

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

ACC

10000/109/1789

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No.

785017

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MONTHLY REPORTS, PUBLIC RELATIONS
DEC. 1943 - AUG. 1944

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
511C A. Orr 12

PRB/R23

12 September 1944.

Subject: Report for August 1944.

To: ~~Secretary-General.~~

12 SEP Recd

1. Personnel. - Captain C. Howard-Owen (B) returned to Headquarters from Granai del Popolo propaganda duties in Sicily.
2. News Production. - Press releases averaging two to four a day were issued to the Italian press, PWB, AFHQ PRO correspondents and neutral correspondents, on general and administrative ACC activities, including UNRRA liaison, transfer of Rome to the Italian Government, measures to improve the Rome food supply situation and anti-malaria control operations.
3. Press Conferences.
 - (a) The Italian press, in addition to the Allied correspondents, was admitted for the first time to the Regional Commissioners' Conference August 22, with excellent results in coverage and comment and with no violations of security stops.
 - (b) PRB arranged for Brigadier-General William O'Dwyer two press conferences, the first being for Allied correspondents on the Italian economic situation, and the second for Italians on Rome food conditions and general economic plans. Both conferences were well received.
4. Journalists.
 - (a) Italian. - Personal visits were made to editors of Rome newspapers explaining ACC policies and requests made and granted for specific editorial assistance on a number of problems needing public cooperation. The first eight of ACC PRB accrediting cards were issued to officially separated Italian journalists. Curfew passes were obtained for nearly 1,000 Roman newspaper workers and problems of journalists' automobiles were adjusted. Two Italian photographers were issued with permits to photograph non-military pictures. Interviews of Italian journalists with individual ACC officers were arranged.
 - (b) Allied war correspondents. - Interviews arranged and information given for approximately 20 British and American correspondents. Daily briefings given correspondents in Florence by Major T.L. Bullock (Can), Deputy Director of Public Relations (Field).

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(c) Allied political correspondents. - The first ⁵⁵⁷⁶ political correspondents arrived and became an ACC responsibility. They represented the London Times, Express and Telegraph and the Tass (Russian) Agency.

(d) Neutral correspondents. - Weekly background briefings held.

5. Relations with Italian Government. - Travel passes obtained for the Undersecretariat of the Press of the Ministry of the Interior. Extensive investigation and recommendations made in regard to Italian film industry. Arrangements for Italian Army Navy and Air Force publicity made with AFHQ and put into effect; this includes first Allied recognition of Italian war correspondents.

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6. Miscellaneous. - The Allied Publications Board, with concurring PAB vote, froze further issues of newspaper because of shortage of imports. Extensive scheduling of story possibilities made for the March of Time film unit photographing AGC help to Italy. Publishing arrangements made for 75,000 copies of Art Guide to Florence for use of the troops. Plans started to make films of Italian Army, Navy and Air Force. Contacts maintained with Prime Minister Bonomi and cabinet members. Regular services of Weekly Bulletin, Daily Rome Digest and Trend of Correspondents. Copy continued. Material gathered for history of AGC.

(Sgd)

LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major,
Public Relations Director.

Copy to: R.G. & M.O. Section

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

R. C. & M. - G
See. 10

PRB/R27

15 August, 1944

Monthly Report

16 AUG Recd

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT FOR JULY, 1944

TO : SECRETARY GENERAL

1. Personnel. Major Bergin, DDPR (A), and Lieut. Caprio (A) PRO, arrived from Naples 12 July. Lieut. Caprio left ~~Branch~~ to take another post. Capt. Owen continued his duties in Sicily in connection with Granai del Popolo publicity except for a brief visit to Headquarters. Lieut. Atkinson (A) PRO, acted as conducting officer for a tour of the battlefield south of Rome to Naples for a group of Italian journalists. Maj. Bullock (B), DDPR, continued on duties with the 8th Army AMG.

2. News production. ^{concerning} More than 100 releases in both English and Italian were written or serviced to nearly 30 outlets for ACC Headquarters, ~~and for~~ Region IV and Rome Region in connection with essential operations as well as important matters of policy such as transfer of territory to the Italian Government; treatment of Patriots, rules on civilian movement. A full investigation and report of alleged German brutality to prisoners with documents and 18 photographs, in Via Tasso was made. Releases were made on behalf of the Allied Advisory Council.

