5th (See Salerno paper "Corriere" of April 6th for text) is thought by some people to have been declared for two reasons: the Allies

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desire to abolish any doubts in connection with people who have shown their devotion to the anti-German cause, and the Government's wish to popularize the war against the Germans. The exclusion from the terms of the amnesty of anyone guilty of offenses committed against the Allies is significant. (C=3).

21. Public opinion of Government departments.

It is said that the various Ministries are considered in Cambrania to be largely staffed by people who have been unable to return to their homes, which are on the other side of the line. They are regarded as technically unqualified for their work and entirely preoccupied with the thought of their families in German-occupied territory. For this reason, on an account of the inadequacy of their salaries, the output of work is very poor. (C=3).

22. Opinion of British Military Police.

The behaviour of British Military Police is reported to have aroused much disidence among the people of Cambrania. This is said to have been caused by the excessive insistence they display in asking for permits and certificates, by their lack of politeness and the contempt they show for civilians and their needs. Consequently, many people hesitate to ask the M.P.s for help, and frequently they help evade the police. Allied soldiers who are on unauthorized leave or are deserters, it is suggested that a more considerate attitude towards Italian civilians would encourage them to cooperate with the police. (C=3).

23. Advantages of encouraging sport.

A well informed local observer, makes, among other constructive suggestions, a plea for the encouragement of sporting activities among young Italians. The chief, but not sole aim of this would be to arrest this important sector of the nation from its present state of physical and mental atrophy, and thus help to prepare it for the hard military and civil tasks which lie ahead. The reopening and creation of public and private sports clubs should be given a direct impetus by the Allies, who should also give their support to the organization of public contests -- football, swimming, rowing, boxing, track athletics and so on. If Allied athletes could take part in these, so much the better for Italian-Allied relations. Sports grounds and stadia, it is asserted, already exist, and the necessary fear should not be difficult to obtain or construct. (B=2).

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PERSONALITIES

24. Activities of Ambrosini.

On the 15th April 1944, Vittoria Ambrosini addressed a meeting of the National Federation of Hawkers.

Later in the day he addressed a meeting of the "Union of Refugees from Rome" on the question of providing moral and material assistance for these refugees.

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CONCLUSIONS

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Meeting of Committee of Political Refugees.

On April 11th there was a meeting in Naples of the "Provisional Committee for Political Refugees" at which Ambrosini, Aloisi and Corradi spoke on the problem of providing material assistance for political refugees, and the question of forming a regular committee. (Postura report).

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MISCELLANEOUS

25. Behaviour of British troops in rest camps near Ravello.

It is reported that some time during the second half of March the King's car was held up in Ravello by a group of thirty British soldiers from a leave camp and later in a cafe in Ravello a drunken British soldier insulted the King in the presence of officers and one of the Italian grenadiers. An Italian officer present took offence and promptly laid the soldier out. This was the end of the incident as the soldiers' comrades expressed their sympathy with the Italians and good relations were immediately re-established. General Iv. however, there are excellent relations between the Italian troops in Ravello and British troops in the Rest Camps. Mutual receptions have been held between the Italian Grenadier Guards and British Grenadier Guards and friendly football matches have also been arranged between these troops. (F.S.S. Report)

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EXPLANATION OF A LIABILITY RATING

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EXPLANATION OF A LIABILITY RATING

The following system has been adopted to indicate the reliability of reports from Italian collaborators.

The letters "A" to "E" indicate the reliability of the source. Thus "A" is a completely reliable source, "B" a usually reliable source, "C" a fairly reliable source, "D" a not usually reliable source, "E" an unreliable source.

The figures 1 to 5 indicate the probability of the report: thus 1 indicates a report confirmed as true; 2 a probably true report; 3 a possibly true report; 4 a doubtful report; 5 an improbable report.

There either the reliability of the source or the probability of the report is unknown or cannot be judged, the letter "O" is used.

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"GORDA FRATRES" AND "L'ASSOCIAZIONE COLLETTIVA NAZIONALE"

The "Gorda Fratres" is the body commonly known as the "Federation International des Etudiants." In 1924, the Fascist Government dissolved the Italian organization and the Naples branch was only reconstituted, on 5 November, 1943, on the initiative of Eusebio Scali, the Communist leader, who was the last National Vice-President of the Association.

The aim of the Association, as laid down in its statute, are broadly speaking to promote international goodwill through the activity of students of different countries. The rules of the Italian organization lay down that the members may take part in all activities and manifestations or movements which reflect the aims of the statute. As far as politics are concerned, these rules lay down that the Italian organization, while considering itself "outside and above all parties, does not deny itself an active and concrete participation in all fields of life."

The rebirth of the Association was largely due to the initiative and financial self-sacrifice of a group of Communists, and before long there were 200 students enrolled. The number is steadily increasing and now surmounts 500.

