Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ACC

10000 / 125 / 107 33/PAT — WC
F

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

10000/125/107 33/PAT — WEEKLY PRESS REPORTS
FEB. 45 — OCT. 45

FILE	MINUTE SHEET No. 1	
331/PAT		
DATE		PAGE
3rd/April	To Major Gibson S.O(M) Liaison Staff. See folio 7 para 5 Amendment 5 Craig Lt-Col	

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

8 OCT Recd

October 6, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 27

POLITICAL

The *Consulta*, the first assembly of popular representation to be held in Montecitorio since the last meeting of the Italian Parliament about two decades ago, completed its first cycle of plenary sessions 3 October. After Prime Minister Parri's speech on the political, economic and reconstruction plans of the Government, all the parties commented, through their orators, on the various points of these plans and all of them found the occasion notably suitable for making party propaganda. Noteworthy was General Bencivenga's speech on the 28th, particularly because he expressed the strongest criticism of the Government up to that point. Bencivenga is the promoter of a movement of the middle classes. He sat on the extreme right as part of the opposition. His speech was often interrupted by shouts of disapproval till, at a certain moment, in his capacity of President of the *Consulta*, Count Sforza had to ask him to sum up what he still had to say. Naturally, *Italia Nuova* commented on the incident, saying that after only three days of meetings, the Leftist parties were already doing all they could to prevent the opposition from speaking. The monarchist paper said that the *Consultori*'s duty was to have listened to all that Bencivenga had to say, since his criticism of the Government and of the C. L. N. was absolutely correct, and that no other orators before him had been reminded that their speeches should be shorter.

The next day Foreign Minister De Gasperi, back from London, gave a detailed account of his mission, ending with an appeal to the Allies to remember President Roosevelt's ideals, that is, that this war was fought in order to safeguard the rights of men. He added that Italy believes that a just and constructive peace can be based only on such principles. Finally, on 2 October, Parri spoke again and answered very briefly all the various speeches which had been made during the week. He declared himself satisfied with the first experience of the *Consulta* which, rather than expressing its own opinion, had pointed out the various problems of the moment. He promised that the date for the elections of the *Costituente* would be fixed very shortly and asked all Italians not to forget that Italy is still under an Armistice regime and, therefore, in an unsettled situation. There was hope, however, that justice would be respected and that peace would be based on constructive principles. He ended by inviting the people to unite and to work.

The press, on the whole, declared itself satisfied with this first "experiment" of the *Consulta*, though, as almost all newspapers indicated, this was no reason further to delay the convocation of the *Costituente*. Subalpino, in *Avanti*, said that the *Consulta*, being a democratic assembly, should move out of Montecitorio which, somehow, "stinks of the *saluto romano*", though it was built before Fascism; this is only a proof, said the Socialist writer, that Parri was right in stating that, even before Fascism, democracy did not exist in Italy. *Ricostruzione* pointed out that speeches should be "spoken" and not "read", because it was very easy to read somebody else's works. Sforza himself added a jest to the occasion when he announced that microphones would be available for use of the orators, so that their voices might be better heard throughout the large hall, but that he regretted he could not supply microphones to all the "interrupters". *Italia Libera* said that this first week of meetings had strengthened the union between anti-Fascist parties, but that the parties must not consider this unity as a goal, but as a means to attain more important goals. The independent paper *Tempo* said that now we could realize how wide the gap was between the leftist group and the other parties and that there was no possibility of concord between them.

Nitti Attack.

On 3 October, as the *Consulta* was ending, former Prime Minister Nitti delivered his long-promised speech in the San Carlo theatre in Naples. The pre-war politician had the courage to say what so many Italians think but dare not pronounce, according to *Secolo XX*. At least his words touched to the core the sensitiveness of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

many, judging by the immediate reaction and comment they evoked. Nitti said that all the energies of a six-party Government were spent in trying to maintain order among these parties, instead of facing much more vital problems. These parties, he continued, though calling themselves anti-Fascist, were really still imbued with Fascist principles and Fascist mentality. He pointed out how absurd it was to want to have Communists in the same Government with Socialists – whose ideals he described as in absolute conflict – and even Catholics and Liberals, who were the natural enemies of all forms of Communism. He stressed the fact that Italy could not hope to receive help from abroad unless she showed the world that she was at least capable of stability, security and order; this help, furthermore, would be more likely to come from the western democracies than from anywhere else, he said. He made a spate of charges: it was high time to dissolve the C.L.N.; epuration should have been carried out a long time ago, all Italians with very few exceptions, were responsible for Fascism, as they were all Fascist. He went on to say that Italy would never be Communist and that a fusion between western Socialism and Bolshevism was not possible because of the great difference of mentality between Italians and Russians, as well as for historical and geographical reasons. Would it not be more important, he said, to know what and how we shall eat this winter, than to know when the *Costituente* is going to be convoked? Nitti ended his long speech by stating: "Should I form a new party, as many of my friends would like me to do, I would form a national party of reconstruction."

Unità, as might have been expected, immediately attacked Nitti, asserting that all those reactionary forces which did not find in the *Consulta* a man around whom to group themselves, would now naturally group around Nitti. *Italia Libera* joined the chorus and called Nitti a reactionary, saying that he had kept out of the *Consulta* because he knew that in that legal assembly his words would have provoked immediate answers. Leonida Repaci, in *Epoca*, approved of the speech in general but defended the necessity of having, at the present moment, a leftist Government, as being the only one which could ask the working masses to accept all those sacrifices which were necessary in order to avoid a complete paralysis of the social structure of the State. The Republicans were naturally stung by Nitti's implication that the solution to the present state of affairs would be a return to pre-Fascist monarchy.

Other Business.

