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MONTHLY REPORTS, REGION II
DEC. 1943 – JULY 1944

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2.

12 AUG Recd

31 July 1944

REF : A/51

SUBJECT: Report on Situation in Region II for month of JULY, 1944.

TO : Executive Commissioner, Headquarters, Allied Control Commission.

A. Political reaction and popular opinion.

The Communist party has continued its ascendency to the point where it now is provocative. This is most marked in Potenza and Brindisi Provinces. Previous uneasiness has ~~grown~~ turned to fear among the intelligent classes of Italians, that some violence will occur if the Allies do not stand immediately near.

Responsible Italians are now realizing that they and their countrymen have failed so far in most respects to take advantage of the good will extended by Allied Military Government.

Timidity and apathy have passed to the stage of fear.

B. Local Government - Provincial.

Provincial governments not yet fully organized. They still lack teamwork and initiative as they do not feel the staunch backing of the present Italian Government. They have become more suspicious lately that the Allies will leave them "on their own" entirely, despite assurances to the contrary.

On the Communal level not much improvement shown in the functioning of these local bodies, largely due to reasons stated above and the fact that "jockeying" for political positions is very evident in most communities.

Defascistization remains on the "holding back" and wait, policy. It is still hesitant and impotent toward real thorough action.

C. Economic resources and supply, with special reference to food.

~~Attached, marked Appendix "A", is a revised estimate of production and collection goals, wheat and barley, with amounts collected to 31st of July 1944. It will be noted from this that in the majority of the provinces the collection of wheat is well ahead of normal and Matera province has already exceeded it's total collection in 1943~~

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Otherwise, in the grain collection campaign, almost all the problems have been solved with satisfaction except transportation and vigilance. The transportation problem, rail and motor, with continued shortage of gasoline, tyres and spare parts has become more

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acute than before, since during the month, heavy movements of Allied troops and supplies have curtailed the already meager amount of rail transport for movement of civilian supplies. This shortage has now reached the point that the successful collection and distribution of grain is dependent largely upon how quickly and in what quantity rail transport and or motor transport can be made available. We are now on a "hand to mouth" basis and in a somewhat perilous situation, since no reserve has been accumulated in deficient consumer areas.

The thrashing of the grain is somewhat slow since a majority is now "a mano", or "a sangue". Comparatively few thrashing machines are in operation for lack of belting and a desire of many producers to save thrashing costs by using household labor for this task.

Aside from the grain distribution factor discussed above, the food situation in this Region remains satisfactory.

The supply of leafy vegetables has lessened, but tomatoes, squash and melons are fairly plentiful. Fruits remain satisfactory.

The wine surplus in Apulian provinces remains unchanged or in a worse position. Producers are now beginning to pour it out to make room for the new crop. There is still an excess of 300,000 tons remaining in Region II.

As yet no plan has been set for the collection and distribution of the coming olive oil crop, which is normal at this time. We are anxious to proceed on this as time is fleeting. We eagerly await the approved plan of procedure on this matter.

The blocking of legumes by the Italian Government has seriously interferred with normal feeding of the population throughout the Region.

D. Agriculture, forrestry and fisheries.

Food crops continue to be better than usual. Irrigation is in use as rainfall has been almost nil during the month.

The new crop of grapes, almonds and tobacco continues normal in condition. Preparation of soil has dropped behind normal since many farmers are using animals and manpower for thrashing grain and transporting it to the graineries.

Some small increase in quantity and variety of fish has been made in markets of costal towns and cities.

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E. Labor.

The labor situation remains unchanged. As yet the proposed decree dissolving the Fascist Labor Sindacatori in Apulian provinces has not been consumated by the Italian Government.

The Allies still employ many thousands of Italian civilians on labor projects, a serious problem in employment of these laborers will appear as Allied supplies in vicinity of ports are moved forward.

The usual labor unrest prevails in Taranto province. Otherwise, no serious labor disputes have occurred.

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F. Public works and utilities.

During the latter part of the month, Foggia Province passed to Region II, for Public Works and Utility matters.

The Allies released some quarries during the month. There is still a lack of road construction machinery and tools, although some material of this nature was made available by the Allies recently.

Maintenance patching on all military highways continues to progress satisfactorily.

Permanent bridge repair continues slowly. This work will be speeded up as, and when, cement is released for this purpose.

The Genio Civile are improving daily and now have the responsibility of all provincial and communal highways. They are still receiving Allied aid in transportation, supplies and supervision.

Plans for reduction in electric power users are complete. Sufficient electric power for immediate needs has been available to date.

G. Public safety and functioning of Allied and Italian courts.

The Carabinieri and Questura have proved fairly effective in providing vigilance for the grain campaign. Road blocks are in operation throughout the Region. Many arrests for grain violations have been made and more than 1,000 quintals of grain has been confiscated by these road block groups.

A few small embroglios occurred among troop units. Chiefly between Italian soldiers and French Colonial troops in Brindisi and Taranto provinces. In each instance local commanders and ACC officers handled the situation and managed to prevent serious disorders on a large scale.

The civilian population as a whole remains orderly. Small theft cases continue to abate except in Bari province.

Allied courts: Two murder cases were tried in Taranto province during the month. Sentences of death in one case and thirteen years imprisonment in the other, were imposed. Two cases are awaiting trial in Bari province. One murder - one sabotage.

Civilian courts: Civilian courts continue to move in their very slow manner. Procedure in most grain cases is in motion. As a result

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H. Public health - Welfare and general condition of the people.

The general health of the people continues to be very good. For the third successive month there has been no outbreak of an appreciable nature of any communicable disease.

The small epidemic outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in Taranto, Matera and Potenza provinces appear to now be stabalized.

There has been some increase in malaria but in no way excessive.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

The sanitary situation, according to Italian standards remains satisfactory, except in Bari. Here the terriffic flow of civilian and military traffic has made this problem more difficult.

The V. D. hospital situation has improved slightly.

I. Education.

Conditions remain as satisfactory as can be expected under present conditions, except in Bari and Taranto provinces. During the month practically all school buildings in Matera and Potenza provinces are released by the Allied Military. Approximately six each in Brindisi and Lecce were derequisitioned.

J. Refugees and Displaced Italians.

During the month the Italian Provincial Committees have handled practically all the Italian refugee problems in this Region. ~~Due to the slowing down of the number allowed to come in from the war fronts, the problems have lessened to some extent. However,~~ large numbers of Italian families have been surging into the Region, especially into Bari, trying to return to their homes in other parts of Italy, especially to Naples. ~~Over 2,000 of this type of people were officially sent in or allowed to travel from the Northern regions. Most of them came to Bari, as it is the central railroad city of the Eastern coast in Region 2.~~ This at a time when rail transport was very critical caused some distress as the Allied Military refused to allow any further shipment in large groups. So for a few days Bari station was flooded for three or four days with stranded Italian families.

Although there has been an inflow of over 2,300 Italian Refugees during July, there has also been an outflow into those parts of Italy where travel is allowed. Therefore, the total Refugee population in this Region has probably remained static at around 30,000.

Bari province is overflowing with people. Bari city has had a great number of people pour into it from southeastern Europe, causing a heavy tax on all the transportation facilities. These appear to have the money to travel and so do not come to the official notice of the Provincial Refugee Committee.

Allied Nationals are still receiving but 20 lire per day, instead of 25 lire which they used to receive, as the Italian Government has never resinded its order cutting their allowance 20%. This has caused unnecessary hardship to our Allied Nationals and the ex-internees. The Italian Government has shown no interest in assisting these people, whose welfare is of such vital importance to the Allies.

K. Communications.

Roads. Condition and maintenance have reached the point of ex-

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K. Communications.

Roads. Condition and maintenance have reached the point of excellence. Still a few unrepaired bridges on secondary roads. Work continues on these in a satisfactory manners.

Rail. The unannounced "freezing" of rolling stock for movement of military supplies during the middle of the month was almost fatal to the distribution of civilian supplies and to the grain campaign. Only by superhuman efforts have we been able to move sufficient grain for bread only. We are now in a somewhat precarious position in Bari and Lecce provinces since they are living daily from "hand to mouth"

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insofar as bread and pasta are concerned.

Telecommunications. Remains fairly satisfactory, practically no change during the month.

Posts. Only slight improvement. Can and will improve as the transportation situation improves.

L. Property control.

No change. Situation remains in hand and satisfactory.

M. Finance.

Responsible businessmen and government officials have finally realized the gravity of Italy's post war financial position and the feeling of preferential treatment or "spoon feeding" by the Allied is rapidly receding.

There are some healthful signs of competition in trade since ordinary consumer goods formerly hidden are beginning to show in some quantity on the open market. However, transportation difficulties, scarcity of raw materials, and machine spare parts still tend to restrict revival of trade.

Prices of ordinary goods remain high and beyond the reach of the ordinary housewife. Bank savings and deposits continue to increase and surplus funds continue to flow into the central bank.

Black market dealings in sterling and Blue Seal dollars increased some during the month. ~~Sources appear to be :~~

(1) Seamen arriving with foreign currency.
(2) Remittances in small amounts by post from England to British soldiers.
(3) Air Force personnel bringing in small amounts.
(4) Refugees, Yugoslavs - mainly Jewish.

N. Displaced persons.

During the month approximately 1500 Yugoslav orphan children arrived in area. These were well handled and are now in good comfortable billets.

Displaced Persons camps in this Region are well managed and operated.

JOHN T. ZELLARS,
Col. Inf.,
Regional Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION :

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Appendix "A"
Ref. No 4/62

REVISED PRODUCTION ESTIMATES & COLLECTION GOALS-WHEAT & BARLEY

REGION II, ACC. 30 JULY 44.

(Basis of Computation: Current estimates of Italian Officials adjusted to present c
affecting yield and collection in each Province)

Province	Estimated yield in Quintals: Wheat	Estimated yield in Quintals: Barley		Collection Goals in Quintals: Wheat	Collection Goals in Quintals: Barley	
Bari	800,000	85,000		350,000	50,000	38,113
Brindisi	240,000	30,000		60,000	I5,000	6,000
Taranto	325,000	50,000		I30,000	30,000	22,500
Lecce	2I0,000	90,000		40,000	40,000	4,080
Matera	930,000	65,000		570,000	45,000	151,000
Potenza	880,000	54,000		400,000	25,000	100,000

Field
25 July 44

JOHN T. ZELLERS, Col
Regional Commission

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REVISED PRODUCTION ESTIMATES & COLLECTION GOALS-WHEAT & BARLEY

REGION II, ACC. 30 JULY 44.

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(Estimation: Current estimates of Italian Officials adjusted to present conditions and collection in each Province)

	Estimated yield in Quintals			Collection Goals in Quintals		Actual Collection to 31 July 1944	
	Wheat	Barley		Wheat	Barley	Wheat	Barley
	800,000	85,000		350,000	50,000	38,113	7,626
	240,000	30,000		60,000	15,000	6,000	1,000
	325,000	50,000		130,000	30,000	22,500	1,000
	210,000	90,000		40,000	40,000	4,080	560
	930,000	65,000		570,000	45,000	251,000	10,000
	880,000	54,000		400,000	25,000	100,000	1,300

JOHN T. ZELLARS, Col. Inf.,
Regional Commissioner

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

Ser - 5 JUL 1944

REGION II

July 3, 1944

Informal Memo :
For : Executive Commissioner, HQ, ACC.
Subject : Administrative Notes this Region as of this date.

1. Our Move to Bari is about Complete, will be night July 4, all offices this immediate headquarters will be in one Bldg, by July6-8.

2. It is necessary to place our motor pool and garage at Nº 1 transint Camp Bari. Lt. Col. Kerr (B) C.O. of same has been of great assistance in this.

3. The organization, maintenance, use etc. of Motor Vehides is not yet accomplished. Am now desparately trying to get this operation on the move.

4. The displaced persons activities recently acquired has added considerably to our labours, but see no break down in this respect.

5. The removal of our Chief Clerk at this time was a blow. We will get along however.

6. The recent query re-transfer of Lt. Col. Mc Cleery to Region IV pretty near knocked me out, It would be ruinous almost, to remove him within next 60 days.

7. We have local Civilian problems occurry daily-however, nothing serious is in the " brew " to my knowledge, at this writing.

8. It is too long to forecast the extent of failure or success in grain campaign. We still hang on a thread in some reppects-i.e. lack of sufficient Forms - Denuncios - etc. There are still at least 62 ways to " beat the game" that we know of. We are too thin to Cover all will: we are using the " spot check" method, the only one at our means. We begin shipment of 225 tons per day from Matera on July 4th or 5th. We plan to step this up to 300 tons or better in a comple of weeks. Depends on our motor transport - rail - sacks - prompt unloa-ding etc. All of which we are trying to make go will of course. Any way, we are oft to a start - we know there will be a few " the ups " here and there. However I believe every one knows the place and I hope will act promptly when it goes a bit awry.

Urgent Needs.

No change since last report. Those remain the same.

JOHN ZELLARS
Col. Inf.
Comm. Gen. I, A.C.C.

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MAINTENANCE

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Regtn HQ, July 3, 1944

Informal Memo:

For: Executive Commanding Officers, 100,

Subject: Administrative Notes this Regtn as of this date.

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3. The organization, Maintenance, use etc of Motor Vehicles is not yet accomplished. We are now desperately trying to get this operation on the move.

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

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John F. Toms
Col Inf
Comdg, Regtl Det

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Ec.

Another excellent report from Reg II, also the first one in - by a long chalk.

2. No action required. The underlined portions are interesting.

3. The De Fasc... Report attached is clear. I shall pass to Admin Section. The progress seems most unusual - v. slow in BARI

Good. Presume copies got to Stkn Sqdn automatically

5/7

MW 5/7

Zilli 6/7

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SECRET.

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2

Ref : A/51/1/4. 30 June 44

SUBJECT : - Report of Situation in Region II for the month of May 1944.

TO : - Executive Commissioner, Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, Main.

A. Political reaction and popular opinion:

Following in the wake of the spree of jubilation aroused by the liberation of Rome there has occurred in spots, some rather strenuous efforts on the part of the Communist, and Labour parties to establish their ascendency.

People are still more interested in their individual needs than in reorganizing their communities and their National Government.

People of all classes continue to desire that the good offices of the Allies remain immediately at hand. They do not yet trust each other very far beyond the family door.

B. Local government - Provincial:

Organization and functioning continues to progress slowly in all echelons. The change in the National Government during the month had a tendency to retard these, at least momentarily. On the Provincial and Communal levels these processes remain about the same as last month, except in Brindisi and Lecce Provinces, where some progress is evident. Approximate positions reached are as follows: Bari - 40%; Taranto - 50%; Potenza - 60%; Brindisi and Lecce - 70%; Matera - 80%.

Defascistization has progressed considerably during the month. Italian Authorities have acted more boldly in this respect and fair results are being accomplished. Attention is invited to seperate attached report on this matter.

C. Economic resources and supply, with special reference to food:

Phase one, in the grain campaign, the reaping of the bountiful crop of grain, has progressed to a point of complete success.

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C. Economic resources and supply, with special reference to food:

Phase one, in the grain campaign, the reaping of the bountiful crop of grain, has progressed to a point of complete success. For farmers, the last minute arrival of sufficient binder twine was like manna from heaven.

Phase two, the threshing collection and distribution has begun. This Region can meet its requirements in importation of wheat provided sufficient and timely motor, and rail transport can be made available for movement. Transportation and vigilance are now the keys to a successful grain campaign. The more expeditious the movement of wheat to consumer destinations, proportionately less will reach the Black Market.

Plans in detail for movement of the grain are in construction, and every effort is being made to procure a few motor vehicles for use in Matera Province for this purpose.

4 Spare Total

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There has been a slight increase in the distribution of the enormous surplus of wine existing in the Apulian Provinces.

Food is sufficient, legumes are plentiful, fresh vegetables have slacked off some, but a fair amount of cherries, berries, and other fruits are coming onto the market.

Cotton cloth, findings, shoes or shoe leather, and horseshoe nails continue to be crying needs.

The harmful practice of unauthorized purchases of farm products, by Allied Military Units continues without much abatement.

D. Agriculture, forrestry, and fisheries:

Food crops in general continue to be excellent. A fine [illegible] crop is in the making. A very good crop of figs is now maturing. Present indications are for a normal crop of olives and nuts. The potato crop is very variable, and on the whole, only small. The crop from imported Allied seed is almost a failure.

Forestry - No material change since last report, except some slight improvement in movement of surplus charcoal from Potenza Province.

There was some improvement in the provision of fresh fish during the month particularly in Taranto Province.

E. Labour:

Labour organization has improved except in Apulian Provinces where the Fascist Labour sindicates still command the situation.

No serious labour disorders occurred during the month. A soaring price of harvest labour was nipped in the bud during the last part of the month by prompt action of ACC HQ, and HQ AAI, in laying on 2000 Italian soldiers for Matera Province as harvest labourers. This fact alone quickly spread among the people and consequently sufficient civilian harvest labour promptly came on the scene at a fair price. The Italian soldier harvest labour was diverted to its original destination. In this instance, the time and trouble of a few Allied officers paid untold dividends in helping materially to solve a critical stage in the reaping of the grain.

F. Public works and utilities.

Repairs to roads and br[illegible]

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D. Agriculture, forrestry, and fisheries:

Food crops in general continue to be excellent. A fine wine crop is in the making. A very good crop of figs is now maturing. Present indications are for a normal crop of olives and nuts. The potato crop is very variable, and on the whole, only small. The crop from imported Allied seed is almost a failure.

Forestry - No material change since last report, except some slight improvement in movement of surplus charcoal from Potenza Province.

There was some improvement in the provision of fresh fish during the month particularly in Taranto Province.

E. Labour:

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F. Public works and utilities.

Repairs to roads and bridges continue slowly. Normal cart, motor, and rail traffic can now move with only a few short by-passes. All bridges on major highways with two exceptions have been restored.

By judicial use electric power has been sufficient during the month for necessities.

G. Public safety and functions of Allied and Italian courts:

Two cases were tried by ACC courts operating under Italian Law. The first consisted of trial of 35 Italian civilians in Lecce

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for corresponding with the enemy Fascist Liberal Government. Nine were found guilty of attempting to communicate with the enemy, and sentenced from 3 to 20 years imprisonment. The fairness and justice of the trial was well received by the populace.

Four Italian civilians were tried in Bari for mail robberies. The four were found guilty and sentenced from 3 to 9 years imprisonment.

As a whole Italian courts continue to act slowly. However the first grain case in Matera Province was completed very satisfactorily in five days from date of inception.

Only one serious crime reported during the month, a brawl between 3 Allied soldiers and a bunch of Italian civilians. This resulted in the death of one Allied soldier and serious wounding of two others.

Miscellaneous thefts of Allied supplies have abated somewhat.

The carabinieri are improving daily, the transfer of several to Rome region materially weakened this vital force, who are most important at this time from a vigilance standpoint in the grain campaign.

H. **Public Health, welfare and general condition of the people:**

Control measures were promptly taken in a single reported case of foot and mouth disease by prompt co-ordinated action between Italian and Allied authorities.

The general health of the people continues very good. No outbreaks of communicable disease have occurred.

Malaria preventive measures have continued in a fairly satisfactory manner.

Small town sanitation has reached the point where it is about as good as can be expected. The cities are improving as transportation becomes available. Bari improved during the month in this respect, but is still unsatisfactory.

I. Education :

Defascistization of teachers is now on the move.

A group of Bari university students have continued some local disturbances. This month it takes the form of jealousy over Italian girls associating with Allied soldiers. The P.C. of Bari acting with university authorities has managed to "keep the lid on this imbroglio."

No material change in number and efficiency of schools over last month.

J. Refugees :

On hand June 1	appr.	27,000
Received during June	"	3,000
Evacuated during month	"	

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

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No material change in number and efficiency of schools over last month.

J. Refugees:

On hand June 1	approx	27,000
Received during June	"	3,000
Evacuated during month	"	NONE
On hand at close of month	"	30,000

All inhabitants and all communities still strongly resent refugee impositions.

./.

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K. Communications.

Roads. Maintenance continues to improve on major highways. All major highway bridges have been repaired except one in Taranto Province.

Rail. No material change. Remains fairly satisfactory. There is still a shortage of rolling stock.

Telecommunications. Close cooperation by No.2 Dist., and increased interest by Italian Authorities, have resulted in marked progress during the month in realizing a more extensive telephone and telegraph net work in Matera and Potenza Provinces. In the Apulian Provinces no improvement.

Posts. Service is slowly progressing.

L. Property Control.

No change since last month, remains satisfactorily.

M. Finance.

Arrangements made during the month for financing grain crop by Italian Authorities. Insurance banking, and finance accounting, progressing according to established policy and procedure. General financial position of Region, satisfactory.

N. Lastly and most important.

During the month Region II assumed additional responsibility in connection with Displaced Persons. This is proceeding as usual, and well in hand at the moment.

JOHN T. ZELLARS,
Col. Inf.,
Regional Commissioner

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Distribution :-

5 Copies R.C. & L.G. Section
1 Copy each P.C.
7 Copies HQ 2 District
1 Copy FOTALI

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SECRET

100

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

30 June 19

REF : RS/8/SF

SUBJECT: Defascistization.

TO : The Regional Commissioner.

The following is a report on the progress of Defascistization in Reg. as of June 30, 1944.

BARI PROVINCE

The new Prefect formed the Defascistization Committee and the first meeting was held on 22 June, 1944 with the following results:

First meeting of 22 June, 1944.
12 Cases heard.

Proposed for Dismissal	2.
postponed	4.
Cases dismissed	6.

Nearly 200 cases remain to be heard and several new cases are being investigated by the P.P.O. Bari.

Reported meetings of an organization known as the MONARCHICO DEMO_LI... at Altamura being investigated by G.S.I. (D).

LECCE PROVINCE

Last reported meeting of the Defascistization Committee was held on 17 Jun... 1944, with the following results:

MEETING OF 17 JUNE, 1944,	AT MEETING	TOTAL TO DATE
Proposed for dismissal	2	75
Discriminated	6	37
Further Consideration	1	12
Cases dismissed	6	7

Dismissals have not been effected. A new decree pending from the Central Government.

BRINDISI PROVINCE.

The Provincial Commission is dealing only with the hearing of cases con... employees of the state, who are being dealt with by the respective Ministries.

The Commission has now finished its work with the exception of announcing decisions in the case of the three men shown in the attached return as 'sentence suspended'.

Results to date therefore are:-

Cases heard	67
Services dispensed with	27
...ng in office	37
...d Sentence	3

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

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Reported meetings of an organization known as the MONARCHICO DEMO...LI... at Altamura being investigated by G.S.I. (B).

LECCE PROVINCE

Last reported meeting of the Defascistization Committee was held on 1... June, 1944, with the following results:

MEETING OF 17 JUNE, 1944.	AT MEETING	TOTAL TO DATE
Proposed for dismissal	2	75
Discriminated	6	37
Further Consideration	1	12
Cases dismissed	6	7

Dismissals have not been effected. A new decree pending from the Central Government.

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Various Ministries

Ministry of Education

The Proveditore agli Studi has submitted a list of persons who are to be dealt with by the Ministry. This list is of 20 State employees who were suspended from their employment on 10 June, 1944 and will remain so suspended until the Ministry has decided each of their cases.

Ministry of Communications

4 Railway officials denounced but continue in employment until decisions of the Ministry is given.

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Ministry of Public Works
2, Officials denounced but continue in employment until decision of Ministry is given.

Ministry of Finance
3, Officials ditto.

Ministry of Justice
1, Official ditto.

Ministry of Interior
1, Officer of Questura suspended on 20th May, 44. Awaiting decison of Ministry.
2, Employees of Medico Provinciale continue in employment until decision of Ministry.

Ministry of Economy
1, Official denounced and waiting in his employment decision of Ministry.

Ministry of Marine
1, Official ditto.

Ministry of War.
1, Official denounced and continues in employment awaiting decision Ministry.

The undermentioned officers and N.C.O.s, and men of the CC.RR. have dismissed their employment as Port Detachment of CC.RR at Brindisi. They were previously known as MILIZIA PORTUARIA a purely Fascist Organization employed in Brindisi Port. On the Armistice they were taken over by the CC.RR. and continue in their same employment under the guise of Carabinieri.
The Ministry of War have as from 1st June '44 dismissed all the detachment.

1 Captain.
1 Mareschiallo
3 Brigadieri
7 Apuntati
30 Carabinieri.

TARANTO PROVINCE

Last report dated 25 June; 1944.
On 28 May, Prefect informed the P.C. Taranto, that no former fascists remained in senior appointments.

Cases considered to date	142
Judged and discharged	79
Discriminated	14
Cleared	10
Still to be judged	39

Admiral Fioravanzo, late Commandante Militare Marittimo has handed over to Rear Admiral Manfredi.

Also 26 Officials are awaiting judgement by the Central Committee formed from the Ministries. Of these 26, Vice Prefect Guiseppe GAZILLI and Questura Agent Adamo VINCENZO have been suspended by the Minister of the Interior, and Egidio CURI, Prof. Regio Provveditore agli Studi has been suspended by the Minister of Education.

