

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

10000/110/85 INSPECTION TRIP - REGIONAL
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 806/101/EC

27 Aug 45.

SUBJECT: Notes - Executive Commissioner's Tour.

TO : Chief Commissioner.
Deputy Ex. Commissioner,
VP, CA Section
VP, Est Section
VP, Econ Section.

PIEMONTE REGION.

1. I met Colonel Thomas who had just taken over from Col. Marshall and seems well in the picture. I impressed upon him and Col. Selby in LIGURIA the desirability of maintaining close personal contact with MILAN, particularly on the economic side. RC or his Deputy in both Regions will visit MILAN once a week to maintain this contact. I also impressed on Col. Thomas the necessity of clarifying representation of PIEMONTE on the Industrial Council in MILAN. This is not satisfactory at the moment.

2. I also met Brig. Graham, Commanding A.G.R.A., Allied troops on the French frontier and as far back as IMPERIA. He is most enthusiastic with regard to assistance to the CC.RR and police agencies and is doing all in his power, not only to help them in operations but in general training. He is prepared to provide them with 3000 rifles at once, is training them in armoured car and radio duties, and is generally most helpful.

LIGURIA REGION.

3. IMPERIA. PC is concerned about public order. In the towns it is improving but there is a very considerable amount of banditry and killing going on in the hills. This area has always been disorderly but with the help of A.G.R.A., the PC and P30 hope to do a considerable amount of cleaning up before the turnover.

4. The French representative, Lt. Col. Raimonette, is still in office in the VENTIMIGLIA. This is contrary to the agreement made between General Nares and General Doyen and he should be removed. With this exception there is little ostensible evidence of French infiltration and the PC was fairly satisfied with this point.

5. GENOA. Colonel Selby reported progress in public order in that general arrests of murderers have been made recently, particularly with regard to the killing of 3 CC.RR and the accused will go before the A&E Courts this week. This is a very hopeful sign and there is evidence of greater confidence amongst the public which will be improved when these accused are brought to trial.

6. Colonel Selby reported that the public works programme was a good deal behind chiefly owing to the fact that there had been no PW & U representative in LIGURIA. Lt. Col. Lee, however, has now arrived and is working on a public works programme as fast as possible. There is a tremendous amount to be done and it looks as if the PW & U liaison officer will have to remain in GENOA for some time.

-2-

GENERAL.

7. Turnover to the Italian Government. Throughout my tour of the North I gained the impression that officers were convinced of the political desirability of turning over to the Italian Government at an early date, although administratively they felt that they would turn over a half finished job. I was extremely impressed by the determination on the part of all officers to hand over as tidy a job as possible. In every field of AMS work officers are getting hold of the loose ends and trying to tie them up so that the Italian Government will have a moderately clean start. It is only fair on them that we should give them as early notice as possible from HQ and put them out of this state of uncertainty which, although it is not affecting their work, is definitely bad for the individual officers. We must do what we can to see that the futures of officers are assured as far as it is possible to do so here. This will need a great deal of sympathetic handling on the part of Establishment Section.

MSL/JG.

MSL
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

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CONFIDENTIAL

HRAI ARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION.
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner.

Ref: 806/98/EC

24 Aug 1945

SUBJECT: Notes on Tour - MILAN.

TO : Distribution below.

1. Allied Commission Economic Section Representation, MILAN. Before visiting the AC building in MILAN I gathered from Colonels Poletti and Hancock that they felt grave concern at the attitude of the group with relation to the Industrial Council and the Industrial Committees. I was told that the Industrial Council had not yet been fully formed and that the recommendations of the Price Committee had received little or no attention and in any case had not been put into operation.

