

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

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MINUTES -
VICE PRESIDENTS MEETINGS
JUNE 45 - JAN. 46

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
AFHQ 394

4 January 1946

CC 562/24

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 4 January 1946, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. McBride, Mr. Halford, Brigadier General Lee, Major General Browning, Comodoro Ziroli, Colonel Savko, Officier de Premiere Classe Guyot, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Colonel Manspace, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Italian Provinces

Reference paragraph 1 of Minutes of 19 December, the Chief Commissioner reported that the Northern provinces, with the exception of Udine and Venetia Giulia, had been returned to the Italian Government on 31 December. In this connection an Associated Press dispatch in "The Stars and Stripes" reported that Udine had been held back as a disputed area. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that this was not correct and was contrary to the announcement he had made on 13 December. Lt Col Bergin had contacted AP and "The Stars and Stripes" about a correction. Of the papers that carried the announcement, "The Stars and Stripes" was the only one to have made that mistake.

2. 1946 Import Program

The Chief Commissioner reported that the first portion of the funds had been voted -- \$750,000,000 for 1946. Beginning 1 January, the responsibility of supply had passed to UNRRA. Many of the personnel of the Economic Section would be transferred to UNRRA, but the Economic Supply Group would still continue for some time in order to handle January and February arrivals that had been procured by PEA.

3. Italo-Swiss Trade Agreement

Colonel Walton reported that the agreement has not yet gone into effect because the two interested parties are still arguing about the question of payment of back debts.

4. Future of AC

The Chief Commissioner stated that AFHQ had not yet received a reply to its appeal to the Combined Chiefs on the future of the Commission.

5. Political Resurgence

Reference paragraph 1 of Minute 6, Minutes of 19 December, on the subject of elections, Mr. Halford reported that it may not be possible to hold elections for the Constituents until the coming Summer because of the slow pace at which election lists

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Reference paragraph 1 of Minute 6, Minutes of 19 December, on the subject of elections, Mr. Halford reported that it may not be possible to hold elections for the Constituents until the coming summer because of the slow pace at which election lists are being approved.

With regard to the handover of Northern provinces to the Italian Government, there had been a favorable reaction in the press. However, the statement released after the meeting of Foreign Ministers at Moscow had brought about immediate protests. The papers bemoaned the fact that Italy had been relegated to the same position as Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary and other former Nazi satellites in spite of her contribution as a co-belligerent.

A crisis seemed to be brewing in the Socialist Party. Signor Bartini, the Secretary of the party, had resigned on 21 December and Signor Morandi had taken his place. The new Secretary claimed there was no crisis in the party, but Mr. Halford pointed out that the old problem of fusion of the Socialist and Communist parties had been very much in debate recently. In spite of the new Secretary's statement, the press and prominent Socialists had continued to speculate on the subject. Morandi is reported to be in favor of fusion.

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Mr. Cleveland reported that in addition to the transfer of responsibility to UNRRA, conversations were being carried on with the American Embassy about those functions of the Economic Section which will be assumed by the Embassy. First in the program is the transfer of those remaining functions of the Labor Subcommission, which is scheduled to be effected this month. The Chief Commissioner observed that the transfer depended on the approval of the Combined Chiefs and AC had no authority to take such action without word from them.

7. Wheat Situation

Mr. Cleveland stated that the wheat situation was not good. He explained that at the beginning of the FEA program supplies were in bad shape, but it was hoped that through the FEA program they would be built up. There will be a shortage by the end of this month due to the lateness of the FEA program and the fact that UNRRA is some 90,000 tons short for the first month of its program. The Italian Government is aware of the situation and efforts are being made to distribute incoming supplies so that the bread ration will not be affected. However, Mr. Cleveland pointed out that if the continuation of the UNRRA program does not come close to the requirements needed, the situation will probably get worse than better. Most of the wheat is expected to come in during the latter part of January and early February. Mr. Cleveland explained that the trouble in getting the wheat was due mainly to three factors: 1) the cumulative effect of strikes in the United States; 2) the paralysis of shipping due to reluctance of crews to sign up for trips scheduled for the holiday period; 3) the fact that the biggest wheat movement toward the Atlantic seaboard is now taking place in the United States and this has been hampered by the disruption of railway traffic by the holidays and redeployment of military personnel.

8. Import Requirements - 1946

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8. Import Requirements - 1946

The Chief Commissioner commended the Economic Section and those concerned with the publication of this report for having done an excellent job. He observed that it was a worthwhile piece of work which deserved careful reading.

9. Financing of Additional Credits and Loans

Mr. Cleveland reported that the financing of programs other than that of UNRRA does not seem very likely. The question of the formal channel for requesting additional funds was brought up and it was stated that the official channel probably will be for the Italian Government to approach the US and British Governments through its representatives in those countries. In this connection the Chief Commissioner observed that if this method were followed, AC would be left in the dark as to the progress of negotiations. There has been talk about sending a Mission abroad to treat the matter, but thus far nothing concrete has happened.

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10. Troop Pay Account

Colonel Manapace reported that definite advice had been received as to the quantity of money in the troop pay account. Definite certifications amount to \$120,000,000 through 31 March 45, and an additional \$20,000,000 has been certified provisionally. Colonel Manapace also reported unofficially that the first of February is being considered as the date for Government participation in the troop pay account.

11. Local Elections

Brigadier Carr stated that the Council of Ministers had approved new decrees for local elections. All the points raised by AC had been incorporated and all major requirements met.

12. American Officer Personnel

Colonel Parkin stated that under a new circular the War Department had cancelled all officers' signed service commitments and had received services into five new categories: 1) elect to continue on extended active service for an unlimited time; 2) those who signed until 30 June 1947; 3) those who signed for an unlimited time; 4) those who are to serve for a period to be agreed upon between the commanding officer and officer involved; 5) those to be relieved as soon as possible. A circular on this matter is being prepared for distribution to all American AC officers.

13. Report by Brigadier Lush

Brigadier Lush reported that the handover had gone over perfectly. Regional Commissioners are liquidating and liaison officers are already set up and functioning. The AC directive to the liaison officers had been approved by APHQ and a letter to the Prime Minister is being drafted suggesting instructions for the prefects. Brigadier called attention to the fact that some 45 British warrant officers, WCO's and OH's of high caliber had recently left AC and that this would undoubtedly result in a falling off in the efficiency of some of the services of the Headquarters.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - 1000 hours, Wednesday, 9 January 1946

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Finance Section

W. W. STEARNS
Lt. Col., MCD
Staff Officer to CC

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L. W. Stearns
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Lt Col., AGP
Staff Officer to CC

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- VP, Establishment Section (2)
- Political Advisor (A)
- Political Advisor (B)
- Navy Subcommittee (B)
- Law, Foreign Subcommittee (IMLA)
- Mr. Furness Subcommittee
- French Representative, AC
- Soviet Representative, AC
- Liaison Officer (EC)
- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- G-5 AFHQ (5)
- Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Comptroller
APC 304

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16 January 1946

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Vice President's' Meeting, 1060 hours, 16 January 1946, Chief Criminals' Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Sueno, Lieutenant Colonel McCleary, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hapkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Commodore Tiroli, Colonel Gayko, Captain Moullec, Lieutenant Colonel Berrin, Colonel Robert, Colonel Walton, Officer de premier classe Gayot.

1. Restoration of Italian Provinces

Reference was made to the minutes of 9 January, the Chief Commissioner reported that a late correction in regard to the province of India not being a **dictated** area had been made to the erroneous announcement that appeared in "The Stars and Stripes".

2. Italy-Solara Trade Agreement

Upon the Chief Commissioner's inquiry as to the status of this matter, Colonel Walton replied that there has been no change in the situation. An answer is still awaited from the Swiss Government.

3. Theory of AG

Reference para 4 of Minutes of 3 January, the Chief Commissioner stated the situation remained the same -- no travel had been resumed.

4. Codtime for Carabidae

Further to paragraph 12, "ceiling for Carabinieri", minutes of 9 January, the Chief Commissioner suggested that a paper be prepared as the basis for a letter to be written to ASPAQ in case Prime Minister De Gasperi should make a request for the increase of 10,000 in the carabinieri ceiling.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Lieutenant Colonel McCleary, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Bessing, Commodore Zivoli, Colonel Syke, Captain Moulton, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Colonel Walton, Officer de premier, Chinese Guyot.

1. Restoration of Italian Provinces

Reference para 1 of Minutes of 9 January, the Chief Commissioner reported that a late correction in regard to the Province of Udine not being a limited area had been made to the erroneous announcement that appeared in "The Stars and Stripes."

2. Italy-Swiss Trade Agreement

Upon the Chief Commissioner's inquiry as to the status of this matter, Colonel Walton replied that there has been no change in the situation. An answer is still awaited from the Swiss Government.

3. Future of AG

Reference para 4 of Minutes of 9 January, the Chief Commissioner stated the situation remained the same -- no word had been received.

4. Ceiling for Carabinieri

Further to paragraph 12, "Ceiling for Carabinieri", minutes of 9 January, the Chief Commissioner suggested that a paper be prepared as the basis for a letter to be written to ARMA in case Prime Minister De Gasperi should make a request for the increase of 10,000 in the carabinieri ceiling.

5. Political Regime

Mr. Jones reported that the most important development of the week was the second plenary session of the Consult, which opened on 9 January. Mandini (Socialist) was elected to fill the place of Vice President which had been left vacant by the death of its former occupant. A proposal for the right of auto-convention by the Consult was defeated by a large majority.

Prime Minister De Gasperi gave a speech on Saturday, 12 January, which was principally devoted to the international position of Italy. On the subject of the Moscow communiqué following the meeting of Foreign Ministers he announced that the Italian Government had made protests to the American and British Governments and the following assurances had been received. The American Government declared that the conclusions reached at Moscow were based on the Potsdam

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decisions; that recognition of Italy's unambiguous position was in no way invalidated at Moscow; that US policy was that, in keeping with earlier declarations, Italy would have an opportunity to present her viewpoint. The British Government answered that the Italian viewpoint would be taken into consideration before approval of the definite text of the treaty, that Italy's position was not considered to be worse than after Potsdam inasmuch as it has in no way been modified at Moscow; and that the important fact contained in the Moscow communiqué is that the work of the Council of Foreign Ministers would be resumed at a definite date. De Gasperi then observed that Italians were dismayed by the announcement that all states would have the right to sit in judgment on the Italian peace treaty and pointed out that Italy's contribution to the war against Germany compared favorably with that of some of the minor states which would participate in deciding her destiny.

Mr. Jones then summarized the speeches on foreign policy made by Signor Morzini and Signor Nitto on Monday and Tuesday, respectively.

Mr. Jones spoke of the final resolution of the Fifth Communist Congress. It included the following points: the Communist party believes that it is a nationally homogeneous, solidly-organized political force enjoying prestige and undisputed authority among all strata of the population; remnants of the Fascist regime have not been eliminated quickly and completely; the Communist Congress declares there should be no further postponement of the Constituent, which sovereign powers, should declare the downfall of the monarchy, repudiation of Fascism, and restoring the Italian state to be a democratic one of universal and intellectual workers governed by a system of universal representation; the Communist party advocated a foreign policy along the lines that Italy must strive for a just peace and seek her salvation in unity of the great powers, denounce as contrary to national interests hostility against the Soviet Union, defend and solve through direct negotiations with Mussolini the Italian character of Trieste. The Italian Communist Party is opposed to a Federal state but recognizes the need for some regional autonomy in Sicily and Sardinia.

Mr. Jones reported that on the subject of compulsory voting the Italian had expressed the views of the Communist party. In a press interview last week Togliatti said that the Communist party would withdraw from the government if the latter approved compulsory voting. This proposal is said to be debated in the Consultative. The Liberal viewpoint was expressed by Elettari who declared at the National Committee of the Liberal party meeting in Rome that the Liberal party favored compulsory voting and hoped the Communists would not break up the coalition government through their opposition to compulsory voting.

Mr. Jones also brought attention to Morzini's Socialist party Secretary General) and Silvestri's (editor of Socialist paper "Avanti") trip to London for a short visit at the invitation of the British Labor Party.

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Mr. Jones also brought attention to Mammì's (Socialist party Secretary General) and Silvano's (editor of Socialist paper "Avanti") trip to London for a short visit at the invitation of the British Labor Party.

6. Sanction loaned to Venezia Giulia.

Mr. Cleveland referred to a cable received from AFHQ on this matter to the effect that repayment would not be made to the Italian civil economy in respect of the supplies loaned by AC to Venezia Giulia. It was Mr. Cleveland's opinion that such action was not justified on the basis of the situation. The Chief Counselor also expressed opposition to the AFHQ point of view and directed that a signal be drafted.

7. Transfer of Certain AF Functions to AFHQ

Mr. Cleveland stated that AFHQ had taken the position that there should be no piecemeal transfer of functions; therefore, the turnover of Labor Subversion to the Subversive and Captured Enemy Materials Branch to AFHQ would have to be postponed. CIES had however directed the transfer of the Allied Financial Agency to AFHQ, though it is to be maintained in Rome attached to the

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Finance Subcommittee.8. Coal Situation

Mr. Cleveland reported no change had taken place. The cause for the present shortage is that there were during the last half of December insufficient cranes to man the ships which were loaded during that period. Present indications were that there would be enough supplies to keep in operation only the railroads, hospitals and bakeries. Industries which do not have stocks of their own would have to stop working since there would be no coal available for them during January.

9. North Italy Industrial Council

Mr. Cleveland stated that the Council had resigned and considerable discussion was under way both in Government circles and the press about the setting up of a National Industrial Council under the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. Mr. Cleveland said that Northern Italians were apprehensive that the Southerners were taking the control away from them; nevertheless, it was believed important that when the new National Industrial Council is set up it should have some representation from the North.

10. Feeding of the Italian Army and Navy

Colonel Walton reported that AC had been requested to inform SAC as to a tentative date when the responsibility for feeding the Italian Navy and presumably the Italian Air Force should pass over to the Italian Government. The question of procurement was brought up and the Chief Commissioner observed that AC should ascertain whether the procurement and shipping space for the next two months had been obtained. In this connection, the Chief Commissioner also pointed out that there was the possibility that UNRRA, which is engaged in bringing food to Italy, might assume the responsibility of procurement by arrangement with the Italian Government. Under this arrangement, the Italian Government would provide funds over and above the program that UNRRA has undertaken for feeding the civilian population.

CORRECTION:

Para 12, "Coiling for Carabinieri," Minutes of 9 January 46:

Delete: last two sentences.

Insert: "General Browning reported unofficially that the War Minister's personal ideas were to raise the ceiling by 10,000 and that with this addition there could be formed 20 extra mobile battalions, and it is believed this would stabilize the police force in the country."

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DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
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VP, Civil Affairs Section
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VP, Establishment Section (2) ✓
Political Advisor (A)
Political Advisor (B)
Navy Subcommittee (3)
Land Forces S/C (4) (para)
Air Forces Subcommittee

French Rep, AC
Soviet Rep, AC
Liaison Officer (EC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
U.S. Army (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

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W. Stearns
L. H. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGO
Staff Officer to CG

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

4 January 1946

CC 551/44

MINUTES

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8. Import Requirements - 1946

6. Transfer of AC Functions

Mr. Cleveland reported that in addition to the transfer of responsibility to UNRRA, conversations were being carried on with the American Embassy about those functions of the Economic Section which will be assumed by the Embassy. First in the program is the transfer of those remaining functions of the Labor Subcommittee, which is scheduled to be effected this month. The Chief Commissioner observed that the transfer depended on the approval of the Combined Chiefs and AC had no authority to take such action without word from them.

7. Wheat Situation

Mr. Cleveland stated that the wheat situation was not good. He explained that at the beginning of the FEA program supplies were in bad shape, but it was hoped that through the FEA program they would be built up. There will be a shortage by the end of this month due to the lateness of the FEA program and the fact that UNRRA is some 90,000 tons short for the first month of its program. The Italian Government is aware of the situation and efforts are being made to distribute incoming supplies so that the bread ration will not be affected. However, Mr. Cleveland pointed out that if the continuation of the UNRRA program does not come close to the requirements needed, the situation will probably get worse than better. Most of the wheat is expected to come in during the latter part of January and early February. Mr. Cleveland explained that the trouble in getting the wheat was due mainly to three factors: 1) the cumulative effect of strikes in the United States; 2) the paralysis of shipping due to reluctance of crews to sign up for trips scheduled for the holiday period; 3) the fact that the biggest wheat movement toward the Atlantic seaboard is now taking place in the United States and this has been hampered by the disruption of railway traffic by the holidays and redeployment of military personnel.

8. Import Requirements - 1946

The Chief Commissioner commended the Economic Section and those concerned with the publication of this report for having done an excellent job. He observed that it was a worthwhile piece of work which deserved careful reading.

9. Financing of Additional Credits and Loans

Mr. Cleveland reported that the financing of programs other than that of UNRRA does not seem very likely. The question of the formal channel for requesting additional funds was brought up and it was stated that the official channel probably will be for the Italian Government to approach the US and British Governments through its representatives in those countries. In this connection the Chief Commissioner observed that if this method were followed, AC would be left in the dark as to the progress of negotiations. There has been talk about sending a Mission abroad to treat the matter, but thus far nothing concrete has happened.

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10. Troop Pay Account

Colonel Menapace reported that definite advice had been received as to the quantity of money in the troop pay account. Definite certifications amount to \$120,000,000 through 31 March 45, and an additional \$20,000,000 has been certified provisionally. Colonel Menapace also reported unofficially that the first of February is being considered as the date for Government participation in the troop pay account.

11. Local Elections

Brigadier Carr stated that the Council of Ministers had approved new decrees for local elections. All the points raised by AC had been incorporated and all major requirements met.

12. American Officer Personnel

Colonel Perkins stated that under a new circular the War Department had cancelled all officers' signed service commitments and had redivided service into five new categories: 1) elect to continue on extended active service for an unlimited time; 2) those who signed until 30 June 1947; 3) those who signed until 31 December 1946; 4) those who are to serve for a period to be agreed upon between the commanding officer and officer involved; 5) those to be relieved as soon as possible. A circular on this matter is being prepared for distribution to all American AC officers.

13. Report by Brigadier Lush

Brigadier Lush reported that the handover had gone over perfectly. Residential Commissioners are liquidating and liaison officers are already set up and functioning. The AC directive to the liaison officers had been approved by AFHQ and a letter to the Prime Minister is being drafted suggesting instructions for the prefects. The Brigadier called attention to the fact that some 45 British warrant officers, NCO's and OR's of high caliber had recently left AC and that this would undoubtedly result in a falling off in the efficiency of some of the services of this Headquarters.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - 1000 hours, Wednesday, 9 January 1946

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Lt. Col., AGO
Staff Officer to CC

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VP, Civil Affairs Section

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13. Report by Brigadier Lush

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - 1000 hours, Wednesday, 9 January 1946

L. W. STEARNS
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col., AGO
Staff Officer to C

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 551/L2

14 December 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 14 December 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Fiske, Colonel White, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Colonel Warden, Major General Bromberg, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Officier de Premier Classe Guyot, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Colonel Menapace, Colonel Hannaford, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 5 December 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that the date of return of northern provinces was expected to be fixed as of midnight 31 December. The information was released to the press on 13 December that the AMG territory to be turned back about December 31st included the islands of Pantelloria, Linosa, and Lampedusa but not Venezia Giulia nor Udine, which will continue under AMG. The transfer documents are now being drafted. The new Prime Minister was gratified at this news.

2. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 5 December, the Chief Commissioner reported that the House of Representatives has approved the appropriation and indications are that the Senate will shortly pass the \$550,000,000 appropriation for UNRRA which will take care of the January loadings. On the other hand, the 1946 recommended appropriation of \$1,350,000,000 has not yet been passed. A telegram has gone forward to AFHQ recommending that an alternative plan be found for continuation of the present supply program if the UNRRA appropriation does not go through. These alternative recommendations were sent on to CCS. Personnel messages were also sent by SACRED and Deputy SACRED.

3. Italy-Swiss Trade Agreement

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 5 December, Colonel Walton stated that the Italian Government had replied to the note from the U.S. Embassy that there was in fact very little debt prior to 10 June 1940 and that the relief offered was nil, as the bulk of the debt was incurred after that date. It is assured that an identical note has been sent to the British Ambassador. Matter is still unresolved as result of policy adopted by the Italian Government.

4. Return of AG

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With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 5 December, Colonel Walton stated that the Italian Government had replied to the note from the U.S. Embassy that there was in fact very little debt prior to 10 June 1940 and that the relief offered was nil, as the bulk of the debt was incurred after that date. It is assumed that an identical note has been sent to the British Ambassador. Matter is still unresolved as result of policy adopted by the Italian Government.

4. Future of AG

The Chief Commissioner reported that meetings were held at this Headquarters on 6, 7 & 8 December with respect to draft suggestions regarding future activities of AG and the possible revision of the Armistice terms. If the UNRRA appropriation goes through, a large portion of the economic activities of AG will cease. All indications are that the scope of AG's activities, if not its life, will be substantially curtailed early in the year. With the successful formation of the new government, the Chief Commissioner expressed hope that Italy is now on the last lap of restoration to normalcy.