On the fourth the Ministry of the Interior announced officially the arrest or rather the "fermo" of Finocchiaro Aprile, leader of the Sicilian Separatist movement. Spataro, Undersecretary for the Interior, stated that Finocchiaro Aprile "and Company" might be tried, since they were allegedly responsible for concrete crimes covered by law, but that it would perhaps be inadvisable to hold a trial which might give too great a political importance to the matter. Pacciardi at once expressed his disapproval of the procedure; either people must be arrested and tried, according to law, or else they should be free to express their own opinions. Pacciardi added that the Republicans had always disapproved of the Sicilian Separatist movement, and ended by hinting that this belated "fermo" had been carried out because the movement was evolving and becoming something of a Republican movement. *Italia Nuova* very briefly said: "at last".

The Ministers, too, have been busy, meeting twice in these eight days. On 28 September, an agreement with the Allies on the handing over to the Italian Government of surplus war material was approved. It was decided that the agreement drawn between the C.G.I.L. and the industrialists would become legal on the 15th of October. According to this agreement, all workers who once belonged to the OVRA or who have been epurated owing to their Fascist activities, as well as those who have other sources of income apart from their work, will be discharged and paid a daily indemnity of 30 lire during a maximum period of two months; working hours will be reduced to 40 per week; as many veterans as possible will be offered work.

Commenting on these measures, *Italia Libera* said that the Government was not really solving the problem of unemployment but merely making a series of compromises. It then suggested that the Government should organise a sort of labor army in which unemployed workers could enlist. They would be housed and fed and sent to various zones to do work not requiring any special training. During the last meeting of the Council, which took place on the third, it was decided to abolish the High Court of Justice and to replace it by a number of special sections of Courts of Assizes throughout the country so as to unify the procedures for sanctions against Fascism.

The papers of 4 October announced in huge headlines the apparent failure of the London Conference. According to *Avanti*, this failure shows

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

clearly that international cooperation cannot be the same in peace as in war. It is no use, said the Socialist organ, to try to decide which of the five Foreign Ministers is to blame. The Conference failed because the delegates tried to solve some of the problems set before them without realizing that all problems were tied up with one another. *Epoca* pessimistically wondered how Italy could have ever hoped to obtain something from the London conference, because, (it said) "Italy is merely an unimportant pawn in the big chess game which is being played in the world". *Globo*, the economic paper, said that, even if the political questions of frontiers cannot be solved now, at least countries which find themselves in a situation as tragic as Italy's should be put in a position to rebuild their economic activity. According to *Il Popolo*, Italy is a victim of disagreements among the Big Powers; the Cristian Democratic newspaper wondered why at least the question of colonies had not been solved.

"Italian contribution to the war of liberation." This headline, more or less the same in all the papers which mentioned the matter, appeared the other day across two or three columns of the first pages. The A. M. G. and A. C. Review had been released to the press and evidently, according to the Roman journalists, the most important items of the whole booklet were the figures on the Italian contribution to the war against Germany.

THE FUTURE

What's going to happen to all of us is something any of us can make his own guess at, but at this writing and from this vantage, the official facts at the moment are nil. There are, however, several factors which our own High Command have been chewing over, factors, moreover, open to the view of anyone who will sit down for a moment and analyze the known situation. First, the A. C., as in the times of original organization and amalgamation with AMG in the dear, dead and hectic winter of 1943, is in the throes of change, but it is not merely the dissolution of a military government group aiding combat operations which is the only factor. The paramount factor is the basic responsibility of the Allied nations active in the Allied Commission, namely, the United Kingdom and the United States, for insuring the peace, a task which already seems much more difficult than helping win the war, when urgent operational reasons provided the necessary justification for any legitimate shortcut to decisions. The question, therefore, of how the peace is obtained and maintained is what fundamentally is now up for action. Diplomatic channels, of course, are the routes to international solutions. The point of the minute is whether military representation is necessary as a sort of traffic guide for the freight travelling the crowded diplomatic highway.

And that is where we, the A. C., begin to figure in the picture. If one reads the newspapers, one knows that the London Conference terminated its sessions without announcing an Italian peace treaty. The delay in the handover of territory in the North, it is obions, has been tied up with the larger diplomatic questions. One knows that the Province of Udine is slated for even later handover than the rest of the North for obvious military reasons. The claiming by Austria of the South Tyrol or Alto Adige in the area of the Province of Bolzano as reported in the press raises another complication of handover. Then, lastly, there is the matter of Venezia-Giulia, now being studied by the deputies of the Big Five's Foreign Ministers. Until the diplomatic air clarifies, military forces will sit on the lid. How long we, as the A. C., go on sitting depends on decisions of the highest policy now being reviewed in Washington as to how far the U. S. wishes to use occupation forces as one means of implementing its foreign policy. That is the issue now being described in the U. S. press as occupying the attention of American officialdom. The British, with several centuries of active experience out from the native isles, apparently already have their policy.

The latest facts about U. S. officer personnel, as brought back from MTOUSA by Col. Charles M. Parkin, Commanding Officer, 2675th Regiment, are these: No one with 75 points, of course, can be declared essential and retained if he does not voluntarily wish to stay. Therefore, he will be redeployed and probably discharged as soon as the point system gets around to his number. Those who are willing to stay on a long-term basis now have to sign a Class A certificate (unfortunately, the third – and we hope – the last of its kind), which reads that the officer elects to continue on extended active duty unless sooner relieved, until 30 June 1947 or for the duration of the emergency and six months, if this occurs earlier. Incidentally, the call is out for volunteers for Far Eastern civil affairs officers who have signed Class A certificates. As far as anyone knows, there is no sign that officers may be arbitrarily assigned to the Far East, simply because they have signed in Class A. Those willing to serve on a short-term basis (6 monts or less)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

can still sign a Class B certificate (described in last week's *Bulletin*).