3. Press. (a) Italian Journalists. Close and daily contact was maintained with Italian journalists in an effort to acquaint them with Allied objectives and to learn at first-hand their reactions to ACC activities. Schede Personali were filled for several scores of journalists and sent to Security Branch. ~~for vetting.~~ Cards were printed and prepared for issue to screened Italian journalists accrediting them to function. Coordination was made with Italian epuration agencies in this field. Curfew and travel passes were obtained for several hundred of Rome news papers. *journalists.*

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(b) Neutral Correspondents. Journalists of neutral nations were accepted as an ACC-PRB responsibility. Accrediting cards were issued to nine such journalists. Weekly guidance meetings of the neutral correspondents were held.

(c) Allied Correspondents. Interviews and information were arranged for representatives of British and American press and radio. Action was initiated through G-5 toward early acceptance by ACC PRB of accrediting responsibilities for political correspondents from the Allied press.

4. Relations with Italian Government. Daily talks were held with the office of the Undersecretary for the Press in the Ministry of the Interior toward better and more responsible services toward correspondents by the Italian Government. Quarters for the Italian press office were obtained in the former ministry of Popular Culture Building.

5. Allied Publications Board. Regular and special meetings of the APB were attended preparatory to turning over operations of the Board to the Italian Government and in regularizing and controlling the somewhat disorganized but free Rome press.

6. Publications. Distribution of the Weekly Bulletin and daily trend of copy of Correspondents and Digest of Rome Press continued and considerably expanded due to demand from readers, including the Allied Advisory Council, War Department and War Office.

LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major,
Director of Public Relations

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

JUN 1944

14 June, 1944

Subject: Monthly Report of Director of Public Relations
(May 1944)
To : Secretary General

During the month the following additions and changes of personnel were made: Maj. T.G. Bergin joined this Branch on 11 May, being transferred from the Educational S/C. Lt. G.F. Caprio, PRO. Region III rejoined this HQ on 16 May and on 21 May Lt. A.F. Braydon was posted to this Branch on his arrival from England.

On 4 May, Maj. John P. Leacacos was attached to AMG 5th Army and Maj. T.L. Bullock to AMG 8th Army. It was thus possible for the Branch to have officers at all strategic points during this active period and as a result contacts were maintained with correspondents and proper and favorable publicity assured. Liaison with Salerno was maintained through the visits of Major Bergin and increasingly good cooperation with Ufficio Stampa to which we were able to offer aid and advice. Following the policy of keeping in touch with regions Capt. C. Howard Owen was sent to Region I to be present at the Regional Conference May 24.

A number of items dealing with the work of ACC have been released to the press, the photographers attached to the Branch have covered stories of varied interest in the towns recently liberated, refugee camps etc. and the forward areas generally.

Meanwhile the routine ^{work} of the Branch continues: contacts with the press, liaison with PWB and APB and preparation of the Weekly Bulletin.

T.G. Bergin
T.G. BERGIN,
Major AUS
DLPR

for

LIONEL FIELDEN
Major
DLPR

HQ ACC, APO 8
14 June 1944
DFE

MP 5379

Chief of Staff
 PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
 ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

10 MAY 1944

PRB 24.

7 May, 1944

Subject: Monthly Report of Director of Public Relations for April 1944.

To : *C.A. Branch*
 : Secretary ~~General~~.

Wm. J. 21

The directive establishing the Headquarters Public Relations Branch and abolishing Regional Public Relations Offices was issued by the Chief Commissioner on April 1. This was followed on April 3 by a note of guidance issued by P.R. Branch to Regions and sub-commissions defining the procedure to be followed regarding interviews, news releases, relations with the PWB and other questions concerning publicity. On April 1 the first of a regular series of weekly bulletins was issued by P.R. Branch to Regional Commissioners, with the object of keeping them informed of developments at Headquarters.

A press conference was arranged for Mr. Murphy and Mr. Macmillan on April 12 and was attended by 28 correspondents. At the regular Regional Commissioners' Conference, which took place on April 14, correspondents were supplied with précis of most of the statements made by Regional Commissioners and heads of sub-commissions. The trend of correspondents' copy concerning ACC activities was regularly studied and circulated for information. Ninety six press releases on ACC activities were issued. Members of the PR Branch visited Sicily and Sardinia. Assistance in transport and other facilities was given to correspondents desiring to cover the change in the Italian Government and the first meeting of the new cabinet: this also furnished the occasion for PR Branch to assist in the organization of an Italian Government Press Bureau in Salerno with a branch office in Naples. The communiqués of the meetings of the Advisory Council for Italy were issued through PR Branch. Photographs were taken of Bread in Naples from shipside to table; Naples fire department; Schools in Naples; Industrial plants in Sicily; Monuments and Fine Arts work; Italian shellfish industry; The Prince of Piedmont; Advisory Council for Italy; New Italian Cabinet; Retiring Italian Cabinet and other subjects. A soldiers guide to Rome was prepared and its printing through publication arranged with PWB; it was also arranged through the Chief Commissioner for General Alexander to write a foreword. In cooperation with the Agricultural Sub-Commission a guidance note on publicity for the Ammassi was prepared and issued to the PWB. Files of the Information Sub-Com-

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Work in connection with the Central and Local Allied Publication Boards continued to grow. The number of papers licensed in Liberated Italy reached 71. Pre-censorship was abolished: a reminder on the procedure for military censorship was sent to the Italian Government. On the advice of the Chief Legal Officer a scheme for new press decrees covering the whole of Italy was discussed and set in motion.