Lt.Col. Glendinning who has just replaced Lt.Col. Mackery confirmed much of this. He told me that the Industrial Council had not been shown the Chief Commissioner's letter on the setting up of the committees and that in fact it had not been fully constituted. It was, however, meeting this afternoon and he hoped that it would begin to function effectively. He himself was most anxious that both the council and the committees should be allowed full scope and that intervention from the Sub-Commissions in MILAN should be reduced to the minimum. I find, however, to my concern that Lt.Col. Glendinning has been sent merely as representative of the Industry Sub-Commission and with no mandate to coordinate matters. There is undoubtedly lack of coordination as has been expressed on all sides and this must be put right. Glendinning agrees that Colonel Poletti's letter HQ387 of Aug 7th addressed to General MacKinley will serve as a very adequate basis on which to work. It is a pity that it has not been applied before.

I afterwards saw Mr. Schaffer of the Price Control Office. He told me that the price committees' recommendations for releasing control of prices on certain materials would be before the council this afternoon. He was trying to work out a system by which the price committee's decisions could be made effective in the Regions. I told him that the proper way to do this was for the price committee to set up the order in a form which I understand they had already arranged to do and for a representative of the AC to endorse this order in the name of the CAO and to send the orders to the RO's. Directly after endorsement the price committee could then send their orders to the people concerned. There has undoubtedly been delay in this matter which has discounted the value of the committees and the council.

Lt.Col. Glendinning said that Public Works representation is badly needed for the allocation of coal for gas.

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Telephone communication with ROME is extremely difficult and apparently the office cannot use the direct line to ROME. This should be remedied as soon as possible.

I find that the staff on the Directorate consists of no less than 11

-2-

officers, only one of whom was British. We cannot possibly maintain such a large staff on the directorate and it should be reduced to six with Anglo-American parity. I should like to know exactly what are the functions of Colonel Falcke(A), Captain Farber, and Major Young.

2. Visit to No.2 District. I met General Hares, Commanding No.2 District and General Heydeman, his successor, this afternoon and read to them the Chief Commissioner's telegrams on the turnover to the Italian Govt and also explained the recommendations which had been made regarding the handover of the Italian Army to the Italian Government.

I found that the Allied troops available in Northern Italy would consist of 10 Indian Division in the FIENZA-ALLESSANDRIA area for three months, 6 Armoured Division in PADOVA-VERONA area, and five or six chiefly artillery regiments in the TURIN and PIEMONTE area, MILAN and GENOVA. 6 Armoured Division is AFHQ reserve and not immediately available to No.2 District.

Both the Generals expressed concern regarding the handover of the Italian Army particularly with regard to the guarding of German loot throughout the area. They asked what the policy regarding this loot was to be and who was to guard it. They expressed some concern also regarding the eventual responsibility for maintenance of law and order which might fall upon Allied Commanders but we all agreed that the assumption of this responsibility should only be taken in the very last resort.

The Generals agreed with the proposals for the Liaison Groups and seemed particularly gratified that Public Safety Officers were to be included. But they both felt that the turnover to the Italian Govt. from the military point of view was premature. General Heydeman particularly expressed the view that there was an undercurrent of discord and that strong propaganda was being put out against the CC.RA.

General Heydeman wishes to move Hq. No.2 District into MILAN as soon as possible and will require the building now occupied by AG which contains the only signal equipment suitable for Hq. I understand that Colonel Pike has already been approached on this subject and does not feel very strongly and I have therefore told Major Conliffe to look round for a new building.

MSL/JG.

7.2.2
Brigadier,
Executive Commission.

DISTRIBUTION: Chief Commissioner.
Deputy Executive Commissioner
VP, Economic Section

No.2 District.

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MSH/JG.

MSL

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION: Chief Commissioner.
Deputy Executive Commissioner
VP, Economic Section
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Establishment Section
File
Float

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

785015

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

ESTABLISHMENT SECTION

File

Date

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FROM

TO

Col. Fiske
Deputy Ex. Commissioner

Staff Officer

Executive Officer (A)

Executive Officer (B)

G-1 (A)

G-1 (B)

G-4 (A)

G-4 (B)

Headquarters Commandant

Adjutant

FOR:

Comment

Draft of reply

Investigation and report

Answer

Signature

Approval/Disapproval

Your Information

Your File

Return, please

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner.