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5. Political Resume

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief political resume summarizing the conditions which finally resulted in De Gasperi's forming the new government. De Gasperi was able to confirm in writing to the Liberals, on behalf of the Christian Democrats, virtual acceptance of the Liberals' ten-point program. The new government is in fact little more than a reshuffle of the last one, with exclusion of Parri and a few others. The attempt to include non-party men failed, but there is talk of appointing, at some future date, men outside the parties as ministers without portfolio. Press opinion differs as to whether final decision is victory or defeat for the Liberals. The position of the new government will be very much strengthened by the handback, which Italians consider an expression of confidence by Allied governments in De Gasperi.

6. Wheat Harvesting

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 29 November, Colonel Denmore reported that 73.9% of the target figure had now been amassed.

7. Electric Power Situation

The Chief Commissioner inquired if there was any truth in the report that the electricity allotment for Naples was being increased at the expense of Rome's and he directed the Economic Section to check on the present distribution and rationing of electric power. The Chief Commissioner recommended that Allied functions should be given special priority. Colonel Walton stated that the electricity shortage was caused by shortage of rainfall. Public Utilities representatives are now meeting at RMAC to discuss this. The Chief Commissioner directed that they be instructed to arrange for all Allied requirements. The Executive Commissioner said a drastic program had already been instituted in the North to curtail use of power. All non-industrial lighting has been cut to 70%, whereas domestic lighting has been reduced to 125 KW hours. The Executive Commissioner recommended that the Italian Government issue one national order, which could be applied in AMG territory. The Chief Commissioner stated this might not be altogether probable for technical reasons. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Walton to check on power export to France. On Mr. Hopkinson inquiry about importing power from Switzerland, Colonel Denmore replied that Swiss representatives are now claiming a shortage.

8. Mine Clearance

Admiral Warren reported that the minesweeper program is proceeding according to plan. At the moment British sweeps are laid up for three weeks' holiday leave and refitting.

9. Evacuation

Colonel White stated that a new operation law had been proposed by the Secretary General of the High Commission for Evacuation. The new law proposes that operation cease to be a function of the High Commissioner of Evacuation and that the responsibility for operation be left to the separate ministries.

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10. Executive Commissioner's Meeting in the North

Brigadier Lush gave a brief report on the special meeting held in Milan. It was agreed that after the handover it would take approximately three additional weeks before all regional affairs could be wound up. As to liaison representatives, the present estimate is placed at 35 AC officers to be held in the North, exclusive of the economic representatives. If UNRRA takes over there will be no Economic Section people in the North except perhaps transportation and warehousing officers. The Chief Commissioner asked Colonel Denmore to find out the status of negotiations between UNRRA and the Italian Government. Reference to supplies for liaison officers. Colonel Fluke stated that rations are now being drawn from Uline. There are no vehicle repair facilities. Brigadier Lush reported that a proposed directive for liaison officers has been drafted but has to be cleared by AFHQ. The present directive of last year to

to military commanders was not considered to be satisfactory and Brigadier Lush suggested that the Italian Government be persuaded to issue directions to prefects setting down the form of liaison to be followed between military commanders and Italian local officials. Brigadier Lush added that the Uline AME Team will consist of 28 officers.

Next Vice President's Meeting -- 1000 hours, Wednesday 19 December 1945.

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGC
Staff Officer to OC

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L. W. STEPHENS
Lt Col, AGH
Staff Officer to AG

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 551/41

5 December 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 5 December 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Lt. Colonel White, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Colonel Warden, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Sarco, Capitaine de Vaisseau Mouleoc, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that there is no change in the situation with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Resumption of Shipbuilding

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the letter has been signed and transmitted to the Prime Minister informing the Italian Government of the CCS policy with regard to the resumption of shipbuilding in Italy.

3. Political Resume

Mr. Jones gave a brief resume of the current political crisis. The failure of Orlando to form a new government seemed to end the attempts to get a leader from outside the six parties. On the 28 November at a meeting of the six parties, Kennel suggested de Gasperi to head the new government, because of the central position of the Christian Democrat party. On Saturday a palace communique stated that de Gasperi had been asked to sound out opinion, and since then de Gasperi has been very active in trying to form a new government. Subsequent developments emphasized the difficulty in assigning the Interior post, which both the Socialists and the Liberals wanted. The Socialists finally indicated that they would accept the Ministry for Foreign Affairs as an alternative, but the Communists objected. On Wednesday a palace communique announced that

File
Col Parkin
CP

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lash, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel
 Parkin, Lt. Colonel White, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Colonel Warden, Major General
 Broming, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Capitaine de Vaisseau Moullec,
 Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Pimons, Colonel
 Denmore, Colonel Walton.

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4. Dissolution of AFHQ

Mr. Cleveland reported that there is now under discussion a draft AFHQ administrative memo which would dissolve the Allied Forces Local Resources Section and incorporate its few remaining functions in the Office of the CAO, AFHQ. This is to be discussed with the CAO on 6 December 1945.

5. Military Exports from Civil Economy

Mr. Cleveland brought up the question of military exports from the Italian civil economy. The Chief Commissioner directed that a strong line be taken in this regard, as he felt that the military should not requisition items, particularly if manufactured in whole or in part from materials imported into Italy for the civilian economy, and export them to other countries. Mr. Cleveland stated, as an example, that the military had requisitioned large quantities of light bulbs for export from Italy, although the tungsten for these bulbs had been imported from the U.S. for the civilian economy. He directed that an appropriate letter to AFHQ be drafted.

6. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that Congress has not yet approved either the \$550,000,000 appropriation or the \$1,350,000,000 appropriation for 1946 for UNRRA. Congress has postponed its recess until 20 December, which leaves but 15 days in which to get the money for the January loadings. The Chief Commissioner directed that this matter be brought up at the conference with C.A.O. on 6 December together with recommendations for solution.

7. Italian-Swiss Trade Agreement

Mr. Cleveland reported that the AC has been holding up the Italian-Swiss Trade Agreement pending approval from the CCS, but that the CCS has now informed the AC that the matter is being handled through the embassies, who have delivered notes to the Italian Government giving the position of their governments. Italy is permitted to pay off debts incurred prior to 10 June 1940 but not thereafter. Mr. Cleveland stated that a letter has been sent to the Ministry informing them that as they received the "notes verbales" from the embassies, any further negotiations should be made through the embassies. The Chief Commissioner directed that a cable be sent off to CCS asking if the procedure followed in this case means that the directive to AC has been modified, in order that the AC can be relieved of responsibility or the channels of communication changed.

8. Acquisition of Liberty Ships

In reply to the Chief Commissioner's query, Mr. Cleveland stated that the press reports that Italy is to receive a number of Liberty ships from the U.S. are the result of a rumor made by the Head of the Ministry of the Navy.

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7. Italo-Swiss Trade Agreement

Mr. Cleveland reported that the AC has been holding up the Italo-Swiss Trade Agreement pending approval from the CCS, but that the CCS has now informed the AC that the matter is being handled through the embassies, who have delivered notes to the Italian Government giving the position of their governments. Italy is permitted to pay off debts incurred prior to 10 June 1940 but not thereafter. Mr. Cleveland stated that a letter has been sent to the Ministry informing them that as they received the "notes verbales" from the embassies, any further negotiations should be made through the embassies. The Chief Commissioner directed that a cable be sent off to CCS asking if the procedure followed in this case means that the directive to AC has been modified, in order that the AC can be relieved of responsibility or the channels of communication changed.

8. Acquisition of Liberty Ships

In reply to the Chief Commissioner's query, Mr. Cleveland stated that the press reports that Italy is to receive a number of Liberty ships from the U.S. are the result of speeches made by the Head of the American Chamber of Commerce for Trade with Italy who is now in Italy and who has stated that 46 Liberty ships are to be turned over at the price of one lira each. However, the latest information from Washington is that the Maritime Commission has not yet decided on what basis it is going to dispose of Liberty ships to anyone.

9. Wheat Amassing

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, Colonel Walton reported that 74% of the target figure has now been amassed. Colonel Walton stated it was proposed to reduce the target figure from the present total crop estimate less local retentions to the estimate of what would actually be amassed. The Chief Commissioner directed that this be not done and that the target continue to be estimated as at present, so that the figures will show the percentage of the locally amassable wheat that has actually been amassed.

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10. Bolzano

With reference to para 13 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, Colonel White stated that a local opinion has now been received that the decree making Bolzano an official bilingual province issued by the Prefect went beyond the Prefect's powers, as it provides conditions for civil service and permits removal from office at a certain time of those officers who are not bilingual. The Chief Commissioner directed that action be taken to see if this was issued with AMG authority, and if so, whose authority. Colonel White is checking on this.

Colonel White also reported that a proposal is being considered by the Italian Government, although it will probably not come up until the new government is in office, to grant autonomy to the Alto Adige, including Bolzano. The proposal is that the local constitution be worked out locally by the people there.

11. Act of Clemency

Colonel White stated that a recommendation was made to AFHQ that on the handover an act of clemency might be agreeable. AFHQ has replied that an act of clemency might indicate that Allied justice was not just. However, there are AMG prisoners serving sentences in Italian jails, but, unlike the civil prisoners, they are not entitled to remission under the Italian penal code. Brigadier Lush stated that the one reviewing officer has several hundred cases ahead of him, and suggested that a full staff be organized to review all these cases in the event clemency is not granted.

12. Dismissal of Government Officials

Colonel White reported that the Italian Government has passed a decree giving to the Prime Minister, for a limited time, the authority to remove officers of grade 5 or higher for no other reason than "in the interests of the service." This authority is to be used only in exceptional cases, and was apparently designed to remove from office well-known fascists who were not expurgated because of incorrect testimony given by subordinates to protect themselves. The Chief Commissioner observed that the AC has no right to interfere in this matter.

13. Commission to Rule on Nationality

Colonel White stated that a draft decree has been received which sets up commissions to inquire into facts of nationality. Persons who had opted for Germany would be deprived of Italian citizenship and could apply to the commission for a passport. The Commission would consider the individuals' records and would make a decision. The Chief Commissioner asked Colonel White to consult with the political advisors on this.

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14. National and Local Elections

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, Colonel White stated that for all of Italy an average of 9% of the electoral lists have been compiled.

15. Economic Section Representatives in North

With reference to para 14 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, Brigadier Lush stated that a cable has been received from AFHQ stating that having an Economic Commissioner in Milan is in violation of EAM 487. Brigadier Lush stated that at present the Economic Commissioner has executive functions under AMG, but that on withdrawal of AMG he can remain there only as a liaison officer. Mr. Cleveland reported that the basic reason for concentrating Economic Section representatives

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tatives in Milan was that the Italians have concentrated their men there. The Chief Commissioner stressed the fact that these representatives could remain in the North after AMG withdrawal only on the invitation of the Italian Government, and then only in an advisory capacity. In this connection the Chief Commissioner pointed out that UNRRA operates under authority of a contract signed with the Italian Government, and by agreement with the Italian Government UNRRA could assume functions denied to the Allied Commission by EAM 487.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting -- 1000 hours, Friday 14 December 1945


L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGO
Staff Officer to OC

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- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador

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

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G-5 AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief Commissioner

CC 551

5 December 1945

SUBJECT: Amendments to Minutes of Vice Presidents' Meeting of
14 November 1945 (ref. CC 551/38)

TO : See DISTRIBUTION below

The Acting Vice President, Economic Section, wishes to have the minutes of the Vice Presidents' Meeting, 14 November, amended in the following respects:

(1) Paragraph 3, third sentence should read as follows: "Mr. Cleveland stated that he was in favor of extending the UNRRA program on supplemental feeding. (Eliminate: "but not on the handling of displaced persons.")"

(2) Paragraph 6, last sentence should read as follows: "Mr. Cleveland stated that it now appears as though 75% of the additional amount of imports desired will be received and that it will therefore not be necessary to reduce the bread ration." (Insert: "of imports" after the word "amount.").

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
VP, Civil Affairs Section

L. W. STEARNS

Lt Col, AGD

Staff Officer to CC

70 : See DISTRIBUTION below

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L. W. Stearns
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Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CG

DISTRIBUTION:

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Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AC
Soviet Representative, AC
Liaison Officer (EC)
Public Relations Branch
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G-5, AFHQ (5)
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3032

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

CC 551/40

28 November 1945

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 28 November 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Luch, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Colonel White, Mr. Jones, Mr. Helford, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Captain Butler, Colonel Savko, Capitaine de Voiescous Moule, Major Lucanoo, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the situation with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government remains unchanged, although it is reported that Foreign Secretary Bevin stated that the remaining Italian provinces will be returned to the Italian Government within the next few weeks.

2. Resumption of Shipbuilding

The Chief Commissioner reported that approval was received from the Combined Chiefs of Staff to resume shipbuilding in Italy, and instructions were separately received to inform the Italian Government of the policy. Although this matter comes under the jurisdiction of the Navy, there are economic questions involved which affect other ministries. Accordingly, a letter will be drafted and coordinated by the Executive Commissioner with the Navy Subcommittee and the Economic Section and transmitted by the Chief Commissioner to the Prime Minister.

3. Political Resumé

Mr. Helford gave a brief resumé of the current political crisis. At the last meeting the position was that the Liberals were emitting the reaction to their memorandum demanding a broadening of the base of government, and the Left-wing parties were sticking to the view that there was no need for the crisis. On 22 November, all ministers nominated by the Liberal party handed in their resignations. On 23 November the Christian Democrats in a meeting decided that as the Government was based on the six parties, the withdrawal of one of the parties created a crisis, and they asked their party executive to recommend that their ministers should resign. This forced Parri's hand and on

Parkin, Colonel White, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hildred, Air Vice Marshal Eadie, Major General Browning, Captain Butler, Colonel Savko, Capitaine de Vaisseau Moullec, Major Leacock, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Ffrench, Colonel Danmore, Colonel Walton.

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3031

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The next morning the Ingognerento began consultations, but nothing so far has resulted. The first suggestion was that Arlazio might head the new government, but due to objections from the Left he has refused to undertake the task. The suggestion now is that a leader outside of the six parties be selected, with the Right wing favoring Bonomi and the Left wing favoring Sforza. At the moment, Sforza seems to be the most likely candidate. Mr. Halford thought it possible that if Sforza does not get the presidency, they might return to Perri.

Mr. Halford added that no estimate of the duration of the crisis could be made but that it would probably last for some time. In this connection the Chief Commissioner pointed out that the present government is continuing in office to handle day-to-day problems until the new government is formed and that the Allied Commission can and should continue to do business with the present Ministers.

4. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that as a result of conferences in the North, the Northern phase of the 1946 import program has been cleared up. With regard to the measures appropriating U.S. funds to UNRRA, the \$550,000,000 appropriation is now before a joint House-Senate committee, and authorization for the appropriation of funds for 1946 has been approved by the House Foreign Affairs Committee. With regard to imports, Mr. Cleveland reported that he had discussions while in the North on the end use of imports and how to ensure that the imports were used for the purposes for which they were imported. At present in the North the industrial council, whose authority depends from AMG, handles allocations, but on the withdrawal of AMG, it is considered necessary to have a national authority to handle allocations, and it is proposed to recommend to the Italian Government that such an authority be set up.

5. Electricity Shortage

Mr. Cleveland reported that there is an electricity shortage in the North. Hence it has been necessary to initiate a ration system, which is being done at present by the power companies. A representative is being sent North to establish a more equitable ration policy under AMG powers.

6. Foreign Trade

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that there has been a setback in the resumption of foreign trade in that the Consulate vetoed the decree establishing a Ministry of Foreign Trade on the basis that such a Ministry should have control of foreign exchange as well as export-import licensing.

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7. Wheat Shortage

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Colonel DeMunro reported that 73% of the target figure has now been attained. Colonel DeMunro stated that the return of wheat loaned to Austria and Venezia Giulia from civil supply sources is being handled through the CAO, AFHQ, and that most of the wheat loaned has now been returned. Mr. Cleveland reported that the ships of the 309,000 tons of wheat requested monthly will be shipped from the U.S.

8. Supply Situation

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland reported that 37 coal ships have already sailed and the remaining 22 ships are scheduled to sail shortly, which will bring the December coal imports up to the 500,000 tons requested. Petroleum attaches have now been assigned to both Albanians and the procedure for importing petroleum has been agreed between them and the Petroleum Section representative of AFHQ.

SECRET**9. Return of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces**

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, Colonel Milton reported that the return of motor transport to the Italian Armed Forces is proceeding very slowly due, according to the Ministry of Transport, to difficulties in clearing the contractors' exorbitant repair charges made for vehicle repairs. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that the Allied Commission has a definite responsibility in returning these vehicles to the Italian Armed Forces and directed the Executive Commissioner and Economic Section to bring full pressure to bear so that this return may be accomplished as expeditiously as possible.

10. Minesweeping

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Captain Butler stated that four of the sixteen motor minesweepers to be loaned to the Italian Navy are being sailed to Italy from Malta and will be taken over by the Italian crews as soon as they are ready.

11. Registration

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Captain Butler stated that the "DUCA D'ACOSTA" arrives in Naples 20 November with 750 compensation cases from Italian POW's in Algeria. The cruiser will return to Gen next week for a second lift and thereafter it is hoped to begin a regular shuttle service between Gen and Naples employing three cruisers which should be in operation before the end of the year to ferry 12,000 Italian POW's when the French are releasing. Captain Muller stated that these POW's are being replaced by German POW's and that 26,000 Italian POW's will still remain in French hands. Captain Butler stated that it is further hoped to arrange a monthly sailing of a cruiser to the Levant to repatriate compensation and sick POW's in Egypt and to send a converted aircraft tender to Tunis to return families of Italian nationals who have already been deported. Arrangements are being made for the ship "GRITTA" to repatriate Italians from Singapore, Batavia, and Bangkok.

12. National and Local Elections

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, Colonel White stated that no reply has yet been received to the representations made in connection with the electoral laws for the national and local elections. The Chief Commissioner suggested that the embassy be kept informed of any developments in this connection. As regards the holding of local elections, they may begin in December or January but it will be impossible to hold nationwide local elections at that time. However, it was observed that the holding of the local elections simultaneously throughout Italy was not essential and that every effort should be

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13. Bolzano

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Colonel White stated that the Prefect of Bolzano has issued a Decree making Bolzano an official bilingual province.

14. Amalgamation of Northern Regions

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Brigadier Lush reported that he had attended a conference in Milan where it was recommended that the Lombardy, Piemonte, and Liguria Regions should not be amalgamated into one.

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region. It was felt that the relatively inexperienced provincial commissioners should have a senior officer close at hand to guide them, particularly because of the shortages of staff, and because it was considered that any reduction of representation would be regarded as a weakening of Allied power. Full agreement was reached on the following recommendations, which have been approved by the Chief Commissioner: The Office of the Representative of the Chief Commissioner should be abolished and its functions, other than economic, taken over by Lombard's Region; an Economic Commissioner, who would be the Regional Commissioner of Lombard's, should be appointed to deal with the whole of North Italy, having direct communication with the other Regional Commissioners; a G-4 officer should be assigned to Lombard's Region to deal with transport problems throughout the North. Mr. White (A) will be assigned as the economic executive officer. It was also recommended that there should be a Regional Commissioners' meeting in the North on 11 December, regardless of whether or not the provinces have been handed back, and the Chief Commissioner approved this recommendation.

CORRECTIONS TO MINUTES OF 21 NOVEMBER 1945

The Chief Commissioner directed that the following corrections be made to the Minutes of 21 November 1945:

- (a) List of those present at meeting -- delete "Mr. Cleveland."
- (b) Para 7. Theat Amassing -- correct second sentence to read "Colonel Walton stated that the loss of 56,000 tons in October-November must be made up by 15 December. The estimated loss for December of 57,000 tons can be compensated for provided shipments for January and February are maintained at 309,000 tons per month, otherwise it may be necessary to cut the bread ration."
- (c) Para 12. Belzonec -- last line, between the words "decrees" and "granting" insert "under consideration."

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting -- 1000 hours, Wednesday, 5 December 45

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Next Vice President's Meeting -- 1000 hours, Wednesday, 5 December 45

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- Land Forces Subcommittee (10/11A)
- Air Forces Subcommittee
- French Representative, 40
- Soviet Representative, 40
- Liaison Officer (30)
- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- G-5 AFHQ (5)
- Chief Financial Advisor (22)

L. W. Starnes
L. W. STARNES
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CC

SECRET

0692

Col Parker

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
A20 394

NO 551/39

21 November 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 21 November 1945, Chief Commissioner
Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Brigadier Lush, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Colonel White, Mr.
Jones, Mr. Halford, Air Vice Marshal Bragg, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral
Verren, Colonel Savko, Capitaine de Vaisseau Muller, Lieutenant Colonel Bergia,
Colonel Harmsford, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Colonel Danmore, Colonel Melton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, the Executive Com-
missioner stated that no word has been received with respect to the restoration of
provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Amalgamation of Northern Regions

The Executive Commissioner reported that the Chief Commissioner has agreed
to consider the amalgamation of Lombardia, Piemonte, and Liguria Regions into one
region with headquarters at Milan, which would absorb the office of the Represen-
tative of the Chief Commissioner and the Economic Section representatives now
there. It is proposed to have one Regional Commissioner in charge, with three
deputies, each deputy handling one of the former regions. This move will have the
advantage of preparing for the eventual handover to the Italian Government and will
also effect a saving in personnel. All officers saved as a result of this
amalgamation will be assigned to Venezia Giulia in accordance with a directive for
HQ to maintain Venezia Giulia at full strength at the expense of AG/ANG if
necessary. Venezia Region will not be included in the amalgamation.