Lionel Fielden
by PWB
 LIONEL FIELDEN,
 Major,
 Director of Public Relations

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

F.I.C.
Cpt Talbot ~~2~~

for your
records. The
Ch. Com. has
seen this.

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

G.C. Memorandum
for Mr. [unclear]
For your information
✓ Aug

HQ ACC, APO 304
 Sec'y Gen.
 Rec'd 1 Apr 14 304
 By DFE

**PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
 ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION**

PRB 24.

6 April 1944

Subject: Monthly Report of Director of Public Relations for
 March 1944.

To: Secretary-General.

The Public Relations Branch began the month of March with an assigned staff of four and an attached staff of two: Major Lionel Fielden (B), Major Henry T Rowell (A), Captain Edward B Smith (A), S Sgt Alan Cash (B), Sgt Peter Yaskell (A) and Cpl Paul Long (A).

During the month, in anticipation of the issue of a new directive, which finally appeared 1 April, Regional Public Relations Divisions were closed and their personnel transferred on different dates to the Branch at Headquarters. Major Rowell moved from Public Relations to Education early in the month. Major Theodore L. Bullock (Cdn), Captain John P. Leacacos (A) and Lieutenant Gene F. Caprio (A) were brought in from Regions 4 and 3. Captain Coleman Harwell, formerly PRO for Fifth Army AMG requested to be assigned to that formation as a Civil Affairs Officer and his request was granted. Captain Edward B. Smith is leaving for another theatre. Private Thomas Devine, from Region 4 PRO staff, will be transferred to the Branch early in April.

Early in March correspondents began to visit the Public Relations Branch in increasing numbers, displaying more interest than ever before in the work of ACC. General Mac Farlane's first press conference, held in February, undoubtedly focused the attention of the press more closely upon the Commission. Since the Chief Commissioner's second conference, held March 10, interest has increased greatly, and calls upon the various Sub-Commissions for interviews, pictures and information are constantly growing.

The eruption of Vesuvius between 13 March and 21 March called for special activity in the collection and release of accurate news and in the facilitation of transport and permits for the many correspondents who visited the area. The staff were out in the field for considerable periods and material and photographs gathered then are being worked into the record of ACC activities during the emergency.

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After conversations between this Branch and the American Army Pictorial Services, Colonel Gillette, Commanding APS in Italy has agreed to move the APS photographic pool forward early in April from Algiers. When that is done, it is likely that the two photographers now attached will return to the Pool and will work from there. Contact has been made with the British Army Photographic Unit and pictures from that source will be available to the ACC.

Machinery has been set up for the more effective reporting of Military Court proceedings, particularly in connection with Black Market and sabotage cases. Region 3 has assigned to one corporal the sole task of gathering material from the courts for issue by this Branch.

All the important news agencies and most of the leading magazines of the English-speaking world have been in touch

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this month with the Public Relations Branch. Attention has been given to the press and radio of the Dominions. Although no American Deputy Director has yet been appointed, relations with the press of the United States have been close and cordial. Among the associations and publications which have been in contact with the Branch during March are the following: ~~Some~~ Pictures Corporation, Associated Press, British Broadcasting Corporation, British United Press, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Canadian Press, Chicago Daily News, Christian Science Monitor, Colliers, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Columbia Broadcasting System, Daily Express, Daily Mail, Daily Telegraph, Dernieres Nouvelles, International News Service, La Patrie, Life, London Daily Herald, Manchester Guardian, Maple Leaf, Montreal Standard, Montreal Star, News Chronicle, Newsweek, New Yorker, New York Times, New Zealand National Broadcasting System, North American Newspaper Alliance, Paramount Newsreels, Parade, Reuters, Radio-France, Saturday Evening Post, Scripps-Howard Newspapers, Stars and Stripes, Sunday Times (London), Sydney (Australia) Morning Herald, The Times, Time, Times of India, Union Jack, United Press Washington Star, Winnipeg Free Press, Yank. In addition there was constant cooperation with The Psychological Warfare Board and a steady supply of news both for broadcasting and for inclusion in "Risorgimento", "Il Mezzogiorno", "Sicilia Liberata" and "Corriere di Sicilia".