Ref: 8014/EC

23 Aug 1945.

SUBJECT: Notes on Executive Commissioner's
Tour - BOLZANO.

TO : Distribution below.

1. Elections. I spoke to Lt.Col. McBrattney on the question of electoral lists and he seemed quite satisfied with the decision made in ROME. He was, however, anxious that whatever order should be made regarding the setting up of an Italian Commission should be in the form of an Italian decree and not, as the Prefect had suggested, a Regional or AO order.
2. Alien Registration Order. Regional Order No.17 has just been posted and Col. McBrattney hopes to trace a number of Germans by this system. He assumes that non-resident Germans, ie, those who have entered Italy since the war and particularly since the armistice, will be regarded as displaced persons and transferred to Germany. I told him that I agreed with his assumption and would confirm after consultation in ROME. We want to get quite clear in our minds as to what to do with these Germans who are non-residents. In this connection the closing up of No.23 Displaced Persons Camp may have to be delayed. Col. McBrattney suggested that it may be necessary to arrange for AMG officers to carry on with the registration of these Germans if it was not finished by the turnover. He personally thought it would take two months.
3. Folgore Division. Col. McBrattney disagrees entirely with 5 Army and if Italian troops are necessary, would rather have any division than the Folgore. At the same time he would rather dispense with Italian troops altogether and use OC.RR. I told him that PARRI had raised the same question and that AO had suggested finding OC.RR from SICILY and SARDINIA.
4. Prefect. I spoke to the PG about the Prefect, DE ANGELO. Col. McBrattney said that the man wanted to relinquish his job as soon as possible but he thought it would be politic if the Italian Government retained him for at least 2 months after the turnover. DE ANGELO he thought was aspiring to some ambassadorial appointment. Obviously the choice of the new Prefect will have to be made very carefully and if some form of regional autonomy is to be given, it might include the freedom to elect a Prefect.
5. Turnover. Col. McBrattney, who is anxious to go to the United States some time after the end of September, strongly urged that the AO LO for BOLZANO should have at least a fortnight with him (Col. McBrattney) before taking over. I agree.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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DISTRIBUTION: Chief Commissioner
Deputy Executive Commissioner
PC, BOLSAHO (thru' PC, Venezio Reg)
CA Section
Net Section
Room Section
File
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6. Press Censorship. Col. Mofrattney raised the important point of press censorship. At the moment he is able, he says, to keep the peace between the papers by applying a fairly rigid censorship. After the turnover this will disappear and he fears that press polemics will create disorder. I told him that I thought we must leave this to the Italian Government but would consider it.
7. Transport for D.P.R. Major GEDDES appeared to have a good organization running but he is most anxious that alternative transport should be provided in the event of the Brenner line breaking down. He mentioned the existence of 200-300 German trucks now lying idle. I should like to know from D.P.R. what alternative means of transport is being considered.

MSL/JG.

MSL
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION: Chief Commissioner.
Deputy Executive Commissioner
FC, BOLZANO, thru RO Veneto Region.
Est Sec
QA Sec
Econ Sec
File
Float

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CONFIDENTIAL.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION,
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner.

Dep. EC
Col. Fiske has
seen
23 August 1945.

Ref: 8048/EC.

SUBJECT: Notes on Executive Commissioner's
Tour - VENEZIA REGION.

TO : Distribution below.

I attended the Provincial Commissioners' Meeting at SAN VITO on August 20th. The meeting was concerned chiefly with preparing the Region for a tidy turnover to the Italian Government with the assurance of continuity in policy after the turnover. The following points arose:

1. Turnover. Regional Commissioner explained the plan for the turnover to the Italian Government. As was to be expected great concern was expressed at the future of both British and American officers. We must see to it that this very reasonable concern is treated most sympathetically at HQ and I propose to institute a committee under my own chairmanship to deal with matters of principle and individual cases connected with this.

Civil Affairs.