3. Executive Commissioner's Tour of the North

The Executive Commissioner gave a brief report of his tour of the North.
The Regional Commissioners are doing a fine job with a limited number of personnel
discharging many functions to the Italians who are holding up their end very well.
In Venezia Giulia the personnel situation is not as bad as in the Northern Regions.
Unemployment there is a serious problem and economic representatives are studying
the possibility of increasing employment in the shipyards. There appears to be an
increase in the number of armed highway robberies, although in AG territory the

James, Mr. Relford, Air Vice Marshal Spedie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Seves, Capitaine de Vaisseau Moule, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Mansford, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Walton.

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The Executive Commissioner gave a brief report of his tour of the North. The Regional Commissioners are doing a fine job with a limited number of personnel delegating many functions to the Italians, who are holding up their end very well. In Venezia Giulia the personnel situation is not as bad as in the Northern Regions. Unemployment there is a serious problem and economic representatives are studying the possibility of increasing employment in the shipyards. There appears to be an increase in the number of armed highway robbers, although in AO/AB territory the police forces are keeping pace with the increase and have arrested several groups of robbers in the past few weeks. Political assassinations in the North, except for Emilia Region, are decreasing.

4. Publication of Armistice Terms

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that there appeared to be less comment on the armistice in the North than in the rest of Italy. Colonel Bergin reported that an Italian newspaper has printed correctly both the "Quotidian Document" and the Badoglio letter.

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5. Political Rumors

Mr. Jones gave a brief resume of the general political situation. The Liberal Party has precipitated a political crisis by a declaration to the other political parties which included, among other things, statements that the Government should not be restricted to the parties of the Old but should include other men who have contributed to the prestige of the country, and that the Government should more accurately reflect popular opinion. Generally speaking, the parties of the left were opposed to the crisis, calling it an artificial crisis. The Prime Minister said that the country did not need a crisis and he saw no justification for substantial alteration of the character of the Government, adding that whoever brings on the crisis has a grave responsibility. Tagliatti, however, stated that the possibility of bringing in men from outside the six parties should not be excluded. Mr. Halford observed that the liberals may have inaugurated the crisis because of their desire for stronger representation in the Government based on what they interpret as a considerable move to the right in Italy.

6. PRO Meetings

Colonel Berain reported that since the cessation of PRO activities there had been a number of inaccurate articles in the Italian press. Accordingly it was suggested at the Executive Committee's Meeting that the PRO's of AC and AFHQ and the Press Attaches of the Submarine have weekly meetings to discuss these inaccurate reports and arrange for co-ordination in press matters.

7. Wheat Averaging

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Colonel Bensmore reported that 72% of the target figure has now been secured. Colonel Walton stated that the loss of 54,000 tons in November and an anticipated loss of 53,000 tons in December must be made up by imports in January, February, and March of 309,000 tons or it may be necessary to cut the bread ration. Brigadier Lash directed Economic Section to bring this to the attention of AFHQ and press for the return of wheat loaned to Austria and to AFHQ (from civil supply sources) from Venezia Giulia.

Handover of Italian Army

General Browning reported that, by authority of the OSS, control of the Italian army has been handed over to the Italian Government with effect from 14 November. Operational control was likewise handed over to the Italian Government with the exception of those troops in ABC territory. The Land Forces Subcommittee will continue to advise the Italian Government and the terms of the directive are that if there is any point of disagreement between the Land Forces Subcommittee and the Ministry of War, the matter will be referred to AFHQ, although General Browning felt certain that any difficulties which arise could be handled satisfactorily without reference to AFHQ. SACMED reserves the right to resume control of the army when necessary. Italian service groups now working with U.S. and British

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7. Wheat Assessing

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Colonel Zensmore reported that 72% of the target figure has now been assessed. Colonel Walter stated that the loss of 54,000 tons in November and an estimated loss of 59,000 tons in December must be made up by imports in January, February, and March of 309,000 tons or it may be necessary to cut the bread ration. Brigadier Lush directed Economic Section to bring this to the attention of AFHQ and press for the return of wheat loaned to Austria and to AFHQ (from civil supply sources) from Venezia Giulia.

Handover of Italian Army

General Browning reported that, by authority of the COS, control of the Italian army has been handed over to the Italian Government with effect from 14 November. Operational control was likewise handed over to the Italian Government with the exception of those troops in ADG territory. The Land Forces Subcommittee will continue to advise the Italian Government and the terms of the directive are that if there is any point of disagreement between the Land Forces Subcommittee and the Ministry of War, the matter will be referred to AFHQ, although General Browning felt certain that any difficulties which arose could be handled satisfactorily without reference to AFHQ. GACED reserves the right to resume control of the army when necessary. Italian service groups now working with U.S. and British forces will be released by June 1946, it is estimated. After 30 November the Army will be supplied by the Italian Government, and the Army will have first priority on surplus materials made available by U.S. and British disposal agencies. Colonel Walton reported that it has been recommended that the Navy and Air Force adopt the same supply scheme when control has been returned to the Italian Government, probably 1 February 1946.

9. Miner Sweeping

Brigadier Lush reported that there was a great deal of concern over the number of mines still in waters off the Ljubian coast. Admiral Warren reported that seven crews are now being trained to take over the first of the 32 minesweepers being loaned to Italy by the Royal Navy.

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10. Repatriation

Brigadier Lush asked if it would be possible to provide an Italian cruiser to return Italians from Tunisia, and Admiral Warren reported that the question was already under discussion and arrangements were being made.

Expatriation Law

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, the Executive Commissioner, with the concurrence of the Political Advisers, directed Colonel White to make representations to the Italian Government on the new expatriation law specifically with respect to education officials, who do not fall under the present expatriation law.

12. Bolzano

Colonel White reported that decrees with respect to language, education, and nationality in the Province of Bolzano are being considered and will become law in a short time. These decrees follow the AC views. There is also a new decree granting autonomy to Bolzano, but a draft has not yet been seen.

13. Personnel

Colonel Perkins reported that as of 20 November 1945, the strength of the 2675th Regiment was down to 231 officers and 218 SN, and that on 1 December the enlisted strength will be down to 153. British enlisted strength stands at approximately 290. Steps are being taken to get civilian replacements and requisitions for replacements have gone to NTUSA.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 28 November 1945
(1000 hours)

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CG

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- Political Adviser (B)
- Law Subcommission (3)

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Colonel Parkin reported that as of 20 November 1945, the strength of the 2675th Regiment was down to 231 officers and 218 MA, and that on 1 December the enlisted strength will be down to 153. British enlisted strength stands at approximately 290. Steps are being taken to get civilian replacements and requisitions for replacements have gone to HQUS.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 28 November 1945 (1000 hours)

L. W. STRAINS
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Lt Col. AGD
Staff Officer to CG

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- Land Forces Subcommission (MIA)
- Air Forces Subcommission
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- Soviet Representative, AC
- Civilian Officer (AC)
- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- G-5, AFHQ (5)
- Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

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Col Paulin

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 594

CO 554/38

14 November 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 14 November 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Colonel Flake, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Colonel Pidalley, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Captain Moulles, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Hamford, Colonel Morapace, Colonel Densmore, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that no word has been received with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Publication of Arbitration Terms

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that the Commission had received from the Italian Government and forwarded to UNRRA an official request for the publication of the "Quebec Document" and the Bogoglio letter of 20 November 1943. The Chief Commissioner also has notified UNRRA that subsequent to receiving the request, two of the Italian papers published the first two sentences of the "Quebec Document" and that another paper had printed a substantially correct version of the Bogoglio letter. In the latter case, the Chief Commissioner observed that the Italian Government, as the originator of the Bogoglio letter, should have the right to publish it.

3. Extension of UNRRA Relief Activities to AMG Territory

The Chief Commissioner stated that the present UNRRA supplementary relief program is limited to Italian Government territory. A request has been received from the head of the Italian Government Lician Group with UNRRA to

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1800 hours, 14 November 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Colonel Piske, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Colonel Fidsley, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Captain Moullec, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Hamford, Colonel Kenpace, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that no word has been received with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Publication of Justice Terms

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that the Commission had received from the Italian Government and forwarded to SACRED an official request for the publication of the "Quebec Document" and the Badoglio letter of 20 November 1943. The Chief Commissioner also has notified AMF that subsequent to receiving the request, two of the Italian papers published the first two sentences of the "Quebec Document" and that another paper had printed a substantially correct version of the Badoglio letter. In the latter case, the Chief Commissioner observed that the Italian Government, as the originator of the Badoglio letter, should have the right to publish it.

3. Extension of UNRRA Relief Activities to AMF Territory

The Chief Commissioner stated that the present UNRRA supplementary relief program is limited to Italian Government territory. A request has been received from the head of the Italian Government Liaison Group with UNRRA to extend this aid to AMF territory in the North, with the exception of Venezia Giulia. Mr. Cleveland stated that he was in favor of extending the UNRRA program on supplemental feeding but not on the handling of displaced persons. It is understood that it is proposed to change the UNRRA contract to permit this extension, but Mr. Hopkinson stated he thought the contract contained a provision for the extension of UNRRA activities to AMF territory if the Chief Commissioner's approval is received. The Chief Commissioner directed Mr. Cleveland to take the question up with him after the meeting.

4. Political Remarks

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief political remark. The situation created by the passing of the operation law has ceased with an apparent agreement between the parties that this law will be open for discussion and modification. There continues to be much bitter comment on the armistice terms in the press.

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5. Petroleum Imports

Mr. Cleveland reported that Petroleum Section, AFHQ, as an allied agency, will close the end of this month. By agreement between AFHQ and its British counterpart, practically all petroleum imports in the next few months will come from U.S. sources, and the Economic Section will handle these imports through a local AFHQ representative.

6. Wheat Lending

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, Colonel Denmore reported that last week's wheat lendings were the poorest yet reported. 7% of the target figure has now been reached. Mr. Cleveland stated that it now appears as though 7% of the additional amount desired will be received and that it will therefore not be necessary to reduce the bread ration.

7. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 8 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland reported that the measure appropriating funds to UPRC for the year 1946 was introduced in Congress on 12 November and that public hearings start 14 November.

8. Economic Section Representatives in the North

Mr. Cleveland revealed that in the last Executive Commissioner's meeting agreement was reached, subject to satisfactory completing arrangements, to withdraw Economic Section representatives in the North from regional headquarters and concentrate them in Hilar.

9. Evacuation Law

Brigadier Carr reported that the new evacuation law passed by the Council of Ministers has been received and studied. In general, the new law keeps evacuation alive in the South, but only affects officials in the higher grades. The law is not considered objectionable with the possible exception of the fact that it does not seem to cover adequately education officials who are not in the higher grades.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 21 November 1945

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7. 1946 Export Program

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland reported that the measure appropriating funds to UREPA for the year 1946 was introduced in Congress on 12 November and that public hearings start 14 November.

8. Domestic Section Representatives in the North

Mr. Cleveland revealed that in the last Executive Commissioner's meeting agreement was reached, subject to satisfactory completing arrangements, to withdraw Domestic Section representatives in the North from regional headquarters and concentrate them in Milan.

9. Exemption Law

Brigadier Carr reported that the new exemption law passed by the Council of Ministers has been received and studied. In general, the new law keeps exemption alive in the South, but only affects officials in the higher grades. The law is not considered objectionable with the possible exception of the fact that it does not seem to cover adequately education officials who are not in the higher grades.

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 21 November 1945

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Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

L. W. STEARNS
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGO
Staff Officer to DG

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

8 November 1945

CO 552/57

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 8 November 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Colonel Fiske, Mr. Cleveland, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Brownings, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Captain Mculloch, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Danmore, Colonel Jones, Colonel Weber.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government.

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that no word has yet been received with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government. In this connection, it was noted that administrative control of the Italian Army is to be returned to the Italian Government as of midnight, 14 November, and that since it was a widely accepted view that the return of the Army should coincide with the return of the provinces, this might indicate that the provinces will be returned in the near future. In response to the Chief Commissioner's query, Brigadier Carr stated that the mechanics for handling the turnover are all laid on and that it will take approximately ten days, to effectuate the transfer after the authorization has been received.

2. Publication of Armistice Terms.

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the armistice terms, certain annotated documents and SALCEDO's commentary, were published at 1900 hours (Rome time) 6 November simultaneously in Rome, Washington, and London. The Prime Minister has submitted to the Ambassadors and is submitting to the Allied Commission a formal request for publication of two additional documents: First, the so-called "Quebec Document", which was presented in Lisbon to General Castellano by General Smith as an Aide-Memoire to accompany conditions of Armistice and second, Badoglio's letter of 20 November 1943 addressed jointly to President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill. The Chief Commissioner's recommendation is that approval be granted to this request and that the documents be published simultaneously.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Colonel Piske, Mr. Cleveland, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Captain Muller, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Jones, Colonel Weber.

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3. Return of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, General Browning stated that Colonel Piske is giving him the fullest co-operation and that the matter is being worked out satisfactorily. Colonel Walton reported that conferences have been held with representatives of the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of War and that plans have been set up for the Italian Government to repair and recondition vehicles prior to turning them over to IRI, which is expected to have been accomplished by the end of November.

4. National and Local Elections

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that an excellent letter to the Prime Minister has been prepared by

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the Civil Affairs Section with the collaboration of the Political Advisors stating the position of the Allied Commission with respect to the electoral laws, and the Chief Commissioner commended all concerned for their fine work.

5. Political Resume.

Mr. Jones gave a brief review of the general political situation. The most important event of the past week was the publication of the aristocratic terms. Generally speaking, there was more unfavorable than favorable newspaper comment. Among the unfavorable comments were statements that the Badoglio letter should have been published, that the Italians should have had more time to study the question than the 24 hours granted, that the terms were more harsh than the Vichy terms imposed by the Germans on France and the Allied terms made with such countries as Finland, Hungary, and Rumania.

Liberal Party representatives made a statement suggesting that the powers of the Constituent be determined by referendum, adding that the Liberal Party would then accept a decision on the institutional question by the Constituent. Rumor, in a speech, expressed the belief that the Constituent would choose a republican form of government, but pledged that the Socialists would accept a decision of the Constituent even if it is contrary to Socialist desires.

6. Supply Situation

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that the coal situation has improved somewhat in the past week. The coal allocation has been set for October and although there will be a shortage of 125,000 tons in coal imports for November, this will be more than compensated by scheduled imports of 500,000 tons in December. The Chief Commissioner requested Mr. Cleveland to discuss this with Colonel Bergin with a view to releasing this encouraging news to the Italians.

7. Wheat Lending

With reference to para 8 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, Colonel Pennington reported that 70% of the target figure has now been raised. Mr. Cleveland reported that the situation on wheat imports is not so good. Although the U.S. has had a bumper crop this year, there is such a world demand for U.S. wheat that the internal distribution system cannot handle all the shipments. Unless additional shipments are received, it appears that the bread ration must be cut early next year. Mr. Cleveland recommended that this be handled on the highest level; that is, that the U.S. and British Ambassadors and SARGENT report on the seriousness of the situation as was done on the coal situation.

8. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, Mr. Cleveland reported that the planning for the 1946 import program is well under way. However, the financial situation is still uncertain.

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8. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, Mr. Cleveland reported that the planning for the 1946 import program is well under way. Money to finance the program, however, will not be available until the U.S. Congress appropriates the necessary funds to UNRRA. The British and Canadian Governments have informed the State Department that they will appropriate their respective shares to UNRRA immediately after Congress acts.

9. Reorganization of Economic Section

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated the reorganization of the Economic Section has been approved by the Chief Commissioner and is now in effect.

SECRET10. Foreign Trade

Mr. Cleveland reported that he has had discussions with Italian Government representatives on the resumption of foreign trade. The Under-Secretariat for Foreign Trade has not yet been confirmed by the Consulate. There is at present no licensing machinery for imports and exports. During the week the Italian Government put forth an official policy having the effect of creating what amounts to an export-import rate of exchange of 200 lire to the dollar. On the U.S. side, this raises a very difficult question because if this is considered as a subsidy scheme, exports to the U.S. will fall under the U.S. tariff laws applicable to subsidized exports.

11. Clearance of Commercial Representatives

Mr. Cleveland requested, and received, the Chief Commissioner's approval to notify AFHQ that they may consider that the answer to AFHQ's cables to Allied Commission on clearance of commercial visitors to Italy will be always affirmative.

12. News of Ship Arrivals and Cargoes

Mr. Cleveland reported that U.S.A. is now giving full publicity to the arrivals of ships and cargoes in Italy. AC will continue to publicize imports of particular value. As an example of the value of this, he cited one announcement of the arrival of cotton exports, which brought out large stocks of hoarded cotton textiles in the North, with a resultant price drop.

13. Return of Ports to Italian Control

Admiral Warren stated that it is scheduled to return port working at Naples on 30 November and at Turin on 31 December to full control of the Italian Government.

14. Mine Clearance

Admiral Warren reported that there are estimated to be 50,000 un swept mines off the Italian coast at the present time. Consequently, the admiralty has loaned 52 minesweepers to be Italian manned and operated, to the Italian Navy to add to the present Italian minesweeping fleet of 80 vessels. At present, British vessels are clearing channels while the Italian minesweepers are sweeping the larger areas. The Gulf of Taranto and the Bay of Naples have so far been cleared. The principal difficulty is the unreliability of the Italians with mines of the angustio-acustic type. Schools are being set up to instruct the Italians in de-mining.

15. Release of Personnel from AC

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of AC

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15. Release of Personnel from AC

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 31 October, Colonel Fiske stated that the personnel situation is acute. It has been necessary to close down several provincial headquarters in the North, administering those provinces from regional headquarters. Six officer replacements have been received in the past week, but no enlisted replacements have arrived.

16. Assignment of Utility Plans

Colonel Fiske reported that the Establishment Section now has an L-5 assigned, which will anticipate the passenger with a limited amount of baggage for short trips.

+ + + + +

Agreement to Para 5, Minutes of 10 October

In regard to paragraph 5, "Disposal of Captured Enemy Equipment," VP's Meeting of 10 October, Mr. Cleveland reported that General Hasbrouk had objected

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to a statement in this minute to the effect that all captured enemy equipment would go to the Italian Government. He considered it appropriate to charge the minutes to reflect the fact that only captured enemy material surplus to the needs of the United Nations would be disposed of to the Italian Government. (AFHQ's letter CM, 14/6 of 24 October refers). The Chief Commissioner approved the change.

Next Vice-Presidents' Meeting, 1600 hours, Wednesday, 14 Nov 45

L. W. Stearns

L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AMB
Staff Officer to CC.

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- AM, Forces Subcommission
- Provisional Representative, AC
- Soviet Representative, AC
- Liaison Officer (SO)
- Public Relations Branch

Next Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, Wednesday, 11 Nov 45

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGO
Staff Officer to CG.

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Liaison Officer (EU)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
C-5, ASH (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

- 4 -

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

SECRET

Col. P. J. ...

Ref: 210/22

7 November 1945

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING - 6 NOV 451. Minutes of last Meeting

- (a) - 3 Inter-Regional Trade. Ecom Sec said that Ministry of Agriculture was preparing a National Distribution Scheme for food. It had not yet arrived here but it was expected that the details of the scheme would be available by the middle of the month. Ex Com stressed the fact that with winter approaching this scheme should be completed as quickly as possible. Ecom Sec further stated that a cable had been sent to Agriculture Officer of Lombardia telling him that details of Milan allocation should be made available now. Instructions have been sent out to all EC's saying that there will be no blocking. Ecom Sec will pursue this matter.

- (b) - 2 Italian Manufacture of Warlike Stores. Ecom Sec asked if the new directive from AFHQ about the reporting of discoveries of cases where arms were being manufactured was to be acted upon, in view of the two directives which were circulated last week. Ecom Sec had received a memorandum dated 28 Oct from Office of Dep C/S, AFHQ which was read to the meeting. This directive instructs Allied Commission to go ahead with survey. Ex Com asked Land Forces S/C to obtain lists from Italian War Ministry as to the factories which were manufacturing arms for Italian Armed Forces. Col Piddley agreed to obtain lists but said they would be lengthy. Ex Com stated that at a meeting with Chief Administrative Officer, AFHQ he had mentioned this question, and especially the BERGAMO Arms Factory. CAO, AFHQ stated that staff study was being made at AFHQ on what arms should be made and our future policy depended on that. Ex Com asked Industry S/C to let him have for AFHQ, any relevant information they had. Col Piddley stated that 44,000 automatic carbines were being manufactured for use of OCHS and asked if consideration had been given by anyone to this matter. VP, CA Sec said that he understood that the 44,000 weapons which were being made were pistols and not carbines and that he thought that only 50% of OCHS should be given these weapons and that this should be decided upon by Italian Minister of War to whom all arms which were manufactured should be turned over for distribution. Ex Com stated that this should be done as AFHQ were in agreement. Instructed his CSO to write further letter to AFHQ and say that in future any release of arms and equipment from Allies should be made to Italian War Ministry for distribution, this latter should be cleared with interested sections before distributed.

