

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

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10000/109/1904

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10000/109/1904

PATRIOTS, POLICY
JUNE - SEPT. 1944

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH
APO 394

Subject : Decree on Patriots

Ref. 95/PAT.

To : Brigadier Lush.
Admin. Section.
Interior Sub Commission.
Political Section.

29 Sep. 44.
29 SEP Recd

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1. I attach a copy of the translation of the decree on Patriots which is being examined today by the Cabinet.

2. If it is passed, as it should be, it becomes law tomorrow.

3. There have been two alterations to the original proposal as put up by the Italian Patriot Committee: -

(i) The first article has been split into two.

(ii) The words "in liberated Italy" have been inserted after the word "Patriots" in Article 1 and in the first line of Article 2.

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EC

for info

ll 30/9

C.D. McCarthy

C. D. Mc CARTHY,
Colonel,
Patriots Branch,
R.C. & M.G. Section.

Seen
12/2/44

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UMBERTO DI SAVOIA

PRINCE OF PIEMONTE

LIEUTENANT GENERAL OF THE REALM

By the authority given us :

By virtue of the decree of June 25, 1944, No. 151 ;

By virtue of the decision of the Cabinet ;

Following the proposal of the Prime Minister

in agreement with all the Ministers;

We have sanctioned and we promulgate the following :

Art. 1. A National Committee for Patriots in Liberated Italy is hereby formed and attached to the Prime Minister's Office.

Art. 2. The function of the National Committee for Patriots in Liberated Italy is to study on a uniform basis all problems concerning Patriot activities in their fight against Germans and Fascists and to promote all necessary measures.

Art. 3. The Committee will be under the Presidency of the Prime Minister and will consist of the Under-Secretary of State in the Prime Minister's Office who will be Vice-President, an Under-Secretary of State for War appointed by the War Minister, an Under-Secretary of State for Press and Information and four Experts appointed by a decree of the Prime Minister on the advice of the Cabinet. The President of the Committee will appoint a Secretary chosen from among its members.

Art. 4. A Patriot Office depending upon the National Committee with the task of fulfilling its directives will be formed and attached to the Prime Minister's Office. The Patriot Office has the following function : to ascertain and to screen patriot activities and evaluate them according to proved facts; to issue certificates; to coordinate the various ways of moral and material assistance to Patriots; to guarantee the re-employment of Patriots in the war of liberation.

Art. 5. The rules for the organization and functioning of the

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Art.5.

The rules for the organization and functioning of the Office as in Art.4 will be defined by a Decree of the Prime Minister in agreement with the Treasury Minister on the advice of the Patriot National Committee.

Art.6.

The expenditure needed for the functioning of the offices formed by virtue of the authority of this Decree will be charged to the Treasury Estimate-Budget in the account of the Prime Minister's Office. The Treasury Minister is authorized to modify the Budget accordingly.

Art.7.

This Decree comes into effect on the day following its publication.

Confidential

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH.
APO 394

Ref: 64/Rdt.

25 Sept. 44

28 SEP Recd

SUBJECT: Treatment of Patriots in Italy -
Final stage.

To: Brigadier M. Lush,
Brigadier Upjohn,
Mr. Harold Caccia.

Copies for information to:
Brigadier Mearns,
Commander Holdsworth
AMG Fifth Army
AMG Eighth Army

See 29A
+ 29

1. Undoubtedly the handling of patriots in the North of Italy will be on a much larger scale than in central Italy; the patriots in the North are reputed to be tougher than those in central Italy; also they are well organised vide Appendix attached.
2. It seems clear that it is necessary to endeavour to harness and control the energies of the patriots in the North from now until such time as they are finally dissipated into the civilian population. Otherwise there is almost certain to be trouble wherever they are left uncontrolled especially if they are not put into proper civil or military employment after peace has been established in their areas.
3. HQ AAI are eager that patriots in the north should now be satisfied about their future so that they may give of their best over the next few weeks. A letter is probably being sent to us from G Ops to this effect.
4. At present, the fact that many patriots, e.g. in Florence, ^{29A} have been finally rehabilitated has not presented a serious public safety problem because, first, there are not enough of them and second, we have strong military forces everywhere in the vicinity.
5. What the patriots want is to know that they will be properly employed either in the Army or in civil life after the fighting is over. This means that if we wish to satisfy the patriots we must present to them terms for military and civil employment which they will accept.
6. The present military terms are unacceptable because the patriots wish to continue fighting with their own officers and they refuse to join

Copies for information to:

Brigadier Malmaring,
Commander Moldsworth
AMC Fifth Army
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6. The present military terms are unacceptable because the patriots wish to continue fighting with their own officers and they refuse to join up if they are to be split into different units in the army.

7. I have discussed the problem of recruitment briefly with General Browning and he has asked us to call meeting to discuss this after his return from Sardinia about the forth of October. Whether or not on all grounds it is desirable that the patriots should join the army has also to be considered; and an answer must be given in the near future and the patriots told what that answer is.

8. With regard to civil employment, I find that many patriots refuse to accept the terms which the army can offer them because the pay is too low and the work unattractive. This has not been a serious problem in Florence but in the North it may be serious and it is suggested that the Italian Patriot Committee could produce one or two civilians for each Region who should canvas leading industrial firms and find jobs for patriots according to their qualifications and experience. If the Italian Patriot Committee can take on this work it would be of great assistance.

2.

9. Both the army authorities and any civilian employment bureau that is formed by Italians must be able to make early contact with patriots, if possible before they are finally disbanded so that a clear scheme for reemployment will be known to the bands in good time.
10. The difficulty in doing this is to get the armies and corps to agree to let the patriots be contacted in the most forward areas. I think, however, that AII feels sufficiently strongly about the necessity of settling the question of patriots on this head, to insist that patriots should be contacted at a very early stage.
11. Col. Mayne, feels strongly that the publicity given to patriots on the radio and in the press is exaggerated and that we are making too much fuss about their rehabilitation, and that the directives to this end given in our orders of 18 July and 24 July are not 'realistic'. He thinks all this will end only in causing trouble for Italy.
12. The daily Combatti programme, sponsored by Brig. Minnaring, is probably the strongest single authority responsible for encouraging and emphasizing the importance of the patriots.
13. There is, undoubtedly, much in what Col. Mayne says but it is difficult to reconcile these views with the practical necessity for encouraging the Italian patriots at this juncture. A little later on perhaps one could ask PWB to include their comments on patriots amongst their articles on the courage and endurance of the whole civil population. At some stage it may be wise to eliminate from the news papers practically all reference to patriots but this presumably would be when Italy was almost entirely liberated.
14. In the mean time the present policy is to endeavour to look after the patriots when they are disbanded and I should like to have a directive if I am to proceed on the lines mentioned above and take particular trouble to put patriots into the army and civil employment. Also is it desirable to cut down our propaganda?

