

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

ACC

10000/109/1907

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PATRIOTS, CONFERENCES
JULY-SEPT. 1944

HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

R.C. & M.G. SECTION

PATRIOTS BRANCH

APO 394

To : Brigadier Lush

Copy to :

M.M.I.A.

Political Section

Civil Affairs

Subject : Italian Patriot Committee.

Ref. 95/PAT

16 September 44.

19 SEP Recd

1. I attach a copy of the minutes of the first meeting held on 11 September 44.

2. The President asked me to go and see him before the second meeting which is taking place today and the following points were discussed:-

(i)

He said there was a suggestion to rename the "Patriot Committee" and call it the "Partizan Committee" and asked for my reactions. I told him that the word "Patriot" was chosen by General Alexander who addressed his poster to the Patriots in order to keep the name distinct for resistance groups in Italy as opposed to those in the Balkans etc. The President agreed and thought that the word "Patriot" should remain.

(ii)

He explained that as Dr. Bauer was unable to accept the position as member, 3 others had been put on the Committee in his place and the Committee now consists of six members in addition to the President, his Deputy and the Secretary. All parties are represented. I said this appeared to be a satisfactory solution.

(iii)

It is proposed to have a small working committee who will keep full office hours with Bernabo and work as a team with him. The remaining members of this committee meeting say, once a week.

(iv)

I asked if we could have five pairs of specially-selected Patriot Representatives to work with the Regional Commissioners with a special knowledge of Northern Italy. The President said he would try to find these men and I mentioned that after they had been found it would be necessary for them to have interviews with the officer with whom they had to work before they were finally selected.

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We discussed the disinclination of Patriot Representatives to join the Italian Army and I said I thought it ought

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last been found and

first minutes are at 87.

19/9

2405

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(v)

We discussed the disinclination of Patriot Representatives to join the Italian Army and I said I thought it ought to be clearly understood that all Patriots coming through the lines since the beginning of August had been carefully listed and very few appear to want to join the Italian Army. This was agreed but the matter would probably be discussed by the Committee. My point in raising it was to avoid any grumbling later that Patriots coming through the line had not been told about it.

(vi)

I was asked what my feelings were towards the Comando Superiore Partigiano and similar new Patriot organisations. I replied that the few organisations which we had investigated had proved to be very small ones and that I thought that it should be up to the Patriot Committee to decide to what extent these new organisations should be recognised.

2.

(vii) The Rome Committee.

I asked if it would be possible to have this Committee functioning and the names of Patriots in Rome fully listed by the end of September because I thought it desirable that this problem should be settled before we uncovered large towns in Northern Italy. The President thought this would be possible.

(viii) We discussed the advisability of recognising those who had helped the Patriots. I replied that I had been told that this was merely a political method of securing a 'patriot' following in order to strengthen the position of certain parties. In any case, I mentioned that we had discussed the matter very fully in July and decided that it would be almost impossible to make a complete list of all who had helped Patriots. In some cases this would embrace whole villages and in a case like Rome an almost infinite number of people would claim to be considered as helpers.

C. D. Mc Carthy

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Colonel,
Patriots Branch,
R.C. & M.G. Section.

Good. A satisfactory meeting

Mr. C. D. Mc Carthy

2402

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Col. McCarthy

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

Good. A satisfactory meeting

Mr. [unclear]

2403

Record on the meeting of the Patriots Committee -
September 11., 1944 - 11 a.m.

There were presents: E.E. Bonomi - President; H.E. Penosalta; H.E. Palermo; H.E. Spataro, Gen. Odone, Avv. Bertini, Dott. Gerosci, Dr. Brosi; Secretary Lt. Col. Bernabò.

Decisions taken :

- 1-) Constitution of the "Patriots Office".
This office is divided into 5 sections :

- a) Personnel - awards section
- b) Re-employment and transport section
- c) Assistance section
- d) History section
- e) Administration

At the head of each section will be put a military or a civilian.