2. Political. The Region reported that there was undoubtedly more stability and more confidence among the public, CC.RR and particularly the Prefects who had recently attended a meeting with the Regional Commissioner and were far happier than five or six weeks ago. The Christian Democrats were obviously out to increase their publicity campaign and were not content to leave this entirely to the Communists. The Action Party seemed to be swinging to the right, while the Communists were trying to impress their respectability on to the public. 4489
3. CC.RR. The usual problems arose over the CC.RR who are short of trucks, clothing and equipment. I was assured that there is no clothing or equipment hoarded in depots and it really seems as if the supply from HQ has broken down, for MMIA in ROME have made it quite clear to me that if indenting is done in the proper way, clothing is available. I told the meeting of the new attitude taken by AFHQ and MMIA with regard to CC.RR priorities. It is clear that a priority on POL must be established.
4. Questura Agents. EC pointed out the problem of replacing the Questura agents for vacancies that occur. Under Italian regulations Prefects cannot replace these nor even budget for them until they have been screened and appointed by the Ministry of Interior. It is essential that these vacancies should be filled, if possible before the turnover. A similar

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problem has arisen for financial provision for auxiliary police numbering some hundreds appointed by AMG and for whom no budgeting provision is made by the Italian Government. Public Safety Sub-Commission should take this up.

5. Political Prisoners. The Region is releasing a great many political prisoners, some Provinces at the rate of 10-12 a day. We should do our utmost to make the MODENA concentration camp available as soon as possible.
6. Elections. Excellent progress is being made even in towns such as VERONA where the electoral records have all been burned. BOLZANO is a separate question but there should be no anxiety on this score.
7. Epuration. In order to ensure continuity after the turnover Dr. ROTTE from the Italian Government proposes to visit the Region. His visit should be hastened. Special provisions are being made for BOLZANO.

Economic Section.

8. MILAN Economic Committees. Provincial Commissioners are still not happy with regard to the over-ruling authority of the MILAN Economic Committees. Although I was assured that the regional representation was sufficient there is obviously not yet enough liaison between the Committees and the Regions to get over the natural parochial instinct of the Prefects and Provincial Commissioners. This is a matter which the MILAN Committees should study. The Region, however, accepts the fact that the MILAN Committees have power to release materials within the Provinces and the Regional Commissioner took the line that the Provincial Commissioner ceased to have responsibility for the economic problems dealt with by these Committees and that this was a matter now for the local Chambers of Commerce in the Provinces. The point, however, was made that the MILAN Committees must offer consumer goods to agricultural producing centres if they are to expect the latter to export their local produce.
9. Block in Materials. Another important point made was that the block on materials established in the BOLZANO area acts as a brake on all economic progress.
10. Amassi. The amassi is going well but at TREVISO has lost 20,000 tons of corn (L.80,000,000) owing to damage by storm which ravaged the whole of NE Venetian Region.
11. Compensation for Damage in Villages. The problem of financial compensation in cases where villages were totally destroyed by the Germans in retaliation for patriot activities was discussed. This is different from the bomb damage scheme and needs sympathetic handling.
12. Timber. AFHQ apparently wishes to control all sales of wood. The result is complete chaos and Provincial Commissioners are unable to carry out the instruction. This seems to be centralisation at its worst. There are also complaints that the price of wood taken by PBS (L.1800) is far too low. PBS, however, are adamant in spite of the fact that 13 Corps agreed to take the same type of wood at an all-over price of L.6000. Clearly there is lack of coordination here which AFHQ might well see to through the Local Resources Board.
13. Exports. I was asked to take up with the Chief Financial Adviser the question of provision of funds for the financing of exports of local resources to AUSTRIA and GERMANY. A considerable export trade is now being handled, particularly in fruit, and unless a financial scheme can be made available the present procedure

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of pure barter will continue. Colonel HOWELL asked that this should be taken up as a matter of urgency.

14. Salt. The release of salt has been slow ^{and} the Region is inclined to place the blame on Economic Section. It seems that transportation is not the difficulty but some delay at HQ. In a corn-eating Region salt is very necessary to prevent scabies.
15. Silk. A strong recommendation was made that the local fillature industries should be allowed to process the cocoons before export. This would give a fillip to local industry, reduce freight, and they were quite willing to release the fillatured silk for export or other purposes afterwards.