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2, Employees of Medico Provinciale continue in employment until decision of Ministry.

Ministry of Economy
1, Official denounced and waiting in his employment decision of Ministry.

Ministry of Marine
1, Official dismissed.

Ministry of War.
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MATERA PROVINCE.

Last reported meeting of the Defascistization Committee held on 18th June, 1944 with the following results:

	At Meeting	Total todate
Cases heard	8	53
Office holders ordered removed	3	22
Office holders exonerated	2	4
Officials removed earlier period	1	4
To be investigated further	2	587 20
To be examined at next meeting		3

No meetings held on 28 May and 11 June.

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POTENZA PROVINCE

Three meetings all during the month of June have been held by the De-fascistization Committee. The last reported meeting was held on 19 June 1944 with the following results:

Proposed for dismissal 5
Discriminated 4

LLOYD E. KELLY.
Lt. Col. Inf.
Regional Public Safety Officer

LEK/ar

[redacted]

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Reg II

report in time

removed RE 4/17

N/A

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Food Sub-Commission
A.P.O. 394

WJI/sl

24 June 1944

AC3/1-4/FOOD

SUBJECT: Extract from Report

TO : RC & MG Section

1. Reference is your 522/95/CA dated 22 Jun 44.

2. A bid has been placed for the movement of wine by sea for Rome.

3. The only obstacle is transportation.

W. J. IGG
Colonel
Chief, Food Sub-Commission

5875

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

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

Ref/522/96/CA. 22 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Extracts from Report.

TO : Rehabilitation Branch. 914 (years 7-10)

Extracts of a report from Region II are forwarded to you.

NORMAN E. FISH.
Colonel.
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

GWIL/RAC.

5874

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95

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

Ref/322/95/GA. 22 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Extracts from Report.

TO : Economic Section (For Industry & Commerce Sub-Commission).

1. Extracts of a report from Region II (94 (pages 1-5)) are forwarded to you with the following comments.

2. The efforts of your Sub-Commission to obtain these results is very much appreciated. Would it be possible to use surplus wine mentioned in para.3 to relieve the black market prices in Rome.

NORMAN E. PISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

GWIS/RAC.

Encl.
as above.

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Ec.

You might wish to
comment on paras
3 4 & 5 & 10, before
passing to Econ. Section
to Ind. & Commerce
and Estab. Branch.

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HEADQUARTERS
19 JUN 1944
A.C.C.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

19 JUN 1944

94

REF : A/51/1/3

17 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Informal Mid-month Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner, Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, MAIN.

1. The reaping of the grain, and the gathering of the beans and lentils is progressing very satisfactorily. Thrashing has begun and some small amounts of grain have been collected. The grain crop is tremendous, and had fertilizer been used, it would have been an all-time record crop. Weather has been perfect.

2. The laying on of two trainloads of Italian ~~trucks~~ Troops (later cancelled at my request) to Matera had the desired effect of very materially reducing the price of imported harvest labor into Matera and Potenza provinces. Also the use of Italian harvest labor in Foggia, helped to stabilize the harvest labor situation in Bari province.

3. The recent plan to use schooners should help relieve the serious surplus wine situation in Lecce, Brindisi, and Taranto provinces.

4. The last shipment of binder twine arrived at a critical moment. Black market prices on this necessity had begun to soar.

5. The arrival of copper sulphate during the first part of month was an accomplishment of A.C.C. most worthy of note. This saved a critical situation for a great number of Italian wine growers.

6. Since the jubilation following the fall of Rome, there have been some small outbursts aimed at the establishment of political parties, and to acquire A.C.C. backing.

7. The recent efforts to mold the Headquarters staff into a team have borne some results. The Transportation Section, chaotic when I arrived, is still in somewhat of a "mess." The Executive and myself are giving this our constant personal attention.

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8. I expect to move this Headquarters into Bari, in the present quarters of the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission during the last week of this month.

I have ordered all officers and EM/OR's to live on the premises. Some of the "lone wolfs" are pouting a bit at this, but think they will see the light when they shake down. I shall endeavor to bring all Regional offices together in one place and in one building. In this connection, request that Staff visits to Region II Headquarters be cut to the bone during the period of June 24th to July 5th.

9. We are now down to the point in officer personnel where we are strained to keep a thin layer in the provinces. If we can hold on for another six weeks, about August 1st, we can begin to dissipate Potenza and Matera provinces to the near zero level.

10. Lastly, if you have some officers who realize the necessity in military life, of obedience to orders or order, I have some who do not, that I would like to "trade".

JOHN T. ZELLARS
Colonel, Infantry
Regional Commissioner.

Information —
Please see attached
Memo. 95.3
92

92

IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT

TO: All Officers Region 2.

SUBJECT: - Grain Harvest

1. There are two important operations facing us NOW. PLEASE ATTEND.

First - Harvest, collection and distribution of Wheat and Barley.

Second- The activation of the administrative Bodies of the Italian Government, particularly the Commnale Committees who are responsible for the harvest.

2. What can we further do about the FIRST big job.

(a) GET OUT, preferably in the company of an Italian official and CHECK with EACH sindaco to ascertain if the following four things are functioning. If not, advise corrections on the spot.

1. The Sindaco himself.
2. The Comunal Agricultural Committees.
3. The UPSEA.
4. The Maresciallo and his Carabinieri.

3. What can we further do about the SECOND big iob.

(a) In company with the Prefect or his deputy, GET OUT and CHECK the operation and performance of the local government - particularly the giunta comunale.

RESULTS COUNT - NOT ALIBIS.

13 June 1944

JOHN T. ZELLARS
Col. Inf.
Regional Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION: - 10 copies Potenza Prov...

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13 June 1944

JOHN T. ZELLARS
Col. Inf.
Regional Commissioner

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10 copies Taranto Province
35 copies Region II HQ.

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10 JUN Recd

U.S. A.C.C. (R.C. & M.G. Sec)

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2

Ref: A/51/15. 6 June 1944

SUBJECT: - Report of Situation in Region II for the month of May 1944.

TO : - Executive Commissioner, Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, Main.

HEADQUARTERS 10 JUN 1944 A. C. C.

A. Political reaction and popular opinion:

Very little change during the period. Both moderate and somewhat apathetic. The Communist party, after a fashion, appears to be in the ascendency in its organization. Consolidation of public opinion is slow and almost void of explosiveness. The chief outward expressions consist of defacing buildings with unsightly signs, somewhat likened to childish pranks.

During the month there were expressions of a more hopeful future on the part of many Italians. Recent realistic indications are that the masses intend to support the present government. Although the route does not seem to be well defined, they have started up the hill.

B. Local government - Provincial:

This tedious problem remains slow in motion, although on the whole there is some evidence of improvement. Good signs: new Prefect of apparent ability has recently been posted to Bari. Italian labor organizations in Potenza province can now function efficiently with only remote ACC control. The organization of the Grannai del Popolo in Matera province has been very throughly accomplished.

Defacistization continues at a slow pace. Still much timidity and procrastination in this Region. The organization of the Giunta Comunale varies from 60 to 80 percent complete. These organizations are perhaps 40 percent effective in the Region on the whole. Direct efforts are being made to improve this situation.

C. Economic resources and supply, with special reference to food:

Small industrial and agricultural plants continue to gradually renew operations.

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C. Economic resources and supply, with special reference to food:

Small industrial and agricultural plants continue to gradually renew operations.

The production and distribution of charcoal increased slightly during the month.

With respect to food, nature has continued to smile on Region II, with the result that vegetables in fair quantity and variety are now within reach of almost everyone who possesses a few lira.

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The situation regarding bread and pasta remains unchanged. Grain is still gold and the medium of exchange.

The chief interference with civilian supply and price control of agricultural products eminated from Allied Troop Commanders.

Transport of civilian supplies was very greatly aided during the month through the establishment of civilian haulage transport pools.

Civilian clothing situation remains unsatisfactory, particularly in regard to cotton goods and shoes.

There still remains a surplus of about 200.000 tons of wine in the provinces of Brindisi, Tarento, Lecce and Bari. Perhaps 150.000 tons are in the province of Lecce alone. It is now turning sour. Transportation facilities for movement, however, are still inadequate and movement in this respect is comparatively slow.

With arrival of caustic soda, the refining of olive oil has improved.

The drive to reduce the number of surplus ration cards continues with some success.

D. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries:

Food crops continue to be excellent. Only a disaster such as heavy rains within the next two weeks will prevent a bumper crop; of grain and legumes.

Forestry - No change in this situation which remains satisfactory.

Fisheries - Some improvement in the collection and distribution, particularly in Bari province.

Live Stock - A good condition has been reached. No serious shortage of farm animals except perhaps in Brindisi province.

E. Labor:

Italian labor organizations have progressed.

The dockside labor unrest at Taranto was appeased, at least temporarily, by additional rations.

Plans are completed to utilize imported agricultural labor for the grain harvest within the Regional boundaries.

Matera province will need the greatest number of imported agricultural laborers for the grain harvest and plans have been made accordingly. Workers; men, women and children are in the fields daily.

Labor organization is behind in Apulia since, to date, the

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

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Labor organization is behind in Apulia since, to date, the Italian Government has failed to appoint a Director of Labor for that area with authority to act.

The price of 65 lire per day for imported harvest labor has forced this commodity into the Black Market.

F. Public works and utilities:

Much improvement in road and bridge repair, and in bot[5869] organization and operation by the Italians in this Region in this regard.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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CONFIDENTIAL

Plans are now being made for reduced consumption of electrical power, when, and if it becomes necessary.

G. Public safety and functions of Allied and Italian courts:

The number of felonies and misdemeanors has decreased slightly during the month. No serious crimes reported.

Italian courts remain too slow and too cumbersome to clean up old cases and to keep apace.

A General Court of ACC officials, acting according to Italian law, is now in session. The cases are of serious offenses perpetrated against Allied interests; a new departure in the history of A.C.C.

The overcrowded prison situation remains unchanged. All hands are after this problem. A solution has been forwarded in a separate communication.

Italian police agencies continue to work well in cooperation with Allied authorities in all provinces and have been effective except for the provinces of Bari and Taranto. Lecce is improving.

H. Public health, welfare and general condition of the people:

Public health remains good, the flurry of smallpox in Taranto was quickly washed out by prompt cooperative action on part of Allied and Italian authorities.

No increase in malaria cases except in one spot - the vicinity of Barletta, where a few have been reported.

Situation regarding Italian hospitals has continued to improve.

Malaria control measures are going fairly well.

Programs for cleaning up towns and cities are progressing with Matera province in the lead and Bari trailing far behind.

Medical supplies are adequate through June.

I. Education:

As a whole, slight improvement.

J. Refugees:

General situation greatly improved.

Organization by Italians has progressed . All provinces now have reception centers.

None received during May to the 20th. Approximately 27.000 on hand. Prepared to receive 15.000 in June.

K. Communications:

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Roads - Much progress
Rail - Little, if any progress.
Telecommunications - Some, small progress.
Posts - Some, small improvement.

L. Property Control:

Remains in good order.

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M. Financial:

Matters have improved in some respects. All now being

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consolidated under one head.

N. Lastly and most important:

The battle for the harvest, collection and distribution of a bountiful crop of wheat and barley has begun. Our reserves are thin. Our determination is great. With many patriotic Italians in the fight, we feel optomistic in this most important and gigantic undertaking.

JOHN T. ZELLARS
Col. Inf.
Regional Commissioner

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Distribution:-

5 Copies R.C. & M.G. Section
1 Copy each P. C.
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1 Copy FOTALI
1 Copy 15th USAAF
2 Copies File Region II
9 Copies Extra

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CONFIDENTIAL 522

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

Ref : A/51/15 24 May 1944.

Subject: Summary of Report on Situation in Region II, (Precise) for period 20 April - 20 May 1944.

To : R.C. & M.G. Section, Civil Affairs Branch, Allied Control Commission Hqts., Main.

A. Political reaction and popular opinion:

Very little change during the period. Both remain moderate and somewhat apathetic. The Communist party appears to be in the ascendency in its organization. Consolidation of public opinion is slow and almost void of explosiveness. The chief outward expressions consists of defacing buildings with unsightly signs, somewhat likened to childish pranks.

During the month there were many expressions of a hopeful future on part of many Italians.

B. Local government - Provincial:

This tedious problem remains slow in motion, although on the whole there is some evidence of improvement. Good signs: A new Prefect of proven quality has recently been posted to Bari. Italian labor organizations in Potenza Province can now function efficiently with only remote ACC control; the organization of the Grannai di Populo in Matera Province has been very throughly accomplished.

Defacistization continues at a slow pace. Timidity and procrastination in this remains evident.

C. Economic resources and supply, with special reference to food:

Small industrial and agricultural plants continue to gradually renew operations.

The production and distribution of charcoal increased slightly during the month.

With respect to food, nature has continued to smile on Region

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

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C. Economic resources and supply, with special reference to food:

Small industrial and agricultural plants continue to gradually renew operations.

The production and distribution of charcoal increased slightly during the month.

With respect to food, nature has continued to smile on Region II, with the result that vegetables in fair quantity and varie are now within reach of almost everyone who possesses a few li or a small patch of soil

The situation regarding bread and pasta remains unchanged Bread is still gold.

The chief interference with civilian supply and price co of agricultural products continues to eminate from Allied T Commanders.

Transport of civilian supplies was very greatly aided the month through the establishment of civilian haulage t pools.

Civilian clothing situation remains unsatisfactory.

HEADQUARTERS 28 MAR 1944

Original on file

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D. Agriculture, forrestry and fisheries.

Food crops continue to be excellent. Only a disaster such as heavy rains or a spell of hot winds within the next two weeks will prevent a bumper crop of grain, legumes and leafy vegetables.

Forrestry - No change in this situation which remains satisfactory.

Fisheries - Some improvement in the collection and distribution particularily in Bari Province.

Live Stock - Have reached good condition. No serious shortage of farm animals except perhaps in Brindisi Province.

E. Labor:

Italian labor organizations have progressed.

The dock side labor unrest at Taranto was appeased at least temporarily by additional rations.

Plans are completed to utilize imported agricultural labor for the grain harvest from regional sources exclusively.

Matera Province will need the greatest number of imported agricultural laborers for the grain harvest and plans made accordingly.

Workers, men, women, and children are in the fields and the harvest is under way.

F. Public works and utilities:

Much improvement in road repair and bridge repair, and in the organization and operations of the Italians in this region in this regard.

Plans now being made for reductions in uses of electric power, when, and if it becomes necessary.

G. Public safety and functions of Allied and Italian courts:

The number of felonies and misdemeanors has decreased slightly during the month. No serious crimes reported.

Italian courts remain too slow and too cumbersome to clean up old cases and to keep apace.

A circuit court of ACC officials acting under Italian law is now in session hearing cases of serious offenses against Allied interests; a new departure in the history of A.M.G.

The overcrowded prison situation remains unchanged except the cancerous sopt of Bari which has further spread. All hands are after this problem.

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Malaria control measures going fairly well.

Programs for cleaning up towns and cities are progressing, with Matera Province in the lead and Bari trailing far behind.

Medical supplies are adequate through June.

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I. Education:

Very little change in this matter, may be slight improvement.

J. Refugees:

General situation greatly improved.
Organization by Italians has progressed. All provinces now have reception centers.
None received during May to 20th. On hand approximately 27,000. Prepared to receive 15,000 in June.

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Roads - Much progress.
Rail - Little, if any progress.
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Posts - Some, small improvement.

L. Property control:

Remains in good order.

JOHN T. ZELLARS
Colonel, Infantry
Regional Commissioner.

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HQ ACC, APO 394
Sec'y Gen.
Rec'd 14 May 1944
By

Chief Communications. 522/8

You will be interested to read Col. Zellars first monthly report submitted herewith. A first rate summary.

Thanks. V. Good.

W.S. 13/5/44

14 May 44
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RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
- 9 MAG 1944
A. C. C.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

6 May 1944.

Subject: Monthly Report, Region II, for month of APRIL, 1944.

To: Executive Commissioner, A.C.C. Headquarters.

From: Regional Commissioner, Region II.

All Officers Hq
Seen by SW
for Com: Gen:

(a) POLITICAL REACTIONS AND POPULAR OPINION

(1) The recent broadening of the base of the Italian Government has fostered confidence and reacted favorably as a whole.

(2) A majority of the people anxiously await to learn this new Cabinet's policy with reference to Alimentation.

(3) Several political parties are making bids for ascendancy. Progress of any one is rather slow, since people are in somewhat of a quandary as to the future, and because of poor communications. Several small insignificant inter-party frays have occurred. No severe repercussions have been felt.

(4) Fascist sentiment still exists among the younger generation.

(5) A majority of the political sentiment is moderate.

(b) LOCAL GOVERNMENT - PROVINCIAL

(1) Potenza Province - Fairly strong in leadership and well organized.
(2) Matera Province - Somewhat weak in leadership, but very well organized.
(3) Taranto - Fairly strong in leadership but not too well organized.
(4) Lecce Province - Same as Taranto.
(5) Brindisi Province - Leadership weak and organization weak.
(6) Bari Province - Leadership weak and non-effective. Organization poor.

(c) ECONOMICS, RESOURCES AND SUPPLY, with special reference to the food situation.

(1) Amassing of the wheat and barley is of utmost importance and every effort to this end in organization and procedure in accord with the Italian Decree is under way in the Region.

(2) Distribution of 50 gm. sugar with-held in March and April has been made.

(3) A distribution of 100 gm. per head of soap is now under way.

(4) Food, principally bread, remains the paramount consideration. No change in the situation, except in Cosenza Province, where very few communes hold more than two days reserve of food. This is largely because the number of wagons (RR) available for distribution of foodstuffs from Crotone to the Calabrian Provinces is a long way short of requirements. Fresh vegetables are easily obtainable through...

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(5) In the Apulian Provinces there is a serious shortage of charcoal, a necessity to bake bread in many instances. R.R. wagons are urgently needed to transport charcoal from Potenza Province to the Apulian Provinces. It is now planned to use a platoon of road haulage motor transport to move some charcoal from Potenza Province to Brindisi Province as an emergency measure.
(6) The Black Market is still serious and its ramifications increase.
(7) Prices continue to be upset by unauthorized buying on behalf of Military Units.
(8) With respect to feeding refugees, distribution channels are working better and gradually communal feeding centers are being organized.
(9) Next to food, as the most urgent of all needs, are tires, tubes, and spare parts for essential Italian Services, particularly now for those officials connected with amassing of the incoming harvest.

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All Officers File
Seen by Gen. Holmes
SW

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(d) AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.

(1) Grain crops are most promising, with sufficient moisture now in the earth to produce a good crop. One-quarter inch of rain within the next two weeks will insure an unusally large yield.

(2) A very considerable crop of Lima Beans and Lentils is now well on the way to maturity.

(3) Vegetable markets are open daily, with considerable supply.

(4) Fisheries are limited by Allied Naval operations in Bari, Taranto and Brindisi Provinces.

(e) LABOUR

(1) Taranto is the chief center of labor disorders in Region II. Additional food ration will alleviate most of the present dissatisfaction. This matter is now under consideration.

(2) A subordinate of the D.A.D.L., No. 2 District, approved a wage increase for a civilian firm in Bari. This has been brought to the attention of No. 2 District Commander as an unauthorized procedure and as a very bad precedent.

(3) The lack of a policy by the Italian Government for enforcing decisions in labor disputes tends to encourage labor disorders.

(4) Very definite plans for procurement of additional labor for gathering the wheat crop in Matera Province are underway.

(5) Brindisi Province at present has barely sufficient farm labor for its own needs.

(6) The demands for civilian labor by Allied agencies is very great.

(f) PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

(1) The rebuilding of bridges is progressing slowly.

(2) The Matera-Taranto road has undergone considerable drubbing of late - 50 ton loads. Several culverts have caved in.

(3) The allotment and use of electric current according to ACC plan is in operation, except in Bari Province. Steps are being taken to get this Province in line.

(g) PUBLIC SAFETY and functioning of i) Allied Courts
ii) Italian Courts

(1) Public Safety matters have not lessened, although Italian Police agencies, generally speaking, are functioning well.

(2) Improvement in Italian Police activities in the Apulian Provinces is very apparent.

(3) Crimes of violence remain at a comparatively low level in number.

(4) Many crimes of theft of Allied property, especially food, still exist.

(5) During the month the following number of arrests for activities [illegible] persons. Investigations

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(4) Many crimes of theft of Allied property, especially food, still exist.
(5) During the month the following number of arrests for activities against the Allied war effort have been made, mostly young persons. Investigations of these is now in motion, and plans are being laid to bring these to trial before Allied Military Courts.

Bari Province - 16
Brindisi Province - 12
Lecce Province - 38

(6) The prisons are still overcrowded, unsanitary and with insufficient food. The requisitioning of the Prison at Brindisi by Allied Military has necessitated the conversion of a School Building for Italian Civilian Prisoners. It will be June 1st before the transfer can be accomplished.
(7) Italian Civil Courts have proved more diligent than Italian Military Courts except in Bari Province, where the opposite is true.

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(8) Machinery has been elaborated to tackle the vast number of offences against Allied interests, which for the most part consist of numerous individual petty theft cases.

(9) The number of cases pending trial is not excessive, except in Taranto Province.

(h) PUBLIC HEALTH, to include the Welfare and condition of the population.

(1) Four cases of a severe type of smallpox occurred among the civilian populace at Taranto. One mild case erupted at Matera. Necessary precautions and prophylactic measures have been taken in each case. No evidence at this date of a serious spread of this disease. No other unusual prevalence of communicable diseases is apparent.

(2) The situation with respect to hospitalization of prostitutes has slightly improved. Operations are in motion to further implement this activity.

(3) Two months medical supplies are in sight. Vital shortages are cultural materials and stains, and antigens for serolic tests for syphilis.

(4) Sanitation measures as a whole are only fair. The general attitude of most Italian officials on this subject is that they can do little, and even that is too expensive. Matera Province is achieving excellent results in a Sanitation campaign. The urgency for immediate action in prevention of Malaria has been emphasized by the undersigned in person to all Provincial Commissioners and Prefects.

(5) Clothing, particularly shoes, is urgently needed throughout the Region.

(6) Allied and Italian Welfare agencies are cooperating with ACC agencies in ministering to the needy.

(i) EDUCATION

(1) In this field the situation is satisfactory, except for the following outstanding problems which are being dealt with as best possible under the circumstances:

a) Vetting of personnel,
b) Provision of textbooks and Exercise books,
c) Evacuation of school buildings by troops and refugees.

(j) REFUGEES

(1) The smaller number received in April temporarily relieved the tension somewhat in this matter. Italian organization of Welfare agencies has improved slightly. Civilian housing throughout this Region has just about reached the saturation point. It is planned to use as many refugees as possible in connection with the incoming grain harvest.

(2) Plans are set to accept 5,000 refugees in May and 10,000 in June.

(k) COMMUNICATIONS, to include: i) Road
ii) Rail
iii) Telecommunications

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(k) COMMUNICATIONS, to include: i) Road
ii) Rail
iii) Telecommunications
iv) Posts

(1) On hand are 24 vehicles, W.D. and requisitioned, 11 motorcycles, and 3 trailers; about one-third are off the road for repairs continually. Regular inspections are conducted.

(2) 55 road haulage vehicles are now in operation in Potenza and Matera Provinces. Arrangements are being made for operation of 40 in Bari Province, 25 in Taranto, 15 each in Lecce and Brindisi.

(3) A rather sketchy oral plan concerning the acquisition, care and use of Allied transport for use in the Telecommunications Section has been proposed. No further action will be taken by this Region on this matter until a written directive on this subject is received.

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(4) An extreme shortage of tires, tubes and spare parts for use by civilian requisitioned vehicles in provinces still exists.
(5) Motor maintenance problems still exist. Maintenance responsibilities are now being passed gradually to civilian companies.
(6) Civil telegraph service is available throughout this Region.
(7) Civil telephone service is operating on an intraprovincial basis for Allied and Italian Government official calls.
(8) Mails from abroad are now being delivered throughout the Region.

(l) PROPERTY CONTROL

(1) Very little activity of this nature in this Region. It is well in hand.

(m) FINANCE (Although not called for in the directive, the following report on Finance is submitted.)

(1) Black Market prices, compared to Legal prices, are still exorbitantly high.
(2) With regard to revenue in Calabria and Lucania, the actual yield from monopolies exceed first quarter estimates by approximately 76 per-cent.
(3) Budget returns for Italian Government expenses for second quarter have not been submitted, except in one case. Approval will be delayed accordingly.
(4) Cash balances are estimated to be sufficient for four months.
(5) The general tendency for currency is away from the central bank in this area, due principally to expenditures in connection with Post Offices and Italian Army. These two activities continue to be the chief contributions to the currency deficit of the Bank of Italy.

JOHN T. ~~ADDARD~~
Colonel, Infantry
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Colonel, Infantry
Regional Commissioner

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

HEADQUARTERS
- 9 MAG
A. C. C.