The Committee reserves itself the right to name the Chiefs of the Sections.

In the next meeting, that will be on Saturday the 16th, it will be proceeded to the nomination of the a/m.

- 2) Screening Agencies for the identification of the Patriots for Rome.

The agencies, in number of 3 will be formed by 6 persons each : 3 military (1 army, 1 navy, 1 airforce) and 3 civ. Next Saturday the definite list of the members will be made.

- 3-)

Similar institutions:

The Committee has decided to abolish the Bodies that already are interested in the matter of Patriots, it is to say : "Reparti Clandestini dei vari Dicasteri" and "Ufficio Patrioti" of the General Senior Staff. (I.A.). The Committee has therefore pointed out the opportunity that the various institutions now existing as (Comando Superiore Partigiano, Associazione Nazionale Partigiana, Unione Nazionale Partigiana, ecc.) will melt together in one Association with a national nature and which would be set out as moral Body like the Associazione Nazionale Combattenti, open to everybody who

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2403

the meeting closed at 12, 15 a.m.

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTER OFFICE MEMO

From: Office of the Acting Chief Commissioner

SUBJECT: Operation Instr - FLORENCE

FILE No. A/CC 091

TO: R.C. & M.G. Section, Hq ACC

8 July 1944

Upon reading the attached, the Acting Chief Commissioner remarked,
"This obviously is not the result of the partisan meeting held this
week. Ask RC & MG Section if new instructions are to be issued."

L. D. Densmore
L. D. DENSMORE
Colonel, Sig C
Chief Staff Officer

BU 11/7

2402

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EC.

Patriots Conference 3 July.

4

Ref ~~2~~ 3.

These are the minutes you asked for. Major Talbot will have shown them to Capt Stone in Rome yesterday.

2. They seem to cover most points, but without having seen more correspondence than a few stray reports and without having visited conditions on the spot I am not in a position to comment.

3. You will see the poster has been approved, signed and printed. Para 6 shows the method of publication, which seems adequate.

4. There have been no cases of complaints or difficulties for the last ten days, but this may be because they are going to Col. McCarthy, died in Rome.

JH 117.

TM/47

2403

MINUTES OF CONFERENCE HELD ON 3 JULY 44 IN ROME TO DISCUSS THE

ADMINISTRATION OF PATRIOTS IN OCCUPIED ITALY

PRESIDENT:-

Brigadier M.S. Laza (Chairman)	Executive Commissioner, A.C.C.
Lt. Col. Ames	Rome Region.
Mr. Bauer	Patriot (G.L.N.)
Col. Bernabo	Patriot (Military)
Group Capt Benson	AMG 8 Army.
Maj Gen Browning	M.M.I.A.
Capt Buckley	A.C.C.
Mr. Caccia	A.C.C.
Col. Carter	O.S.S.
Brigadier Dunlop	Region IV.
Major Fielden	A.C.C.
Lieut Harris	No 1 Special Force.
Col. Fiske	A.C.C.
Major Koch	O.S.S.
Lieut Macnamara	A.C.C.
Brigadier Mainwaring	A.A.I.
Col. Mc Carthy	A.C.C.
Col. Monfort	A.C.C.
Col. Pidsley	M.M.I.A.
Mr. Rayner	P.W.B.
Major Talbot	A.C.C.
Mr. Reber	A.C.C.
Major Tennant	No 1 Special Force
Col. Upjohn	A.C.C.
Col. Young	A.C.C.

Patriot Reps with AMG of Armies

1. It was decided that Representatives should be found only from the Michaelis and Bauer parties. OSS and Special Force stated that they could not provide Officers but would send relevant information through BGS Ops AAI whence it could, after screening, be passed to armies and then to Corps HQs and down to C.A.Os. One Patriot Rep. of the Michaelis and one of the Bauer party will be at each Corps HQ.
2. It was agreed that the duties of Patriot Reps. should be to identify leaders of Patriot bands and to help AMG to deal with them. For this purpose they should help to select a few suitable local patriots to serve on the staff of each C.A.O.
3. The duties of Patriot Reps. are to be in no way political.