MSL/JC.+

M.S. L. 11.42
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Distribution: Chief Commissioner
Deputy Executive Commissioner
EC, Venesie Region
Establishment Section
Civil Affairs Section
Economic Section
File
Float

4487

Mr. Webster

TO PRO

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File

But

3/

CAPT. MONTANT.

These are the notes on Col.

Fiske's tour.

SH.

4486

Draft.

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD IN EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER'S

OFFICE ON 5 MAY 1945.

Col. Piske had returned from a visit to the North of Italy and reported upon conditions found there.

Political Situation. In BOLOGNA officials of left wing tendencies, mostly Socialists and Communists, had been appointed. This was not the general trend throughout the north and conditions varied. The impression was gained that unless competent administrators, career Prefects from the South, could be sent up, it could not be hoped to cope with local administration. The spirit of apathy prevalent in the South was not present in the North, where we would be dealing with a population who had taken the full brunt of the war.

Food Situation. Good in Po Valley. In BOLOGNA there was plenty of food, but transport was needed to get it into the city. Deficiency of food in TURIN and MILAN, although not critical. The situation was reported to be acute in LIGURIA. Col. PISKE was of the opinion that with proper transport food could be distributed.

Transport. Practically all transport had been taken by the Germans but some had been repossessed by the Allied Armies. Ex C stated he ~~had~~ had been told by General ROBERTSON that all German military transport had been frozen for AC.

Public Utilities. Throughout the Po Valley in excellent shape. Water and sewage systems were normal, trams were running and lifts working. Electric light was on. Gas works were able to function but were not

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Public Utilities. Throughout the Po Valley in excellent shape. Water and sewage systems were normal, trams were running and lifts working. Electric light was on. Gas works were able to function but were not manufacturing gas owing to lack of coal. Very few bridges had been destroyed, not more than three or four. Railroads were functioning.

Equipment. The Germans destroyed everything they could. Some aeroplanes factories converted to the manufacture of rolling stock, etc. CINAI. The CINAI Central Committee claimed to represent the entire North of Italy, but Col. Fiske had serious doubts of this claim.

In all probability local committees would have a strong voice in affairs which may be at variance with that of CINAI. The CINAI were not in favour of the present Rome Government. Although they were prepared to accept a moderate Prime Minister, they did not think the North were

- 2 -

adequately represented in the present Government. Personalities had not been discussed, and the main difficulty seemed to be who was going to have the Portfolio of the Interior.

Extermination. Had proceeded very fast in the North. In MILAN 500 Fascists had been shot and a considerably larger number in TURIN. Col. Piske considered there was little need to worry about screening at this end as epuration would be carried out in the North. Since we had been in People's Courts continued to function and there had been sporadic executions on a diminishing scale. Local Government was found to be satisfactorily administered everywhere.

Price Structure. Prices were going up by the hour and it would not be very long before they would be on parity with the prices in the South.

Wage Structure. There were difficulties compared to the South. Wages in some cases were better than in the South. Food was much cheaper in the North. Gold was worth about four times as much as in the South.

Prince of Piemonte. Arrived yesterday at an airport in the hands of

the Partisans. Contrary to expectations, he received a warm welcome from the Partisans, who escorted him through the city. He visited Commanding General IV Corps and stayed some time. There had been demonstrations against the House of Savoy. From the Prince's point of view, possibly it was better for him to make the visit to find out his position.

Attitude of Population. In TURIN Col. PISKE was struck by the fact that people were rather cool towards Allied troops coming in, in marked contrast to MILAN and BOLOGNA and smaller towns. It was hard to account for this as in his opinion TURIN was more Communist than MILAN. There had 448

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Prince of Piemonte. Arrived yesterday at an airport in the hands of the Partisans. Contrary to expectations, he received a warm welcome from the Partisans, who escorted him through the city. He visited Commanding General IV Corps and stayed some time. There had been demonstrations against the House of Savoy. From the Prince's point of view, possibly it was better for him to make the visit to find out his position.