Col. Parkin also brought back word that the A.C. will have a top priority in replacements. Col. Parkin was also successful in clearing up what has been a rather muddled situation in the Regiment's T/O and strength. At present, on the U.S. side until 1 November, when a new T/O and strength will be fixed, the Regiment will have 443 officers and 868 enlisted men. It has already been announced that, as of 1 December, the Regiment should have a total of 700 persons, figured as 250 officers and 450 enlisted men. The over-worked personnel section of the Regiment will have to bank heavily on the promised replacements since, at present count, for the December 1st date, the known quantities who will be here are very few. In fact, at this reading, the figures are 154 officers, consisting of 46 Class A officers, 33 Class B (the six-month class) and the rest in low-score officers. Enlisted men of the Regular Army and with low scores who will be here 1 December now number only 185. One solution has been suggested: that certificates of necessity for officers whose services are essential be issued by the War Department. The Economic and Civil Affairs Sections are even now drawing up such lists of key personnel.

The British will have an equal number of officers and men which they anticipate no trouble in providing. However, the rapid redeployment is cutting wide swathes through American ranks in the North and in Venezia-Giulia, so there is actual danger of serious lapse from Allied parity, that is, equal numerical representation on the British and American sides. Besides the redeployed officers and men, though at the moment there are orders in from MTOUSA ordering any A.C. contingents in to the repple-depple depots, not a few officers are returning to civil life by application, citing the urgency of their presence in their peacetime businesses. The steady withdrawal of American personnel, not to mention the large number of British officers going home on LIAP (leave), prompted regional commissioners of the North to suggest recently the withdrawal of AMG in all except the border provinces. The proposal, of course, had to be rejected for obvious reasons. Administration of provinces is being amalgamated and remaining personnel is concentrating in regional headquarters, although RC's have been requested to keep at least a skeleton representation in the field. In all this redeployment, the most keenly felt blow, naturally, is in the line of technical experts whose loss is irreplaceable. Whole sections of enlisted men, for example, are being redeployed in one fell swoop, as in signals, which has prompted a suggestion that all hands try to keep signal traffic at a minimum to help the hard-pressed staff remaining.

A brighter note as far as retaining some enlisted personnel lies in a MTOUSA circular which says that EM can sign a Class I certificate, that is, to stay in military service for the duration and six months, or a Class II, which means to stay on in this theater as long as required but not to exceed the duration plus six months. The official interpretation of the Class II certificate is that, if a soldier signs up to continue service in this theater, he will probably be lucky enough to find that MTO will wind up about 1 December and, therefore, he will be eligible for redeployment, according to Col. Parkin, since the Class II certificate is only for this theater. Incidentally, the colonel added, no EM will be considered for promotion who has more than 60 points unless he has signed either a Class I or II paper.

PIEMONTE

Col. Floyd E. Thomas, RC of Piemonte, has been continuing the profitable (to us) custom of making minutes of his regional meetings easily available, so we take this opportunity to look more closely at the hills of Piemonte and the gay city of Turin. As usual, things are under control but there are always enough problems to plague a harrassed Provincial Commissioner. For example, the Prefect of Alessandria attended the assembly of the *Consulta* in Rome and upon his return promptly submitted his resignation. The PC is wondering what is the connection. Probably the new democracy. In Turin, 300 representatives of industrial groups told AMG officials that the newly instituted bread ration was inadequate to them. (The North's heavy worker ration has been cut down somewhat to allow a national increase in that category.) In Novara, the local partisan leader, after a huddle with the AMG public safety officer, put out a manifesto asking for the surrender of arms. Approximately 35 truckloads came in. Maybe the idea ought to be copied. Corn amassing, important to the region, came in for special attention. PCs would like to have Italian troops around as an aid to a law-abiding atmosphere. Grain amassing in general has been a success, 41 per cent of the goal being in as of 1 October. In this latest drive, 110,000 quintals were brought in. Road blocks to control the movement of rice

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

have been ordered. Finally, owing to the shortage of personnel, the Region is trying to work out a system whereby at least two officers will still be stationed in each of the seven provinces.

ODDS AND ENDS

The old, familiar faces are certainly leaving us, one of the latest being Brigadier A. P. Graffty-Smith, joint director of the Finance Sub-Commission, who has, with one exception, probably seen longer service in military government for Italy than any other British officer or OR, in fact, two years and five months of it since he joined the first civil affairs group at Chrea in North Africa after serving with British tank forces in the desert campaigns; we will miss the Brigadier, not only for his personal and never-failing charm and friendliness but also for his calm good sense and the cool dispatch with which he handled the intricate problems of his recondite specialty... The wheat mass amassing, sad to relate, had the poorest week so far, according to the report of 1 October, which listed a collection of 812,800 tons or 62 per cent. of the 1,304,000 ton goal; Italian Government territory reported 67 per cent. of its target while AMG territory 59 per cent... As usual, the Sicilian collections in Italian Government territory are the worst, only 15 per cent. having been gathered and an immediate shortage in the public food stocks being reported, probably resulting in a demand for early diversion of a grain ship to Sicily... AFHQ and the A. C. are cooking up a deal whereby Economic Section representation will be had in London to look after Italian requirements before the various European economic organizations now existing for allocation of goods and services... Erratum: The Communes of Naples and Livorno – but NOT the ports – will probably be turned back to the Italians when the handover of the North is announced... Allied political representatives will shortly be set up at Trieste: a British Political Officer and a Representative of the U. S. Political Adviser at Caserta... XIII Corps AMG is proposing that a liaison officer be appointed at Rome to expedite handling of questions between A. C. and Venezia-Giulia, particularly on the economic side... Public Safety and Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commissions are running into headaches in the form of certain nationals travelling in the North without proper authorization; 17 of one group have been arrested... Italian Prisoners-of-War Division reports that use of the port of Taranto as a port of ingress for repatriated Italian POWs may have to be abandoned because of the continued presence of the plague, the latest figures being 18 cases with nine deaths... We are happy to congratulate 17 new captains: Frank J. Amoruso, Clarence Anderson, Carl C. Banno, Salvatore A. Casale, Joseph A. Ciesla, George M. Clegg, George G. Delmerico, Carl E. Fehr, Ralph F. Germann, Robert W. Lott, George M. Marinkov, Louis Mehr, Blaise J. Opulente, David L. O'Toole, Clement C. Petrillo, Milton Steinberg and Lester H. Weil...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

OCT Rec'd

September 29, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 26

POLITICAL

Un buon Governo, figli, non è quello
che t'abbatta l'orecchie in sempiterno.
BELLI.

