

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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S/INT/102/A

REPORTS + INTELLIGENCE "1" (A) 2nd (over

JUNE 1944



STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

3/102
161

UFFICIO OPERAZIONI

N/pe.

N. 440/gh. prot. R.P.

P.M. 151 II 4 giugno 1944

Allegato

Risposta al foglio N.

del

OGGETTO: segnalazione.

3482

AL GENERALE L. BROWNING

- Comandante la Commissione Alleata di Controllo -

L e g u l i e

Per informazione si segnala la seguente notizia fornita da un prigioniero di guerra già autista del Generale SEITZ:

"In alcune discussioni avvenute tra il Generale SEITZ ed i suoi ufficiali collaboratori sul tema delle varie linee difensive tedesche in Italia è stato in particolare maniera affermato che la linea che maggiormente si presta alla difesa ad oltranza sarebbe la cosiddetta "Piedemontana - Alpina" (chiamata anche la 2ª linea del Po).

Detta linea avrebbe il seguente andamento: Abbazia - M. Maggiore - Gorizia - Udine - Cimadolici - M. Grappa - Asiago - M. Pasubio - Riva di Trento fino al congiungimento con il confine svizzero e correrebbe lungo il vecchio confine austriaco con il vantaggio di difendere le provincie tridentine annesse alla Germania.

Ragioni che hanno determinato la scelta di tale linea sono:

- 1) - facilità di aggiramento con sbarchi da ambo le parti della "linea Pisa - Rimini"
- 2) - andamento antieconomico e facilmente superabile con i mezzi moderni della "linea del Po"

La linea è stata tracciata nello scorcio invernale mentre i lavori

OGGETTO: segnalazione.

3482

AL GENERALE L. BROWNING

- Comandante la Commissione Alleata di Controllo -

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La linea è stata tracciata nello scorso inverno mentre i lavori hanno avuto inizio da parte della organizzazione Todt nel mese di febbraio. "

IL SOTTOCAPO DI S.M.
 - G.B. Oxilia -

TRANSLATION ON BACK

MESSAGE FORM

From MEMA

To AAI for OSI

TCO 61403

THY

File 7/103
1620

I 106 (.) SECRET (.) The following report given by a PW and former driver to General SLITZ was passed to this HQ by General OXILIA - Dep C.S. - Italian General Staff (.)

Quote (.) In several discussions which took place between General SLITZ and his officer collaborators on the subject of the various German defence lines in Italy particular stress was laid on the fact that the line which is most suited to final defence would be the so called Piedmont - Alpine (Piedemontana - Alpina) line (known also as the 2nd line of the Po). (.) This said line runs as follows - Abbazia - M. Maggiore - Gorizia - Udine - Cimadolici - M. Grappa - Asiago - M. Pasubio to RIVA thence to the Swiss frontier along the old Austrian border thus defending the "Eridanina" provinces annexed to Germany (.) The reasons for the choice of this line are:

- (1) The Pisa - Rimini line can easily be by-passed at both ends by landings
- (2) The line of the Po cannot be economically maintained and is easily overcome by modern means (.) The line was traced out last winter and the Todt Organization commenced work on it in February (.) unquote

May be sent as written Must be sent in Cipher if Degree of Priority
 except () wireless liable to interception

THS [Signature]

Sgt _____

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Sgt _____	Sgt <u>AK Selby</u>	<u>Immediate</u>
		<u>3481</u>

0009

785007

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

in Report & List File
SP 47 16
MINISTERO DELLE FORZE ARMATE
209° COMANDO MILITARE REGIONALE

B A N D O

PER I RENITENTI DI LEVA, PER I DISERTORI E PER TUTTI I MILITARI ALLE ARMI ALLA DATA 8/9/1943 XXI CHE NON HANNO RISPOSTO AI PRECEDENTI BANDI RELATIVI AL CONTROLLO ED AL RICHIAMO DI MILITARI (Ufficiali, sottufficiali e truppa).

Con Decreto del 18 febbraio 1944 XXII promulgato da Capo dello Stato é comminata la

P E N A D I M O R T E

mediante fucilazione al petto

a carico dei militari deferiti al Tribunale Militare Territoriale di Guerra quali:

- renitenti di lev
- disertori

- militari alle armi alla data 8 settembre 1943 XXI che non hanno risposto ai precedenti Bandi di controllo e richiamo alle armi.

E' concessa una proroga alla presentazione di:

GIORNI 15 dalla data del presente Bando, ai renitenti di leva/

GIORNI 10 dalla data del presente Bando, a tutti i militari (ufficiali, sottufficiali e truppa) che non hanno risposto alla chiamata di controllo o richiamo alle armi e non si sono quindi presentati al COMANDO MILITARE PROVINCIALE o al Pðdestà del comune di residenza/

GIORNI 3 dalla data del presente Bando, ai disertori, per il rinvio al proprio reparto. *3430*

Al presente Bando dovranno rispondere ANCHE tutti i militari o i giovani di leva che pure non avendo residenza nella giurisdizione di questo Comando Regionale, vi si trovino per qualsiasi ragione (sfollati, aventi residenza provvisoria ecc.).

B A N D O

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L'esecuzione della fucillazione avverrà possibilmente sul luogo di cattura o nel paese di residenza del renitente o disertore.

Disertore verrà considerato anche il militare alle armi alla data 8/9/1943 XXI che non si presenterà al Comando Militare provinciale od al Podestà del Comune nel termine suddetto.

L'Aquila, 11 23 febbraio 1944 XXII

IL GENERALE DI DIVISIONE COMAN/TE
Ilo Perugini

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

0012

SUBJECT: Italian Army

I/1023
28/6

CONFIDENTIAL

158

HQ 2 District GSP
2022/41 GSI

27 Jun 44

GSI (b) HQ AAI
MMIA /
D Section PWS

The information on the attached report comes from a serving Italian officer whose information is considered reliable; he is in a position to obtain first hand details of the policy and directives issued by the Italian General Staff.

Type
1 + 2
MB

AB Batteni
Major General
Commanding

NA

(2)

3479

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

1 The Italian general staff is in complete opposition to the present government. In their political outlook, the generals are without exception monarchist and anti-allied.

2 On his return to SALERNO after the cold reception accorded him in ROME, the Prince of Piedmont, at first refused to accept his new ministers as the ministry had purposely omitted the oath of allegiance to the Royal Household from their proceedings. The Italian general staff supported the Prince on the ground that the new oath, of allegiance only to the country and not to the Royal Household, was unconstitutional.

3 The general staff are deliberately purging the army of left and anti-Fascist elements. This is being done, by the systematic demobilisation of Reserve Officers who are known anti-Fascists, and their replacement by monarchists who can be relied on.

4 Every obstacle is put in the way of anti-Fascists and anti-Monarchist Officers and soldiers who are anxious to serve at the front. The general staff fear that if large bodies of troops, whose sentiments are in the main anti-Fascist and anti-Monarchist, are allowed to participate in the liberation of Italy, the anti-Fascist and anti-Monarchist parties will win the sympathy of the army as a whole and will have the undisputed confidence of the nation.

5 The two Italian divisions which are now serving at or near the front have been carefully picked and predominantly monarchist.

6 The Prince of Piedmont is planning a coup d'etat through the Italian general staff and the Partito Democratico-Liberale. A preliminary stage of this is clearly evidence by the campaign conducted in the Democratic-Liberale press, directed to the land-owners and virtually advising them not to send the wheat harvest to the "amasso". These directives aim at causing civil disturbances on such a scale as to necessitate the calling in of the army to maintain public order and providing grounds for the Italian general staff in their demands for a military dictatorship.

7 Gen BOATEA, who is no longer officially employed, continues to have in his service two serving officers, Italian military vehicles are still put at his disposition, and he is supplied with all the military and political situation summaries. He is known to have frequent and prolonged discussions with various generals of the Comando Supremo. He is thought to be the chief liaison officer between the Prince of Piedmont's reactionary circle and the generals.

8 Gen Pirzio BIROLI, a reactionary, and supporter of the monarchy who occupied a position of great influence as president of the commission for the examination of the conduct of all officers commanding units at the time of the armistice, is also known to enjoy the confidence of the Prince of Piedmont's group and the general staff. 3478

0014

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: - Liaison Between Republican Italian and German Armies. - Denunciation.

I 27/6 2 157

Army Sub Commission, ACC
(M M I A)
Rear H Q EIGHTH ARMY.
MM/103/35

25 Jun 44.

Army Sub Commission, ACC
Main H Q (M M I A)
LEQUILLIS (LECCES)

Copy to:- GSI (b) Main EIGHTH ARMY. (Your M 346 Ib
of 21 & 22 Jun 44 refers.)

Attached please find documents on the
activities of the ITALIAN Republican Army, sent
to you for information and any action you may
consider necessary.

M. Feldman
X Prod in Reports & Intelligence 3672
Major,
Liaison Officer.

0015

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:- Liaison between Republican Italian and German Armies

Main HQ, 103/37
Eighth Army, C.M.F.

MMIA,
Rear HQ Eighth Army.

M 346 I(b)

7 Jun 44

The attached letter from Comando del Presidio Militare di TERNI on Italo-German liaison and exemption from military service are forwarded for information and retention.

3476

Field
EWL/DB

Ernst
✓ Lt. Col. (Capt)
G.S.I.

0016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:- Denunciation

CONFIDENTIAL

Main HQ. *103/08*
Eighth Army. CMF.

M 346 I(b)

22 Jun 44

MMIA.
Rear HQ Eighth Army.

The attached denunciation is forwarded for any action *3475*
you may consider necessary.

D. Long
K. T. +

Field
DL/DB

10017

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COMANDO DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE TERNI

951(8)

N. 156 di prot.

Terni, li 31 Maggio 1944-XXII*

OGGETTO: Esenzioni dal richiamo alle armi.-

Rif.; fogli n. 6191 e 6194 del 25/5/44.-

AL 53° COMANDO MILITARE PROVINCIALE
Ufficio Ord. e Mobilitazione
Posta da Campo 839

In esito ai fogli in riferimento, si rende noto:

I documenti di esenere sono stati presentati al Comando Militare Germanico in Perugia personalmente dal sottoscritto il giorno 26/5/44 e subito ritirati.-

Si assicura inoltre che si è qui costituita ed è pronta a funzionare, una commissione eseneri così composta:

dal Maggiore Basselloni Edeardo che ha già presi accordi con il Comando Mil. Germanico-Ufficio Eseneri;

dal S. Tenente Ceccarelli per il locale Comando Tedesco; 3474

dal S. Tenente Maiba Giuseppe per la Prefettura di Terni.-

IL COMANDANTE DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE
(Magg. Basselloni Edeardo)

Basselloni

0018

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COMANDO DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE I TERMI

N. 140 di prot.

Termini, li 29 Maggio 1944-ZXII*

ALLA PREFETTURA REPUBBLICANA DI
AL COMANDO MILITARE GERMANICO
(Ufficiale Collegamento)

= TERMI
= SANGEMINI

.....per conoscenza e con preghiera di provvedere in merito. =

IL COMANDANTE DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE
(Magg. Baccelloni Edoardo)

[Handwritten signature]

3473

COPIA TELEGRAMMA DALLA STABO MAGGIORE ESERCITO - Ufficio Mobilitazione

N. 07/6218/MOB DATA 12 CORRENTE ALT DIRETTO COMANDI MILITARI REGIONALI
TUTTI ET PER CONSCENZA MINISTERO FORZE ARMATE GABINETTO, COMMISSIONE
CENTRALE ESCHERI PRESSO SEGRETARIATO GENERALE ESERCITO PUNTO RI-ESCHERITP
FONO II CORRENTE 3637 BARRA 1 SEMI ALT ET AT COMMISSIONE CENTRALE ESCHERI
PRESSO SEGRETARIATO GENERALE ESERCITO ALT SEQUITO TELE 07/6087 DEL IO
CORRENTE DI QUESTO STAMGIORE ALT COMMISSIONI VISITE DEVCHO FUNZIONARE AL
COMPENSO SUBITO ALT URGE PRENDERE CONTATTO CON PREFETTURE PER DESIGNAZIONE
RAPPRESENTANTI CIVILI ET KOMMANDANTUR LOCALI ALT DARE ASSICURAZIONE CHE
COMMISSIONI SCHO FRONTE A FUNZIONARE ALT CIRCA LAVORI COMMISSIONI VIROOLA
DIRETTIVE ET NORME SAPANHO IMPARTITE AT CURA COMMISSIONE CENTRALE ESCHERI
SEDENTE PRESSO SEGRETARIATO GENERALE ESERCITO PUNTO

.....
GENERALE MISCHI
.....

207° COMANDO MILITARE REGIONALE

Ufficio Ord. e Mobilit.

N. 3856/M di prot.

P.C. 839, 15/5/1944/XXII°

.....indirizzi cessati.....

.....a seguito attergato N. 3855.M del 13 corr., con preghiera di pren-
dere contatto con la locale Prefettura per la designazione dei rappresen-
tanti civili e con i locali Comandi Tedeschi.

Assicurare che le commissioni di cui trattasi sono pronte a fun-
zionare.

d'ordine

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE

F.to Magg. Luccarini

.....
53° COMANDO MILITARE PROVINCIALE
.....

Ufficio Ordine e Mobilit.

P.C. 839, 25/5/1944/XXII°

N. 6194/CM di prot.

AL MAGGIORE BACCILLOTTI EDOARDO - Ufficiale

di Collegamento per gli Escheri presso il

Comando Germanico.

T E R M I

.....per l'esecuzione, assicurando che la Commissione è pronta a funziona-
re perchè questo Comando possa a sua volta dare assicurazione al Comando
Militare Regionale.

IL COLONNELLO COMANDANTE

(Umberto Bellone)

U. Bellone

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SEDEnte PRESSO SEGRETERIAto GENERALE

GENERALI MICHICI

207° COMANDO MILITARE REGIONALE

Ufficio Ord. e Mobilit.

P.O. 839, 15/5/1944/XIII°

N. 3856/M di prot.

.....indirizzi omissi.....

.....a seguito attergato N. 3855.M del 13 corr., con preghiera di prendere contatto con la locale Prefettura per la designazione dei rappresentanti civili e con i locali Comandi Tedeschi. Assicurare che le commissioni di cui trattasi sono pronte a funzionare.

3° ordine
IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
F.to Magg. Luocerini

53° COMANDO MILITARE PROVINCIALE
Ufficio Ordine e Mobilit.
P.O. 839, 25/5/1944/XIII°

N. 6194/OM di prot.

AL MAGGIORE BACCHELLONI Ebeardo - Ufficiale
di Collegamento per gli Esenzari presso il
Comando Germanico.

T E R N I

.....per l'esecuzione assicurando che la Commissione è pronta a funzionare perchè questo Comando possa a sua volta dare assicurazione al Comando Militare Regionale.

IL COLONNELLO COMANDANTE
(Umberto Bellone)

Y. H. M.

3471

1110

28-5-44

*no. 3 copie in più per
il comando - Atene
col. P. S.
non Capetani
per Ufficio Leg. e Mobilit.
Luocerini*

LR/pl

0021

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COMANDO DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE DI TERNI

N. 139 di prot.

Terni, li 29 Maggio 1944-XXII*

AL COMANDO MILITARE GERMANICO
(Ufficiale Collegamento)
SANGEMINI

.....per conoscenza e quanto ne consegue.-

IL COMANDANTE DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE
(Magg. Basselloni Edoardo)

E. Basselloni

0022

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

287° COMANDO MILITARE REGIONALE
Ufficio Ord. e Mobil.

N. 3891/M di prot.

CHIBTC: Norme per l'Esoneo.

P.U. 807, 15/5/1944/XXII

.....indirizzi compei.....

A seguito foglio N. 3335/M del 4 corrente, si trasmette l'unita circolare dello S.M.E. N. 07/5500 indata 29 aprile, con preghiera di prendere accordi, attraverso gli ufficiali di collegamento, con i Comandi Militari Germanici - Sezione Lavoro - circa le date di presentazione ed il ritiro dei vari documenti di esoneo, dandone notizia a questo Comando.

d'ordine
IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIOR
P.to Magg. Laccarini

.....

53° COMANDO MILITARE PROVINCIALE
Ufficio Ord. e Mobil.

N. 6191/CM di prot.

P.C. 839, 25/5/1944/XXII

AL MAGGIORE BACCHELLINI Edcaro - Ufficiale
di Collegamento per gli Esoneo presso
Il Comando Germanico

T E R M I

.....per l'esecuzione, informando circa la data di presentazione ed il ritiro dei vari documenti di esoneo perche questo Comando possa a sua volta informare il Comando Regionale.



IL COLONNELLO COMANDANTE
(Ubaldo Belloni)

Belloni

15/pl

3472

0023

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

prevedere accordi, attraverso i quali i Comandi Militari Germanici - Sezione Lavoro - circa le date di presentazione ed il ritiro dei vari documenti di esonero, dandone notizia a questo Comando.

d'ordine
IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
P.to Magg. Succarini

.....

53° COMANDO MILITARE PROVINCIALE
Ufficio Ord. e Mobilit.

P.O. 839, 25/5/1944/XXXX

N. 6191/OM di prot.

AL MAGGIORE BACCHELLONI Edoardo - Ufficiale
di Collegamento per gli Asceri presso
il Comando Germanico

T S R M I

.....per l'esecuzione, informando circa la data di presentazione ed il ritiro dei vari documenti di esonero perche' questo Comando possa a sua volta informare il Comando Regionale.



IL COLONNELLO COMANDANTE
(Umberto Bellone)

Bellone

12/pi

3472

139
27-5-44

0024

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

STATO MAGGIORE ESERCITO
Ufficio Reclutamento e Mobilitazione

N. 07/5500 di prot. P.C. 865.29/4/1944/XXII
OGGETTO: Norme per l'esonero di lavoratori impiegati presso aziende controllate dall'autorità Germanica.

.....indirizzi cinesi.....

Le disposizioni di cui alla circolare N. 07/5000 di questo S.M. in data 14 corrente, pari oggetto, sono estese con effetto immediato a tutte le categorie di lavoratori impiegati presso aziende interessanti l'autorità Germanica, appartenenti alle classi dal 1900 al 1919, già richiamati alle armi e che potranno esserlo successivamente per qualsiasi esigenza.

Le norme concordate con la parte Germanica, in data 29 febbraio u.s., di cui all'accordo allegato alla circolare 07/5000 suddetta, saranno applicate integralmente per quanto riguarda le modalità fissate per la richiesta e la convalida degli esonerati.

Per fissare le date di presentazione e ritiro dei vari documenti e di tutti gli atti conseguenti alla comunicazione degli esonerati, i Comandi Militari Germanici prenderanno diretti accordi con i Comandi Militari Germanici - Sezione lavoro - competenti nel territorio, in maniera che le operazioni necessarie si svolgano spedatamente entro i termini di tempo non superiori a quelli previsti per le classi 1920-1926 del citato accordo 29 febbraio scorso.

Delle date fissate sarà data tempestiva comunicazione attraverso la stampa locale, avvertendo nel contempo questo S.M.E.-

IL CAPO DI S.M. DELL'ESERCITO
f/16 Mischi

P.C.C.
L'UFFICIO SUPERIORE ADDETTO
(Ten.Col. Mocchi Raul)

Handwritten signature

3470

0025

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

te la categoria di lavoratori impiegati presso le
L'autorità Germanica, appartenenti alle classi dal 1900 al 1912, già
richiamati alle armi e che potranno esserlo successivamente per qualsiasi
si esigesse. *

Le norme concordate con la parte Germanica, in data 29 febbraio
u.s., di cui all'accordo allegato alla circolare 07/5000 suddetta, se-
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Per fissare le date di presentazione e ritiro dei vari documenti
e di tutti gli atti conseguenti alla comunicazione degli esonerati, i Co-
mandi Militari Regionali prenderanno diretti accordi con i Comandi Mil-
tari Germanici - Sezione lavoro- competenti nel territorio, in maniera
che le operazioni necessarie ed evolvano speditamente entro periodi di
tempo non superiori a quelli previsti per le classi 1920-1926 del citato
accordo 29 febbraio scorso.

Delle date fissate sarà data tempestiva comunicazione attraverso
la stampa locale, avvertendo nel contempo questo S.M.E.-

IL CAPO DI S.M.DELL'ESERCITO
f/ed Mischi

S.P.C.O.
L'UFFICIALE SUPERIORE ADDETTO
(Ten.Col. Mocchi Raul)



3470

0026

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT: Reports

9
Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MIA)
LEQUIL (LECCE) 153
I/102
27 June 44

Her Ministry

The attached documents are forwarded for your information and any action you consider necessary.

CGL.

JW
Maj Gen,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

3469

10-0 27

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject: Partisans.

M.M.I.A.

I/62
26/6
S/O(I) 155
21 June '44

The following documents were forwarded to us by partisans in CIVITELLA, and are forwarded to you for information and any action you think appropriate.

Though the account is certainly highly coloured, the partisans in CIVITELLA were of considerable value in guiding our patrols.

E. Bennett Capt.
For.
B.G.S.
5 Corps.

3468

D I A L I
of

The Volontarios of CIVITANOVA

The fifth and the fourth of December 1943 German burnt legations, post-offices, bars and blew up with mines the houses of GABRIEL and GABRIEL (fraternal of CIVITANOVA). The fifth of Dec they did the same work in the near village of SANI SANI. Lieutenant JEDDIE (JEDDIE), veteran of the 1915-1918 war, decorated with a war cross, escaped from German hands the 15th of Sept 1943 went to GABRIEL the 2nd of Dec, with 20 fellow-citizens, to join English troops for aid. English troops had arrived at GABRIEL the evening of the 4th of December and were constituted by one platoon of about 63 men including a company of 15 English lieutenants.

At GABRIEL this officer and some non-commissioned officers were in Baron GABRIEL's house. Lieutenant GABRIEL went there to join the German for aid, telling him to please send to CIVITANOVA. Lieutenant GABRIEL a group of men to surprise and to annihilate the German soldiers that were accomplishing their work of industrial destruction. Lieutenant GABRIEL couldn't speak distinctly with the commanding lieutenant because he doesn't know the English language. But he came to know from Baron GABRIEL, from his daughter and from the voluntarios of GABRIEL, GABRIEL, that was in Baron GABRIEL's house, that his cousin's car had been piloted, because the driver of the English troops that was in GABRIEL was scarce. After his experience and his progress to obtain aid, Baron GABRIEL and the voluntarios of GABRIEL told him to stay for that night at GABRIEL because probably in the night from the 3th to the 4th of December other English troops would arrive at GABRIEL. Lieutenant GABRIEL that was trying to save all that could be saved, trying to get some from the voluntarios of GABRIEL to see some willing inhabitants of CIVITANOVA, that had promised, that if they were armed, they would reject the German soldiers, that surely were going to return to CIVITANOVA, but no arms could be found. He he arranged with the people of CIVITANOVA that sent to GABRIEL with him, that he would remain at GABRIEL to wait the English troops to try to get their groups for CIVITANOVA, and they would go back to their town, and some themselves and others with all the arms they could get, some rifles, some machine guns, some pistols, clubs etc to try the next morning to affront and drive back the German soldiers. This could have been done and they could have succeeded, there was almost no risk to fear and then the next day the English soldiers would arrive to save the village.

After these accounts, the men of CIVITANOVA returned to their town and he remained at GABRIEL. During that night an 18 year old son of Baron GABRIEL, after hearing from his son that returned to the village, that his father had settled up at GABRIEL, in company of other three willing men were in CIVITANOVA, (because he was with his family from two months near the GABRIEL river) to take away the voluntarios from the German that were still the dominators of the village. He and his three friends took away many men and horses to see, the next day no more men no possible.

The morning of the 6th of December arrived at GABRIEL about 120 English

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...telling him to please send to CIVITANO, the son of ... a group of men
 to surprise and to annihilate the German soldiers that were accompanying
 their work of German destruction. ... CIVITANO couldn't speak directly
 with the commanding lieutenant because he doesn't speak the English language.
 But he came to know from ... CIVITANO, from his daughter and from the
 commanding officer of ... CIVITANO, that was in ... house, that
 his cousin's be obtained pilot, because the number of the English troops
 that was in ... was scarce. After his lieutenant and his parents to
 obtain aid, ... and the commanding officer ... told him to stay
 for that night at ... because probably in the night from the 5th to the
 6th of December other English troops would arrive at ... CIVITANO
 that was trying to save all that could be saved, trying to get arms from
 the Germans of ... to see some willing individuals of ... that
 had promised, that if they were asked, they would project the German soldiers,
 that surely were going to return to ... but no arms could be found.
 So he arranged with the people of ... that would be ... with him,
 that he would remain at ... to lead the English troops to try to get their
 weapons and for ... and they would go back to their town, and are
 themselves and others with all the arms they could get, some military
 rifles, hunting guns, bayonets, chains etc to try to get some arms and
 and drive back the German soldiers. This could have been done and they could
 have succeeded, there was almost no risk to fear and then the next day the
 English soldiers would arrive to save the village.

After those occurred, the son of CIVITANO returned to their town and
 he remained at ...
 During that night on 10 year old son of ... CIVITANO, after hearing
 from the men that returned to the village, that his father had settled up at
 ... in company of other three village men near in ... (because he
 was with his family from the ... river) to some way
 ... from the Germans that were still the dominers of the village.
 He and his three friends had any way used ... in any, the next day no
 many men as possible.

The morning of the 6th of December arrived at ... about 150 English
 airborne soldiers. ... went quickly to ... that
 speaks English, paying him to solicit immediate intervention of English soldiers.
 The said ... after his ... also because a month ago he has
 been a ... of a few families of ... and because he was going with
 son of ... (fraternal of ... when was the Command of the British
 troops, promised that he would do all he could to obtain aid from the
 commanding officer ...