Detailed instructions to be sent to AMG at Armies by Patriot Branch of R.C. & M.G. Section.

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Maj Gen Browning
 Capt Buckley
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4. Permission to put Patriot Reps. on the AMG ration strength and to allow them to draw petrol was later obtained from AAI (Q).

5. It was also agreed later that the Michaelis and Bauer Reps. should be called Patriot Reps. (Mil) and Patriot Reps. (C.I.N.) respectively.

Detailed instructions
 to be sent to
 AMG at Armies by
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2403

.....6/.....

Preliminary act in occupation.

6. The poster prepared by FMB for Gen Alexander's signature was approved subject to an additional clause appealing for the gathering of the harvest. This poster is to be posted in forward areas, and the contents put in Italian newspapers and broadcast by FMB.

(a) P.W.B.

(b) Detailed instructions to be sent to AMG at Armies by Patriot Branch of R.C. & M.G. Section.

7. The surrender of arms must be justified by law and not on grounds of military expediency i.e. the statement that arms will be returned to Northern Italy.

8. The time of handing in arms to be at the discretion of C.A.Os who may use Patriots for temporary police work if necessary.

9. Arms must be handed in to AMG and not to carabinieri though the latter may handle the collection thereof. Receipts for arms should be given and should be signed by C.A.Os.

Detailed instructions

to be sent to AMG at Armies by Patriot Branch of R.C. & M.G. Section.

Certificates of merit.

10. After discussion it was decided not to issue collective certificates of merit since this would be most difficult to administer and would certainly cause ill feeling.

11. It was agreed that the only certificates of merit to be issued to Patriots (apart from those given to persons who have helped escaping Prisoners of War) should be to members of recognised fighting bands who have carried arms, carried out demolitions or engaged in sabotage. It will be the duty of C.A.Os helped by their Patriot Reps. to adjudicate in doubtful cases.

12. The certificate will be signed by General Alexander in facsimile, and will also be endorsed by the local Patriot leader and an Allied Officer.

(a) P.W.B.

(b) Detailed instructions to be sent to AMG at Armies by Patriot Branch of R.C. & M.G. Section.

13. Regional Officers will take over from departing Army C.A.Os the responsibility for the issue of certificates.

Subsequent employment of Patriots.

14. It was suggested that the problem of finding employment for patriots should be handled by a committee at every provincial seat

2395
Draft proposals to be put up by Patriot Branch.

785017

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14. It was suggested that the problem of finding employment for patriots should be handled by a committee at every provincial seat of government reporting to the Prefect and the AMG representative. In rural areas the men can usefully be employed on agriculture: in towns on the clearance of debris, and the necessary reconstruction of roads and essential buildings. It is essential to find work to absorb the Patriots otherwise militant political parties would resursect.

2293
Draft proposals to be put up by Patriot Branch.

15. The G.O.C. M.M.I.A. stressed that as Italian conscription law extended into AMG territory, Patriots of military age were liable for service. In practice it would take a little time to establish the machinery for registration etc. in forward areas. Pending further notifications patriots of military age should therefore be encouraged to act on a temporary basis in the same way as those of other age groups.

.....lb/...

Persons who have assisted Allied P.O.W.s to escape.

16. A scheme of aid is in operation for people who have assisted Allied P.O.W. to escape. This was discussed and it was decided that no further action could be taken meantime.

C. D. Mc Carthy
C.D. MC CARTHY,
Colonel,
Patriot Branch,
R.S. & M.G. Section.

DISTRIBUTION

All Allied members present,
AMC 5 Army (5)
AMC 8 Army (10)
Interior Sub Commission (1)
Spares (10)
File (1)
War Diary (1)

2298

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