Certainly the reopening of *Montecitorio* on 25 September has been a great event; not only the journalists' stalls but also the gallery reserved for the public, was full, in fact, packed. The first meeting of the *Consulta* was awaited with curiosity and anxiety by everybody. The whole of Rome seemed to be listening to hear what this new assembly would promise the country. Old politicians, and men who are at their first political essays, and also a few women – about a dozen – are among the *Consultori*. A few of the Left seats were occupied first, then Bergamini made his appearance and sat on the Right, followed shortly afterwards by Lucifero and a few others belonging to the P. D. L. (Italian Democratic party). Then more Communists arrived and sat on the extreme Left, Croce sat in the Left Center. It thus happened that the Communists, Socialists and Actionists were immediately followed, topographically by the Liberals, while the Christian Democrats sat in the very center. No one, except the few followers of Bergamini and Lucifero, seemed to want to sit on the Right. This fact was amply commented upon by the whole press the next day, and interpreted, on the whole, as a leftist tendency of the whole of Italy, by others, it was interpreted as a residue of Fascist habits, that is, as a fear of appearing to belong to the reaction.

Sforza was elected President with 244 votes, but the 95 ballots which remained blank proved, according to *Il Lavoro*, that the feelings of the assembly were evidently not quite as leftist as the positions in the hall. A Christian Democrat, Mario Cingolani, and a Socialist, Arnaldo Lucci, were appointed vice-presidents. Prime Minister Parri then spoke, and said that the *Consulta* finds itself in the same position as the Government, that is of not having been elected by the people, but that it was its duty to collaborate with the Government in preparing the *Costituente* which, being elected by the people, would legally define the future of the country. The temporary president Aguini, a 90-year-old Socialist, violently accused the Italian monarchy of having helped and supported Fascism. His words were greeted with shouts of "*Viva l'Italia Repubblicana*". This cry is a sign, said *Voce Repubblicana* the following day, that as soon as the *Costituente* is formed, Italy will become a Republic. *Avanti*, too, said that these words represent a prophesy; the *Consulta*, the Socialist paper continued, though it has appeared late, indeed at a time the *Costituente* should be meeting, represents nevertheless "a happy beginning by which we can foresee an even happier ending". *Italia Libera* wrote that the spontaneous manifestation in favor of the Republic must not be ignored, as it is a sign of the complete renewal of the country and it shows that the spirit of the assembly is turned towards the future. Lince, in *Italia Nuova*, seemed very proud that the Democrats had not been ashamed of showing their opinion by sitting on the Right.

Second Day.

The next day the *Consulta* met again, and Parri made a long speech on the political, economic and reconstruction plans of the Government. During his statement, Parri mentioned the fact that Italian pre-Fascist regimes were not democratic; these words aroused mixed shouts of approval and disapproval among the *Consultori*, and evoked many comments in the press. *Italia Nuova* called these words a "huge gaffe" and wondered whether the President believed he had invented democracy and had therefore a monopoly of it. *Tempo*, an independent paper, disapproved entirely and expressed the opinion that, on the contrary, Italian pre-Fascist political life gave very good examples of democratic policy. The Communist paper, *Unità* stressed the importance of two points of Parri's speech: that is, Italy's definite abandoning of militaristic and imperialistic aims, and the announcement of the new tax policy by which reconstruction expenses will be born mainly by those who are responsible for

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

the disastrous Axis policy. *Avanti* gave whole hearted approval to Parri's words. The Christian Democrat organ, *Il Popolo*, was rather on the defensive and wondered whether the *Consulta* would prove to be an active organ or not; it also blamed Parri for his words which only had the effect of setting two generations — the pre-Fascist and the young one — against each other.

SACMED DEPARTS

We would like to take this opportunity to reprint a couple of lines from Marshal Alexander's farewell speech the other night at AFHQ. The Allied Commission must deeply appreciate such a tribute from a great leader, a great general, and we know it in our bones, a great Governor-General-to-be of Canada. Here are the Marshal's words:

"The Allied Commission, under the capable direction of Admiral Stone, has been a very corner stone in our whole Allied setup and I owe him an immense debt of gratitude too for his extremely efficient handling of affairs and for the close and friendly relations we have always enjoyed."

HIDDEN TALENT

With the stress of urgent operations over, more personal news of our personnel is sifting through. We have it that Capt. Anthony Ciliberti (A), besides being the crack executive officer of Turin Province in Piedmont, is also a song writer. The Captain has written one of the latest song hits on the Italian radio — *Bracalille* — both music and lyrics. He holds an Italian copyright, too. The orchestration was done by a Turin dance-band leader. The profits from the song, more than 8,000 lire in six weeks, are going to the *Refforforia dei Poveri* at Torretta, Sicily. Capt. Ciliberti began his AMG career back in July, 1943, when he landed on the Sicily beaches as a spearhead CAO. This unveils another chapter in the modest captain's tale, for, we learn, that no less than six towns in Sicily now have *Piazze Ciliberti* as a token of local appreciation for his assiduity in looking after Sicilian welfare. The captain, who is 40, unmarried and a former municipal prosecutor at Port Chester, New York (90 Hobart Avenue), is also writing a book in Italian on his Italian experiences, the proceeds of which will go to the *Circolo Antonino Ciliberti*, which he also founded at Carini, Sicily, to give recreation facilities to poor children. Besides spearhead and welfare work, Capt. Ciliberti has been a legal, administrative and provincial officer in AMG.