The parish - priest of CIVITANO that had arrived at ... that morning,
 sent urgently to the village three men, (one of them was his niece, he told
 the son of CIVITANO to go immediately to the commanding officer of ... and to
 don't attack the Germans. The priests since had also a letter written by his uncle,
 to all the people of CIVITANO on the same subject. About nine o'clock ...
 CIVITANO was greatly surprised when he saw hundreds of men of CIVITANO arriving at
 ... These men told him that they were going to the commanding officer of the
 British Forces because the priest let them know so, after some time from ...
 were seen great blazing fires in the fraction of CIVITANO called ... The
 Germans were receiving their work of work and destruction, and no collected the
 project to keep ... away from the village by killing men that wanted to save
 Germans a deserved punishment. The project would have been executed also because
 at the 15 o'clock the 6th of Dec at CIVITANO arrived about 20 parachute soldiers,
 many men of CIVITANO that were at ... decided to return to their town and
 all to save their families.

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About the same time Commissary MURCHINI returned from the Commanding Officer of TAVENNA NUVA and said that the English would arrive quickly at CIVITELLA, for order of the above said Commander.

After this happy news, and precisely about 14 o'clock of the same day (6th of Dec) about 20 English soldiers left CASOLI, and arrived to CIVITELLA in time to stop a German truck proceeding from there, other two trucks proceeding from the near PAPA SAN MARINO, had passed through CIVITELLA directed to LAMA DEI PELICCI. The airborne soldiers killed 4 Germans that left on the road a truck that some willing inhabitants of CIVITELLA pushed to the town. They found in it a machine gun, 5 rifles, munitions and linen that had been stolen from the inhabitants of CIVITELLA by Germans. The linen was returned to the owners.

The night of the 6 to the 7 of Dec to CIVITELLA, returned, in a number of about 40 English soldiers, because they feared a retaliation of Germans against the people of the town. In the early daylight of the 7th of Dec, 17 trucks loaded with German soldiers were approaching CIVITELLA. The soldiers came down from the trucks in about a distance of 2 km from the town and in a compact group arrived at about 1 km to the town where the English soldiers had placed themselves. The soldiers, with machine guns and rifles fired the Germans that lost 29 men. The English soldiers had 2 men wounded. In this combat participated 10 men of CIVITELLA with rifles and hand-grenades. After this battle the valorous English soldiers returned to CASOLI. On their way back and precisely near the last houses of the fraction PAPA, close to the river AVENINO, Lieut. GATTUSI and his wife stayed the soldiers to rest, and offered them flowers, fruits and wine. The airborne soldiers adorned their red berets with the red roses they had received, and said that they would press the flowers and keep them for a souvenir of CIVITELLA. And almost every day Lieut. GATTUSI, and his wife offered flowers, fruits and wine and the traditional "pizzelle abbruzzesi" to the English soldiers that came in patrols to CIVITELLA. And the greater part of the people joined them to welcome the English soldiers.

After the collision of the 7th of Dec the men of CIVITELLA took possession of a machine gun, 6 rifles and two German pistols.

With the departure of English soldiers, CIVITELLA remained undefended, in the successive days, Lieut. GATTUSI with NICK WILLIAMS, 43 year old veteran of 1915-1918 war, DI LILLO Francesco a navy marshal and others invited the people of CIVITELLA to gather themselves to form a nucleus of volunteers with the task to repulse any attempt of German infiltration. The people of CIVITELLA, that had been upset by the Germans, approved the noble task to defend their families, their houses, and the honour of their country and to facilitate the coming of the British troops to CIVITELLA. The volunteers in possession of arms that had been taken away from Germans, and with different other weapons gathered by them in the near town of PAPA, CASOLI, PALOMBARO, organized themselves day by day always better, to put an end to the fierce German inhumanity.

Almost every day Lieut. GATTUSI send valuable informations to the Commanding Officer of the British forces in CASOLI. These informations referring to the progress, the number and the various activities of Germans

17 trucks loaded with soldiers came down from the trucks in about a distance of 2 km from the town and in a compact group arrived at about 1 km to the town where the English soldiers had placed themselves. The soldiers, with machine guns and rifles fired the Germans that lost 25 men. The English soldiers had 2 men wounded. In this combat participated 10 men of CIVITELLA with rifles and hand-grenades. After this battle the valorous English soldiers returned to CASOLI. On their way back and precisely near the last houses of the fraction FALTO, close to the river AVENTINO, Lieut. GATTESCHI and his wife prayed the soldiers to rest, and offered them flowers, fruits and wine. The airborne soldiers adorned their red berets with the red roses they had received, and said that they would press the flowers and keep them for a souvenir of CIVITELLA. And almost every day Lieut. GATTESCHI, and his wife offered flowers, fruits and wine and the traditional "pizzelle abbruscate" to the English soldiers that came in patrols to CIVITELLA. And the greater part of the people joined them to welcome the English soldiers.

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With the departure of English soldiers, CIVITELLA remained uninfected, in the successive days, Lieut. GATTESCHI with NICK WILLIAMS, an year old veteran of 1915-1918 war, DI LUIGIO FRANCESCHI a navy marshal and others invited the people of CIVITELLA to gather themselves to form a nucleus of voluntaries with the task to repulse any attempt of German infiltration. The people of CIVITELLA, that had been upset by the Germans, approved the noble task to defend their families, their homes, and the honour of their country and to facilitate the coming of the British troops to CIVITELLA. The voluntaries in possession of arms that had been taken away from Germans, and with different other weapons gathered by them in the near town of FALTO, CASOLI, PALOMBANO, organized themselves day by day always better, to put an end to the fierce German inhumanity.

Almost every day Lieut. GATTESCHI sent valuable informations to the Commanding officer of the British forces in CASOLI. These informations referring to the processes, the number and the various activities of Germans in the territory of CIVITELLA and other near towns. Besides the said Lieut and his wife went to CASOLI, making for him, to the English Command to urge for a garrison of English troops in CIVITELLA or for a more frequent service of English patrols to their command. In fact patrols came more often to CIVITELLA and from the 15th to the 22 of December, an English platoon, commanded by Lieut. GIBBY HUGHES, garrisoned CIVITELLA. Now it will afterwards be seen from the 23 of Dec to the 11 of Jan came often to the town English patrols that with the guerrillas upheld victorious fights with German patrols.

In the meantime Lieut. GATTESCHI worked very hard to gather and organize guerrillas and very often, also in the middle of the night he had to accompany to the Military Command his wife for interpreter.

The service of the voluntaries of CIVITELLA seemed so promisingly to the English Command of CASOLI, so that the 10 of January 1944, the temporary commander of the Royal W. Kent Regt, Major FURNESS, nominated GATTESCHI Achille, adjutant (with the charge to form two groups of voluntaries) recognizing his investigating and organizing work.

Lieut. GATTESCHI lived continually, almost every day, for about two months, the life of a voluntary, staying up until late (and often all the night) with the guerrillas of his command, to gather the greatest number of them he could, and he always kept alive and strong their quarrelsome spirit. He worked to dispense them in different services of scouting, vedettes, patrol etc. and in frequent inspections, to assure informations of military character

/no transmit...

to transmit to the English Military Command of CASOLI (this until the 15 Jan) to keep himself and the volunteers attached with it and to its disposition.

About the middle of Jan 1944 the occupying troops arrived to CIVITELLA, and changing rather often, they are still here.

The 22 of Jan, GATTONE was named commander of his company, and he continued to interest himself for the volunteers until the first days of the month of February, then he became ill, and from that time, also because the territory of CIVITELLA had been cleared away, he turned all his attention to the interests of the inhabitants of his company, that had suffered very much for the German cruelty, and he still works trying to arrange until where it is possible, the moral and material damage, the people of CIVITELLA went through.

The movements of the guerrillas of CIVITELLA M. BALDUCCI was an example to the near towns that afterwards began to organize themselves (and this a month later). These towns are NORDICELLA, LAMA DEI PELICCI, COLASANTONIA, and later TALLANTA FERRARA and PALAZZA.

Besides the regular daily and night service of guard and exploring patrols, the volunteers made the following remarkable services and displacements.

2 - 10 December 1943. During the night from the 9th to the 10th of Dec. DEMETRIO NICOLA guided an English patrol (especially because he spoke English) towards the bridge on the river FURDI near FARA SAN MARTINO. After about an hour that the patrol had returned, German bombed CIVITELLA from a distance of about 1 km striking a house where many guerrillas were watching. Because the English patrol had returned to CASOLI, and the volunteers couldn't resist at the artillery fire, they were forced to go to a backwoods position, about 300 metres distant from the village.

The volunteers couldn't have kept the position of CIVITELLA if the German artillery would have kept firing, so Lieut. GATTONE and his wife began for CASOLI to pray the English artillery for aid, especially in case if German artillery should fire again on CIVITELLA. Along the national way on the other side of the AVARINO river fortunately they met an English Artillery Captain, and with the help of his wife Lieut. GATTONE indicated to the Captain the exact position of the German artillery. Next morning the English artillery fired on the enemies with cannons, and since then they never fired on CIVITELLA from that position.

12 - 13 December 1943. During the night from the 12 to the 13 Dec an English patrol, commanded by Capt. Scolling, advanced until the mountain of CIVITELLA, in the locality called ACQUAVIVA. This patrol had for guide Nick Williams, and was followed by a protection patrol commanded by Lieut. GATTONE and formed by DI LUIGI Francesco, ACCETELLA Angelo di Pietro, DI CRESIZIO Nicola di Luigi, ACCETELLA Nicola di Giuseppe, and by MARIANTONIO Pietro fu Nicola. During the service of this patrol Germans were not met.

16 Dec 1943. The voluntary ACCETELLA Nicola fu Giuseppe went in exploration in locality SORRILLO about 2 km from CIVITELLA. He was sighted by the enemy that fired at him with a machine gun from a distance of about 50 metres. ACCETELLA answered with 2 shells of a pistol and returned safely to CIVITELLA.

These towns are TORRE, LANA DEL FRATELLI, COLLEMBACCI, besides the regular daily and night service of guard and exploring patrols, the volunteers made the following remarkable services and displacements.

2 - 10 December 1943. During the night from the 9th to the 10th of Dec. DEMONTE NICOLA guided an English patrol (especially because he spoke English) towards the bridge on the river VERDE near PAMA SAN MARINO. After about an hour that the patrol had returned, Germans bombed CIVITELLA from a distance of about 1 km striking a house where many guerrillas were watching. Because the English patrol had returned to CASOLI, and the volunteers couldn't react at the artillery fire, they were forced to go to a backwards position, about 500 metres distant from the village.

The volunteers couldn't have kept the position of CIVITELLA if the German artillery would have kept firing, so Lieut. GATTILIA and his wife began for CASOLI to pray the English artillery for aid, especially in case if German artillery should fire again on CIVITELLA. Along the national way on the other side of the AVULENO river fortunately they met an English artillery Captain, and with the help of his wife Lieut. GATTILIA indicated to the Captain the exact position of the German artillery. Next morning the English artillery fired on the enemies with success, and since then they never fired on CIVITELLA from that position.

12 - 13 December 1943. During the night from 12 to the 13 Dec an English patrol, commanded by Capt. Scolding, advanced until the mountain of CIVITELLA, in the locality called ACQUAVIVA. This patrol had for guide Nicot Williams, and was followed by a protection patrol commanded by Lieut. GATTILIA and formed by DI LULLO Francesco, ACCETTILLA Angelo di Pietro, DI CULLINO Nicola di Luigi, ACCETTILLA Paolo di Giuseppe, and by MABELANTONIO Pietro fu Nicola. During the service of this patrol Germans were not met.

16 Dec 1943. The voluntary ACCETTILLA Paolo fu Giuseppe went in exploration in locality MURGIO about 2 km from CIVITELLA. He was sighted by the enemy that fired at him with a machine gun from a distance of about 50 metres. ACCETTILLA answered with 2 shells of a pistol and returned safely to CIVITELLA.

27 December 1943. The 27 of Dec was sighted a small patrol of Germans formed by six (6) men disguised as English Albionese. From the bottom of the mountain if CIVITELLA the Germans descended towards PAMA S. MARINO staying in the first houses. 2465

On their way back the Germans tried to capture about (100) one hundred sheep that were grazing at the bottom of the mountain, but the guerrillas of CIVITELLA fired on the Germans with machine guns chasing them away, and hurting one. The Germans were forced to leave the sheep.

29 Dec 1943. The evening of the 29th of December an Irish patrol commanded by Captain Vincent arrived at CIVITELLA. In the early morning, before daylight it moved for a locality called MURGIO. This patrol was accompanied by a patrol of guerrillas guided by DALETTI Ovidio. Before daylight the patrol attacked the enemies, that were watching at MURGIO, killing one German, hurting another and capturing 2 prisoners. Unfortunately the Irish patrol had to complain the loss of one man. The German prisoners were captured by 2 Irish soldiers and the guerrillas Angelo D'Alfonso and di Braccio.

1 January 1944. Several Germans were seen at MURA from CIVITELLA, the volunteers fired at them with a machine gun hurting one and driving away the others.....

the others, that left an Italian civilian they had captured.

2 January 1944. Several volunteers of CIVITELLA and precisely DAMIANINOVIDIO, D'ALESSANDRO Argelo, DI GUZZALINO Nicola, DI MANCINO Nicola sighting Germans in the fraction GILLO and BELVA, went in the locality called PASCARELLI and from there opened the fire on the crates that had exposed themselves in the fraction BELVA. One German was wounded, and it was possible to drive back the others that left several men and women they had captured in that fraction.

2 Jan 1944. Nine guerrillas of CIVITELLA commanded by Marcello DI LUIGI Pruneseo, went to garrison the locality of PASCARELLI where he gathered other volunteers forming a platoon commanded by him. This place is about 2 km from CIVITELLA.

4 January 1944. The 4th of Jan arrived at CIVITELLA an English patrol commanded by Lieut. Reginald FRANCES. After resting this patrol moved toward BELVA (fraction about 3 km from CIVITELLA) accompanied and guided by a patrol of guerrillas at the orders of Nick WILLIAMS. It was about 4 o'clock in the morning and there was snow everywhere, so the men were of themselves in white clothes. When they arrived at about 200 meters from BELVA the men of the patrol divided themselves in 3 manious trying to annihilate the enemies that they supposed were in that locality; but after exploring all the houses of the fraction, no enemy was found. The men laid in wait for the enemy that certainly would have returned. About seven o'clock the lieutenant of the volunteers, D'ALESSANDRO Antonio Fu Romaldo sighted six Germans that were coming near, and he informed Nicola DI GUZZALINO. DI GUZZALINO informed the English lieutenant and both hid in wait. As soon as the Germans came nearer DI GUZZALINO fired and hurted the first German that was advancing. This German was saving DI GUZZALINO that was saved by the prompt intervention of the English lieutenant that killed the German hurting him in the forehead with a revolver bullet.

11 January 1944. In the night from the 11 th to the 12 January, a patrol formed by English soldiers and volunteers arrived in exploration until the fraction CASPI BIANCI (L. del FALINI) about 6 km from CIVITELLA. This patrol commanded by Major WILKINSON arrived at 2:30 a.m. from the enemy sentinals.

14 January 1944. The 14 of January about 2 o'clock a patrol formed by 6 volunteers of CIVITELLA, 12 English soldiers and 20 volunteers of BELVA (these last for the first time were going toward a locality occupied by Germans) commanded by Major WILKINSON began towards a locality called SPINELLO, to destroy some Germans that were there. The six volunteers of CIVITELLA were going before, after these the twelve English soldiers, and about 50 meters behind the guerrillas of L. del FALINI. As soon as the sentinals of the enemy sighted the patrol he fired with a machine gun. The volunteers of CIVITELLA answered and also other companions fired. The German sentinal was killed and some the patrol were hurted MARIO PRUNESEO, a volunteer of CIVITELLA, and an English sergeant. Other eleven Germans that belonged to the bodyguard arrived back. The volunteers of BELVA ran away and disbanded as soon as they heard the first shot.

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of guerrillas at the orders of Major Williams. The men wrapped themselves in white clothing and there was snow everywhere, so the men wrapped themselves in white clothing. When they arrived at about 200 meters from CIVILIA the men of the patrol divided themselves in 3 manneves trying to establish the houses that they supposed were in that locality; but after exploring all the houses of the fraction, no enemy was found. The men laid in wait for the enemy that certainly would have returned. About seven o'clock the contingent of the volunteers, D'Alessandro Antonio fu Rosaldo sighted six Germans that were coming near, and he informed Nicola DE SERRAVALLO. DE SERRAVALLO informed the English lieutenant and both lied in wait. As soon as the Germans came nearer DE SERRAVALLO fired and hurted the first German that was advancing. This German was aiding DE SERRAVALLO that was saved by the prompt intervention of the English lieutenant that killed the German hurting him in the forehead with a revolver bullet.

14 January 1944. In the night from the 13th to the 12 January, a patrol formed by English soldiers and volunteers arrived in exploration until the fraction CASPI SANTI (LAW del FRATELLI) about 6 km from CIVILIA. This patrol commanded by Major NIGRAM arrived at 200 meters from the enemy contingent.

14 January 1944. The 14th of January about 2 o'clock a patrol formed by a volunteer of CIVILIA, 12 English soldiers and 20 volunteers of LAVA (these last for the first time were going toward a locality occupied by Germans) commanded by Major RUSSELL began towards a locality called MONTANO, to aggress some Germans that were there. Six volunteers of CIVILIA were going before, after those the twelve English soldiers, and about 30 meters behind the guerrillas of LAVA FRATELLI. As soon as the contingent of the enemy sighted the patrol he fired with a machine gun. The volunteers of CIVILIA answered and also other companions fired. The German contingent was killed and some the patrol were hurted MARIO PRANCOLO, a volunteer of CIVILIA, and an English sergeant. Other eleven Germans that belonged to the bodyguard arrived back. The volunteers of LAVA ran away and disbanded as soon as they heard the first shot.

15 January 1944. The afternoon of the 15 of Jan, a patrol moved from LAVA to the pinewood of LAVA. This patrol was commanded by Major NIGRAM and formed of 20 English soldiers, aided by six volunteers of CIVILIA. After passing the places of the enemy contingent, the volunteers were sighted and fired. They answered to the firing protection by the English soldiers. In this fight were wounded three volunteers and one died. One of the volunteers wounded was D'ANGELO Angelo fu Achobolo, voluntary of 24 years old. A few Germans were killed.

20 January 1944. The voluntary D'ANGELO Emilio fu Cassiano was accompanying and English lieutenant to explore the territory near the pinewood of LAVA del FRATELLI. Suddenly a mine blossed up and both died, the voluntary and the officer.

23 January 1944. The territory of CIVILIA between MANTANO is definitely cleared away from the disarmed German troops.

In the successive days and from 31 of January to the 15 of February the task of the volunteers of CIVILIA consisted in safeguarding the area from German infiltration. The 16 of February the platoon of CIVILIA disengaged itself and delivered the map to the volunteers of D'ANGELO EMILIO and of LAVA del FRATELLI.

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ALLIED FORCES HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 8

"D" Section, Italy (Lib.)

June 2nd 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 21

Part I Summary

 During the week the attention of most Italians has been cen-
 red on the Allied advance, and in particular, on Rome. Mercu-
 rial by character, Italians have grown optimistic and actively interested
 in the war since the offensive started. They have become acutely
 conscious of the part being played by their countrymen who are
 fighting in Occupied Italy, and they are curious to know more of
 the contribution of the Italian armed forces in Liberated Italy.

Mr. Churchill's speech created a most favourable impression.
 For some time the belief had gradually gained ground among many
 Italians that British policy towards Italy was hard and was largely
 responsible for the severity of the Armistice terms. Many reports
 during the last weeks have shown that Italians believe that the
 Americans show a greater sympathy for Italy's plight than the Brit-
 ish, who are often considered to be rather contemptuous towards
 Italians. Some Italians are firmly convinced that Allied policy
 in Italy is principally initiated and directed by Great Britain,
 and, though they may regret this, they watch carefully for any sign
 of a clarification of policy from Great Britain. Italians noted
 that the tone of Mr. Churchill's speech was particularly friendly
 in the references he made to Italy. The speech could not have
 come at a more opportune moment, as it did much to encourage those
 Italians who are taking an active part in the war effort. The
 praise given to the Italian Air Force, and the promise that the
 Prime Minister would do everything possible to supply the Air Force
 with British aircraft, was noted with particular pleasure. The
 praise given to the Italian navy and the Italian army were
 also appreciated. The statement that he found it difficult to non-
 rish any feeling of animosity against the Italian people (and the
 fact that these words were greeted with applause in the House of
 Commons) was particularly welcome to Italian who are at present suf-
 fering from an inferiority complex and a feeling of isolation.
 The Prime Minister's assurance that the Allies would not permit the
 establishment of any form of Fascist Government, and his expression
 of confidence in the present democratic government were also fav-

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red on the Allied advance, and by character, Italians have grown optimistic and actively interested in the war since the offensive started. They have become acutely conscious of the part being played by their countrymen who are fighting in Occupied Italy, and they are curious to know more of the contribution of the Italian armed forces in liberated Italy.

Mr. Churchill's speech created a most favorable impression. For some time the belief had gradually gained ground among many Italians that British policy towards Italy was hard and was largely responsible for the severity of the Argistice terms. Many reports during the last weeks have shown that Italians believe that the Americans show a greater sympathy for Italy's plight than the British, who are often considered to be rather contemptuous towards Italians. Some Italians are firmly convinced that Allied policy in Italy is principally initiated and directed by Great Britain, and, though they may regret this, they watch carefully for any sign of a clarification of policy from Great Britain. Italian annotated that the tone of Mr. Churchill's speech was particularly friendly in the references he made to Italy. The speech could not have come at a more opportune moment, as it did much to encourage those Italians who are taking an active part in the war effort. The praise given to the Italian Air Force, and the promise that the Prime Minister would do everything possible to supply the Air Force with British aircraft, was noted with particular pleasure. The praise given to the Italian navy and the Italian army were also appreciated. The statement that he found it difficult to nourish any feeling of animosity against the Italian people (and the fact that these words were greeted with applause in the House of Commons) was particularly welcome to Italian who are at present suffering from an inferiority complex and a feeling of isolation. The Prime Minister's assurance that the Allies would not permit the establishment of any form of Fascist government, and his expression of confidence in the present democratic government were also favorably received.

After the divergency of views between the Minister of Education and the Rector and students of Bari University has been settled, another dispute arose over Cadeo's decision to re-introduce examinations into the schools. Demonstrations and protests started and spread throughout the schools in Naples. Students refused to attend the schools, manifestos denouncing Cadeo were fixed on the walls, and the words "Death to Cadeo" were chalked up on the walls of the city. No doubt the students were instigated in the demonstrations by interested elements, and, emboldened by the fact that Cadeo appeared to give way over the dispute with Bari University, they probably felt it was sufficient to demonstrate to secure the abolition of the hated examinations. The demonstrations recalled similar ones staged by the Fascists in the early summer of 1940, when young boys were let out of school and marched uproariously through the streets of the principal cities of Italy demanding Italy's entry into the war. It is inconceivable that such demon-

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strations should have broken out spontaneously in Naples, and it is reported that Catholic and monarchist, and neo-Fascist elements were the instigators. Cmodéo takes a serious, long-term view of the educational problem, and believes that the whole system must be reorganized. Hence, in the desire to increase the seriousness of studies in Italian schools, he re-introduced the principle of compulsory examinations. Otherwise the students could get diplomas without having to pass examinations, probably through personal influence. Cmodéo has stated that he will not give way on this issue.

In conversation with a P.M.B. officer, Count Sforza said that he was collecting evidence about the activities of those Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans. As soon as he received such evidence he would bring to punishment those who had been responsible for the crimes of Fascism. He noted how many senior Italian officers were now putting their faith in the Communists, as in this way they thought they could show their dislike of the British and Americans. Moreover, it was easier for them to accept their minds to Communism than to Democracy, as they were accustomed to an authoritarian regime.

Various reactions to Allied propaganda have been received. "Il Mess" continues to be commented on favourably. More recent numbers are reported to have improved in quality. The P.M.B. propaganda shop in Naples has met with a favourable response. The shop is generally crowded and it is said that it brings the Allied war effort home to the Neapolitans. On the other hand the P.M.B. posters have evoked unfavourable comment. In particular the poster telling Italians not to buy today at exaggerated prices in order to be able to buy tomorrow at lower prices has been criticised because it is felt that Italians cannot live on their bare rations and must therefore have recourse to the Black Market. The fear of inflation also acts as an incentive for Neapolitans to buy now. It is felt that propaganda cannot at this stage help to prevent Italians buying, until the fear of inflation is banished and there are more goods on the market. It is suggested that the Allies should open cooperative stores where a sufficient quantity of goods should be on sale at reasonable prices.

Radio Séri and Radio Naples were listened to in the area round Terrecine during the German occupation. "Italia Combatté" was much liked.

The first reports from the territory most recently lib-

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The first reports from the territory most recently liberated speak of German looting and terroristic behaviour. Public utilities are not working, and Terracina, Formia and Littoria have been badly damaged.

In Sicily the fixing of the price of grain at 1000 lire per quintal for hard corn and 900 lire for soft corn has been unfavourably received. It is pointed out that these prices are below those of the actual cost of production in Sicily.

The Christian Democratic Party held a meeting on May 28th in Naples, at which Giulio Rodino, Minister without portfolio, spoke. He made a plea for closer cooperation between the anti-Fascist parties for the better prosecution of the war. He proposed regional and administrative autonomy and the vote for women.

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He suggested the expropriation of large estates and a greater degree of collaboration between capital and labour. Togliatti also addressed a few words on the necessity of a common understanding between Communist workers and Catholic peasants in a democratic and progressive Italy.

The Allied Sub-Commission of fine arts and monuments is supervising the restoration of a number of Churches and other monuments in Sicily. The policy of the Sub-Commission is to patch up the damaged buildings by strengthening walls, and roofs to that these may resist until full restoration can be carried out in more peaceful times. Glass is unprocureable and therefore damaged windows cannot be replaced.

The Archbishop of Palermo has received through the Vatican a large number of messages from Italians in Germany to their relatives in liberated Italy.

High ranking officers of the Italian Comando Supremo were offended at the Prime Minister's admission to mention that Italian troops were fighting in the present offensive. The recent announcement from General Alexander's headquarters that Italian troops had been at the front for the last two months and that they have taken part in the present advance will have done much to soothe ruffled feelings. It is to be noted that the Comando Supremo blames Badoglio for the lack of publicity given to the Italian fighting troops. The Comando Supremo has issued an order that all members of the Armed Forces at present working in other than the Service Ministries are to return to their units. Apparently this order has not been obeyed with alacrity as army and other officers are still to be seen in the government offices at Salerno.