C. D. McCarthy
C.D. McCarthy,
Colonel,
Patriots Branch.

27
Confidential

THE INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS OF THE PARTISAN
MOVEMENT IN ITALY.

1. From information received in the last few days it is possible to give a somewhat clearer picture of the internal organisation of the Partisan movement in Italy.
2. The "GHQ" of the movement, as has of course long been known, is in MILAN. This is the logical result of three main causes:
 - (a) MILAN is the natural centre of German occupied Italy.
 - (b) As Italy's principal industrial town it has a large working population which has, in the past, provided a fertile field for anti-Fascist organisation.
 - (c) As a result of (b) the Committee of National Liberation in MILAN had a firm foundation of well organised underground activity which parties of the left had established and maintained throughout the Fascist regime. The CLN was thus able to begin the evolution of an active central organisation at a time when Partisan activity in the rest of Italy was sporadic and entirely uncoordinated. The Committee has gradually increased the extent of its influence until at present it is believed that it is recognised by the great majority of the Partisans.
3. In essence the CLN aims to coordinate the activities of all resistance elements which are prepared to act against Germans and Fascists, and to eliminate friction arising both from the wide variety of causes which have induced Italians to join resistance groups, and from the tendency of a large number of political parties to attempt to capitalise on the resistance movement.
4. (a) The sources from which the Partisan movement derives almost all its active strength are five-fold: -
 - (i) Members of the Italian Army before the Armistice, who for various reasons later refused to throw in their lot with the Germans and Fascists. Their

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4. (a) The sources from which the Partisan movement derives almost all its active strength are five-fold: -

- (i) Members of the Italian Army before the Armistice, who for various reasons later refused to throw in their lot with the Germans and Fascists. Their political views appear to be predominantly monarchist and it is probable that the majority of those bands which remained independent of the CLN derived from these sources.

(ii) Communists.

(iii) Action Party members.

(iv) Socialists.

(v) Christian Democrats.

- 2 -

(b)

The rigidity of this classification should however be qualified. Operating with Partisans is a large and heterogeneous body of Italians of no, or only the loosest, political allegiance, together with an unknown number of Russian, Polish, Czech, Slovak, and even German deserters from the Wehrmacht, Slovenes, and a considerable number of Allied ex-PW.

5.

When it became clear that the CLN in MILAN had achieved a real authority over this complex movement, and had in fact been recognised by the Italian Government, it was decided to send a distinguished Italian officer, with an unexceptionable democratic background, as a representative of A.A.I. to the CLN. He will be referred to as "Colonel X". What follows is based in the main on reports from this officer.

6.

(a) The General Command of the MILAN CLN consists of five members, one from each of the five principal resistance elements, and a military adviser.

(b)

The Operations section of the Command virtually rules the CLN and consists of the Communist and Action Party representatives and the Military Adviser.

(c)

Colonel X was welcomed by all parties and was nominated President of the Committee. This however raised a difficulty in that the three parties of the left could not agree as to the allocation of the secondary posts. He therefore refused the Presidency and has taken up the appointment of Military Adviser with its ex officio seat in the Operations section, a task for which his capabilities make him eminently suitable.

7.

The Committee has achieved a creditable degree of cooperation between all the political parties, but it is certain that the Communists are by far the most influential ^{23/53} element. They provide most of the Committee's administrative and liaison personnel, and in passing it is pointed out that where communications consist chiefly of couriers on foot, bicycle, or occasionally motor car, liaison duties assume a very great significance.

8.

The lack of communications and the clandestine nature of the organisation have made close control of military operations particularly in the case of distant bands, out of the question.

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- (b) The Operations section of the Command virtually rules the CLM and consists of the Communist and Action Party representatives and the Military Adviser.
- (c) Colonel X was welcomed by all parties and was nominated President of the Committee. This however raised a difficulty in that the three parties of the left could not agree as to the allocation of the secondary posts. He therefore refused the Presidency and has taken up the appointment of Military Adviser with its ex officio seat in the Operations section, a task for which his capabilities make him eminently suitable.
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8. The lack of communications and the clandestine nature of the organisation have made close control of military operations particularly in the case of distant bands, out of the question. The Committee therefore contents itself with broad operational policy and concentrates mainly on organisation. A.A.I. therefore maintain their direct operational control of the bands by means of an increasing network of British, American and Italian liaison officers, and a considerable wireless organisation.
9. The CLM has under its direct command the MILAN city command and has divided the remainder of enemy occupied Italy into five regional commands. Each of these regional commands has a number of zones, that of PIEMONTE having the TURIN town command in addition. The bands acknowledging the CLM come directly under the respective zones. The following table shows the position in graphic form :-

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C. I. N. WILLIAM

MILLAN City Commander

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The present position is considered to be satisfactory from the point of view of the Allied Armies, in that whilst the CLN achieves a large measure of political unity and common policy, the control of operations remains with HQ AAI, acting through its British and American operating agencies. The presence of Colonel X with the MILAN CLN will it is hoped do much to ensure that the Committee's activities are directly related to the furtherance of Allied military operations.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB COMMISSION
APO 394

95/Pct

16,944

SUBJECT: Formation of Italian Patriot Committee

18 SEP 1945

30. Distribution below.

The Italian Government have set up an Italian Patriot Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister with the following terms of reference:-

1. The Commission will be called "Commissione per i Patrioti"
2. It will be presided over by the Prime Minister and, in his absence, the Under Secretary of State to the Presidency.
3. The members will be:-

H.E. Mario P. J. K. M. O., Under Secretary of State for War.

H.E. Giuseppe SP. M. M. O., Under Secretary of State for Press and Information.

Dr. BLUER or other representatives of the C.L.N.

General ODDONE (Military)

4. The directives of the Commission will be carried out by a corresponding "Ufficio Patriote". The work will be undertaken by military and civilian personnel.

5. The head of this, Lt. Col. BARLBO, will also be Secretary of the "Commissione".

In their relations with the Allied Control Commission and the Regions, this Committee will deal with the Patriot Branch of the RC and MG Section. Officers of this Commission will reciprocally deal with this Italian Patriot Committee through the Patriot Branch and not direct.

(M.S. LUSH) Brigadier, Executive Commissioner.

Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister with the following terms of reference:-

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2. It will be presided over by the Prime Minister and, in his absence, the Under Secretary of State to the Presidency.
3. The members will be:-

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H.E. Giuseppe SP. LARO, Under Secretary of State for Press and Information.

Dr. RAJER or other representatives of the C.I.N.

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MSL

(M. S. LUSH) Brigadier, Executive Commissioner.

Distribution:

C (Group 1)

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

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

Ref/30/9/PAT.

26 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Re-employment of Patriots.

27 JUL Read

TO : Distribution Below.

1. Further to para. 4 of this office directive under reference 30/8/PAT dated 24 July 1944.

2. The problem of feeding civilians is now detailed in HQ. AAI. Administrative Instruction No. 39 dated 5 July 1944 which cancels previous instructions.

3. One copy of AAI. Instruction No. 39 is attached for each of the first seven addressees on the distribution list below.

DCM/FRS.

DISTRIBUTION:

SCAO, AMG 5 Army.
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Secretary General.
Admin Section.
Economic Section.
Political Section.
Army Sub-Commission.
Navy Sub-Commission.
Air Force Sub-Commission.
Civil Affairs Branch.
Displaced Persons Sub-Comm.
Italian Refugees Branch.
Patriots Delegation Branch.

C.D. Mc CARTER.
Colonel,
Patriots Branch,
R.C. & M.G. Section.

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- 12
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13 - file 30/PAT

10/10/44

C.D. MC CARTHY.
Colonel,
Patriots Branch,
R.C. & M.G. Section.

DCM/PBS.

DISTRIBUTION:

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Secretary General.
Admin Section.
Economic Section.
Political Section.
Army Sub-Commission.
Navy Sub-Commission.
Air Force Sub-Commission.
Civil Affairs Branch.
Displaced Persons Sub-Comm.
Italian Refugees Branch.
Public Relations Branch.
PWB (Attn: Mr. Rayner).
Public Safety Sub-Commission.
Labour Sub-Commission.
No. 1 Special Force.
O.S.S.
Adv. AAI (EGS(Ops)).
Main AAI (G(SD)).
Main AAI (DCAO).
Main AAI (DQAG).
Main AAI (DAG).

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Ref/30/8/PAT.

SUBJECT: Re-employment of Patriots.

TO : Distribution Overleaf.

24 July 1944.

25 " " Recd

1. This directive is issued after agreement with H.Q., A.A.I. and is for the guidance of M.M.G. officers in connection with appendix "A" of the General Instruction for the Administration of Patriots in Military Government Territory reference 30/4/PAT dated 18 July 1944.

2. It should be used as a basis for discussion with Area Commanders, Town Majors, Engineer or other Military units and Labour Officers who, other things being equal, should be asked to give priority for employment to genuine Patriots with certificates. C.A.O's. should be instructed to get in touch with the nearest Labour Officers (D.A.D.L. or S.L.C.O.) as soon as possible and give them the names of suitable Patriots who can be used as civilian workers.

3. Some Patriots may be taken for special operations, some will be disposed of locally, some will move to or have to be transported to a distance for re-employment and some foreigners e.g. Yugoslavs will be despatched through the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission. There will, however, remain a hard core of say 30% over whom a good deal of trouble may have to be taken and the following suggestions for their re-employment are approved in principle by A.A.I. and the other authorities concerned.

- (a) Some of them may be enlisted in the Regular Italian Army by the special Italian Officers being sent up by M.M.I.A. Full details of the new scheme are given in Army Sub-Commission letter G/19 dated 23 July 1944 - copy attached.
- (b) The reengagement of Carabinieri and Guardia di Finanza as such should not be made, on account of administrative difficulties arising from the establishment of the strength ceiling for these agencies. Where feasible they should be employed as special police, pending their return to Reception Centres established at Grosseto and Chieti.
- (c) Employment by Engineer or other military units for urgent ^{23/4/44} bridging, road repairing, dock clearance and military repair work as soon as an area has been liberated.
- (d) Employment by AMG/ACC for duties similar to (c) as and when required.
- (e) Employment by AMG/ACC for medical purposes.

Confidential

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 - (c) Employment by Engineer or other military units for urgent ^{20/4/44} ~~20/4/44~~ bridging, road repairing, dock clearance and military repair work as soon as an area has been liberated.
 - (d) Employment by AMG/ACC for duties similar to (c) as and when required.
 - (e) Employment by AMG/ACC for special police and motor car drivers.
 - (f) Employment by Area Commanders and Town Majors as watchmen.
 - (g) Where it is clear to a C.A.O. that he will have an impossible task in absorbing locally his hard core of Patriots, he should be instructed to pass particulars quickly to his Provincial Commissioner who should arrange for work within the Provinces.
 - (h) The problem of training and providing de-mining squads in back areas is being considered.
4. The problem of paying and feeding Patriots who are employed in one of the manners suggested above should be studied. Full instructions for feeding

civilians employed on military duties are given in "Instructions Regarding the Employment of Civilian Labour (Italy and Sicily)". For issue of U.S. rations to civilians see NATUSA circular No. 14 dated 4 February 1944.

*Chas. E. ...
...
... 26/7*

MORAN E. FISKE.
Colonel.
Norman E. Fiske
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

USL/FRS.

<u>DISTRIBUTION:</u>	
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Main A.A.I. (G(SD)).	(2)
Main AAI (D.C.A.O.).	(2)
Main AAI (D.C.M.G.).	(10)
Main AAI (D.A.G.).	(2)

COPY

SUBJECT: Italian Military Personnel from Enemy Occupied Italy.

Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C.
Main H.Q. MILA
ROME.

G/19

23 Jul 44.

Ministry of War

Copy to: HQ AAI

SMLE

Army Sub-Comm LG Naples

" " " 5 Army

" " " 8 Army

A.C.C. Patriots Section.

Navy Sub-Comm. ACC.

Air Forces Sub-Comm. ACC.

HQ ACC

Army Sub-Comm LG.

1 District.

2 District.

3 District.

5 Corps HQ.

1. Certain arrangements have been made, in agreement with the Patriots Branch at ACC, with a view to enlisting into the Italian Army at the earliest possible moment, Patriots encountered in newly-liberated areas who volunteer for such enlistment.