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(c) - 4

Election Laws. VP, CA Sec stated that the report on the local election laws was circulated last night. We have to inform Prime Minister of our comments by 12 November and asked that a meeting should be held between sections concerned. Ex Com said that this meeting should be held on 9 November and VP CA Sec agreed to arrange.

(a) - 6

Venezia Giulia Personnel. Ex Com said that NE Venezia Giulia had visited him yesterday and was quite happy about the proposal made at last week's meeting to treat Venezia Giulia on the same basis as the other northern regions. Col Bowman will be going to US for 45 days leave on Dec 1 and Col Robertson would act for him. Venezia Giulia were short of Industry Officers. Eoon Sec stated that when northern regions closed down there would be one or two Industry Officers who could be sent to Venezia Giulia but that most of Indust personnel were now American civilians.

- 2 -

- (e) - 9 Imports. Egon See had spoken to Washington by telephone on the coal situation and stated that 59 ships for coal, November loading, would be available. Half a million tons of coal would be sent to Italy which was better than last month. Also stated that American and British Mediterranean HQ had asked for 200,000 tons to be sent from Germany and that he, Mr Cleveland, had asked Washington to follow this up through War Department. We were ready to send freight cars up to Germany for this shipment.
- (f) - 10. Wheat. Mr Cleveland stated that the wheat outlook was not good. Figures show that 125,000 additional tons in November-December loading were expected but that unless they arrived it might mean that the bread ration would have to be cut. However if the promised amounts arrive we shall have enough to carry on until end of January. Washington had said that the delay was due to internal transportation in the United States and not to any difficulty in obtaining ships for Italy. There was a possibility of getting wheat from Holland.
2. Release of Armistice Terms. Ex Com stated that the Long Armistice Terms together with the commentary would be released at 1800 hours, GMT, 6 November.
3. Employment of ex-Enemy Nationals by AMG. Col Plake stated that he understood that Distwo had sent out directive saying that there would not be employed in their area. Ex Com said that he thought that this question would depend on the past record of the ex-enemy nationals employed. He would take the matter up with Distwo and Regions during his trip north.
4. Publication of ship arrivals and departures. A/VP Egon See stated that the War Shipping Administration was now publishing the dates of ship arrivals and departures in the Italian Press.
5. Issuance of Currency. Egon See stated that a letter had been sent to Prince Minister from OC on the procedure to be followed in turning over the issuance of currency from Allied Commission to the Italian Govt. Mr Cleveland stated that this turnover should be finished by end of month but as there no formal reaction had been obtained from Italian Govt on this plan.
6. Private Commercial Trade. A meeting was being held today between Egon See and Italian private commercial trade representatives to discuss the re-opening of private commercial trade. Mr Cleveland stated that there are no longer any reasons why private trade could not be started soon. Object of this meeting was to press Italian Govt into putting their own system into operation so that

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6. Private Commercial Trade. A meeting was being held today between Soon Sec and Italian private commercial trade representatives to discuss the re-opening of private commercial trade. Mr Cleveland stated that there are no longer any reasons why private trade could not be started soon. Object of this meeting was to press Italian Govt into putting their own system into operation so that some commodities can be shipped soon.
7. Italy. Soon Sec stated that Washington had informed them that the new 1% appropriation would be considered by Congress on Monday next, and the British and Canadian Govts would give their approval when the US Decision was made. It was hoped that a decision would be reached before Congress adjourns for 40 days on December 10th in order that supplies for Italy would be assured. If the appropriation was not forthcoming it would mean that goods would reach the ports and then be shipped to other countries and not to Italy. Ex Comm asked if our January loadings were assured. Mr Cleveland replied that they were not, and would not be before the US decision on the appropriation was known.

- 3 -

8. Visits of Civilian Business Delegations to Italy. Mr Cleveland stated that there was an American Delegation in Rome who were over the question arose as to whether these delegations were allowed to enter in military zones and live in military hotels. Col Scudder said that there was a MUSA directive stating that these delegations could be fed, accommodated and have transported provided for a certain fee. In reply to questions as to whether anything was provided for British Delegations, Col Jones said that there was nothing provided for that such delegations could be fed and accommodated, but that he would take the matter up with HQ, GAF and see if some directive could not be put out on the same basis as the MUSA order.

9. Turnover of the Italian Army. Col Pidsley stated that MUSA had received a directive from AFHQ last evening stating that the Italian Army would be returned to Italian Govt control on 14 November. Col Pidsley would send copy to CG today but hoped that no changes would be made to it as this document had taken many weeks before appearing in final form and it has already been discussed and agreed on. The question of the equipment being at present used by the Italian Army has been fixed.

T-H McClellan 21.6.46

Chief Staff Officer
to the Executive Commissioner

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- Pilot

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T-H M. C. C. 25.6.60

Chief Staff Officer
To the Executive Commissioner

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 551/36

31 October 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 31 October 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Mr. Cleveland, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Flake, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Captain Muller, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Densmore, Colonel Walton, Colonel Jones.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 25 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that there have been no developments with respect to the restoration of the remaining provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Publication of Armistice Terms

The Chief Commissioner reported that as a result of considerable agitation in the U.S., it appears likely that the armistice terms may be published possibly within a week. The Chief Commissioner has stated that the AC has no objection to the publication of the terms, provided that the publication is accompanied by a commentary on how the terms have been modified in practice and by such directives as FAN 487 and FAN 583. On 31 October a meeting is being held at AFHQ to consider a draft commentary.

3. Political Resume

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief resume of the general political situation. The Council of Ministers passed a resolution providing for national elections to be held not later than the end of April, administrative elections to be initiated during 1945, and the powers and procedures of the Constituent to be determined simultaneously with the holding of the national elections. The possibility of solving such matters as the institutional question by referendum was also discussed.

4. Supply Situation

Mr. Cleveland stated that as a result of widespread strikes in the coal and oil industries and by the storekeepers in the U.S., the supply situation has deteriorated during the past week. It is estimated that Italy will lose

Colonel Bergamy, Colonel

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5. 1946 Import Program

Mr. Cleveland reported that a great deal of work has been done on the import program. In addition a study of projects would be undertaken which could be financed by the Export-Import Bank. The Chief Commissioner suggested that loans to finance such projects should not be restricted to the Export-Import Bank, but that the program when completed should be brought to the attention of American, British, and Canadian private banks - through the Embassies.

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6. Disposal of Captured Enemy Equipment

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 25 October 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that the substance of the letter on Captured Enemy Equipment disposal from the CAO, AMHQ, has been communicated to the Italian Government. With respect to captured enemy material having no utility, arrangements have been made to have this handled by the PBS Quartermaster in lieu of OALC.

7. Reorganization of Economic Section

Mr. Cleveland reported that the Economic Section is being reorganized so that the supply sections may be detached, at such time as they are to be incorporated into the successor supply organization, without disrupting the work of the Section.

8. Wheat Amassing

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 25 October 1945, Colonel Densmore reported that 906,000 tons of wheat have been amassed, representing 69% of the target figure of 1,300,000 tons. With reference to the Italian ships in Argentine ports that under armistice terms were left in the hands of the Argentine Government, arrangements are being made for the Italian Government to buy back these ships and the Transportation S/C is pressing for their immediate return. The Chief Commissioner reported that the Prime Minister has asked that these ships be delayed in Argentine until they have been loaded with 100,000 tons of wheat which the Argentine Government has promised the Italian Government. The Chief Commissioner has asked Prof. Parri to cable Argentine for specific information as to when the wheat will be available and when the ships can sail. Mr. Cleveland observed that the Argentine commitment on the wheat may not be a firm one as they seem to have promised the same wheat to other nations. Mr. Cleveland also reported that in order to keep one month's supply of wheat in stock, it will be necessary to import 325,000 tons over and above the shipments scheduled from the U.S. and that promised by the Argentine Government.

9. National and Local Elections

Brigadier Carr reported that he has received a draft of the new electoral law and that some, but not all, of the criticisms directed against the old law have been met. For example, the servicemen are now allowed to vote. Mr. Jones reported that the law covering local elections did prohibit electioneering in the vicinity of the polling booths, while the law covering national elections did not. Therefore, he considered it appropriate for the AC to point out the discrepancy. The new law provides for the use of printed ballots, and for the posting of the lists of candidates at the time of the elections. Mr. Jones stated that this too should be brought up with the Italian Government in order that the lists may be posted sufficiently in advance of the elections to provide for proper publicity. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Ficks to check

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10. Return of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 10 October 1945, General Browning stated that orders have not yet been issued to implement the compromise arrived at. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Fiske to check this matter to see if the necessary orders could be issued immediately. General Browning reported that he is in receipt of a directive to issue vehicles to the Carabinieri but that he cannot comply until the other vehicles are returned.

11. Release of Personnel from AC

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 25 October 1945, Colonel Fiske stated that General Ridgway is anxious to meet all AC/AM officers, including the 91 officers now under orders to return to the U.S., before they leave.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chief Commissioner expressed the regrets of the AC at the detachment of Major General Lammitzer, Chief of Staff, AFHQ and MTOUSA, who has worked in the closest collaboration with AC/AMC since the early days in Sicily.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Thursday, 8 November 1945.

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col. AGD
Staff Officer to CC

- DISPATCHES:
- Chief Commissioner
 - Executive Commissioner
 - VP, Civil Affairs Section
 - VP, Economic Section (5)
 - VP, Establishment Section (2)
 - Political Adviser (4)
 - Political Adviser (3)
 - Navy Subcommittee (3)
 - Land Forces Subcommittee (AGL)
 - Air Forces Subcommittee
 - French Representative, AC.
 - Soviet Representative, AC.
 - Liaison Officer (MC)
 - Public Relations Branch
 - American Ambassador
 - British Ambassador
 - G-5, AFHQ (5)
 - Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

DISTRIBUTION:
 Chief Commissioner
 Executive Commissioner
 VP, Civil Affairs Section
 VP, Economic Section (5)
 VP, Establishment Section (2)
 Political Advisor (A)
 Political Advisor (B)
 Navy Subcommittee (3)
 Land Forces Subcommittee
 Air Forces Subcommittee
 French Representative, AC.
 Soviet Representative, AC.
 Liaison Officer (EE)
 Public Relations Branch
 American Ambassador
 British Ambassador
 G-5, ASEC (5)
 Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

Lt Col. AGD
 Staff Officer to CG

-3-
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

APC 2/4

CC 321/34

20 October 1945

MEMORANDUM

Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to report to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4.

In subject: Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to report to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4. The subject is the report of the Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4. The report is dated 10 October 1945.

1. Description of Program to Italian Government

The program to Italian Government is a part of the program of the Allied Commission, APC 2/4. The program is to be carried out by the Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4. The program is to be carried out by the Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4.

2. Nature of Program to Italian Government

The program to Italian Government is a part of the program of the Allied Commission, APC 2/4. The program is to be carried out by the Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4. The program is to be carried out by the Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4.

3. Method of Program to Italian Government

The method of program to Italian Government is a part of the program of the Allied Commission, APC 2/4. The method is to be carried out by the Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4. The method is to be carried out by the Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4.

4. Status of Program to Italian Government

The status of program to Italian Government is a part of the program of the Allied Commission, APC 2/4. The status is to be carried out by the Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4. The status is to be carried out by the Vice President, National Industrial Conference Board, to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APC 2/4.

Continuation of Report of the Joint Committee on Assassinations

After reference to Joint Committee on Assassinations of 3 October 1975, the Joint Committee states that no additional information is being furnished to the Committee at this time. It is noted that the Committee has been informed that it is not to be held in 1976, and that the Committee will be held in 1977. It is noted that the Committee will be held in 1977, and that the Committee will be held in 1977.

2. Letter of Victor Marchetti to Italian Agent Marco

With reference to page 2 of Volume 9 of 3 October 1975, the Joint Committee has approved the classification for the relevant document. The document is classified as Confidential and the Joint Committee has approved the classification.

3. Memorandum of Opinion of the Joint Committee

The Joint Committee on Assassinations has received a letter from the Italian Agent Marco Marchetti dated 25 October 1975. The letter contains information regarding the assassination of John F. Kennedy. The Joint Committee has reviewed the letter and has concluded that the information is reliable. The Joint Committee has also concluded that the information is relevant to the Committee's work.

4. Memorandum of the Italian Agent Marco

Colonel Marchetti stated that at the request of the Italian Agent Marco Marchetti, he has directed the Italian Agent Marco Marchetti to provide information regarding the assassination of John F. Kennedy. The Italian Agent Marco Marchetti has provided the information requested. The Italian Agent Marco Marchetti has also provided information regarding the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

5. Enclosure

Enclosure 1: A letter from the Italian Agent Marco Marchetti dated 25 October 1975. The letter contains information regarding the assassination of John F. Kennedy. The Italian Agent Marco Marchetti has provided the information requested. The Italian Agent Marco Marchetti has also provided information regarding the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Enclosure 2: A letter from the Italian Agent Marco Marchetti dated 25 October 1975. The letter contains information regarding the assassination of John F. Kennedy. The Italian Agent Marco Marchetti has provided the information requested. The Italian Agent Marco Marchetti has also provided information regarding the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

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

See page 3, paragraph 1 to paragraph 10 of the
Training Office.

7. Chief Accounting

its reference to page 5 of minutes of a meeting, Colonel J. Brown stated that 50% of the staff has been ordered, with collection that would be that there are 100,000 men. It is not sufficient whether the target figure can be reached, 60% is Italian Government is ordered to increase the number of men from 150,000 to 200,000 men per month.

8. Assignment for the Italian

Unpublished Court is going to the measure providing for extension for the Italian Government to the Italian Government. It is not sufficient whether the target figure can be reached, 60% is Italian Government is ordered to increase the number of men from 150,000 to 200,000 men per month.

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1. Appointments

The Chief Commissioner expressed his regret at the departure of Brigadier Greiffing-Smith, Joint Director of the Finance S/C, who had the longest record of service as a sub-commissioner based in the AC. The Chief Commissioner noted that Brigadier Greiffing-Smith has done a splendid job and he cited his performance of duty as an excellent illustration of the personal cooperation and collaboration required in an integrated organization. On Brigadier Greiffing-Smith's suggestion, the Executive Commissioner and Chief Commissioner have agreed that his post will not be filled and that Colonel Marjono will take over as sole Director of the Finance S/C.

Next Vice President's Meeting - Wednesday 17 October 1945.

[Signature]
Major, ASD
Staff Officer to CC

- ATTACHMENT:
- Chief Commissioner
 - Executive Commissioner
 - VI. Civil Affairs Section
 - VI. Economic Section (2)
 - VI. Establishment Section (2)
 - Political Advisor (A)
 - Political Advisor (B)
 - General Subcommission (3)
 - Large Foreign Subcommission (1371)
 - Air Force Subcommission
 - French Representative, AC
 - Soviet Representative, AC
 - Chinese (1111) (20)
 - Public Relations, French
 - American Ambassador
 - British Ambassador
 - S. S. 4774 (2)
 - Chief Financial Officer (40).

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[Handwritten signature]
Major, ASD
State Office to DC

- DISTRIBUTION:
- Chief Coordinator
 - Executive Coordinator
 - VI, Civil Affairs Section
 - VI, Economic Section (3)
 - VI, Establishment Section (2)
 - Political Advisor (4)
 - Political Advisor (3)
 - Legal Administration (3)
 - Legal Foreign Organization (EMIA)
 - Legal Foreign Organization
 - French Representative, AG
 - Soviet Representative, AG
 - Language Office (BC)
 - Public Relations Branch
 - Staff and Ambassador
 - British Ambassador
 - US, AFHQ (3)
 - Chief Financial Advisor (MIA)

- 3 -
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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

DD FORM 551/33

3 October 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 3 October 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Hq Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Brigadier Lush, Brigadier General McKinley, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Jones, Mr. Jones, Mr. Melford, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Branning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Captain Muller, Mr. Brown, Colonel Denmore, Brigadier Anderson, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that no word has yet been received on the transfer date and that a traveler has been sent off to Washington. In the meantime, redeployment is affecting the operation of AMC in the North, but it has been laid down that AMC representation will be maintained in the field.

2. Reduction of Italian Army Pay

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, General Browning stated that his study of the proposed pay table has been completed and an Aide Memoire sent to the Chief Commissioner. The new table does involve certain reductions in pay and it is recommended that because of the effect on the morale of Italian servicemen that reductions in pay will have, that representation be made to the Prime Minister.

3. Return of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Brigadier Lush reported that a satisfactory compromise has been worked out so that vehicles to be handed over from Allied sources will be assigned to the Italian military services to replace Italian military vehicles held in the North.

4. AMC Seizure of Italian Army Property

With reference to para 13 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Brigadier Lush stated that certain Italian Army property in the North had been utilized by AMC but not been returned to the Italian Army.

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Colonel Jones, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hylford, Mr. Vice Marshal Freddie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Captain Moulton, Mr. Brown, Colonel Denamore, Brigadier Anderson, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that no word has yet been received on the transfer date and that a traveler has been sent off to Washington. In the meantime, redeployment is affecting the operation of AMJ in the North, but it has been laid down that AMJ representation will be maintained in the field.

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4. AMJ Seizure of Italian Army Property

With reference to para 13 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Brigadier Lush stated that certain Italian Army property in the North had been utilized by AMJ had now been returned to the Italian Army.

5. Political Resume.

Mr. Jones gave a brief resume of the general political situation. Count Sforza was installed as president of the Consulta. Prof Perri in his report to the Consulta on the state of the nation said that Italy recognizes the debt owed to the Allies and that Italy's immediate economic needs are being met by the Allies, but a long-term program is being prepared for presentation to the Allied Governments. Prof. Perri attributed the delay in holding elections to the public safety situation, Italy's uncertainty as to her future international status, and disagreement between the political parties. Mr. Jones said that the Prime Minister omitted to include a basic reason for delay in preparing electoral lists.

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Minister DeGasperi reported to the Consulta on his trip to London. He said he had taken the position there that Italy was prepared to make sacrifices to Yugoslavia but that Italy was not willing to accept any unconditional solution, that a commission is being sent by the Council of Foreign Ministers to Venice to study the situation there and that the question of Italian colonies is being handled by the deputies of the foreign ministers.

The Consulta closed 2 October with another speech by Prof. Parri. With regard to the financial situation, the Prime Minister stated that it was the Government's determination to avoid inflation and not to devalue the currency.

The morning press of 3 October reported the arrest of leaders of the Sicilian separatist movement including Minichiello Aprile.

6. Wheat Shortage

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Colonel Denmore reported that 62% of the target now has been assessed, with the last week's collections the lowest yet reported. Colonel Welton reported that Sicily, where the smelting has been particularly poor, faces an immediate shortage and will probably request that a ship be diverted there. General McKinley said that any wheat diverted now to Sicily will be deducted from future allotments. Italy must show some degree of self reliance in settling her food problem and cannot be allowed to fall back on the Allies at will.

7. Disturbances in Lecce

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Brigadier Carr reported that the Bari Liaison Officer had gone to Lecce and reported that the situation there seems to be now under control.

8. Armed Guards for Convoys

Air Vice Marshal Brodie stated that the Italian Air Ministry has requested permission to assign armed guards to their truck convoys as protection against brigands. The Executive Commissioner stated that he could see no objection to the assignment of armed guards provided the guards were military personnel and not civilians.

9. Release of Personnel from AC

With reference to para 14 of Minutes of 26 September, Colonel Jones reported that there is now a deficiency of 209 officers and that a loss by 1 December of approximately 400 officers is anticipated. The Executive Commissioner stated that a cable has been dispatched to all AC/AM units informing them of the situation and requesting that they be kept in readiness.

The morning press of 3 October reported the arrest of leaders of Sicilian separatist movement including Pinochierno Aprile.

6. Wheat Amassing

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Colonel Benson reported that 62% of the target now has been amassed, with the last week's collections the lowest yet reported. Colonel Walton reported that Sicily, where the amassing has been particularly poor, faces an immediate shortage and will probably request that a ship be diverted there. General McKinley said that any wheat diverted now to Sicily will be deducted from future allotments. Italy must show some degree of self reliance in settling her food problem and cannot be allowed to fall back on the Allies at will.

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9. Release of Personnel from AG

With reference to para 14 of Minutes of 26 September, Colonel Jones reported that there is now a deficiency of 209 officers and that a loss by 1 December of approximately 400 officers is anticipated. The Executive Commissioner stated that a cable has been dispatched to all AG/AMG units informing U.S. Officers with 75 points or over that they may request retention in their present assignment until such date as they choose but not later than 6 March 1946. While the numerical loss of officers may not be too great, the loss of irreplaceable technical experts will be keenly felt by AG. The SAC/OR position is even more serious, with personnel of entire sections being slated for redeployment. In this connection, the Executive Commissioner called attention to the fact that, because of the loss of personnel in the signals section a reduction in signal traffic must be made.

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday 10 October 1945.