In an interview with a P.M.B. officer, Francesco Corbana, the Minister of Communications stated that the telegraph and mail services were improving in spite of the present difficulties. It was more difficult, he said to improve the railway communications owing to the lack of rolling stock, but many measures have been taken to improve the administration. He suggested that the problem of clothing and feeding railway workers would be tackled and thought that special restaurants should be reopened using the "dopolavoro" premises, and the co-operative shops should be re-organized using the "provvidere" chain of stores.

The appointment of Mario Berlingier to be Assistant High Commissioner for economic affairs has been well received.

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The appointment of Mario Berlingier to be Assistant High Commissioner for epuration has been well received in Sardinia, both because of the high regard in which he is held on the island and because of the appointment is regarded as rectifying the omission of a Sardinian member in the government.

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An interview with a rich Neapolitan industrialist is included. His views are interesting in so far as they probably reflect the views of other of his class.

An appendix containing reports on the activities of the Separatist movement in Sicily is attached.

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ALLIED FORCE IN ITALY MATTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 6
APO 512

Central WDM Section, Italy, (Lib).

June 2, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO 21

Part II Annexes

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RELIABILITY AND EVALUATION

For the purpose of psychological warfare intelligence, this report includes expressions of public opinion, rumours, and statements of fact which it has not been possible to verify.

Unless a report is taken from official sources, or is known by a FIC officer to be true, it will carry one of the following reliability ratings:

<u>Source</u> (reliability)	<u>Report</u> (probability)
A Always reliable	1 confirmed
B Usually reliable	2 probable
C Sometimes reliable	3 possible
D Frequently unreliable	4 doubtful
E A bad source	5 improbable
O not possible to judge	0 not possible to judge

Rumours which are of interest only as such, and are unlikely to have any foundation in fact, will be reported under a heading or in such a context as to make it plain that they are rumours, and will not carry reliability ratings.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS REPORT IS CLASSIFIED 'SECRET'.

A	Always reliable	1	confirmed
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E	a bad source	5	improbable
0	not possible to judge	0	not possible to judge

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2 June 1944

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..... PART II Annexes

1. Interview with Count Sforza.

In conversation with a P3 officer Count Sforza spoke of his work in punishing Fascists for their crimes. He believes that it is essential to strike at those prominent Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans or who had committed atrocities. His committee was collecting material and information on the activities of various prominent Fascists in liberated Italy. As soon as he had evidence he would act. He had been given a completely free hand by the Italian government. His only difficulty was in regard to officers of the Italian army as Badoglio seems anxious to defend all members of the army. For example, the other day he asked the three Service ministers in the presence of Badoglio to give him the names of leading Italian officers who had betrayed the country after the Armistice. Complete silence followed this question and so he said that if they would not give him the names he would have to find them himself as he was determined to do. As this provoked no reply he then said, "Well, what about General Pirzio-Biroli, who had committed a series of atrocities in the Balkans? Badoglio immediately defended Pirzio-Biroli. Notwithstanding this he was determined to make examples of certain leading Generals as soon as he has sufficient evidence to prove their complicity with the Germans. According to the new law he could only punish those Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans since the Armistice.

Sforza was disturbed by the fact that the Carabiniere were going into Rome accompanied by members of the S.I.M. He believed that the S.I.M. was a highly dangerous organization as most of its leaders had collaborated closely with the Germans right up to the Armistice and it was difficult to imagine that they could sit together for this association. Most of them were reactionary and Fascist by nature and he was afraid that if they went into Rome they would instruct or advise the Carabiniere to arrest many of the Italians who had been helping us in Rome during the last few months. So preoccupied was he by the fact that the S.I.M. were going into Rome that he had decided to bring this question up personally with Badoglio.

He believed that there were certain advantages in Badoglio being Prime Minister. He himself liked Badoglio and he felt that many resources could be carried out in the name of Badoglio that it would be more difficult to carry out if he were Prime Minister. Badoglio obviously had a greater following among the armed forces than he had.

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He felt that the demonstrations against Badoglio's measures had been organized by the Catholics and he could not help feeling that Cervolino, the Catholic Undersecretary of State for Education was partly responsible for these demonstrations.

He could not say whether a provisional government might be set up in Rome before the Allies entered although he did not think so. He thought it might be possible.

He further said that the Communists and the Generals were working very closely together in Italy at present. Senior Italian officers were anxious to retain their posts and believed that the Communists were the strongest force in the government. They were therefore determined to cooperate closely together. Moreover it

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was easier for Fascists to move from Fascism to Communism, than from Fascism to Democracy as the two authoritarian systems were more similar. Also the Senior Italian officers found that by moving towards Communism they could vent their profound dislike of England and America. They were less hostile to Russia than they were toward Democratic powers.

2. An interview with Omodeo

In conversation with a J.B officer Adolfo Omodeo, the Minister of Education, spoke of the recent protests raised by his measures desiring to suppress the additional faculties established at Bari University, and the Ministero at Salerno. Omodeo believed that it was necessary to reform and recreate the whole structure of Italian education which had been corrupted by Fascism. One of the most serious problems which would confront any democratic government would be the education of youth. There may be a few young men here and there who had reacted against Fascism and who had remained uncorrupted but the mass of students had unfortunately been consciously or unconsciously influenced by Fascism. This work of reconstruction would only be completed in a great many years. In universities and schools many professors and teachers had been appointed solely through their Fascist merits and through intrigue. Many scholarly serious teachers and professors had been excluded from universities and schools because they would not compromise with Fascism. Particularly in Southern Italy there was a paucity of qualified teachers. The standard of Education had been gradually lowered during the last 20 years. The seriousness of studies had been undermined. Omodeo thought that it was essential to take a long term view of education in Italy and it was therefore imperative to strike at the roots of the problem now. With the present scarcity of teachers and professors he thought it unwise to create new faculties in a university like Bari or to found a Ministero at Salerno. However it had never been his intention to suppress the faculty at Bari or the Ministero in Salerno immediately. He had envisaged a gradual process. Tracaccretta, the rector of the University of Bari, had acted precipitately by resigning without consulting Omodeo; as soon as he had heard of Tracaccretta's resignation, he asked him to come to Salerno so that he could explain his measures in detail. As a result of this conversation they were in agreement but unfortunately when the Bari rector returned to Bari he published a communiqué stating that Omodeo had retreated from his position. This was not the case.

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Onoedo drew a distinction between the protests aroused in Bari and the demonstrations now going on in the various schools against his measures to re-introduce examinations into the schools. These demonstrations he believed were organized by Catholics and monarchists and were only too reminiscent of the demonstrations arranged and organized by the Fascists in 1940 when young boys were given a day's holiday in the schools to make demonstrations in favor of entering the war. The Minister was determined to stand firm on this question as he believed that it is essential for students to pass examinations if they are to receive diplomas or degrees. Otherwise the whole seriousness of studies in Italy would be undermined. A fundamental principle was raised by this issue and he would take the necessary action to see that these examinations were enforced. As more of Italy is liberated he hoped there would be a greater supply of qualified professors and teachers as the better ones were mostly in Northern Italy.

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The Minister then went on to speak of his other post of defascistization. He was setting up a small office to deal with this problem. He believed it was essential to remove Fascists from office not only in liberated Italy but in German-occupied Italy so that there would be one standard by which all these men could be judged. It would certainly be easier to remove Fascist elements in Northern Italy because there would be a greater volume of evidence testifying to their collaboration with the Germans.

Omodeo then went on to speak of relations between Democratic Italy and the Allies. He hoped that the Allies would gradually have more confidence in the intentions of the new Italy. He welcomed Mr. Churchill's speech as indicative of the greater confidence the New Italian Government had acquired in England. He hoped that the Allies would treat Italy less as a conquered power than as a country which was anxious to collaborate with the war effort. Otherwise we would be repeating the same mistake we had made with Democratic Germany after the last war. It is essential to build up the prestige of democracy in Italy so that the democratic leaders would gain the confidence and support of the Italian people.

3. Difference of Opinion between Musotto and Aldisio

Serious divergences of opinion have occurred between M.E. Aldisio, Minister of the Interior, in the course of his visit to Palermo, and the High Commissioner for Sicily, Musotto.

It was noted that Musotto was not present at the dinner offered in honour of Aldisio by the Committee of Liberation at the Messimo Restaurant on the 5th of May, but dined in another restaurant with the Minister of Public Works, Albert Tarchiani.

The cause for the divergences was believed primarily to be Aldisio's decided stand against Separatism. He expressed his determination to do all in his power to eradicate it in Sicily. Musotto, while not belonging officially to any party, is known on the other hand for his Separatist leanings.

Aldisio himself told a FBI officer that he mistrusts Musotto as having been connected with the Separatists.

4. Sardinian Reaction to Berlinguer's Appointment.

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4. Sardinian Reaction to Berlinguer's Appointment.

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Italian collaborators in Cagliari and Sassari report the appointment of Mario Berlinguer to be Assistant High Commissioner for Sardinia has been very well received in Sardinia, both because of the high regard in which Berlinguer is held in the island, and because the appointment is regarded as to some extent rectifying the omission of a Sardinian member in the new government.

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5. Ministry of the Interior - The New Press Bureau

In an interview with a PAB officer, Signor Sansonetti complained that like many other Government officials, he had no car, a fact which added greatly to his difficulties. He stated that it was proposed to found a Government Press Bureau in order to disseminate information concerning the work of the Cabinet and Italian affairs in general. He hoped that this would facilitate matters for Allied officers and journalists and reduce the number of interviews required of busy officials.

Among other subjects discussed was the lack of outside news in Italy. In some villages newspapers were scarce and there was a demand for wall newspapers such as are now being exhibited in the towns. As for himself, he wished that he could see more American and British newspapers and periodicals as he was uninformed about public opinion and trend of ideas abroad, and he knew he was not alone in this matter. He felt that this was a matter not only for official press and propaganda bureaus, but also for Allied officers and officials throughout the whole of liberated Italy.

6. Interview with F. E. Cerabona, Minister for Communications, Salerno, 26.5.44.

Sig. Cerabona belongs to the Labour Democracy Party.

Sig. Cerabona states that telegraph and mail are improving every day in spite of the present difficulties. Naturally on the main roads it certainly will be very difficult if to provide proper communications for small centres.

The same improvements are to be noted for motor coach connections from town to town. Private firms were asked in a rather compulsory way to provide motor coaches, appealing to their patriotism and threatening to take away licenses. The tables have been reasonably revised so as to be more convenient to the usual customers.

Direct connections between Potenza and Salerno, Bari and Naples are planned.

With regard to railway lines, big improvements cannot be expected for lack of rolling stock, but a number of measures have been taken for a better running of the administration. For example

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With regard to railway lines, big improvements cannot be expected for lack of rolling stock, but a number of measures have been taken for a better running of the administration. For example there is much speculation on the sale of railway tickets. Increasing the number of ticket offices should prevent the speculation, while tickets will be checked as they should bear the number of the personal identification card.

The whole Province has not a single station functioning. The Minister suggests that the solution can be found only with the help of the Allies.

Another urgent problem to solve is the housing and the feeding of railway workers. Special restaurants should be reopened using the "Dopolavoro" premises, cooperative shops should be re-organized using the "Provvida" chain of stores.

Another scandalous matter should be settled immediately;

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robbery of goods from railway trucks. A special "guard" should be organized, being careful not to include personnel of the old Fascist militia, which was very dishonest.

These are small matters, but it is urgent to stop all these abuses. Minister Cerabonni hopes for a closer collaboration of railway men's unions.

The main objective certainly is to find a sufficient number of railway trucks to transport goods from one province to another, which would mean a partial solution of the Italian alimentary problem, but this matter is out of the Minister's competence as organization of railway trucks is under ACC control.

The Minister counts on the willing collaboration of the Italian people. (S-2).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

7. New Prefect of Palermo

G. E. Paolo d'Antona, formerly Prefect of Trapani, has been appointed the new Prefect of Palermo by the Minister of the Interior.

ARMED FORCES

8. Reaction to German and Fascist Prisoners

On May 30th a party of German and Fascist prisoners were landed at Pozzuoli (Naples) and drove through the streets on lorries. Many of the Italians were wearing the black shirt, and one of them shouted to the crowd, "Who commands here? A Carabinieri answered, "The Carabinieri and His Majesty the King." Another voice from the lorry, in purest Italian, asked for fruit, as they passed a cart loaded with oranges and lemons. A small group of people threw about ten pieces of fruit in all, and the I.P.'s intervened.

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other, which would mean a partial solution of the Italian alimentary problem, but this matter is out of the Minister's competence as organization of railway trucks is under ACC control.

The Minister counts on the willing collaboration of the Italian people. (B-2).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

7. New Prefect of Palermo

M. S. Paolo d'Antona, formerly Prefect of Trapani, has been appointed the new Prefect of Palermo by the Minister of the Interior.

ARMED FORCES

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On May 30th a party of German and Fascist prisoners were landed at Pozzuoli (Naples) and drove through the streets on lorries. Many of the Italians were wearing the black shirt, and one of them shouted to the crowd, "Who commands here?" A Carabinieri answered, "The Carabinieri and His Majesty the King." Another voice from the lorry, in purest Italian, asked for fruit, as they passed a cart loaded with oranges and lemons. A small group of people threw about ten pieces of fruit in all, and the I.P.'s intervened.

The crowd as a whole appeared indifferent both to the German and Italian prisoners, though one or two of them were heard referring in low voices that "they were also brothers" (presumably referring to the Italians).

The Lieutenant of Carabinieri, who supplied this report to an Italian collaborator of P.M., expressed the profoundest contempt for the population of Pozzuoli, who, he said, were ready to accept any regime, but he strenuously denied the report, current in Naples, that there had been a demonstration of enthusiasm for the prisoners. He thought that the people who threw the fruit did so only out of pity for the tired prisoners. The Carabinieri find this often happens when they are escorting a prisoner in handcuffs. (32)

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9. Interviews with General Infanti and General Kossí.

An Italian collaborator with RAB visited General Infanti of the Italian Comando Supremo at Cava dei Tirreni on 25/3/44.

General Infanti was formerly military attaché at London and Washington and during the war he commanded a division in Greece. He returned to his country from Greece in the early part of this year.

General Infanti expressed considerable satisfaction that Italian combatant troops, equipped with Italian material, are fighting alongside the Allies. He was disappointed that more material had not been assigned to the Italians considering the amount captured by the Allies in Sicily. The General mentioned that there were 20,000 Italian fighting troops and 10,000 other Italian soldiers in the line, and that 300 Italian soldiers had been wounded during the first days of the new offensive.

Touching on the destruction the German soldiers may do during their retreat General Infanti remarked that the Comando Supremo was in contact with the Fascist Republican Army to avoid as much destruction as possible, or at the least to restrict it.

General Kossí, of S.I.C., was very indignant that in his recent speech during the debate in the House of Commons on Foreign Policy, Churchill had omitted to mention that Italian troops were playing an active part in the operations, when according to Kossí, these troops are taking part in the actual battle. In connection with the same subject General Kossí launched into a tirade against the Italian Government's Press Office, and in particular against Marshal Badoglio, whom he accused of not knowing how to defend Italy's interests. (B 3)

10. Officers of the Armed Forces in the Ministries.

The Salerno public is reported to disapprove of the sight of army officers in the Ministries (no reference to the three military ones) for two reasons: firstly, because it is thought that the place for army officers is in the zone of operations, in view of Government declarations about the maximum war effort; and secondly, because suspicions are aroused that these officers are instruments of the reactionary monarchy and the High Command, who want to keep a watch on civilian organisations. Certainly the order put out by the High Command to the effect that all members

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PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

11 The Demo-Christian meeting of the 28th May.

There were about 500 people in the theatre, mostly middle-class people, shopkeepers, farmers and lawyers. There were practically no workers and only one priest. A large percentage of the audience consisted of elderly people.

A lot of personalities were present: Aldisio, Jervolino, Togliatti for the Communists, Altavilla for the Liberals, Ferrarriello for the Combatants Association.

The main speaker was Giulio Rodino, Minister without Portfolio. The main point of his carefully prepared speech was to plead for cooperation between the anti-Fascist parties for the better prosecution of the war. He sketched the general programme and (highly moral) principles of the Demo-Christian party: the delicate institutional question was to be postponed till the liberation of Italy. It is to be noted that the present Demo-Christian leaders, who still nourish slightly philo-monarchical sentiments, are in fact soft peddling the subject and wisely, as it is reported that the audience at this meeting gave a cold reception to all references to the monarchy.

Rodino further proposed regional and administrative autonomy and the vote for women (very much influenced by the Church), and stressed the importance of the pater-families in the life of the commune. He also suggested the expropriation of big property and a greater degree of collaboration between capital and labour, to the point of introducing co-responsibility for the workers.

When he mentioned the Government's work to improve the economic situation, the audience showed far more lively interest, and when he stressed the words "with the necessary approval of the allies", voices retorted with such phrases as "hurry up or it will be too late". However, all references to the war were loudly approved with shouts of "Long live Churchill" and "Long live Russia".

On the whole the atmosphere of the meeting seemed most dignified and confident, but there was one black spot in the proceedings: a motion read out by avv. Riccio attacking Onofrio's educational decrees. The rather embarrassing atmosphere was not relieved by a student's enthusiastic shout of "Eia Eia for Rodino" because the next speaker, Jervolino, Demo-Christian Minister for Education, for some reason, had not mentioned Rodino's name.

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The Minister Aldisio next spoke a few words of moderation to calm down the audience. He was followed by Lt. Col. Milnesi and by Toglietti who, continually pressed by the Demo-Christians and by briefly on the common understanding that must be found between Communist workers and Catholic peasants in a democratic and progressive Italy. These most accommodating (and shrewd) words were received with trust and pleasure by the audience. (B-2).

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12 The Monarchist Liberal Association.

In an interview with a P.M.E. officer, the young but cautious Umberto Jorio, former secretary of the party, gave the information that a new national committee had been formed on 15th May, composed of older and more experienced men:

- Prince Colonna (president as before)
- ..vv. Crispo
- Gen. Filange (not serving)
- ..vv. Eglington
- Prof. Sgarbi
- ..vv. Canale Coma
- ..vv. Caricci-Ferrari

He pointed out that the organization was not strictly a party. It had not adhered to the Democratic Front. Members of all parties could join as long as they were monarchist. Many had. ..vv. Crispo, for instance, was a member of the Demo-Christian party (an interesting link). There were also about 200 Communist peasants, who, he alleged, had been forced to join the Communist party and had now come to reaffirm their loyalty to the monarchy. Altogether the secretary said, there were about 20,000 adherents, mostly professional men, students, and farmers.

In a talk with a collaborator, Gen. Filange was also very cautious but even more cautious, denying any connection with any political party. (C-2).

13 Interview with Menlio D'Ambrosio.

On the 23rd May, Menlio D'Ambrosio, former deputy and president of the Social Democratic Party, in an interview with a P.M.E. officer explained that he had been elected deputy in 1922, 1924 and also in 1925, when he was the only anti-Fascist in Italy elected. He had studied and written much on social problems and was very interested in the Beveridge plan. He said that in the eventful days of last autumn he had lost his brother and his wife and so had not felt like joining the Liberation Committee at that time. On the advice of Croce he had retired to Sorrento for a rest. But the Social Democratic party was very ancient, and to prove this he pulled out a 1924 election poster of himself as candidate for the Social Democratic party. He therefore did not see why his party had not been included in the Liberation Committee. He declared

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v.v. Carlotto-Ferrari

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In a talk with a collaborator, Gen. Falanga was also very courteous but even more cautious, denying any connection with any political party. (C-2).

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He assured the writer, that the common ground on which the new Democratic Front had met was a fundamental belief in the democratic rights of the people. For this reason the monarchist association and the Demo-Liberal Party had withdrawn. His own party had no prejudice for the monarchy. The provisional Lieutenantcy of the Realm seemed to him quite satisfactory. He added that only a week ago he had been summoned to see the prince, who felt the need to give certain explanations for his statement in the Times interview. D'Ambrosio admitted that certain remarks

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about the Italian people were unfortunate but he said that the Prince had allowed him to give the official explanation to his party that the journalists had only come on an informal chat and that when being asked over the telephone for permission to publish what he had asked to see the text that was to be sent, the journalist had informed him that the article had already been released for publication. (E-3).

(A member of the Italian Foreign Office who has arranged the interview between the Crown Prince and the Times Correspondent told a P.M.B. officer that the Times correspondent had shown his message to him before sending it to London. He immediately got in touch with the A.D.C. of the Crown Prince and suggested that certain passages should be deleted. He was told that those were the views of the Prince and that the latter wished the message to go out as it stood.)

14. Marxist Movement at Torre Annunziata.

It is reported that on the 13th May a newspaper was circulating in Torre Annunziata called "Il Pensiero Marxista" (this paper has also appeared in Naples), supposed to be printed in Bari. The fact that the majority of articles were signed by people living in Torre Annunziata, however, raises some doubts as to its origin. The aim of the paper seems to be to popularise Marxist-Communist theories, but they differ from the official Communist Party in their refusal to collaborate with other parties. The editors, who are said to be people expelled from the official party, accuse the Communist Party leaders of having betrayed the working class by collaborating with the "bourgeois" parties, and claim that it is a contradiction to fight against fascism, collaborating with the very classes which brought it about. It is because the bourgeois classes are responsible for the rise of fascism that the class struggle is essential.

The publication of this newspaper, is considered, by a local Italian observer to be the first public action of the Communists who have split from the party, and all these dissident elements, at present unorganised, may well join together and form a new party. (C-3).

15. Toslietti in Sicily.

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15 Togliatti in Sicily.

Palmiro Togliatti, head of the Italian Communist Party, 3455 was in Palermo on the 7th of May, for an extremely short visit. He left again the same evening. Togliatti has chosen as his Capo Gabinetto Professor Graffeo one of the leaders of the Communist Party in Palermo. Graffeo has returned to Naples with Togliatti. (C-3).

16 Political parties at Messina.

The following political parties are at the moment represented in Messina Province:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Partito Repubblicano | 5. Partito del Lavoro |
| 2. Partito Repubblicano-Socialista | 6. Partito Democratico-Christiano |
| 3. Partito Socialista-Italiana | 7. Partito Democratico-Siciliano
(separatista) |
| 4. Partito Comunista | 8. Partito Democratico Sociale |
| | 9. Partito Liberale (Legge Italiana) |

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17 Sicilian Christian-Democrat Party.

The leader of the Sicilian Christian Democrat Party, Avv. Bernardo Mattarella, concluded on Wednesday 17th May, a four day visit to the Province of Trapani where he headed a drive to strengthen the organization and increase the members of his party.

18 Political situation in Ragusa and Siracusa Province, Sicily.

The political situation continues to be rather agitated, and the activity especially of the separatist (Free Sicily) party has noticeably increased. The separatists, finding themselves unpopular with all other anti-Fascist parties, are now resorting to more violent methods of propaganda, such as issuing public threats to their opponents, and even creating street-brawls. With the opening of the new Allied Offensive in Italy, there has been, among the civil population, a revival of interest in the outcome of the war, and capture of Rome is awaited in the quarters with interest. Petty thieving and black-marketeering are still rife, but less noticeable, owing to repressive measures by the Italian police authorities.

19 Democrazia Sociale.

The first regional meeting of the Partito Democratico Sociale in Sicily was held in Termini on the 21st and 22nd May 1944. Present were On. Guerino Lambello, leader of the Party, Ch. Spitta of Messina, On. Ferando of Catania, Ardizzone Siodaco of Catania, Stanchielli Prefect of Messina, and some two hundred delegates. Approximately two hundred telegrams were received from others who were not able to attend. All the provinces with the exception of Palermo and Trapani were represented.

The assembly expressed itself in favor of regional autonomy conceived in terms of three regions for Italy. It emphasized unity. The crisis was made that the Democrazia Sociale was more closely aligned with the Partito Democratico Sociale was more representative of it than On. La Loggia's party, the Partito Laburista Riformista (which has now been officially recognized as representing the Democrazia del Lavoro in Sicily). A commission was set up to re-examine and establish the definitive programme of the party.

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1a. Democrazia Sociale.

The first regional meeting of the Partito Democratico Sociale in Sicily was held in Taormina on the 21st and 22nd May 1944. Present were Ch. Guarino Amabile, leader of the Party, Ch. Saitta of Messina, Ch. Ferraro of Catania, Arcizzone sindaco of Catania, Stancanelli Prefect of Messina, and some two hundred delegates. Approximately two hundred telegrams were received from others who were not able to attend. All the provinces with the exception of Palermo and Trapani were represented.

The assembly expressed itself in favor of regional autonomy conceived in terms of three regions for Italy. It emphasized at the same time the necessity of maintaining Italian national unity. The claim was made that the Democrazia Sociale was more closely aligned with the Partito Democratico del Lavoro and more representative of it than Ch. La Loggia's party, the Partito Laburista Riformista (which has now been officially recognized as representing the Democrazia del Lavoro in Sicily). A commission was set up to re-examine and establish the definitive programme of the party.

An order of the day was passed recommending that the price of grain be fixed at 2000 lire per quintal for hard wheat and 1800 lire per quintal for soft.

20 Party of Union in Sicily.

The Partito di Unione, which already exists in Brindisi and Catania, announced the formation of a local committee in Palermo on the 24th May, 1944 (anniversary of Italy's entry into the last Great War on the side of the Allies.)

The Governing Committees of the Palermo branch is composed of well-to-do gentlemen, with strong monarchist leanings and a vague liberal tradition.

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The founder of the party is Marchese Ammiraglio Gaspar Grenafel at Brindisi, its leader in Catania is Prince Borghese, Duce di Caracci (of Naples), and of the governing committee in Palermo is as follows:

Prince Vincenzo Vanni di San Vincenzo
Stefano Cianciolo
Antonio Migliozzi
Marchese Giuseppe Spadefora
Mario Tonelli
Gabriele Martinez
Giuseppe Coppola
Prince Filiberto Castelcicala
Giovanni Mirale

The Party of Union in Palermo considers itself attached to the regular constituted Liberal Party, but accepts the leadership of De Nicolo, who is a monarchist, rather than of Croce.