2. These arrangements which are in effect an extension of the provision of MILA letter, G/19 of 3 June (and are to be read as such) are as follows: -

- (a) The Ministry of War will at once send a Screening Agency (not exceeding 4 officers and 6 men) to join the AMG officer dealing with the re-settlement of Patriots at HQ of each 5th Army, 8th Army and Polish Corps.
- (b) The Screening Agencies will interview volunteers as required by the AMG officer. They will decide whether these can be accepted within the number that the Ministry of War consider can be absorbed from time to time without detriment to the cohesion and efficiency of the existing Army.
- (c) Those accepted will be given a pass authorizing them to be passed back (through refugee channels) to the nearest Italian ordnance centre for immediate enlistment.
- (d) The Agencies will travel and operate as required by the AMG officer concerned inside the Army areas concerned and within the terms given them by the Ministry of War.
- (e) These Agencies will move forward in accordance with the advance of the Armies concerned.

(f) In order to deal with Patriots who are still waiting in areas behind Army rear boundaries, The Ministry of War will detail and hold in readiness at RMLE three similar Agencies which will be available to visit centres and operate as required by the Patriots

2342

8 Army.
A.C.C. Patriots Section. 5 Corps HQ.
Navy Sub-Comm. ACC.
Air Forces Sub-Comm. ACC.

1. Certain arrangements have been made, in agreement with the Patriots Branch at ACC, with a view to enlisting into the Italian Army at the earliest possible moment, Patriots encountered in newly-liberated areas who volunteer for such enlistment.

2. These arrangements which are in effect an extension of the provision of MIA letter, G/19 of 3 June (and are to be read as such) are as follows: -

(a) The Ministry of War will at once send a Screening Agency (not exceeding 4 officers and 6 men) to join the AMG officer dealing with the re-settlement of Patriots at HQ of each 5th Army, 8th Army and Polish Corps.

(b) The Screening Agencies will interview volunteers as required by the AMG officer. They will decide whether these can be accepted within the number that the Ministry of War consider can be absorbed from time to time without detriment to the cohesion and efficiency of the existing Army.

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(e) These Agencies will move forward in accordance with the advance of the armies concerned.

(f) In order to deal with Patriots who are still waiting in areas behind Army rear boundaries, The Ministry of War will detail and hold in readiness at HOME three similar Agencies which will be available to visit centres and operate as required by the Patriot Branch of ACC. These Agencies will be disbanded as soon as the area has been "cleared" or the normal calling-up agency is established by proclamation.

3. Other men of military age, including Patriots and volunteers who have not been accepted for immediate enlistment, will remain as civilians until called upon to register (or re-register) for service in the ordinary way.

(sgd) L. MORGAN.
Major General.
Army Sub-Comm. A.C.C.

2342

CONFIDENTIALHEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 394.

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Ref: 30/1/PAC.18th July 1942SUBJECT: General Instructions on the Administration of Patriots in
Military Government Territory.

TO : Distribution Below.

1. The handling of patriots is a difficult problem which will increase in complexity as the advance continues and the patriots increase in numbers and achieve more successes. Their rehabilitation in liberated territory is an added burden to GAO's in Armies and Provincial states, but it is a duty which must be carried out with firmness and sympathy and with the knowledge that success or failure in this matter may have wide repercussions in this and other territories.

2. Patriots, although mostly Italians, may be of any nationality, and are defined as being those in the ranks of genuine fighting bands who have carried arms, engaged in sabotage or secured important military information to the benefit of the Allied war effort.

3. The following directions contain the main principles of the agreed policy with regard to patriots and all the procedure to put that policy into effect. Instructions for dealing with all those who have helped Allied Prisoners of War are being issued separately.

4. On liberation of territory patriots must revert from their quasi-military status and become good citizens. To this end a message in poster form signed by General Alexander has been prepared and will be widely published.

5. Patriots come under the aegis of AMG officers whose duty it is to see that the metamorphosis from military to civilian status takes place with the minimum of disillusionment. To this end representatives of patriot organisations have been sent to Army AMG's and Italian committees with strong patriot representation will be set up in the local Governments of liberated territory. It is extremely important that while order is to be maintained and arms have to be surrendered, patriots should be treated with respect and sympathy in order to avoid antagonism and discouragement which would become known and have an adverse effect upon patriots still operating against the enemy. Leaders of patriot groups should be thanked by AMG officers for the assistance which they have rendered to the Allies and told to convey to their groups the Allied appreciation of their efforts.

6. While the patriots are not a political organisation and must be dis-

1. The handling of patriots is a difficult problem which will increase in complexity as the advance continues and the patriots increase in numbers and achieve more successes. Their rehabilitation in liberated territory is an added burden to CAO's in Armies and Provincial staffs, but it is a duty which must be carried out with firmness and sympathy and with the knowledge that success or failure in this matter may have wide repercussions in this and other territories.
2. Patriots, although mostly Italians, may be of any nationality, and are defined as being those in the ranks of genuine fighting bands who have carried arms, engaged in sabotage or secured important military information to the benefit of the Allied war effort.
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6. While the patriots are not a political organization and must be dissuaded from setting up purely patriot local governments, it must be remembered that by virtue of their military aid they have a right to strong representation in the local government. Italian local government officials must be made to realize and show appreciation of their value and their right to be represented in government.
7. Patriots will be unwilling to hand in arms but the preservation of law and order precludes the existence of irregular armed bands in liberated territory; the law demands their surrender and they must therefore be tactfully told to obey the law.
8. After months of guerrilla warfare it will be hard for patriots to settle down to normal life. To encourage rapid return to their ordinary vocations will be one of the most difficult duties of the local committees who, like AMG officers

PVA

-2-

and Italian officials, must deal with the patriots not as a nuisance but with sympathy and gratitude. It should at all times be remembered that an unemployed patriot is not only a disgrace to the community but a menace.

9. While it is desirable to leave the rehabilitation of patriots to the Italians themselves, in the form of local committees, GAO's and especially Provincial Officers in the later period of occupation, remembering that they have fought for the Allies, should ensure that they are given a square deal.

10. 20,000 posters have been sent to AMG 5 Army and 30,000 to AMG 8 Army. These should be displayed immediately after liberation of territory and the attention of all patriots drawn to them. The contents of the poster will also be broadcast locally by PWB and will be published in Italian newspapers.

11. In order to show appreciation of individual effort certificates of merit have been prepared for issue to every individual patriot vouched for by the local patriot leader. Certificates will be endorsed by the recognised patriot leader and by an Allied officer (e.g. the GAO). If for any reason the patriot leader wishes to remain anonymous his signature can be replaced by a pseudonym or signed by another patriot representative. Posthumous certificates may be awarded to next-of-kin. In special cases letters of thanks by Corps or other senior commanders may be sent to towns or villages who collectively and actively have aided the Allied cause.