10 MAY Recd

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

Cabr
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Ref. AS/11/302

6 May 44

Subject: ADMINISTRATIVE SITUATION, Region II, as of April 30, 1944.

To: Executive Commissioner, ACC Headquarters.

From: Regional Commissioner, Region II.

1. There is still a tendency for staffs to work in separate compartments and deal directly with Sub-Commissions. This situation has improved, but education in staff procedure and team work is still necessary. The chain of command is not yet fully understood by all.

2. The provision of vehicles for road haulage has helped immensely in the difficult problem of movement of civilian supplies. To this date, this activity is about half way complete.

3. Lower echelons of Allied Service Command and Troop Commanders are not cognizant of the relationship that must exist with the Italian population, particularly in matters such as food, billetting, and prices; and that these and other like matters must be closely conducted with ACC agencies.

4. The next ninety (90) days is a critical period - amassing of grain. For this reason it is imperative that shifts in personnel be made only for the most cogent reasons.

5. There has been some discussion on the proposal to pass Displaced Persons activities onto this Region. Before a decision is made in this matter, it is suggested that serious consideration be given to the following:

a) Such a move is entirely foreign to present Regional activities.

b) It is an activity which cannot be handled by Italian Government agencies - for many obvious reasons.

c) It will necessitate the setting up of an entire staff and complete personnel, and other operating facilities such as motor units, warehouses, etc.

d) It will result in Displaced Persons activities being handled by two separate groups, one forward and one rear,

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From: Regional Commissioner, Region II.

1. There is still a tendency for staffs to work in separate compartments and deal directly with Sub-Commissions. This situation has improved, but education in staff procedure and team work is still necessary. The chain of command is not yet fully understood by all.

2. The provision of vehicles for road haulage has helped immensely in the difficult problem of movement of civilian supplies. To this date, this activity is about half way complete.

3. Lower echelons of Allied Service Command and Troop Commanders are not cognizant of the relationship that must exist with the Italian population, particularly in matters such as food, billetting, and prices; and that these and other like matters must be closely conducted with ACC agencies.

4. The next ninety (90) days is a critical period - amassing of grain. For this reason it is imperative that shifts in personnel be made only for the most cogent reasons.

5. There has been some discussion on the proposal to pass Displaced Persons activities onto this Region. Before a decision is made in this matter, it is suggested that serious consideration be given to the following:

a) Such a move is entirely foreign to present Regional activities.

b) It is an activity which cannot be handled by Italian Government agencies - for many obvious reasons.

c) It will necessitate the setting up of an entire staff and complete personnel, and other operating facilities such as motor units, warehouses, etc.

d) It will result in Displaced Persons activities being handled by two separate groups, one forward and one rear, with consequent inevitable confusion.

e) The saturation point with respect to billetting is about reached in this Region. It is clogged with Allied Troops, service and combat, and by Italian refugees.

6. The transfer of administration of Provinces in Calabria to Region VII is well under way.

7. ACC personnel is exercising continual pressure on Italian agencies to "get on to the job".

8. The move of this Headquarters to Bari has been the object of ten days extensive study and reconnaissance. To date, no solution has been found. The search continues.

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1 Spare Lets.

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9. The main objectives now in this Region in order of priority are as follows:

a) Amassing of the wheat and barley crop.
b) Malaria control.
c) Handling of Refugees.
d) Coordination of all Allied agencies in the Region in Civilian relationship.
e) Movement of this Headquarters to Bari.

10. Urgent needs, in order of priority:

a) Tires and tubes for requisitioned civilian cars, so that Italian officials can move around and organize their local administrative machinery, particularly those connected with the amassing of grain.
b) Railroad transportation for hauling charcoal from Potenza Province to the Apulian Provinces, particularly to Brindisi Province.
c) New Prefect for Bari Province is needed at once. This is perhaps the most important civilian post in Region II. This Province is poorly organized and will become worse if not immediately remedied.
d) School books and exercise books for school children.
e) Huge propaganda notices should be published on the amassing of grain, and the necessity of all to help in this project.

11. The undersigned relieved Lt. Col. G.H.McCaffrey as Regional Commissioner on April 25, 1944.

John T. Zellars
Colonel, Infantry
Regional Commissioner

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

Ref. / /

9 April 44

Subj. Monthly Report - Region II.

To: R.C. and M.G. Section, ACC HQ, Naples.

1. Herewith are five (5) copies of the Monthly Report for Region II for the month of March, 1944.

G. H. McCaffrey
G.H.McCaffrey
Lt. Col., Inf.
R.C.

GHM/pjh

5856
4 - 5 one copies

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MONTHLY REPORT

FOR

MARCH -- 1944

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REGION II
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

M O N T H L Y R E P O R T

FOR

MARCH -- 1944

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REGION II
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

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REGION II

ADMINISTRATION

B-1. On February 29th there were in Region II, 103 assigned officers and 14 attached (including 7 Civil Censors). On the same date there were 102 EM/OR assigned and 3 attached. In addition, there were 24 officers and 9 EM/OR belonging to Region V attached for duty.

On March 31st, there were 84 assigned officers and 19 attached (including 12 Civil Censors); 106 EM/OR assigned and attached (including 10 assigned to the Army Sub-Commission). There are also 16 officers and 1 EM/OR belonging to Region V still attached for duty.

The Civil Censor officers and the Army Sub-Commission personnel are not available for Regional duty so that the net reduction of officers for the month was 28 per cent and in EM/ORs 13 per cent. Transfers known to be pending will reduce the officer strength to a very critical point, where illness or details to schools would practically cripple a whole province. Morale of officers and men is deteriorating owing to increasing work, continual disruption of organization and lack of promotions.

B-2. Despite continuous liaison with No. 2 District, no suitable accommodations have been found in Bari for Region Headquarters. The G.O.C. of the District has recommended to ACC.HQ. that the 9th Italian Army Corps be moved out of Bari to make room for the Region, but no decision has been received. The only other prospect is the possible movement of an R.A.F. Hqs in two or three months.

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The Civil Censor officers and the Army Sub-Commission personnel are not available for Regional duty so that the net reduction of officers for the month was 23 per cent and in EM/ORs 13 per cent. Transfers known to be pending will reduce the officer strength to a very critical point, where illness or details to schools would practically cripple a whole province. Morale of officers and men is deteriorating owing to increasing work, continual disruption of organization and lack of promotions.

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REGION II

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

B-3. Control had been in the hands of the Badoglio Government seven weeks on March 31st. Some trends are discernible. There is a noticeable slowing down in the machinery of government in the provinces formerly under AMG. There is a tendency on the part of many officials to listen to ACC advice, acquiesce in it and then do nothing, unless something is to be given away. Some officials are playing off the variations in orders from ACC and the Badoglio government as a means of doing nothing on disagreeable matters, such as the purging of Fascists from office. The slowness with which the Italian government is issuing decrees to implement AMG acts and orders in the area turned over to its control is a serious handicap. When instructions are issued, in several cases they appear to reestablish Fascist organizations which had been abolished by AMG and were in process of liquidation.

The Italian order to reestablish the G.I.L. under the name G.I. included instructions to put the former employees of this strongly Fascist organization back on the payroll although they had been definitely dismissed by AMG is the net result of AMG work to destroy the source of Fascism to be knocking one letter off the common nickname?

Similarly the reorganization of Councils of Economy means the disbandment of the Chambers of Commerce established by AMG.

The Regional Commissioner learns of these and other similar changes when the local officials ask for confirmation of them and waits vainly for answers to inquiries addressed to ACC headquarters. Pending decisions on these matters the RFO has "frozen" funds for such organizations.

The attitude of a large part of the population in Calabria and Lucania is one of passive resistance to the Badoglio government. They do not regard it as their government, but as something kept alive only by Allied authority. They respect the Allies so much that they will not act overtly, but neither will they help to maintain it. There is resentment at the revival of Fascist organizations and the reappointment, or transfer, of Fascist officials.

B-4. The purging of Fascists has practically ceased in Calabria and Lucania. In Apulia it never has really started, although the Italian government has been in control there more than six months. In Bari Province out of 451 Fascist officials and squadristi, 13 only have been dismissed, and 425 are still awaiting examination. All of the cases thus far judged were former employees of the Apulian Aqueduct Company and the Bank of Naples. The Prefect of that province is notoriously Fascist and his removal has been requested by the Provincial Commissioner and the CO of the Sub-Area.

A series of 12 demonstrations occurred in northern Bari, eleven of them between March 17 and 28. Investigation showed that while food was the proximate cause, they were really protests against the continuance of incompetent and grafting officials in communal offices.

There was little or no violence involved. The appearance of an ACC or

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There was little or no violence involved. The appearance of an ACC or other Allied officer was greeted with cheers and their advice to disband followed. At Bitonto, the demonstrators raided the homes of the Major and four other persons, removed considerable quantities of food, refused to give them up to the Carabinieri, and insisted upon turning them over to the troop commander in the town as evidence that their food was being stolen.

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REGION II

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS (CONT'D)

In Brindisi not one Fascist official has been removed on account of his politicial record.

In Lecce not one official out of 175 has been removed under the instructions of the original decree of December 28, 1943. A telegram received by the Prefect on April 4 from the Minister of the Interior stated that a new decree would be issued ordering the removal of specified Fascists during the SIX MONTHS following the date of issue.

In Taranto 50 officials have been removed. Three times as many remain to be judged.

B-5. Three subversive Fascist groups, one known to have arms, are under observation by CA-Os, FSS, and Italian Counter Espionage in close liaison.

B-6. An illustration of the "slow down" in administration is the contrast between results in forcing the amassing of grain in Matera province under AMG and Italian control. Half a dozen AMG officers between January 10 and February 11 prosecuted 359 cases which when concluded had resulted in amassing 6,753 quintali. As of February 11, the remaining 1100 cases, involving 25,000 quintali were turned over to the Italian officials who in the next seven weeks succeeded in amassing 48 (forty-eight) quintali. It should also be noted that Matera is one of the best, if not the best, administered province in the Region.

B-7. There have been a few political meetings in March. All were conducted without noteworthy incident. In Taranto on March 12, two Polish soldiers attempted to seize a Communist flag at an open air meeting. They sustained slight injuries. Six Communists were arrested.

B-8. The consensus of opinion is that political activity was relatively slight. The communists are still the most aggressive. One of that group, Gugliotti, helped organize a demonstration at Minervini, Bari, in which some people had "red devil" hand grenades. None were thrown. Gugliotti is being sought by the police.

B-9. The regret expressed by many civilians at the time of the transfer of authority from AMG to the Italian Government has now become a monotonous wish from all sections of society. It is particularly strong when the refugee problem is discussed. The influx of these people is likely, later on, to become an impossible burden on the shoulders of those responsible for law and order.

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REGION II

PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT.

B-10. The general good record for Public Safety and Law Enforcement in the Region continued during the month of March. One Carabinieri was shot dead on March 3rd when he challenged a group of three men at Irsina. The men are known, but they fled to the hills and have not yet been apprehended. In Catanzaro Province two Carabinieri were killed on March 24th, when they challenged three suspected criminals. Arrests in this crime were made early in April. There were also three infanticides, a few stabbings and larcenies of some importance. The total number of these crimes is still far below normal. The Black Market continues to operate, but road blocks and cooperation between Carabinieri and Military Police is catching much contraband.

B-11. No disturbance worthy of being called a riot was reported in the Region during March. Approximately 30 demonstrations, including the 12 in Bari, occurred in various parts of the Region. The most common ground was desire for more food.

B-12. On March 27th the Regional Police Officer and the Provincial Police Officer, Matera, acting upon information furnished by the Town Major and the Regional Intelligence Officer, arrested Andre Litchfield Hayward, age 23 years, a deserter from the British Merchant Navy, who was posing as a lieutenant of the British Royal Navy and claimed to be operating under secret instructions from London, which permitted him to refuse to identify himself. After his confession, he was formally arrested, placed under armed guard by the Town Major, and turned over to the FSS and Naval Intelligence at Taranto.

B-13. In view of the fact that the number of Police Officers on duty in the Region permits the assigning of only one to each province and one at Region HQ, the good record for law and order is an excellent index of their efficiency and diligence.

B-14. Inspection of the Apulian prisons by the Regional Prison Officer during the month revealed wretched conditions and extreme overcrowding. Part of the prison at Brindisi has been requisitioned by the military authorities. The capacity of this prison is 80 men and 20 women, but on March 20th it contained 127 men and 25 women. The Judicial Prison at Lecce, with a capacity of 350, was housing 778, including 364 Italian Military prisoners. In Taranto, three quarters of the prison has been requisitioned by the British Military, with the result that 199 people are crowded into space designed for 130. In Bari, with a capacity of 705, there are 1434 inmates. Of this number, 757 are held on charges by the Italian Military authorities. In the opinion of the Prison Officer, based on his various visits to Apulia, cooperation on the part of the Italian civilian authorities with respect to ameliorating those conditions is non-existent, and in fact, advice is resented, as evidenced by their subsequent complaints to the Italian Government.

B-15. On March 3rd, a freight train stalled because of slippery rails in a tunnel in the commune of Balvano, Potenza Province. The two engines, apparently due to a peculiar combination of atmospheric conditions, generated a large amount of carbon monoxide gas which asphyxiated most of the train crew and a large number of unauthorized civilians who were stealing a ride. Almost without exception these people were travelling to and from the Naples area for the purpose of Black Market dealings in Potenza and Matera provinces. 436 were killed and approximately 50 hospitalized. The provincial staff took immediate action upon receipt of the news to

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REGION II

LEGAL

B-16. The Legal Division concentrated chiefly on the problem of energizing the Italian courts in Apulia, and establishing better understanding between the Allied Forces and the Italian Judicial and Police organizations. Three Legal Officers were on duty in Apulia at the end of the month. Two are at Headquarters, one is acting as Liaison Officer to the Court of Appeals at Potenza and supervising the Province of Matera also, and one is acting as Liaison Officer to the Court of Appeals in Catanzaro, and supervising the provinces of Catanzaro, Cosenza and Reggio. All trials by AMG courts of cases pending on February 11th have been completed.

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REGION II

FINANCE

B-17. The Finance Division has operated during the month in accordance with the terms of Executive Memorandum No. 9, ACC Headquarters. The general position for the future as regards the duties of this division is still far from clear. The crux of the situation lies in the answer to the question of whether control over the Italian finances is to be maintained on the Regional level or on the Sub-Commission-Ministry of Finance level. If it is to be the former, Provincial Finance Officers should be continued in each of the five provinces of Lucania and Calabria, and Provincial Finance Officers provided for the four provinces of Apulia, in which none has ever been stationed, and virtually no finance control exists on the Regional level.

B-18. Regional Order No. 5 abolished a number of Fascist bodies and placed them in liquidation. The transfer of authority to the Italian Government necessitated the suspension of the liquidation. This in turn has led to a certain amount of discontent among the employees, because of their alleged claims on the dissolved organizations. The bodies in question appear to be insolvent in every case, largely due to the indemnities to be paid under Italian law to the staff upon dismissal.

B-19. Although the statistical information available has not yet been sufficiently analysed, the general trend of currency appears still to be away from the central bank, except where the spending of large numbers of Allied Troops tends to hide the inflationary effect of State, Provincial and municipial spending.

B-20. A representative of the Finance Sub-Commission is now in the Region working upon the difficult task of putting Civilian Supply finance accounts in good order. The absence of satisfactory accounting for supplies is the result of the lack of accounting knowledge on the part of the Economics and Supply Officers in the field, frequent changes of personnel in those posts, and the overload of work placed upon them. The presence at Regional Headquarters of a competent Accounting Officer and in the field, of adequate and efficient clerical assistance is essential if the system now being set up is to run smoothly in the future.

B-21. The Revenue Officer reports that the public finances suffer from the incompetence of many of the revenue officials, from the Intendenti downwards, and the lack of any sense of urgency in applying themselves to catching up on the arrears. There is a serious lag in the confirmation of "war profits" assessments. Permanent improvement can only be expected by very definite pressure and action on the part of the Italian Treasury, which might well start by eliminating some of the most inefficient on the higher levels. Many of the Italian state, provincial and communal employees are found to be working only five hours a day. We know of no good reason why the working hours should not be increased to seven and preferably eight, since in most cases it is not longer necessary for employees to travel long distances to temporary homes, and heating and artificial lighting are no longer necessary in their offices.

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REGION II

PROPERTY CONTROL

B-22. The Regional Property Controller has made considerable progress in canvassing the situation in all nine provinces by correspondence since the shortage of transportation at Region Headquarters is so acute that it is impractical to place a vehicle continuously at his disposal.

B-23. His work was interrupted during the month on two occasions; first, when for lack of any other officer at Headquarters, he was sent to Bari to help in working out the program for electric power reductions in the Region, and secondly, when he was ordered to Naples for a permanent change of station, only to learn upon arrival, that another officer was meant.

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REGION II

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

B-24. There was no unusual prevalence of infectious or contagious diseases in any part of the Region during March. One case of typhus fever was reported from Cosenza on Mar 29th, but details have not been received. Instructions were sent to the Medico Provinciale to take isolation and disinfestation precautions immediately.

B-25. Efforts have been made to increase the number of hospital beds for treatment of diseased prostitutes in areas where Allied Armies are stationed. Of the 200 beds promised in Bari, only 20 are available to date, but work on the repair of a hospital for this purpose is in progress. At Taranto, Lecce and Brindisi there are now available 20 to 25 beds each, and this number will soon be increased. Drugs are now available for adequate treatment of all cases.

B-26. All provinces received a month's CAD allowance during March, except for a few items missing from the shipments. Supplies are now being purchased from a central warehouse by each Medico Provinciale who pays for them before shipment is made.

B-27. The general sanitation of the Region is unchanged. Provincial Commissioners have been instructed to advise the local Italian officials to start some type of anti-fly campaign immediately. It was suggested that this be done on a communal level with proper supervision by the Medico Provinciale, but in view of their demonstrated incapacity for following such plans through, high hopes for success are not entertained.

B-28. The anti-Malaria program is progressing slowly in most provinces. A cooperative program has been worked out with the Allied Armies in the Region, under which Army units will try to control mosquito breeding within their areas and a strip two kilometers broad beyond their area boundaries. The local Italian anti-Malaria committees, with ACC advise, will carry on a control program in each of the communes. Again, lack of supervisory personnel does not make the prospects of effective results encouraging, since there are only three Public Health Officers left in the Region and it is understood that the solitary Sanitation Officer is to be recalled to ACC Headquarters.

B-29. The general condition of hospitals is unchanged, although there is crowding in some, due to illness among refugees. Medical supplies are now sufficient for ordinary needs, but there is a shortage of bed linen and blankets in most of the hospitals.

B-30. A considerable additional number of refugees have been received in the Region during March. The problems which their arrival and distribution created have required a very considerable part of the time of the ACC officers. Progress have been very spotty. Only by constant prodding has it been possible to make the Italian officials, from the Prefect down, realize the importance of the problem and the necessity for energetic and efficient action in distributing and caring for these unfortunate people as a matter of self-protection, even if their humanitarian instincts are atrophied. In many cases it was found that the Sindaci were quite content to lodge large numbers of refugees in vacant stables or other buildings of similar rough nature, entirely without sanitary facilities, and that the only provision made for them was a little

...ital, only 20 are available to date, but work on the repair of ...spital for this purpose is in progress. At Taranto, Lecce and Brindisi there are now available 20 to 25 beds each, and this number will soon be increased. Drugs are now available for adequate treatment of all cases.

B-26. All provinces received a month's CAD allowance during March, except for a few items missing from the shipments. Supplies are now being purchased from a central warehouse by each Medico Provinciale who pays for them before shipment is made.

B-27. The general sanitation of the Region is unchanged. Provincial Commissioners have been instructed to advise the local Italian officials to start some type of anti-fly campaign immediately. It was suggested that this be done on a communal level with proper supervision by the Medico Provinciale, but in view of their demonstrated incapacity for following such plans through, high hopes for success are not entertained.

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PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE (CONT'D)

B-31. The problem of billetting refugees in the homes of the population will probably prove much more difficult than in England. Custom and tradition are hard to change, even in such a grave emergency, and the people will NOT accept refugees into their homes without strong pressure. There are some very pertinent reasons for this. First, the homes are already crowded, sanitary conditions are deplorable, and the antipathy to strange "bedfellows" is fundamental. The Italian common people will resent being asked to share their already crowded homes, let alone their beds, with strangers who speak a different dialect, who are commonly dirty if not verminous, in many cases diseased, and of very doubtful moral character. Experience in Potenza, for example, already shows that rather than accept the billetting of strangers; a family would move in on their relatives and give up a whole house to refugees. There are few large houses in this part of Italy not already well occupied. Large refugee families also object vigorously to being divided, and where such division involves separating young girls from their parents, there is a valid reason.

B-32. The picture in respect to refugees is, however, not all dark. Good reception centers have been organized at Catanzaro, Cosenza and Matera, and a satisfactory building has been turned over by the military authorities for the establishment of such a center at Potenza.

B-33. The work done in the Matera reception center is particularly commendable. The Provincial Commissioner found that conditions there were unsatisfactory, and detailed the Provincial Police Officer, Lt. Leonard A.E. Eddings (B), on March 16th, to investigate the situation. Lt. Eddings found that at the time of the occupation there had been considerable looting, apparently with the connivance of Lt. Col. Suppa, who was in charge of the former political camp. The loot included blankets, sheets, beds, shoes, women's and children's clothing sufficient to provide for approximately 1,000 persons. With the assistance of the late Lt. John Hanshaw, Lt. Eddings made a thorough inspection of the camp and found much of this property hidden in lofts, concealed under beds and in other unlikely places. In one private office, of which the man, left in charge by the private contractor at the time of the Allied arrival, denied all knowledge, 300 new electric light bulbs and 25 bales of mattress cover cloth (sufficient for approximately 1,000 mattresses) were found. Other articles recovered were 300 wood beds, 300 wood stools, 600 trestles, 4 motorcycles, carpentry and engineering tools, and hardware supplies, such as wood screws and door hinges, which are very scarce. Dr. Ercole Suppa, Lt. Col. of the Questora, who had been appointed Director of the Colony when the Yugoslavs were interned, was found to be implicated and was relieved by order of the Prefect on March 18th. A search of various homes in the vicinity resulted in the recovery of a large number of blankets, sheets and other articles belonging to the camp. The Carabinieri detail was replaced.

B-34. At the time Lt. Hanshaw arrived at the camp, morale among the refugees was very low. He suggested that some of the refugees build a swing for the children with an odd piece of board and some old rope. It was done with a will. He also heard someone playing a musical instrument, asked if there were any others who could do so and found there were three. He then asked if they would like to have a dance. The suggestion was gladly accepted and carried out. Now there are public

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PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE (Cont'd)

Now each inmate keeps a broom at the head of his bed and uses it effectively, it being understood that people whose rooms are dirty will not be fed. Cooking utensils are bing made by some of the refugees, a playground for children is under construction, a hectare of land has been set aside for the planting of vegetables, which will be cultivated by the refugees, and efforts are being made to have another hectare sown. Efforts are under way, with the cooperation of the Archbishop of Matera, to have a priest stationed at the camp, and the Provveditore agli Studii is considering the possibility of opening a school at the village or main camp.

B-35. On the whole, in the course of two weeks, Lt. Eddings, and Lt. Hanshaw transformed this camp from a mismanaged, disreputable sort of refuge into a clean, well run camp with a rapidly growing sense of initiative and cooperation on the part of the inmates. In all of this work, the Prefect of Matera, Dr. Guido Tamburro, cooperated readily and effectively.

B-36. His efforts were ably assisted by Count Giuseppe Gattini, a citizen of Matera, whom Dr. Tamburro appointed head of the Provincial Red Cross committee. Count Gattini has set up a model system of distributing Red Cross clothing, under which it is possible to tell exactly what articles any person in the province has received, and when, and what is more important, he is making the system work. Count Gattini is also interesting himself in the general handling of refugees throughout the province with good results. It is planned to bring representatives of all the other provinces to Matera so that they can be shown his system and attempt to apply it throughout the Region.

B-37. It is hoped that during the respite in the shipment of refugees into the Region during the months of April and possibly May, the system of receipt and distribution of refugees can be much better arranged and close attention will be devoted to this matter.

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REGION II

ECONOMICS, RESOURCES & SUPPLY

B-38. There is now a standard 200 gram bread ration throughout the Region. In many areas, however, a ration of 150 gms bread and 40 gms flour is substituted, and as the average Southern Italian prefers machine-made pasta to home made, this is being done under communal arrangements. Supplies in hand and to come are sufficient to guarantee against the difficult situations which frequently arose in this Region in the first four months.

Both in quantity and - to a far more marked extent - in quality, the ration is superior to anything the population had from the Italian Government at any time since they entered the war. However the Southern Italian is remarkably deficient in gratitude, and his whole attitude at the moment seems to be "Well, we've got so far. Now let's see how much more we can get!" The result is that continual applications are being received for all sorts of supplementary rations for all sorts of "heavy" workers - and their families! - and even for additional rations for the Easter holidays. Population returns furnished by Italian officials show a constant rise, but there is no means of checking them. It is almost certain, though proof is impossible, that many people are in possession of more than one ration card, and that producers who have already retained their allowance for the whole year have been given cards. Lack of personnel makes it utterly impossible for us to control these practices, and, so long as we continue to import the foodstuffs, it is in the Italian interest for these practices to continue, so nothing is done.