The Party has already had a considerable adherence of young members, owing to the fact that some 500 persons belonging to the Sezione Giovanile of the Lega Italiana recently seceded from this body and formed the Unione Giovanile Italiana. This body is said to have been organized rather on Fascist lines.

During the conversation which preceded the formation of the Partito di Unione, Prince Mirto of the Lega Italiana opposed its foundation and then tried to put himself at the head of it; he claimed to have a following of 200,000 persons (presumably in the Lega Italiana) and therefore to have the right to incorporate the new monarchist party under his leadership. No one else, he quite rightly said, had any following at all. He was however, discarded from the Governing Committee of the Partito di Unione, and suffered a further reverse when Prince Borghese arrived in Catania from Naples ostensibly to be at the head of the Lega Italiana, but instead joined the Partito di Unione. The programme was drawn up and the Governing Committee formed on the 18th May, 1944.

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RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION

21 Restoration of Churches and Monuments in Sicily.

Fifty-five churches and thirty-one monuments are under reparation in Palermo. The policy of the Allied Sub-Commission for Arts and Monuments has been where possible to preserve the structure of ancient monuments and buildings until such time as they can be fully restored. With this in mind, walls have been strengthened, roofs mended, and precious art treasures removed to places of safety. Owing to the shortage of glass, however, windows cannot be replaced.

All churches, except those destroyed beyond reparation, have now been sufficiently restored to be used again for Divine Worship.

22 Messages from Occupied Territory

Cardinal Levitrano, Archbishop of Palermo, has received from the Vatican 20,000 messages from Italians in German-occupied territory to relatives in liberated territory and elsewhere. About 65,000 are directed to families in Sicily.

23 The Refugee Problem: Interview with Zaniboni.

Interviews by a FIB officer on the 26th day, Signor Zaniboni explained the refugee problem in the following manner:

1. Employment - It is necessary to know what are the needs of employment in the various provinces, but great care must be taken to avoid the dispersal of families and even of groups. Linked up with this question is the problem of housing, since accommodation in Southern Italy is already overcrowded in peacetime. In Calabria the problem would be simplified as there was plenty of wood and huts could be erected. In other districts empty houses would have to be requisitioned.

2. Transport - At the present moment Signor Zaniboni has at

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2. Transport - At the present moment Signor Zaniboni has at his disposal only one broken down car that can barely do the trip from Salerno to Naples and is constantly out of order. The refugee organization requires a minimum of eighteen cars at least which would mean one for each provincial representative, and this requirement does not take into account the transportation of the refugees and their possessions.

3. Supplies - For the first month of their reception, the refugees are very well fed according to standards prevailing in Italy today, since they have 300 gr. of bread and 200 gr. of pasta per diem at the Allied reception centres. Indeed since many of them have been living on grass and wandering about the mountains, they are in danger of suffering from surfeit. One vital difficulty for them when they are launched into normal life is that they have no reserves of food or money, and that the bare rations as now issued are insufficient. Similarly most of them have only the clothes they are wearing and neither bedding or blankets. Some help has

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been given by the Allies in this respect, including clothing from the States and blankets from Army stores, but not sufficient to cover past or present needs which are growing from day to day. Special rations, too, are required for babies and expectant mothers, besides clothing and medical supplies.

4. Subsidies and allowances - The present rate is 12 lire a day for individuals, 10 lire a day for heads of families and 8 lire a day for children. This sum is clearly less than insufficient and will have to be increased.

Signor Onesta, Lamboni's secretary, commented on the disillusionment which seized the refugees when they passed the lines and were treated roughly by the Germans. Usually they were impressed by their reception by the British or American troops, but occasionally even these behaved as if they were in enemy territory. As the refugees have frequently risked their lives and possessions to cross the lines, it would seem advisable to do everything to keep their esteem as they consider the Allied troops to be their deliverers.

EMIGRATION

24. A.I.C. and A.C.C. action with regard to Emigration.

Prior to February 11th, 1944, when the Italian Government took over the administration of Sicily, 78 dismissals were made in schools and universities by A.I.C. and A.C.C. Only one dismissal has occurred after February 11th although A.C.C. has recommenced the dismissal of 282 educational authorities. The following table shows the number of cases examined; the recommendation for dismissal and dismissals actually effected, in each of the nine provinces.

EVALUATION OF EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN REGION ONE
as of April 30, 1944.

PRACTICE	CASES EXAMINED	DISS. ISS. TO 11TH FEB.	DISS. ISS. BY A.I.C. TO 11TH FEB.	DISS. ISS. TOTAL
		1	1	2

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EVALUATION OF EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN REGION ONE
As of April 30, 1944.

PROVINCE	CASES EXAMINED	DISMISSALS RECOMMENDED	DISMISSALS EFFECTED	TOTAL
Acricento	23	10	6	16
Caltanissetta	34	6	29	35
Catania	356	20	16	108
Enna	792	7	191	10
Messina	225	8	2	177
Palermo	366	13	164	66
Reggio	664	1	87	64
Siracusa	5	6	58	25
Trepani	142	6	19	

PROVINCE	CASES EXAMINED	DISMISSALS RECOMMENDED	DISMISSALS EFFECTED	TOTAL
Acricento	23	10	6	16
Caltanissetta	34	6	29	35
Catania	356	20	16	108
Enna	792	7	191	10
Messina	225	8	2	177
Palermo	366	13	164	66
Reggio	664	1	87	64
Siracusa	5	6	58	25
Trepani	142	6	19	

Note 1 Dismissal recommended by A.C.C. educational authorities.

Note 2 Represents total of dismissals and recommendations for dismissal

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25 Reports from Catania

Reports from Catania stress the lack of activity in epuration there and the prevalent discontent among the people when they find the same officials in government and business offices today as were there before the Allied landings. This is reported to be particularly the case in those offices which deal with the distribution of petrol, lubricating oils and those that issue travel permits. The same criticism is made of the officials of the prefecture, that they fail to realize that they live in new times.

It appears that the good intentions of the Commissioner and sub-commissioners for the liquidation of fascist firms and enterprises are frequently obstructed by other organizations and more particularly by officials of the Ministry of Finance. Recently the salaries of employees in these concerns, which had been set at a certain rate by A.C.C., have suffered what amounts to a 10 per cent reduction.

26 Removal of Celentan

Ing. Celentan, Ungaro - Administrative Director of the Apulian Water Company.

It will be remembered that Engineer Celentan's case was not brought before the Bari provincial council of epuration. On 22/5, Celentan was removed from his post on the order of Signor Tarchiani, Minister of Public Works in the Italian Government.

EDUCATION

27 Translation of poster stuck up on walls of Naples on May 30th.
STUDENTS!

Our colleagues in all the towns of liberated Italy, from every class and every sort of school, inspired by moving sentiments of solidarity, are solicited by an invincible sense of wounded dignity, are continuing their protests by staying out of school.

We in Naples will do no less! The decision of thousands of students is united and unchangeable; not to return to school unless the measure is cancelled!

An attempt to oppress the free will of the student youth

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An attempt to oppress the free will of the student youth by forcing it to accept untimely and irrational measures, with a dictatorial intemperance which is positively Fascist, is clearly sabotage of the rebirth of the Italian conscience.

Do not let us be overcome by threats and by that cowardice which kept us slaves of Fascism for over twenty years, but let us abstain from noisy, disorderly demonstrations, avoiding dangerous disorder which interferes with allied traffic: the best demonstration of our strength is to stay out of school.

The whole people must take part in our initiative, encouraging their children to persevere and care everything in order to bring about the victory of right and justice.

If the Minister Cioceco wants to save the dignity and serious character of study:

LET HIM RESIGN

THE STUDENTS

END

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28 The Students on Strike

The fact that in Salerno as in Naples high-spirited high school boys demonstrated and scribbled on walls is not in itself important. That is significant is the scientific organization of the demonstrations. It is estimated that about 4000 students took part in Naples. It is reported that at Naples, Salerno, Nocera and Avellino, there were pickets of boys blocking the entrances of the schools. Printed leaflets attacking the Minister were distributed in the Naples and Salerno districts. But leaflets cost money. In fact two boys, who were distributing them near Salerno, on being asked by an informant, admitted that "others" printed them and handed them out for distribution. The Demo-Christians and the anarchists are those most interested to fan the flames. The former see their religious institutes and certain points of the concordat imperiled by the rather impetuous Minister of Education; the latter are tired of the opportunity to embarrass one of their greatest opponents.

In the political sphere, the observer remarks that the other parties realize that this criticism of Crocero reflects on the whole Government but have evidently not been too eager to come out wholeheartedly in his defense. Indeed, though L'Avvenire, organ of his own party, came out in defense of the Minister in its May 27th number, it is reported that Crocero has come in for considerable inside criticism. (C-2 & B-2)

In the meantime there has been a slight lull. It is reported that on 31st May most of the boys had gone back regularly to work. (Questura report.)

29 Elementary School Textbooks in Sicily

Expurgated and revised reprints of the standard elementary school textbooks have now been published or are in the course of preparation for all except the First Class. All elementary schools are thus being serviced with regular state school textbooks.

In order to accelerate the production of elementary school textbooks one important change has however been made. This year, owing to the lack of paper and the short time available, only the urban series of elementary school textbooks has been published. Rural schools will therefore have to base their elementary school

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30 Elementary School Attendance in Sicily

Approximately 85,600 children, or 20% of those inscribed in the elementary schools are not attending school at the present time. It is estimated that slightly more than one-half these, or 12%, are not attending school because of poverty, illness, lack of clothing such as shoes, etc.

There appears to be no great variation as to provinces as the percentage of absences estimated due to poverty ranged from 13% in Palermo and Messina provinces to 9% in Trapani and Enna.

Nor does there appear to be great variation between rural and urban centers.

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The percent of absences due to poverty in Palermo was 2,649 or 13% of the total enrollment while in the province 8,808 absences were recorded due to poverty, which was 15% of the total enrollment.

31 A.C.C. Basic Recommendations for Education in Sicily

Certain basic changes have been recommended by the A.C.C. educational authorities in Palermo for Sicily. They are:

1. Add one year to the elementary school.
2. Establish 4 year common secondary schools providing for general education only.
3. Establish 3 year superior secondary schools providing for general and special education.
4. Establish magistero schools (for the function of teacher education) in enough universities so that the needs for elementary and secondary school teachers will be cared for.

HEALTH

52 Effects of the Honesty Crusade

The ecclesiastical authorities are continuing to encourage young women in Naples to take part in the Honesty Crusade, and the effects of this, according to a local observer, are already noticeable. He reports that evening classes are being held in many churches, in which the immoral behaviour of many women is strongly concerned and depressed. Prostitution is said to be showing a tendency to decrease. This is largely because less Allied troops are stationed in Naples, but there has been an improvement independently of this, and the population is sure that the Honesty Crusade will be wholly successful. (C-3)

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ECONOMIC

Sicilian reactions to the fixing of the price of grain.

The most debated matter in Sicily, since the government announcement, has been the fixing of the price of grain for producers at 1000 lire per quintal for hard corn and 800 for soft corn.

When this price was published on May 17th, there was an immediate and almost unanimous reaction against it, both on the part of consumers and producers. The political parties and other groups, as well as people in all walks of life are reported by the P/B officer in Palermo to take a decidedly unfavourable attitude.

It would seem that all classes of the Sicilian population feel that the new Granzi del Popolo will attempt to collect grain in Sicily to ship to the mainland of Italy. Everyone is therefore determined to force the Italian government to recognise the maximum claims of consumers (as regards the amounts of bread and pasta needed by each person) and of producers (as regards the price to be paid for the grain).

FSP reports state that discontent is felt among the farmers in Catania, Ragusa and Siracusa provinces, as farmers find they cannot meet costs of production and sell at the price offered. In Catania local agriculturists had been heartened by an article in the "Corriere" which propounded prices ranging from 1600 to 1900 lire per quintal for local grain and were seriously disappointed by the official prices of 800 to 1000 lire per quintal. It may be expected that this dissatisfaction will find a ready outlet by disregard of the Granzi del Popolo and consigning of crops to the more profitable Black Market. Unless local conditions of labour and production it is likely that while the Granzi are work in Italy, it certainly will not do so in Sicily.

Sicilian Food prices.

There has been a marked rise in the price of essential food-stuff on the Black Market during the last few months. The table below shows the comparative scale of Black Market prices for three commodities in September 1942 before the Allied landing, in November 1943, after four months of Allied occupation, and in May 1944 after ten months of Allied occupation.

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(In lire per kilo or litre)		May 1944	
Bread	23	September 1942	November 1943
Sugar	-		80
Oil	28		129
			114
			180

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Flour of peas, widely used as a useful and nourishing foodstuff by poor people, rose about the middle of April from approximately 50 lire the kilo to 80 lire.

Another class least priced some six months ago at 100 lire the kilo has now reached the new high point of 300 lire.

Two commodities, however, are selling on the market at less exorbitant prices. One is fish and the other is fresh beans. The price of fish has recently declined, sardines for instance selling at 30 lire per kilo, whereas at the turn of the year they cost 70 to 80. The drop in the price of fish can be explained firstly by the withdrawal of Allied fishing restrictions

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taken by the seasonal catches of elalunga, tunny, and swordfish (elalunga for instance cost 100 lire per kilo in April, and only cost 90 lire per kilo now); and finally by the absence of oil on the market which was restricted both the canning industry and the purchase of fish for domestic use as the ordinary person likes to eat fish cooked in oil. (22)

12. The distribution of oil in Sicily.

Beginning May 22nd oil will be distributed in Sicily. The price of oil is 77 lire a litre.

13. Mixed cereals for bread making.

The suggestion has been made that the bread ration may be increased by means of using a mixture of wheat, barley, bean and chickpea flour.

A former president of the Palermo Province bread consortium makes the following comment on this suggestion:

One of the chief objections to the Fascist regime in Italy during recent years was the fact that the bread ration of 150 gr. was totally inadequate, and was moreover made with a mixture of wheat flour and various coarse kinds of flour. The Italian people would rather have a small quantity of bread which is well made and can be safely given to children, than a larger but unwise and bad policy to repeat the mistake made by the Fascists. It would be much better to distribute flour made from barley, beans, chickpeas etc., separately, in addition to the bread and pasta ration. "The distribution of bread made with a mixture of different kinds of flour would certainly cause general discontent among the population and would give rise to comparisons with the Fascist regime and the justification of many of its actions."

FINANCE

14. Interview with Signor Passenti.

In the course of a conversation with a PAB officer, Signor Passenti, Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Finance, dealt with some of the monetary problems of the moment. Inflation, he said, was one of two causes, the first to under-production, and the second to the amount of money put into circulation by the allies. It was therefore most urgent, for the sake of financial

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One of the factors that brought about a scarcity of goods and a rise in prices in goods of all categories was the amount of money spent by the Allied soldiers, who bought food in large quantities, as well as articles of clothing and everyday utility. The restrictions imposed up to the present have not been sufficiently effective, and we hoped that the authorities concerned would give the question further consideration.

Another feature of the present situation is that with the increasing scarcity of some goods, money is losing its intrinsic value and workers prefer to be paid in kind. Speaking frankly, we said that conditions prevailing now were beginning to react unfavourably on the Allies, not only from the political and propaganda point of view, but also materially since it affected every aspect of human activity in Italy.

In regard to future problems, Signor Presenti did not believe that they would be radically affected by the liberation of Northern Italy, since he did not believe that the Germans had circulated as many notes as was generally rumored, and the Republican fascists had only made one issue since last October. In actual fact, prices in many parts of the occupied territory were considerably lower than in the south. In any case, as far as currency was concerned, he thought that no sweeping reforms could be made until the Germans were driven out beyond the border. Possibly, since the north was richer industrially and otherwise, production could be increased. In any case it should be noted that the circulation in Southern Italy was only one seventh of the whole country.

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The "Sicilia Liberata" Controversy.

"Sicilia Liberata", the F.W.B. Palermo daily newspaper, has consistently maintained a high standard of production and has been well supplied with Allied news through the United Nations News Service. Nevertheless, discontent grew among responsible people and members of the different parties because of its alleged Separatist tendency and the political manoeuvring of its editorial staff. Many small incidents occurred in the past, which did not go unnoticed by the party leaders, nor always by their newspapers. Two events, however, brought the whole matter to a head, and precipitated a local crisis.

The first of these was the report published in "Sicilia Liberata" on Thursday, 11th May, 1944, of a meeting of "Presidenti delle Deputazioni Provinciali" and of the "Sindaci dell' Isola". The meeting was called together on the 10th of May and presided over by Cav. Lucio Tasca, Sindaco of Palermo, a leading Separatist, and it voted an order of the day which was a clear expression of the Separatist political programme.

There was some doubt as to whether Tasca had the constitutional right to convene a meeting to discuss matters which were not purely administrative; surprise was also expressed at the fact that a F.W.B. controlled paper published with every prominence a resolution voted by Sicilian administrative officers which was in direct conflict with the policy of the Central Italian Government. The situation became more awkward when it was discovered that certain Christian-Democrat and Left-wing administrators refused to identify themselves with the motion, whereas "Sicilia Liberata" gave the impression that the resolution had the unanimous support of all important administrative officers throughout the island.

The Regional Committee of Liberation for Sicily representing the six parties met on the 10th May, and passed an order of the day which was published in the four party papers on the 14th May. This order of the day expressed the urgent necessity for a daily newspaper in Palermo which could reflect the thought and sentiments of the 'Unitarian' political parties on the island in contrast to the other daily which has another function.

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The second event, was of a more personal nature and involved the past history of Sebastiano Lo Verde, the principal editor and manager of the "Sicilia Liberata."

On the 24th May P.M.B. discovered that the leaders of the Communist party in Palermo were in possession of a letter written by Lo Verde in January, 1939, to the Fascist Federal Secretary.

The document expressed Lo Verde's entire devotion to the Fascist regime, claimed that Fascism fulfilled the ambitions and dreams of his youth, and gave a detailed account of his intimate and signal services in favour of that government. One paragraph suggested that he was engaged in espionage work on behalf of the Fascist Administration. In contrast to this, when the allies came to Sicily Lo Verde constituted himself the mouthpiece of allied expression through the "Sicilia Liberata," and made the newspaper headquarters a centre of political and Separatist activity.

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The letter discovered by the Communists, if it is genuine, shows him up to be a complete opportunist. It is also sufficiently incriminating to bring about his fall, and compromise the paper with which unfortunately he has been so intimately connected.

Lo Verde's letter was published in all four party papers on Saturday, 27th May.

An attempt was made at the last minute to use the official status of a P/B paper to silence Lo Verde's opponents by publishing an editorial in double type on the front page of "Sicilia Liberata" of the 25th May, headlined "Tregua" or Truce. The article appealed to the political parties to concentrate on the war effort, to make a truce "between ourselves," not to engage in polemics, nor to "demolish persons uselessly, as today persons do not count."

On May 25th however, on telephone conversation with Palermo, it was considered necessary P/B disassociate "Sicilia Liberata" from Lo Verde completely, and it will be moved June 4th to the plant of the "Giornale di Sicilia."

39

Suspension of "L'Idea"

FSP at Messina reports that the Liberal weekly "L'Idea" of Reggio Calabria, has been suspended by the Prefect, avv. Antonio Triolo, a former Socialist deputy, for a period of three months. The reason of the suspension was an article which appeared in the issue of the 25th March and which offended the dignity of the Archbishop of Reggio Calabria. The edition in question was a special one in which the articles were written by members of the Student Association, "Corde Frutros." The Association took the responsibility for the offending article as a Group and would not incriminate the actual author.

The FSP also reports that the Socialist Daily paper at Reggio, "La voce" is likely to be suspended for an article which appeared against Badoglio.

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PUBLIC OPINION

Naples Reaction to Churchill's Speech

On the whole reactions appear to be very much in favour of the Allies, especially England.

A specialized worker expresses satisfaction that Churchill declared himself indifferent to the "form" of government: monarchy or republic, and everyone is satisfied that the Italians will be free to choose their own government. "Till now the majority of workers were dissatisfied with the British policy towards Italy, as no hope was left of removing the Fascist King." Today they look to the future, confident in the line of policy stated by Mr. Churchill.

-- northern Italian anti-Fascist intellectual states: "We feel today that the Allies are following the right line. Churchill's last speech makes us hope that after the war Italy will be free to choose her own government. This clarification was necessary and has been accepted almost enthusiastically by anti-Fascist circles. It came at the right time when many people were demoralised. The speech gave the impression that England has understood that backing the monarchy is no way of achieving an equilibrium in the Mediterranean. The necessary balance of power has to be extended from a single nation to a group of nations." (C-2)

Another collaborator writes that though the mass of people appear to be, as usual, indifferent, all varieties of political opinion (except perhaps a few monarchists) are said to be very gratified with Churchill's latest speech; military circles are said to be positively jubilant. An Italian observer reports that the following constructions are put on it: his recognition of the Italians' war effort, his promise of help, and his relinquishing all animosity towards the Italians for all that Fascism has done and his stress on the word democratic, are taken as an indication that the Italian people as a whole will not be penalised, as a guarantee of a democratic future, a free choice by the people. He expressed confidence in the present government and his desire to see it broadened to include the north of Italy is taken to recognize anti-fascism as the main spring and also the securest base of Italian politics.

A most interesting deduction is drawn from his words in this passage, especially when we reach the North. They are taken to mean that the present government may be broadened hardly at all

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A most interesting deduction is drawn from his words in this passage, especially when we reach the North. They are taken to mean that the present government may be broadened hardly at all at home but only later, when the North is reached. (B-2)

The Commonwealth Prime Ministers

The meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers, and in particular the references to the future liberty of peoples to decide for themselves the grave problem of their own government, which are regarded as favourable to Italy, is reported to have been very well received in Bari. (C-1)

May 24th Celebrations

The celebrations which took place at Torre Annunziata on the occasion of the anniversary of Italy's entry into the Great War are said to have aroused no enthusiasm among the population. The ceremony opened with the placing of wreaths on the tombs of men who fell in the last war, and a company of Italian soldiers was present.

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The population is reported to have remained indifferent to these proceedings, as to other political ceremonies, such as that of the Ist of May. (c-2)

3. Opinion of Government

According to a Salerno informant, the public has the impression that the Government is continuing to create new posts, e.g., the appointment of Berlinguer as Assistant Commissioner for Education, and of Zaniboni as Commissioner for refugees, which, as under the old Fascist system, are not really necessary, but provide salaries for a larger number of people. The alleged system of splitting one post into several to this end is said to be much criticised. People are disappointed to see anti-Fascists, who, for twenty years took no part in public life, trying to make up for lost time and money. (C-3)

Attitude to France

The following report on the attitude towards France in intellectual middle-class Italian circles, is supplied by a Bari university student.

The firm bonds of culture which link our people and the French, and the large number of Italian citizens who have had dealings with France (particularly Ligurians and Piedmontese) has led to the problems of the other Latin nation being closely followed in all its vicissitudes.

One current, mostly among the anti-Fascists, likes to praise the readiness of the French to liquidate their undesirable politicians. Certainly this action calls for uncommon courage. A large section of public opinion speaks with enthusiasm of General de Gaulle and enumerates his excellent military and political qualities, 'recalling his constancy in overcoming the difficulties set up by those English gentlemen.'

The most recent political events, the struggle of the patriots, the participation of General Juin's Expeditionary Corps, demonstrate the growing importance of the new France. The Latin bloc advocated by Count Sforza, can be a first step towards the pacification of Europe. It is to be hoped that the secret agents sent to the Balkans to stir up the anti-Italian feelings of these

criticized. People are disappointed to see anti-Fascists, who, for twenty years took no part in public life, trying to make up for lost time and money. (C-3)

Attitude to France

The following report on the attitude towards France in intellectual middle-class Italian circles, is supplied by a Bari university student.

The firm bonds of culture which link our people and the French, and the large number of Italian citizens who have had dealings with France (particularly Ligurians and Piedmontese) has led to the problems of the other Latin nation being closely followed in all its vicissitudes.

"One current, mostly among the anti-Fascists, likes to praise the readiness of the French to liquidate their undesirable politicians. Certainly this action calls for uncommon courage. A large section of public opinion speaks with enthusiasm of General de Gaulle and emulates his excellent military and political qualities, recalling his constancy in overcoming the difficulties set up by those English gentlemen."

"The most recent political events, the struggle of the patriots, the participation of General Juin's Expeditionary Corps, demonstrate the growing importance of the new France. The Latin bloc advocated by Count Sforza, can be a first step towards the pacification of Europe. It is to be hoped that the secret agents sent to the Balkans to stir up the anti-Italian feelings of these peoples will disappear, together with the blockade on the entry of Italian labour which at other times has given so much assistance to French industry and commerce. 348

"From a lasting agreement, and from free exchanges, can arise that long period of peace which Europe needs... because only the Latin Peoples have the capacity of directing the nations towards better days."

Public Opinion and the Patriots.

According to a reliable informant, Italian opinion is following the patriots' activity with great interest and with a certain feeling of pride, but it is anxiously expecting the Italian Government to give full recognition to the patriot bands, just as the French Government has recently done. It is also alleged that the Committee for aid to the patriots is being run in a bureaucratic and unsympathetic manner. (B-2)

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APPENDIX I

REACTIONS TO PROPAGANDA

"Essee Mercau"

The play "Essee Mercau" broadcast over Bari Radio, has been well received. The critical Bari University student, who keeps in touch with reactions to radio, says that, while the interpretation and diction were poor, the quality of the play was nevertheless apparent.

"Il Messa"

The Bari University student propaganda critic, reviewing the 1944 number of "Il Messa" says that this publication is always eagerly awaited and judged to be of the first importance. The most recent numbers have been particularly good. Carlo Rosselli is known only in anti-Fascist circles, and the great mass of young Italians, used only to Fascist propaganda, know nothing of him. Even today there is no shortage of fantastic stories on the political refugees in England and America, and the "Wings in quattro tempi" published in Il Messa, fills many of these gaps.