12. The advice of patriot leaders should be sought before the issue of any certificate in order to avoid possession of them by bogus patriots.

13. Provincial Commissioners will issue certificates, if properly vouched for by patriot leaders, in areas where the GAOs, Army AMGs, have not been able to do so, and in areas liberated within the last few months. Provincial Commissioners should give this matter very early attention and will set up special committees in local governments to deal with outstanding cases, e.g., in the Rome Region.

14. Italian patriot representatives from the Military Central Italy Group controlled by Col. Berrabo and from the Comitato Liberazione Nazionale controlled by Mr. Bauer, have been sent to each Corps in Army AMG's. GAO's must bear in mind that these patriot representatives may be mainly concerned to obtain recognition for patriots belonging to their own organisation. If other patriots present themselves they must be carefully scrutinised and if found to be bona fide they should be given certificates and afforded equal treatment. GAO's must encourage the patriot representatives to take a broad view and not to look after the interests merely of members of their own organisations but also all genuine patriots.

15. Patriot representatives are in no way political. Their main duties are:-

- (a) to help Army GAO's in the identification of leaders of patriot bands;
- (b) to help in the selection of suitable patriots out of these bands to assist the GAO;

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 - (a) to help Army CAO's in the identification of leaders of patriot bands;
 - (b) to help in the selection of suitable patriots out of these bands to assist the CAO;
 - (c) to assist AMG generally in dealing with all patriot problems.
16. These representatives draw pay from their own organisations. They should be housed and rationed and supplied with POL by AMG (DMG, ALI is sending instructions to Armies HQ to this effect).
17. Distribution of these representatives is as follows:-
 - 4 to AMG 5 Army;
 - 6 to AMG 8 Army, of whom 2 are for Pol Corps.

Cars may be requisitioned for them locally.

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DISTRIBUTION:

25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15

Mr. Morrison
Brigadier,
Executive Commission.

Appendix "A" to 30/1/PAT dated 18 July 1944

ConfidentialFORMATION OF COMMUNAL COMMITTEES FOR RE-EMPLOYMENT
AND DISPERSAL OF PATRIOTS.

1. (a) The Committee will be formed and exist at Commune level only in the first instance.
 - (b) Subject to local conditions a suggested form of committee is as follows:-

Sindaco (or Commissario Prefettizio) to preside;
four or more representatives chosen by and from the patriots;
two members of the Giunta Comunale if formed as such or otherwise
two well known and respected local residents.
 - (c) Consistency of policy, co-ordination of the efforts of the Communal Committees and means of communication from AMC/AGC HQ should be effected at Provincial level by and through the Prefect acting on the advice and under the supervision of the Provincial Commissioner.
2. The function and purpose of the Committee are as follows. They will firstly determine whether persons calling themselves patriots are in fact patriots. After sifting for this purpose, the bogus patriots will be ignored. The genuine patriots will be classified and dealt with in the following manner:-
 - (a) Local absorption into their ordinary walks of life and means of livelihood and employment (particularly agricultural and harvesting) which may still exist in the local area. They will be dealt with as any other residents of the locality who had remained there. This process will apply both to patriots whose home is in the particular area and to non-residents if the latter so wish. Preference may be given to patriots in providing employment.
 - (b) Non-residents who do not want to stay in the area. It is believed that this class will be very small in number. They will return to their homes. Their return will be arranged locally by the CAO to Provincial HQ thence by the Provincial Commissioner.
 - (c) Those who want to join the army immediately (as opposed to waiting for "call up" if and when liable) will be conveyed to Provincial HQ and thence under Provincial arrangements to such points as may be determined by the Allied/Italian Military authorities. To enable this to be done the MILA will keep Regional Commissioners and AGCs informed as to places to which such persons are to be conveyed and any other relevant information for the purpose.
 - (d) Those who wish to continue to serve as patriots. These will be selected, in small numbers, by the appropriate military agencies if needed.

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(c) Consistency of policy, co-ordination of the efforts of the Communal Committees and means of communication from MAC/ACC HQ should be effected at Provincial level by and through the Prefect acting on the advice and under the supervision of the Provincial Commissioner.

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(c) Those who want to join the army immediately (as opposed to waiting for "call up" if and when liable) will be conveyed to Provincial HQ and thence under Provincial arrangements to such points as may be determined by the Allied/Italian Military authorities. To enable this to be done the MAC will keep Regional Commissioners and SCAGs informed as ²³³³ places to which such persons are to be conveyed and any other relevant information for the purpose.

(d) Those who wish to continue to serve as patriots. These will be selected, in small numbers, by the appropriate military agencies if needed.

(e) Yugo Slavs who have not already been sifted and dealt with under these instructions will be returned through Displaced Persons Sub-Commission for special employment in Yugo Slav fighting forces.

3. The Sindaco and/or his official will keep proper records of the Committee's proceedings including the names, certificates (if any) and classification of all persons dealt with in the method and date of their disposal.

Lists prepared by patriot leaders together with any other relevant information which may be required will be made available to the Committee.

TESTIMONIAL TO A PATRIOT

In the name of the Government and people of the United Nations we thank for having fought against the enemy in the battle for the liberation of Italy.

This testimony certifies that the above-mentioned has handed in his weapons which are no longer necessary to him now that the enemy has been driven onward. The weapons will be sent north to other Patriots for further use in the fight for the full freedom of Italy.

By their gallant actions in the field Italian Patriots have helped to free their country from the enemy, to the end that they can dedicate themselves to the task of reconstructing the Motherland they have fought for.

In the reborn Italy bearers of this testimony will be hailed as men who fought for honour and liberty.

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459 75 901
7 JUL 1944
ADVANCE HQ.
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section.
APO 394.

6AD Naples
15

REF/AAV/21A.

5 July 1944.

SUBJECT:- Patriot Representatives.

TO : HQ. A.A.I.

Confirming conversation Brigadier Ritchie - Colonel Mc Carthy the
Patriot Representatives who will be attached to A.N.G. at Corps HQ of 5 and
8 Armies and for whom permission is required to draw petrol and rations amount
in all to twenty of whom ten are drivers/batmen.

The use of these Patriot Representatives has been sanctioned by HQ (Ops)
AAI.

Copy to S.G.S. Ops.

sgt Ed Mc Carthy
for M.C. LHM.
Brigadier.
Executive Commissioner,
For Chief Commissioner.