During the month a reorganization of the Allied Publications Board, on which the Public Relations Officer sat as a representative of the Allied Control Commission was planned and carried out. A series of Regional Boards operating from Palermo, Cagliari, Bari and Potenza were set up under the Central Board which will continue to sit at Naples. A new procedure for censorship was established which abolishes pre-censorship except on purely military grounds and places the chief responsibility for the conduct of the press upon prefects and editors. Previous to this Major Fielden and Captain Leacacos had, in addition to their own work, acted as censors for all the licensed political newspapers.

Lionel Fielden
 LIONEL FIELDEN

Major

Director of Public Relations

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Colliers, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Columbia Broadcasting System, Daily Express, Daily Mail, Daily Telegraph, Der-nieres Nouvelles, International News Service, La Patrie, Life, London Daily Herald, Manchester Guardian, Maple Leaf, Montreal Standard, Montreal Star, News Chronicle, Newsweek, New Yorker, New York Times, New Zealand National Broadcasting System, North American Newspaper Alliance, Paramount Newsreels, Parade, Reuters, Radio-France, Saturday Evening Post, Scripps-Howard Newspapers, Stars and Stripes, Sunday Times (London), Sydney (Australia) Morning Herald, The Times, Time, Times of India, Union Jack, United Press Washington Star, Winnipeg Free Press, Yank. In addition there was constant cooperation with the Psychological Warfare Board and a steady supply of news both for broad-casting and for inclusion in "Risorgimento", "Il Mezzo-giorno", "Sicilia Liberata" and "Corriere di Sicilia".

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Major

Director of Public Relations

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

15 March 1944.

Report of Director of Public Relations for February 1944

1. Reorganization

During February the Public Relations Branch was under reorganization following on the change of Chief Commissioner and the departure to other theatres of Majors Cash, Meservy and Desmond and Captain Poore. During the whole month the total staff of Public Relations Branch ACC consisted of Major Lionel Fielden, who reported from Brindisi on 1 Feb. S Sgt A. Cash was assigned to him on 10 Feb.

2. Directive

Pending the issue of a PR directive, the set-up of an ACC Public Relations Branch was discussed at length with General MacFarlane, Brigadier Lush and Colonel Fiske; and also with the PR staffs of Regions III and IV and Fifth Army. It was decided that Regional PROs should be abolished and PR controlled from ACC HQ for all ACC and AMG activities.

3. Personnel

Major Randolph Leigh and Captain Haller, who had been assigned to PR Branch at the request of Major Fielden, were ordered to ETO and left the Italian theatre.

4. Press Conference

A Press Conference by General MacFarlane was arranged to coincide with the hand-over of Southern Italian territory to the Italian Government on 10 Feb. A hand-out was issued to the Press.

5. Press Releases and Interviews

Press releases were issued on the increase in the bread ration, the resumption in foreign mail services, the proposals of the Executive Giunta, the withdrawal of the Executive Giunta's manifesto, the meeting of the Labour Conference, conditions in Sicily, the issue of revised text-books for Elementary Schools and the three-party cancellation of the proposed strike.

Interviews were arranged for Choraqui (Algiers Press), Beckwith (BEC), Watt (Montreal Star), Raymond (Saturday Evening Post), Massock (A.P.), Sprigge (Reuters), Lumby (Times), Virginia Cowles (Telegraph), Macdonald (News Chronicle). Contact was made with other correspondents in the area and with AFHQ PROs and PRO, PBS.

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6. Photographers

The U.S. Army photographers, Long and Yaskell, were recalled from Brindisi to Naples and a laboratory was installed for them in the Post Office Building.

7. Film Unit

A conducting officer (Captain Haller) remained on assignment to the British Army Film Unit.

8. Press Clippings

Repeated requests for a service of press clippings were sent to London and Washington.

9. Supply of Papers

Pending the establishment of an information section PR Branch arranged for the supply of maps, documents, daily papers, monitoring reports, etc for various members of the ACC.

10. Meetings of Allied Publications Board

Major Fielden attended the meetings of the Allied Publications Board as ACC representative. The case of L'UNIONE led to prolonged discussions with the Chief Commissioner and the Political Section, which eventuated in a reconstruction of the Board.

11. Press articles on ACC/AMG

An article written by PRO on education in Sicily was published in THE TIMES of 1 Feb. At the request of the Chief Commissioner an article was written by PRO on the aims and organization of ACC/AMG.