The article "War and Peace", on the Teheran Conference, also gets a favourable mention from this student.

P.A.R. Propaganda in Naples.

The P.A.R. propaganda shop in Piazza S. Ferdinando, Naples, is reported to have been excellently well received. It is always crowded. It is central and the material is presented in an interesting way. A typical comment is: "The Allies certainly know how to make propaganda after all!"

In fact it brings home the Allied war effort to the Neapolitans. It is suggested that more such centres should be opened. (B-2).

Report on the poster "Raffi utersi di comprare Oggi a prezzi maggiorati significa poter comprare Domani a prezzi piu bassi".

The following report is supplied by an Italian (O.S.S.) collaborator. The present distrustful and confused state of mind of the population, due partly to its nature and partly to the diffi-

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Report on the poster "Rifi utarsi di comprare Oggi a prezzi maggiorati significa poter comprare Domani a prezzi piu bassi".

The following report is supplied by an Italian (over) collaborator. The present distrustful and confused state of mind of the population, due partly to its nature and partly to the difficulties of its life today, makes a very difficult ground for propaganda.

As far as the common people are concerned, the necessity, in which they find themselves of cutting down all essential expenditure limits their contribution to the support of the Black Market to the buying of food. And since the distribution of ration goods is not enough to live on, they are obliged to buy some products at high prices. To this must be added the fact that the progressive rise in prices engenders in people a state of mind where they feel that to have bought something even at a high price is good business, in that one has avoided the even higher prices of the next day.

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An enquiry into the reactions of three people belonging to very different social classes gave the following results:

An elderly concierge, a little better educated than the majority of such people, and living reasonably comfortably, says that the poster cannot possibly have any influence in people who are obliged to have recourse to the Black Market in order to live, and that the only way to deal with the question would be for the Allied authorities to open big cooperative stores where a sufficient quantity of goods was sold at reasonable prices.

An accountant's clerk maintains that an attempt at influencing people psychologically, without at the same time taking measures of repression and organisation, will have no practical effect. The problem can probably be solved only in close connection with that of transport and fixing some means of bringing into the big centres the produce of the surrounding countryside, which would then be sold, together with goods supplied by the Allies, in controlled shops, at prices somewhere between the fixed ones and those of the Black market.

A University lecturer who is a specialist in literature and a civil servant, is of the opinion that propaganda cannot have any considerable effect over an economic phenomenon, unless reinforced by severe measures of repression to constitute an example to profiteers, and by the normal measures to increase the flow of goods on the market, thus decreasing the demand.

The general opinion would therefore seem to be that it is a difficult and delicate matter to try and improve the situation by means of propaganda, since the population is convinced that it is wiser to procure by any means the essential goods which they have no guarantee will be regularly supplied to them in the future. (C-2).

Another report says that the general reaction to the Allied poster, is reported to be that the slogan applies very well for non-essential goods, but not for food. People must buy food or starve. Anonymous remarks have been written under the posters, such as "When we have starved to death", etc. (B-2).

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APPENDIX II

Information in recently liberated territory.

a PWB officer, who took part in the Sicilian campaign and has since toured Apulia, Lucania and Campania, describes Gaeta as the worst sacked town of any he had seen in Italy. Every house has been completely ransacked, broken up and robbed. The Germans entered the town immediately after the armistice and collected all arms and sacked the town.

Some six months ago, they demolished the section of the town lying next to the beaches, and planted mines in the rubble piles. At the very beginning a group of young boys escaped to the mountains and were hunted down by the Germans and killed. After that, there were no reports of partisan activity in the region around Gaeta.

The remaining inhabitants of the town were ordered out when the Americans were due to arrive. The Germans completed a final sacking and left.

No food was ever distributed by the Germans to the ration of the Germans themselves were had. One family told this PWB officer that the Germans used to forage for food individually, and several times a German soldier had actually helped himself to a pot of grass and beans which the family was boiling on the fire for its supper.

The Germans did not have time to destroy the little town of San Felice Circeo, on the slopes of Mount Circeo. They did, however, loot it pretty thoroughly. Most of the 12,000 inhabitants have returned and did not seem too unhappy.

A CIC officer reported that a German sergeant called Grise had had the job of evacuating civilians from the nearby village of Borgo Montenera. He had found 25 civilians there without permits and had shot five out of hand.

Hardly a house in Littoria is intact, and only 3,500 of its 25,000 inhabitants have returned.

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Formia is now practically flat, with no utilities working and water supply at present being drawn from wells.

Since the Armistice the Communal authorities of Terracina have issued no political orders of any kind, but have concentrated on the food problem, not very successfully. **446**

The most active propaganda of the political parties under the occupation was that of the "Mazzinian Republican Party" (presumably the Action Party) which brought in leaflets from Rome. The socialist party is numerous and strong, and led by the ex-Deputy De Angelis. It is expected that the Christian Democrats will have many adherents. (C-3).

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Radio Bari and Radio Naples have been seized by the population. The statements issued by the parties had been widely received, and it was hoped that they would now be put into effect. (O-3).

The Communist Mayor of Fendi, Savona, who was appointed by AMG, told a PWB officer that the only political parties existing in the town were the Communists, Socialists and Christian Democrats. The people are not much concerned with their economic distress to be greatly interested in politics.

A shoe merchant of Sebeddie told a PWB officer that, as this area was settled by the Fascists, through the Opera Nazionale Combattenti, with unemployed ex-servicemen, most of the inhabitants would have belonged either to the Socialist or Popolari parties before Fascism. The public followed with sympathy the constitution of the new representative government.

Prices on the Black Market are:

Wheat	5000	to	12,000	per quintal
Flour	10000	to	20,000	per quintal
Oil	300	to	600	per litre
Sugar	200	to	300	per kg.
Wine	60	to	80	per litre
Meat	60	to	80	the kg.

The carabinieri showed themselves sympathetic with the difficulties of the people in the town, and helped by handing out part of the grain reserved for themselves.

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APPENDIX III

SICILIAN SEPARATIST DEVELOPMENTS.

On May 14th Finocchiero Aprile addressed a meeting of his supporters in their headquarters in Catania. Arrangements had been made for the meeting to be held in the Teatro Massimo Bellini, but permission for this was withdrawn - according to the Separatists, through Mr. subile manoeuvres of Aldisio. The text of the speech was published next day in the unauthorised separatist paper "Sicilia", with an introduction in the best separatist style.

"The Communists are allowed, even encouraged to wear the uniform of the most passionate nationalists, to bolshevise the ex-Itely, with a gun cocked ready to fire her from the Germans, in the shadow of a tattering crown propped up - without serious intentions - by Republicans, Socialists, Demo-Christians and Liberals in a confused rebble. The Demo-Christians are allowed to abandon themselves to a union with the Communists and worse, to receive Catholics and Italians, making everything subservient to their egoistic purposes.

"People whose voices, loud in the praise of Fascism, are still echoing down the streets of Catania... are today allowed to commemorate the landing of the Thousand at Marsala."

The Corriere di Sicilia, which on March 15th had published an article referring favourably to an autonomist meeting in praise of Aldisio, and those who feel that the first task is the re-making of Itely.

"A Prefect, in the name of the renewed liberty of the Press, is allowed to censor certain lines of a manifesto prepared for May 1st by the supporters of Sicilian independence, which contained the statement that only the outward signs of Fascism have been removed.

"But those who sincerely believe in the necessity for the sovereign independence of our island, are not allowed to explain to their fellow citizens, in the most correct and constitutional form, at a public meeting, the reasons for the Sicilian independence movement, which can be summed up in the legal request for a plebiscite in order to profit by the promised right of self-determination of people in their own future.... To this they are by failing to fulfil their clear engagement.

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Fianco's speech begins with a tribute to the city of Catania and works up, through a history of Sicily, to his contention that Sicily has always been exploited in her union with Italy. "The sound of threats, of impotent threats, reaches us from Palermo. We do not care. From a certain point of view, indeed, we are delighted, because we realize that we could have wanted no better ally for our cause than this miserable Beoglio government, a government without prestige and without authority."

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A few evenings ago the new Minister of the Interior, in a banquet at Palermo, announced that he, a former Separatist, would dedicate the movement for independence to its last roots. The statement, current in the island, that the movement for Sicilian independence is illegal, aroused Finocchiaro's indignation. He regarded it as an insult to the allies, who had treated the movement as legal and respected it.

His hearers should not be surprised, he said, at the attitude of the new Minister of the Interior. He said, at the attitude of this party although it calls itself Democratic, is the absolute negation of democracy and liberty. It is only the disguise concealing clericalism, conservatism, reaction. The Sicilian people can only be hostile to this trinity, and shows it by avoiding the Democratic Christian party which, in Sicily, represents nothing or almost nothing. In Sicily the religious sentiment is the heritage of the whole people. We are all Catholics and we need no one, on the political field, to defend us as such. But we have all felt the hostility of the repugnant marriage between Democratic Christians and Communists.... Sicilian Catholics know that Sicily will gain her redemption only through independence.

Speaking of the structure of the independent Sicilian State, Finocchiaro Aprilis said that it would be truly democratic, all power being in the hands of the people. The different administrations would have their headquarters in different towns, and the national assembly would not always sit in Palermo but, with the Cape di Stato, would move from time to time through the various towns.

After explaining in detail how the economic situation of Italy would be improved by independence, Finocchiaro Aprilis went on to deny the accusation that the Separatists were a party of Latifundisti. The Latifundisti, he said, were opposed to the Separatists. He did not, however, favour the splitting up of the big estates among the peasants, which would only substitute one unimpaired class of proprietors for another. The Latifundisti should be transformed into industries, with state subsidies under the direct management of peasants co-operatives.

Speaking of the price of wheat, he said that the food crisis was not the fault only of the Latifundisti, but also and especially of the Government.

"When you think that the Italian Government..."

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"When you think that the Italian government had fixed the price of wheat at 11 lire when for months it had been stated that the price would be at least 15 lire (sic) it must be admitted that we are moving backward towards the starvation of the people. This price is inadequate and will lead to a refusal on the part of producers to deliver their grain to the pools. The best policy would be complete liberty of trade in wheat. The ration in Sicily should not be inferior to 300 grammes of bread and 100 grammes of pasta, with the requisite increase for workers. If there is a surplus in Sicily, it will be possible to export to the mainland but to Germany, as Scaglione did in a recent circular, that the present low ration be further diminished in the future, hoping to carry off a considerable quantity of wheat, is madness. We will prevent it. We will defend our bread and our liberty."

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Finocchiero Aprile concluded by referring, with favour, to the appeal for administrative elections signed by the Sicilian Sindaco (see report) on idea which, he claimed, originated with him.

The meeting was interrupted, reportedly by Christian Democrats, who were forcibly ejected, some people being hurt.

The separatist view.

In conversation with a P.W.B. officer a leading Separatist expanded his views as follows:

The present political situation in Sicily has a background very different to that of the continent of Italy. Committees of liberation never existed in Sicily and are even today quite an anomaly. The only force that united all parties in Sicily during the period of Fascism and during the time of the Allied invasion was that of Sicilian Independence. In fact those who worked most closely with the Allies under Fascism were Separatists such as Finocchiero Aprile in Rome and avv. di Martino (leader of the Partito Siciliano del Lavoro) in Sicily. It is to the Separatists that the Allies owe the psychological preparation of the Sicilian people which made them sabotage Italian attempts at resistance, and which thus facilitated the Allied invasion.

The Separatists today are the greatest force in the island, but they are not officially recognized. All political parties are represented in the Separatist movement. There are Christian Democrats such as La Rosa at Catania and Termini at Palermo, and Socialists such as Curtia and Lupis at Ragusa.

There are districts in Sicily which were mainly Socialist and at the same time wholeheartedly Separatist (such as Catania). The Social Democrats under the Guerrigero ...ella were also Separatist and counted in their ranks besides ...ella many other leading Sicilian personalities such as Ferenc, Rinaldi (?) and ... of Catania and Ernesto Anzoni of Palermo. Many of these leaders as well as their followers ostensibly supported a programme of autonomy rather than separatism, but they were Separatists at heart, and considered autonomy a first step in their programme towards separatism. Their attitude was in fact that of a political manoeuvre, similar to the support which republicans, might give to a Lt. General of the Realm, who desired the total abolition of anarchy.

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Certain areas were so strongly separatist that nothing could be done there without Finocchiaro Aprile's approval. This was the case in Carleone, Trabia, and to some extent in Palermo. In Agrigento and Catania the quasi-separatist Social-Democrats ³⁴⁴⁴ virtually had control.

Yet in spite of the strength of the Separatist movement (and every Sicilian was a Separatist at heart) a completely artificial structure was being imposed throughout the island, which had no relation to the actual political conditions. Committees of Liberation were being formed at the instance of the Central Government, to advise on local matters, when their members were utterly unrepresentative. The Partito d'Azione for instance counted 600 members in the entire island. Yet they had been called in to advise and govern. Nobody had heard of the Democrazia

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del Lavoro but nevertheless it was one of the recognized parties. Moreover, that part of the Socialist movement which was really powerful in Sicily, namely the Separatist Federazione Socialista Italiana, was excluded from Committees of Liberation.

The Separatists therefore demanded that local elections be held for administrative posts in all the communes, so that these posts might everywhere be held by persons really representative of local interests.

The Separatists were idealists who saw no reason why the Atlantic Charter should not apply to themselves. The autonomists, on the other hand were prepared to accept a form of regional republicanism under two conditions. The first was that Italy should not have a Communist government, the second that Italy should not be monarchist. Sicily as a whole would never tolerate being governed by a Communist Italy. It had been subjected to one autocracy and would not now submit to another. On the other hand the Separatists and autonomists would never accept a monarchical Italy either. They therefore had developed the concept of dividing Italy into three autonomous republics - North, Centre and South, each having its own parliament, but agreeing on a joint policy on certain matters such as foreign affairs.

According to the Separatists the position of Sicily within the complex of international affairs is approximately as follows: Italy was part of Europe and invariably fell under the influence of the strongest European power. In the past it has been wither France or Germany. In the future it might be Russia. Sicily, on the other hand, was essentially a Mediterranean country -- the naval of the Mediterranean in fact. It was wrong to think that the Mediterranean would become an inland lake of decreasing importance. On the contrary the Mediterranean might greatly increase in importance as the problems of the future lay in that direction. For example, the development and control of Africa, the penetration of Russia into the Near-East and the Mediterranean and the Far East, were the biggest problems facing the West.

The Separatists wished Italy to be free, but also to maintain the closest collaboration with the strongest Mediterranean power which is England. Italy did not wish through Italy to be subject to the strongest continental power which might be Russia, or Germany or France.

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British and American propaganda had done much to enhance Russian prestige, and not a little to diminish its own, but the opening of the second front would redress this balance as the Russians would be halted on the Carpathians and the final victory would go to England and America.

The separatists feared economic penetration of Sicily. Several firms had already been bought up by American capital, and quite recently a contract had been signed for automotive works at Palermo (?).

The pricing of wheat at 1000 lire per quintal was a problem which now little any Italian government understood their own problems. The present price of production of wheat amounted to 1500 per quintal, and the announcement of the new price would have the result of putting up the cost of bread right away and

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Determining producers not to hand an ear of wheat to the Ammassi. The production of wheat in Southern Italy was cheaper, and the relative amount produced per hectare greater than in Sicily and it was therefore impossible to fix a single price for these two areas.

Partito Siciliano del Lavoro holds meeting.

On Sunday, 14th May, a meeting was held at the Teatro Bellini by the Partito Siciliano del Lavoro (Separatist). The speaker was avv. Di Martino who spoke on the political parties of the present time. There were 600 to 800 people present, including the following personalities: Professor Michelangelo Cipolletti, avv. Vincenzo Petrucci, Cav. Alessandro Fasce, and avv. Silvio Rossi.

The meeting was extremely rowdy, and the speaker was often interrupted. It ended in a free fight between a handful of youthful Communists and Separatists.

avv. Di Martino attacked the Demo-Christian party, declaring that the Partito Popolare had been primarily responsible for the advent of fascism. When, after having given their support, the popolari were not included in the fascist ministry, they defected a second time on democracy by going into retirement on the Aventine. Today every Fascist rejected by other parties was accepted by the Demo-Christians with open arms. avv. Di Martino then made a strong personal attack on Alcide De Gasperi for having joined the Catholic Government, calling him an ex-fascist and traitor to the masses. It was Alcide who had chosen as his chief of the cabinet Salvatore Senise, a former Squerista, responsible for sending so many anti-fascists to the "galleria".

avv. Di Martino then went on to speak of Socialists and Communists, saying how at heart he was with them, and how in the past he had known them and worked with them; but now they had been betrayed by their leaders.

He then made a plea that Separatists should be allowed freedom of the press because they were as representative as any other party.

He called for a plebiscite to be held three months after the war to decide the issue of Sicilian separatism, and said that the opponents of separatism were against this because they feared the results.

Silvic Rossi.

The meeting was extremely rowdy, and the speaker was often interrupted. It ended in a free fight between a handful of youthful Communists and Separatists.

Avv. di Martino attacked the Demo-Christian party, declaring that the Partito Popolare had been primarily responsible for the advent of fascism. When, after having given their support, the popolari were not included in the fascist ministry, they ce- faulted a second time on democracy by going into retirement on the Aventine. Today every Fascist rejected by other parties was accepted by the Demo-Christians with open arms. Avv. di Martino then made a strong personal attack on Alcide De Gasperi, calling him an ex-fascist and traitor to the masses. It was Alcide who had chosen as his chief of the cabinet Benigno Zaccari, a former squadrista, responsible for sending so many anti-fascists to the "galleria".

Avv. di Martino then went on to speak of socialists and Communists, saying how at heart he was with them, and how in the past he had known them and worked with them; but now they had been betrayed by their leaders.

He then made a plea that Separatists should be allowed freedom of the press because they were as representative as any other party.

He called for a plebiscite to be held three months after the war to decide the issue of Sicilian Separatism, and said that the opponents of Separatism were against this because they feared the results.

The Young Separatist League.

The Lega Giovanile Separatista, or Young Separatists, had in- tended to hold a meeting on Sunday, May 21st, in the Teatro Bellini at Palermo, at which Finocchiaro Aprile was to speak. Shortly before the day fixed for the meeting, the proprietor of the theatre cancelled the arrangement. The Young Separatists have not been able to book a hall in Palermo, even for some future date. While no direct evidence exists that a ban has been put on the Separatist meetings, the Minister of the Interior, Alcide De Gasperi, may have advised the Legislature to put every obstacle in the way of granting licenses to them for public meetings.

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Appendix III Page 6

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This surmise is borne out by the circular on the duties of the Police Force issued from Palermo on the 27th May by the Minister of the Interior, Adisio. In this circular Adisio says among other things: "The activity of the parties will be followed but not hindered; every peripheral manifestation of irremediable elements over and above this, should be prevented, etc."

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Appendix IV

MISCELLANEOUS INTERVIEWS

Interview with Michele Ciferelli

In an interview with a F.B. officer, Ciferelli had some interesting things to say today (May 28) regarding Italy's future. He was decidedly optimistic in his confidence that, in spite of all the disasters caused by Fascism, and the war there were signs of a resurgence of national sanity, and a reawakening of true values, (clouded for more than twenty years by faulty thinking, by faulty education) that would make its influence felt in general rehabilitation and progress.

He was in Bari for the past week and during that time, was called upon to make an address at a neighboring town (Molfetta, 40,000 inhabitants) on May 24th, anniversary of Italy's entry into the last war. The town was a fairly representative one of the province -- not too poor, not too affluent, of average well-being -- but, best of all, having a citizenry of intelligent and honest people. He made a speech which, warning to his task, he confessed was altogether too long. Perhaps the concentration of his listeners tempted him to make that mistake. Anyway, he said, it did no harm. On the contrary (although he dislikes and condemns long speeches) he was glad to have made it for the following reason: after having briefly mentioned the significance of the date, he went on to explain the intricate reasons why all the succeeding events and tragedies had come about. It was, he said, a taxing speech to listen to. But his reward lay in the close and absorbed attention with which it was heard, and the genuine and affirmative reaction it evoked.

This, he declared was real reason for optimism. I asked him what he thought of the youth? (as it not somewhat disturbing to observe the recent and violent reactions of the University students to Onofio's decree? and did it not show an unawareness, especially deplorable in the youth of today for their country, as well as for tomorrow?)

Ciferelli agreed that this was an unhappy sign and he deplored it. He thought however, that the government decree was issued in a somewhat unfortunate form, that it was ridiculous to suppose that students could go hither and yon, as they wished, to take their examinations far from the seats of their own colleges, sometimes, indeed, altogether impossible! But he had no circus or tolerance to offer for the students' threatened strike.

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Cifarelli agreed that this was an unhappy sign and he deplored it. He thought however, that the government decree was issued in a somewhat unfortunate form, that it was ridiculous to suppose that students could go hither and yon, as they wished, to take their examinations far from the seats of their own colleges, sometimes, indeed, altogether impossible! But he had no excuse or recourse to offer for the students' threatened strike.

Cifarelli then recalled his dismay, and that of other Italians promoting the Congress of Bari, who had counted so greatly on youth's enthusiasm, on that ferment and order which should have been there and which they had a right to expect, but which was almost non-existent. He said that the Congress of Bari, had it not been for the loyal and intelligent support of democratic, forward looking allies, to whom he could never express enough gratitude, probably could not have taken place at all; or, at best would have resulted in a kind of fiasco.

Returning to the youth, he attributed their utter inertia, their almost cynical indifference, at this time to the deplorable lack of real education which for twenty years had stifled the intellectual life and mental growth of the nation. But even admitting all this, Cifarelli still clung, with optimism, to the belief that with the resumption of real education, this mental and moral inertia would disappear.

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Appendix IV page 2

Report of a Conversation between an Italian Industrialist and a P.B. Representative.

Signor Adolfo Curcio is a rich industrialist. He has large plants making marmalade and tomato preserves in the vicinity of Naples. These plants suffered great damage from Allied bombings and from German depredations, to the extent, so Curcio states, of 13,000,000 lire. The Curcios live in a luxurious villa on one of the hills overlooking Naples. His wife is a Brazilian by birth; his son and daughter-in-law live with the elder Curcios. There are two daughters, one a professional pianist in Holland, and one in Venice. The atmosphere of the house is one of affluence and culture.

Curcio was outspoken in his criticism of the measures being taken by the Allied authorities against the Black Market. Without the Black Market, he contended, Southern Italy, and particularly the Naples area, could have starved. With the present inflation caused by an absurdly excessive devaluation of the lire (100 to the dollar) there was still hope for subsistence with recourse to the Black Market as long as the Black Market was not disturbed, not threatened. But now with the arrests, with the threats, with the greater danger to the traffic, the prices would go out of all control. It was intolerable.

The P.B. representative asked Curcio whether this was a personal reaction, or a reaction representing a limited class, or representing a majority of the Neapolitan population? Curcio was a bit excited with his theme and declared that it represented all three. He repeated his argument that Col. Poletti, in trying to suppress the Black Market, would not only fail in doing so, but would only make matters worse and worse for the population. He cited rising prices as support for his argument. By this time Curcio had become quite emotionally excited and one would have gathered that the most important thing for the welfare of liberated Italy was the promotion, or at least the toleration by the authorities, of the Black Market.

Curcio was then asked the following questions:

Q: "Is it then true, that conditions, especially as regards food, are not better than they were three months ago?"

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Curcio was then asked the following questions:

Q: "Is it then true, that conditions, especially as regards food, are not better than they were three months ago?"

A: "Without any shadow of doubt, they are worse."

Q: "You mean that people -- and when I say people, I mean the majority; and the majority is the underprivileged class, the poor -- eat less today than they did three months ago?"

A: "Of course. Prices are higher. Therefore the poorer can least of all afford these higher prices."

Q: "Let me repeat the question, and let's leave out the matter of prices for the moment, especially Black Market prices. Is there more or less food available to the population, particularly the poorer population, than could be obtained three months ago?"

Hero Curcio's son intervened -- and before he could stop himself or could be stopped -- admitted that unquestionably there was more food available today. He had no sooner finished speaking than he suddenly recognized his imprudence. His father's face

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was a study in irony. Young Curci then began to hedge, to qualify what he had said, but the first impulsive admission carried more conviction than his following explanations and retreats.

Dinner was announced at that moment, and being joined by the ladies of the household, there was no continuation of the subject which evidently had its thorny sides. The dinner was not only good, it was far more opulent than this '33 representative had eaten in several months. There were heaping plates of pasta, excellent veal and fried artichokes with potatoes, and wild strawberries served in wine and sugar, far more than even the privileged class in England has dreamed of eating in years. The host was careful to explain that not one of these excellent items emanated from the Black Market; they were all homegrown, homemade.

Opinions of Prof. Ceete and His Family on the Present Conditions in Italy 28.5.46

Prof. Ceete belongs to a family of medium land owners who are at the same time running small industries in Salerno.

This family owns quite an important estate at Olevano sul Tusciano, a small village near Battipaglia.

The Village of Olevano sul Tusciano is composed of three hectares at a distance of nearly two miles from one another. There is no political life in the place, as there are practically no connections with the nearby town, Battipaglia, which is completely destroyed and deserted by the inhabitants. No news gets to Olevano, no newspapers, posters, booklets, etc... In the area there are only three or four radios.

No distribution of rationed food has been made since 1943, but the area is rich, the main production is olive oil, wheat, oats, maize, apples, almonds, peaches, etc.

In a way the place is quite independent. This particular area has not been damaged by bombings, but the Germans blew up almost all the bridges.

As above said the Ceete family represents a whole class of people, independent middle class, so their opinion can be representative of quite a large number of individuals, especially because

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Opinions of Prof. Gaete and His Family on the Present Conditions in Italy 28.5.44

Prof. Gaete belongs to a family of medium land owners who are at the same time running small industries in Salerno.

This family owns quite an important estate at Clevano sul Tusciano, a small village near Battipaglia.

The Village of Clevano sul Tusciano is composed of three hamlets at a distance of nearly two miles from one another. There is no political life in the place, as there are practically no connections with the nearby town, Battipaglia, which is completely destroyed and deserted by the inhabitants. No news gets to Clevano, no newspapers, posters, booklets, etc... in the area there are only three or four radios.