Attitude of Population. In TURIN Col. FISKE was struck by the fact that people were rather cool towards Allied troops coming in, in marked contrast to MILAN and BOLOGNA and smaller towns. It was hard to account for this as in his opinion TURIN was more Communistic than MILAN. There had been a lot of sniping in TURIN. 448

Mussolini's wife, daughter and son were taken out of MILAN and sent to an internment camp at VERDI. Col. FISKE did not consider that the people of MILAN would have molested them. Vittorio Mussolini was in MILAN and wanted to surrender to the Allies. GRAZIANI was a prisoner.

Prisons. were being guarded by Partisans, as were airports, road blocks, etc. Partisans were fairly orderly and disciplined and had done a good job of administration. They had not taken a lot of German equipment or ammunition dumps. There were mixed patrols of CC.BB and Partisans at road blocks.

- 3 -

Enemy. The Italian Republican Fascist Army had disintegrated. Partisans were not much concerned with them. They were searching for leaders, but not rank and file. Disarming of Patriots had not begun in N.W. Italy. SCAO Fifth Army had reported it had gone very well in his area.

CC.RR. The Carabinieri were functioning and were young, well trained and efficient. They had obviously been organized and trained underground.

The CC.RR. proposed to be sent from the South may not be wanted.

AMG Teams. These had followed in closely on the Arnais and had been well received by the local government teams, who were already in office and functioning. Col. Piske did not know if any appointments had been confirmed. Ex C thought it would be a good thing to deal with these during Phase II, but Col. Piske doubted if it was practical.

Hospitals. Medical supplies were urgently needed, especially in MILAN and TURIN.

Coal. There was a great need for coal. Ex C asked if the 8,000 tons could be got over.

Press Reports. PRO said AMG had a fairly good press in the North, except for some criticism of the economic policy.

Enlistment of Patriots into the Army. Land Forces S/C asked if Patriots wanted to join the Italian Army. Col. Piske said many patriots would like to come into the Army as organized units.

Italian Correspondents to the North. Col. Piske saw no reason why they should not be sent. The more contact we could get between North and South the better.

AMG Staff. Were extremely thin on the ground. Not going to be so many as anticipated. Provincial and Regional teams were in.

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AMG Staff. Were extremely thin on the ground. Not going to be so many as anticipated. Provincial and Regional teams were in.

Refugees. No refugee problem to date.

Housing Problem. Very serious due to bomb damage. Most of the principal hotels were in good condition.

Fifth Army. SCAO Fifth Army was setting up an office in MILAN until it came under Regional control. Ex C stated that Gen. Robertson was going to try to get Phase II as soon as possible. Col. Fiske said we did not want to be premature. There were still many Germans and Fascists at large.

4483

- 4 -

Communications System. Working satisfactorily. Telephone exchange undamaged and telephones working.

PWB were in MILAN and functioning in a helpful manner. MILAN radio was controlled by PWB.

Col. Henderson pointed out we could not link up communication systems between North and South without transport.

Proclamation. ANG and local authorities though certain clauses in the Proclamation were unsatisfactory and out of date. CA Sec maintained it was better to keep in some clauses, such as not being in possession of radio sets, in view of possible developments. Ex C said this could be worked out in Phase II.

Ex C said we were not getting sufficient news and instructed Econ Sec to press for more reports to come through, especially from Fifth and Eighth Armies.

Ex C had a letter from 15 Army Group asking that all personnel proceeding North on visits should be self-supporting.

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4482

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Col. Lister;

Col. Jones has seen.

3 March

WTC

2
Lup.

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

785015

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
ESTABLISHMENT SECTION

File

Date

3 March

FROM

TO

Deputy Chief of Staff

→ Staff Officer

Executive Officer (A)

Executive Officer (B) *JK*

G-1 (A)

G-1 (B)

G-4 (A)

G-4 (B)

Headquarters Commandant

Adjutant

FOR:

To see & return, please.