ECONOMIC FRONT

With everybody somewhat impatiently waiting for the turnover of the North and the chance to go home, news is really at a low ebb this week. The Economic Section is busy making reorganization plans under the guidance of Col. Charles W. Walton (A) and dividing functions into (1) those which can be turned over to UNRRA supply officials; (2) those which may be turned over to the embassies or some type of economic mission attached to the embassies, and (3) those which can be dispensed with. The work of the Sub-Commissions also has tapered off to a great degree, much of the work in the North having already been virtually handed over to Italian authorities.

For the nonce, the labor scene is quiet, the Naples German POW fracas having adjusted itself, with the help of A. C., and the Trieste general strike petering out after a couple of days. At its peak 100,000 workers were reported involved in the latter event. The chief cause was said to have been suspension of surplus workers especially in shipyards.

The wheat amassing continues fair to middling, collections as of 24 September being 801,500 tons or 61 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal. Italian Government territory collections were 65 per cent. of the target (64 per cent. at the same time last year in the same area) and AMG collections 59 per cent. of the desired amounts, although it should be pointed out that the AMG total is 464,900 tons against the Italian territory total of 336,600 tons.

Col. Leonard Densmore, Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section, in a visit to five Food Sub-Commission warehouses in Naples, found quantities of goods belonging to Sub-Commissions other than Food. Inasmuch as all the items had been ordered because urgently needed, Sub-Commissions have been jacked up to get their goods to the customers as soon as possible, particularly from the 17 other warehouses holding A. C. commodities.

Food Sub-Commission transportation liaison officers report a pretty situation in wine movements. Although 12 wine trains from Apulia to the North in the last two weeks have moved 6,600 tons of wine in cistern cars, 90,000 tons of shipping made available to move wine surpluses

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 745016

have hardly been used, less than 20,000 tons having been shipped in the last month. Price speculation is named as the big trouble.

THE GIRLS BE LEFT BEHIND

Meandering through the mazes of A. C. Headquarters building, it might not be immediately noticed that there is something amiss, a *je ne sais quoi*, a trifle perhaps, but definitely an item of lack that somehow changes the atmosphere. For Cpl. Rolando Matalo (A) has been redeployed. Rolando, or rather Matalo, for the last two years has been in charge of the 42 A. C. receptionists and escort guides, the little Italian girls at the information desks and in uniform who conduct the Corporazioni's myriad visitors to their destinations. Matalo was a good soldier and fulfilled the duties assigned to him, even though they involved being a chaperon, a father confessor and a nurse, not to mention a big brother and a bouncer, at various times. And the girls miss him tremendously. When he left, they all cried and all 42 kissed him good-bye. Matalo's charges, not an inconsiderable number of whom are handsome and nubile, have one fan per cent.

record which Matalo boasted of in an interview granted the press upon his retirement. Every one of the girls has been proposed to since being employed by the A. C. And not a few have gotten married to American soldiers. Indeed, stricken G. I.'s were always one of Matalo's problems, which he sometimes had to solve by physical force, i. e., ejection of the suitor. Sometimes, the situation was a little more complicated as the time a young Air Corps major was paying suit. Inevitably, too, there were the little riffs and spats of girls to straighten out and the necessity to keep harmony in his group. Operationally, Matalo had to be on hand to answer questions which flowed his girls, such as: "How can I get to the United States? You see, I am almost an American citizen as my mother-in-law's sister's cousin lives in Brooklyn." There was also the daily \$64 question: "What is the name of the blond over there?" As he sails home, ending three and a half years of war, the Corporal, who is single and 33, must also feel a nostalgic pang now and then, particularly when he recalls the birdlike chatter of 42 Italian maidens that fills the A. C. Headquarters building lobby of a morning about 10 a. m. with a high hum like an aviary in springtime.



CPL. MATALO AND FAMILY

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Fergus McCleary (B) has been appointed Chief Staff Officer to the Executive Commissioner, succeeding Lieut. Col. Evan Talbot, who is going home... It's proposed that Allied war correspondents will revert to full civilian status as foreign correspondents 15 October and will come under care of the press attachés of the British and American Embassies, although military authorities will give the correspondents what facilities they can while the army is still around... Brigadier M. Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, reports that Bolzano still has the problem of epurating occasional Nazis and that progress in epuration is rather slow, only 600 of an estimated 5,000 required *schede personali* having been received and only one suspension having resulted so far... The latest awards are as follows: *Legion of Merit:* Maj. Ralph R. Temple and Col. Edmund O. Howell; *Bronze Star:* Pfc. Joseph A. Nardini, Pfc. Nathan Schiff, T/4 Ernest C. Nusca, First Lieut. Ralph F. Germann, Capt. Guido A. Ahasia, Major John W. Ballew, Major Frank Brannigan, Master Sergt. Ido A. Gracis, Major Clayton C. Craig, Pfc. James I. McCormick, T/5 Charles A. Palmer, T/5 Rembert F. Swilling, T/4 Paul J. Furlani, T/4 Robert F. Middlekauff, Staff Sergt. Bernard M. Peebles, First Lieut. Carl C. Banno, Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Bergin, Major John P. Leacacos, Major Franklin P. Luckman and Col. Clarence P. Bolick. First Lieut. Joseph E. Amoruso, Capt. Louis T. Montant... Lieut. Col. E. L. Palmieri (A) is acting as observer for the Civil Affairs Section at the current meeting of the Consulta in Rome... Now that any U. S. officer may be released from military service and redeployed home if he has 75 points or more and can be retained only if he volunteers to stay, the Establishment Section will shortly ask American officers to sign up under two classifications: (1) For the duration plus six months; (2) for six months but not later than 5 March 1946 and not earlier than 31 December 1945, although release from this latter clause may be obtained if the A. C. declares such an officer surplus in the interim...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Recd