The ration during the past month has been supplemented by an issue of 100 gms dried peas or beans and 250 gms dehydrated soup. The beans and peas are popular, and are readily taken up at the price of 30 lire. On the other hand the soup, which really is better value at 50 lire, is not at all popular, in spite of propaganda for its use. It is however a very valuable standby for feeding refugees and for institutions. For centuries the Southern Italian has lived on farinaceous foods and olive oil, and caloric values mean nothing to him. Provided he can get sufficient bread, pasta, peas and beans, plus olive oil, he is content; but give him an equal, or even a superior caloric value in other foods, and he considers he is starving, and nothing will convince him to the contrary.

Supplementary rations (given where possible in the form of a midday meal) have been given to railway and dock workers, carabinieri, prisoners, and forestry workers, but it is felt that this is such an important question that a directive from the highest level should co-ordinate it throughout occupied Italy.

B-39. Distribution of sugar has been made throughout the Region on the basis of 200 gms per head per month. A later directive from HQ. ACC. referred to a ration of 8.3 gms per day, and when this is confirmed, a further ration of the 50 gms withheld in March and April will be distributed. The sugar was very popular as none had been available for many months. Extra sugar is also available against medical certificates.

B-40. Evaporated, condensed, and

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B-40. Evaporated, condensed, and powdered milk is sufficient for medical needs, but no general issue is being made, or will be. Fair supplies of fresh milk are available.

B-41. Fairly large supplies of soap have now been received in all provinces. No general distribution has been made as there has been no instruction as to what the ration is to be. This has been asked for. In the meantime, the only issues made have been for refugee cleansing.

REGION II

B-42. Since Italy took over the government of this Region, price control has virtually ceased. There are, however, as always, plentiful promises that control will be exercised.

B-43. Refugees continue to come into the Region in continually increasing numbers. Their feeding is looked after within the limits of the ration scale by the Provincial Supply Officers, but beyond that one meets with a most lamentable apathy on the part of Italian officials, including certain Prefects, in their reception, housing, and supplementary food problems. Extra rations are given to them when in reception camps, and after they have been distributed to communes the sindachi have been instructed to give them a meal once a day towards which the Supply Officer issues 40 gms dehydrated soup and 25 gms dried peas or beans per head. The price fixed for this meal is 3 lire per head, which allows the sindaco 25 centesimi per head towards the cost of preparation. In instances where communal kitchens are impossible, sindachi are authorised to issue the same ration of soup and peas individually against a payment of lire 2.75.

It is reported that refugees arriving in Bari on their way back are frequently found to be selling the army rations, of which they are in possession, on the Black Market. Truly an impossible people!

B-44. Economics The situation regarding personnel and staff in the Regional and Supply Division is becoming progressively more difficult. The following are the principal, but by no means the only, duties of a Provincial Supply Officer:-

i. Procurement and distribution of food for the civilian population.
ii. Rationing, including checking of population figures.
iii. Supply Accounting.
iv. Control of prices.
v. Investigation of and report weekly on current official and Black Market food prices, and quantities available.
vi. Estimates of availabilities and deficiencies, monthly in advance, of agricultural products and foodstuffs.
vii. Co-ordination of foodstuffs, livestock, and forage purchases by authorised military bodies.
viii. Prevention of ditto by unauthorised military bodies.
ix. Investigation of civilian applications to move foodstuffs out of the province, or to import.
x. Issue of permits for same.
xi. Prevention of unauthorised civilian export or import.
xii. Examination and control of civilian applications for railway haulage.
xiii. Preparation of bids for same for submission to Internal Transportation Sub-Commission.
xiv. Allocation of priorities and space when bids are accepted.
xv. Duties of Provincial Road Transport Officer

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xiv. Allocation of priorities and space when bids are accepted.
xv. Duties of Provincial Road Transport Officer.
xvi. Organisation of road transport.
xvii. Control of road haulage.
xviii. Investigation of applications for civilian permits to use motor vehicles.
xix. Investigation and compilation of P.O.L. indents for C.I.P.
xx. Allocation of P.O.L. rations for private, road haulage, and Agricultural use.
xxi. All duties of Public Works and Utilities Officer.
xxii. All duties of Industry & Commerce Officer.

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xxiii. All duties of Agriculture Officer (except in Cosenza Province).
xxiv. All duties of Ports Officer (in Reggio only).
xxv. General assistance to Civilian, AFHQ, and ACC specialist visitors on economic or industrial investigation.

To assist him carry out the above duties in addition to the innumerable odd jobs, interviews with civilians, and so on, which fall to the lot of every Supply Officer, in NO (repeat) NO instance has he any EM/OR personnel. He usually has an interpreter and a more or less inefficient Italian speaking clerk or typist. It is almost impossible to find a competent bilingual clerk in Southern Italy, and nearly as difficult to find anything like competency in the unilingual ones who are available. Moreover, in no case has the Supply Officer any military means or transport. He is compelled to rely upon a requisitioned private car which invariably lets him down on anything but the shortest journeys on the best of roads. The Italian officials, upon whom he must perforce rely, are even more completely immobilised - they have nothing. Even when they do possess cars which, owing to lack of spare parts are usually mechanically unreliable, they have no tyres.

But the most sever handicap under which the Provincial Supply Officers work is the lack of continuity in the posts. It is only by experience gained from trial and error that a Supply Officer can pick out from the Italian officials with whom he has to deal, and upon whom he must rely, those few who really are reliable as against those who are smooth-tongued and full of promise but who in reality are nothing but theives, rogues and liars. To sort out the sheep from the goats takes time, and many unfortunate experiences are inevitable in the process. But no sooner has he found his feet than he is removed, either for the E.T.O., or some other appointment, without even being given time to hand over to his successor. The lot of the successor is unenviable, as in no instance has he had any training in supply matters, but is usually an ex - C.A.O. who has had to be put in to fill the gap; and he takes over with a complete lack of knowledge both of the work and of the Italian officials with whom he will have to deal. He must start again right from the beginning.

It is essential that a realistic view be taken of the Supply situation. It is undoubtedly one of the most important problems which a military government or control commission has to solve, and it should be treated as such. If Supply functions well and smoothly, the work of the Provincial Commissioners, Provincial Officers, Public Security Officers, and Legal Officers is immeasureably reduced. But it cannot function either well or smoothly without -

a. Sufficient personnel,
b. Sufficient transport,
c. Continuity of personnel.

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Without these it can at best be an improvisation, relying for its effectiveness upon the keenness and energy of a single inexperienced, overworked, and often almost despairing officer.

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SECTION II

AGRICULTURE

B-45. The prospects for crop production continue favorable. It is thought that if there is a reasonable amount of rain in April and May, the wheat crop will be good. With the possible exception of Potenza Province, the eruption of volcanic ash was not sufficiently heavy to damage crops, and in fact, it may serve in part to make up for the shortage of fertilizers. 1,500 tons of artificial fertilizers are being distributed by schooner and rail.

B-46. The Italian Ministry of Agriculture has ordered a reorganization of the agricultural administration on the basis of three compartments, Calabria, Lucania and Apulia (less Foggia). It is proposed to have small communal committees report to Compartimento inspectors regarding crop conditions, the harvest and needs for fertilizers, seeds, fuel and machinery. ACC Agricultural Officers have been designated for the three compartments.

B-47. The most important activity in the field of Agriculture during the month was the distribution of seed potatoes. These arrived with little or no notice, in quantities far in excess of what had been anticipated, and despite vigorous and ingenious efforts, it was not found possible to distribute all of them in time for planting. Several thousand tons have, however, been turned over to farmers under contracts, and many tons have been planted in areas where potatoes have not been planted for years, if ever before. The more tolerant in those areas regard our attempts to bring about the planting of potatoes on a large scale as merely misplaced good will, and the more suspicious, who remember bigger and better potatoes from Germany, as intended to provide future food for the Allied Forces. Already large quantities of the seed potatoes have been sold on the Black Market as food. The farmers in the areas other than the Sila plateau in Calabria realize that soil and climate militate against good crops of potatoes and they have never been grown in any considerable quantity except in the Bradano valley in Lucania, where the soil is light. Someone set forth a rumor that these "English" potatoes have already infested the land where they have been planted and this rumor has already received considerable credence.

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TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES.

B-48. In the first half of the month considerable effort was devoted to organizing the Road Haulage Transport Control for the Region in accordance with urgent directives from ACC Headquarters. We had reached a point where an Italian corporation, the SITA, was ready to sign a contract to operate the Road Haulage Transport in the entire Region. About March 12th, orders were received from Headquarters to suspend further activity on this project. At subsequent conferences in Naples, an entirely new scheme for operation of Road Haulage under the direct control of the Italian Government was approved. The Italian representative, General DiRaimondo, stated that they would be ready to take delivery of vehicles in Matera and Potenza by March 25th, but at the end of the first week in April, nothing further had been heard about these vehicles and none were in operation in the Region.

B-49. The 1001 General Transport Company has been re-equipped with good vehicles, supplied with a British cadre, and has been in training during the month of March. It is anticipated that this Company will be turned over to ACC for use in the Region about the middle of April, and it will be extremely welcome. The need for additional transport of some kind has become most acute in some provinces. In Potenza, for example, 1,500 tons of supplies are awaiting distribution at the railway stations. Several of the limited fleet of vehicles in that province are temporarily off the road, and only seven are in good working order.

B-50. Proceeding under the original instructions, the Supply Officer in Catanzaro Province has developed a civilian transport organization, operating under ACC supervision, and is carrying on the distribution of supplies in that province very successfully while awaiting the determination and execution of other plans.

B-51. Of the 52 military vehicles, including motorcycles, held on charge by this Region at the beginning of the month, ten had already or have since been evacuated. As many as a further ten at one time have been off the road for repairs during the month. The result has been, at times, an acute shortage of transportation, further increased by the shortage of 12 drivers and the sickness of 4 others. In the latter part of the month, the situation was improved somewhat by the receipt of three new vehicles from British Ordnance and four from ACC Headquarters.

B-52. The shortage of tires, tubes and all spare parts for civilian cars still persists, delaying repair of broken down vehicles in many cases. At times, when there was acute need for transportation in some of the provinces while refugees were being received and distributed, less than one half of the officers could be provided with cars in operating condition. Progress has been made in the hiring of civilian drivers for requisitioned cars and four civilian mechanics are now employed in the Regional workshop. A system of monthly in[illegible]
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B-53. There has been little or no change in the wire communications during the month. Fair telephone service exists between Matera and Potenza, and there is indifferent to bad service between Matera, Bari and Taranto. Brindisi and Lecce cannot be reached by telephone from Matera, nor can any of the three Calabrian provinces, but it is understood that all of the Provincial capitals in Calabria can now talk fairly well with Naples. For the better part of the month the Region was without a Telecommunications Officer, owing to the transfer of Capt. Collyer.

REGION II

TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES (CONT'D)

R-54. The Regional Postal Officer has visited all Provincial capitals during the month and checked the existing services. He found that in Reggio and Bari there were accumulations of pre-occupation parcels and packets and a considerable amount of correspondence addressed to British Prisoners of War, formerly interned in southern Italian camps. Arrangements were made for the distribution of this correspondence. The Postal Officer recommended the restoration of civilian telegraph service and registered letter service. The former has since been put into effect.

R-55. It was found necessary to reduce the electric power consumption in the Apulian provinces in order to cut down on the peak load. An effective publicity program and the general cooperation of both the military and civilian authorities, as well as the population, has made it possible to restore most of these cuts, and it is hoped that the restored service can be maintained until such time as further heavy demands develop.

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REGION II

LABOR

B-56. The situation with respect to Labor offices in the Region is most unsettled and unsatisfactory. The Prefect of Bari courteously but firmly pointed out that he had received no instructions from his government concerning the establishment of a labor office along the lines of those set up in the provinces of the Region formerly under AMG, and that in the absence of such instructions, he could not cooperate with the Regional Labor Officer in doing so. As a result, there is no effective machinery in operation at present in Apulia for dealing with Labor matters. We have also been informed that the Italian Government is not sympathetic to the continuance of the labor offices set up by AMG in the five provinces of Lucania and Calabria, and would prefer to reestablish something modelled after the old Fascist labor courts.

B-57. During the month, several potentially serious labor difficulties have arisen. Notice was received from the G.O.C., No. 2 District, that a strike was threatened by the employees of the Hydro-electric Plant in the Sila mountains of Calabria. The Regional Labor Officer was promptly ordered to proceed to that plant and deliver the following message to the plant management and employees:-

"There is a war going on. A continuous supply of pwer is necessary to the Allied Armies in fighting that war. Interruption of the power supply constitutes sabotage. The penalty for sabotage includes death. There will be no strike. Continue at work and make known your grievances to Captain Fraser. If they are justified grievances, we will do our utmost to see that they are remedied."

The Labor Officer arrived at the plant, which is located in an almost inaccessible place in the mountains to find that the employees were armed and on the verge of "shooting it out" with the representatives of the management. The basis of their grievances was that the Company was attempting to apply the increase in wages ordered by AMG as of December 1st to the wages fixed by a contract made in 1929, instead of to the wages actually being paid as of September 1, 1942. The employees were also unaware that there was any machinery available to mediate their dispute with the Company, which had shown itself reluctant to discuss the matter with them, and when a conference was finally held, refused to yield to the workers. The workers readily agreed to submit their grievances to the provincial labor office. Before he left, the Labor Officer had established a much more friendly feeling between the management representatives and the employees, both of whom promised that there would be no strike. Such a strike would have cut off the power supply to parts of Calabria and Lucania, and to all of Apulia and very severely handicapped all military work in that area.

B-58. At the Anic Oil Refinery in Bari, syndicate reports of the civilian employees insisted on a wage increase and a noonday meal. The Regional Labor Officer attended several conferences and endeavored to be constructively helpful, but the parties involved understood that he was acting only in an advisory capacity and had no authority in Bari Province. The result was the Company agreed to evade the official wage scale by giving a bonus to the employees for meritorious service, a bonus which would put unskilled workmen on the basis of 65 lire a day. The Company also agreed

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REGION II

LABOR (CONT'D)

B-58. Late in the month information was received that railway employees in Calabria were threatening to strike in order to obtain an increase in wages commensurate with the increased cost of living, and were reported to have reached a disagreement with their employers and the Italian authorities. No further details are available.

B-59. There is also unrest in Taranto among the dockyard, arsenal, powderworks and shipyard employees. This unrest was caused by demands for more food. There are some indications that the original demands were Communist inspired and at least a suspicion that they were encouraged by Italian Naval Officers of high rank. Some small increases in rations, which had already been authorized, were put into effect, but both the workmen and the Italian Naval officials and the Prefect were frankly informed that the present ration was being maintained by great sacrifice and effort on the part of the Allied Nations; that if at any future time further increases became possible, they would be made without our being asked, but for the present nothing further could be done. It was also pointed out that the rations presently being furnished by the Allied Nations were larger in quantity and far better in quality than those which had been provided by the Italian Government prior to the occupation.

B-60. It is reported that this unrest in Taranto will continue because there are some inequalities between the groups of workers previously mentioned, largely the result of the "militarization" of part of them for rations only and the provision of supplementary rations by the Allied Military authorities for some, but not for all.

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REGION II

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS, AND ARCHIVES.

B-62. In accordance with the request made in the monthly report for February, the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Officer in this Region was relieved during March, and the control of these subjects is now entirely in Italian hands.

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REGION II

EDUCATION

B-63. The addition of the four Apulian Provinces, which had never been under AMG, created obvious difficulties in the field of Education. All four new Provinces have been visited at least once during the last month, and individual reports have been forwarded on each. Consideration here will therefore be limited to a general view, or to outstanding points. The accession of a whole Compartimento which has never been under AMG creates its own obvious difficulties.

B-64. Very little effort appears to have been made by the Italian Government to co-ordinate policy in Puglie with AMG policy outside. "Defascistization" is just tardily beginning. Of four Provveditori, three have long Fascist records but all still remain. One - strongly recommended by the Port Security Police for removal - was actually used by the Minister of Education as his Chief of Staff during his stay in the place in question (Brindisi). No other personnel have yet been removed. Invidious comparisons are thus created between Puglie and the rest of Region 2, and many serious difficulties created. One special case must be mentioned - that of Dr. Minervini of Lecce. This person was ordered by the Ministry to be transferred to Matera. It was then found that he had been a notorious Fascist and was being transferred simply because he could not remain at Lecce. His presence at Matera, or indeed in any teaching post, is highly undesirable, and the matter has been reported to Higher Authority.

B-65. In Apulia the Scuole Medie Uniche remain as they were, though elsewhere they have become "Scuole Medie Inferiori". Orders concerning removal of Fascist Text-books have been far more generalized than AMG orders - all Elementary School books to go, others to be purged largely at the discretion of individual teachers. Our own more explicit recommendations have now been distributed, however. Arrangements for establishment of new syllabuses, and for printing and distribution of new text-books, have all originated from the Educational Sub-Commission. Most of the required Syllabuses have already been distributed to all Provinces, and the first consignments of text-books are to follow very shortly.

B-66. The position of the Schools in Puglie is poor. Lecce is the one exception: Of 51 Higher Schools, all are open and 39 are functioning full time; of 213 Elementary Schools, 181 are open and of these 149 are functioning full time. It is hoped that this position will continue. In Bari things are bad. All the Elementary Schools and several of the Higher Schools in Bari town are closed, and many Schools in the Province are also closed. The major problem seems to be Italian troops, though Allied troops and refugees also enter largely into the picture. In Brindisi things are also bad. All Elementary Schools in the whole Province are said to be occupied by either Italian or Allied troops. The Higher Schools are a little better off. In Taranto again it is the Elementary Schools which have chiefly suffered, and again mostly through occupation by Italian and Allied troops. All four Provveditori have been requested to make out exact lists of Schools requisitioned and by whom, for fowarding to A.C.C. So far no replies to this request have been received.

B-67. Other difficulties put forward-difficulties which apply also outside Puglie - are lack of food and clothing and stationery. The last item is being partly dealt with by the new supply of exercise books which is being provided. The

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EDUCATION (CONT'D)

B-68. In the five provinces of Lucania and Calabria, lists of dismissals, according to the categories of AMG/8607/A/Ed of 27 Dec., were requested by H.Q., A.C.C., and all details to hand were forwarded. In the Provinces of Matera, Potenza, Salerno and Cosenza the dismissals to date consisted of three Provveditori and between 40 and 50 other teaching personnel. In Catanzaro and Reggio no actual dismissals had been put into effect except for the Provveditori of Catanzaro, and full details of all who entered into the categories were therefore called for, together with recommendations. The same tactic was employed in regard to a large number of suspensions which were understood to be outstanding in Cosenza. Many cases were outstanding in Salerno, but owing to its transfer to Region III, no action has been taken. The Reggio Provveditore has been the most efficient in the matter, working together with the Prefect and the Head of the Teachers' Sindacato, he has now produced about 90 names, recommending about half for dismissal. The Provveditore of Cosenza has sent up something over 100 names of personnel suspended, with no recommendations. It is thought, however, that the proportion of dismissals will probably be about the same as at Reggio. This Provveditore has been the object of attacks in Cosenza, as previously notified (see my EDs/42/M/10a of 2nd March). These attacks, it now appears, are part of a general campaign by a section of the population against the Prefect, Mancini, whose nominee the Provveditore is said to be favouring. The behaviour of the Provveditore of Catanzaro has been very unsatisfactory. He has been very dilatory in forwarding names, and finally, after much pressure, has forwarded about 60 names, with recommendations for the removal or transfer of three only. In the case of all the rest he argues for their retention. Even in the case of these three he has taken no positive action, though one of them is known to have taken part in recent Fascist outbreaks at Nicastro. Of two other teachers who are said to have taken part in those outbreaks, he says he knows nothing, though Nicastro is his home-town. He has now received from the Ministry a notification regarding "Defascistizzazione", and he has taken advantage of the fact that the latter has different categories from those of the Education Sub-Commission to forward to the Ministry a reduced list of only 16 names, with recommendations for the retention of 13. The Schedas were returned to Costanzo for a rapid revision, after refusing a suggestion that it should be done by us, and the results were to be forwarded rapidly. He said he would hold a special session of the Committee on Friday 16th March and that the revised list, with unsatisfactory Schedas, would be sent to Matera with all dispatch. Further that all persons considered by the Committee to be undesirable in the light of all categories will be suspended at once. The Schedas have now been forwarded, but no revisions have been made, and all that Costanzo has done is to send further excuses for his attitude. Both the P.C. and the C.A.P.O. Catanzaro are suspicious of Costanzo. Since Costanzo has produced a host of specious arguments in favour of ignoring the Education Subcommission's dismissal-categories and retaining all the old Fascist, it is worth mentioning that I have today received a copy of a passage from a letter intercepted in the post from a Matera Schoolboy, in which he speaks contemptuously of the fact that the Professors who are now preaching democracy are the very ones who previously preached fascism. This is the basic reason why it is essential that the elements who most fully symbolised the past regime must be cleared out of the Schools. In my view it is not a matter of punishment but of purifying the school-air. The school-problem is very different in this respect from other, apparently similar, problems.

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B.69. The School building problem in Lucania and Calabria is not so difficult as in Apulia, but it is not easy. The two places worst off are Cosenza and Catanzaro, where the problems are caused chiefly by Italian troops and refugees. A full report of schools requisitioned and by whom has in both cases been forwarded to H.Q. A.C.C. The same has been done for the Provinces of Matera and Potenza, where the occupants of the Schools are chiefly Allied troops. In Reggio it appears that the Higher School situation, both in town and Province, is not too bad, while in the case of Elementary Schools a majority are open.

EDUCATION (CONT'D)

B-70. Calabria is in an unfortunate situation in regard to text-books. Distribution for Calabria was to have been made from Palermo, but owing to difficulties Palermo was only able to supply 1500 copies of each book for Calabria. This supply is so small that it was thought best to allocate it all to Reggio. Cosenza and Catanzaro are thus without text-books, and it is understood that it is temporarily impossible to cater for them from any other source.

B-71. A request for reform of Convitti Nazionali (State Boarding-Schools) was received from Salerno at the end of January. The matter was referred to Provincial Educational Committees for discussion, and replies were eventually received from all Committees except Catanzaro (it is not known why no reply was received from Catanzaro). All the replies, together with an analysis and comments, were forwarded to Naples to be referred to the Minister. The matter, if at present a secondary one, is of some importance, and the method of referring it to Committees for discussion is one which might have good results in other fields.

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REGION II

PRESS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

R-72. There is nothing worthy of note to report with respect to Press and Public Relations except that little or no Allied propaganda has been distributed in the Region, and several of the Provincial Commissioners are of the opinion that some could be used to good advantage, particularly moving picture films.

G.H. McCaffrey

G.H. McCaffrey
Lt. Col., Inf.
Regional Commissioner

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G. H. McCaffrey
Lt. Col., Inf.
Regional Commissioner

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16 MAR Recd

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

S-592

12 Mar 44

Subj. Monthly Report for Region II.

To: Executive Commissioner, R.C. and M.G. Section, Headquarters, A.C.C., Naples.

1. Herewith there are fifty (50) copies of the Monthly Report for Region II for the month of February, 1944.

2. The enclosed five copies are signed.

HEADQUARTERS
15 MAR 1944
A. C. C.

G. H. McCaffrey
G.H.McCaffrey
Lt. Col., Inf.
R.C.

GHM/pjh

Admin. Sect
Personnel
Inspr. Gen

5830

522
16 Rec'd

Appendix "B" to ACC/4043/L
dated 10th March 1944.

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REGION II LEGAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1944

1. Personnel - Consequent upon the transfer of Region II to King's Italy, and to the withdrawal of three American LOs for ETO, a readjustment of personnel has been necessary. In place of LOs for each province, Liaison Officers to the various Corti d'Appello have been appointed as under:-

(a) BARI Major A.W.L.Franklin
(b) POTENZA Capt. A.C.German
(c) CATANZARO Capt.D.S.Little
(d) REGGIO Capt. B.Dreyfus.

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(a) At Matera - Pascale G. was sentenced to death for interference with Allied mail. This sentence was quashed for lack of jurisdiction.

(b) At Catahzaro - Taverna F. formerly sentenced to 18 years imprisonment for killing an Allied soldier, was retried and sentenced to 6 months instead.

(c) At Reggio - Over 50 persons were tried for taking part in disturbances and those convicted received sentences ranging from 10 years to 3 months.

3. The taking over of Apulia on 11-2-44 will entail the closest legal supervision over this province for a considerable time. Separate reports on the situation have been submitted by the R.L.O. and Lt.Col. Willis.
To assist Major Franklin, the C.L.O. has agreed to the loan of two LOs from Region 5, Major Loepp and Lieut.Boon.

4. The Committees of Investigation, and the Committee of Security at Potenza have ceased to exist, by virtue of the transfer of King's Italy.