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In a way the place is quite independent. This particular area has not been damaged by bombings, but the Germans blew up almost all the bridges.

As above said the Gaete family represents a whole class of people, independent middle class, so their opinion can be representative of quite a large number of individuals, especially because this particular middle class is in permanent contact with some labourers, and in town with artisans, who are in a sense the backbone of these small centers in southern Italy.

Prof. Gaete and his brothers frankly admitted having been Fascist, not only out of opportunity but because of a real belief in the Fascist doctrine. So they cannot forgive Mussolini for having betrayed the nation, knowing that the country was not fit for a war. They admit that nobody particularly wanted a war and everybody tried to escape from military duties.

Prof. Gaete, intending to represent the general feeling of the people of the region, says that everybody is rather against the actual government, not so much on account of political opinions but for lack of confidence, and because it represents neither the people directly nor its interests.

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The Government is considered a gathering of politicians who have nothing to do with the country.

Prof. Gaeta bitterly complains against 370,000, who preferred a comfortable exile, winning no risks; Dececo who involuntarily accepted Fascism, made speeches in favour of Fascism, and in three last years applied for the "tessera"; and also Rodino and De Nicola who in 1924 accepted Mussolini's insults and did not leave the parliament, etc....

These people, Prof. Gaeta says, are those really responsible for Fascist dictatorship, as they did not know, when they had the opportunity in Giolitti's Ministry, how to take the country or how to defeat democratic liberties afterwards.

Today all the Italians have lost faith, they believe in none of the rulers of the country, their only interest is the ordinary daily problems of getting food and supplies, they are scared about political propaganda, they certainly hope that in some definite future there will be an Italian Government but ruled entirely by new men.

For the moment they only hope that the Allies will control the country as long as possible. They believe that the rehabilitation of the country can come only through the Allies.

This is a very strange fact because on the whole the people are rather hostile to the Allies, but in tomorrow the Allies would leave the country one would see the whole Italian people begging them to remain.

As a land owner, Prof. Gaeta declares he knows the feelings of wheat producers. He does not believe that the "Granni del Popolo" will have any success as country people are actually too accustomed to selling their wheat for 10,000 lire the quintal and so they will hide their wheat instead of bringing it to the pool.

The speculators are not afraid of prison. They might be afraid of the death sentence, but the punishment seems too severe. So Prof. Gaeta suggests the confiscation of the land. This measure will certainly scare the speculators. (3-2)

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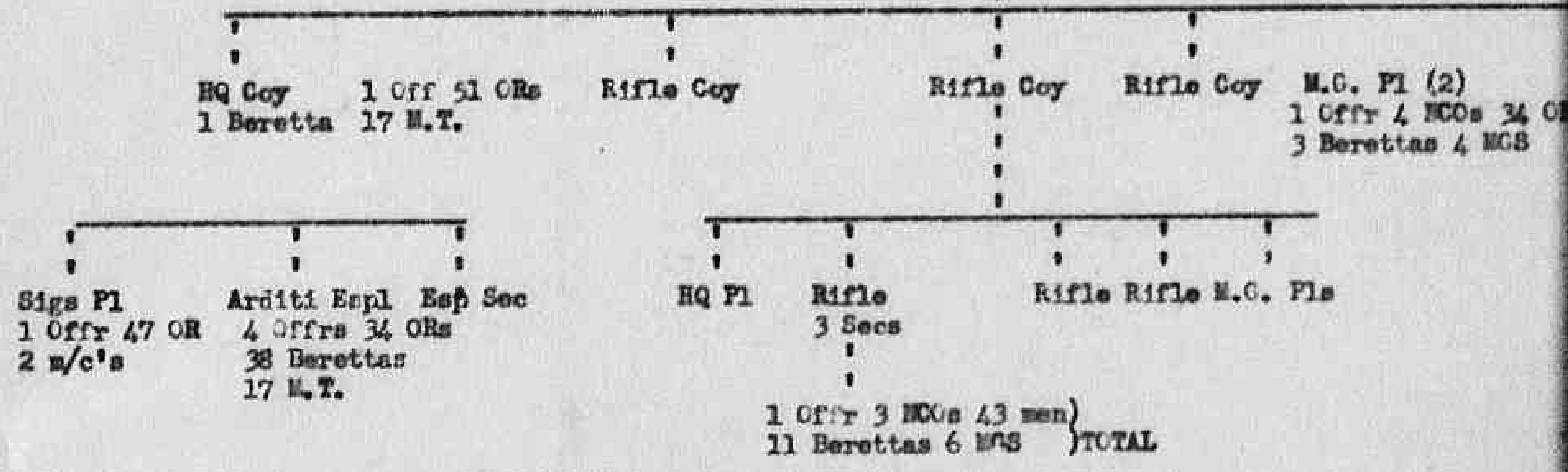
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Report of Intelligence

"RAFILE BN" Organization

BN HQ (CO & 10 Offrs)



GRAND TOTAL

42 Offrs 77 NCOs 864 men
169 Berettas 54 L. MGS 12 MGS
1 Staff car 16 lorries 2 m/c's

TOTAL in Subs

6 Offrs
6 Bere

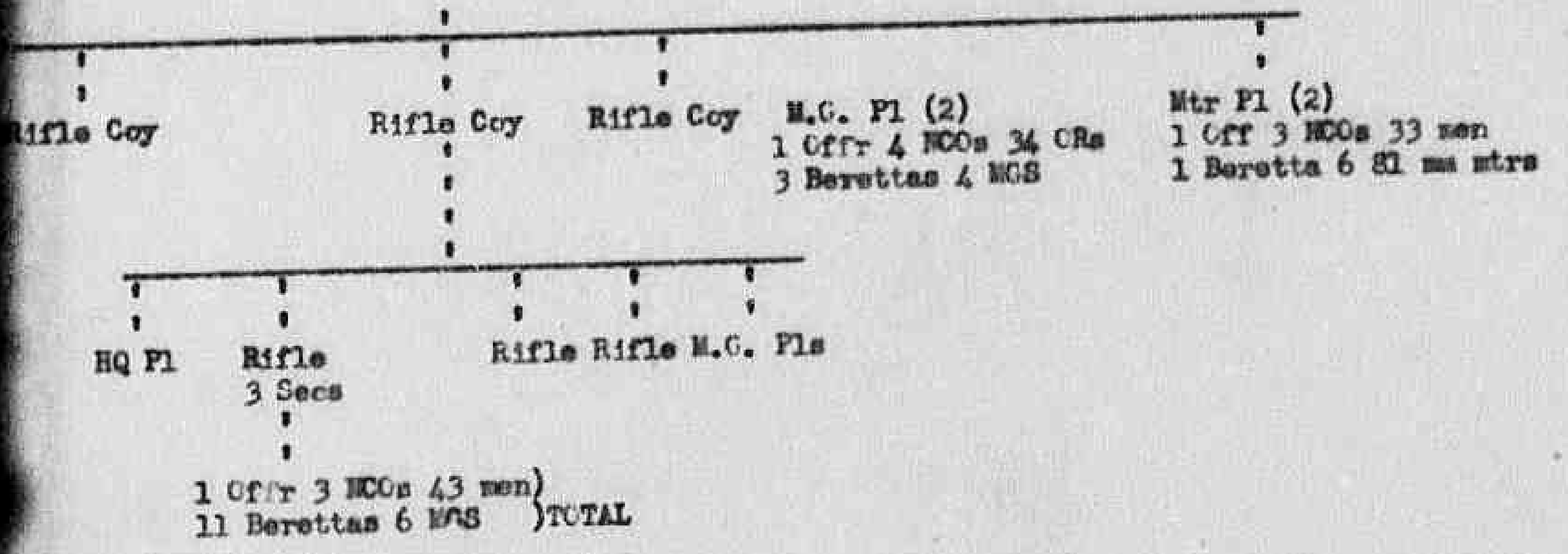
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Reports & Intelligence File

"RAFILE BN" Organization

BN HQ (CO & 10 Offrs)



TOTAL in Supporting Arms

6 Offrs 17 NCOs 183 men
6 Berettas 681 mm mtrs 6 20 mm MGS

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INFORMATION DIVISION

SUBJECT: Extract OSDIC GMP
TO : Army Sub Commission

2192 / INFO
19 June 1944

1. The attached information was extracted from reports sent to the Information Division, A.C.C., by OSDIC GMP.

ERS *he* *est* *3439*
JOHN V. HENDEL
Major, A.I.
Director,
Information Division

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

3/10
15 JK

1. Regt. MILIZIA ARMATA - ITALIAN "SS" - AQUILA (B 502164)

(a) Organisation, Strength and Armament

HQ, 1, 2, 3, and 4 Bns.
Composition of 1 Bn is confirmed - (of. OSDIC/CMF/SEM/AB 4 of 13 May 44)

i) 2 Bn (Apr. 44: Strength Approx 400)

HQ Coy and three rifle coys consisting of:-
HQ Sec and three rifle pls (each pl has three secs of 10 men incl OC Sec).
Tps are armed with mod 91 and carry 6 magazines. NCOs carry a BERETTA machine carbine with an unspecified number of magazines containing 40 rounds. The Bn also has on its establishment a number of BREDA LMGs and BREDA MGs 37 as well as 45 and 81 mm mortars, but these had NOT been distributed.

ii) 3 Bn

PW did not know the composition of 3 Bn but it is believed to be the same as 2 Bn.

iii) 4 Bn (Strength approx 500)

HQ Coy and three rifle coys consisting of:
HQ Sec., two rifle pls and one by pl.
Rifle pls are divided into three secs of 12 men each with one machine carbine. By pls have various compositions.

2 Coy: one MG Sec with one BREDA LMG 37.
one mortar sec with one 81 mm mortar

3 Coy: one MG Sec with one BREDA LMG 37.
one mortar sec with two BRITIA 45 mm mortars.

Tps are armed with rifle 91, NCOs with BERETTA Machine carbines. Apart from rifles and machine carbines, the other weapons have NOT been distributed. They are only used for training. Amn has NOT been distributed.

(b) Personnel

4 Bn: is composed of young recruits who joined up to avoid being sent to GERMANY. Officers are also very young and have NO fighting experience. Young men who have avoided call-up and have been arrested by the police are drafted to 4 Bn.

(c) Training

1) 2 Bn

German NCOs are used as instructors. Training is similar to that of the German Army, but as the Bn is used for police duties little time is left for trg.

ii) 4 Bn

Training is very poor. From Nov 43 to Apr 44 only two shooting exercises were carried out and NO training in automatic weapons was given.

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d) Locations (Apr. 44)

- i) Regtl HQ: PINEROLO (?) (H 7510)
- ii) 2 Bn: Coy HQ: VILLAR PEROSA (H 6915)
 - 1 Coy: PEROSA ARGENTINA (H 6419)
 - 2 Coy: VILLAR PEROSA
 - 3 Coy: PEROSA ARGENTINA
- iii) 3 Bn: PINEROLO - VIVALDI Barracks.
- 4 Bn: TURIN - S. PAOLO Barracks (ex-cavalry barracks)

e) Losses

- 1) 2 Bn

Up the mid Apr. 44, 2 Bn had 20 casualties and lost one BREDA MG 37 in action against the patriots.

- ii) 4 Bn (Apr 44)

1 Pl, 3 Coy was attacked by patriots while patrolling TURIN area- Lt. MATTIOLI, OC 1 Pl, was killed and three men were wounded.

f) Pay (2, 3 and 4 Bn)

Ptes:	12.50 lire per diem
Opla:	15.00 " " "
Sjts:	17.50 " " "

g) Personalities

OC 1 Regt MILIZIA ARMATA	Col. DE MARIA
OC 1 Coy 1 Bn	Capt BOLDRINI
1 1 Coy 1 Bn	Lt PIAZZA
OC 2 Coy 1 Bn	Lt JONT
OC 3 Coy 2 Bn	Lt SARTORI
in 3 Coy 2 Bn	Lt BLANI
in 3 Coy 2 Bn	2/Lt ACQUANGELO
OC 2 Coy 4 Bn	Lt BUSCHERO
in 2 Coy 4 Bn	Lt IZZO
OC 3 Coy 4 Bn	Lt PIOLA

(Source 35)

2. COMPAGNIA "E MUPI" (Jan 44)

Strength of Coy approx 300, divided in secs of 20 men armed with BERETTA machine carbines. The main function of the coy is rounding up patriots. Location: MILAN.

3. 7 APPINI Regt Depot (Early Mar 44)

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Strength approx 1 Bn. Location: CONEGLIANO VENETO. (Source 37)

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- 3 -

4. Unidentified Bns

(a) Late Nov. 43: Other units of the MILIZIA ARMATA are reported to be in BRESCIA, in barracks between PIAZZA VENEZIA and Rly Stn.

(b) Early May 44: Other units are also reported to be in the CORRIDONI Barracks. Their badge are: two arrows each side of the collar - "fascio littorio" embroideu in gold on red epaulettes. (Source 40)

5. Republican National Guard (May 44)

Composition: GHQ RNC is equivalent to GHQ CORR
 Ispettorato Regionale RNC - Legione CORR
 Gruppi RNC- Gruppi CORR
 Coys RNC - Gruppi CORR
 Coys RNC - Tenenze CORR
 Distaccamento RNC- Stazione CORR

The RNC is chiefly composed of Fascists and Carabinieri and is frequently used as a police force to round up those attempting to avoid call up. (Source 41)

XX

6. HQs Republican Forces (May 44)

HQ Customs Guards	BRESCIA
HQ RR and recruiting centre	
CO a Granatieri Regiment	F 7969
HQ IX Legion Customs Guards	
in Via OLATA	ROME Town Plan 75346693
HQ Bn Port Control Milizia	
" E MUTI" in Via GREGIPERI	" " "
Hotel "Aquila D'Oro"	74076745
HQ ROM Police at the War	" " "
Ministry	74906763 (Source 45)
HQ Group GNR in PESCARA has	
been transferred to PIANELLA	C 0321
HQ Garrison GNR	G 8696 (Source 41)

7. Training School

Late Nov 43: A special course for NCO cadets of the MILIZIA ARMATA was held in barracks nr PORTA VENEZIA, in BRESCIA. Approx 60 NCOs attended each course. (Source 40)

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ALLIED FORCES HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 6
APO 512

Report on Condition in Liberated Italy

No. 22

June 9, 1944.

PART I SUMMARY

The liberation of Rome by the Fifth Army, followed so quickly by the announcement of the landings in Northern France, has created intense enthusiasm amongst all classes of Italians. Interest is so great in military events that the King's implementation of his promise to retire on the entry of the Allied troops into Rome, Marshal Badoglio's resignation, and the composition of the new government take second place in public interest.

The tribute paid to the Italian troops in General Alexander's telegram to Marshal Badoglio has created a most favourable impression as with the development of the Allied offensive, Italians' anxiety that their own troops should make a greater contribution becomes more pronounced. When FMB officers entered Rome they were frequently asked, "But where are the Italian troops?" and when the Carabinieri arrived they were given as enthusiastic a welcome as the Allied soldiers.

The occupation of Rome was apparently so sudden that the Germans were taken by surprise. The Romans attribute the lack of demolition to the action of the Pope, who they believe persuaded the German commander not to fight in Rome. The Pope is generally regarded as the saviour of the city and large crowds collected on the Square of St. Peter's early on the morning of the 6th June and repeatedly acclaimed him.

FMB officers who had taken part in the occupation of Naples, Catania, Tripoli, and other cities were struck by the cleanliness and normalcy of the Italian capital, the well-dressed people, in-different to the guns still firing at the retreating Germans from the Borghese Gardens, and the absence of all signs of destruction except in the outer periphery of the city. They soon saw however

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The Rome Committee of Liberation, under the presidency of Ivanoe Bonomi, a former Italian Prime Minister, met with Allied officials on the Capitol early on Monday morning 6th June. All political parties are represented on this committee, which contains several well-known names such as Bonomi himself, the Christian-Democrat De Gasperi, the Socialist Pietro Tenchi, and the Sardinian Gaetano Lussu, of the Party of Action.

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Part I - 2 -

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On Monday the 5th of June King Victor Emmanuel, implementing the undertaking he gave on April 12th, and which was to come into effect with the liberation of Rome, announced the nomination of Prince Umberto as Lieutenant General of the Realm, with all royal powers including that of signing royal decrees.

On June 6th the Coalition Government formed on April 21st handed in its resignation, though announcing that it intended continuing its functions until a new government was formed. This resignation was in accordance with constitutional procedure under which since the head of the state was changed the government was obliged to resign.

On June 6th Prince Umberto flew to Rome. On the same day Marshal Badoglio accompanied by the ministers without portfolio Croce, Sforza, Togliatti and Rodinò, by Minister of Communications Cerbone (who is head of the Democrazia del Lavoro), by the Action Party leader Cianca, and by Oreste Longobardi, Socialist, also went to the capital. In Rome Marshal Badoglio attempted to form a new and more broadly based government. Members of the Home Committee of National Liberation, however, were unwilling to serve under him. The strongest opposition to the Marshal appears to have come from the Action Party, but De Gasperi, the Christian Democratic leader, probably interpreted the feelings of the Committee as a whole when he told a P.B. officer that "a pitiful impression" had been made on the people of Rome by the Marshal's sudden flight last September. People also consider that Badoglio proved himself a political "Gaffeur". The Liberal paper "Risorgimento Liberale" put the feeling against the Marshal even more clearly when it described the Badoglio Brindisi government as a government of defeat which could not hope to enjoy the full confidence of the Allies.

On June 9th Marshal Badoglio announced that he had failed to form a more broadly based government, and that Prince Umberto intrusted the task to Ivanoe Bonomi.

Bonomi, although he is associated with the relatively unimportant Democrazia del Lavoro Party, is one of the most prominent pre-Fascist politicians still alive. He was president of the Council of Ministers of the Coalition Government of 1921-22, and before that had held Cabinet posts under Boselli, Nitti, Orlando, and Giolitti. In the last years of Fascism Bonomi was associated with the underground anti-Fascist movement and when the Allies ar-

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In an interview with a P.M. officer, Bonomi said that, in the view of the Committee, the first task of an Italian government was to secure a maximum Italian war effort.

Also included are interviews with De Gasperi, Christian Democratic leader, with Gonella, Chief political commentator of the "Osservatore Romano", and with Ugo La Malfa, of the Action Party. De Gasperi's statement brings out, in particular, the help given to the patriots by religious organizations in Rome.

The Socialist Party has supplied details of the murder of Bruno Buozzi, the Socialist leader, who with thirteen others was taken from prison by the Germans on June 4th and shot by the roadside 14 km. outside of Rome. His body has been recovered.

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O On 6th June a PFB officer had a conversation with the Communist undersecretary of Finance, Antonio Pesenti. The great events of the last few hours lent a certain unreality to the discussion of the normal matters connected with the Finance Ministry and Pesenti admitted that he did not attach much importance to the Council of Ministers then in session. Pesenti said that he was almost undecided to deal with a great amount of work, which included the administration of what remained of Italian heavy industry. Several industries in the Naples area that had not been irreparably damaged by air raids would soon be working again.

Pesenti deprecated strongly the illusion in Benedetto Croce's speech of the 5th June to a possible fusion between the liberal and the Democratic Liberal parties, as he considered the latter body a refuge for ex-Fascists and as such quite unsuitable to form part of a coalition government of anti-Fascist parties.

Another minister interviewed by PFB was the Christian Democrat leader, Giulio Modino, who expressed the opinion that the Allied advance through the length of Italy would be continually raising new problems and that therefore no radical solutions to internal Italian affairs could be attempted at the present moment. Modino counted on his party receiving clear directives from the Vatican after the liberation of Rome.

The transmission to the Prince of Piedmont of his father's powers and prerogatives has aroused little comment in view of King Victor Emmanuel's decision at the time of the formation of the last De Gasperi government. The Liberal Monarchist Association for Reconstruction distributed a pamphlet in Naples at the beginning of the week which praised the King's gesture of self-sacrifice in the interests of national unity and hoped the parties would benefit from this example.

A high ranking officer of the Comando Supremo explained that he considered the monarchy was the only guarantee of Italian unity which had always been endangered by the tendency to split into a number of small regional republics. The same officer expressed the hope that after the fall of Rome, Italian troops would be called upon to take a larger part in the liberation of their country.

The demonstrations against the Minister of Education's decision to re-introduce the school examinations have largely been

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The demonstrations against the Minister of Education's decision to re-introduce the school examinations have largely deflected their own purpose. The Minister Modico has not given way, while opinion has hardened against the irresponsible state of mind of the recalcitrant students. Several posters signed by Student groups have appeared, which condemn these demonstrations and refer to memory those students who are now fighting for their country. 334

A serious disturbance occurred at the end of May near Enna, in Sicily, when a Separatist meeting was broken up by Communists. The Separatists continue to show considerable activity, though the anti-Fascist parties in Sicily, and particularly the left parties, are decidedly anti-separatist. The question of the harvest is being used by the Separatists as the Sicilians are hostile to the idea of their grain leaving the island.

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The Catholic Boy Scouts Association is active in Sicily, especially in Palermo where it is actively encouraged by Cardinal Lavitrano, the Archbishop. Thirteen diocesan committees have been created, which have reconstituted former scout troops and founded new ones. The Regional Committee for Sicily has sent a request to Scout Headquarters in London for readmission to the Boy Scout International Bureau.

Attached to this report are accounts of the work of the Sub-Commission of Fine Arts in Sicily; Appendix III gives an account of the mortality rate in Naples from 1939 to 1944; and Appendix IV some reactions to allied propaganda reviews, books, and pamphlets in Sicily.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 8
APO 512

Central "D" Section, Italy, (Lib) June 9, 1944.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 22

PART II ANNEXES ROME

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Appendix I The Press in Rome

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Appendix I The Press in Rome
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9 June 1944.

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Part II Annexes

THE FALL OF ROME TO THE ALLIES 4 - 5 JUNE, 1944.

The following report has been supplied by a PWB officer who entered Rome with the first Allied troops:

The historical events which took place on the night of June 4 when American troops first entered the Capitol of Italy and on the following day when the whole population came out into the streets to welcome the Allies, cannot yet be told with anything like the fullness which such a dramatic and important story deserves. The impression, however, of those who formed part of the first forces to enter the town must remain to their dying days, amongst the most vivid of their lives.

The first important fact to report is that the Germans left the city almost entirely intact. They pulled out in a great hurry (for they were apparently expecting to hold the line of the Alban hills for another week at least) on the evening of June 4. A few minor clashes of no military importance occurred within the city between the American advance guard and German rear guards, but practically when the American 3rd Division pushed its reconnaissance forces into Rome during the night of June 4, the city had been evacuated by the enemy.

PWB officers arrived in Rome at first light on the morning of June 5th after a long dramatic moolit drive from Velletri. Our column passed through one after another of Alban hill towns, Velletri, Genzano, Albano, to find scenes of destruction and death which seemed accentuated by the stillness of the night and the gleaming moonbeams. The ruined towns were completely abandoned except for a few army units who had found a bivouac in the remnant of some building more solid than the rest. Along the road was all the litter and confusion which war leaves in its wake, the tattered strands of telephone cable, the broken-down walls, the trees tripped of their leaves, fox-holes and gaping shell-holes. Looking further away the countryside was still and peaceful and tremendously beautiful and there was neither sight nor sound of warfare. The warm air brought with pungency a baffling succession of odours along the route -- the scent of thyme and jasmine and oleander alternating with the stench of corrupting flesh.

As we approached Rome we saw a few fires -- one at an aerodrome and another blazing away in a factory building near the race-

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As we approached Rome we saw a few fires -- one at an aerodrome and another blazing away in a factory building near the racecourse. This aroused some misgivings as to the likelihood of demolitions in the city itself and as we drew near we anxiously watched the buildings for traces of damage. There was none. In the extramural quarter of Appio Latino beyond the Piazza dei Re di Roma we drove past a succession of modern flats and dwellings, many built since the beginning of the war and all of them untouched.

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On the outskirts of the town we saw a few flocks and heard the crack of firearms but no bullets seemed to come our way. The convoy put out all front and rear lights so as not to attract attention and we proceeded quietly towards the Porte San Giovanni. It was soon after 4 a.m. that we were driving through the suburbs but we did not pass unnoticed. Many people were looking out of their windows, some were on balconies and small groups were scattered here and there throughout the streets. As we passed these people they began clapping with their hands and the sound started at one end of the street and traveled along much faster than our column of vehicles to the far end. There was very little shouting

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-- an occasional "Viva Gli Alleati" of "Viva Gli Americani" was heard but the clapping greeted us in nearly every street as if it had been arranged as the chosen method of welcome. Many people had their lights shining from their windows (as we realised with some relief that the electricity had not been cut off) and some set lighted candles on their balconies to welcome us.

We passed a convoy of American 3 tonners and anti-aircraft guns going into the city by the same route and there was a slight traffic jam at the gate of St. John. On the whole, however, we saw very few Allied soldiers in the early hours -- a troop of tanks tucked away down a side-street near the Piazza dei Re di Roma and an occasional armoured car on patrol. We halted just short of the Colosseum as dawn broke and the moon was shining down behind the ruin of the Temple of Claudius. Soon afterwards, following first the Via dell'Impero we proceeded to our destination in the Piazza Navona.

As soon as possible after checking in, P.B. officers obtained permission to make a tour of the streets of Rome so as to observe the reaction of the population to the arrival of the Allies. It was still early and not many people were in the streets but all those who were greeted us with cries of joy and much clapping of hands. There was no sign anywhere of demolitions, there were mines where reports had led us to expect them; the streets were spotlessly clean. Officers who had spent months in Naples and who had vivid memories of other war-scarred cities, observed with delight the exquisite shape of the buildings and the cleanliness and freshness of the town. There seemed to be plenty of water in fountains and some fountains were overflowing. Incidentally though it seemed as though the Germans had made no effort to deny the comforts of existence. All the big hotels and public buildings were in perfect order. No bridges were blown. On the western side of the Tiber, St. Peter and the Vatican stood quietly in all its traditional magnificence with the fountains playing but the square quite deserted. Two Swiss guards welcomed us at the side entrance when we asked for De Gasperi. There were no troops visible except for the guards on the Ponte Margherita.