L. W. Stearns

L. W. STEARNS

Major, AUD

Staff Officer to CC

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
VP. Civil Affairs Section
VP. Economic Section (5)
VP. Establishment Section (2)
Political Adviser (A)
Political Adviser (B)
Naval Subcommittee (3)
Land Forces Subcommittee (12/14)
Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AC
Soviet Representative, AD
Liaison Office (SC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

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

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VP, Civil Affairs Section
 VP, Economic Section (5)
 VP, Establishment Section (2)
 Political Adviser (A)
 Political Adviser (B)
 Naval Subcommittee (3)
 Land Forces Subcommittee (NALLA)
 Air Forces Subcommittee
 French Representative, AC
 Soviet Representative, AC
 Liaison Office (SC)
 Public Relations Branch
 American Ambassador
 British Ambassador
 G-5, AFHQ (5)
 Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

1. Restoration of Privileges to Italian Government

With reference to para 2 of minutes of 19 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that no work has been permitted yet with respect to the transfer date. Based on reports of the financial control officers and of Brigadier Carr, a signal has been dispatched to AFHQ stating that the transfer can be effected within ten days after receipt of notification of a satisfactory date. The signal also pointed out that redeployment was reasoning the authority of AFHQ in the North, and requested notification of the date as soon as possible.

2. Collection of Italian Army Pay

With reference to para 8 of minutes of 19 September 1945, General Brumby stated that a full report has been submitted to AFHQ on the proposed pay table for the Italian AF. There appears to be no basis for protest to the Italian Government.

3. Enrollment of German POWs in Italy

The Chief Commissioner reported that the labor unrest and recent disturbances in Naples were largely the result of withdrawal of German POWs by U.S. military authorities of property on which Italians could be used. The difficulty arose from the fact that the POWs were allowed to circulate while not under guard as drivers of trucks and at other times on the street and on trains. This led to disorders wherever Italians recognized them. In addition it has been reported that POWs were apparently being used as carriers of Italian workers and were allowed to give orders to and search Italian drivers leaving the checkpoint. The AF has been protesting against this practice for some weeks, and on Saturday the Chief Commissioner sent a dispatch to AFHQ pointing out steps which could be taken to take the heat out of the situation. On Monday General Brumby met with a delegation of Italians. Press reports indicate that a number of the German POWs employed in the Naples area will be repatriated and their jobs given to Italians. In response to a question by Colonel Savko, the Chief Commissioner replied that the repatriation in his opinion, must return to Germany. Considerable progress has been made in alleviating the situation.

4. Political Results

12. Molinetti gave a brief review of the general political situation. During the past week, the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers has held the attention of the Italian press. On the whole, the Italian attitude is one of cautious optimism. Surprisingly, there has been no reaction against the proposed international administration of Italian colonies. The Representative Assembly convened yesterday. Giuseppe Agnini was elected provisional president of the Committee. He gave an anti-communist speech which was loudly applauded. 13. Molinetti stated that the so-called "American Plan" for Italy as reported in the Italian press is not an official plan of the U.S. Government but one that has been more or less suggested editorially by American correspondents.

3013

5. Italian Film Legislation

Mr. Brown reported that the film legislation in the case form as originally submitted has been approved finally by the Italian Government, which will pass it through the cabinet to operate in Italy on the completion of Feb.

6. Newspaper Attacks on Poles

The Chief Commissioner asked Mr. Brown for a translation of the newspaper account attacking the Poles. The Chief Commissioner observed that the Polish Embassy has stated that he will not permit political attack on any group under his command.

7. Great America

With reference to para 11 of minutes of 19 September 1943, Colonel Danmore stated that 61% of the sheet target has been removed. The situation is not too encouraging.

8. Economic Plans of the AC

Colonel Danmore reported that a Congressional committee had arrived in Rome to conduct a series of studies on future economic plans for Italy. The Chief Commissioner instructed Colonel Danmore to give the following information to representative of that committee of AC: The main burden of supplies for Italy is to be taken over by UNRRA. As to the functions of the AC in the future, they will depend on the results taken at London. It can be pointed out that economic support in addition to that furnished by UNRRA may be furnished on the U.S. side through the Export-Import Bank. It is expected that as AC closes, economic missions from both governments will operate free the enterprise until such time as Italy regains a normal economy.

9. Italian Machinery and Plants in Austria and Germany

Brigadier Leaven reported that instructions have been received to notify the Italian Government that IPIG will not undertake to handle claims for machinery and stores in Austria and Germany, but that the Italian Government will have to take such claims through regular diplomatic channels.

10. Prisoners held in Italy

Brigadier Carr stated that he had received reports of riots and disturbances in Italy in protest against the high cost of living. Three persons were killed and about 40 wounded by the Carabinieri. Contrary to press accounts, no troops were used to quell the disturbances. The Chief Commissioner requested the Executive Commissioner to send the last liaison officer immediately to Rome to get a full report on the situation.

11. Letters to be addressed by General

with reference to para 11 of minutes of 19 September 1945. Colonel Dammery stated that 61% of the wheat harvest has been announced. The situation is not too encouraging.

9. Economic Plans of 1946

Colonel Dammery reported that a Congressional committee had arrived in Rome to conduct a mission on future economic plans for Italy. The Chief Commissioner instructed Colonel Dammery to give the following information on representative of the views of the Italian Government on supplies for Italy in 1946 to those who are by UNRRA. As to the functions of the IC in the future, that will depend on the action taken at London. It can be pointed out that economic support in addition to that furnished by UNRRA may be furnished on the U.S. side through the Export-Import Bank. It is expected that an IC closed, economic relations from both governments will operate from the Ambassador until such time as Italy regains a national economy.

10. Italian Machinery and Stores in Austria and Germany

Brigadier J. J. J. reported that instructions have been received to notify the Italian Government that AFHQ will not undertake to handle claims for machinery and stores in Austria and Germany, but that the Italian Government will have to make such claims through regular diplomatic channels.

11. Winter supply in Greece

Brigadier J. J. J. stated that he had received reports of riots and disturbances in large in protest against the high cost of living. Three persons were killed and about 40 wounded by the Carabinieri. Contrary to press accounts, no troops were used to quell the disturbances. The Chief Commissioner requested the Executive Committee to send the War Relocation Officer immediately on to Athens to get a full report on the situation.

12. Patients to be discharged by Consultants

With reference to subpara 7 of para 9 of minutes of 19 September 1945, Brigadier J. J. J. stated that he had asked Minister Brodie if the Consultants are to consider revision of the voting procedure and whether the suggestions made by the U.S. and British Governments were to be included. Minister Brodie seemed to be uninformed on this subject and took full part of the criticism of the present procedure and gave his personal assurance that some action would be taken. The Chief Commissioner observed that the Prime Minister apparently considered this question lightly. The Chief Commissioner expressed astonishment at the apparent reluctance of the Italian Government to correct the archaic voting procedure.

13. Reversal of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces

With reference to para 12 of minutes of 19 September 1945, General Brown stated that because of certain conditions which he believed had to be met to allow within the scope of the AFHQ directive, considerable difficulty was

investigation in order to work out a compromise. The Chief Commissioner requested that General Groming and Brindley meet with the Interim Committee and make every effort to come to a workable compromise as soon as possible.

13. AWG Returns of Italian Army Property

General Groming stated that a report has been received that AWG in the North has seized certain property (including rifles and uniforms) belonging to the Italian Army. This action is in direct violation of AWG orders. A Russian Agent has stated that he has been advised that the report was incorrect or at least the actual facts are not as stated. The Chief Commissioner directed the Executive Committee to check into the matter.

14. Release of Persons from AW

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 13 September 1943, Colonel Perkins reported that orders have been received regarding the official orders to 75 for H.Q. officers and 70 for enlisted men effective 1st October, which will leave the 267th Regiment with 14 officers and 140 enlisted men in November. However, there are two plans whereby officers may volunteer to remain for certain periods and accordingly a dispatch is being sent to all regions. Officers not wishing to volunteer cannot be held by the Committee.

15. Strike in French Guiana

The Executive Committee gave a brief report on the latest information on the general strike in French Guiana which started today and continued through Tuesday. Public utilities, excepting trams, are functioning. No serious demonstrations have been reported.

Next day is scheduled meeting - postponed, 1 October 1943.

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Executive Committee
Mr. Civil Affairs Section
Mr. Economic Section (15)
Mr. Establishment Section (2)
Military Advisor (2)

W. H. STEARNS
Major, AMB
Staff Officer to CS

3.2. officers were for the 267th Regiment with 124 officers and the enlisted men in November. However, there are two plans whereby officers may volunteer to remain for certain periods. One accordingly a dispatch is being sent to all regions. Officers not wishing to volunteer cannot be held by the Government.

15. Strikes in General. (S)

The Executive Commission gave a brief report on the latest information on the general strikes in general. Strikes which started locally and continued through Tuesday. Public utilities, transportation lines, are functioning. No serious demonstrations have been reported.

Post War Pro-Soviet Meeting - Wednesday, 3 October 1945.

M. Stearns

Major, AGO

Staff Officer to GC

ATTACHMENT

Chief Commissioner

Executive Commission

VP, Civil Affairs Section

VP, Economic Section (S)

VP, Establishment Section (S)

Political Advisor (A)

Political Advisor (S)

VP, Subcommission (S)

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Air Forces Subcommission

French Representative, AG

Soviet Representative, AG

Liaison Office (EC)

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Written Ambassador

VP, AG (S)

Chief Financial Advisor (AG)

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 354

CC 551/31

19 September 1945

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 19 September 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, HQ Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Brigadier General McKinley, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Terkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Brownlie, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Captain Moules, Mr. Brown, Colonel Walcott, Brigadier Anderson.

1. Release of San Marco Regiment

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that in response to an AC signal, AMHQ has indicated willingness to permit the San Marco Regiment to be released when two thirds of the internal security brigade at Bari has been organized. It is hoped that the Regiment will be turned back to the Navy this month.

2. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 16 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that no word has yet been received with respect to the transfer date and it is now doubtful whether the transfer can be effected on 30 September even if approval is received. AMHQ has received permission to turn back all ports to Italian Government jurisdiction. AC has recommended that the date for the return of ports be the same as for the major transfer of provinces.

3. Importation of phosphates

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner requested Colonel Terkin to confer with Captain Moules to see if the critical phosphate situation may be relieved by assistance from the French Government in expediting completion of negotiations on exchange of Italian pyrites for phosphates.

4. Medical Supplies in Sardinia

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that satisfactory arrangements have been worked out, with the War Ministry transferring to UNRRA medical supplies in Sardinia in exchange for a like amount of supplies from UNRRA stocks on the mainland.

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With reference to para 14 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that no word has yet been received with respect to the transfer date and it is now doubtful whether the transfer can be effected on 30 September even if approval is received. AFHQ has received permission to turn back all ports to Italian Government jurisdiction. AC has recommended that the date for the return of ports be the same as for the major transfer of provinces.

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With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that satisfactory arrangements have been worked out, with the War Ministry transferring to USMHA, medical supplies in Sardinia in exchange for a like amount of supplies from USMHA stocks on the mainland.

5. Release of Personnel from AC

With reference to para 15 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that the Executive Commissioner and the Establishment Section have done a good job in drawing up a phased plan for the reduction in numbers of AC personnel. The plan will bring the personnel strength of the command to within the limitation set by MRCUS, of 700 U.S. officers and enlisted men, and an equivalent number of British personnel, by 1 December.

6. Release of Colonel Bowen

The Chief Commissioner stated that signals had been received from XIII Corps indicating their belief that Colonel Bowen was to be relieved for demobilization soon. Colonel Bowen was directed not to indicate in any way approval in any reply sent to AFHQ or XIII Corps, as Colonel Bowen cannot be released at this time.

110

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7. Transportation for Members of the Consulta

The Chief Commissioner referred to a letter received from the Italian Government requesting a special allocation of passenger train accommodations for members of the Consulta, which will convene in Rome on 24 September. The Chief Commissioner stressed the importance of meeting this request. General McKinley was directed to follow it through with the Transportation E/O and to inform the Chief Commissioner if AMHQ assistance was required.

8. Reduction of Italian Army Pay

The Chief Commissioner reported that a signal had been received from AMHQ stating that the Italian Army was planning a reduction of their pay scales and requesting the AC to protest against this to the Italian Government. General Browning stated that the new pay table was being studied very carefully and at the present time it seems as though it might not involve a general decrease in pay but actually an increase in some cases. The Chief Commissioner stated that no protest will be made to the Italian Government until General Browning completes his study of the proposed pay table.

9. Political Resume

Mr. Jones gave a brief resume of the general political situation. As a result of an invitation received, the Italian Government has sent a number of experts to London to present Italian views during the consideration of the Italian peace treaty by the Council of Foreign Ministers.

The Prime Minister in an interview with the press gave his views on the peace treaty. He reported that the Italian Government had adopted a restrained policy with regard to the peace treaty in order that no one, inside or outside Italy, would assume there was a residue of fascism in Italy. Italy must pay for fascist crimes up to a certain point, after which justice would have to be done to Italy. He considered the Morgan line to be a military line and expressed the hope that it would not be considered as anything more than that, saying that he did not believe the Yugoslav Government would accept it as a boundary and that, in his opinion, no Italian Government could approve it.

The question of whether to hold local or national elections first will be decided within the next two weeks, during which time more information will be received on completion of electoral lists throughout the country, which will effect the decision. The press said that the Prime Minister would then be able to reply to U.S. and British Government representations. In this connection the Chief Commissioner requested Brigadier Carr to ask Minister Brasio what is to be submitted to the Consulta as to voting procedure and whether suggestions made by the U.S. and British Governments are to be included.

The morning press of 12 September carried a full account of a reported interview given by Field Marshal Alexander in which he is reported to have said that he had recommended to the GCS that an American or British policy

crease in pay but actually an increase in some cases. The Chief Commissioner stated that no protest will be made to the Italian Government until General Brown has completed his study of the proposed pay table.

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The morning press of 12 September carried a full account of a reported interview given by Field Marshal Alexander in which he is reported to have said that he had recommended to the CIG that an American or British Police Mission be sent to Italy to modernize the police force. Regarding the Navy, the Field Marshal said it would be deprived of submarines and the battleships would be condemned. The Navy would be maintained by a small and efficient force. In reply to a question, the Field Marshal stated that Redoglio's departure from Rome at the time of the Armistice may have contributed to the disorganization of the forces defending Rome but that these forces were so disorganized that it probably made little difference. The Chief Commissioner requested Mr. Brown to furnish him with a translation of the full text of the story.

10. Review of AME and AC in Italy

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, Mr. Brown reported that Lieut. Col. Bergin was now in London and had reported the distribution of the above captioned booklet was going exceedingly well and

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had requested an additional 400 copies to be airtailed at once. Colonel Bergin is to leave London for Washington in a day or two.

11. Wheat Amassing

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, General McKinley stated that the South has now amassed 61% of the target, as compared to 59.8% amassed at this time last year. However, the whole picture is extremely difficult. In Piemonte, Italian Army troops have assisted the Carabinieri in tracking down wheat smugglers.

12. Return of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces

Air Vice Marshal Brodie brought up the question of disposition of Italian armed forces vehicles captured from the Germans and a lengthy discussion ensued. AFHQ has directed that vehicles identified as belonging to the Italian armed forces by serial markings and coming into Allied hands by virtue of the German collapse in the North, must be returned to the armed forces. However, since the German collapse these vehicles have been used by CLN's and individual groups for the economy of the North and it is considered that it will be extremely difficult and perhaps impolitic to attempt to recover these vehicles, which would in many cases require the use of force. An alternative suggestion has been made that these particular vehicles be maintained in their present service and that an equivalent number of vehicles now being turned over to the Italian Government by the Allies be in turn assigned to the Italian services as replacements. The Chief Commissioner requested Air Vice Marshal Brodie and General Browning to discuss this question with General McKinley and Brigadier Lush with a view to working out some compromise.

13. War Criminals in POW Camps

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that AFHQ would be informed of war criminals held in Italian POW camps and that no action would be taken until instructions are received from AFHQ.

Next Vice President's Meeting - Wednesday, 26 September 1945.

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Major, AGN
Staff Officer to CC

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Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner

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Next Vice President's Meeting - Wednesday, 26 September 1945.

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Major, AGP

Staff Officer to CC

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Naval Subcommittee (3)
Land Forces Subcommittee (MEGA)
Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AC
Soviet Representative, AC
Liaison Office (EC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

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VP, Est. L. Section

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
AYO 394

CC 551/30

12 September 1945.

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 12 September 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Hq Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Colonel Denmore, Brigadier General McKinley, Brigadier Anderson, Colonel Walton, Lieutenant Colonel White, Colonel Parkin, Colonel Fiske, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Brigadier General Lee, Group Captain Jarman, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel V. V. Savko, Mr. Brown.

1. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, General McKinley stated that advice had been received from AFHQ which has clarified the September loadings question.

2. Release of San Marco Regiment

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that G-3 AFHQ still refuses to release the San Marco Regiment. In order to keep the question open, the Chief Commissioner suggested that G-3 AFHQ be queried as to their estimate of the date that this regiment can be released.

3. Meritorious Service Unit Plaque for 267th Regiment

The Chief Commissioner commanded the Commanding Officer of the 267th Regiment on the smart appearance of the officers and men who took part in the presentation ceremony in the Piazza Venezia on 5 September.

4. War Criminals in POW Camps

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, Colonel White stated that the four generals who have been indicted as war criminals and who are now held in an Italian POW camp are being cared for on proper authority. The Chief Commissioner again expressed concern about holding war criminals in Italian camps and directed Brigadier Lush to investigate the matter.

5. Soviet Representative's Protest re Incident Involving Allied MP's

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the report had been forwarded to AFHQ. Priorities

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The Chief Commissioner commended the Commanding Officer of the 267th Regiment on the smart appearance of the officers and men who took part in the presentation ceremony in the Piazza Venezia on 5 September.

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5. Soviet Representative's Protest re Incident Involving Allied MP's

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the new report had been forwarded to AFHQ. Brigadier Lush stated that no reply had yet been received. Colonel Savko reported that two officers were assigned by the commanding General of the district in which the incident occurred to start the investigation and they are now in Rome waiting to speak to General Veseliev.

6. Importation of Phosphates

The Chief Commissioner reported that the Italian Government is trying to import phosphates through the French Government in exchange for pyrites. In the meantime, Italian representatives inquired of AC as to whether or not any phosphates could be obtained from American sources, and a signal requesting that information has been dispatched. Colonel Walton stated that the Commission was in contact with the French Commercial Attache but that since this was

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purely a French-Italian deal, he believe it would be rather difficult to try to expedite it. Brigadier Lush suggested that the Commission bring pressure to bear through the Economic Section of SHAFF.

7. Medical Supplies in Sardinia

The Chief Commissioner reported that Mr. Keeney of UNRRA had called him in connection with surplus Italian Army medical supplies now in Sardinia which the Italian Army intends to transfer to the mainland. Mr. Keeney requested permission for UNRRA to pick up those supplies in Sardinia in exchange for a like amount of UNRRA supplies now in stock in Italy, the supplies being badly needed in Sardinia. The Chief Commissioner stated that when the confirming letter is received he would refer it to Brigadier Lush and General Browning, who were requested to bring pressure to bear on the Italian War Ministry.

8. Political Resume

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief resume of the general political situation. Prof. Parri made a speech in which he placed blame for fascism on the middle classes. No decision has yet been made by the Government as to whether local or national elections should be held first. The execution 11 September of General Bellomo gave rise to a strong reaction as the General had defended Bari against the Germans and was wounded in that battle. The British Embassy has stated that this was a purely military matter. Mr. Hopkinson reported that the case had been reviewed personally by the Field Marshal and that because of the strong evidence it was not possible to change the sentence of the court.

9. Review of AMJ and AC in Italy

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, Mr. Hopkinson suggested that the booklet should be made available to the British Government to issue as a White Paper if AMJ so elected, which would mean that the booklet would be put on public sale. All present concurred in this proposal provided it was issued after the general release date. The Chief Commissioner requested Mr. Brown to discuss the matter with Mr. Hopkinson.

10. Italian Operation of Ports

Admiral Warren gave a brief report on his trip North and stated that the ports of Genoa and Savona, which are now run entirely by the Italians are operating extraordinarily well, although the inner harbor at Genoa is still not yet cleared of mines and cannot be used.

11. Wheat Amassing

With reference to para 8 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, Colonel Pennmore reported that 5% of the harvest was amassing.

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8. Political Resume

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11. Wheat Amassing

With reference to para 8 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, Colonel Bensmore reported that 5% of the target has now been amassed. Letters have been dispatched to the Regions and to the Italian Government on the amassing. In answer to the Chief Commissioner's query, Colonel Bensmore stated that the new amassing system which will be used in future years has been worked out by the Italians in conjunction with the Agriculture S/C. The Chief Commissioner requested Colonel Bensmore to furnish a report of the workings of the new plan.

12. Reported Disturbances in the North

Colonel Fiske stated that the press reports of disturbances in Milan were erroneous and have had an adverse effect on the people in Milan. One report was that General Clark had postponed a scheduled visit to Milan because of the unrest there, which was untrue as the trip was postponed because General Clark had to attend an important meeting in Central Europe.