September 22, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 25

POLITICAL

Calamitosus est animus futuri anxius.
SENECA

Anxiety has been the feeling prevalent in this last week's press. Everybody is awaiting, in a kind of fever, the results of the London meeting. Every newspaper seems to have a special correspondent in London, who sends in news and rumors daily. Headlines are being written in block letters and high sounding words are used, but not much concrete is said. Comments are vague, except for the fact that all parties—the Communists alone abstaining—ardently hope that the matter of the Italian Northeastern frontier will be settled so as not to give way to Tito's claims. The question of the Italian colonies has also given vent to a spate of comments. Molinari, in *Avanti*, pointed out that Italian Socialists have always been opposed to imperialism and the old-fashioned way of colonization, and suggests that this would be a good time to overhaul the whole problem of colonies, Italian or others, and make a fresh start, doing away with exploitation. Italy should realize that her colonies have been profitable to only a few and that the results of fifty years of efforts have not been proportional to the expenditure of money and labour. Sforza, interviewed on the matter, said that whoever does not foresee the imminent awakening of the Arab world must be utterly blind. *Tribuna del Popolo* continued the argument which had been taken up last week by *Risorgimento Liberale* and said that it cannot be forgotten that Italian pre-Fascist colonies were occupied with the consent of other powers and never were a menace to anybody.

The question of Italy's Northeastern border was naturally the chief source of comment. *Il Popolo*, the Christian Democrat organ, expounded De Gasperi's statement, that Italy is ready to make further concessions based on the Wilson line, but that no Italian Government would ever take in consideration the absurd Yugoslav claims, unless it is a Government of traitors, and that the cession of Trieste to Yugoslavia is simply inadmissible. *Il Popolo* ended by saying that a peace based on such a line of conduct would be the denial of the principles of nationalities and of all the claims for which the Western Democracies say they have been fighting. Nenni declared, in one of his speeches, that he did not think Yugoslavia should be asked to go back to her frontiers of 1919—which were not based on any principle of justice—but that Italy's right to Trieste should be recognized. Should Italy be deprived of Trieste, added Nenni, then Italian internal reaction would start.

London invitation.

After having received London's invitation to send an Italian mission to the Conference, Prime Minister Parri stated in the *Giornale del Mattino* that the Italian people and the Italian Government realized quite well that they would have to pay for Fascism. "However," he said, "we shall not go to London with the mental attitude of one who begs for indulgence; the Morgan line is exclusively a military line which can satisfy neither Italians nor Yugoslavs." He added that Italy hopes to obtain the co-operation of every victorious country and that justice is the only possible foundation for peace. After De Gasperi's first speech at the London Conference, *Momento* pointed out that Italian public opinion was bound to be hurt by the fact that the Italian delegation had to speak in the presence of the Yugoslavs, but had to retire when it was the Yugoslavs' turn to speak. *Momento* said bitterly that, though the war is over, the world has as yet no peace, because none of the promises made during the war have been kept.

Unità, in open opposition to the rest of the press, declared that Italian Communists will always react against anyone who might want to use them as a pawn in an international anti-Soviet intrigue. *Unità* accused the British press of being anti-Russian in its comments on the London meeting, and Anglo-American news agencies of releasing lies against the USSR. It accused the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Italian press of servility for repeating these lies. *Unità* has also had a series of carping articles against the Allies. It blamed Brig. J. K. Dunlop for "incomprehension" in the matter of the Schio slaughter, the Allies for an allegedly anti-democratic attitude in dealing in matters which do not concern them directly. It made a violent attack against the Allied authorities in Naples for dismissing Italian workers in order to give work to German prisoners, thus causing discontent and not a few incidents in the town.

Council of Ministers.

Parri held his regular press conference on 17 September. He pointed out that Italy did not wait for the end of the war to change her front as other countries have done. On the Schio trials, he said that such events put Italy in a very sad position because Italians cannot but recognise the unfortunate reperussions of such deeds. Speaking about the elections, he said that they may have to be postponed by a few weeks as the Government is determined to solve the problem of public order.

Nenni, speaking in Bologna, said that the elections for the *Costituente* may be held either during the winter or at the beginning of Spring, hedging from his previous position of holding the *Costituente* by the end of the year. Meanwhile, the first meeting of the *Consulta* should be held about the 25th, it was decided during the Council of Ministers meeting on the 19th. The *Consulta* patently cannot replace the *Costituente*, wrote *Italia Libera*, but it is, however, one step forward towards democratic rebirth of the country. The Action Party paper went on to say that the *Consultori* should take the oath to the country and not to the king; that the *Consulta* should hold public meetings; that all its members should have the right to question the Government on any subject whatsoever and to receive an answer to their questions. Other items discussed by the Council were the handing over to the Ministry of Finance the task of confiscation of Fascist profits; allotment of three and a half billion lire to the Ministry of Post-War Relief, and approval of five and a half billion lire for repairs by the Ministry of Public Works.

Anti-Climax.

On the 20th, a *Reuter* report announced that the Big Five foreign Ministers had charged their deputies to study the possibility of fixing a demarcation line between Italy and Yugoslavia based on ethnic considerations so as to leave the least possible number of inhabitants under foreign administration, and to study the conditions which would insure an international regime of the port of Trieste by which this port would be used by both Italy and Yugoslavia as well as by the nations of Central Europe. The Italian mission in London was reported to have accepted this line of conduct. *Italia Nuova* pointed out that it must be very difficult, not to say impossible, to mark an ethnic line in a region such as Venezia Giulia where Italian and Slav populations are mixed up together. *Italia Nuova* also wondered whether the commission which will be sent to study the possible ethnic line on the spot, will study the country as far as Fiume.