Draft of reply for signature of

Col. Liske

Please see/telephone me about this

has not

Investigation and report

been yet.

Answer

Signature

Approval/Disapproval

Your Information and return

Your File

to handle

0162

785015

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner.

Ref: 805/82.

2 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Visit to MILLIA Region.

TO : VP, Economic Section.
VP, Civil Affairs Section.
VP, Establishment Section.

The following notes were made during the Executive Commissioner's recent tour of MILLIA Region. They are forwarded for your information and any action you may consider necessary.

Info/Action.
Econ Sec.

1. Labour. It was reported that the Labour Offices were working well. Mr. Bradine has not yet visited the Region.

Econ Sec.

2. Sugar Beet. We were told that 300,000 tons of sugar beet had been wasted from last year's crop for lack of processing owing to destruction of factories. One processing factory at GLENN can be got into commission and can produce 7-8000 tons of sugar beet at the expense of 4000 tons of coal. I was asked whether coal could be imported. A Welsh-Gardiner mixture at a proportion of 1-3 was desirable. I gave no commitment but the matter should be followed up. It is essential to fix the price of sugar beet now if it is to be sown at all.

Econ Sec.

3. Schooners. There seems to be the usual frustration on all schooner traffic. The ports of RUMBLE and RAVENNA could be used and would solve many regional problems. Transportation Sub-Com should take up.

Econ Sec.

4. 100 Grams Ration. MILLIA Region had never received the signal announcing the increased ration.

Econ Sec.

5. 1000 of Company. This Company had never appeared in MILLIA although promised. Companies needed to move sulphur and for general purposes.

6. Railway Employees. The question of the wages of these

The following notes were made during the Executive Commissioner's recent tour of Emilia Region. They are forwarded for your information and any action you may consider necessary.

- Life/Action.
Econ Sec.
1. Labour. It was reported that the Labour Offices were working well. Mr. Braine has not yet visited the Region.
- Econ Sec.
2. Sugar Beet. We were told that 300,000 tons of sugar beet had been wasted from last year's crop for lack of processing owing to destruction of factories. One processing factory at CESENA can be got into commission and can produce 7-8000 tons of sugar beet at the expense of 4000 tons of coal. I was asked whether coal could be imported. A Welsh-Sardinian mixture at a proportion of 1-3 was desirable. I gave no commitment but the matter should be followed up. It is essential to fix the price of sugar beet now if it is to be sown at all.
- Econ Sec.
3. Schooners. There seems to be the usual frustration on all schooner traffic. The ports of RIMINI and RAVENNA could be used and would solve many regional problems. Transportation Sub-Com should take up.
- Econ Sec.
4. 300 Grain Ration. Emilia Region had never received the signal announcing the increased ration.
- Econ Sec.
5. 1000 CF Company. This Company had never appeared in Emilia although promised. Companies needed to move sulphur and for general purposes.
- Econ Sec.
6. Railway Employees. The question of the wages of these employees was raised. Transportation Sub-Commission should take up.
- Econ Sec.
7. Personnel. Ident. Colonel PETER to go. Regional Commissioner quite keen to have ROBINSON, GILBERT and THORNTON. Executive Officers, Establishment section had not visited the Region.
- QA Sec.
8. Drug Prices. EMILIA no good at all. Prices not fixed for basic drugs but only for special preparations. Basic drug prices should be fixed. Public Health Sub-Com has not visited.
- QA Sec.
9. Decrees. There seems a lag and some confusion in the application of Italian decrees to 8 Army territory and the follow-up Provinces. I found a wages decree signed on 13 November made applicable by General Order signed 13 February. Something wrong here. VP QA Sec will take up on his forthcoming visit.
- QA Sec
- Chief Staff Officer.
to the Executive Commissioner.