5. Italian Courts.

(a) The situation regarding the Court of Appeal Reggio remains as unsatisfactory as hitherto. No progress appears to have been made in the past month.

(b) Elsewhere, apart from in Apulia which is receiving special attention, the Italian Courts appear to be functioning satisfactorily.
Jurisdiction has been restored to the various Corte d'Appello

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(a) BARI Major A.W.L.Franklin
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M O N T H L Y R E P O R T

FOR

FEBRUARY - 1944

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REGION II
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

M O N T H L Y R E P O R T
FOR
FEBRUARY - 1944

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REGION II
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REGION II

ADMINISTRATION

B-1. On February 29th there were in Region II 103 assigned officers and 14 attached (including 7 Civil Censors). On the same date there were 102 EM/OR assigned and 3 attached. In addition, there were 24 officers and 9 EM/OR belonging to Region V attached to this Region for duty.

B-2. There were two important changes with respect to personnel during the month. The first was the result of the enlargement of the Region by the addition of the four Apulian Provinces of Bari, Brindisi, Lecce and Taranto simultaneously with the turnover to the Badoglio Government. The resulting increase in strength from the addition of the Liaison and Supply Officers on duty in those four provinces was almost exactly offset by the loss of a large number of officers to the ETO list. The net result is that at the end of the month Region II was covering 10 provinces instead of 6 with approximately the same number of officers. 11 officers and 1 enlisted man from Region V were ordered elsewhere during the month.

B-3. Reports so far received from the four Apulian provinces indicate clearly that the administration of public affairs in that area had suffered from the absence of specialists, such as Public Health, Police and Legal Officers, prior to the turnover. A Police Officer has been assigned to each of those provinces, but it has not been found feasible to assign other specialists, except one Legal Officer, whose preliminary investigation revealed a situation needing at least 4 officers to improve the relations between Military Police and the Italian legal authorities.

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REGION II

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

B-4. The most important political event during the month was the turning over of administrative control to the Italian Government on February 11th. Up to the end of the month it was scarcely possible to notice the difference between AMG and ACC control. There have been no disturbances of public order, no wholesale resignations as had been previously threatened, but many expressions of the hope that ACC officials would continue on duty in the Region for a long time to come.

B-5. Something of a hiatus has been created by the fact that all of the AMG proclamations ceased to have any effect when the turnover took place and no instructions had been received from the Italian Government before the end of the month as to what action the Prefect should take with respect to changes in institutions and administrative methods ordered by AMG. Prefects were advised, however, to continue such institutions and changes pending receipt of definite instructions from the Italian Government.

B-6. The only positive actions by the Italian Government were notice of a proposed decree transferring four communes from Matera to Potenza Province, and an attempt to remove Dr. Guido Tamburro from his post as Prefect of Matera Province. Since Matera is already one of the smallest provinces in Italy, and assurances had been given by the Ministry of Interior that no such transfer would be made, considerable public resentment was caused in Matera. Permission was granted by the Prefect, with the approval of the Regional Commissioner, to hold a mass meeting of protest in Matera on February 23rd. The meeting was held, was conducted in an orderly manner, and appropriate resolutions sent to the opposition party Giunta at Naples, to ACC, and "for information and information only" to the Badoglio Government. Subsequently, a delegation went from Matera to Salerno, was received by Marshal Badoglio, and was placated by promises that one of the communes, Tricarico, would remain in Matera Province, and that certain other Communes nearer to Matera would be added to that province later on. There is still considerable feeling that the times are inopportune for such petty matters to occupy the attention of a government faced with problems of great magnitude and major importance. There is also a feeling that the project was motivated by the personal grudge of the Minister of Interior, a citizen of Potenza, against the individual who, in 1927, was largely instrumental in bringing about the reestablishment of Matera as a provincial capital.

B-7. The Minister of Interior also attempted to carry out his threat to "take care of" the efficient Prefect of Matera Province, Dr. Tamburro, who had been elevated to that post by AMG from the position of Chief of Cabinet. Dr. Tamburro has shown himself an exceptionally able and efficient administrator. Signore Reale's attempt was properly blocked by ACC Headquarters.

B-8. During that part of the month in which the Italian Government was in control, the situation may be summarized as follows. The transfer of authority

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B-8. During that part of the month in which the Italian Government was in control, the situation may be summarized as follows. The transfer of authority had no important repercussions. The Italian officials continued to lean heavily upon ACC officers for support and advice. There has been a slight slowing down of activity in some administrative functions, particularly in Supply, but this has not as yet assumed serious proportions.

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REGION II

PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

B-9. The good record for Public Safety and Law Enforcement in the Region continued during the month of February. The most serious disturbance was the killing of one Finance Guard and the wounding of five others in their barracks at Salerno by American Negro troops. The investigation of this unfortunate incident is in the hands of the military authorities. In the towns of Paestum and Acropoli in Salerno Province the presence of large numbers of American troops gives cause for anxiety. Numerous complaints of robberies, hold-ups and abductions have been received. Requests for the assignment of American Military Police have been submitted to the Area Commander. On February 3rd an American soldier was killed by an Italian civilian at Paestum while the latter was defending his daughter, and after the civilian had been wounded with a knife. There were three murders in Potenza Province; two murders and two persons seriously wounded in Catanzaro, and four arrests for murder, three for attempted murder, one for infanticide, and three for unlawful wounding in Reggio. Arrests have been made in all murder cases. There were no murders in the other provinces.

B-10. 349 cases were prosecuted before AMG courts in Matera Province for failure to amass grain. 75 other cases of the same kind were dealt with by the Carabinieri and are awaiting trial in the Italian courts. This series of prosecutions is the outcome of the plan developed by the AMG officers in that province to force the amassing of withheld grain. It has put a damper upon Black-Market operations in the province. Road blocks and aggressive cooperative action by the Carabinieri and Guardia Finanza have had good results in checking the Black-Market operations in Calabria. The problems involved have been discussed in detail with the Italian police agencies and they are apparently cooperating effectively.

B-11. There have been no riots within the Region during the month. An orderly demonstration occurred in the small village of San Luca, Reggio Province on February 12th, when a crowd of approximately 300 persons gathered to protest against the return of the Podesta. The Carabinieri handled the crowd well and it dispersed after some speeches had been made, and no one was injured. The next day 15 persons who had taken part in the demonstration were arrested by the Carabinieri, houses were searched, two pistols found, and charges preferred. No further trouble is expected there. There were 5 small demonstrations in Catanzaro Province, three for an increase in the bread ration, one against the Prefect, and one against communal authorities. There were likewise three small demonstrations in Cosenza, all for an increase in the bread ration. In Taranto Province, on February 26th, a group of 50 persons demonstrated in favor of an issue of flour in preference to pasta and dried vegetables. Some slight disorder occurred, and before the crowd was broken up, 12 persons were arrested. Later the same day about 200 people gathered in front of the Municipio, apparently to demand the release of those arrested. The Carabinieri intervened and restored order. All other demonstrations were conducted in an orderly manner and no arrests were necessary. The fact that since the 14th of February there have been no demonstrations of any kind in Calabria or Lucania is an indication that the population is not greatly concerned over the transfer of authority to the Italian Government.

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B-12. The increase in bread ration to 200 grams was made effective throughout the Region during the month. The arrival of a sufficient supply of sugar to permit issuance of a ration, and the arrival of supplies of dried milk, soup, vegetables and medicines, as well as the distribution of a small quantity of clothing donated by the American Red Cross has done much to improve civilian morale.

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REGION II

PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT (CONT'D)

B-13. Progress has been made in the registering of aliens, which has now passed to the control of the Questore. Final figures are expected during the month of March.

B-14. Partial reports as to the number of civilians carrying identification cards, on the basis of a large scale check during the month, indicate that such cards are carried by approximately 92 per-cent.

B-15. One case of attempted sabotage was discovered on February 18th in Taranto by a railway inspector. He found a box containing 5 British AT mine fuses No. 3, which the Royal Engineers stated had definitely been placed under the rails, and had not fallen from a freight train. The next day, an N.C.O. of the FSS found another box of fuses and 8 felt sheets from a similar box in the same vicinity. Allied Military and Italian authorities are continuing the investigation.

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REGION II

LEGAL

B-16. The withdrawal of three Legal Officers for ETO necessitated a readjustment of the remaining personnel, and a further readjustment was necessitated by the addition of the four Apulian provinces to the Region on February 11th. In accordance with instructions from Headquarters, Liaison Officers have been appointed to the four Courts of Appeals at Bari, Potenza, Catanzaro and Reggio.

B-17. Starting on February 7th, the Chief Judicial Officer presided over a circuit in the provinces of Matera, Cosenza, Catanzaro and Reggio. On this circuit the most important cases tried were those of the leader of a gang of mail robbers in Bari, of a man charged with murdering an Allied soldier in Catanzaro, and 73 persons in Reggio for taking part in disturbances. The mail robber was sentenced to death for interference with Allied mail, and in the event that this sentence was not affirmed, to 20 years imprisonment for being in possession of Allied property. The death sentence was quashed on technical grounds, but the 20 years imprisonment was affirmed. In the Catanzaro case, the defendant was found guilty and sentenced to six months imprisonment because of mitigating circumstances. Those convicted of disturbing the peace in Reggio received sentences ranging from three months to ten years. 336 grain cases were tried in Matera Province.

B-18. The total number of cases tried during the month was 613.

B-19. A preliminary investigation of the court situation in Apulia by Major Franklin revealed that there had never been a meeting of minds between the Allied military police authorities and the Italian police and judicial officers. As a result, little or no progress was being made in the trial and punishment of civilian offenders against the Allied Forces, many of whom had committed serious crimes. Constructive steps are being taken to remedy this situation.

B-20. All cases of civilian internees were reviewed during the month and recommendations submitted to Headquarters.

B-21. The Italian courts appear to be functioning satisfactorily outside of Apulia, with the exception of the fact that the unsatisfactory situation in Reggio with respect to the activities of the Court of Appeals in Messina, in which no progress toward a satisfactory solution was made during the month.

B-22. In accordance with instructions, jurisdiction has been restored to the various Courts of Appeals in open court, with appropriate formality and speeches by the Regional Legal Officer.

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REGION II

FINANCE

B-23. During the month, Executive Memorandum No. 9 established that the responsibility for keeping the accounts on civilian supplies properly rests primarily with the Regional Commissioner, who will in turn hold the Regional Economics and Supply Officer responsible. An inadequate number of personnel have been furnished for this purpose and are hard at work. The solution of the problem is still not in sight. We have been proceeding on the assumption that these supplies should be paid for in bulk by an Italian governmental agency in the port of entry at landed cost. So far as we are informed, the Italian agency has not been officially designated; no one is prepared to say authoritatively what is the landed cost of each individual commodity; and the Italian Government has intimated since the turnover that it does not accept some of the prices which have been proposed by the Allies. Definite progress cannot be expected until these basic factors are clarified.

B-24. Shortly after the turnover, the Minister of Interior informed the Prefect and the Intendente di Finanza at Salerno that all work on the completion of state, provincial and communal budgets for the first quarter of 1944, as ordered by AMG, would stop at once, and that all necessary financing would thereafter be undertaken by the Ministry of Finance. Simultaneously, the Bank of Italy suddenly developed an unwonted reluctance to provide information. The Minister of Finance, when informed stated that he was unaware of the Minister of Interior's action, and was quite unable to implement it. Colonel Jung requested ACC to retain full budgetary control over the six provinces in Region II which had been under AMG control.

B-25. Pending completion of the budget estimate of the first quarter, the policy of authorizing provisional credits to meet salaries, pensions, relief, military subsidies and to pay for essential public works is being continued.

B-26. It is expected that the unfavorable tendency revealed by the figures for the redemption and purchase of Treasury bonds up to the end of January will show an improvement for the month of February. From December 15 to January 31 new issues of ordinary Treasury bonds totaled 43,305,409 lire. For the same period redemptions of 4 per-cent and maturities of ordinary Treasury bonds totaled 68,490,000 lire. It still seems unlikely that borrowings on ordinary Treasury bonds will play an important part in reducing the inflation of currency for some time to come.

B-27. Revenue returns for September to November 1943 show the yield from the surtax on land and buildings was fairly well maintained, even in some of the more war-damaged communes, as for example, in Salerno province. This fact supports the conclusion that there was something radically wrong in the existing system of assessment of taxes on land and buildings. The yield of consumption taxes shows a considerable falling off in most cases.

B-28. There has been a large increase in the amount of cash in the hands of private banks and public in all provinces except Matera. Incomplete returns for

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B-28. There has been a large increase in the amount of cash in the hands of private banks and public in all provinces except Matera. Incomplete returns for February indicate the saturation point has been reached, at least in Reggio and Salerno. There has been some revival in the demand for commercial credit, particularly in connection with timber operations for the Armed Forces in Calabria, and in financing the chestnut crop in Cosenza. The possibility of profitable business for banks remains extremely limited and anxiety continues to be felt as to their ability to maintain existing deposit rates.

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FINANCE (CONT'D)

B-29. Because of the ruling of the Chief Legal Officer that all Fascist assets and funds would pass to the control of the Italian Government as from the turn-over, the liquidation of the syndical organizations dissolved by Regional Order No. 5, as well as the GIL and the Dopolavoro have been suspended. The Finance Minister has hinted that the Italian Government may not proceed any further with the liquidation. If so, some very complicated problems would be presented for adjustment.

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REGION II

PROPERTY CONTROL

B-30. A new Property Control Officer reported for duty on February 14th and spent the remainder of the month acquainting himself with the situation as well as he could from the files, endeavoring to acquire basic information, and laying plans for investigating the situation in the Apulian provinces. Like most of the specialist staff officers, his work is greatly handicapped by the fact that he is all alone, and lacks transportation.

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REGION II

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

B-31. There has been no unusual prevalence of infectious or contagious dieseases in the Region during February. Three cases of Typhus occurred, but no cases were reported durin_ the last half of the month, and the danger of an outbreak, therefore, appears to be past.

B-32. Considerable time and energy was expended during the month endeavoring to improve the organization and effectiveness of venereal disease control, but sufficient time has not elapsed to evaluate the results. Steps have been taken to increase the number of bacteriological examinations of water supplies.

B-33. The Malaria control program is progressing favorably, with the formation of a central organization in each province which will be held responsible for the work to be done. Notice has been received that 15,000 gallons of oil per month has been alloted to the Region for mosquito control. While this method presents some difficulties, including the possiblility of diversion to the Black-Market as motor fuel, it will be better than the absence of control, as during 1943.

B-34. A considerable amount of medical supplies has been received at and been shipped from the Regional depot at Reggio, and an additional supply is now being distributed from a shipment received at Taranto. Instructions have been received and issued that all medical supplies would be purchased by the provinces, and distributed under the direction of the provincial Medical Officers. There are also some indications of irregularities in the distribution of these supplies, but with the availing personnel it is impossible to do more than superficial checking.

B-35. The civilian hospital at Potenza has been requisitioned by the Allied Military authorities over our protest, and the civilian hospital is now located in an inadequate building, formerly used as an orphanage. The replies so far received to a questionaire sent out to hospitals several weeks ago indicate that they are all in fair condition, adequately staffed and able to function properly.

B-36. Welfare and whereabouts inquiries have been handled in large numbers and with relatively good speed. The system employed in handlin_ them has been commended by ACC Headquarters.

B-37. Red Cross workers have been rendering very helpful service in the handling of refugees and the distribution of clothing, which has been very gratefully received by the population. The amount of 96 tons, however, is unfortunately quite inadequate to meet the real need of the present population and will probably be exhausted before the current flood of refugees ceases.

B-38. Approximately 50,000 refugees have been received and distributed in this Region, exclusive of approximately the same number of unofficial refugees. In most of the provinces their reception and distribution is being fairly well handled, but lack of blankets, soap, clothing and other supplies is a real handicap. It is

B-32. Considerable time and energy was expended during the month endeavoring to improve the organization and effectiveness of venereal disease control, but sufficient time has not elapsed to evaluate the results. Steps have been taken to increase the number of bacteriological examinations of water supplies.

B-33. The Malaria control program is progressing favorably, with the formation of a central organization in each province which will be held responsible for the work to be done. Notice has been received that 15,000 gallons of oil per month has been alloted to the Region for mosquito control. While this method presents some difficulties, including the possibility of diversion to the Black-Market as motor fuel, it will be better than the absence of control, as during 1943.

B-34. A considerable amount of medical supplies has been received at and been shipped from the Regional depot at Reggio, and an additional supply is now being distributed from a shipment received at Taranto. Instructions have been received and issued that all medical supplies would be purchased by the provinces, and distributed under the direction of the provincial Medical Officers. There are also some indications of irregularities in the distribution of these supplies, but with the availing personnel it is impossible to do more than superficial checking.

B-35. The civilian hospital at Potenza has been requisitioned by the Allied Military authorities over our protest, and the civilian hospital is now located in an inadequate building, formerly used as an orphanage. The replies so far received to a questionaire sent out to hospitals several weeks ago indicate that they are all in fair condition, adequately staffed and able to function properly.

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B-38. Approximately 50,000 refugees have been received and distributed in this Region, exclusive of approximately the same number of unofficial refugees. In most of the provinces their reception and distribution is being fairly well handled, but lack of blankets, soap, clothing and other supplies is a real handicap. It is realized that the Refugees Sub-Commission has had some very difficult problems to solve, but the fact that they have been unable to regulate shipments into this Region and keep the numbers arriving even close to those stated in their warning messages has greatly increased the difficulty of giving them even reasonably adequate treatment in the provinces. With the limited facilities available it is obviously impossible to handle twelve and thirteen hundred at a time when the original warning message indicated a maximum of 500 a day, and the notice of departure indicated 700. It is greatly to be hoped that the opening of the Refugee transit camp will permit a very great improvement in this respect.

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REGION II

ECONOMICS, RESOURCES & SUPPLY.

B-39. Early in the month it was announced that there would be a uniform ration of bread of 200 gms per head per day. The announcement, made in the press and by radio, proved something of an embarrassment to Region II, because while there were plentiful stocks of flour and grain in the ports of Reggio and Crotone, the dearth of rail transport made it impossible to get adequate supplies to the communes to permit of an increase. The number of railway wagons actually available were barely sufficient to maintain a 150 gm ration. However an interview with Brigadier General Gray, Director of Movements, and strong representations in Naples were effective in producing not merely an increase in the numbers of wagons allocated, but also of those actually received. As a result, most communes now have stocks sufficient to cover them for ten to twenty days at the increased ration. In many communes the Sindachi have thought it desirable, and have been authorised, to maintain the bread ration at 150 gms, but to allow the people to take the increase in the form of flour, i.e. 40 gms flour per day. Actually this move has proved very popular, because most Italian house-wives, in the absence of a pasta ration, are able to make their own pasta provided they have the flour. Matera Province alone in Region II still continues to be self-supporting in grain and flour. That this is so reflects greatly to the credit of the former S.C.A.O., Captain Canby, and his Supply Officer, Lieut. Cholis. Their energetic methods at a time when even Consorzio Officials stated that no more grain could be got in the Province, were successful in producing more than 5,000 quintals of wheat, and but for the transfer of the Region to the Italian Government, they would probably have raised this figure to 25,000. The question of supplementary rations is a vexed one. It has been ruled in Naples that with the increase of the basic ration to 200 gms, and the addition of soup and peas to the ration, no supplementary rations will be given, as the number of calories can be made sufficient. While this is very sound theory, it fails in practice. The southern Italian has scant regard for calories and caloric values. What he wants above all is bread and pasta. And if he does not get what he considers enough of these two items, irrespective of other food which he may have in plenty, he regards himself as starved and acts accordingly. Argument or reasoning with him is useless, and this is a fact which has to be faced. It is therefore my considered opinion that an extra ration of flour, even if it be only 4oz a day, is essential to those persons engaged in heavy work whom we consider important to our war effort; and among these must be reckoned railwaymen, dockers, forest workers, and agricultural labourers on other than grain farms.

B-40. The arrival of a considerable quantity of sugar at Reggio has at last made possible a general distribution throughout the Region, on the basis of 200 gms per head per month. This distribution has given great satisfaction, as the people were in the main without sugar even prior to our arrival.

B-41. Supplies of milk are sufficient to cope with needs on a medical basis, and there is a fair supply of fresh milk for other needs.

B-42. Supplies of soap still fall far short of the quantity needed for a general [illegible] very sparingly by Medical Officers

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B-41. Supplies of milk are sufficient to cope with needs on a medical basis, and there is a fair supply of fresh milk for other needs.

B-42. Supplies of soap still fall far short of the quantity needed for a general distribution, and receipts have still to be issued very sparingly by Medical Officers where the need is most urgent. Caustic soda to make soap from local olive oil residues is still very urgently required. In view of the influx of refugees in ever increasing numbers, the need for either soap or caustic soda to make it is becoming more and more keenly felt. Moreover the lack of caustic soda for the refining of olive oils of high acidity is becoming a problem and much oil which could be rendered edible is on hand in an unusable condition.

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ECONOMICS, RESOURCES & SUPPLY(CONT'D)

B-43. The withdrawal of the Regional Industries & Commerce officer has increased the difficulty of organising and rehabilitating local industry, nevertheless everything possible is being done towards this end. Timber production is being increased to the utmost to supply military requirements and, afterwards, essential civilian needs. Tanneries and the production of tanning agents are being speeded up. Silk production and processing is being cared for by an official of the Ministry of Supply. Production of salt from the Lungro mines is hampered by lack of blasting powder and fuse which has been asked for, but has not yet been received. The Lignite mines at Castelluccio are not working, and are unlikely to resume operation until their stocks - some 15,000 tons - have been moved to make room for fresh production. This movement must of necessity be slow until the Lauria Bridge has been repaired.

B-44. Generally speaking, the transport situation shows some improvement upon January, but there are notable exceptions. The supply of railroad cars for the movement of essential foodstuffs has improved, and civilian trucks are being used for this purpose wherever possible. At a Transportation Conference in Naples early in the month it was decided to organise Italian civilian transport concerns in each Province. This decision is now being implemented as quickly as possible. An allocation of 125 military trucks was made to the Region, but these had to be refused owing to their bad condition - thirty three of them were completely useless - and to the fact that they were entirely without spares or even tools. Arrivals of P.O.L. are still extremely erratic. Allocations are made to Provinces, but the items allocated do not in fact materialise - Cosenza has not yet received its February allotment. Spares of all sorts, but particularly tyres and tubes, present a problem which at the moment appears insoluble. Provincial ACC officers who are without exception without military transport, are using the best available civilian cars for the performance of their duties, but are gradually becoming immobilised. Italian officials who should in the new set-up be taking an ever-increasing share of responsibility, are in an even worse position and it is only the rare exception who has transport. The cars are there, but the spares and tyres are lacking. Requisitions are made regularly, but no supplies are forthcoming. Even at Regional Headquarters the motor transport is so far below the authorised WE/TO scale, and that which does exist is in such a worn-out condition, that heads of sections frequently find themselves immobilised for two or three days. This is not conducive to efficient work, as one vital duty of a Staff Officer in charge of any Headquarters section is to assist and advise officers in charge of his sub-sections in lower formations. To do this in areas where postal and tele communications are bad, reliable transport is a sine qua non.

B-45. Supply Officers in the Region are continuing their uphill struggle to keep control of the constant tendency towards further price rises. Unfortunately they receive very little real help from Italian officials, whose job it should now really be, though promises and fair words are plentiful. Possibly this is due to the natural inertia of most Italian officials, or it may be that they take a realistic view of the fact that the only "work" a very large proportion of Southern

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ECONOMICS, RESOURCES & SUPPLY (CONT'D)

In regard to prices for imported foodstuffs, figures for sale to the consumer have been issued from Naples for a number of items, but no indication has been given of intermediate prices. Supply Officers are instructed to sell shipments in bulk to the Alimentazione or to the Consorzii, but there is no guide as to what is to be allowed to these bodies to cover their expenses (transport, handling, loss, and office overheads) to enable them to get the supplies to the consumers at the prices fixed. Guidance in this respect is urgently needed, but numerous requests have failed to produce any result.

B-46. In Calabria olive oil production continues to be exceedingly unsatisfactory. The action referred to in the January Supply Report was followed up by a second meeting with the three Calabrian Prefetti on 17th February, when the Regional Supply Officer informed them that the trial of their suggestion for ammassing at the Sicilian price had proved a fiasco. He therefore withdrew the higher price as from 1st March, and instructed them to prepare at once lists of committees in the principal oil-producing communes who should assess the amount to be delivered by producers. On 1st March these committees were to start working, and to institute legal proceedings against producers to force them to hand over the quantity assessed. Had Allied Military Courts still been functioning, there is no doubt but that this method would have produced notable results, as was the case with regard to grain in Matera Province; but with the transfer to the Italian government, it is doubtful whether Italian courts will do much to help. The reception extended to the suggestion that rice producers be asked to enter into contracts for the sale of their product was most enthusiastic. The two growers interviewed expressed their readiness to contract for the sale of 85% of their production at the suggested figure of 650 lire per quintal for milled rice. They estimated their production in present circumstances as being some 2,500 quintals; if they could obtain the necessary agricultural implements, spares, and so on, they considered that this quantity could be increased five times. They were most emphatic in stressing the superiority of a system of contracts over the hated Ammass, and thought it should be extended to as many types of agricultural produce as possible - particularly the various legumes. It is suggested that this proposal be brought to the notice of the Italian Minister of Agriculture by the A.C.C. Agriculture Sub-Commission. The report of a meeting between the Minister and Sub-Commission indicates that steps are being taken to reorganise agriculture, but it is essential, now that spring is well on the way, that a decision be made at a very early date

(a) whether there are to be ammasses,
(b) whether some other form of collection is to be substituted for ammasses,
(c) what crops are to be ammasses or otherwise collected,
(d) what prices are to be paid to growers.