GORIZIA HOT SPOT

Behind the current news of negotiations for an Italian peace treaty and adjudication of the Venezia-Giulia dispute lies an interesting tale, according to Lieut. Col. J. C. Smuts (B), Area Commissioner of Gorizia, which is regarded as the most delicate area in the region on account of the patent fact that it is more wholly Slovene than either of the other Venezia-Giulia areas, those of Pola and Trieste. The Slovenes, as everybody now knows who has been reading the newspapers, are simply not cooperating in carrying out AMG General Order 11, which asks for representation in local government. All Slovene representatives on various committees have resigned, both those which had to do with administration and those which were advisory. The Slovene gentleman who occupied the post of Area President, equivalent to prefect, likewise has quit.

In short, the CAOs of the Gorizia area, some 18, have thus had to become practically entire governments in themselves except where there are Italian officials, that is to say, in the localities where Italian population strength has permitted the appointment of Italian officials. That the Slovene non-cooperation or passive resistance, openly discussed in the Venezia-Giulia press, is impeding the work of AMG, there can be no question, though, to date, without too serious results. Food had already been issued in August so that local Slovene cooperation in the matter of distributing the ration has not been tested as yet. The non-cooperation started 8 September.

Power and light apparently do not seem to have been interfered with since most of these companies are Italian-run. Public safety is still being handled entirely by Allied soldiers—

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

British military police and men of the U. S. 88th Division. There is no public health hazard, thankfully enough. The matter of school teachers is being watched carefully: will they teach in the Slovene schools or decline to do so?

Gorizia is the northern part of Venezia-Giulia and is estimated to have 110,000 residents, of whom 60,000 are Slovene and 50,000 Italian. The hilly country of the Isonzo Valley and the southeast portion of the area are Slovene almost solidly while the southwest section is mostly Italian. The city itself is some 35,000 to 40,000. The Slovene population is farming stock, working on small tracts. Many Italians are middle-class people, professional, artisan and business. In Gorizia city is one cotton mill, which employed 3,000 before the war, but now operates at low ebb because of lack of raw materials. There are also two iron foundries, brick and tile works and several saw mills and furniture factories in the vicinity. Economic activity, in general, is dormant.

A pretty problem in cooperation will be posed the Slovenes shortly by Col. Smuts who is trying to help rebuild before winter approximately 1,500 dwellings which the Germans burned down. It is expected that local materials will be found but the pressing problem of the moment is transport, 90 vehicles being needed. An attempt is being made to obtain them from a vehicle park in the area under control of AFHQ. The Colonel plans to dump the raw materials in the center of each affected village and, in effect, say to the villagers: Here is the stuff; will you help to help yourselves?

ECONOMIC FRONT

When and if the full supply program for Italy goes through and the requested materials for industry and railroads arrive, it has been predicted that 85 per cent. of full employment in Italy may again be achieved. Depending on the imponderables of the situation, that happy state would then arrive in *two* years. Anent this topic, Mr. S. M. Keeny, head of the UNRRA Mission to Italy, is leaving for the States to discuss the UNRRA supply program. He is being closely briefed by A. C.

The wheat amassing report this week has a new angle—wheat smuggling. Not completely verified reports indicate something amiss in Alessandria Province, in Piemonte, where persons unknown are taking wheat over the French and Swiss borders to exchange for goods. This means treks through the mountains and even stealthy voyages across the mine-strewn Gulf of Genoa. Italian Army troops as well as the CC. RR. and customs guards are on the job against the smugglers. Total collections in Italy as of 17 September, have been 748,200 tons of wheat or 57 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal. Italian Government territory collections were 61 per cent. of the targets while AMG-area were 55 per cent.

There is more labor news in Milan where a conference will be held 24 September on extending or modifying the Milan Agreement on wages. How many persons are still being paid the 75 per cent. "dole" for showing up at the factory and doing nothing is not known at present, although three months ago in Turin more than 90,000 persons were working less than 48 hours a week. Employers who have been paying this "wage" from their own pockets are reported desirous of ending their donations.

Other economic items include: The Allied Forces Local Resources Board may be abolished soon. The trade negotiations between France and Italy concerning exchange of Italian pyrites for French phosphate rock are still bogged down on prices. The possibility of revival of Italian-Austrian trade is being looked into.

ODDS AND ENDS

While to date only a mere sprinkling of U. S. officers have gone home under the redeployment program, 25 will leave this coming week in the biggest shipment to date, with promises held out by 2675 Regiment, that, subject to the overriding necessities of military government in the North, an increasing number of officers may now anticipate the pleasant prospect of early redeployment, particularly if they have more than 90 points... Shipping back the enlisted men has progressed very well, with only five EM left in the Regiment with over 80 points; 142 left in the past week... Col. Charles Poletti, RC of Lombardia, is going home; Col. A. N. Hancock (B), the Deputy RC, moves up while Col. W. A. Falck (A) takes the latter's place... Errata: Brigadier General William L. Lee has been appointed *Deputy Director* of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, not director; Communications Sub-Commission says the correct report is that there are now more telegraph circuits between *some of the major cities* in Italy than before the war... Capt. Richard B. Bullock has been appointed Adjutant of 2675 Regiment and of the A. C... The ports of Naples and Livorno will be turned back to Italian con-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

trol at the time of the transfer of the North to Italian jurisdiction, once the date, as yet uncertain, is fixed... The Transportation Sub-Commission is being asked to help obtain special allocation of passenger space for Italian representatives to the first meeting of the *Consulta* next week... The Legion of Merit has been awarded to Lieut. Col. William M. Spann and Lieut. Col. Orpheus J. Bizzozero while Bronze Stars will go to Lieut. Col. Romayne T. Uhler (no longer with A. C.), T/4 Edward Vito, Major Paul S. Savage, Sergt. Nelson E. Reconini, Staff Sergt. Ralph D. Schifano, Technical Sergt. Dennis Giardina and First Lieut. Blaise J. Opulente... Several British awards have come through, many for officers no longer with A. C.: The O.B.E. has gone to Col. W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. P. Fried-James, Lieut. Col. M. A. M. Dickie and Lieut. Col. R. A. C. Routh, while the M.B.E. has been given to Major H. P. Drysdale and Major T. R. Ward...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SEP Recd

September 15, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 21

POLITICAL

Der Weg zur Ruhe geht nur durch das Gebiet der allumfassenden Tätigkeit.