From 7 o'clock onwards the streets began to fill with people and now we witnessed scenes of enthusiasm which were unforgettable. There was more restraint perhaps than in Naples where the fighting had been more bitter and where the population as a whole had suffered more. Not so often were officers pounced upon and kissed by ecstatic women, but everywhere men, women and children showed us a welcome which was obviously heartfelt. In Piazza Venezia, Piazza Colonna, in the Corso again, Via Nazionale,

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The Rome Committee of Liberation was active from the early hours. It seemed to have made its headquarters in the Piazza Colonna with other headquarters in the Messagero building in the Via del Tritone. Patrols of "patriots" were out in the streets armed with a curious assortment of firearms and in a red, white and green arm-band. They seemed to be fairly busy arresting fascists and we saw

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them bring in an MCC of the PAI organisation while we were outside the messagero building. They have arrested a number of spies. It is worth recording that the current term for Fascists here among the patriots is "spy".

Round about 7 a.m. at the Campitoglio there was a meeting of General Allen, commander of the 3rd Division which occupied Rome, and Mr. Ceccis and Mr. Reber of the MCC and the Italian General Bencivenga who was in command of the troops loyal to the King. The General drove up in a large black limousine escorted by about a dozen motor-cyclists, with goggles, crash helmets and breaches on, wearing the emblem of the Committee of Liberation. Several people remarked that they had only changed their clothes and that they were last seen as Fascists. The bell of the Campitoglio tolled throughout the ceremony. The party was then joined by members of the National Committee of Liberation who conducted it into the Campitoglio. One regrettable feature of this day of great enthusiasm and genuine emotion has been a display of exhibitionism on the part of Italian youth which reminded a correspondent who has known Italy for long, of the spirit prevailing at the time of the march on Rome.

As many young men as possible have crowded into vehicles of all kinds, including those curious motor-cycle lorries, and waving Allied and Italian flags, with rifles and Tommy-guns prominently and dangerously brandished aloft, have paraded the streets for the edification of the public. The public's response was not altogether unstinted. Most of these young men wore the patriot's armband, but a few small size processions were carried out by Communists wearing red armbands.

Although many people complained about the scarcity of food (the bread ration has for some time been only 100 grammes per day) the general impression is that the population has not suffered starvation. Certainly as a whole the people look better fed than those of Naples. Bread is, however, of the poorest quality and pasta consists of a number of gritty components, and beefsteak is apt to be horsesteak. There are a number of restaurants open where good food is cooked as well as possible. One restaurant, the "Figuero", serves an excellent lunch. Food prices are high and there is a flourishing black market.

The shops are full of luxury goods and so far prices are far below those of Naples. Leather goods are however very scarce. Public services are working in part. Water is obtainable in the fountains and hydrants throughout the town, but not in the houses in certain districts. The electric light seems to be working

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The shops are full of luxury goods and so far prices are far below those of Naples. Leather goods are however very scarce. Public services are working in part. Water is obtainable in the fountains and hydrants throughout the town, but not in the houses in certain districts. The electric light seems to be working everywhere, but there are currentless periods during the day; the telephone service except for a few districts has ceased to function. Trams are not running. On the other hand a considerable number of private cars are cruising around, there being apparently a considerable supply of clandestine petrol.

Two aspects of the occupation of Rome are particularly striking. The suddenness with which the Germans left and the lack of demolitions left behind them. The general opinion seems to be that this was due to the action of the Pope who persuaded the German commander not to fight in Rome and not to commit acts of violence in the city. People here say that the Germans when they went away were in a state of utter demoralization and felt the loss of Rome as a great blow to their prestige.

On 6 June in Piazza Venezia a P/B public address van broadcast the news that the long awaited second front had been opened

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and also that the 5th Army in Italy had followed the Germans more than 20 kilometres from Rome without being able to make contact with them. Both items of news aroused intense excitement in a large crowd which cheered wildly. The announcement that 4,000 ships and 11,000 planes had taken part in the invasion of the French coast caused exclamations of approval and amazement, and the announcements that Hitler had put himself at the head of the German armed forces brought forth a hail of hoots and whistles.

It is evident that the Allies enjoy at the moment an immense prestige something close to affection. We have been told that no Roman girl would like to be seen with a German, but the number of Roman girls seen riding around in jeeps with G.I.'s surpasses all counting. People ask only to serve the Allies in any way possible and will go to any trouble to help our soldiers. Even after the first wave of joy had slackened, a woman came to a P-3 officer and with intense emotion said, "The women of Italy thank you."

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2 ROME - The Committee of National Liberation

The Committee consists of 18 members under the presidency of Senator Ivance Bonomi, plus a Secretary. Below is an incomplete list of the members:

President	Senator Ivance Bonomi (Labour)
Christian Democrat	De Gaspari (Party Chairman)
Liberal	Dott. Gronchi
	Senator Cassati (Party Chairman)
	Dott. Nicolo Carandini
Action Party	Avv. Brosio
	Ugo La Malfa
	Beuer
Labour	Lussu
	(Senator Ivance Bonomi - see above)
Socialist	Ruini
	On. Pietro Nenni
	Romita
Communist	Vernocci
	Scuccigerra
	Ferri

On June 6 the Committee held the first meeting where all members were united together in a proper session.

3 INTERVIEW WITH SENATOR BONOMI

FBI officers made the first contact with the President of the Rome Committee of Liberation, Senator Ivance Bonomi, after the entry of the Allies into Rome.

He was found at the Lateran and appeared to be in good health and spirits. After a brief introduction he had to go to keep an appointment with the Committee of Liberation who were meeting at 9 o'clock with Allied officials at the Campidoglio. An arrangement was made to meet him later to discuss the political situation. This meeting took place at the house of an anti-Fascist Liberal, Count Carandini.

Bonomi asked eagerly for information about the new Badoglio government. He was anxious to know the conditions under which it was formed and the activities which it had carried on.

- Action Party
- AVV. Bresio
 - Ugo La Malfa
 - Beuer
 - Lussu
 - (Senator Ivance Bonomi - see above)
 - Ruini
- Labour
- On. Pietro Renni
 - Romita
 - Vernocci
 - Scuccigarra
 - Ferri
- Socialist
- Communist

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Bonomi asked eagerly for information about the new Scogliogio government. He was anxious to know the conditions under which it was formed and the activities which it had carried on.

He said that the new Scogliogio government would have to be enlarged by the admission of members of the Rome Committee; perhaps it would also be necessary to drop certain members of the present government who had no more than local importance. For instance, his opinion of Cerabona was that he was a man of mediocre calibre. He did not favor a system of having two groups of ministers -- one with portfolios, one without. Ministers without portfolios might in theory frame government policy but in practice they usually did very little.

He said that the formation of the new government was approved by all parties of the Rome Committee except the Action Party which maintained a prejudice against Scogliogio and had even voted the temporary suspension from the party of two members -- Cacciolo, the Minister of Education, and Caracciolo, the Under Secretary for Interior. It did not seem to be certain what they proposed to do about Fariniani.

Bonomi gave it as his opinion that the Action Party would not outlast the settlement of the monarchical question. It even now practically lost its raison d'etre. Of its leaders in Rome, Beuer,

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who was of Bohemian extraction, was a most upright man who was never compromised with Fascism, was in goal for 15 years, and retained today the same attitude of intransigence as of old. Luseu was a brave man of fiery temperament, a convinced republican who would not on any account compromise with the King. LaMalfa was the most accommodating of the three and more of a negotiator, but he was led by the others.

The general attitude of the Committee was that the first task of the government was to secure the maximum effort of Italians in prosecuting the war. It was only by taking their full share of the burden of the war effort that Italy would be entitled to the respect and fair treatment she desired from other nations.

Bonomi was asked about the now famous resolution of the Rome committee of October. He said that it was an equivocal resolution inasmuch as the three extreme parties in Rome (Action, Socialist and Communist) interpreted it as meaning the complete shelving of the King, and the assumption of all his powers by the government, whereas the other parties considered this an unreasonable interpretation as it was not possible for a government to exercise in toto the powers of the Crown.

Discussing the Socialist leader Nenni, Bonomi described him as a man of extreme views who was working closely with the Communists. The latter were acting in the most disciplined fashion under orders of Togliatti. They changed their whole policy overnight when the news of Togliatti's new directions came through.

The Communists were well provided with funds and the Committee as a whole was in a good financial position. Bonomi himself received several million lire from industrialists and others.

4 Interview with Ugo LaMalfa of the Action Party on 6.4.44

A FBI officer interviews Ugo LaMalfa at the headquarters of the Rome Committee of Liberation just prior to the third free meeting of the Committee at 9:30 a.m., in the former office of the Fascist Republican Party in the Palazzo at the end of the Piazza Colonna which faces onto the Corso Umberto. The place shows signs of hasty evacuation by the previous occupants, broken glass, litter, private papers and letters scattered about, but the room chosen for the Committee's meeting had been cleared and made fitting for the

the course of the war...

Bonomi was asked about the now famous resolution of the Rome committee of October. He said that it was an equivocal resolution inasmuch as the three extreme parties in Rome (Action, Socialist and Communist) interpreted it as meaning the complete shelving of the King, and the assumption of all his powers by the government, whereas the other parties considered this an unreasonable interpretation as it was not possible for a government to exercise in toto the powers of the Crown.

Discussing the Socialist leader Nenni, Bonomi described him as a man of extreme views who was working closely with the Communists. The latter were acting in the most-disciplined fashion under orders of Togliatti. They changed their whole policy overnight when the news of Togliatti's new directions came through.

The Communists were well provided with funds and the Committee as a whole was in a good financial position. Bonomi himself received several million lire from industrialists and others.

4 Interview with Ugo LaMalfa of the Action Party on 6.4.44

A PAB officer interviews Ugo LaMalfa at the headquarters of the Rome Committee of Liberation just prior to the third free meeting of the Committee at 9:30 a.m., in the former office of the Fascist Republican Party in the Palazzo at the end of the Piazza Colonna which faces onto the Corso Umberto. The place shows signs of hasty evacuation by the previous occupants, broken glass, litter, private papers and letters scattered about, but the room chosen for the Committee's meeting had been cleared and made fitting for the occasion. PAB officers were introduced to many members of the Committee, and found an atmosphere of the utmost cordiality among the leaders of the various parties towards each other. LaMalfa began to talk quite spontaneously of the political situation. He is a young man of very lively appearance. He is obviously intelligent. Like all members of the Rome Committee met with hitherto, he was eager to hear news about Bedoglio's new government. He was critical of its composition and developed an argument which by now has become familiar to those who have been for some time in touch with the Partito d'Azione; it is an argument worth considering and will be restated as it was received from him. The Communists, he said, in Italy were very strong and public opinion was undoubtedly veering round to the left. The Party of Action was anti-Communist but they believed that the only way of stemming this trend towards Communism was for the Government to take a political attitude involving reforms of an advanced character. This line of reasoning applied more particularly to the democratic parties by which he meant those parties which were constitutionally democratic, and not the Communist party which happened to be democratic at the present time.

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It was up to these parties to wean public opinion from the Communists by going out some of the way to meet the public feeling for radical reform. Asked what, in detail, this policy would consist of, and whether it meant specifically the change over from monarchy to republic, he replied that it was really a more complete matter than that. It was a policy of destroying the influences in Italian political life which had hitherto been paramount. The structure of Italian society differed widely from that in England where the differences between the working classes and the rich owners of industrial or landed property were minimized by a graduated series of intervening classes. In Italy you had a powerful clique of rich people on the one hand, who ran the country, and a mass of workers on the other. The only hope of saving Italy from Communism was to destroy the influence of this powerful governing class. He cited as an example of a part of this class the Italian General Staff, which he said was never so technically efficient as in military matters as in political intrigue.

Because of their realization of the necessity of removing the remnants of the old governing cast, the Party of Action could not look with favour upon Badoglio's new government in which there still existed too many exponents of the old ways and ideas.

5 Interview with Alcide De Gasperi.

A P.A.B. officer talked with Alcide De Gasperi, Rome leader of the Party of Christian Democrats.

Among other things, De Gasperi stated that he had been compelled to change his address 17 times during a few months to escape persecution or arrest by the Nazis. De Gasperi added that the Church had aided nearly all the leading members of the opposition, by hiding them in various ways.

He next made the highly interesting and significant statement that General Bencivengo and the patriot "military command" had all found refuge on Vatican territory. The procedure for access to the latter was that members went into the Basilica of San Giovanni in Laterano, ostensibly (and probably actually) to pray. After a time they would be approached by a priest, who would whisper to them to follow him unobtrusively. They would then be led into the Lateran Palace where, naturally, they would be

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De Gasperi, like other leading politicians, bitterly criticized the issue of the Messaggero and Giornale d'Italia, on the one day of the liberation, under their old titles. This act was described as monstrous and elicited an insult to the patriots.

It is clear also, that the various parties will be intensely disappointed if they do not receive permission to publish daily. Again, there will be strong criticism if only one official daily is published in Rome.

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C Preliminary Interview with Guido Gonella, Chief Political Commentator of the "Osservatore Romano"

Gonella appeared very fit and cheerful. He said that having been interfered with by the Nazi-Fascists, he had finally decided to live inside the Vatican.

Asked as to the attitude of the Christian Democrats towards Badoglio, and whether they were in agreement with the politicians in Naples, Gonella replied that there was no common agreement. The parties were, on the contrary, not in agreement. The Socialists and Party of Action are hostile to the monarchy, while the Christian Democrats and the Democrazia del Lavoro are for collaboration with the King and Badoglio. The Communists were formerly hostile to these two, then Togliatti arrived, their attitude changed, and they are now willing to collaborate.

There are, however, internal dissensions within the Communist Party, between what may loosely be termed the Trotskyists and the Stalinists. This does not mean that real Trotsky followers exist, since the real meaning of Trotskyism is not understood by such men, but the term is used to imitate dissent from to-day's standard Communist policy.

Togliatti's declaration regarding collaboration made a bad impression. People said that what Russia wishes now goes in Italy.

The Christian Democrats wish, in general, to postpone any decision as to the institutional question, the dominant feeling being that every effort should be bent towards winning the war. The Communist attitude, as represented by the Togliatti policy, is not trusted by a good many people. The Christian Democrat line, on the contrary, receives more genuine support. People hold the view that the Communists do not make their real intentions clear, and that in any case they take their orders from Stalin, and the Italians do not like this. But all agree that the war effort must come first. Many men are ready to take a direct and active part in the war. Their spirit has changed during the last few months, and for the better. They are growing keener. They realize that it will work to their advantage at the peace table.

There will certainly be changes in the Government when it is transferred to Rome. As to whether the Rome Committee of National Liberation will wish to exclude some of the Naples politicians now in the Government, the impression in Rome was that the Naples Government is a mediocre lot on the whole. In fact, very few people in

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A pro-Jewish feeling can be said to exist in Rome. Many thousands of Jews found shelter in the Vatican at various times, and in Vatican buildings. "Sometimes one hardly knew whether certain Vatican palaces were synagogues of Christian buildings!" It is to be hoped however, that the Jews will not take advantage of this revulsion of attitude, and begin to push in too hard everywhere.

While Bonomi is linked with the Democrazia del Lavoro, he may not have given his OFFICIAL accession to the Party. This Party is a bourgeois party, containing intellectuals, some freeasons, and some Jews. It has no following among the masses.

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There are only three really popular mass parties. These are the Christian Democrats, the Communists and the Socialists. The Liberal Party is one of elites, while the Democrazia del Lavoro has no or few followers.

As to the strength of the parties in the Rome area (Note: to which the whole of Gonella's remarks apply, unless otherwise indicated) the Liberals are strong, the Communists weak, as also are the Socialists. The Christian Democrats are very strong in Rome. The State employees are either Christian Democrats or Socialists. As to the Party of Action, it has a following of the liberal-minded bourgeoisie, of intellectuals, but no mass following.

The workers are divided out among the Communists, the Socialists, and the Christian Democrats.

In Rome the Party of Action is hostile to the Republican Party, a representative of which is the former deputy Chiesi, who edited the Voce Repubblicana.

Regarding the so-called "Catholic Communists", they cannot be called a party. They consist of a handful of young students who belong to Catholic associations and have left leanings. The Communist Party took advantage of this fact, and roped them in. They must be regarded as a section of the Communist Party. They have a small following, it is understood, in Veneto.

Then there are the Christian Socialists, i.e., Catholics with socialist leanings, but they are an insignificant minority, perhaps one in 1000 in Rome.

Asked whether the Pope has personal sympathies towards the Allies, Gonella replied that the atmosphere is wholly, one hundred percent favourable. Highly placed Catholics naturally show a reserved form of sentiment, and do not take sides, and must appear as objective as possible. Privately a cardinal, say, would be in agreement with the Allies, and in their favour. Publicly, he would make no professions of his sympathies.

There are no really anti-democratic currents in the Church. They accepted Fascism, but only under violence. Asked whether many ecclesiastics did not support Fascism, Gonella replied that where they did so, they were mostly small figures. To take the case of

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In any case again, it must always be remembered that the Vatican is always very slow to show its attitude towards big and vital problems which arise. 3628

The Germans were guilty of many violations of the terms of the Italo-Vatican Lateran Treaty. They forcibly entered a basilica and other Vatican buildings, using their military units.

To return to the violations, the Vatican is of course a neutral state as regards territory; the churches are extra-territorial; the colleges, however, are not so, but permission under the Lateran Treaty must first be obtained before they can be entered by outsiders. Roveda, when enjoying protection in a Catholic institution, foolishly admitted his identity.

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In Northern Italy, many Socialists and Communists are working with the Christian Democrats. There has been a big change. Most of the parties were formerly anti-clerical, but a big difference has taken place. The result has been that the parties are trying to get Churchmen into their ranks.

Speaking of his arrest in 1939 (September 1st), Gonella said he was arrested by members of the Gestapo who were attached to the Italian "Ufficio Rezza."

Caruso, Quercaro of Rome, was an exponent of the Cvra.

A certain Koch, an Italian from Florence, was a leading Cvra member, who did not trust the Roma Cvra.

Turning to the question of a Constituent Assembly, Gonella said all were agreed that the Constitution must be changed. Balanced minds however believe that there was no need for haste in this connection.

Asked about Prince Humbert's famous interview with The Times, some people even thought it was not true! Yet the Prince has many sympathizers in Rome. Many would like to see him take an active part in the fighting (but not, Gonella jokingly remarked, that he might get killed!)

Croce and Sforza have discredited themselves greatly by their vacillating policy. Sforza particularly has fallen in public opinion.

As to the names of possible new Ministers, when the Government is reshuffled in Rome, Gonella indicated the members of the Committee of Liberation in Rome. What was needed was a blend of young and old men. Lamalfa was not a man of many clear ideas. Moreover, he was extremely intransigent, which represented a weakness.

7 Impressions of Party Activity

The liberation of Rome has naturally given an extraordinary impetus to the life of the political parties, which have emerged from their underground life with the pent-up vitality of forces which have been for long violently compressed.

Within twelve hours of the appearance of the Allied troops in the capital, some of the parties were already organizing with amazing activity their new open and free life. The Socialist Party headquarters set up in the spacious offices of a former Fascist organization.

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Within twelve hours of the appearance of the Allied troops in the capital, some of the parties were already organizing with amazing activity their new open-end free life. The Socialist Party headquarters set up in the spacious offices of a former Fascist organization from the balcony hung a large red banner with the party name written large. The same applied to the Communist Party. Bands of Communists, with that good organization which has so far marked their efforts in Italy, had formed their squads and were marching about the streets in orderly groups. The leader of one of these had taken advantage of a low terrace over the entrance of one of Rome's finest and most modern hotels, the Bernini in the frequented Piazza Barberini, to harangue the crowd which soon collected from the masses whirling through the piazzas.

Socialist Party (Via Lucullo) Secretary, Pietro Nenni. The Directorate consists of: Clindo Vernocchi (Dr.), of Viale Gorizia, 43. Pietro Nenni (see above for other post). Ing. Giuseppe Romite, Via Levico, 12. Ing. Andrea Molinari. Avv. Carmine Mancinelli. Dr. Giuseppe Saragat. Dott. Nicola Ferretti, Surgeon, Corso Trieste, 146

Nenni made a good impression, calm, intelligent, active. After giving all the information asked for, he rushed off

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to a printing office to produce, with half-a-dozen of his men, a newspaper issue of the party hopes will become the regular local "Avanti."

Incidentally, Nenni stated that Roveca was in prison at Padua, and that the Germans had opened the prison in Via Tasso, Rome, and taken away 75 political prisoners, including BRUNO BUZZI, Secretary-General of the Confederation of Labour. The Germans had, however, allowed many political prisoners to go free.

Enomi told WB that in addition to the six parties in Rome there were also the following:

Catholic Communist
Christian Socialist
Republicans
Socialist revolutionary party
Trotsky Communist

8 Clandestine papers in Rome.

Enomi told PWB that the following papers have been published clandestinely in Rome by the various parties.

Christian Democrat	"Il Popolo"
Liberals	"Risorgimento"
Action Party	"L'Unita Libera"
Democratic Labour	"Ricostruzione"
Socialist	"Avanti"
Communist	"Unita"
Republican Party	"Voce Repubblicana"

9 Fascist headquarters at Palazzo Braschi

The Fascist party offices off the Corso Vittorio Emanuele were entirely evacuated in January of this year after the Lazio landings. The whole building is now used as flats for workers. The porter said that the cellars had been used by the Fascists as a prison for political suspects and that they were interrogated there. He did not know whether there had

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10. Death of Buozzi

The death of Bruno Buozzi was communicated to PNB on June 7th by two official representatives of the Socialist Party who have been appointed by the party to "liaise" with "PN" Section. They are Prof. Mario Zagari of Corso Trieste 199, and Dott. Franco Malfatti of Via V. Veneto 108. Their story which is fully covered in the newspapers, is that at 0100 hours on the morning of the 4th of June Buozzi was taken from the German Intelligence offices in Via Tasso with his hands tied behind his back. He was put in a German truck together with 13 other prisoners who were all destined for the Special Tribunal at Verona. The truck proceeded along the Via Cassia to the 14 km. stone where it stopped and the prisoners were made to get out. They were then murdered at the roadside and their bodies left on the spot. Buozzi was beaten behind the back with some heavy object and then shot dead. Three other members of the Socialist Party were also murdered at the same time. They were LIBANO DEANGELI, TOMELLI, Salvatore, and BALDUCCI Frederick, a Pole who was better known in Rome as Raffaele. The 14 bodies were brought back to the Santo Spirito Hospital in Rome.

11. Information from the Socialists

Zacari and Malfatti informed a PNB officer that the Socialist Party in Rome has a Patto d'Azione with the Communist Party for collaboration and discussion on points concerning the two parties on (a) Political Action, (b) Trade Unions, and (c) Cultural Organisation. They stated that the same thing had happened between the Socialists and Communists in France after the 7th Moscow Congress which took place in 1936. They considered that the Partito Popolare had grown from this event.

They said that the BBC and Radio Tunis were the best heard called Stations in Rome and that Bari was too badly jammed to be well heard.

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12. Interview with De Gasperi 7.6.44.

A P.W.B. officer visited On. De Gasperi the Christian Democrat Leader at the headquarters of the party, 46 Piazza del Gesu. The place seemed very busy. There were several large reception rooms where secretaries received the visitor. He was ushered into an inner apartment bearing a large notice "COMANDO MILITARE" into the presence of General Rodriguez who is the Commander of the Christian Democrat military formations. De Gasperi is a middle aged man who gives the impression of concealing a great deal of vitality beneath a calm exterior. He disclosed that nearly all political leaders had at one time or another sought refuge in the religious houses which are so numerous in the city of Rome. On one occasion when he and Nenni were crouching in an underground cellar below one of these institutions, hiding away from a search of the premises which had been threatened Nenni remarked "It may be what I call destiny or what De Gasperi calls Providence, but it comes out to the same thing if we're caught tonight." Ruini was a politician had been decidedly anti-clerical said jokingly "The trouble is that this sort of thing will put back anti-clericalism for another 30 years." It was true that amongst the members of the committee nearly everyone of whom had been harboured by the Rome and whose work had been made possible only by a network of clergy which was constituted for the most part by clerical messengers, the old spirit of anti-clericalism had disappeared.

Asked what was the attitude of the Committee to the new Badoglio government, De Gasperi replied that the policy of reconciliation and moderation announced by Togliatti was one for which the Liberals and Christian Democrats had long contended and it met with their approval. There was, however, a stronger prejudice against Badoglio amongst the members of the Rome Committee than appeared to be the case further south. He explained this by describing the pitiful impression made by Badoglio's sudden flight from Rome in September. It was perhaps reasonable for the king to go, but a general should stay to fight, and to leave everything in the hands of the aged Marshal Cavallotti without issuing proper instructions was a reprehensible dereliction of duty which the Romans who stayed behind could not forget. There was also the fact that Badoglio had shown himself to be politically a "gaffeur" of the first order and hence his removal from office would be welcomed.

Democrat... Questioned about the possibility of the Committee

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Questioned about the possibility of the Christian Democrats, the Labour Democrats and the Party of Action forming a central block he said that it was possible and desirable, but that, so far, the Action Party had always sided with the Communists and Socialists. They were also the most anti-clerical of the parties. There had been clashes between the leaders of both parties but so far no agreement had been reached.

De Gasperi expressed some anxiety as to the lack of clarity of Anglo-American policy in Italy. He fully understood that a direct intervention in Italian internal affairs was not desirable but he considered that some indication might be given of a policy which would assist the forces of democracy vis-a-vis the Russian influence in the country.

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Turning to the activities of General Bencivengo, De Gasperi told the following story:-

Some time in March the news came through to the Committee of National Liberation that Badoglio had appointed General Arduini head of the armed forces of the Crown in Rome. Many members of the committee objected to this appointment as Arduini had been an outstanding Fascist. They therefore proposed General Bencivengo whose record as regular Fascist was pure. At the same time Bencivengo was put forward by a friend of his, a rich Italo-American who was in touch with an American secret organization. Marshal Badoglio's approval of the nomination of Bencivengo was notified to the Committee through the secret military authority in Rome.