It is strongly urged that if the name as well as the principle of the ammass is to be retained, it is absolutely essential that intensive and skilful propaganda

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It is strongly urged that if the name as well as the principle of the ammass is to be retained, it is absolutely essential that intensive and skilful propaganda in favour thereof be directed to the farmers by every means possible, including radio, press, leaflets and posters. It cannot be too strongly emphasized how unpopular the ammass is with the farmers, nevertheless it, or something like it, is a vital necessity at the present juncture for the economic life of the country.

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ECONOMICS, RESOURCES & SUPPLY (CONT'D)

B-47. It is anticipated, and is indeed inevitable, that refugees will be sent into Region II inever increasing unmbers. However there still appears to be some confusion in regard to their reception and rationing until they can be distributed among and absorbed into the Communes. Reception and feeding is complicated by the fact that signals giving numbers to arrive at any particular locality usually bear so little relation to the numbers who actually do arrive. In a number of instances where the signal has asked for preparation to be made to receive 500, numbers up to 1300 have actually arrived. There appears to be no valid reason for such discrepancies. Refugees arriving in Region 2 are given the same ration as the civil population (so far as A.C.C. supplies are concerned); i.e. they receive 200 gms bread per day, 200 gms sugar per month, 25- gms dehydrated soup powder, and 100 gms dried peas per month. In addition they are given one extra day's ration on arrival. Soap is issued to them by the Provincial Medical Officer where necessary; and they can obtain milk and extra sugar on the same scale as ordinary civilians, against a medical certificate. There has been some difficulty in getting them out to communes owing to lack of transportation, because with the number of trucks at present available it is not always possible to distribute both foodstuffs and refugees, and foodstuffs must often be given priority. However this difficulty is gradually being overcome by various means. Should the authorities decide to give refugees an extra ration for more than one day, this can be arranged as stocks of foodstuffs in Reggio and Crotone are still sufficient, but so far no indication of policy has been received at this Headquarters, and the extra ration for one day has been given on the Regional Supply Officer's authority.

B-48. During the past month, five of the Region's Provincial Supply Officers have been withdrawn. These were the Senior Supply Officer Apulia, and the Supply Officers of Potenza, Matera, Cosenza, Reggio and Taranto. A replacement was sent for Captain Imrie, Senior Supply Officer, Apulia, only. The others have had to be replaced by C.A.O's with little or no experience of the work. A breakdown of population in the various provinces is being prepared, but returns so far to hand have had to be sent back for revision, as it was obvious that the Italian officials who prepared them had inflated the figures in order to obtain a higher allocation of foodstuffs. The Italian Government, in the present set-up, ought to take far more interest in Supply matters than it does.

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REGION II

AGRICULTURE

B-49. The weather has been uniformly cold and wet, with considerable snow in the mountainous areas. This is good for crops already planted and propitious for Spring sowing. Apart from the weather, however, the Agriculture prospects are not good. The possibility of getting badly needed fertilizers is very slim. No insecticides can be expected before May, except that small quantities of sulphur and nicotine extract may be made available locally at an earlier date. There appears to be very small likelihood of obtaining agricultural machinery spare parts, tools, and many kinds of seeds.

B-50. 250 tons of seed wheat have been allocated to Salerno, and 500 tons to Calabria from imported stocks. These are now being distributed at a price of 580 lire per quintal to the Consorzio, and 600 lire to the grower. With transportation in the state it is, this wheat may reach the hands of the growers too late for planting and be diverted to foodstuff.

B-51. Some 6,000 tons of seed potatoes have arrived at Brindisi, and 2,000 tons have been landed for Salerno. These arrivals created a very urgent problem of distribution which has been partially solved by the fortunate intervention of Admiral Cunningham, whose assistance secured previously unavailable rail transport, and the Minister of Agriculture has also agreed to telegraph provincial officials, placing on them the responsibility for effective handling and distribution to farmers. The shipment of seed potatoes in open cars during rainy weather causes considerable spoilage, and it is estimated that between damage in ships, loss due to bad sacks, pilfering, damage by rain and loss by sprouting, an average 20 per cent of the potatoes landed will be lost.

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REGION II

TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS & UTILITIES.

B-52. In accordance with the instructions given at the Regional Commissioners meeting in Naples during the first week of February, steps were taken to form the Road Haulage Transport Control organization throughout the Region. This is proving a very difficult task since it means setting up practically a complete new organization, forecasting needs with inadequate personnel, and trying to arrange contracts when such essential factors as the number of trucks to be furnished by ACC, the rates which can be charged, and the cost of spare parts are not yet known. However, considerable progress has been made.

B-53. It was announced at Naples in the Regional Commissioners conference, that 120 trucks operated by an Italian Military Transport company would be temporarily placed at the disposal of Region II for the transportation of food supplies. This company was to be part of a mobile force which could be ordered anywhere by the Chief Commissioner on short notice to meet urgent transportation needs. It was found that this company was located near Bari, and an inquiry was made as to its condition. It was found to be deplorable. According to the morning report of the Company Commander, 33 of the 125 three ton trucks were not in condition to operate. There was not a single tool kit, jack, or grease gun in the camp. There was no wrecker and no workshop whatever.. It was obvious that the company would be of no value whatever for long distance transportation of supplies, let alone of any use as a mobile unit. Subsequently, an attempt was made to use this company for dock clearance in Bari, and within three days, 60 of the trucks were off the road. These facts were promptly reported to ACC Headquarters.

B-54. Some improvement was noted in wire communications during the month. It is now possible to hold intelligible conversation with Salerno, but talking to Naples is still almost impossible. The delivery of telegrams over civilian lines remains uncertain, and at times an officer travelling overland will arrive at his destination before a telegram sent over the military lines previous to his departure.

B-55. The limited degree of postal service established in December and January has continued during February without any untoward incidents worthy of mention. The Civil Censor Officers appear to be rendering efficient service. A Postal Officer was assigned to the Region during the month and is now in the field investigating the situation. Foreign mail service was reopened on February 16th with Bari as the port of entry and departure.

B-56. Further progress was made during the month in restoring road communications and rebuilding bridges, but flash floods washed out three bridges in Potenza Province, only one of which (that on the main road from Potenza to Salerno, at Auletta) has been reopened. A slow improvement in road surfaces continues, and it is hoped that this progress will be accelerated under the coordinated

a very difficult task since it means setting up practically a complete new organization, forecasting needs with inadequate personnel, and trying to arrange contracts when such essential factors as the number of trucks to be furnished by ACC, the rates which can be charged, and the cost of spare parts are not yet known. However, considerable progress has been made.

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B-54. Some improvement was noted in wire communications during the month. It is now possible to hold intelligible conversation with Salerno, but talking to Naples is still almost impossible. The delivery of telegrams over civilian lines remains uncertain, and at times an officer travelling overland will arrive at his destination before a telegram sent over the military lines previous to his departure.

B-55. The limited degree of postal service established in December and January has continued during February without any untoward incidents worthy of mention. The Civil Censor Officers appear to be rendering efficient service. A Postal Officer was assigned to the Region during the month and is now in the field investigating the situation. Foreign mail service was reopened on February 16th with Bari as the port of entry and departure.

B-56. Further progress was made during the month in restoring road communications and rebuilding bridges, but flash floods washed out three bridges in Potenza Province, only one of which (that on the main road from Potenza to Salerno, at Auletta) has been reopened. A slow improvement in road surfaces continues, and it is hoped that this progress will be accelerated under the coordinated supervision of officers from the Public Utilities Sub-Commission, now stationed in the Region.

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SECTION III

LABOR

B-57. When the Apulian provinces became part of the Region, it was found that no provincial Labor offices had been set up in them and that there was considerable labor unrest, particularly in Taranto. The Regional Labor Officer is investigating the situation, as opportunity affords. In the other six provinces, the Labor Officers are functioning in apparently efficient manner, considering the limitations of communications and transportation. Some unions are being formed, especially in Calabria.

B-58. Since Region II is principally an agricultural region, there is hardly any unemployment, except in Salerno. Some progress was made during the month in reopening industries, including a cement factory and a textile mill in Salerno, but as a whole, industry finds it impossible to operate because of the absence of essential supplies.

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REGION II

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES.

B-59. The situation with respect to Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives in Region II is such that the services of an ACC officer are deemed unnecessary. There are relatively few important monuments in the area and the reports of the Italian expert staffs indicate that there is little to be done until normal conditions are restored.

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REGION II

EDUCATION

B-60. Considerable progress was made during the month in the field of education. The turnover to the Italian Government brought the process of eliminating undesirable personnel to a halt and the issuance of instructions by the Italian Minister of Education, differing in form from those issued by AMG has caused some confusion.

B-61. Full reports have not as yet been received as to the education situation in the four Apulian provinces, but so far as is known, the situation is worse than in the remainder of the Region, principally because so many of the school buildings have been requisitioned for the use of troops and the housing of refugees.

B-62. The Regional Education Officer has worked with great diligence but has been severely handicapped by the fact that they had Education Officers in only two provinces, and one of these was transferred elsewhere during the month.

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REGION II

PRESS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

B-63. The growing shortage of newsprint is seriously effecting the publication of newspapers. Paper stocks on the open market in Bari are exhausted, and Black-Market prices are so high as to make publication prohibitive, except for the rich Rightist Press. Authority was received, however, permitting the distribution of Bari newspapers in Foggia province, thus giving the people there the first opportunity in many months to obtain printed news. For this purpose, the Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno was permitted to increase its daily circulation from 30,000 to 40,000 copies.

B-64. It appears probable that it will be necessary to reduce the number of newspapers in Reggio from fourteen to two dailies, one representing the Right and one the Left, and one weekly for each of the other four principal political parties.

B-65. In Apulia there is some dissatisfaction with the press law published in January. Editors protest that the three month renewal clause gives the authorities a means to exert pressure upon the editors, and thus violates the principle of freedom of the press.

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6 FEB 1974

CONFIDENTIAL REPORT

FOR

JANUARY - 1974

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

REGION II

MONTHLY REPORT

FOR

JANUARY — 1944

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REGION II
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

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REGION II

ADMINISTRATION

B-1. On December 31st, 113 Officers and 100 EM/OR were assigned, and 9 Officers attached (7 as Civilian Censors). Four Officers reported for assignment and 12 were relieved during the month of January. One assigned officer was absent on temporary duty and several were absent sick. Assuming those absent sick for more than 21 days are no longer to be considered assigned, there were on Feb. 1, 97 assigned officers present for duty, 10 attached (including 7 censors) and 104 EM/OR. These figures are exclusive of personnel assigned to Region V.

B-2. On January 19th, the main body of Region V personnel arrived at Taranto--81 Officers and 114 EM/OR, - without vehicles. On orders from AFHQ, 27 Officers and 63 EM/OR were placed on temporary duty with the Sub-Commission on Displaced Persons. Most of the remaining EM/OR and some of the Officers were held at Taranto to guard the Regional equipment, and to be available to move the vehicles when their ports of arrival became known. The remaining Officers and men were distributed throughout Region II as rapidly as transport could be found. All were in their stations in less than five days. Very shortly thereafter, it was learned that Region V had been activated, and certain officers and men were recalled. At the end of the month there were 42 Officers and 11 EM/OR still on the rolls as attached to Region II. Seven of these Officers and one enlisted man were under orders to proceed to other stations, leaving 35 Officers and 10 EM/OR belonging to Region V and attached to Region II.

B-3. In accordance with instructions from HQ, a TO/E for this Region with its present boundaries was prepared on the basis of a maximum of 100 Officers. Corresponding breakdowns for EM/OR, and a T/E were also prepared and submitted.

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REGION II

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

B-4. The most interesting political event during the month was the Bari Conference. It may well be said that when this affair went off, despite all advance publicity, it made a pop rather than an explosion. The primary reason was that it had to compete with the news of the Allied beach-head at Nettuno. It is safe to say that more people tuned in to BBC for the war news than to Bari for the orations. A second important factor was that the deliberations were negative or destructive in character. Even people of such poor political aptitude as the ordinary Italians sense that however weak an existing government may be, it cannot be replaced by a vacuum.

B-5. Strong as was the hatred of the Grandc Consiglio members tried and condemned to death at Verona, the conduct of the trials appears to have disgusted most people. It is considered rather ironical that these men die for doing a sincere political act -- declaring Mussolini unfit to govern -- a declaration which faithfully reflected public opinion.

B-6. AMG is criticized, but almost invariably in good nature. It's failings are never attributed to lack of good will or intentions. They are explained by our ignorance of the complicated mentality of the southern Italian and by our readiness to believe that most people speak the truth, whereas few do.

B-7. The lack of Allied propaganda in the Region is very keenly felt by widely different individuals and groups. It is often suggested some substitute for the defunct O.W.I. might be organized or encouraged. This would at least turn the attention of the ignorant somewhat from political agitators.

B-8. The consensus of opinion is that political activity waned somewhat in the provinces. The trend of sentiment is still toward the Left, against the King and the Badoglio Government. The population as a whole feel that for the first time in at least 20 years they are receiving a "square deal", and they will be reluctant to see the end of Allied Military Government. An indication of this feeling occurred in Catanzaro when a new SCAO published a proclamation urging a political holiday and the cooperation of everybody in the rehabilitation of the province. Press comment was enthusiastic. Without waiting to be asked, the Communists obliterated the signs they had painted on walls and buildings. The Archbishop, the Commanding General of the 31st Italian Army Corps, and the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals waited upon the SCAO to thank him and offer their assistance.

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REGION II

PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

B-9. The generally good record of Public Safety and Law Enforcement in the Region was extended during the month of January. Three of the six provinces reported no major civilian crimes during the month. In the other three there were 7 homicides and three armed robberies. Arrests have been made in four of the homicide cases, and in another, one of the murderers was killed in the execution of the crime. There were, as usual, a large number of cases of petty thefts.

B-10. Black Market cases are still numerous, but apparently the rate has slackened if not slightly decreased. This improvement may be due to the effective establishment of a large number of road blocks, night patrols, and the greater efficiency of the Italian police. It is a little unfair to single out any particular officers when all are doing excellent work, but the effectiveness of A/Capt. Hobbs and 2d Lt. Muehlbauer in Reggio Province has been outstanding. By their example and knowledge of police work they have inspired all police services in the province and accomplished remarkable results.

B-11. There were only five organized demonstrations in the Region during January. None of these was really serious. One, illustrating the difficulties of supply and police problems, was caused by delay in the arrival of flour at a mountainous village in Reggio, so situated that the last four or five hours of the journey can be covered only on foot or mule-back.

B-12. Public morale is fairly good. It varies with the adequacy of the food supply. The general improvement in the arrival of food supplies during January has already been reflected in the state of public morale. The distribution of clothing with the assistance of Red Cross personnel during the last few days of the month has also helped.

B-13. The registration and licensing of motor vehicles, except in Salerno Province, where it was ordered directly by higher authority, has made no progress because of failure to receive the final approved orders from Headquarters.

B-14. Realising in November, 1943, the importance of controlling brothels and prostitutes as a direct check on venereal disease, brothels have been consistently closed to troops and street women have been arrested and examined, and if infected, hospitalised. Taking a realistic view of this problem, however, a prophylactic station was established in Matera while troops were in training in the vicinity and the importance of "before and after" treatment emphasized to the men. More than 2,000 men availed themselves of the prophylaxis in a period of approximately two months; no cases of venereal disease have resulted as yet among them.

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REGION II

LEGAL

B-15. A new Regional Legal Officer, Lt. Col. D.E.S. Cousins (B), reported for duty on January 10th. There are now nine Legal Officers on duty in the Region.

B-16. 170 cases were tried by Military Courts during the month, two death sentences were imposed for wounding Allied Soldiers. Prompt action was taken in the case of local disorders connected with the amassing of grain. The two largest groups of cases were those involving illegal passage across the Straits of Messina and failure to amass grain in Matera.

B-17. The Italian Courts as a whole are functioning satisfactorily and are progressively hearing more cases. Their work is closely supervised by the Provincial Legal Officers. The failure of the Court of Appeals at Naples to appoint a Court of Assize to function in Salerno Province is a continuing handicap. The transfer of the Court of Appeals at Reggio to Messina is a matter of importance to this Region and it is hoped that pending correspondence will result in a satisfactory adjustment of the matter.

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REGION II

FINANCE

B-18. Much of the time of the Finance Officers has been devoted to the review of the quarterly local budgets submitted in January for the first time. There has already been a definite tendency to expand these budgets on the part of the communes, and some Prefects have clearly given them only a superficial examination before approval. They have been sharply warned but as a whole they have exhibited an irritating sense of helplessness rather than the application of sound commonsense. The AMG Officers obviously have not the knowledge of local conditions, nor with their extremely limited number, can they make investigations to determine the reasonableness of budget extimates, let alone exert any control over the actual spending.

B-19. Revenue Collections continue to be sluggish owing to the physical difficulty of collection and the steady decline in the volume of taxable consumers' goods. On the other hand, increased expenditures are the inevitable result of the higher cost of living, relief measures, and essential expenditures to repair war damages. Pending approval of the January to March budgets, only the minimum expenditures and pensions, salaries, and so forth, is being permitted. The hope that budget deficits would to some extent be met by the sale of one year treasury bonds has failed except in the Province of Matera, where alone sales have exceeded repayments.

B-20. It is increasingly obvious that the stimulation of revenue is the most important, and at the same time the most difficult problem of financial administration in the Region.

B-21. Revision of the contracts of "Esattori" necessitated by the wage increases authorised in December is now being left for reconsideration in each individual case to the Intendente di Finanza after discussion with the Esattore concerned. It is practically certain that the 1944 communal tax assessments cannot be made before April 1944.

B-22. Social Insurance organisations report that stocks of insurance stamps are running dangerously low. Resort will probably have to be made to local overprinting of postage stamps. No

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REGION II

PROPERTY CONTROL

B-24. So far only a dozen properties have been found in the Region which require the services of the Property Controller. Three additional properties were reported during the month and are being investigated to determine their status.

B-25. The Villa Rondinaio has been reserved for the use of the Allied Control Council.

B-26. The Villa Ruffalo's wine cellar has been inventoried. A shortage of 1600 bottles was found and a police investigation is in progress.

B-27. Slow progress is being made in taking over the property of Fascist organizations such as G.I.L. and Dopolavoro. In Calabria, the process is complicated by the fact that the 31st Italian Army Corps was the custodian and has not as yet furnished inventories.

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REGION II

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

B-28. There has been no unusual prevalence of infectious or contagious diseases during January.

B-29. One suspected case of typhus was found and reported promptly to Headquarters. The diagnosis has not been absolutely confirmed. Rigid control measures have been set up governing the movement of civilians from areas where typhus is epidemic.

B-30. The incidence of venereal disease among the civilian population is apparently about the same as before the war. Treatment clinics are located in all important communes of the Region but the system of treatment used by Italian physicians is considered to be below the standards prevailing in many other countries.

B-31. American Red Cross personnel have been assigned to the Region. Their most important immediate duty is the free distribution of clothing sent from the United States.

B-32. The reception, distribution and placement of refugees has proceeded smoothly under the direct supervision of the Prefects of Matera and Potenza with frequent checks by AMG personnel.

B-33. The Regional Sanitation Officer spent the entire month inspecting public water supplies and organizing anti-malarial activities for the coming season. No water-borne epidemics have been found and the water supply of the Region seems to meet normal standards. The supply of the town of Matera, which had become non-potable as the result of over-drafts by troops in training, has again become potable.

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REGION II

ECONOMICS, RESOURCES AND SUPPLY

B-34. The supply of grain and flour showed a great improvement during the month. Rail shipments from Reggio, initiated in December, were completed. Three ships with cargoes of 6174 tons of flour and grain arrived at Reggio and two ships with 5407 tons at Crotone. Unloading proceeded as rapidly as possible, but the extremely limited amount of motor transport and the shortage of railway cars for trans-shipment are still serious handicaps. It has been possible to give a ration of 150 grams of bread daily in Reggio Province, but shortage of transport has made it impossible to raise the ration above 100 grams in Cosenza and Catanzaro. Due to the priority of military operations in the Naples area, a temporary, acute shortage developed in Salerno.

B-35. An interesting and very suggestive experiment has been carried on in Matera on the amassing of grain which warrants detailed description. During October the amount amassed in the province dwindled. In November and December it practically ceased. The Consorzio Agrario, Carabinieri, Sindacos and other civilian officials were bewildered by this failure and apparently lacked the initiative and desire, or the intelligence to cope with it. The conclusion was reached that if any substantial amount of grain was to be amassed, it could only be accomplished by the efforts and stimulation of AMG officials.

B-36. Lt. Alexis Cholis, therefore, went to Stigliano, a good grain producing commune, where the amount amassed was far below normal. He found it impossible to fix the responsibility on the numerous Italian Officials connected with the amassing in one way or another. The records were hopelessly confusing.

B-37. Resort was then had to the appointment of a committee composed of the Sindaco, Pretore, Maresciallo of Carabinieri, a representative of the local Consorzio Agrario, the communal Tecnico and several citizens familiar with the agricultural conditions in the commune. This committee, headed by the Sindaco, and under the direct stimulus of an AMG Officer's presence, worked vigorously. It was found that the denunciations of the individual farmers could not be used as the basis for determining what amount the farm should have amassed because they had been made by the farmers themselves, and the only check was by some low paid soldier or G.I.L. youth. The fact that some of the G.I.L. boys of 15 or 16 years were seen displaying bills of large denominations shortly after they had completed their work is a reasonable indication of what happened. The denunciations were therefore put aside and the committee ordered to determine what each farm should have amassed. This determination was reached by considering the type of land, the number of hectares planted, the amount of seed sown, seasonal conditions, previous production, and the efficiency of the producer. Allowance was made for the authorized retentions for the family

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B-35. An interesting and very suggestive experiment has been carried on in Matera on the amassing of grain which warrants detailed description. During October the amount amassed in the province dwindled. In November and December it practically ceased. The Consorzio Agrario, Carabinieri, Sindacos and other civilian officials were bewildered by this failure and apparently lacked the initiative and desire, or the intelligence to cope with it. The conclusion was reached that if any substantial amount of grain was to be amassed, it could only be accomplished by the efforts and stimulation of AMG officials.

B-36. Lt. Alexis Cholis, therefore, went to Stigliano, a good grain producing commune, where the amount amassed was far below normal. He found it impossible to fix the responsibility on the numerous Italian Officials connected with the amassing in one way or another. The records were hopelessly confusing.

B-37. Resort was then had to the appointment of a committee composed of the Sindaco, Pretore, Maresciallo of Carabinieri, a representative of the local Consorzio Agrario, the communal Tecnico and several citizens familiar with the agricultural conditions in the commune. This committee, headed by the Sindaco, and under the direct stimulus of an AMG Officer's presence, worked vigorously. It was found that the denunciations of the individual farmers could not be used as the basis for determining what amount the farm should have amassed because they had been made by the farmers themselves, and the only check was by some low paid soldier or G.I.L. youth. The fact that some of the G.I.L. boys of 15 or 16 years were seen displaying bills of large denominations shortly after they had completed their work is a reasonable indication of what happened. The denunciations were therefore put aside and the committee ordered to determine what each farm should have amassed. This determination was reached by considering the type of land, the number of hectares planted, the amount of seed sown, seasonal conditions, previous production, and the efficiency of the producer. Allowance was made for the authorized retentions for the family of the grower, his employees, and for seed. The remainder was the amount which should have been amassed. The farmers were then ordered to bring in the difference between this amount and the amounts actually amassed. It was determined that approximately another 2,000 quintali should have been delivered.

B-38. It was obvious that to bring in this amount would require the services of several officials and a well organized plan of operations. To avoid the customary procrastination, late in December an AMG order was issued fixing January 10th as the latest date when grain could be amassed. The Prefect was instructed to issue similar orders to all communes and another officer was

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ECONOMICS, RESOURCES AND SUPPLY, (Cont'd)

assigned to devote all of his time to making the committees function.

B-39. The results are extremely interesting.

From July 1st to Nov. 30, 3500 quintali had been amassed
From Nov. 1st to Dec. 31, 40 odd additional quintali
From Jan. 1st to Jan. 10, 178 Quintali were amassed.

On January 11th, an AMG Officer summoned all those who had failed to complete their amassing, according to the committee's figures, to appear before an AMG Military Court on the 14th.