2337

LY NOW ITALY

Germans, other criminals and traitors — especially those who have denounced their compatriots to the Germans — are

Italian Patriots, who by their courageous effort have helped to liberate their country will be asked to co-operate with the Allied Military Government at once to the officer of Allied Military Government arms, ammunition and explosives so that arrangements can be made to collect these together and send them by air to the North, who will carry on the good work.

The Allied Military Government cannot stay here long. It will leave the administration of the country in the hands of good citizens, who will be free from the domination of Fascist tyrants.

Leaders of the Patriots will be asked to provide a list of the names of those who have fought with them.

H. R. ALEX

Commander-in-chief of A

TO PATRIOTS OF FREE CITIZENS

By your courage, skill and endurance, you have hastened the liberation of your country. The United Nations and Italy thank you.

You have played your part nobly thus far. But your task is not finished while there are still Germans on Italian soil. There is much more for you to do at once for your country. As the Allied armies go forward, the new Italy emerges — a new Italy which needs rebuilding, an Italy which needs tending and tilling, whose soil must be made to produce its utmost — a new Italy that needs you.

You have fought to free Italy. Now you must help to build the Italy you have helped to free. The more speedily this is done, the more quickly will the Allied armies complete their job of throwing the Germans out of all Italy.

Behind the fighting Allied Armies comes the army of reconstruction; that is Allied Military Government. The first responsibility of Allied Military Government is the maintenance of civil law and order in the liberated areas of Italy. Allied Military Government also endeavours by means within its power to relieve the suffering caused

not by war alone, but by the savage brutality

The Allied Military Government in no political parties and factions in Italy; except with Fascist traitors. Its only purpose is to their own interest.

Italian patriots and all good citizens in can be of great assistance to Allied Military a representative committee to meet with the Government as soon as possible after his prepared to report fully on conditions in the

- 1 Cases of destitution or extreme hardship.
- 2 Medicines urgently needed.
- 3 Condition of public services.
- 4 They should present a list of abandoned by the Fascists or the Germans.
- 5 Names of Fascists who have actively

PATRIOTS OF ITALY NOW CITIZENS OF ITALY

not by war alone, but by the savage brutality of the Nazis and Fascists.

The Allied Military Government in no way concerns itself with political parties and factions in Italy; except that it will not treat with Fascist traitors. Its only purpose is to aid the Italian people in their own interest.

Italian patriots and all good citizens in the newly liberated areas can be of great assistance to Allied Military Government by organising a representative committee to meet with the officer of Allied Military Government as soon as possible after his arrival. They should be prepared to report fully on conditions in their community:

- 1 Cases of destitution or extreme hunger.
- 2 Medicines urgently needed.
- 3 Condition of public services.
- 4 They should present a list of available food stocks abandoned by the Fascists or the Germans.
- 5 Names of Fascists who have actively collaborated with the

Germans, other criminals and traitors — especially those denounced their compatriots to the Germans — should

Italian Patriots, who by their courageous effort and have helped to liberate their country will be above all to co-operate with the Allied Military Government. They at once to the officer of Allied Military Government to arms, ammunition and explosives so that arrangements to collect these together and send them by air to other the North, who will carry on the good work.

The Allied Military Government cannot stay here; forward to help others. It will leave the administration munity in the hands of good citizens, who will no longer the domination of Fascist tyrants.

Leaders of the Patriots will be asked to produce list of the names of those who have fought with them them.

H. R. ALEXANDER
General
Commander-in-chief of Allied

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Italian Patriots, who by their courageous effort and force of arms have helped to liberate their country will be above all others ready to co-operate with the Allied Military Government. They will report at once to the officer of Allied Military Government to declare their arms, ammunition and explosives so that arrangements can be made to collect these together and send them by air to other patriots in the North, who will carry on the good work.

The Allied Military Government cannot stay here; it must move forward to help others. It will leave the administration of the community in the hands of good citizens, who will no longer be under the domination of Fascist tyrants.

Leaders of the Patriots will be asked to produce a complete list of the names of those who have fought with them and helped them.

H. R. ALEXANDER

General

Commander-in-chief of Allied Armies in Italy

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TO PATRIOTS OF ITALY NOW
FREE CITIZENS OF ITALY

By your courage, skill and endurance, you have hastened the liberation of your country. The United Nations and Italy thank you.

You have played your part nobly thus far. But your task is not finished while there are still Germans on Italian soil. There is much more for you to do at once for your country. As the Allied armies go forward, the new Italy emerges - a new Italy which needs rebuilding, the an Italy which needs tending and tilling - a new Italy that needs you.

You have fought to free Italy. Now you must help to build the Italy you have helped to free. The more speedily this is done, the more quickly will the Allied armies complete their job of throwing the Germans out of all Italy.

Behind the fighting Allied Armies comes the army of reconstruction; that is Allied Military Government. The first responsibility of Allied Military Government is the maintenance of civil law and order in the liberated areas of Italy. Allied Military Government also endeavours by all means within its power to relieve the suffering caused not by war alone, but by the savage brutality of the Nazis and Fascists.

The Allied Military Government in no way concerns itself with political parties and factions in Italy; except that it will not treat with Fascist traitors. Its only purpose is to aid the Italian people in their own interest.

Italian patriots and all good citizens in the newly liberated areas can be of great assistance to Allied Military Government by organising a representative committee to meet with the officer of Allied Military Government as soon as possible after his arrival. They should be prepared to report fully on conditions in their community:

- (1) Cases of destitution or extreme hunger
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2332

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Italian Patriots, who by their courageous effort and force of arms have helped to liberate their country will be above all others ready to co-operate with the Allied Military Government. They will report at once to the officer of Allied Military Government to declare their arms, ammunition and explosives so that arrangements can be made to collect these together and send them by air to other patriots in the North who will carry on the good work.

The Allied Military Government cannot stay here, it must move forward to help others. It will leave the administration of the community in the hands of good citizens, who will no longer be under the domination of Fascist tyrants.

(Signed) H.R. ALEXANDER C in C.

TESTIMONIAL TO A PATRIOT
=====

In the name of the Governments and people
of the United Nations we thank for
having fought against the enemy in the battle for
the liberation of Italy.

By their gallant actions in the field
Italian Patriots have helped to free their country
from the enemy, to the end that they can dedicate
themselves to the task of reconstructing the
Motherland they have fought for.

In the reborn Italy bearers of this testimony
will be hailed as men who fought for honour and liberty.

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HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 394

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Ref: 459/18/CA.

27 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Italian Partisans - Liaison Officer.