Bencivengo is an ambitious man and it was his desire to fuse the aims of all the parties of the Committee in a single movement - the Unione Democratica of which he was to be the head. In fact, however, as his pretensions increased so his prestige with the Committee diminished. Moreover, he surrounded himself with the most doubtful characters of the "Green Shirt" movement whose antecedents were decidedly fascist.

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Biographical Notes on Prominent Political Personalities in Rome

Enrico Berlinguer, Socialist Party. Born Faenza, 53 years ago. He began his career as a journalist, and first joined the Italian Republican Party with which he stayed for many years, and became one of its foremost exponents, especially as the Editor of the Party organs. When the Libyan war began in 1911, he, like the members of the Socialist Party, displayed opposition to it and took part in counter-manifestations against it, in company with Mussolini. Both men were arrested, tried and sentenced to one year's imprisonment. Between 1920 and 1921, Berlinguer's sympathies turned towards the Socialist party, which he joined. Soon after the Great War, he became Editor of the daily *Giornale del Lavoro* of Bologna and he also collaborated with *Il Secolo* of Milan. He went to the Avanti in 1921, first as its Paris Correspondent. He was recalled to be Chief News Editor under Serrati. As a result of the crisis which developed when Serrati passed to the Communist Party in 1923, Berlinguer, together with Vernocchi and Tomigliano, was called to direct the Avanti; he also entered the Directorate of the Socialist Party. He is the author of several books, including the volume *Due Anni di lotta civile in Italia*, and of many propaganda pamphlets. He was always in the front line in the fight against Fascism.

When in 1926, the Avanti was suppressed and the Socialist Party dissolved in Italy, Berlinguer emigrated to France. Here, particularly in Paris, he took part in journalistic activity with newspapers of the Left, including *Le Soir*, and edited the Avanti, which was then the organ of the Maximilists. He led a campaign for the unification of the various Socialist currents. In 1930 this unity was achieved and he became Secretary of the Socialist Party and Editor of the Party newspaper. He was also connected with the international Socialist movement. His policy is essentially linked with the unity of action of the working classes, and he was, therefore, always favourable to the most ample agreement with the Communists, while maintaining his Socialist line.

During the Spanish Civil War, he went to Spain to fight with the Republicans against Franco and was among the organisers and inspirers of the Geribaldi brigade with which he fought in the line. He was a close councillor of the leading Spanish republicans. The Spanish war ended, he returned to France. When Paris was occupied by the Germans in 1940, Berlinguer took refuge in the south of France, where he was arbitrarily arrested by the Gestapo in Vichy territory, taken first to Paris and then to the concentration camps.

imprisonment. Between 1920 and 1921, Nenni's sympathies turned towards the Socialist party, which he joined. Soon after the Great War, he became Editor of the daily Giornale del Lavoro of Bologna and he also collaborated with Il Secolo of Milan. He went to the Avanti in 1921, first as its Paris Correspondent. He was recalled to be Chief News Editor under Serrati. As a result of the crisis which developed when Serrati passed to the Communist Party in 1923, Nenni, together with Vernocchi and Comigliano, was called to direct the Avanti; he also entered the Directorate of the Socialist Party. He is the author of several books, including the volume "Due Anni di lotta civile in Italia," and of many propaganda pamphlets. He was always in the front line in the fight against Fascism.

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DR. Alvide De Gaspari, Christian Democrat. Born at Trento in 1862. Doctor in letters. He early entered the journalistic and political world; he became editor of the Catholic newspaper in Trento, the Nuovo Trentino. Later he was a deputy in the Dieta of Innsbruck and in the Austrian parliament. On account of his irreligious activity, De Gaspari was tried and sentenced by the Austrian Government.

Passages marked at the side with a line are for information only.

DR GIOVANNI GAMBOLI, Christian Democrat, born 1887 at Pontedera, Tuscany. Doctor in letters, he was a professor in various cities. During the Great War he was decorated for gallantry. After the war he entered political life, and in the period 1922-1923, was Under Secretary for National Economy. After the advent of Fascism he retired to private life, and devoted some of his activity to industry. He was several times threatened by the Fascists during the recent war years and was compelled to hid. After July 25, 1943, he came to home from Milan and participated in meetings of the Committee for National Liberation. He is an accomplished writer, and his articles have appeared in all the organs of the Christian Democrat Party. He was one of the directors of the clandestine press of the Party.

SARACAT, Socialist Party. Born Torini, 1896. Doctor of Economic Sciences. He first entered banking, and at the age of 22 entered political life as a member of the Socialist Party, working at both Turin and Milan. He is now a member of the Socialist Party Directorate. From 1926 to 1930 he was compelled to take refuge in Austria from Fascist persecution, but continued to occupy himself in politics, and social studies. In 1930 he went to France, where he pursued his anti-Fascist activities as a member of the Directorate of the Italian Socialist Party. Saracat was joint-editor of the *Liberté*, printed in Paris. His literary activity has included books, *L'Umanismo Marxista* and the *Democrazia Marxista*, as well as many pamphlets. His life for the past 20 years has been one of constant struggle against Fascism. He left France in August, 1943, and reached home where he joined the central Directorate of his Party which was working underground. In October, 1943, he was arrested by the Fascists in home. He ended over to the Germans, he spent three months in the prison Regina Coeli, but in January, 1944, succeeded in escaping together with six of his fellow-Socialists; he continued as co-editor of the clandestine *Avanti*, and during this period had often to change his residence to escape Nazi-Fascist persecution. His policy is of the Socialist-Democratic trend.

ROBERTO COLOMBO, AVANTI, Socialist Party. Born Tortona (Alessandria) 1897. Took his degree in engineering at Torino; he became interested in political life and eventually was elected as a Turin deputy of the Communal Legislative Council and of the Provincial body for Alessandria (1914 - 1923). He was sent to confine in 1926 and again in 1931, and in fact passed his life between 1925 and 1934 either in prison or under close Fascist supervision. On account of his anti-Fascist activities, he was struck off the list.

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NO' CURELLA, ANITA, Socialist Party. Born Tortona (Alessandria) 1887. Took his degree in engineering at Torino; he became interested in political life and eventually was elected as a Turin deputy of the Communal Legislative Council and of the Provincial body for Alessandria (1914 - 1923). He was sent to confine in 1926 and again in 1931, and in fact passed his life between 1926 and 1934 either in prison or under close Fascist supervision. On account of his anti-Fascist activities, he was struck off the national roll of Engineers, and hence was unable to exercise his profession at which he had at one time worked with distinction.

From 1920 to 1926 he was a member of the Directorate of the Socialist Party. In 1943, together with other members, Romita reformed the Italian Socialist Party, while the Fascist regime was still in power, for which he had always worked underground during the regime. From 1914 to 1926 he was also Editor of the newspaper Crudo del Popolo di Turin. Romita is at present a member of the Directorate of the Socialist Party.

APPENDIX I

THE PRESS IN LIBERATED ROME.

Of the newspapers which have been appearing in Rome since June 5th the Messaggero, Giornale d'Italia and the Libera Stampa are not reflecting any party tendency. In addition the following party papers have been appearing (the list may not be complete):

- Risorgimento Liberale
- Ricostruzione
- Italia Libera
- L'Unita
- Voce Operaia
- Liberal Party
- Democrazia del Lavoro
- Action Party
- Communist Party
- Catholic Communists

The Osservatore Romano has continued publication normally.

So far, none of these papers has taken up a clear attitude to the Italian political situation. They speak in a general way of a national, democratic government, on the lines of the solution reached in Southern Italy. They devote their greatest attention, however, to the liberation of Rome and the Allied landings in France.

There follow some translations of extracts from the Rome papers:

Messaggero, June 6th. A leading article entitled "Civiltà" observed:

"The period of Nazi-Fascist oppression of Rome is over. The enthusiasm with which the people has saluted the arrival of Allied troops expresses with a profound and immediate eloquence the sentiments of the city which in these soldiers... greeted the representatives of nations to which they are drawn by common principles of liberty and the same deeply and truly civilised sentiments of life. Civilization means respect for the individual and for his ideas, faith in spiritual values, and not blind obedience to brute force."

Risorgimento Liberale. June 6th. In a leading article entitled "L'Ora dell'Italia" writes: "The Germans are in flight from the gates of Rome. Along the roads which lead to the Abruzzi and Tuscany long lines of armoured cars, mechanised transport, guns and batches of disordered and worn infantrymen are moving towards their dark destiny. They are accompanied by the execrations of a whole people. The men who yesterday passed through the streets of Rome, pale, exhausted, with the marks of lost confidence on their faces, are the men who used to devastate peaceful countries, attack unarmed populations, destroy with inextinguishable ferocity cities and villages..."

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"It will not be we Liberals to recall the traditions of solidarity which linked the Italian people with the Anglo-Saxon countries throughout modern history. Today we will welcome them with the dignified calm of those who have nothing with which to reproach themselves. At the same time we cannot hide within ourselves a feeling of sadness. We are the first not to conceal the fact that the sorrow and destruction which our country has suffered, are the just expiation of a past which was stronger than ourselves."

Risorgimento Liberale, June 6th reports in large headlines the news of the landing in France by Allied troops. An article entitled "The Allies and ourselves", signed by the initials M.L. says among other things:

"The government of July 25th, if it could scornfully reject, on its own behalf and that of Italy, the accusation of treachery, could not however, have the moral authority which derives from a freely chosen and generously followed line of political conduct. This explains the

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the diffidence of the Allies, the reserve which, to a certain point, they showed. The Bari government was the defeated government, the signatory of an Armistice of defeat. Its war against Germany was legitimate defence against an aggressor, but had nothing to do with the motives for which the United Nations state that they are fighting.

"These, however, are internal Italian questions, while... what the United Nations should take as a basis for their evaluation of the Italian fact that today in Rome they are in contact with the Italian people. To doubt him is impossible in a city where for nine months, during the best organized and most cruel police force in the world, the leaders of the democratic parties, the officials, soldiers, patriots, strong in the solidarity of all citizens, have plotted and struggled without respite, even when the period of waiting seemed to stretch into infinity. To give the Italian people, from Rome, the recognition of the place which is due to them in a war for civilisation and for the survival of human values is now not only a duty of justice, but an act of political skill. Only this will put an end to the ambiguities, the last hesitations, and will gather round the Allied armies the army of 1915 and 1918. This will be the way to show that in this war it is ideologies and barbarities that will be defeated, but not peoples."

Giornale d'Italia (June 6th) 'The director of the paper is Armando Zanetti, editor Roberto Trombetti. A paragraph in the paper announces that Alberto Bergamini has transferred the direction of the paper to Armando Zanetti and adds: "The tradition set by Alberto Bergamini and continued by Vittorio Vettori, whose memory we salute, is taken up again after eighteen years of Fascist bilgewater. It is the tradition of a profoundly liberal, but not a party newspaper; of a newspaper which desires to reflect national and international life in all its manifestations. In these last few days it has been proposed that all except the party newspapers should change their names. He accepted this change to show that, in moments of crisis, firmness of character does not exclude reasonable compromise. But we are glad that at the last moment all decisions on this subject were postponed. If we have to change the name of everything which the last eighteen years of totalitarian regime has profaned and poisoned, we would have to change the name of Italy herself and of all her institutions. But it is the property of great peoples to survive the worst illnesses."

Like the organ of the Democrazia del Lavoro, Ricostruzione, the paper carries the message of Ivanoe Bonomi, President of the Committee of National Liberation spoken at Piazza Colonna. "

"People of Rome, I salute you in this hour of exultation. Rome

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"People of Rome, I salute you in this hour of exultation. Rome is freed. The German army is in flight and with it in its flight are the last remains of the tragic Fascist domination. In these long months of waiting you will have learnt that the pretended ally was nothing but the traditional enemy of Italy, and that Fascism was nothing but its servant ready, in order to live again, to betray the country."

"Today one stage has been passed: Rome is freed. But, citizens of Rome, we must think of a higher aim: the liberation of Italy. Our brothers who are still in the occupied areas are living with their blood the epic pages of the new Italian risorgimento. The people of Rome must go towards these brothers to free them, the Italian armed forces must take up their march again and fight this new war to cancel the shame of the war which was imposed on them."

"Citizens of Rome, draw in your ranks, temper your hearts for the new battle, and we will go towards our brothers who are waiting to free them, to free Italy who will certainly be more just and more fair to her sons."

The paper declares that at Bonomi's words many young men replied with the enthusiastic shout of "We want to fight!"

In the editorial entitled "Liberation" we read: "Liberty today means concord. Not the passive concord of those who are accustomed to obey authority no matter what it may be; but that active concord that never gives up its rights to speak but knows through action how to accept the just compromise. The work of the Committee of Liberation in which all collaborate and all appreciate one another from Liberals to Communists but in which all maintain their own opinion, should be an example for all. The guarantee of all liberties especially in this period of war in which so many great and small liberties have to be taken away by force majeure is the freedom of the press. Here alone absolute intransigence is essential. The great free peoples such as the English and the Americans are an example that war discipline is compatible with the widest liberty to criticize and with the most perfect freedom of the press."

L'Italia Libera (5th June) Party of Action.

In the editorial called "Four Years After", readers are reminded that four years have passed since that afternoon on the tenth of June, 1940, when a renouveau and repentant voice announced that a period had opened in which civilization would be wiped out. And indeed this was the only promise effectively maintained by the Fascist government. Elsewhere is told how the joy of liberation is clouded by the presence of many people without a roof scattered throughout the city and in those concentration camps where for many months entire populations of formerly flourishing towns and villages now destroyed by total war, have been left to languish by the German High Command.

L'Unità (6th of June) Communist.

The editorial entitled "Home" says: "For months the Germans have fought the Germans and their wretched Fascist accomplices. Another war is about to begin, a war in the open and with equal arms in the ranks of the Italian corps of liberation. The old battle cry of the Italian people 'O Roma O Morte' now becomes for every Roman another cry of recovery and victory, or 'O Italia O Morte'. Rome's liberation will give a new meaning to our national war which will be felt from the Tiber to the Alps."

In the same number of the paper readers are warned that the Italian Communist Party has no responsibility for the activities, publications and demonstrations of a so-called Italian Communist

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L'Unità (6th of June) Communist.

The editorial entitled "Rome" says: "For months the Romans have fought the Germans and their wretched Fascist accomplices. Another war is about to begin, a war in the open and with equal arms in the ranks of the Italian corps of liberation. The old battle cry of the Italian people 'O Roma O Morte' now becomes for every Roman another cry of recovery and victory, or 'O Italia O morte'. Rome's liberation will give a new meaning to our national war which will be felt from the Tiber to the Alps."

In the same number of the paper readers are warned that the Italian Communist Party has no responsibility for the activities, publications and demonstrations of a so-called Italian Communist movement installed in Via Di Pietro. (It is unlikely that this movement is the same as the Catholic Communist movement which is not the Via Di Pietro.)

Voce Operaia (5th June) Catholic Communist movement; editor Fedele D'Amico.

An announcement in heavy type warns the members of the Council that they are to meet at five o'clock in the old clandestine headquarters of the movement in the Vicolo Santa Maria in Cappella in Trastevere. A long front page article called "The Catholic Communists in the War of Liberation" deals briefly with the movement's activity during the months of occupation. It says that the movement's activity published fourteen times and secretly distributed in northern Italy. The movement also claims to have organized the strike of the 3rd day in Rome. "Alone among all the others our movement fulfilled to the

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letter and with complete success all the tasks assigned to it by the Committee of Liberation; our members demobilised treasuries, shut down shops and succeeded in causing a complete strike among the distributing agents of the Lessaggiere, the only fact that the Fascist press was forced to recognize." In another part of the paper it is claimed that today the Party becomes a legal entity, conscious of its duties to collaborate in national reconstruction to which it will direct Catholic working masses. Members of the party, writes the paper, have known Fascist prisons, persecution and torture chambers. Several of their best men have been killed. The names of Kornalido Chiesa, student, and of Guerrino Sbardollic, worker, must be recorded at the head of the list of their martyrs.

Libera Stampa (7th June) The Paper of the People.

The subtitle of this paper declares that it represents the views of a group of anti-fascist journalists, without adhering to any precise political doctrine. "This paper wishes to reflect the views of a group of men whose past is itself the guarantee of professional experience and political honesty. They wish today to reaffirm the right to freedom of the press not only as a means for expressing opinions but also as a truthful instrument of a nation." The Director of the paper is Ermete Santucci.

N.B. Il Lessaggiere was directed during German occupation by the Fascist Bruno Spennato. On the fifth of June it appeared under the direction of Tomaso Smith. A passage in italics declares that Smith "after twenty years of involuntary absence returned to journalism on the 25th of July, 1943. Arrested, he managed to escape from deportation by the Germans and has now taken over direction of the paper."

LIST OF PRINTING AND CORRESPONDENTS IN SWITZERLAND

<u>Antonio Scanzini</u>	Agenzia Telegrafica Svizzera	Bern
<u>Robert Model</u>	Neue Zürcher Zeitung	Zurich
<u>Alfred Keppler</u>	Journal de Geneve	Geneva
<u>Otto Schmidt</u>	BUND	Bern
<u>George Popoff</u>	Tagenanzeiger	Zurich
	Gezette de Lausanne	Lausanne
	Stockholm Tidningen	Stockholm
	Basler Nachrichten	Basle
	Die Tat	Zurich

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LIST OF NEUTRAL AND CORRESPONDENTS IN A.C.I.E.

SWITZERLAND

Antonio Scanzini
Robert Hoel
Alfred Keppler
Otto Schmidt
George Popoff

Agenzia Telegrafica Svizzera
Neue Zuercher Zeitung
Journal de Geneve
BUND
Tagesanzeiger
Gazette de Lausanne
Stockholm Tidningen
Basler Nachrichten
Die Tat

Bern
Zurich
Geneva
Bern
Zurich
Lausanne
Stockholm
Basle
Zurich

SWEDEN

Gunhild Bergh
Arvid Johanneson

Goteborgs Handels
Och Sjöfartstidning
Svenska Dagbladet

Goteborg
Goteborg
Stockholm

SPAIN

Luis Gonzales Alonso
Julio Lloriones Casas

Ja
El Pueblo
Agenzia E.F.E.
Diario

Madrid
Madrid
Madrid
Madrid

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APPENDIX I

Survey on the town of Arpino.
The approaches to Rome.

Arpino is the first town of some importance met so far on the 8th Army front since the offensive started which has not been fought for or destroyed by German or Allied air activities. The town is undamaged, only a couple of buildings blown up by the Germans to block the road.

The population of 11,000 plus 6 to 8,000 refugees led a normal life throughout the battle. Arpino was a kind of rest camp for German troops, and several German units were always stationed in the town and vicinities. Their morale was rather good. There was a big force of Guardia Repubblicani. The population was always passive, made money with the German troops and lived an easy life.

The country is fairly rich, lands are good. No big land owners, but several small proprietors. A large percentage of the population is composed of emigrants, who returned to the country with money, bought lands and lived happily. No movements of resistance or organized committees of Liberation have been registered.

The Mayor, a certain Gustavo Emilic and the Secretary Giuriolo were both arrested by the F.S.S. Giuriolo was hated by the population.

The Black Market was very flourishing owing to numerous troops: prices:

Flour	150 lire per kilo
Salt	400 lire per kilo
Bread	150 lire per kilo
Wine	50 to 70 lire per litre.

The German troops were rather popular in the town until they started looting before their retreat. Fortunately the withdrawal was very hasty and not much harm could be done.

Most of the Guardia Repubblicani were hated. Attached is a list of them given by a Lt. of the Carabinieri Felice Vincenzo.

There were very few wireless sets and the Allied broadcasts were listened to very secretly and only for the news bulletin.

Following were interviewed:

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AVV. REA. - He is the most popular man in the town belonging to an old respected family.

The A.M.G. wanted to appoint him new mayor. Pretends to be a Monarchist and Democrat. He said the population is very good and passive, and no political troubles are to be expected. He does not believe in a Communist danger in Italy.

He thinks that the town should be purged of a few dangerous elements, but he would not like to do it.

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Part II

Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only

Report on Fontane Liri.

Fontane Liri is a village distant a few miles from Arpinoc. Population 5 to 6000 peasants and workers. There was an ammunition factory in the vicinity.

The only factor of some interest is the political situation raised after the armistice which led to the appointment of the new mayor. Following are the facts found out after several interpellations.

After the armistice, there were several British and South Africans escaped prisoners in the surroundings of Fontane Liri. They were helped and assisted by the population and a small armed group was found under the leadership of D'Innocenzo and proposed an association to form a Comitato di Liberazione. This was accepted. Several prisoners were assisted and helped.

Later on, for reasons not ascertained, but probably political dissensions, a dispute led to a division of the Comitato at the beginning of January. Le Vie and Giannette formed a new Comitato with a Col. Martinelli.

Martinelli worked in the ammunition factory. He contacted a secret Redoglio organization in Rome and got funds to help prisoners. (The leader of this organization is presumed to be Alessio Bastico and the secretary Lt. Col. Bertoni Nino; via Cell' Università, Rome, Telef. 491645.)

D'Innocenzo carried on with his gang. Both groups helped a few prisoners. Just before the Allied troops arrived, D'Innocenzo arrested Giannetti and Col. Martinelli and took over the administration of Fontane. D'Innocenzo is apparently a convinced Communist. He is popular in Fontane. With his strong political sentiments,

Fontane Liri is a village distant a few miles from Arpino. Population 5 to 6000 peasants and workers. There was an ammunition factory in the vicinity.

The only factor of some interest is the political situation raised after the armistice which led to the appointment of the new mayor. Following are the facts found out after several interrogations.

After the armistice, there were several British and South Africans escaped prisoners in the surroundings of Fontane Liri. They were helped and assisted by the population and a small armed group was found under the leadership of D'Innocenzo and proposed and association to form a Comitato di Liberazione. This was accepted. Several prisoners were assisted and helped.

Later on, for reasons not ascertained, but probably political dissensions, a dispute led to a division of the Comitato at the beginning of January. La Via and Giannette formed a new Comitato with a Col. Martinelli.

Martinelli worked in the ammunition factory. He contacted a secret Redoglio organization in Rome and got funds to help prisoners. (The leader of this organization is presumed to be Marcello Bastico and the secretary Lt. Col. Bertoni Nino; via Cell' Universita, Rome, Telef. 491645.)

D'Innocenzo carried on with his gang. Both groups helped a few prisoners. Just before the Allied troops arrived, D'Innocenzo arrested Gianetti and Col. Martinelli and took over the administration of Fontane. D'Innocenzo is apparently a convinced Communist. He is popular in Fontane. With his strong political sentiments, he is inclined to be dictatorial. Fight create political trouble later on.

Report on Frasinara.

The following information was obtained from Ten. Marzi Arnaldo, Frosinone, by a P/B officer.

e) Every town in Italy has an organized Comitato di Liberazione including the various parties. For action various groups are organized called G.A.P. (Gruppo Azione Partitica.)

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Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only

The Comitato of Frosinone was composed by:

- avv. Merzi, Domenico, father of Ten. Merzi
- Speziani, Antonio, Liberal
- Don Minetto, Luigi, Demo-Christian
- Antonini, Vittorio, Azione
- Serafini, Epilabocco, Communist
- Angelilli, Giuseppe, Demo-Christian
- Aschicotti, Cesare, Liberal

They were hidden in the country and met when possible. They could not employ great activity owing to the number of German troops in the area. In the whole province there are about 20 Gruppi di Azione.

Major activity is deployed in the regions away from the front line. Not much information could be given because organizations and names are kept very secret.

Following towns were under Frosinone's comitato:

- Amegni - leader of resistance movements Ten. Quattrocci.
- Veroli - leader of resistance movements Ing. Carocci
- Guareino - " " " Maj. Volpicelli, Dente
- Guareano - " " " Brotnera Bertoli
- Altari - " " " Maestro Baroni
- Surgola - " " " Pellone

Palieno is one of the regions of greatest activities and better organized resistance; the leader is a man named Rigetto.

b) In Frosinone the movement started immediately after the armistice and got rather well organized. Then owing to the formation of the fascist republican government, and a long crisis and began to be reorganized in January. Contacts were made with Rome. Several Clancantine newspapers were sent from Rome. The events, Bendiera Rossa, Italia Libera, Only one wireless set was available, and all Allied broadcasts listened to.

Activities of the Comitato: several telephone wires cut. Lines neutralised. Small individual attacks on German soldiers. They took over administration as soon as the Allied troops entered the town.

They could not deploy great activity owing to the number of German troops in the area. In the whole province there are about 20 Gruppi di Azione.

Major activity is deployed in the regions away from the front line. Not much information could be given because organizations and names are kept very secret.

Following towns were under Frosinone's committee:

Amegni - leader of resistance movements	Ted. Quatrocci.
Veroli - leader of resistance movements	Ing. Carossi
Guareino - " " " "	Maj. Volpicelli, Dante
Guareino - " " " "	Brotnera Bartoli
Altari - " " " "	Maestro Baroni
Sgurgola - " " " "	Pallone

Pelieno is one of the regions of greatest activities and better organized resistance; the leader is a man named Rigetto.

b) In Frosinone the movement started immediately after the armistice and got rather well organized. Then owing to the formation of the fascist republican government, and a long crisis and began to be reorganized in January. Contacts were made with Rome. Several clandestine newspapers were sent from Rome. The avanti, Bandiera Rossa, Italia Libert, Only one wireless set was available, and all Allied broadcasts listened to.

Activities of the Comitato: several telephone wires cut. Lines neutralised. Small individual attacks on German soldiers. They took over administration as soon as the Allied troops entered the town.

c) In the Marche and Umbria the G.A.P. are very well organized and operate with great success on a large scale. 3421

In Umbria for a long time the village of Umbertide was occupied by the Partisans.

The Germans refused to give transport to deliver food to the population of Umbria, because all trucks were attacked.

d) B.E.C. was listened to as well as Bari-Neples, which were being closely followed for instructions on what to do. A grave difficulty was that the electric power plants were destroyed by the Germans and battery sets are scarce. It is strongly urged by Marzi that more copies of Italia Combattente should be dropped from the air.

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