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13. Release of Personnel from AC

Brigadier Lush reported that a letter has been received from AFHQ asking for complete description of how the subcommittees work and for the general scheme for reduction of personnel. The Chief Commissioner said that information on the subcommittees was required by AFHQ because a staff study was being prepared to see if it is possible to abolish the Commission prior to the peace treaty. On the U. S. side of the Commission, a telegram from AFHQ has been received limiting the total American officer and enlisted men strength to 700 on 1 December, and although no limitation has yet been set on the British side, it is expected that it will be about the same. AFHQ is also studying the AC recommendations for liaison staffs in the North and it is likely that the proposed staffs will be cut down.

14. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

Referring to para 3 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that no word had yet been received from the Combined Chiefs with respect to the transfer date, but it is hoped that it will not be postponed beyond 30 September.

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting-- Wednesday 19 September 1945.

[Signature]
J. W. STEARNS,
Major, AGO
Staff Officer to CC.

DISTRIBUTION:

- Chief Commissioner
- Executive Commissioner
- VP, Civil Affairs Section
- VP, Economic Section (5)
- VP, Establishment Section (2)
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- Political Adviser (8)
- Naval Sub-Commission (3)
- Land Forces Sub-Commission (MAGL)
- Air Forces Sub-Commission
- French Representative, AC.
- Soviet Representative, AC.
- Liaison Office (EC)
- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador

0751

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting-- Wednesday 19 September 1945.


L. W. STEARNS,
Major, AGD
Staff Officer to CC.

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Land Forces Subcommission (3/4)
Air Forces Subcommission
French Representative, AG
Soviet Representative, AG
Liaison Office (EC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Adviser

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

CC 551/29

5 September 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 5 September 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Hq Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Colonel Danmore, Lieutenant Colonel White, Colonel Parkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Group Captain Jerman, Colonel Kerr, Commodore Ziroli, Colonel V. V. Savko, Captain Moullac, Mr. Brown, Colonel Walton, Brigadier General Lee.

1. Maj. General Kislenko to Moscow

The Chief Commissioner announced that Major General Kislenko had been called to Moscow and probably would return to AC unless directed to London for the peace negotiations. General Kislenko had named Colonel V. V. Savko as his deputy during his absence.

2. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies

With reference to para 2 of the Minutes of 29 August, the Chief Commissioner reported that the position was unchanged so far as UNRRA's taking over on January 1st. The need for close cooperation between Economic Section and UNRRA again was emphasized.

It was observed that Colonel Butterworth's statement regarding supplies called forth for the month of September was not clear. Colonel Danmore stated that AFHQ had not yet advised AC of either availabilities or procedure for calling forward supplies for September loadings (October arrivals). The Chief Commissioner requested clarification of this matter.

3. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

Referring to para 2 of the Minutes of 29 August, the Chief Commissioner stated that the question had been delayed at AFHQ and the date now recommended for turn back of the bulk of Northern Provinces is 30 September, not 15 September. At the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference of 6 September, the question of Bolzano and Udine Provinces would be considered, and it was felt that the Supreme Allied Commander would accept AC's recommendation to turn back Bolzano, but that Udine would be held for a longer period for military reasons. The Chief Commissioner directed that the discussion on restoration of provinces was not to be mentioned outside the meeting.

15. Brown, Colonel Walton, Brigadier General Lee.

1. Maj. General Kislenko to Moscow

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4. Shift Within Folgore Division

With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 29 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported the receipt of a signal from AFHQ disapproving the release of the San Marco Regiment. The Chief Commissioner was unwilling to accept AFHQ's reasons, since they referred to overall strength rather than local needs. Colonel Karr together with Commodore Ziroli was directed to draft a signal to AFHQ presenting this view and setting forth the objection from the political viewpoint to the use of the San Marco Naval Regiment as security troops in the Bari area. Colonel Karr believed that the tie-up was in No 3 District, who did not wish to release another guard battalion. They have three battalions and have been directed to release one of them by the 10th, so far no action has been indicated. The transfer of the Garibaldi and San Marco Regiments is supposed to be completed on 9th September.

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5. Meritorious Service Unit Plaque for 2675th Regiment

The Chief Commissioner announced that there would be a presentation of the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque to the 2675th Regiment that afternoon at a ceremony to be held at Piazza Venezia and an invitation was extended to all to attend.

6. Political Resumes by Mr. Jones

The Council of Ministers met last week and discussed Nenni's action in submitting the names of 77 senators to the High Court of Justice for consideration as to whether they should be expurged as Senators. A group of Senators previously expurged had appealed to the Italian Supreme Court on the basis that their expuration was unconstitutional.

The Chief Commissioner inquired as to what grounds they had for this appeal. Mr. Jones believed they were attacking the constitutionality of the expuration law. Colonel White stated that decree 159 itself could not affect their particular positions, as they were made under the old constitution.

At the same meeting the Council of Ministers approved the establishment of a Commission for the elaboration of Senate electoral laws. Nenni stressed the preparation of a draft electoral law. Nenni said that the Commission was free to make its own decisions and must prepare an electoral system to permit the fair expression of every political opinion.

The Prime Minister spoke on 1 September at a CLNAI meeting in Milan, where he said that the CLM was not a danger to the formation of the State. Regarding expuration, the Prime Minister said that it was necessary to strike at those persons responsible for Fascism. Referring to elections, Professor Farri said he would be the first to annul any election if it were affected by violence. At a press conference given by the Prime Minister while he was in Milan, he expressed his opinion that AMI would probably be withdrawn from Northern Italy during September.

Brigadier Lush asked whether it was the belief of the Political Advisors that the old electoral law will be annulled. The electoral law of 1915 has not been touched by the new legislation. Mr. Jones stated that they could not touch one without the other.

The Chief Commissioner thought it was voting procedure rather than electoral lists that was being revised. The lists would not have to be altered unless there were new restrictions as to who might vote - even then they could strike a blow from the already prepared lists.

7. Review of AMI and AC in Italy

Mr. Brown reported that the first copy of the booklet on Military Government and Allied Commission activities in Italy would be off the press that afternoon. It had been printed in both English and Italian, and PMG was working with the Ministries of Interior and Education for distribution to soldiers and technicians to all the Prefects. The U.S. Army Information and

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7. Review of AMO and AG in Italy

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The Chief Commissioner commended Public Relations Branch for their good work on this publication.

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8. Sheet Addressing

With reference to page 8 of Minutes of 29 August 1945, Colonel Danamore reported a gain of 5% on the overall quota bringing the maximum sheet assessed up to 50% of target. The Chief Commissioner requested a percentage column on the assessing report so that comparison could be made with last year's figures for the same period.

9. Tires

The Chief Commissioner asked Colonel Walton whether or not the tire situation was straightened out. Colonel Walton replied that the matter was in hand, but a reply of clarification was awaited from AHC. The Chief Commissioner advised that an AHC cable had been received which directed AHC to deal directly with AHC. Brigadier Lush stated that procedure was untidy inasmuch as the American and British sides differed. It would be better if we could get both disposal organizations to work with the Italian Government. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that AHC is working under standard rule in many countries and it would be difficult to change their procedures.

10. War Criminals in POW Camps

Colonel Kerr reported the indictment of four Fascist Generals now in an Italian POW camp as war criminals. The Chief Commissioner questioned the retention of these Generals in the POW camp after their indictment as war criminals. Colonel Kerr advised that MVOUSA POW Command desired that these prisoners be retained in the Italian controlled camps. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Kerr to make sure that these four Generals were being properly held. Both the Chief Commissioner and Brigadier Lush expressed the belief that it would be better to turn them over to the Allies.

11. Soviet Representative's Protest Re. Incident Involving Allied Military Police

Colonel Savko reported that on 29 August, while General Vasiliev and General Basiliev were returning from Caserta to Rome on Highway No. 7, General Vasiliev's automobile was fired upon from a military police road block. Colonel Savko visited to bring the matter again to the attention of the Chief Commissioner, and gave a brief account of the incident. The Chief Commissioner stated that the Allied Commission had no jurisdiction over military road blocks. Colonel Savko reported that he had been directed by his government to present the case to the Allied authorities through the Chief Commissioner. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that it was an absolute rule for all Allied officers and men to immediately stop when flagged by an enemy vehicle.

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting-- Wednesday 12 September 1945.

L. W. STEARNS
 L. W. STEARNS
 Major, AED
 Staff Officer to CC

- DISTRIBUTION:
 Chief Commissioner
 Executive Commissioner
 VP, Civil Affairs Section
 VP, Economic Section (5)
 VP, Establishment Section (2)
 Political Advisor (A)
 Political Advisor (B)
 Naval Sub-Commission (3)
 Land Forces Subcommittee (MMLA)
 Air Forces Subcommittee
 French Representative, AC
 Soviet Representative, AC
 Liaison Office (EC)
 Public Relations Branch
 American Ambassador
 British Ambassador
 G-5, AWH (5)
 Chief Financial Advisor

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

VP, Civil Affairs Section
VI, Economic Section (5)
VP, Establishment Section (2)
Political Advisor (A)
Political Advisor (B)
Naval Sub-Commission (3)
Land Forces Subcommission (MMA)
Air Forces Subcommission
French Representative, AC.
Soviet Representative, AC.
Liaison Office (EC)
Public Relations French
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5, ASHQ (5)
Chief Financial Advisor

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

29 August 1945

CO 551/28

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours 29 August 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Hq Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Brigadier Anderson, Colonel Denmore, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Parkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Colonel Kerr, Rear Admiral Warren, Major General Kienleko, Captain Moullac, Mr. Brown, Colonel Menapace, Colonel Walton.

1. Promotion of U.S. Army Officers

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 22 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that a revised American T/O had been received which, although not granting all that was asked, will permit certain promotions in U.S. Army field grades.

2. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 22 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that he, Brigadier Lush, and Colonel Denmore recently had met with Mr. Keeny, Chief of UNRRA Italian Mission, to discuss civil supply and other relief responsibilities. The amount of money involved in the UNRRA program is believed to be approximately 450 million dollars, and UNRRA is proceeding on the presumption that the U.S. Congress will appropriate additional UNRRA funds. Although FEA's responsibility in connection with civilian supplies for Italy is through 1945 only, there is a possibility that FEA might act as the procuring agency in Washington when UNRRA takes over. To carry out its work in Italy, it will be necessary for UNRRA to augment its present limited staff and they will be looking for additional personnel, some of whom could well come from AO, which possibility Mr. Keeny is investigating. It will be necessary for the Economic Section to work in close coordination with the UNRRA Italian Mission and for the AO to do everything in its power to get UNRRA off to a good start.

3. Future of the Commission

The Chief Commissioner stated that no information has been received as to the future of the AO, although it might be expected to continue until the formal peace treaty, which possibly will not be completed before Christmas.

4. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

1945, the Chief Commissioner

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

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3. Future of the Commission

The Chief Commissioner stated that no information has been received as to the future of the AG, although it might be expected to continue until the formal peace treaty, which possibly will not be completed before Christmas.

4. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 22 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that recent information reveals that the U.S. Government is sympathetic to the Italian Government's request that UNRRA be returned at the same time as the other northern provinces. The U.S. Government also feels that if BOLZANO is returned at the present time, it should be made clear that the handback is made without prejudice to the final disposition of that province by the peace treaty. No reply has yet been received from the Chief's of staff as to the actual date of the handback, however the Chief Commissioner stated that every effort should be made to effect the turnover on 15 September. Brigadier Carr was directed to start work on the turnover, considering 15 September as the date.

5. Shift Within Folgore Division

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 22 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that the Folgore Division was not being shifted as a unit, but

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that the shift involved certain regiments within the Division. Colonel Kerr stated that a Security Brigade was being formed in Bari to relieve the San Marco Regiment, which should be completely assembled there before 8 September. The Chief Commissioner stated that Admiral De Courten, Italian Minister of Marine, had requested that the San Marco Regiment be returned to the Italian Navy jurisdiction and that this should be arranged as soon as possible.

6. Political Resume

Mr. Boykinson gave a brief resume of the general political situation. At a meeting of the Executive Council of the Socialist Party a motion was passed unanimously criticizing Medigliani's attack on the policy of fusion with the Communists. The Council of Ministers heard a report on political and economic conditions in Sicily given by the High Commissioner for Sicily and discussed a program of public works to be undertaken there. The first calculations on the probable representation in the Constituent are as follows: 75 Socialists, 74 Christian Democrats, 65 Liberals, 62 Communists, 56 Action Party, 44 Labor Democrats, 27 Independents, 11 Monarchists, and 1 Christian Left. The Office of the President of the Council has issued a communique providing for the election of a prefect and other local authorities in the Val d'Aosta and adding that the Government intended to make the same provisions for the other frontier regions. At a press conference Professor Parri expressed the hope that a peace treaty or a new international status would be achieved before the national elections were held. He added that it was the Government's intention to hold elections for the Constituent Assembly as soon as possible, although the following conditions were necessary for the maintaining of the Constituent Assembly: (1) completion of complex technical details; (2) public security must be such as to permit of elections being held; and (3) a "pledge of peace" must be made between the political parties. The Prime Minister added that even if public order were generally satisfactory it would be difficult to hold elections unless the political parties were pledged to conduct a free, legal, and honest fight, a condition which certainly would have to be met when the time came.

7. Handover of Neo-Fascist POW's

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 15 August 1945, Brigadier Carr stated that the arrangements made to transfer Italian Neo-fascist POW's from civil prisons to the POW Camp at MODENA have fallen through as the MODENA camp, through some mix-up, has been dismantled. Attempts are being made to take over another camp. Colonel Kerr reported that the Italian War Ministry was to have taken over operation of the POW camp at PISA on 20 August. The Italian Army is taking over all U.S. equipment at the camp and a U.S. liaison detachment is remaining to operate the equipment.

8. Front Movement

and economic conditions in Sicily and discussed a program of public works to be undertaken there. The first calculations on the probable representation in the Chamber are as follows: 75 Socialists, 74 Christian Democrats, 63 Liberals, 62 Communists, 56 Action Party, 44 Labor Democrats, 27 Independents, 14 Monarchists, and 4 Christian Left. The Office of the President of the Council has issued a communique providing for the election of a prefect and other local authorities in the Val d'Aosta and adding that the Government intended to make the same provisions for the other frontier regions. At a press conference Professor Parri expressed the hope that a peace treaty or a new international status would be achieved before the national elections were held. He added that it was the Government's intention to hold elections for the Constituent Assembly as soon as possible, although the following conditions were necessary for the summoning of the Constituent Assembly: (1) completion of complex technical details; (2) public security must be such as to permit of elections being held; and (3) a "plebiscite of peace" must be made between the political parties. The Prime Minister added that even if public order were generally satisfactory it would be difficult to hold elections unless the political parties were pledged to commit a free, legal, and honest fight, a condition which certainly would have to be met when the time came.

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8. Wheat Amassing

With reference to para 13 of Minutes of 21 August 1945, Colonel Denmore reported that 45% of the target has been amassed. Target figures for the North are being reviewed. He added that because of storm damage to the northern corn crop, the wheat requirements would have to be increased by 225,000 tons, requiring monthly imports of 158,000 tons. Colonel Walter suggested that this figure possibly might have to be raised to 170,000 tons. The Chief Commissioner reported that strongest representations be made to the Ministry of Agriculture, the Prime Minister's Office, and to all Regional Commissioners to exert every effort toward wheat amassing. Colonel Denmore reported that an officer from the Yeomanry Section was being sent to the North for the sole purpose of expediting this program.

9. Directive for Air Forces in Commission

Air Vice Marshal Spence reported that with the dissolving of the MAIF into two separate units, RAF/MAIF and RAF/AFM, a new directive has been issued for the Air Force Subcommission requiring it to report directly to the

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Secretariat of the newly-formed Mediterranean Allied Air Committee on military matters and to the Chief Commissioner AC on policy matters.

10. Italian Civil Aviation

Air Vice Marshal Brodie stated that SACMED has made recommendations to The Combined Chiefs in connection with Italian civil aviation, and he requested that when a reply is received, no information be released to the press until it had been cleared properly through AC and the Italian Air Ministry had been informed. The Chief Commissioner concurred in this recommendation.

11. Law and Order in the North

Brigadier Lush gave a brief report on his trip to the North. While there was an increasing feeling of confidence with respect to General law and order, there is still a great deal of banditry going on in the mountainous frontier provinces. Some local Allied commanders are taking excellent action on their own initiative to train Carabinieri to take care of these bandit groups.

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 5 September 1945.

W. H. Stevens
L. H. STEVENS
Major, AMB
Staff Officer to DC

DISTRIBUTION:

- Chief Commissioner
- Executive Commissioner
- VP, Civil Affairs Section
- VP, Economic Section (5)
- VP, Establishment Section (2)
- Political Advisor (A)
- Political Advisor (B)
- Naval Subcommission (3)
- Land Forces Subcommission (AMLA)
- Air Forces Subcommission
- French Representative, AC
- Soviet Representative, AC
- Liaison Office (SO)
- Public Relations Branch

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 5 September 1945.

L. W. STRASS

Major, AGO

Staff Officer to CG

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Economic Section (3)
VP, Establishment Section (2)
Political Advisor (4)
Political Advisor (5)
Naval Subcommittee (3)
Land Forces Subcommittee (AGIL)
Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AG
Soviet Representative, AG
Liaison Officer (SC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
C-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Advisor

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APC 394

CG 551/27

22 August 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours 22 August 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, HQ Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Colonel Fiske, Colonel Denmore, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Perkin, Mr. Jones, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Brown, Rear Admiral Warren, Major General Kienlenko, Colonel Kerr, Lieutenant d'Avenas, Captain Moullac, Major Vergin.

1. Promotion of U.S. Army Officers

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 15 August 1945, Colonel Fiske reported that no reply has been received to the T/O and promotion letter sent to WFOUSA on the 13th of August. The Chief Commissioner said that he would take this up at Caserta on 23 August.

2. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies.

The Chief Commissioner stated that the morning's press reported that the UNRRA meeting in London had approved a proposal that UNRRA finance relief in Italy, beginning probably 1 January 1946. It was reported that U.S. had taken the position that they would not contribute further to UNRRA if UNRRA was not going to include Italy as one of the countries receiving full relief. The Chief Commissioner said that FSA is understood to have an appropriation of \$100,000,000 to cover the rest of 1945, and with UNRRA taking over for 1946, the question of financial responsibility for civilian supplies for Italy now appears to be settled, subject to action by Congress on further U.S. financing of UNRRA. The UNRRA meeting also approved the proposal to feed dissident displaced persons, regardless of political beliefs and whether or not they desire to return to their native countries.

3. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government.

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 15 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that he had recommended to AMHQ that the northern provinces should be transferred to the Italian Government on 15 September, with the exception of UNRRA which it is proposed to turn back 1 December. Venezia Giulia is to be maintained under AM, as instructed by CMS, until the disposition of that territory is determined at the Peace Conference.

The Chief Commissioner called on Prime Minister Parri to inform him in

1. Promotion of U.S. Army Officers

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 15 August 1945, Colonel Pike reported that no reply has been received to the T/O and promotion letter sent to MTCUSA on the 13th of August. The Chief Commissioner said that he would take this up at Caserta on 23 August.

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The Chief Commissioner called on Prime Minister Parri to inform him in general of the foregoing, and the Prime Minister voiced no objections to the 15 September date. Prof. Parri would like Udine to be returned with the other northern provinces, with full reservations to the Allied military authorities to protect their lines of communication. SACRED has been so informed. The Chief Commissioner told Prof. Parri that at the time of the handover of the northern provinces announcement would be made that Udine would be definitely returned by 1 December, which was a compromise date.

At the moment the Combined Chiefs have directed that Bolzano is not to be returned to the Italian Government, but it is believed that that position may be altered permitting Bolzano to be turned back with the province that such action would not prejudice the ultimate disposition of the province.

4. Disturbances in Turanto Province

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 15 August 1945, Colonel Pike reported

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that the predicted disturbances in the Province of Toronto had not materialized.

5. Peace Conference.

The Chief Commissioner reported that Signor Turchiani, the Italian Ambassador to Washington, had called on him in Rome and had expressed his opinion that in the U.S. there was an increased understanding of the Italian problem. Ambassador Turchiani is going to stop in London on his way back to the U.S. The Chief Commissioner is of the opinion that his stop there has reference to the preliminary discussions in London in connection with the peace treaty. The Italian press has named several high Italian officials as delegates in the Italian press has named several high Italian officials as delegates in the Italian representation at London. The Chief Commissioner was of the opinion that in view of the nation at Potsdam where Polish delegates were summoned to discuss their frontier problems, the Italians would also be requested to send delegates to discuss Italian treaty problems.

6. Visit of Congressional Party.

The Chief Commissioner reported that a Congressional group had held hearings at AC HQ on 20 August with members of the Commission, YEA, WSPA, USIS, and the Army-Navy Liquidation Board present.