TO : Deputy Executive Commissioner,
ACC Advance Headquarters,

1. We can use the services of Col. McCarthy as Chief Liaison Officer for partisans.

2. His duties will be to co-ordinate policy as between AAI, Admin Sec ACC, Italian Government, R.C. & M.C. Section, and see that it is carried out in the field, AMG Armies and forward Regions.

3. For this purpose he will, after visiting AAI, get into touch with AMG Armies, advise them as to execution of policy and if necessary assist in its execution.

4. He will represent ACC in the commission to be set up to enquire into partisan activities.

5. Will you instruct him?

MBL/JC.

(Sgd). H. S. Lueh

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

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REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION
APO 394

901.

459

C.N. Br

SECRET

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22 JUN 1944

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ACC/1/6/Int

22 June 1944

SUBJECT: Cable - Partisans

TO : RC & MC Section

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1. Attached copy of cable dispatched today over my signature in accordance with the verbal instructions for the purpose given by Brigadier Lush to the Director, Interior Sub-Commission on 21 June, 1944.

Encl: as above.

R. P. Gippert

STANSGATE

Vice President

Administrative Section

2330

(Signed in absence a duty)

785017

SECRET

PRIORITY

FROM: Rear Headquarters

TO : AMG 5th Army
AMG 8th Army
Region 4
Region 5
Region 8
Region Rome

901

m/c No - 4/22

Ref - 2961

P

SUBJECT IS PARTISANS AND THEIR REPORTED STATEMENT TO AMG OFFICERS WITH ARMY THAT THEY HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED OR INSTRUCTED BY ITALIAN GOVERNMENT OR BADOGLIO TO GOVERN AREAS AFTER LIBERATION PD ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BY HIGHEST AUTHORITY DENY THAT ANY SUCH AUTHORITY OR INSTRUCTION EVER GIVEN BY THEM OR THEIR PREDECESSORS PD ITALIAN GOVERNMENT STATE THAT PARTISANS WERE INSTRUCTED TO MAINTAIN ORDER IN AREAS FROM WHICH ENEMY HAVE BEEN DRIVEN PENDING AND UNTIL ARRIVAL OF RECOGNIZED AMG AUTHORITY PD NO APPOINTMENTS TO ADMINISTRATION MADE IN SUCH INTERIM BY PARTISANS HAVE ANY VALIDITY EXCEPT IN SUCH CASES AS ARE APPROVED AND CONFIRMED BY RESPONSIBLE AMG AUTHORITY PD IT IS HOWEVER CLEARLY AGREED THAT DUE CONSIDERATION AND RECOGNITION MUST BE GIVEN TO THE VALUABLE EFFORTS WHICH ARE AND HAVE BEEN MADE BY PARTISANS IN FURTHERANCE OF ALLIED CAUSE SUBJECT TO FOREGOING LIMITATION AND AS FAR AS IS COMPATIBLE WITH ESTABLISHED AMG ORGANIZATION AND APPROVED POLICY PD

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION
APO 394

SUBJECT: Cable

22 June 2944

TO : Adjutant General

Please dispatch above cable SECRET - PRIORITY, and forward Interior Sub-Commission three copies.

STANSGATE 4323
Vice President
Administrative Section

(signature is absent in duty)

WVMI/jgt

785017

HEADQUARTERS
JED OFFICE, COMMISSION
R.C. & H.C. Section
APO 394

Ref/459/9/CA.

20 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Resistance Groups.

TO : S.C.A.O. Fifth Army.
S.C.A.O. Eighth Army.

1. I forward copy of a letter received from HQ. A.A.I. and of the reply to it of this HQ.
2. Regarding paras. 1 and 2 arrangements are being put in hand as soon as possible to prepare the material for broadcasting and proclamations. The proclamations will be posted by AG officers and will be sent forward to you with instructions as soon as possible.
3. With regard to para. 5 you should note the remarks of this Commission in the telegram replying to HQ. A.A.I. It is most important that while order is to be maintained and arms have to be surrendered, every sympathy should be shown to these resistance groups and all measures taken to avoid arousing antagonism and bitterness.
4. With regard to para. 4 a member will be chosen by this HQ for the Commission and you should nominate one member each from Fifth and Eighth Army HQ. You will be notified later about further details in this connection.

GWH/RAC.

M. S. LUM,
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Incl.
as above.

Copy to: HQ. A.A.I.

P.S.O. - Please arrange urgently with FNB to prepare the material for broadcast mentioned in para. 1 and the proclamation mentioned in para. 2. I think the Executive Commissioner should see the draft before it is finally approved.

785017

RESTRICTED

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ACC MAIN (Civil Affairs Branch)

20 June 1944

RESTRICTED

Vapor 165- Shipp

PRIORITY

AAI

YOUR LETTER FOUR CHARLIE ONE FOUR GEORGE PAREN ONE PAREN OF ONE SIX JUNE PD PAREN
TO AAI FROM ACC MAIN PAREN THREE PROPOSALS FOR DEALING WITH RESISTANCE GROUPS PD
WILL FORWARD NAMES OF ACC MEMBERS FOR COMMISSION IN DUE COURSE PD GRATEFUL IF
AGENCIES IN PARA THREE COULD EXPLAIN CONTENTS OF YOUR PARA ONE TO LEADERS AND
AVOID INTERVENTION IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL ISSUES LEAVING THIS TO ALLIED
MILITARY GOVERNMENT

ROGER B. DIXIE
Capt AGC
Deputy Adjutant

RESTRICTED

2327

Ex Comm: Italian Partisans P. (5)

Attached letter received from AAA (p 4) suggests present Amer policy on return of arms of partisans is too harsh and may do harm.

2. They suggest in para 4 that Acc form a "Resistance Group Commission" to deal with the problem generally.

3. You probably have discussed this at Caserta and will wish to discuss with CC.

For Sign to CC
20/6/44.

SUBJECT: Resistance Gr. 3

HEADQUARTERS,
Allied Armies in Italy.

AC/G(Cps)

HEADQUARTERS

18 JUL 1944

To: A.C.C.

Partisans and resistance groups who are now in our lines because of our advances are presenting a problem which will magnify as time goes on. A policy regarding their treatment is essential and all concerned should be informed to ensure that no rash promises are made and all receive the same treatment:-

I therefore consider that the following should be done:-

1. ACC and PWB should prepare at once material for broadcast from Radio ROMA in Italia Combatti programmes to explain:

- (a) Conditions in newly occupied territory.
- (b) Work of AMG officers.
- (c) That leaders of resistance groups should report to AMG officers as soon as they arrive in their areas.