In three days, 1132 quintali were brought into the Consorzio.

All 24 cases were heard by the Court, however; three were dismissed on their merits, 12 were dismissed because they had amassed the full amount of their assessments prior to the Court hearing. Fines totalling 123,400 lire and various sentences of imprisonment were imposed upon the remaining nine defendants. The fines were immediately paid. The imprisonment was suspended for two weeks to permit further amassing. At the end of that time, more than 700 additional quintali had been amassed, making the total for the month more than 2,000. Only two of the original 24 summoned had failed to meet their assessment. One was short 80 quintali and the other 25. Both have been arrested and further proceedings to collect their grain are in progress.

B-40. The work in other communes had not been completed at the end of the month. A large number of cases were awaiting trial at Gemmano, and summonses had been issued at Irsina, Pisticci and Montalbano. In Ferrandina, although summonses had not been issued, news of the work of the committee had already brought in approximately 400 quintali, and more was expected. While organizing the committee in Pisticci, Lt. Cholis found one man who had not even completed the amassing of the amount he had himself denounced. This man was immediately served with a summons to appear before an AMG Court six days later, to show cause why he had not completed that amassing prior to January 10th. When the case was called, the defendant showed that he had brought in 202 quintali in the six days, although he had brought in nothing since July 17th, when he had amassed 173 quintali. In view of the fact that he had completed the amassing, he was fined only 5,000 lire. This act indicates the general policy of the AMG Officers, that the amassing of the grain was the principle concern, and the punishment of the offenders, secondary.

I-41. During the month more than 5,000 quintali had been amassed in the Province, and the prospects were bright for a further considerable quantity. The publicity given to the work of the committees and the Court trials are believed to have had considerable effect in reducing Black-Market activities, but the rather discouraging aspects are the practical helplessness of the

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B-41. During the month more than 3,000 quintali had been amassed in the Province, and the prospects were bright for a further considerable quantity. The publicity given to the work of the committees and the Court trials are believed to have had considerable effect in reducing Black-Market activities, but the rather discouraging aspects are the practical helplessness of the Italian officials in the face of the situation which confronted them, and the fact that the command committee really functioned effectively only when an AMG Officer was with them. The success of this experiment is due to the keenness, ingenuity and zeal of the following officers in Matera Province:- Captain German, Legal Officer, 1st Lieutenants Verdirame and Poyet, and 2nd Lieutenant Cholis, acting under the supervision of Captain Canby, SCAO.

B-42. Road transport continues to be a most serious problem. ACC military transport is barely sufficient to carry supplies, the official mails, and Officers and men on long journeys. Requisitioned cars are generally very poor

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ECONOMICS, RESOURCES AND SUPPLY (CONT'D)

in quality and the tire and tube situation is bad. Frequently the work of Officers is greatly handicapped by their being immobilized from lack of transport. Italian officials are even more seriously affected and it is quite impossible for many of them to make tours of duty or even occasional visits. This situation, of course, greatly handicaps the collection of information which is continually being called for by higher echelons. A shortage of motor transport cannot be compensated for by using railways because the shortage of rolling stock is equally acute.

B-43. The Supply situation in the Region is not at all satisfactory. The cause is emphatically not lack of ability, zeal or enthusiasm on the part of the Supply Officers, but simply a lack of essentials. The missing essentials are, first, an adequate staff, second, transportation for the existing staff, and third, transportation for supplies.

B-44. The Regional Supply Office has but three Officers, one of whom is obliged to devote most of his time to the supply problems of the ACC personnel. The chief reliance for communication with the provinces is a bi-weekly courier, and lately, a fair service by telegraph. The provincial Supply Officers, particularly those in Calabria, are in worse plight. They have no clerical assistance other than Italians of doubtful value and reliability. They have little or no transport to visit the communes and the Italian officials upon whom they must rely for assistance have less. Reggio is the chief port of entry. One Officer is charged, not only with the supply of the province but with the unloading, warehousing and shipment of all the cargoes which come in. There is never sufficient railway rolling stock or motor transport available to get supplies out quickly to the communes. There is sufficient flour and grain in Reggio and Crotone to feed the three Calabrian provinces on a 150 gram ration until well into March, but 95% of the communes in Cosenza and Catanzaro have only enough for seven days at 100 grams.

B-45. In an attempt to relieve the road transport situation in Calabria the experiment is being tried of making the issue of permits for trucks under the new regulations dependent upon the person applying for the permit agreeing to place his truck at the disposal of ACC for so many days a month at a fair rate of hire. Animal transport is used wherever possible, but it is of real value only where the quantities to be moved are relatively small and the distances short.

B-46. Some small local tanneries are operating with locally produced tanning agents. Silk filatures are all being put to work to produce silk for parachutes. Arrangements have been made for the importation of silk worm eggs from Turkey and for their refrigeration until the proper season for incubation. A large cotton mill and a cement plant in Salerno resumed operations during the month.

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AGRICULTURE

B-47. The amassing of olive oil, which was ordered in all provinces during October and November, has been a complete failure. This is attributable to: a, the much higher price fixed for Sicily, and b, the activity of Black-Market operators and unauthorized purchases for Apulia, Naples and Sicily.

B-48. The price differential between Sicily and Calabria of 1,000 lire per quintal needs no elaboration.

B-49. The following is an illustration of the second factor. In Rossano, Province of Cosenza, there were, in mid-November, more than 4,500 quintali of last year's crop on store, representing over a half-million liters. Today there is not a liter left. All has been sold to Italians or to certain Allied Nationals travelling in Allied Military vehicles. Most of these visitors were in possession of "permits". The oil merchants were only too eager to sell oil bought last year for 14 lire per liter even at the Regional price of 24 lire, where they could not get more. There is little doubt that some purchases were made by Black-Market operators, acting under the authority of permits granted them by Mess and Supply Officers of Allied Military units, and using military transportation. The oil merchants can scarcely be blamed if they honor written orders from Allied Officers presented by men in Allied uniforms. The net effect has been that the growers simply refuse to amass their oil.

B-50. Grain planting figures for the next harvest indicate that in Matera and Potenza the wheat acreage has been increased about 25%, but in Cosenza there is indication of a 10% decrease, and in Catanzaro a 25% decrease is expected. Fave have been well planted in all provinces and an extra 1,000 quintali of seed has been allotted to Cosenza and 2,000 to Salerno from stocks in Matera. Stocks of seed potatoes are reported to be on their way but they had not arrived at the end of the month.

B-51. It was decided by higher authority, after a review of all the conditions, that it was not desirable to attempt to revive the sugar beet industry, either in Salerno or Reggio Provinces.

B-52. The need for fertilizer is acute. There are small stocks of superphosphate and ammonium sulphate lying at the Montecatini works at Crotone and allocated to Calabria, but it is impossible to move them because the supply of railway cars is inadequate even to move the foodstuffs.

B-53. Sulphur and Copper-sulphate are badly needed for the spraying of vines. The stocks on hand are very small. In Salerno there are 600 quintali of sulphur and 300 of copper-sulphate. The estimated needs of that province alone are 20,000 quintali of each.

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B-54. The subject of prices for this year's grain crop is still causing much comment among growers. The present price of 300 lire per quintali is clearly inadequate. All general increases in cost make a price of 600-650 lire per quintali not merely desirable, but essential, if production is to be maintained. An incomplete order from the Central Economic Commission fixing prices for the delivery of grain on a sliding scale during the month of January was received on January 26th, but was not issued, pending clarification and correction. The effect of this order in Region II would have been very bad. It would have applied to an insignificant amount in five provinces. In Matera it would have

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AGRICULATURE (CONT'D)

been a bonus to the owners of the 3,000 quintali of wheat who amassed it only when threatened with or actually subjected to legal prosecution, and would therefore in effect have been a penalty upon the more law-abiding farmers.

B-55. There is no doubt that the amassing system is most unpopular. This is partly due to its connection with Fascism and corruption and partly to the Allied radio and other propaganda urging the people not to turn in their products to the ammassi, which continued until the armistice. That propaganda was effective in, embarrassing the Fascist regime, but it is now reacting to our own disadvantage. The alternative solutions are to conduct and extensive and intensive propaganda campaign by every means at our disposal, or to find a workable system acceptable to the Italian producers.

B-56. It is proposed to test an alternative system in mid-February. Rice is produced in Calabria by three large growers only. In 1943 they did not amass their crops. It is proposed to enter into contracts with them to supply a certain quantity based on their productive capacity, at a fair price. If more is produced, that will also be bought. If this trial is well received, it may be possible to extend the application of the method to other cereals and food crops. In respect to grain, the method of computing amassing requirements in Matera which has previously been described, might well be applied on a broader scale.

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REGION II.

TRANSPORTATION COMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES

B-57. Four bids were submitted to the Internal Transportation Sub-Commission for train space to haul civilian freight and passengers in excess of the scheduled capacity for civilian trains. Several conferences were held between the Transportation (Rails) Officer and officials of the Ferrovie Calabro Lucane in connection with the damaged railway bridge at Lauria. An Application and plan for repairing this bridge was submitted to ACC HQ. The restoration of this bridge would reopen the rail route to the Castellucia group of lignite mines where some 16,000 tons of fuel are awaiting transportation. The capacity of these mines is 200,000 tons per year.

B-58. Repair of the railroad bridge at Santa Lucia in Matera Province is progressing satisfactorily and should be finished during February. The completion of this bridge will permit through operation from Bari to Montalbano.

B-59. On January 31st, Major Holladay received orders transferring him to ACC HQ. This leaves only one Rail Transport Officer in the Region and he is stationed at Reggio, the main port of entry.

B-60. On the basis of information received from Army District No. 2, preliminary study has been given to plans for reducing by approximately one-third the amount of electric power now being consumed in the Region in anticipation of necessary reductions when more Italian territory is liberated.

B-61. The Wire Communications Officer supervised the establishment of a circuit from the civilian exchange at Reggio to the military exchange at Messina. He also made suggestions at Bari, Palermo and Naples for circuit changes which have facilitated the completion of calls and improved the quality of the transmission. Arrangements were made and necessary materials and supplies obtained for repair of the break of the trunk telephone cables due to the destruction of the repeater station at Castrovillari. Good progress was made on this work, and upon its completion telephone communication will be open between Region Headquarters, Calabria and Sicily. Considerable time and effort were devoted to improving the quality of service rendered by both civilian and military switchboards with good results, due to the high degree of technical knowledge possessed by the Wire Communications Officer.

B-62. A limited degree of Postal service for civilian and prisoner of war mail in Regions I, II, VI, and Apulia has been in effect during the month. Since there is no Postal Officer in the Region, the only source of information is the Civilian Censorship Officers who uniformly report good cooperation from the civilian post-office officials. The only large scale violations of the censorship rules occurred in the first few days when 95% of the mail from an Italian Army unit had to be rejected by the censor because it revealed troop locations. This matter was called to the attention of the Military Mission to the Italian

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B-63. The interference by officials of the Badoglio Government in Region II by sending orders directly to civilian officials in the Region which was reported in December was the subject of a conference at Brindisi on January 7th. At this conference Colonel Spofford, Lt. Col. Manfort and Lt. Col. McCaffrey reached an agreement with Signore Innocenti, President of the Council of Ministers, that all communications between the Italian Government and officials in

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REGION III

TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES (CONT'D)

AMG territory should pass through Regional Headquarters. This agreement was implemented by a memorandum from Marshal Badoglio to his Ministers, dated January 20th and published January 26th. The volume of such communications has considerably decreased and it is believed that as the agreement becomes known, there will be few violations.

B-64. Much detailed information has been gathered during the month by the Road Transportation Officer on the number and types of vehicles available in the Region for the transportation of civilian supplies.

B-65. The Matera-Miglionico-Potenza route (National Route No. 7) was opened during the month. The Italian Army reports that 40 out of 50 breaks in the main convoy routes in Calabria were repaired or replaced by the end of January, and the remaining two would be finished in February. One bridge on the main road between Salerno and Potenza gave way during the month, necessitating a detour of about five miles.

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REGION II

LABOR

B-66. The task of establishing provincial Labor offices in each of the six provinces was completed early in January. These offices are now staffed and operating. In addition, the Director of Matera Province was appointed Regional Director. General Order No. 17 has been posted throughout the Region, and the organization of trade unions is beginning. Labor cases are being presented to the provincial officials. It was decided that small cases such as those involving small amounts of back pay may be tried in the civilian courts. It has been found necessary to warn the civilians that the conduct of political agitation and meetings under the guise of Labor organizations will not be permitted. It has also been found necessary to issue instructions that Labor unions restricted to members of any one party are not in accordance with AMG policy. They have been informed that membership in a labor union must be open to any qualified worker.

One or two cases have been found where quick-witted people with criminal records have been endeavoring to exploit workmen and create trouble for their own benefit. In the commune of Venosa, Potenza Province, a Camera del' Lavoro, with a membership of 700 people, organized as a cooperative for the purchase of necessaries, came under the influence of three men with bad records. On January 6th they moved their quarters to an empty medieval castle and signalized the event by a procession, orderly and undemonstrative, carrying the American, British and Red flags. On January 19th the Sindaco received a letter from the President of the Camera, demanding that the sussidi militari be paid to the people by the Camera, instead of through the normal channels. The CAPO of the province temporarily dissolved the Camera after these incidents, but in the light of General Order No. 17 he plans to visit Venosa early in February and permit the Camera to reopen with new officers, and as a Labor union only. The three officials to whom the CAPO objected were respectively an ex political internee who has spent some time in a mental asylum, a doctor who was once sentenced to four year's imprisonment on a charge of fraud, and a watchmaker who is now in jail for a breach of the peace, and whose police record includes convictions for pocket picking and three convictions for robberies in Italy and France. The last two are professed "Communists"

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SECTION II

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS AND ARCHIVES

B-67. Further progress was made during the month in obtaining information as to the condition of monuments, fine arts and archives within the Region. The Officer in charge made arrangements with his opposite number in Naples to assist in this work for Salerno Province by direct contact with the Italian official for that region whose offices are in Naples.

B-68. The most interesting development in this field during the month was the fact that American troops constructing an air-field near Paestum uncovered part of a previously unknown prehistoric necropolis. The American Officers stopped any further destructive digging, and turned over to the Italian Officials in charge some of the items which had been found. The Italian expert regards this discovery as highly important.

most interesting development in this field during the month was the fact that American troops constructing an air-field near Paestum uncovered part of a previously unknown prehistoric necropolis. The American Officers stopped any further destructive digging, and turned over to the Italian Officials in charge some of the items which had been found. The Italian expert regards this discovery as highly important.

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SECRET

B-69. Much progress was made in reopening the public schools in Region II during the month of January. The first reopenings in Matera occurred on January 3rd, in Potenza and Salerno on January 17th and in Reggio and Cosenza on January 25th. It is expected that the reopening in Catanzaro will begin on February 1st. Some schools have not been reopened because of war damage or occupation by troops and in a few cases, refugees.

B-70. It has been found upon investigation that in some cases, although the orders had been received, the schools were not opened until the communes were visited personally by a high school official or an AMG Officer. No good reason was given for not complying with the orders.

B-71. The Provveditore at Catanzaro was finally dismissed when he was found to have made a false statement on his "Scheda". Professor Costanza, a priest, who has been head of the Micastro Liceo, has been appointed acting Provveditore, and confirmation of the appointment is under discussion in the Badoglio Government, in accordance with the agreement reached at the conference with Signore Innocenti, President of the Council of Ministers, on January 7th. The matter of retaining or dismissing the Provveditori at Salerno and Reggio is still under consideration.

B-72. The review of the schedas of the School Heads, Inspectors, Direttori Didattici is well under way in all provinces. The review of assistant teachers is naturally a long task, and in most provinces is being done piece-meal. In Matera Province, where it is nearing completion, between 20 and 30 out of 400 to 500 are being dismissed.

B-73. The task of eliminating Fascism from the schools, especially without the aid of the Central direction formerly exercised from Rome, necessitates considerable change in administrative procedure. New methods have to be improvised as the problems arise. The general policy is not to interfere more than is absolutely necessary with the existing structure.

B-74. In handling these problems, the Provincial Education committees have been put to good use. Some rather involved and difficult problems such as the eventual status of the "Comitati Nazionali" have been submitted to the committees for recommendation. In this way it is hoped to develop their self-dependence and introduce an element of democratic control. It has not been deemed feasible to set up a Regional Education Committee because of the great distances and the scarcity of transportation. A much earlier attempt to set up an education committee for Calabria alone broke down completely for this reason.

B-75. Revised syllabuses for elementary schools and Scuole Medie Inferiori have been printed and issued on the basis of one per teacher. Appropriate syllabuses for three types of higher schools are being printed. Typed temporary syllabuses for other classes of schools have been supplied. The expurgation of Fascist textbooks has been undertaken according to instructions. The demand for textbooks, however, far outruns the supply.

B-76

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B-76. While much remains to be done before a satisfactory education system is in operation, it is believed that the hardest part of the spade work has been accomplished and the remainder, while slow, will not require as intensive effort, or pose as many difficult problems.

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REGION II

PRESS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

B-77. There were 12 newspapers published in the town of Reggio at the end of January under general permission given on November 18, 1943. This permission included provision for post publication censorship, which really amounted to the right to suspend any newspaper which improperly published information about military operations or was inciting disorder. On the 29th of January, the Provincial Commissioner suspended the "Calabria Libera" for inflammatory and objectionable comment concerning the Italian Army and the Badoglio Government.

B-78. In Salerno it was discovered that two newspapers, "Il Lavoro" and "Il Soviet" were being published clandestinely. They were extremely abusive and inflammatory, quite uncensored, and were ostensibly published in Bari. Publication was stopped and the responsible parties fined 10,000 and 30,000 lire respectively.

B-79. Two newspapers which were published in Salerno under the censorship of the FSS were obliged to suspend when, because of military necessity, the FSS were moved to another station. The R.C. intends to visit Naples early in February and request the Publicity Board or PWB to permit the resumption of publication under the censorship of an Italian speaking ACC Officer.

B-80. Approximately a dozen newspapers are published in Cosenza and a few more in Catanzaro. The PWB in Bari refused permission to start a newspaper in Matera because of the shortage of paper. This province, however, receives copies of the Bari newspaper daily, so that the absence of a local newspaper is not seriously felt. The same situation exists in Potenza.

B-81. It is probable that in the near future many of the publications in Calabria will be obliged to suspend operations for lack of newsprint and with transportation what it is, there is small likelihood that an additional supply can be brought in to them in the near future.

G. H. McCAFFREY,
Lt. Col. Infantry,
R.C.

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3288

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

12 Feb 44

Subj. Monthly Report for Region II.

To: Executive Commissioner, R.C. and M.G. Section,
Headquarters, A.C.C., Naples.

1. Herewith there are fifty (50) copies of the Monthly Report for Region II for the month of January, 1944.

2. The enclosed five copies are signed.

G. H. McCaffrey
G.H.McCaffrey
Lt. Col.,Inf.
R.C.

GHM/pjh

5789

5 FEB Recd

1078

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION II

HEADQUARTERS
15 JAN 1944
AMG.

11 January 44

Subject: Monthly Report of Region II for December, 1943.

To: Chief, AMG, Naples.

1. Organization of Region.

The important organizational changes during the month of December were the transfer of Salerno Province to Region II, effective December 3, and the abolition of the Compartimenti plan.

The transfer of Salerno Province from Region III to Region II was made in accordance with the orders received and the agreement reached with Major General Lord Rennell on November 21st. No difficulties worthy of mention have arisen in the administration of Salerno since it became part of Region II.

The compartimento organization was tried in this Region from the last week of October to the end of November. It was very unsatisfactory. The existence of an echelon between Region and Provinces greatly slowed the already bad communications, caused confusion in policies, made control over Italian civilian officials so remote as to lose effectiveness, and dissipated some of the still scanty personnel. There were no opposite numbers in the Italian administration, so Prefects were at a loss whether to deal with the P.C.A.C. or the Compartimento C.A.C. Authority to abolish the compartimento and return to the Region-Province plan was requested from AMG Headquarters on November 30th, and received on December 10th. The necessary shifts and reassignments were completed during the month, and the beneficial results were already apparent.

2. Personnel.

On December 1st, 68 officers and 57 EM/ORs were assigned to the Region, and 20 officers and 21 EM/OR were attached (chiefly to Salerno). On December 31st, 113 officers and 100 EM/OR were assigned and 9 officers attached (7 as Civilian Censors). Six officers and one EM reported during the month, five officers were transferred from the Region, and five were sick in hospital on December 31st.

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On December 19th a message was received from Headquarters, AMG, that the personnel of Region V plus 36 vehicles were to come to this Region for filling vacancies, instruction and relief. Progress on this movement has been delayed a few days because the word "your" was changed to "our" in transmitting the message, and this led to a misunderstanding as to where the next step should originate. The arrival of this reinforcement should do much to relieve the overload on present personnel and expedite action on many important matters.

There is still some confusion as to the exact official status of some personnel matters, especially British postings and eligibility for staff pay. The lack of an approved TO/ME for the Region is regrettable because of the uncertainty which exists as long as a definite plan of organization is lacking. The absence of a TO/ME also has had a bad effect upon morale, since it is impossible to make definite the promotions of British officers who are filling

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posts above their nominal rank, and to make recommendations for deserved promotions of EM/CR; and it is greatly to be hoped that the most unsatisfactory situation with respect to promotions of American officers will be satisfactorily adjusted soon. There can be no doubt that the delay in approving deserved promotions, for some of which several recommendations have been made, has a very bad effect not only upon morale, but also handicaps the work of able officers holding junior rank. Some of the Second Lieutenants in Region II have demonstrated their ability to do the work of Majors. That fact is known to their associates, but not to strangers, both military and civilian who, not without some justification, are inclined to assess a man's importance, to a large degree, according to what he wears on his shoulders.

3. Morale of the Population.

The consensus of opinion is that the morale of the civilian population has improved slightly during the month. The state of morale is directly and seriously affected by the conditions and prospects of the food supply, and the prospective change in political control.

Despite the fact that flour and wheat supplies were exhausted early in the month, and some localities were unable to issue any bread ration for periods of from five to fourteen days in Calabria, there were less than a dozen known disturbances, and while the food shortage may have been a factor in creating them, the proximate cause was political in all but one. I believe the Italian civilian officials are entitled to considerable credit for the general maintenance of good order under such difficult conditions.

The Colonel of the Catanzaro Legion of Carabinieri is fearful that serious trouble will arise during the latter half of February and the month of March unless the food situation can be improved. This period of six weeks is always the leanest part of the peasants' year.

The Communists continue to be the most active and aggressive of the so-called parties. They are actively organizing, especially in the Calabrian provinces, and some of their newspapers are rather extreme in tone. However, it is anticipated that the number of these small sheets will decrease shortly because of the exhaustion of the paper supply. As a whole, the Communist leaders are cooperating with AMG on the theory that the Allied Forces are fighting their battle, and they do not wish to give the Fascist elements, especially the Italian Army, an excuse for drastic action against the Communists. If, as and when control is turned over to the Badoglio Government, serious trouble from this and other radical elements may be confidently expected. Even among more conservative circles, the day that the Badoglio Government takes over control from AMG is still regarded

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Orders ~~have been~~ issued prohibiting any public meetings, either indoors or out (except for religious purposes), but private political discussions ~~are~~ permitted freely. This ban was issued because of the tension existing between various political groups in some towns which the C.A.P.O's. and civilian officials both feared would result in serious disorder if any public political meetings were permitted.

It might be of interest to note that for some obscure reason the transfer of General Eisenhower and the assumption of control by General Alexander is not favorably regarded by many civilians. Some of them also naively assume that General Montgomery was transferred because of the failure of his troops to gain ground faster.

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There have been several movements in Cosenza, Reggio and Salerno provinces which aimed at dividing land among the peasants. Only one had any serious consequences.

In the commune of Montesarno sulla Marcellana, a man named Vincenzo Lauria had for some time been inciting the people by telling them that they had been freed from Fascism, and there was, therefore, no further need for law, taxes or food rationing. He had planned a demonstration in the public square for the morning of December 19th, with a view to breaking into the Municipio and tax offices, destroying documents, ration cards and tax registers, and breaking into the Carabinieri barracks to seize the firearms surrendered under our proclamations. The Carabinieri were aware of this agitation. On the night of the 18th, they surrounded Lauria's farmhouse outside of the town, where a meeting was being held to make final plans for the demonstration. Lauria's son threw two hand grenades, which wounded two Carabinieri slightly. The Carabinieri withdrew a little, and later closed in when they saw people leaving the house. Lauria's son then raised an axe; several shots were fired by the Carabinieri, killing Lauria's son and daughter. Seven persons were arrested, and the others, including Lauria, escaped. Upon returning to the barracks with these prisoners, a mob of three or four hundred people, armed with clubs and axes, were found near the Municipio, threatening the Carabinieri and some reinforcements of soldiers. A Lt. Guzzio, of the Italian Army, attempted to quiet the mob, but was struck down from behind with an axe, and again attacked as he lay on the ground by a woman, armed with an axe. The Carabinieri immediately shot both civilians. Trouble continued for about three hours before the Carabinieri regained control. The total casualties were eight civilians killed and ten wounded, one seriously; Lt. Guzzio and one soldier were seriously wounded and three Carabinieri slightly wounded. Carabinieri reinforcements, supported by Italian Army machine gun squads, were promptly moved into the town, where the situation was quiet on the 22nd of December. While Lauria was the active organizer, there is information indicating that a lawyer, Macchiaroli Stefano of Sala Consilina, was the real brains of the movement. He and Lauria are being sought, and if apprehended, will be tried before an Allied Military Court.