7. Political Resumé.

Mr. Jones gave a brief resumé of the general political situation. Prime Minister Parri held a press conference on 18 August and stated that while he was not satisfied with the present state of internal security and public law and order, neither was he alarmed as he saw signs of improvement. He stated that many of the press reports of disturbances were exaggerated. The Prime Minister emphasized that an efficient police force was necessary to restore public law and order, and that the Carabinieri and the Italian police force would be rejuvenated. He also said that the transfer of Allied material and equipment, particularly trucks, would be very helpful to the Italian economy. When asked why the Government rejected the proposal to grant the right to vote to 18 year olds, the Prime Minister explained that the Government had not sufficient time to prepare electoral lists including them. He also stated that the Government had not yet expressed its official opinion as to the holding of local elections before national elections. Regarding Spain, the Prime Minister stated that Italy would follow the line of the United Nations. The press reported that the Italian and Swiss Governments had made arrangements to settle old debts, to take up again commercial exchanges, and to determine what part Switzerland can play in the reconstruction of Italy. Plans made will involve an annual exchange valued at 180,000,000 Swiss francs. Switzerland has made a loan to Italy of 80,000,000 francs for reconstruction. In this connection, the Chief Commissioner stated that while the Combined States Government is negotiating with foreign governments, the Italian Government is negotiating with foreign governments.

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8. Distribution of Civilian Supplies.

Brigadier Carr stated that while full responsibility for the distribution of civilian medical supplies passed to the Italian Government on 20 August, they had not taken over fully due to inefficiency of the distributing agency, INDIMZ. To help correct this situation a letter to the Prime Minister pointing out the deficiencies has been prepared for the Chief Commissioner's approval.

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9. Electoral Lists in Venezia Giulia.

Brigadier Carr reported that a cable had been received stating that APHC now considers that the holding of local elections in Venezia Giulia would not be expedient at this time. Brigadier Carr stated that in view of that cable the question now arose as to whether or not the compilation of electoral lists should be continued. The Chief Commissioner requested Brigadier Carr to review previous cables and if the answer was not found, to ask APHC for a determination.

10. Italian Electoral Law.

Brigadier Carr stated that so answer has yet been received to the Chief Commissioner's letter to the Prime Minister calling attention to the many bad features in the electoral law of 1915, under which the elections will be held. Prime Minister Parri had told Brigadier Upjohn that this matter would be given his personal attention and that a reply would be made in a few days. The Chief Commissioner requested Brigadier Carr to prepare a tracer to the Prime Minister.

11. Shift of Folgore Division.

General Browning reported that the shift of the Folgore Division was proceeding satisfactorily and would be completed in September. The San Marco Regiment was extremely well received in Bari, and the General expressed the opinion that the adverse reports on the Nanto Regiment were greatly exaggerated. The 5th Army have requested APHC to furnish specific instances of the charges made against this regiment, and in this connection the Chief Commissioner directed the Executive Commissioner to check the file to see if the ISID intelligence reports made the charges. In response to a question by the Chief Commissioner, General Browning and Admiral Warren stated that the problem of re-turning the San Marco (Marine) Regiment to the jurisdiction of the Italian Navy would be taken up in September or October, after the move of the Regiment has been completed.

12. Return of Italian Ports.

Admiral Warren gave a brief report on his trip North and stated that it was expected that the port of Genoa would return to Italian control 1 September. It is hoped that Venice also may be returned 1 September, but that is not certain as General Harding informed Admiral Warren that Venice should be kept as a standby for Trieste.

13. West Anzoning.

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 15 August 1945, Colonel Denamore stated that the latest figure for all of Italy was not at 1,150,000 metric

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Admiral Warren gave a brief report on his trip North and stated that it was expected that the port of Genoa would return to Italian control 1 September. It is hoped that Venice also may be returned 1 September, but that is not certain as General Harding informed Admiral Warren that Venice should be kept as a standby for Trieste.

13. Most Amassing.

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 15 August 1945, Colonel Denmore reported that the target figure for all of Italy was set at 1,150,000 metric tons, as compared to last year's collections of 1,144,000 in central and southern Italy only. This would call for imports of 114,000 tons monthly, on a 9 month basis. To date approximately 35% of the target has been amassed, which compares favorably with the percentage last year at this time. In the AMO territory in the North, 50% has been amassed. In Italian Government territory, 30% has been amassed. Present amassings in areas that were 100% controlled a year ago are running well below last year's, while amassings in territory that was enemy-occupied last year are in certain cases running up to 100% of the target figures. The Chief Commissioner therefore questioned the validity of the target figures in the North and requested that they be reviewed. Colonel [redacted] more stated that embles have been sent to the regional commissioners requesting reports and emphasizing the necessity of amassing.

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14. Appointments.

Colonel Fieke reported that there have been a number of new senior appointments in the Commission and that they would be announced by Executive Orders within a few days. The Chief Commissioner stated that for the first time in the Commission history there is now an equal number of American and British heads of the sub-commissions.

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 29 August 1945.


L. F. STEARNS,
Major, AGO,
Staff Officer to CC.

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0773

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785015

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Chief Financial Advisor

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS,
Major, AGO,
Staff Officer to CC.

- 4 -
SECRET

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CO 551/26

15 AUGUST 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 15 August 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Hq Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Colonel Denmore, Brigadier Upjohn, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Parkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Colonel Kerr, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Commodore Zirolli, Major General Kislenko, Lieutenant d'Avenas, Mr. Brown.

1. Japanese Surrender.

At the request of the Chief Commissioner, all present stood for a moment in silence in memory of those who died to make victory possible. The Chief Commissioner then observed that the end of the Japanese war would not affect the present duties of the Allied Commission and that all hands must continue their efforts without letdown.

2. Promotion of U.S. Army Officers.

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 8 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that a letter had been forwarded to MKUSA requesting that the percentage allocation between field and company officers of the 2675th Regiment be modified to permit promotion of U.S. Army officers.

3. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies.

With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 8 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that General McKinley is going to Washington from London, where he is now attending the UNRRA meeting. It is expected that when he returns from Washington he will have definite news on the procurement of civilian supplies. The newspapers have carried reports that there is a motion before the UNRRA meeting that UNRRA should take over responsibility for supplies to Italy in 1946, although it is far from certain that this motion will be approved. It is also reported in the newspapers that the question of feeding dissident displaced persons is being taken up at the UNRRA meeting. This question arose in Italy when the Yugoslav Representative, without success, at-

Letter sent 13 Aug. No reply to date
22/8

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Colonel Denham, Brigadier Upjohn, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Parkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Colonel Kerr, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Commodore Ziroti, Major General Kislenko, Lieutenant D'Avenas, Mr. Brown.

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4. Political Resume.

Mr. Jones gave a brief report on the general political situation. The press has confined itself to reports on the atomic bomb, the Soviet declaration of war, and the Japanese surrender. During the week Nenni attended a meeting of the French Socialist party in Paris and predicted that at the Constituent Assembly, which would be convoked in Italy at the insistence of the Communist and Socialist parties, there would be a left-wing majority, which would result in the abolition of the monarchy and the establishment of a republic.

- 1 -

SECRET

SECRET**5. Refugee Situation.**

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 8 August 1945, Brigadier Upjohn stated that 336,000 Italians have been repatriated from Europe.

6. Handover of Mafascist POW's.

With reference to para 15 of Minutes of 8 August 1945, Brigadier Upjohn reported that there would be a slight delay in turning over the prison camp at Modena, which has a capacity of 60,000 POW's, for the holding of neofascist POW's.

7. Wheat Amassing.

With reference to para 8 of Minutes of 8 August 1945, Colonel Denmore reported that considerable difficulty was being experienced in getting accurate, reliable amassing reports. The Chief Commissioner directed the Executive Commissioner and Colonel Denmore to put all possible pressure on this to get better reports from AMG territory. All crop statistics should show the comparative position in respect to the previous year.

8. Regional Commissioners' Meeting.

Brigadier Lush gave a brief report on the Regional Commissioners' Meeting. It was felt that AMG in the North could be closed down any time after September 10th, although the probable state of public law and order after AMG pulls out was viewed with apprehension. It was recommended that the Chief Commissioner renew his recommendations for a slowdown in redeployment in order that the presence of Allied troops in Italy could be of moral support to the Italian Government. It was considered advisable to retain in the North a substantial team of liaison officers divided into five or six groups, some for liaison work and others to report on public law and order; an economic group of 30 or 40 should be retained at Milan; the displaced persons personnel should remain as is until their duties can be taken over by UNRRA; and about 20 transportation officers should be retained. The total number of officers left in the North, excepting Mine will be initially about 150 officers, although it is felt that the progressive reduction of personnel will be rapid. The above recommendations were based on acceptance by the CCS of the Chief Commissioner's proposal to return Bolzano to the Italian Government. Udine Province will be brought up to full strength, about 40 officers.

9. Disturbances in Turento Province.

*Indicated disturbances
Did not materialize*

The Executive Commissioner reported receipt of a cable from the Liaison Officer at Bari predicting outbreaks and disturbances in the Province of Turento.

10. Appointments.

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

8. Regional Commissioners' Meeting.

Brigadier Lush gave a brief report on the Regional Commissioners' Meeting. It was felt that AMG in the North could be closed down any time after September 10th, although the probable state of public law and order after AMG pulls out was viewed with apprehension. It was recommended that the Chief Commissioner renounce his recommendations for a slowdown in redeployment in order that the presence of Allied troops in Italy could be of moral support to the Italian Government. It was considered advisable to retain in the North a substantial team of liaison officers divided into five or six groups, some for liaison work and others to report on public law and order; an economic group of 30 or 40 should be retained at Milan; the displaced persons personnel should remain as is until their duties can be taken over by UNRRA; and about 20 transportation officers should be retained. The total number of officers left in the North, excepting Udine, will be initially about 150 officers, although it is felt that the progressive reduction of personnel will be rapid. The above recommendations were based on acceptance by the CCS of the Chief Commissioner's proposal to return Bolzano to the Italian Government. Udine Province will be brought up to full strength, about 40 officers.

*Predicted disturbances
Did not materialize*

9. Disturbances in Taranto Province.

The Executive Commissioner reported receipt of a cable from the Liaison Officer at Bari predicting outbreaks and disturbances in the Province of Taranto.

10. Appointments.

The Chief Commissioner welcomed to the meeting Brigadier Carr who will relieve Brigadier Upjohn in the near future as Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section.

The Chief Commissioner announced that the French Government is appointing Capitaine de Vaisseau Moullier of the French Navy as its representative to the Allied Commission. He is expected to arrive shortly.

The Chief Commissioner stated that Brigadier General Beun, U.S. Army, is being appointed Deputy Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission and that he is expected to arrive within a day or two.

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11. Chief Commissioner's Awards:

On behalf of the Vice Presidents, the Executive Commissioner congratulated the Chief Commissioner on his being awarded the U.S. Army Distinguished Service Medal at a ceremony at JHQ on 9 August, and his appointment as Knight of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, received at a ceremony at the Palazzo Quirinale on 10 August.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 22 August 1945.

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS,
Major, AGD

Staff Officer to CC

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- 3 -
SECRET

L. E. STEARNS
Major, JGD
Staff Officer to CG

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

GC 551/75

8 August 1945

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 8 August 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, HQ Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Colonel Denmore, Brigadier Upjohn, Colonel Parkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Helford, Colonel Kerr, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Commodore Zirrell, General Kiselko, Lieutenant D'Avenne, Mr. Brown.

1. Duration

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 1 August 1945, Brigadier Upjohn stated that the defendant was in the witness chair in an AMC court, and when he made certain derogatory remarks about the Carabinieri, one of the Carabinieri took immediate offense and shot him.

2. Restoration of Additional Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 1 August 1945, Brigadier Lush advised that early reports indicated that the turnover was going smoothly.

3. Promotions of U.S. Army Officers

With reference to para 8 of Minutes of 1 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner said that while the freeze of promotions of U.S. Army officers had been lifted, MTOUSA, without consulting the Commission, had revised the original Table of Organization. Under the new T/O, Colonel Parkin stated that the Commission could promote one Lieutenant to the rank of Captain. The Chief Commissioner desires to protest such arbitrary action on the part of MTOUSA and directed Colonel Parkin to prepare a strong formal letter of protest.

4. Awards to U.S. Army Officers

The Chief Commissioner reported that MTOUSA has modified the policy on foreign awards to permit U.S. American personnel to accept such awards, subject to MTOUSA approval, while still on duty with A.C.

5. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies

(2) Catch Election

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Colonel Denmore, Brigadier Upjohn, Colonel Perkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Colonel Kerr, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Commodore Ciroli, General Kislento, Lieutenant D'Avenas, Mr. Frost.

1. Turkey

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 1 August 1945, Brigadier Upjohn stated that the defendant was in the witness chair in an AMC court, and when he made certain derogatory remarks about the Carabinieri, one of the Carabinieri took immediate offense and shot him.

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The Chief Commissioner reported that MFOUSA has modified the policy on foreign awards to permit A.C. American personnel to accept such awards, subject to MFOUSA approval, while still on duty with A.C.

5. Financed Responsibility for Civilian Supplies

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 1 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner said that as a result of protests to SACMED, a strong cable has been sent to the C.I.S. pointing out the gravity of the situation and expressing A.C. concern over the lack of procurement of civilian supplies this month for arrival here in October. There is a difference of opinion between the British and U.S. Governments as to who should take responsibility, now that military responsibility is to cease. The British Government puts its faith in UNRRA, while the U.S. Government expects F.S.A. to take over, although as late as the end of July, F.S.A. and the War Department had not agreed on the procedure. In the meantime, the problem is being examined at the current meeting of UNRRA in London. Unless the question is solved quickly the Italian Civil Supply situation will be in bad shape, beginning in October. It is hoped that SACMED's telegram will have results, permitting the military agencies to continue procurement until such time as agreement is reached. This question has affected the proposed turnover of administration of the Italian Army to the Italian Government, commencing in October. Inasmuch as there is no assurance on re-

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ceiving supplies for the civil population, the Italian Government could not be expected to feed the Italian Army until this matter is cleared.

6. Changes in the Commission.

The Chief Commissioner stated that Mr. McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War, has been in Rome the past few days on his way home from the Potsdam Conference. Mr. McCloy informed the Chief Commissioner that there are no immediate changes contemplated in either the Commission or its personnel. The Chief Commissioner and the U.S. Ambassador emphasized the advisability of filling as soon as possible the American position vacancy of Vice President of the Economic Section.

7. Political Resume.

Mr. Halford gave a brief resume of the general political situation. There has been considerable speculation in the press on the Potsdam Conference. The Prime Minister has stated that he is most satisfied with the Potsdam communiqué for two reasons: First, for the tribute paid to the Italian contribution to the war effort; and secondly, and more important, the promise that Italy would be able to state her case at the peace conference. The Socialist and Communist parties have appointed a committee to have the sole function of running the pact of party unity. The Italian Government is taking increasing interest in the Venezia Giulia problem and is about to request permission to send observers there.

8. Wheat Harvesting.

Colonel Danacore gave a brief report on the wheat harvesting situation. He said that the revised estimate of the total crop of this year is now 4,188,000 metric tons, which is a drop of approximately one-third from last year's actual crop of 6,436,000 metric tons. Good harvesting progress is being made in AMG territory. Agriculture officers are touring all provinces and the press and radio campaign is going well. In the Italian Government territory, the Minister of Agriculture has a good publicity program working. The Chief Commissioner stated that the new Government has been much more energetic in assisting the program in AMG territory than the Government was last year.

9. Recovery of Stolen Automotive Parts.

Colonel Perkin reported that as a result of orders issued to crack down on black market dealings in gasoline, officers of the A.C. Supercharge uncovered evidence leading to the recovery of automotive parts, jeeps, and motorcycles, mostly of British make and stolen from various Allied organizations, valued at approximately 10,000,000 lire. The Chief Commissioner said that the officers of the Supercharge were to be commended on their initiative.

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hoped that a plan can be worked out for submission to AFHQ.

12. Transfer of Archives.

Brigadier Upjohn reported that after a great deal of negotiation, agreement has been reached on the transfer to Rome of Italian Government archives moved North by the Fascists. The archives are to be moved under a coordinated plan, so Brigadier Upjohn requested that the Economic Section and independent sub-commissions not permit lesser Italian officials to move their archives on an independent basis. This transfer should assist operation by putting the archives in the hands of ministers. Brigadier Upjohn stated that a representative of the American Embassy, whose job it is to track down fascist accounts had requested that certain of these archives be delivered to him for examination. The Chief Commissioner stated that while under the armistice terms we had every right to examine Italian files for military reasons this raised another question. The Chief Commissioner is to discuss this matter with the political advisors and Brigadier Upjohn in order to prepare a report to AFHQ.

13. Disposition of Commission Archives.

Brigadier Lush stated that now that the Commission is drawing to a close, a committee has been at work drawing up plans for the disposition of the archives and records of the Commission. It is expected that the recommendations will be presented to the Chief Commissioner for approval shortly. Colonel Kerr advised that in accordance with instructions received from AFHQ, MGIA has been preparing to forward closed files to the Central Records Library for microfilming in duplicate, one copy each to London and Washington. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Kerr not to forward closed files to AFHQ until an overall policy for disposal of the Commission's archives has been worked out.

14. Regional Commissioner's Meetings.

Brigadier Lush reported that a two-day meeting of the Regional Commissioners will be held at Headquarters commencing Monday, 13 August. It is expected that the future of the North will be discussed at both morning sessions, leaving the afternoon open for any special problems that may be brought up.

15. Handover of Neofascist POW's.

Brigadier Lush reported that arrangements have been made with the Italian Ministry of War to turn over to the Italian Government the neofascist POW's now held by the Allies. Colonel Kerr added that the Minister of War would accept responsibility for those POW's held at Pisa, but felt that the neofascist POW's who had surrendered to the Partisans and are now held in jails, should continue to be under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Justice if they are moved to the con-

examination. The Chief Commissioner stated that while under the Armistice terms we had every right to examine Italian files for military reasons this raised another question. The Chief Commissioner is to discuss this matter with the political advisors and Brigadier Upjohn in order to prepare a report to AFHQ.

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16. German POW's.

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 11 July 1945, Brigadier Upjohn stated that from the latest information it appeared that no U.S.-held German POW's would be made available to the Italian Government, although there was still a possibility that some British-held German POW's might be turned over to the Italians.

- 3 -
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0786

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 15 August 1945.

L. T. Stearns

L. T. STEARNS,
Major, AGO
Staff Officer to CC

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0787

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

APC 394

CC 651/24

1 August 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 1 August 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, HQ Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Brigadier General McKinley, Lieutenant Colonel Bonham-Carter, Colonel Parkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Major General Browning, Group Captain Jarman, Rear Admiral Warren, Major General Kislenko, Lieutenant d'Avenas, Mr. Brown.

1. Press Reports of Commission's Attitude toward Elections.

With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 25 July 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that following the last meeting a letter was drafted to the Prime Minister giving the Commission's position relative to the election; namely, that the Commission, in furtherance of the policy of the Allied Governments, is desirous of seeing the elections held in Italy as soon as possible. The letter added that the spokesman for the Commission had not stated what the subject or date of the election should be. The Commission felt it important that the Prime Minister should understand that the dispatch referred to went far beyond anything the Commission's spokesman had said. The letter was read to the Council of Ministers and was commented on in the daily press. The Prime Minister personally thanked the Chief Commissioner for the letter. The matter is considered settled.

2. Transportation between Italy and Sardinia.

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 25 July 1945, General Browning stated that courier service between Italy and Sardinia had been renewed. With the assistance of Admiral Warren, an attempt is being made to have a destroyer, plus schooners, assigned to handle essential military traffic. General McKinley reported that a service schedule for civilians has been drawn up by the Transportation Sub-Commission.

3. Neppi's Speech on Institutional Question.

In reference to Neppi's Milan speech, as noted in para 7 of

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

Parkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Major General Browning, Group Captain Jarman, Rear Admiral Warren, Major General Kislenko, Lieutenant d'Avenas, Mr. Brown.

1. Press Reports of Commission's Attitude toward Elections.

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3. Nenni's Speech on Institutional Question.

In reference to Nenni's Milan speech, as noted in para 7 of 25 July 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that on the Supreme Allied Commander's instructions he had personally informed the Prime Minister that while this speech was not in our opinion a violation of the commitment given the Allies by the Italian Government, it did constitute an infraction of the oath taken by each of the Ministers in accordance with the Decree of June 1944. The Supreme Allied Commander feels that such oath violations by the Ministers do not inspire the confidence of the Allied Governments in the Italian Government. For the moment the incident is closed. The Prime Minister agreed to take up the matter with Nenni. The Chief Commissioner also told the Prime Minister that there was a report of a similar, though more moderate, speech on the institutional question given by Togliatti, and the Prime Minister promised to investigate.

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4. Enurement.

The Chief Commissioner informed the meeting that he had been shocked to read in the STARS AND STRIPES a report of a member of the Carabinieri shooting a defendant in court. The Executive Commissioner was requested to get a complete report.

5. Prime Minister's Visits to North Italy.

The Chief Commissioner reported that the Prime Minister while in Turin for Minister Soleri's funeral, with the Regional Commissioner's cooperation had met with the prefects and strongly urged them to do all in their power to maintain law and order. On Sunday the Prime Minister held a similar meeting in Milan. The Chief Commissioner said that parri deserves all the support the Commission can give him because of his continual sincere effort to do a good job.