The National Directive Committee, largely composed of the first organizers, showed a great preponderance of students of left-wing tendencies. A National Committee was also set up, in which, also, the main tendency was to the left. Both Committees were auto-nominated.

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The National Directive Committee, largely composed of the first organizers, showed a great preponderance for the students of left-wing tendencies. A Non-political Committee was also set up, in which, also, the main tendency was to the left. Both Committees were auto-nominated.

The National Committee, out of a total of six members, contained two Communists, three Action Party members, and one non-political member. It has since lost the non-political member. Of the eight students who are active in the National and Non-political Committees, five are said to be Communists.

Meetings are held in the hall of the Optical Clinic of the University, usually on Saturday afternoons. A number of political lectures have been given with the object of educating students with various points of view.

Soon after the middle of March, there was a schism in the "Corde Tristes", led by a student called Emanuele D'Avacolo of the Christian Democrat Party, who seceded from the main organization with about 30 dissidents. His reasons for this action were that the "Corde Tristes" was fast becoming a political organization to promote the influence of certain parties and was thus violating the rules of the Association. There is considerable evidence to suggest that this was in fact happening. Some incidents may be referred to:

1. Two Allied observers attended a meeting of the "Corde Tristes" on 14th December 1943. It was a very rowdy proceeding. A monarchist student named Palmigiano who tried to address the assembly was howled down. There were many shouts of "Viva il Re" and the Soviet Republic and much clenching of raised fists. On the benches were scattered Partito d'Azione publications, and applications for membership to this party.

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APPENDIX I

2. On 18th December, there was another meeting in which an Action Party student called Medugno called upon all the students of the Association to take part in an anti-monarchical demonstration of 18th December. The student Riveccio referred to, although he had made an anti-monarchical speech at this meeting, objected to the "Corda Fratres" being used for political purposes. Another student who wished to speak was accused of filo-fascism and forced to keep quiet.

3. Early in January, many members of the General Assembly asked that an election be held of the Directive Committee, but this was refused by the self-elected committee on the grounds that membership was still too scant to make elections worth while. This seemed to a number of students a far from democratic attitude.

It appears that from this time onwards there was a considerable dropping off in the attendance of meetings, at which it became usual to have to listen to left-wing propaganda.

4. Before the middle of March, two episodes occurred which led up to the rupture. The first was the announcement that 'Corda Fratres' had constituted itself into a students' union adhering to the Confederazione Generale del Lavoro. As this Confederation represents only the left-wing parties (Communists, Socialists, and Action Party), the move was obviously against the interests of students of other parties, or indeed of the non-political students.

A few days later, the Communist student, Rossi, a member of the Directive Committee, proposed in a general meeting that the 'Corda Fratres' should officially adhere to the meeting of protest of the three left-wing parties which was held on March 12th. It will be remembered that this meeting was held as a substitute for a projected strike of protest against Churchill's speech of February 22nd, which these three parties were prevented by allied intervention from bringing about. This proposal of Rossi was countered by Riveccio at the meeting, and was followed soon after by Riveccio's secession.

It should be noted that among those who followed Riveccio's lead were liberal, Socialist and even Communist students.

In this way was formed the 'Associazione Goliardica Maroltana' which, by its statute declares its aims to be the combination of culture with practical life, the studying of university problems and the moral and material assistance of students. Special provisions are included to ensure that the Association maintains a non-political character, such as, that the Committee of control will be formed of one member from each recognized political party or of any party which has a considerable representation within the Association. In fact the Committee contains 1 Socialist, 1 Monarchist, 2 Liberals, 1 Christian Democrat, 1 Communist, and 1 non-political member.

p. 270

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It will be seen that the aims of the 'Associazione Coliardia Maroltana' are more local and immediately practical than those of 'Corda Trattres' and that the non-political aspect of its activities is expressly safeguarded. The Committee, containing members of all parties, was properly elected. It appears that Rivoccio, who is an

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(CONT'D.)

APPENDIX I

older student of about 30, tried to get himself elected President of the "Associazione Volontari Italiani" on the grounds that he had taken a leading part in the formation of the organization. However, he found his attitude somewhat authoritarian and refused even to elect him to the Committee.

Meanwhile the newspaper "L'Avvenire", published by the members of the Committee of the "Corde Tracce", since the middle of March, showed a distinct left-wing political tendency.

It appears, however, that the majority of students whether of "Corde Tracce" or of the "Associazione Volontari Italiani" would welcome the fusion of the two groups. They would like to have contact with some Allied authority to set them along the right way. They are also anxious to get Allied assistance in the form of.

(a) A fund

(1) The "Corde Tracce" as soon as possible, the 15 of the premises of the Fascist U.U.I. organizations, for use as a library and club.