12. Monthly Journal

After discussion it was agreed that a monthly journal be launched dealing with the activities of ACC/AMG.

13. Censorship

Arising out of the partial stoppage of an A.P. dispatch on the manifesto issued by the Executive Giunta, directives were brought out to clarify the situation with regard to censorship.

14. Location of PR Office

The PR Office was established, and the various files from Naples and Salerno collected and arranged, in Room 1, Post Office, Naples.

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Lionel Fielden
LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major, Director of
Public Relations.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

BUCK SLIP

27 Jan 1948
Date

Sus:

Date

FROM

TO

☐	C.G. AMG	☐
☐	C. of S.	☐
☐	Exec Off	☐
☐	Economic Director	☐
☐	Industry & Commerce	☐
☐	Fuel	☐
☐	Agriculture	☐
☐	P. W. & Utilities	☐
☐	Labor	☐
☐	Interior	☐
☐	Information	☐
☐	Public Health	☐
☐	Legal	☐
☐	Public Safety	☐
☐	Property Control	☐
☐	Education	☐
☐	Fine Arts	☐
☐	Shipping	☐
☐	Internal Transportation	☐
☐	Telecommunications	☐
☐	Hq Commandant	☐
☐	C of Secretariat	☐
☐	Message Center	☐
☐	G-1	☐
☐	G-4	☐
☐	Displaced Persons	☐
☐	Adjutant	☐
☐	Personnel	☐

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394
Public Relations Office

26 January 1944

SUBJECT: Report of AMG Public Relations Officer
for January 1944 (to January 26)

TO: Commanding General

1. During the first part of January, with Captain Charles Poore as Public Relations Officer, contacts were made with the PRO officers of the various headquarters in Naples - AFHQ Advanced Echelon; PBS; Regions III and IV of AMG, Fifth Army; air force and naval units, etc.

A number of American and British press correspondents were served as far as possible.

Captain Poore made a trip to Caserta to meet correspondents and PROs for armies in the field.

2. On January 13 Captain Poore left on orders for Etouza. Major Robert W. Desmond, former acting director of the Information Sub-Commission, AMG, in Palermo - a sub-commission destined to be abolished under ACC, and already inactive - was named as PRO for this HQ of AMG.

3. From January 13 to 26 Major Desmond served as PRO. During that period a regular service of PWB monitoring and news reports was arranged for officials in HQ. British and American correspondents representing Reuters, London Times, Colliers, Chicago Daily News, Stars and Stripes were aided to varying extent in obtaining information about AMG/ACC.

Contact was established on a cordial basis with PWB, Naples. Arrangements were completed for a press conference to be conducted by Lieut. Gen. Mason Macfarlane at 2p.m. on Thursday, January 27. Notification of the conference was posted at AFHQ Advanced Echelon PRO headquarters for many correspondents (Colonel Bonar), who went to PWB, Stars and Stripes, Union Jack, PROs of Regions III and IV.

A new compilation of clippings from British and American publications, relative to AMG, was made and circulated.

4. On January 26 Major Desmond was ordered to proceed to 531 and departed on January 27.

Robert W. Desmond
Robert W. Desmond
Major, Spec. Res;
Public Relations Officer

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394
Public Relations Office

2 January 1944

SUBJECT: Report of AMG Public Relations Officer for December 1943
TO: Commanding General

1. The early part of December, during which the PRO was stationed in Palermo, was somewhat inactive due to the departure of many officers for new positions in the Italian mainland. The routine of the office continued, however.
2. On December 14 the PRO flew from Palermo to Naples, on orders, having prepared all office files and equipment for shipment by motor convoy.
3. Arriving in Palermo; the PRO was directed to proceed to Salerno, where he undertook work concerning with the requisitioning of villas and furniture for the general influx of AMG/ACC officers expected to occur later.
4. In the meantime, Major Lionel Fielden (B); who had been attached to the Palermo headquarters briefly as ACC Public Relations staff officer, occupied the PRO office in ~~Naples~~ Naples and made some contacts with the PROs of other headquarters in Naples.
5. On December 31st Captain Poore returned from Salerno to undertake direction of the Public Relations office, while Major Fielden proceeded at about that time to Brindisi, presumably to be his station for the present.
6. During the last day or so several war correspondents came into the office.

Charles Poore
Captain; AUS
Public Relations Officer

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NOTE: The above report actually is prepared by Major Robert W. Desmond (see January 1944 report) on the basis of incomplete knowledge of the facts; so that some report for December may be in the files for PRO.

Robert W. Desmond

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