2. ACC and PWB should prepare a proclamation to be posted in the towns and villages thanking the patriots for the good work they have done to help liberate their country and asking them to hand in their arms, ammunition and explosives to the Carabinieri at once so that these may be dropped on partisans further North to carry on the good work.

Note: Harm is already being done to the resistance group movement by the peremptory orders of individuals and the curt notices of AMG to hand in all arms forthwith. If arms are not surrendered stronger measures must be taken later.

3. All agencies who have organised resistance groups must hand in the names of leaders and sub-leaders to HQ AAI with the districts in which they are operating so that these names may be given to the advance troops through these areas. If this is done and the leader is thanked early by the advancing troops and it is explained to him that AMG officers will deal with Partisan problems in the future much bad feeling will be avoided.

4. ACC, with the assistance of reps of all the agencies referred to in 3 above, should form a resistance group commission to investigate the achievements of resistance groups and to deal with disarmament, rehabilitation, reward if necessary, compensation if necessary, etc.

If you agree to the suggestions will you please take immediate action on paras 1 & 2 and forward your views on para 4 and I will take action on para 3.

Attended 23.2.45

I therefore consider that the following should be done:-

1. ACC and PWE should prepare at once material for broadcast from Radio PCMA in Italia Combatti programmes to explain:

- (a) Conditions in newly occupied territory.
- (b) Work of AMG officers.
- (c) That leaders of resistance groups should report to AMG officers as soon as they arrive in their areas.

2. ACC and PWE should prepare a proclamation to be posted in the towns and villages thanking the patriots for the good work they have done to help liberate their country and asking them to hand in their arms, ammunition and explosives to the Carabinieri at once so that these may be dropped on partisans further North to carry on the good work.

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If you agree to the suggestions will you please take immediate action on paras 1 & 2 and forward your views on para 4 and I will take action on para 3.

16 June 44.
HSEM/WJE

Copy to: P.W.B.
1 Special Force
O.S.S.

Atkinson 23.25

for Lieut General,
Chief of General Staff.

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 394

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Ref: A52/3/CA.

12th June 1944

SUBJECT: Italian Partisans.

TO : Headquarters,
Allied Forces in Italy,
C. E. F.

1. Attached is report from SCAD, AMG 8 Army.
2. I endorse the proposal made in paragraph 6 and would ask that a small force of Italian Officers, with troops, immediately available, should follow up possibly with AMG 8 Army to deal with these partisans.
3. I will take up the political side of the matter with the Italian Government and instruct AMG 8 Army.

Lyd. M. S. hush

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,
for Chief Commissioner.

MSH/JG.

Copy to: V.P. Ada Eoe - Will you take up this matter with the Italian Government and arrange for notification to be made to the partisans that as soon as the battle passes on they become ordinary civilians and that Allied Military Government is effective.

2324

Z

Excerpt from Report by SCAD, 8th Army, dated 10 June 44.

4. There has been considerable trouble with Partisans. There would appear to be two lots of Partisans, one lot (those whom we are meeting now) who have not been officially helped by the Allies in the form of dropping supplies and arms, and the others who have. These latter we have not yet come in contact with. The attitude of the partisans is that they are both military and political. We have met them particularly in FUGGIA, FIVOLI, and AVERSA. Wherever they have been met we have found that they have set up their own administration and claim that these have been elected by them as representing the people. They have no knowledge of A.M.C. and are usually disinclined to accept its authority. In many cases they have arrested a considerable number of people not always at great discrimination and in some cases these people have only been saved from summary shooting by the arrival of a C.A.C. In FUGGIA they claim that their administration is recognized by the fact that Badoglio in his broadcast about the formation of a new Government asked all the existing administrations in occupied territory to carry on with their work pending formation of the new Govt. The position about these Partisans is also aggravated in that owing to the present rate of advance, towns are being left with no military in them at all, and as the partisans are armed it requires great tact on the part of C.A.C.s to handle them. Instructions have been given from 8th Army that all these partisans are to be disbanded.

The problem is a novel one and is bound to be met with in further intensity the further north the advance goes. At the present time instructions have been given that these partisans are to be disbanded and to be told that the administration they set up is not valid and that A.M.C. is the ruling authority. They are being told that they have done very good work but that now that the Allies have occupied the country they must lay down their arms in conformity with the Proclamation to this effect, but that their arms will be kept separate ready in case of need or should it be decided to employ them in the Italian Army. The question of disbanding partisans is strictly speaking not an A.M.C. affair, but owing to lack of troops we have attempted to deal with it and up to date the situation is in hand. Help in this respect has been received from the Civil Liaison Officer at this HQ with whom we are co-operating, but it must be pointed out that his mission is more connected with the other type of partisan mentioned above, than with the ones which we are dealing with now.

5. It is essential in my opinion that some directive be given on the whole question of political activities of the partisans, but it is more important that this directive be in some way given to them, so that in the future as and when they are met they will have some knowledge of the work that A.M.C. partisans, and the fact that their political activities are not recognized and their nominees are not necessarily going to be accepted. It is suggested that if possible some broadcast could be made to this effect.

6. Another suggestion I would like to make is that A.M.C. should be asked to provide a body of responsible Italian officers who could be made immediately available to deal with the partisans as they are met, to look after the disarming and generally explain the position to them.

785017

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7. It must be borne in mind that with the rapid rate of advance it is impossible for AAG Eight Army officers to be kept in these towns and with the small number of officers available to the provinces there is a very serious risk of trouble breaking out when the AAG Eight Army GAOs leave, owing to the inability of the provinces to put GAOs in themselves.

4. I consider that action must be taken to clear up the position of the partisan urgently, both in the interests of preventing trouble once the Army has passed through and also difficulties from the political aspect.

785017

Ref: A59/1/CA.

10th June 1944

Chief Commissioner.

1. SCAG, AMT 8 Army has discovered a new problem as we advance, viz., partisans. These are divided into two parts:-

(a) Irresponsible partisans not recognized by AAL.

(b) Responsible partisans who have been encouraged and in some ways provided with arms.

2. The policy of 8 Army is to disarm all but SCAG finds that irresponsible partisans have set up local governments of their own, exercising authority, and are unwilling to recognise AMT. Unfortunately in 8 Army an officer known as Civil Liaison Officer whose duty it is to deal with partisans is apt to support these people, a policy which conflicts with SCAG, who, in the long run, always has the sanction of refusing food.

MSL/JA.

M.S.L.
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

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MT

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