6. Restoration of Additional Provinces to Italian Government.

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 18 July 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that final authority had been received from the Supreme Allied Commander for the return of the provinces of Apulia and Lucania, Emilia Region, and Ancona Commune to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government on August 4th. The return of the Commune of Ancona will not affect the military operation of the port.

7. Captured Materials of Civilian Origin.

The Chief Commissioner stated that a signal has been received stating that the Allied Commission would have neither authority nor responsibility in connection with captured materials of civilian origin until notified by AFHQ.

8. Promotion of U.S. Army Officers.

With respect to the recent policy permitting the promotion of U.S. Army officers in certain categories, the Chief Commissioner stated that he had discussed this at AFHQ where it was felt that this policy would apply to the U.S. Army officers in the Commission. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Parkin to look into the matter.

Letter to Stone

9. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies.

The Chief Commissioner stated that MAR 830, dealing with the shift in the financial responsibility for civilian supplies, had been received from AFHQ. General McKinley said that the matter had not been definitely settled as yet and could not be settled

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With respect to the recent policy permitting the promotion of U.S. Army officers in certain categories, the Chief Commissioner stated that he had discussed this at AFHQ where it was felt that this policy would apply to the U.S. Army officers in the Commission. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Parkin to look into the matter.

9. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies.

The Chief Commissioner stated that MAT 830, dealing with the shift in the financial responsibility for civilian supplies, had been received from AFHQ. General McKinley said that the matter had not been definitely settled as yet and could not be settled until international decisions on the highest level have been made. At the present time, General McKinley fears that the shift might interfere with the September loadings, which should be purchased now. The Chief Commissioner stated that this seemed to be covered in the Supreme Allied Commander's message which addressed the need for an uninterrupted flow of food, coal and other items essential for rehabilitation.

10. Political Resume.

Mr. Jones gave a brief resume of the general political situation. In connection with the British elections, generally speaking the local press reflected the belief of the Italian poli-

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tical parties that the new Government would pursue an even more friendly policy toward Italy. The Regional Council of the Socialist party met in Rome, and on Nenni's urging and despite the opposition of other Socialist leaders, the Council approved, with approximately 76 per cent in favor, a measure indicating a desire for the ultimate union of the Socialist and Communist parties. At another political meeting DeGasperi asked for strong Governmental supervision of the elections and favored the holding of local, or administrative, elections before the national elections were held.

11. Opening of ports.

The Chief Commissioner read a report received from Admiral Warren on the opening of ports in Northern Italy. It was revealed that at Savona the channel had been swept and the port is working. However, at Genoa the port is still encumbered by magnetic-acoustic mines of the most deadly type. A swept channel to Genoa has been prepared and the fueling dock is cleared and in working order. It is expected that by 15 August the expected daily turnover of 8000 tons will be realized.

12. Italian Civil Aviation.

The Chief Commissioner stated that he considered it unfortunate that the Italians should have learned that the Commission has recommended resumption of civil aviation on a minor scale, and directed that if any requests for further information were received, the reply should state that the Commission is seeking to get the frozen status of civil aviation changed as a result of the termination of hostilities.

13. Outbreaks in the North.

Colonel Bonham-Carter stated that contrary to reports in the Rose press of serious jail breaks in Milan, the actual situation was that three prisoners made an unsuccessful attempt to escape and that the whole affair was treated as a very minor incident. The Chief Commissioner directed that Colonel Bonham-Carter discuss this with Mr. Brown to determine whether a statement should be released.

* * *

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 5 August

1945.

W. Starnes

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1945.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 8 August

L. W. Stearns

L. W. STEARNS,
Major, AGO.
Staff Officer to CC

2896

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G-5. AFHC (S)
SCAO, Venezuela Giulia Rodon
Chief Financial Advisor

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

LWS/ejj
25 July 1945

EC 551/23

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 25 July 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Hq Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Brigadier General McKinley, Colonel Boham-Garter, Colonel Parkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Colonel Kerr, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Rear Admiral Warren, Major General Kisilevko, Lieutenant d'Avonnes, Mr. Brown, Colonel Wilton.

1. Relief of Chief Commissioner.

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 18 July 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that from recent information it appears that Mr. Douglas will not arrive in the near future. It is hoped that the entire matter will be clarified shortly.

2. Civilian Use of Gasoline.

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 18 July 1945, Brigadier Lush suggested that the Commission request the military authorities to exercise stricter control over military gasoline distribution points, from which much gasoline is getting into the black market. Economic Section was directed to follow-up this point.

3. Permitting of Hotels.

With reference to para 13 of Minutes of 18 July 1945, the Chief Commissioner said that G-5 AFHQ is supporting strongly the Commission's recommendations. At the request of AFHQ there is being prepared a list of hotels that should be de-requisitioned in certain cities, including as well, the needs of the Italian Government.

4. Italian Naval Units in Combat Against Japan.

Referring to para 15 of Minutes of 18 July 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that at the request of CHIEF, he had sent a letter to the Prime Minister, with a copy to the Minister of the Navy, categorically denying the reports that Italian naval units had been engaged in combat against Japan prior to Italy's declaration of war against Japan.

5. Press Reports of Commission's Attitude toward Elections.

Press reports carried the

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3. Derequisitioning of Hotels.

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5. Press Reports of Commission's Attitude toward Elections.

The Chief Commissioner reported that the morning's newspapers carried the false statement that the Allied Commission was in favor of holding early elections for a Constituent Assembly which would decide the institutional question. It appears that original press dispatches on Norini's Milan speech indicated that political meetings were forbidden in the North. In an attempt to correct that error further error resulted. The DOCS of AFHQ feels that an attempt to make another public correction will result in even more confusion. The Chief Commissioner requested that the Executive Commissioner, the political advisers, and Mr. Brown discuss this question with him after the meeting. 2993

6. Transportation between Italy and Sardinia.

The Chief Commissioner directed that representatives of the Economic Section confer with Admiral Warren and Air Vice Marshal Brodie on the question of arranging for additional transportation between the mainland and Sardinia and Sicily.

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7. Political Resume.

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief resume of the general political situation. The week had been one of political speeches. In apparent violation of his oath, Nenni gave a speech in Milan strongly attacking the monarchy. Togliatti also spoke in favor of a republic as one of the requisites for a democratic Italy. In Palermo, Parri gave a speech, apparently well received, in which he recognized the grievances of the Sicilians and promised to rectify them insofar as he was able. Soleri, Ministry of the Treasury, died on Monday. A successor has not yet been appointed. In the last week there have been a number of strikes, perhaps more of a political character than economic.

8. Allied Publications Board.

Mr. Brown reported that APH has agreed to allow representatives of the three major Italian news agencies to go to Trieste. The trouble over the reappearance of LA STAMPA in Turin has been settled after Allied negotiations with representatives of all parties. The paper is now appearing under the new title of LA RIVISTA STAMPA. The Chief Commissioner complimented the Public Relations Director and Colonel Marshall on having done an excellent job in settling the dispute. Mr. Brown said that pre-Fascist papers have now reappeared in all cities in the North with the exception of Genoa and Bologna, where there is no popular demand for such publication.

9. Increase in Price of Bread.

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 18 July 1945, General McKinley said that an economic price on bread had now been set in the North.

10. Italian Port Parties.

Admiral Warren reported that the Minister of the Navy is taking up the question of organizing port parties who will take over operation of certain ports as fast as the Allied relinquish control.

11. Examination in Venice.

The Chief Commissioner stated that there had been reports from Venice of members of the Italian Examination Committee accepting bribes in return for the release of prisoners. Two members known to have accepted bribes were removed from office, but when the CIB was requested to furnish two replacements, they proposed the names of the two men who had been removed. Brig. Dunlop, Regional Commissioner, is reported to have straightened the situation out.

12. Remittances from the U.S.

Mr. Brown reported that AFM has agreed to allow representatives of the three major Italian news agencies to go to Trieste. The trouble over the reappearance of LA STAMPA in Turin has been settled after Allied negotiations with representatives of all parties. The paper is now appearing under the new title of LA NUOVA STAMPA. The Chief Commissioner complimented the Public Relations Director and Colonel Marshall on having done an excellent job in settling the dispute. Mr. Brown said that pre-Fascist papers have now reappeared in all cities in the North with the exception of Genoa and Bologna, where there is no popular demand for such publication.

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11. Expatriation in Venice.

The Chief Commissioner stated that there had been reports from Venice of members of the Italian Expatriation Committee accepting bribes in return for the release of prisoners. Two members known to have accepted bribes were removed from office, but when the CLM was requested to furnish two replacements, they proposed the names of the two men who had been removed. Brig. Dunlop, Regional Commissioner, is reported to have straightened the situation out.

12. Remittances from the U.S.

The Chief Commissioner reported that remittances, limited to \$1,000 a month, may now be sent from America to Italy. Erroneously, North Italy had been announced as possibly exempted from this service as Washington thought that the remittances could not be handled there. As the Banca d'Italia in the North could handle these remittances, the Chief Commissioner has requested the Chief Financial Advisor to straighten the matter out.

13. Local Elections.

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 18 July 1945, the Executive Commissioner reported that all POW's will be registered as electors in absence. However, it is unlikely that they will have the right to vote as most of them are not of officer rank. The whole question is under consideration.

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14. Venezia Giulia.

Brigadier Lush gave a brief report on his visit to Venezia Giulia. Although difficulty had been encountered in initially setting up local government, the matter is now being well handled. A general strike was called last week and passed off without incident. Steps are being taken to train a special police force of 3500 to take over from the military police. A serious shortage of food developed last week, due to the failure on the part of the 8th Army to follow up their bid. Sufficient food is now on hand and steps are being taken to build up a reserve. Pola is in great need of public utility officers because of the heavy damage sustained there. In connection with the restoration of shipbuilding facilities in Venezia Giulia, the Chief Commissioner stated that he is opposed to their resuming operations unless similar activities on the mainland are permitted. The Chief Commissioner expressed his desire to quickly settle the question of returning the Italian deportees from Yugoslavia to Venezia Giulia.

CORRECTION TO MINUTES OF 18 JULY 1945.

At the request of Brigadier General McKinley, the Chief Commissioner directed that the following correction be made to the Minutes of 18 July 1945: Para 10, change last sentence to read - "After agreement in the morning, in the afternoon session the President of the CINA apparently reversed himself and refused to accept that the new scale of wages in the North included the increased cost occasioned by the introduction of the economic price for bread".

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday, 1 August 1945.

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS,
Major, AGD

Staff Officer to CC

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- VP, Establishment Section

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- Land Forces Sub-Commission (3)
- Air Forces Sub-Commission (LMAA)
- Liaison Office (EO)
- French Representative, AC
- Soviet Representative, AC
- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- G-5, AFHQ (5)
- SCAO, Venezia Giulia Region
- Colonel Fiske

2994

Col. Kauter

SECRET
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CG 551/19

13 June 1945.

MINUTE

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 13 June 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Hq Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Brigadier Lusk, Brigadier Anderson, Mr. Gellier General McKinnley, Lt. Col. Bonham-Carter, Colonel Farth, Mr. Veride, Mr. Halford, Major General Downing, Air Vice Marshal Geddie, Rear Admiral Arden, Major General Kislenko, Lieutenant de Nav, Mr. Brown.

1. Political Crisis

The Executive Commissioner presiding, informed the meeting that the Chief Commissioner regretted he would be unable to be present. The political crisis which has arisen with the resignation of Prime Minister Bonomi necessitated the Chief Commissioner's immediate attention. There have been meetings of the political parties and today the Lieutenant General of the Realm has called together the leaders with the hope that a new Government may be formed without delay.

2. Restoration of Additional Provinces to Italian Government

Referring to para 1 of Minutes of 6 June 1945, the Executive Commissioner reported that this matter will be placed before the Advisory Council within the next few days. It is expected to return to the Italian Government the administrative of Toscana Region, excepting Lucca and Apuasia provinces which will then come under Liguria Region.

3. German POW's

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 6 June 1945, latest information received from the Prime Minister, increases the estimate of the number of German POW's that could be used to 18,000. The Executive Commissioner indicated the possibility that the Italian Government might wish to employ on reconstruction work POW's in groups as small as a hundred in various cities throughout Italy. Brigadier Anderson stated that if we provided transport and got them over to the Island, many POW's could be usefully employed in Sardinia.

4. Venezia Giulia

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 6 June 1945, The Executive Commissioner stated that AGF was set up in Venezia Giulia on the morning of the 13th June. It is expected that the AGF will be established in Gorizia this morning. General

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3. German POW's

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 6 June 1945, latest information received from the Prime Minister, increases the estimate of the number of German POW's that could be used to 16,000. The Executive Commissioner indicated the possibility that the Italian Government might wish to employ on reconstruction work POW's in groups as small as a hundred in various cities throughout Italy. Brigadier Anderson stated that if we provided transport and got them over to the island, many POW's could be usefully employed in Germany.

4. Venezia Giulia

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 6 June 1945, The Executive Commissioner stated that AMJ was set up in Venezia Giulia on the morning of the 12th June and expected to be established in Gorizia this morning. General Margan, with representatives of AMJ and AC, is now conferring with Yugoslav authorities on the implementation of the agreements signed by the three governments. A dispatch from Brigadier (John) reveals that (a) there will be an open frontier at the border line, free telephone, telegraph, and mail facilities and a joint economic control agency to deal with industrial and commercial problems; (b) the setting up of AMJ yesterday at Trieste was without incident. Plans were replaced and the administration seems to be going along well.

Although Venezia Giulia will be eventually set up as a separate region with Colonel Monfort as Regional Commissioner, at present his position is GCAC VIII Corps. Communications should be addressed to AMJ VIII Corps.

5. Economic Barrier

Referring to para 5 of Minutes of 6 June 1945, General Verinlay reported on his trip North. The list of items which AC now controls will be cut drastically.

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in a few days to about ten. However, after we lift our restrictions, it is possible that the Italian Government will maintain control in an effort to effect an equitable nation-wide distribution of her cons.

5. Chief Commissioner's Representative in North Italy
With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 6 June 1943, the Executive Commissioner stated that Colonel Pike is now in office at Milan. The Lombard Regional Commissioner has placed a number of cars at the disposal of officers of AC who go North on official business.

(about Jan 1 1946)

6. Local Elections
Colonel Bonham-Carter reported that the completion of the electoral lists can be started directly. The Italian decree number 201 has now been implemented for military government territory in the Democratic Regions No. 66 of 7th June. It is anticipated electoral lists will be ready by the middle of July. For example in the provinces of Bergamo which are to be turned over on the 14th June, they did not implement Executive Order 39 until a few days ago, and are now starting to compile the lists.

The Executive Commissioner directed that a telegram be sent to the regions urging them to start with all haste the compilation of these lists. The Executive Commissioner would like to have the date of completion of electoral lists to be moved up to 1 July, which should be the target date. This is considered a matter of great urgency. When the forms are ready, Colonel Bonham-Carter was directed to contact Air Vice Marshal Brodie who offered the use of planes in getting the 30 tons of forms to the North.

7. Defascistization

With reference to para 13 of Minutes of 6 June 1943, Admiral Warren, Air Vice Marshal Brodie and General Browning stated that the defascistization was going along as rapidly as can be expected.

8. Political Refuge

Mr. Halford gave a brief review on the general political situation. The crisis has now broken open. For sometime the running for Prime Minister seemed to be between Mussolini and Inghilterra however Inghilterra now appears as the compromise leader. It seemed that agreement had been reached that the President of the Council should be Christian Democrat and the Vice President of the Council Socialist. However, the Socialists refused to agree, insisting on a Socialist for President of the Council, which resulted in the crisis.

9. Refugee Situation.

It is anticipated electoral lists will be ready by the middle of July. For ex-ample in the provinces of Tuscany which are to be turned over on the 15th June, they did not implement Executive Order 29 until a few days ago, and are now starting to compile the lists.

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9. Political Reform

Mr. Halford gave a brief review on the general political situation. The crisis has now broken open. For a moment, the running for Prime Minister seemed to be between Menzies and Deakin, but however Farri now appears as the compromise leader. It seemed that agreement had been reached that the President of the Council should be Christian Democrat and the Vice President of the Council, Socialist. However, the Socialists refused to agree, insisting on a Socialist for President of the Council, which resulted in the crisis.

10. Refugee Situation.

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 6 June 1945, the Executive Com-missar stated that 20,000 refugees a week are definitely coming down from North to South. Lieutenant de Noe representing General Deakin stated that the number of French refugees, 3,000 approximately, in North Italy is much smaller than was anticipated. The Bologna Conference being held today should materially help to settle the refugee problem. It is estimated by SSAFE that the number of Italians in Germany, Austria, and France was now 758,000.

11. Allied Publications Board

Mr. Brown stated that on Monday there was an Allied Publications Board meeting regarding the cessation of PAB in the North and at which proposals were drafted for use of AFP press officers who will take over. PAB wants to get out 1 July, although this will depend on early approval of the proposal by AFP. Press Officers will represent the Allied Publications Board and will work with Regional Commissioners.

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12. Civilianization of Commission

The Executive Commissioner advised the War Office in London had released details on the civilianization of British officers of the Commission. Colonel Perkin is to follow this up.

13. Wage Increases

The Executive Commissioner stated that he had been informed that AMG 5th Army, through the Labor Officer, had authorized increase over and above the terms laid down by wages agreement of the Local Resources Board. General McKisley reported that he understood that a 50% increase had been allowed only for personnel employed by 5th Army and not by AMG. General McKisley is to check further on this.

CORRECTION TO MINUTES OF 6 JUNE 1945

At the request of Brigadier Anderson, the Executive Commissioner directed that the following change be made in paragraph 12 of the minutes of 6 June 1945: line 4, delete the phrase "and are to come under AMG,".

Next Vice Presidential Meeting - Wednesday, 20 June 1945.

W. Starns
W. STARNES
Major, A.G.D.
Staff Officer to EC

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British Ambassador
DCCAD, HQ 15th Army Group
G-5, AFHQ (5)
SCAC, AMG XIII Corps

2002

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

1- Signal has arrived - giving rates of
pay - number to be absorbed

G1(Br) has published the terms
G1 of the Cable to all Br off
18 June

A representative of War Office
is to come out & officers ^{that} ^{arrived} ^{yet}
are apt to wait to decide
until they can talk to War
Office representative

No off have filed an application

PW B - July 13 2321
make over

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
G-1 (B)

Ref: G-1(B)/132/A

10th June, 1945

SUBJECT: Release of British Officers for Civilian Employment.

TO: Full Distribution

1. Information has been received from the War Office that after the end of the current month the release of a certain number of suitably qualified officers for employment as civilians in appointments similar to those they are at present holding, can be authorised under para 327 of "Regulations for Release from the Army, 1945" entitling them to full Class "A" Benefits.

2. The following are some of the salient points as to terms of employment etc.

(a) Salary range for equivalent military rank.

| Rank | Per Annum |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Colonel | £1,000 - £1,200 |
| Lieut Colonel | 800 - 900 |
| Major | 500 - 600 |
| Captain | 300 - 500 |

All may have a £80 per annum War bonus.

(b) Foreign service allowances will be paid (free from Income Tax) at the following rates.

| Rank | Married | Single |
|--------------------------|---------|--------|
| Colonel/Lt Colonel | £190 | £150 |
| Major/Captain | £175 | £105 |

(c) The above rates include accommodation.

3. Fuller particulars of the conditions of service are not available at present, but the War Office have been asked to send out a representative to discuss such questions as:-

(a) Length and conditions of termination of contract.

(b) Leave in U.K.

2590

qualified officers for employment as civilians in appointments similar to those they are at present holding, can be authorised under para 327 of "Regulations for Release from the Army, 1945" entitling them to full Class "A" Benefits.

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| Rank | Per Annum |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Colonel | £1,000 - £1,200 |
| Lieut Colonel | 800 - 900 |
| Major | 500 - 600 |
| Captain | 300 - 500 |

All may have a £60 per annum War bonus.

(b) Foreign service allowances will be paid (free from Income Tax) at the following rates.

| Rank | Married | Single |
|--------------------------|---------|--------|
| Colonel/Lt Colonel | £190 | £150 |
| Major/Captain | £175 | £105 |

(c) The above rates include accommodation.

3. Fuller particulars of the conditions of service are not available at present, but the War Office have been asked to send out a representative to discuss such questions as:-

(a) Length and conditions of termination of contract.

(b) Leave in U.K.

(c) Privileges allowed to families in the event of their being allowed into this Theatre.

(d) Repatriation.

4. Further details of this scheme will be published as soon as available.

5. All addressees please furnish to this office details of Officers recommended and appointments which they will fill as civilians, including the equivalent military status of such appointments.

PER THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

James A. Price
M.B. LUSH,
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner

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

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Director, Communications Sub Comm
" War Material Disposal
" P.F.B.

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" " Emilia Region
" " Piemonte Region

Reg. Com. Lombardia Region
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" " Veneto Region (2)
S.C.A.G., A.M.G. HQ Fifth Army
S.C.A.G., A.M.G. HQ Eighth Army
Commissioner, Ancona Commune
" Naples
Liaison Officers:-

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Catania (3)
Bari
Sardogna

10811