Various students have heard that both these facilities were granted by AMG in Palermo.

On 15.4.44, representatives were elected by "Corde Tracce" to treat with representatives of the "Associazione Volontari Italiani" with a view to amalgamation. The result was a certificate in Avv. de Maria who is stated to be non-political.

It is reported that "Corde Tracce" are in touch with some French officers of the "Regeneration Internationale des Etudiants", and that some Italian members have written articles for the French soldiers' paper "La Patrie".

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These students have heard that both these facilities were granted by AMG in Palermo.

On 13.4.44, representatives were elected by 'Corda Fratres' to treat with representatives of the 'Associazione Solidarietà Nazionale' with a view to amalgamation. The combination is a work in progress. It is stated to be non-political.

It is reported that 'Corda Fratres' are in touch with some French officers of the 'Association Internationale des Etudiants', and that some Italian members have written articles for the French soldiers' paper 'Le Patrie'.

The following is a list of students' associations connected with Naples University:

Name	Address	President
1. Delegazione Giovani Democratici	Via Roma 116	Prof. Bonifazi
2. Unione Studenti Liberali	Via Medina 5	Prof. Alfredo Bonifazi
3. Sezione Giovanile Comunista	Via Tommasi 62	Guido Martoro
4. Sezione Universitaria Socialista	Via G. Fatic	Not elected
5. Sezione Universitaria Pensiero ed Azione	Piazza Tullio	to be constituted
6. Esploratori (Boy Scouts), promoted by Catholic Action		to be constituted

The Sezione Giovanile Comunista is very active. It has 300 members, not all of them Communists. There are lectures on leaders and prisoners dealing with Marxism and the history of the Communist Party. (B-3).

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DIVNO. ALL
ADPWS; (CNS)
ADPWG. (ME)
FVB Unit Co. 5
FVB Unit No. 6
FVB Unit; Gard. etc.
FVB Unit; 5th Army
FVB Unit; 8th Army
FVB. All RA
Iteration Press Officer; FVB (INC)
Naples
Captain "D" Section Chief; PWB (INC)
Naples
ACC Liaison; FVB (INC) Naples
Press; PWB (INC) Naples
FVB (INC); AFIC

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A.M.G.: 5th Army ✓
A.M.G.: Region IV ✓
C.I.C.: Naples
C.I.C.: Airforce, APO 782
C.I.C.: 5th Army
C.S.S.: A.A., I.: APO 777
I.S.L.D.: Naples
Special Force: Att. Hq. 5th Army
322 F.S.S.: A.A.I.
276 F.S.S.: A.A.I.
C-2 Section: A.M.G., Region III ✓
Hq. 5th Army
HQ. R.B.S.
HQ. 10th Corps (Br.)
C-2 Section: 5th Army
C-2 Section, 5th Army
HQ. A.C.C.
(Rear) Hq. A.C.C.
(Rear) Hq. A.C.C.
HQ. A.C.C.
HQ. A.C.C.
HQ. A.C.C.
HQ. A.C.C.

2) G=1 Section,
G=2 Section,
G.S.I.;
No. 3, S.I.(1) Unit,
Special Detachment;
Chief Commissioner;
Deputy Commissioner;
Vice President; Admin. Section
Vice President; Econ. Section;
Joint Directors; Pol. Section;
Executive Commissioner;
Deputy Executive Commissioner.

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2) Brigadier J. E. Rums
Commanding Officer;
Commanding Officer;
Commanding Officer;
Commanding Officer;
Commanding Officer;
Commanding Officer;
Commanding Officer;
Commanding Officer;
T.S.O.;
T.S.O.;
Security Officer,
G-2 Section,
3) G-2 Section,
G.S.I.;
No. 3, S.I.(A) Unit,
Special Detachment;
Chief Commissioner;
Deputy Commissioner;
Vice President, Ident;
Vice President, Doc;
2) Joint Directors: Po
Executive Committee
Deputy Executive Co
Director; Security
Director, Informati
Public Relations Of

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

Ref: 65/1/CA.

24th April 1944.

SUBJECT: FNB Report on "Conditions and Developments in Naples Area".

TO : Political Section.

1. I notice that the distribution list of FNB Report attached included only two AMG Regional Commissioners and I asked PRO to see that it was sent to all Regional Commissioners. His reply raises a question of principle. He states that the document is mischievous and malicious, founded on gossip and guaranteed to create (a) alarm and despondency, and (b) a strong anti-Badoglio feeling. He makes several comments on the body of the report.

2. If this is true then it seems to me that the report should be stopped. I shall be glad of your comments on Major Fielden's criticisms and value of the report.

3. If you agree with Major Fielden it seems to me that the matter should be taken up with the Chief Commissioner by you and some reform instituted.

MSI/JG.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

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