4. Political Tendencies.

The outstanding political tendency is the aggressiveness and activity of the so-called Communists. The C.A.P.O's. have gathered evidence which indicates that this is directed from Naples, but that it has no connection in Sicily, or through Sicily, to North Africa. There are sub-headquarters of the party at Catanzaro, Cosenza. Numerous cells are being formed, 17 of which are known in the province of Reggio alone.

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The current popularity of "Communism" amongst certain groups of intellectuals is a rather natural reaction from the Fascist regime. The brilliant feats of arms of the Soviet troops contribute to the popularity of Communism. Without apparently knowing much about Communist doctrines or aims, there seems to be some feeling that they would like to try it because it is something novel, and probably couldn't be worse than either of the last two regimes.

Current gossip is to the effect that the struggle for political supremacy will continue peaceably, and on the whole, privately, until such time as control is given to the Italian Government and the Allies move out. If and when that occurs, it is believed that the real open struggle for power will occur, and that it will not be set-

tled without some violence.

As a whole, the political opinions and objectives seem to be very abstract and doctrinaire. No one party as yet has a clear ascendancy, and from the organizing ability found so far, none is likely to develop a really effective organization.

There is still considerable resentment against former Fascist leaders.

On the whole, the statements of Sforza and Croce, refusing to enter a government under the present king, have reacted favorably to the latter. The feeling seems to be that it is not a concern of the Allies whether the king remains or not, and that the matter is one for the Italians to decide.

5. General State of Crime.

The incidence of ordinary crime continued below normal throughout the Region. Black Market activities were rife, and apparently increasing until the last week of the month. Then the trial of a leading Black Market operator in Cosenza, on the charge of selling lire for dollars in excess of the legal rate, resulting in his conviction and sentence to a fine of 500,000 lire and three years imprisonment by a Superior Court, had a salutary effect. This case, with restrictive measures imposed by the officer in charge of the Ferramonte-Tarsia, Internment Camp, greatly reduced the Black Market traffic centering at that camp, and considerably curtailed the activities in Cosenza itself.

Shortly before the end of the month, the C.A.P.O's. in Matera Province arrested six substantial Black Market operators in grain, and report that they have a strong case which is now being prepared for trial. In Salerno Province, with the cooperation of certain Army personnel, a Black Market dealer in pasta and several confederates were caught red-handed, with approximately three tons of pasta. In Salerno Province, a sizable seizure of cigarettes was also made. At the end of the month, the C.A.P.O. of Cosenza had approximately 50 cases of Black Market dealings in tobacco in hand. It is proposed to try these before Italian Courts.

In combatting Black Market activities, AMG officers are handicapped by the fact that many purchases are being made by military units, without notification to AMG. It is customary for such units to send a truck into the Region carrying a driver and a civilian. The civilian is given a pass authorizing him to buy food supplies, and frequently assistance is requested. Cases have been reported where such foraging parties have been instructed to buy: (1) Six tons of pork, six tons of mutton, 100 turkeys, and chickens and fruit; (2) Pork, and when caught, the truck had 13 pigs and one cow aboard; (3) Two cows, and fruit; (4) Instructed to buy fruit and nuts, but when caught, also had

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Reports ~~have been~~ were received of Black Market dealers offering Allied truck drivers substantial sums for the use of the vehicle and the driver's services to transport Black Market goods. One case of this resulted in arrests, through the honesty of the truck driver. Among the agents employed by military units are one woman known as a clandestine prostitute, one scalawag who has narrowly escaped arrest on several occasions, and three others commonly known to be Black Market operators.

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Whenever detected, these cases are reported to the G.O.C., No. 2 District.

The two committees of AMG officials and leading Anti-Fascists in Potenza Province worked diligently during the month. The first committee has reviewed at least 17 important cases involving 73 people. In the only case brought to trial, a doctor was convicted of selling medical supplies given him for free distribution among the poor. He was sentenced to one year and five months imprisonment, but both the Procuratore del Re and the Legal Officer considered this too light, and the former appealed the case to the Court of Appeals, where it should be heard during January.

The other committee investigated the cases of 221 leading Fascists, including both office-holders and non office-holders. It recommended the deportation of six, and the imposition of "confino" (compulsory change of residence and close supervision by the Carabinieri in the new place of residence) for 43. A number of others were given a sharp warning.

It is worthy of mention that the Badoglio Government heard of the action proposed to be taken with respect to the 49, and presumed so far as to send an order directly to the Questore, directing him to send 47 of them to specified provinces in Apuglia. This was done without any notification to, or consultation with AMG. The order was, of course, ignored, and a vigorous letter of protest sent to the Allied Military Mission at Brindisi on December 28th.

During the month, Lt. Gen. Mercalli, of the 31st Italian Army Corps, and Major Gen. Modero, Commander of the Italian Division with headquarters in Cosenza, were removed by order of General Alexander, after evidence of non-cooperation, interference with AMG, and anti-Allied utterances had been submitted to AMG, 15 Army Group, and G.O.C., District 2, by officers of this Region. Their successors, during the short time that they have been at their posts, have shown a much more cooperative and respectful attitude.

6. Discipline and Reliability of the Carabinieri and other Police Agents.

The improvement in the reliability and discipline of the Carabinieri has continued. The corps as a whole is showing increasing willingness to act effectively, but is somewhat too prone to use firearms in breaking up disturbances of public order.

The Questurini are likewise showing some improvement. Apart from criminal investigations, they have been directed to give considerable attention to the control of prostitutes, both clandestine and in brothels. Many infected women have been arrested and confined to hospitals for compulsory treatment, but the general situation with respect to venereal disease is still far from satisfactory. The Guardia Finanza, Foresty Police and Municipal Guards have performed

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6. Discipline and Reliability of the Carabinieri and other Police Agents.

The improvement in the reliability and discipline of the Carabinieri has continued. The corps as a whole is showing increasing willingness to act effectively, but is somewhat too prone to use firearms in breaking up disturbances of public order.

The Questurini are likewise showing some improvement. Apart from criminal investigations, they have been directed to give considerable attention to the control of prostitutes, both clandestine and in brothels. Many infected women have been arrested and confined to hospitals for compulsory treatment, but the general situation with respect to venereal disease is still far from satisfactory. The Guardia Finanza, Foresty Police and Municipal Guards have performed their duties in a manner which resulted in no complaints, but their general level of efficiency still leaves much to be desired.

7. Banks and Currency. Finance

There was a considerable drain on the funds of the Bank of Italy at Catanzaro and Reggio. This drain was partially offset by increased cash holdings and discounts of the private banks, but there is probably some justification for the two bank managers' opinion that the delay in the payment of the state debt has decreased the confidence in the banks on the part of a considerable section of the public. Deposits in private banks continue to show a limited but steady increase. Operations by the Post Office Savings Banks have been small, and practically limited to the savings bank operations

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on a purely local basis.

8. Social Insurance.

There is no significant change or comment to make in respect to Social Insurance.

9. Public Finance and Taxes.

The two most important events during December in the field of Public Finance were the partial resumption of the servicing and amortizing of the Italian State debt, and the general increase in the salaries of public officials, with corresponding negotiated increases for all private concerns, granted under Regional Order No. 6, issued December 7th, effective as of December 1st. This increase ranged from 70% down to 10.

The resumption of payments on the State debt on December 15th was received very favorably by the public, and should help to remedy the harm which has undoubtedly been caused by the long delay in dealing with this matter.

It is unhappily already apparent that the net result of the salary increase has not been to increase the purchasing capacity of salaried workers who represent some 30% of the population in the Region, but rather to provoke a sharp rise in Black Market prices, which has left the salaried workers in much the same position as before. The effect on fixed incomes [illegible] and those on public relief has been to make their position more difficult than ever. Permission to increase the relief rates generally has been refused by the Finance Sub-Commission, but it is not believed that those on relief can obtain even a minimum subsistence on the basis of the present allowance.

The net result is that the Finance Dept. is facing a spate of demands for special grants, subsidies and salary increases, as well as for "ex post facto" approval of unauthorized commitments by Italian officials, which on the grounds of immediate political expediency, it is difficult to refuse.

It is desired to put on record now that the time is rapidly approaching when such salary increases, subsidies, etc. will cease to have any practical meaning. It is useless to place any increased means of spending in the hands of the public when no parallel steps are taken to insure that goods and services are available in increased quantities. The inflationary pressure of providing more money with which to bid for an inadequate supply of goods is obvious, and the inflationary danger is further stimulated by the increase in the already heavy budgetary deficits met by arbitrary issues of fiat money.

The amount of Italian 4% Treasury Bonds, 1934-1943 issued, in Region II was small, and the repayments to date have involved an even smaller cash turnover than was anticipated. The resumption of full dealings in 1-Year Treasury Bonds on December 15th (in Salerno for technical reasons on December 22) has resulted in new subscript-

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Revenue collections remain at about 70 to 80%. It is now known that the preparation of the 1944 tax assessments has fallen badly into arrears, and in some cases collections will not be possible before April. Tax collectors, who are mostly individuals or private concerns working under contracts, have applied for adjustments of these contracts in accordance with the increase in wages. These contracts are often highly involved, and some time will probably elapse before the matter can be adjusted.

The cumbersome system of direct financing and review of mon-

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thly budgets by the Finance Officer, which came into effect December first, is already showing itself to be impracticable so far as the communes are concerned. It is doubtful whether the finance officer can gain the detailed local knowledge upon the basis of which it has been assumed by the Finance Sub-Commission that our Finance officers are better able to review communal budgets than the Prefects.

A difficult problem has arisen in Reggio and Salerno because the order of the Italian Minister of Interior, dated Sept. 4th, permitting Prefects to pay all State employees a bonus equivalent to three months salary plus increments was only partially applied in those provinces. Strong demands are now coming from those provinces for equal treatment with the other four. The Finance Sub-Commission refuses to make this matter one of urgency, and the SCAO's are bearing the onus of invidious comparisons.

The Prefect of Cosenza has caused some difficulty by abolishing the tax on the slaughter of pigs within his province. Before this act was discovered and the tax reinstated, considerable difficulty had been caused along the Catanzaro border by demonstrations demanding its abolition in that province also.

A serious situation involving the disbursement of 25 million lire has also arisen in the same province. When the resumption of payment of Military Separation Allowances was authorized late in October, the then Prefect of Cosenza was ordered to make the resumption, effective November 1st. On November 5th a new Prefect was appointed. He asked the SCAO for permission to make the payment from September 1st and claims that he was verbally authorized to do so by the SCAO, Major Watts. In this statement he is supported by a civilian interpreter, but Major Watts denies that he ever gave any such permission. The Prefect, at any rate, apparently acting in good faith, made the payments, and as a result, many persons who were entitled to the allowances received them and also received public relief for the same period. It has not been deemed politic to undertake any action towards the recovery of these amounts, and such recovery would be most difficult in any case.

10. Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones.

Captain Garlock, during November, made a personal reconnaissance of the wire communications within the Region. He reported that if he were given the use of one truck for three weeks he could restore wire communications between Reggio, Catanzaro, Crotone and Cosenza, using Italian labor and small amounts of material in the hands of the telephone and telegraph systems. He was instructed to clear the matter with District 2, and subject to that clearance, assigned a truck for three weeks. Within eleven days he had restored the telephone communications between these points. This service has already been very helpful to AMG officers. Good telephone communication has been available between Matera and Potenza during most of the month, and it

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A very limited official postal service was maintained in parts of the Region from the beginning of the month to the 21st. Civilian postal service, on a limited basis, was resumed in Salerno on December 13th, and gradually extended to include the rest of the province as well as connect with Bari. On December 21st the service was resumed in the other provinces on the same sort of limited basis, except at Catanzaro, where resumption was planned for January 1st. Censorship officers are on duty in each province, and so far no

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noteworthy troubles have arisen.

11. Wages and Prices.

On December 7th, Regional Order No. 6 was approved and published shortly thereafter. This order put into effect in Region II the same increases in wages and salaries for public employees that had previously been authorized in Region I, and gave the same authority for the adjustment of wage control between private employers and employees. The order was naturally very well received by private employees, but as has already been pointed out, the effect it had in helping them has been nullified by the rapid increase in prices. Prices have risen sharply, particularly in the provinces bordering on Apulia and Campagna. This has been caused by foraging parties entering the Region, with or without permits, to buy foodstuffs. Lack of personnel makes effective control of these actions practically impossible, especially with respect to those operating under the cloak of military authority, against whom civilian police cannot be expected to take any action. Some illustrations of the extent to which prices have risen, largely as a result of such foraging parties, may be cited: that on the coastal road south of Taranto fowl which previously sold at 25 to 35 lire now bring 150 to 200, while turkeys previously obtainable at 150 to 200 lire now sell for 800 to 1200. Eggs which were in ample supply at 3 to 4 lire early in October, are now practically unobtainable at 14 to 15 lire. Preliminary reports on a Black Market grain case indicate that several tons of wheat were sold originally for 1600 lire per quintal and resold for 2300.

12. Raw Materials and Crops.

Generally speaking, the sowing of grain for next year's crops shows an increase of about 25% in acreage in the provinces of Matera and Potenza, but a decline in Cosenza and Catanzaro, where much of the seed grain has been consumed for food, owing to the acute shortage of grain or flour. If seed normally obtained from Sicily can be obtained, it is still possible to plant some spring wheat in the provinces of Calabria. Ordinary wheat planted in the Spring gives an unremunerative yield. Olive oil produced in Calabria, though good was less than it might have been because of the shortage of workers to harvest the crop. The net surplus available for export is estimated at 10,000 tons. After allowing for the needs of Salerno, where almost three quarters of the crop (the whole of the "plains" product) was lost during the military operations. The institution of what is virtually a free market for olive oil in Calabria has been very effective. Some reports have been received of black-market sales at less than the official prices. Since the amassing of olive oil in Potenza was not working well and growers seemed to be holding back to sell on the black-market, arrangements were made for an immediate shipment to Potenza of 2,000 quintals from Cosenza, with a further 1,000 quintals each month for as long as seemed necessary. Early

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During December the main timber producing areas in Catanzaro and Cosenza were divided between P.B.S. and D.D.W. for production of considerable quantities of timber and lumber for military use. This has brought this important industry to an operating rate above normal. Production has not been satisfactory because of the inability to grant forest workers the extra rations needed for this heavy work, and also for lack of proper clothing, especially shoes. Second-hand Italian Army boots easily bring a thousand to one thousand five hundred Lire. Lumber for fruit crates has been cut, but since the rail transportation is not entirely adequate for military purposes and food transportation; it is anticipated that great difficulty will be found in moving this material to points where it is needed or can be transported to Sicily.

The Montecantini Fertilizer Works has been taken under control by the Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission, and an expert chemist visited the Plant to appraise its possibilities for production.

16,000 tons of lignite are ready for transport at the mines in Castellucio Inferiore in Potenza Province. The only means of moving this stock is by road transport over extremely bad surfaces until the rail road bridge at Lauria can be replaced. This lignite, although it has a high sulphur content, has been used successfully when mixed with charcoal to operate locomotives. It could also be used for domestic and a number of industrial purposes. Further production has been suspended pending restoration of transportation facilities.

A cotton mill in Salerno Province is now in full operation producing camouflage cloth for the Armies. Arrangements are being made to import Sicilian cotton for use in this mill which suffered only very slight damage. One silk spinning mill in Cosenza Province is working and an expert in the Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission is reported to be making preparations for opening several other such mills in Calabria, and for importing silk worms for the next crop.

13. Civilian Supplies.

At the beginning of the month all supplies of flour and grain in the three Calabrian Provinces were virtually exhausted. On December 6th an A.F.H.Q. message stated that the Steamship "Speedfast" was en route to Reggio with 1680 tons of flour, but two days later another message stated it had been diverted to Sicily "on an emergency", although it is not easy to picture an emergency which is greater than that which then existed in Calabria. The Regional Supply Officer thereupon went to Naples to obtain help from M.G.S. (ADV ECH). Through the assistance of Lt.Col. Gerry of A.M.G; 15 Army Group, 500 tons of flour were released from Region 3 stocks and 2,500 tons of grain released to Region II from Foggia. 300 tons of the flour were sent by rail to Cosenza and Crotone where it arrived shortly before Christmas. The other 200 tons were to be sent to Reggio by schooner, but only 90 arrived owing to several unfortunate developments. Region III arranged to send 25 trucks from the A.M.G.

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After Salerno Province came under Region II control on December 3rd, supplies continued to be drawn from Naples, since Region III had made the original requisitions. Actually Salerno received so little grain and flour that up to December 22nd, only 1,078 tons had been received, as against a minimum daily need of 75 tons, or a 1,650 ton Total. This necessitated reducing the bread ration to 50 grams per person in some parts of the province. Between December 23rd and 28th, 300 tons a day were delivered and 4625 tons from stocks actually in Naples were allocated for delivery to the SOAC.

Late in the month, information was received that 12,238 tons of grain and flour were due to arrive in Calabria between the 9th and 21st of January, and also that provisional authority had been given to release a further 1,000 tons of grain from Foggia. Should these shipments arrive, the immediate situation would be relieved to the extent that the 150 gram ration could be issued, and possible even more given to heavy workers.

Except for a small quantity received at Reggio on the 8th of September, all of which was reserved for hospitals and special cases, no sugar has been received, and no civilian stocks exist. Supplies are very urgently needed for the children and the sick. Arrangements are being made to reopen the beet sugar factory at Santa Eufemia when the next crops come in, and this factory will be able to meet a small part of the needs of the Region.

Supplies of condensed and evaporated milk are being distributed solely to nursing mothers, pregnant women, children under five and invalids. Supplies were very low at the end of the month, but 150 tons are expected in January.

Soap is also in very short supply and urgently needed. The lack of caustic soda bars a number of small soap factories from resuming production adequate to meet the needs of the Region, using olive oil residues. The need for soap will become extremely urgent if the typhus epidemic in Naples should spread to this Region.

14. Transport.

Road transport continued to present a serious problem. The number of trucks operating in the Region for the purpose of food distribution is far below the minimum requirements, and decreasing fast for lack of rubber and spare parts. Italian Military Transport is difficult to obtain, owing to indifferent cooperation on the part of the authorities. Allied Military transport in the Region is entirely inadequate to be of any practical assistance in food distribution. Rail transport is used wherever possible, but the prior claims of the Armies are proving a serious handicap to urgent grain movements. It would be very helpful if the line from Potenza to Melfi could be restored to operation, so as to make possible direct communication.

Efforts are being made to assist in solving the transportation problem by using small schooners which can load and unload at a

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Efforts are being made to assist in solving the transportation problem by using small schooners which can load and unload at a number of small ports and even on beaches along the Calabrian coast. The complete absence of any rates and tariff ~~makes~~ this difficult, and it is hoped that the Shipping Sub-Commission will reach a decision on this in the near future.

15. Labor.

The most important news in respect to labor is the abolition of the sindicati by Regional order, on December 7th, and the establishment of Provincial Labor Officers in each of the six provinces under the supervision of Captain Frazer. He believes that he has a competent man in charge of each provincial office, and already unions are being formed in Cosenza.

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The unemployment situation has been relieved somewhat by the revival of the lumber industry in northern Calabria, but it is otherwise practically unchanged.

16. Education.

Considerable progress was made during the month toward reopening the schools. By the end of the month, most of the elementary schools in Matera Province were already open, and all other available schools will be functioning within a few days. In the other provinces, except Catanzaro, January 16th has been set as the date for a general reopening.

New Provveditori have been appointed in Matera and Potenza. The incumbents were retained in Reggio and Cosenza. The incumbent at Salerno was approved, but in the light of recent instructions from ACC it may now prove necessary to dismiss him because of Fascist connections. The case of the Provveditore at Catanzaro was still under consideration when it was discovered that he had made a false statement on his "Scheda". It was decided to remove him, and a successor has not as yet been selected.

Educational committees of six or seven persons, headed by the Provveditore and containing respected citizens and a good doctor have been set up in all provinces. Considerable progress has been made in reviewing the personnel.

It was learned during the month that the Papal Seminary in Potenza had been operating, apparently since October.

17. Refugees.

During the month a few refugees were received in the province of Matera and efficiently handled by the Prefect with AMG supervision. A group of about twenty Chetniks was transferred to Matera Province from Bari because of their inability to live peaceably in the same camp with other Yugoslavs. They are located near Pisticci, and after a few days of querulous demands for special attention and supplies, they have apparently decided to make the best of the situation and become less temperamental.

Information has been received indicating that the Badoglio Government believes refugees to the number of 10% of the normal population can be accommodated in the provinces of Region II. This percentage is believed to be far in excess of what could be done. A considerable part of the surplus accommodations in Matera and Potenza Provinces is presently occupied by Allied troops in training. Information as to the probable duration of this training, and as to whether the present units will be replaced by others is not available.

Salerno Province has suffered heavy damage and already has a large number of refugees from the Naples area. The cities of Reggio and Cosenza were badly damaged, and Catanzaro somewhat damaged during the military operations. The food situation in Salerno and the three

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Salerno Province has suffered heavy damage and already has a large number of refugees from the Naples area. The cities of Reggio and Cosenza were badly damaged, and Catanzaro somewhat damaged during the military operations. The food situation in Salerno and the three Calabrian provinces is so bad that no considerable additional number of people could be accommodated there without additional food supplies. Special requisitions would have to be made for them since the "bids" have already been made for the first half of the year 1944.

18. Public Health.

The two most serious problems facing Region II are the entry of refugees and the possibility of a typhus outbreak. The Public Welfare Officer has visited all provinces and initiated plans for the reception of refugees, disinfestation, feeding, clothing and distribution. Preliminary plans have been made for combatting typhus, supplies have been requested and a survey of disinfestation equipment is in process. Present indications are that such equipment is inadequate to disinfest any large number of people, should an epidemic

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of typhus break out in the Region. Dependence will have to be placed on Serbian barrels manufactured on the spot. The communications and transportation for the handling of medical supplies are still in a very poor state. XTwo shipments of soap, 120 cases for Potenza and 60 for Matera were sent by rail from Reggio on November 4th. A month later, 58 cases arrived in Potenza (four empty), and none have ever arrived in Matera.

With respect to venereal disease, civil police have been ordered to arrest and prosecute all unlicensed prostitutes. Civil medical examination of the inmates of all licensed houses is continued and prophylactic stations have been opened in the towns. The AMG military and civilian police authorities have all been requested to cooperate to check this evil, and their response has been very satisfactory.

A survey of malaria control in Region II has been completed by Lt. M.A.Manzelli, accompanied by the Region Sanitation Officer. A winter program of ditch cleaning and repairs for malaria control purposes has been initiated in Salerno. Plans are ready for an aggressive control program during 1944, provided necessary supplies can be obtained.

The presence of Allied troops in Potenza and Matera caused such a drain on the water supplies that these became non-potable. Catanzaro also has non-potable water. No supplies of chlorine are obtainable at any of these towns, but so far no disease epidemics have resulted. All troops have been advised to chlorinate their water.

Welfare activity in the Region was suddenly curtailed in mid-December by the removal of all Red Cross personnel and all AMG personnel except the Welfare Officer. This shortage of personnel might well become serious if the number of refugees in the Region should substantially increase. There is ample room for much useful work in the coordination and reinvigoration of Italian Welfare activities which are now badly disorganized through the severance of their connections with the central Italian government.

19. Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives.

During the month, the Regional Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Officer reported, and has since visited most of the Region except Salerno.

No monuments were damaged, and none required repair in Matera. The only important monument damaged in Reggio was the Capella del Sacramento in the Cathedral, which was badly burned. In Catanzaro the Cathedral was badly damaged by direct hits, along with the Seminario and Arcivescovado. None of these buildings however, is of monumental importance. In Cosenza, the most important damage was to the Civic Library, in which the roof and a number of volumes were destroyed by direct hits. Several other structures were damaged or weakened by

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20. Removal of Officials.

Further progress was made during December in the removal of incompetent and Fascist officials, and this work is now well advanced with respect to provincial officials and sindacos. Much still remains to be done with respect to school employees. This work is being actively pressed.

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In conclusion, the R.C.A.O. wishes to express his appreciation for the excellent spirit and splendid support given to him by the great majority of officers and EM/CRs assigned to the Region. Despite many handicaps and many discouragements, they have accomplished much, have maintained a high standard of public order, and have done all that was humanly possible to keep the civilian population fed. I am proud to be the leader of such an organization.

G. H. Mc Caffrey

G.H.McCaffrey
Lt. Col., Inf.
R.C.A.O.

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