Tel Ext 341

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

LWS/el

Ref. 805/COS

31 January 45

SUBJECT: Recent Inspection Tour of the Chief of Staff

TO : DCOS, Establishment Section, Hq. AC

The following notes and observations were made during the Chief of Staff's recent tour of inspection (Jan 17-23) of AMG Fifth Army, Northern provinces of Toscana Region, and Perugia area. They are submitted to you for information and such action as may be appropriate.

- I -

Discussion with Brigadier General HUME, Florence, 18 Jan 45

- a. Promotion - Captain Limbert, British Police Officer - General Hume warmly recommended the promotion of this officer, not only on account of his work but on account of the appointment which he holds, i.e., Patriots Officer, Fifth Army. I saw some of this officer's work in the refugee camp later. This certainly is first class and merits some special treatment for the officer.
- b. Officers for Olive Oil Amassi - At General Hume's request and with Establishment Section's approval, I agreed that AMG Fifth Army should nominate their six officers for the olive oil amassi instead of those nominated by Establishment Section.
- c. Attachment of AMG Fifth Army to Fifth Army - Major Wynors raised this subject, and pointed out that it would be extremely useful from the point of view of housekeeping, maintenance of transport, provision of tents, etc. General Hume pressed for it. After discussion with Colonel Monfort and subject to any technical objections, I think that it might be possible to allow this to go through but I did not commit the Commission to anything and said I would get the Establishment Section to examine the matter in Rome.
- d. Domestic Transport - AMG Fifth Army - G-4, Fifth Army, appear indirectly to have accepted responsibility for replacements but the attachment of AMG to Fifth Army mentioned above would probably help. What happens in Eighth Army?

O of COS, 26/1/45
Sub: Insp Tour of COS
To: Est Sec

- II -

At Siena, 17 Jan 45

a. Saw Colonel Nichols who had an apparent staff of six and one of the Piemonte provincial teams attached. Several officers have been removed from him in order to join the olive oil amassing in the South. As olive oil amassing has to be done in the North it seems a pity to have removed them, particularly as they are not Venezia Region men.

b. For administration purposes only, Colonel Nichols does not want extra staff for he uses, as he calls them, Italian CAO's, that is to say, husbands of American and English wives, many of whom speak English and are apparently unpaid, and who do his work for him. This is all right so long as great care is used in picking the men and that they do not go corrupt.

c. Colonel Nichols said that at any moment he thought Siena and Grosseto could be amalgamated and run by one provincial team.

- III -

At Pistoia, 19 Jan 45

a. Provincial Commissioner - Captain Dunn was acting for Major McBratney who was away. He seems to have a good grip of the situation and talked well.

b. Requisitioning of Cars - The order forbidding the requisitioning and hiring of cars has filtered down to Provinces and will restrict enormously the work of the Provincial and technical officers. Something must be done about it. If cars cannot be requisitioned, can tires be requisitioned? This would put cars off the road and would enable officers to cannibalise.

- IV -

At AMG IV Corps

a. SCAO - Met Lieut Colonel Walker, (A), Senior Civil Affairs Officer, IV Corps, a first-class officer obviously in the closest touch with General Crittenger, the Corps Commander, who has the greatest confidence in him and spoke very warily of his work.

- V -

At Livorno, 20 Jan 1945

a. Provincial Team - Livorno Province team is practically all American. It did not strike me as being a cohesive unit. The Provincial 77

O of COS, 31/1/45
Sub: Insp Tour of COS
To: Est Sec

Commissioner does not get on with Colonel Kirkwood and wants a new assignment. Undoubtedly he has his points but both he and Colonel Kirkwood are too inclined to say that what PPS says must be done. This is quite a wrong approach. Colonel Kirkwood wants an American officer there and it looks as if we shall have to send someone from outside the Province.

- VII -

a. I was very struck with Lieut Colonel Walters, Provincial Commissioner, Pisa, a policeman from Sicily (Agrigento) who seems to have a grip of his Province and his Provincial staff. My criticism of him would be that he is a little too much of the policeman and for that reason I doubt whether he would fit into Florence Province.

J. W. Stearns
Chief Staff Officer
To the Chief of Staff *Maj*

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