NOVALIS.

A very dull week on the whole. The Rome press has been chiefly concerned with rumors about the possible decisions which will be taken at the London meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the five big powers on the terms of the peace treaty with Italy. In one of *Avanti*'s leading articles, Nenni said that, though it is evidently true that Italy must take her share of responsibility for letting Fascism lead her into war, nevertheless it is to be hoped that her efforts on the side of the United Nations will not be forgotten. Nenni did not seem to mind the Greek claims on the Dodecanese but thought that the logical solution of the Venezia Giulia problem would be for both sides to recognise the "obvious" facts, that is, that while the hinterland is Slav, the cities on the west coast of Istria are Italian. Nenni believed that it would be possible to work out a reasonable boundary and again suggested that Trieste might be made an international port.

The leader of the Communist party, Togliatti, wrote in *Unità* that public opinion is still rather confused and that this is due, in part, to the disquieting information – often false – received from abroad. Italy will have a just peace, said Togliatti, only if she is able to free herself from the remains of nationalism and imperialism which still encourage foreign reactionary groups to attempt to strengthen internal reaction. However, during his weekly press conference which he held on 7 September, Prime Minister Parri assured the country that Italy's peace would not be a punitive one, though it would not be one of "absolution", since Italy must pay her share for the responsibility of Fascism.

During the same press conference the President of the Council spoke also about the unemployment problem and stated that, in spite of the fact that by November the number of unemployed would be increased by those numerous workers who are at present paid by their employers though not actually working, these masses would probably not be as large as was at present feared. Answering *Italia Nuova*'s attack (see last week's *Bulletin*), Parri said that he had no intention of setting any limit at criticism made against him or his Government, but that these limits must merely be dictated by a "sense of responsibility and fact". This statement offered Enzo Selvaggi, in next day's *Italia Nuova*, the occasion of pointing out the difference between the stenographic report of the press conference in which Parri is said to see no objection to "unlimited" criticism in the press, and the first-hand account according to which criticism must be "limited".

Council meeting.

The Council met on the 12th and studied the possibility of speeding up administrative elections. It will meet again in about ten days to decide whether these elections will take place progressively or whether they will be held simultaneously all over the country. Nenni expressed the opinion that it would probably be possible to hold them towards the end of November throughout Italy. At the same meeting of the Council of Ministers matters of internal administration were approved, such as allotment of a hundred million lire to the Italian Red Cross (which also has to look after relief to veterans) and allotment of a further billion lire to the Ministry of Agriculture for repairs to public works damaged by the war.

On the 9th the Action party held a meeting at the Brancaccio. After Chiaro's speech on Italian political problems two years after the Armistice, Parri stated that "freedom of propaganda and opinion must be granted to everybody, monarchists included". Naturally, these last two words aroused *Italia Nuova*'s indignation; Menippo said that "liberty and democracy are not things which Parri can give away".

Several other matters got play in the press. The execution of Bellomo, which took place on the 11th, brought strong criticism from both leftist and rightist parties. A rumor that the King of Italy

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

was about to abdicate was immediately denied by the press office of the Presidency. At the same time the second anniversary of the "flight of the King from Rome" provided a subject for criticism, particularly from the Republicans who insisted on the necessity, for the good of the country, of doing away with monarchy.

Rumors from Washington and London, according to which Italy may possibly be deprived of all or part of her colonies, have met with indignant protests, mostly based on the *leit-motif* that African territories which have been cultivated and civilized through Italian money and Italian labor, should be left to Italy, and that Italy needs her colonies in order to allow Italians to emigrate. *Risorgimento Liberale* said that the Allies should keep in mind that, after all, Italy occupied Eritrea and Somaliland with the full consent of Great Britain, or rather, following Great Britain's request, and asked if it were logical to believe that the motives which made Great Britain ask for Italian cooperation have ceased to exist.

Indications of an increasing separatist movement in Alto Adige has caused comment. The organ of the Labor Democrat party, *Ricostruzione*, deplored the fact that the local C. L. N. does nothing to persuade the population that it should be Italian and holds Fascism responsible for this. *Tribuna del Popolo* said that Italy insists on wanting at all costs to keep that bit of Northern Italy which is decidedly German for a matter of frontiers; it is not possible, for Italy, says the paper, to abandon the Brenner line; this would, it is true, rectify an ethnic error, but would on the other hand be a serious political mistake.

SCRAP AND SURPLUS

The long and short of it, the experts say, is that the Italian Government will reap a bonanza out of the fact the war in the Far East ended as fast as it did. American Army units were refurbishing their equipment prior to redeployment to the Japanese battle zone and no hard-headed G-4 was going to leave anything behind that could be used and shipped. Now in the European theater there is already a pool of more than five billions dollars' worth of equipment declared surplus and since many organizations still have not had time to prepare their lists for MTOUSA, who certifies the surplus, the amount of available material is expected to increase substantially. All this leads to the news that 15 September the first Italian catalog of the Rome office of the Army-Navy Liquidation Commission is available.

Meticulously the catalog, the first of a series, describes every item from typewriters and vehicles to innumerable gadgets, lists a unit price in dollars, and then fixes goods by lots, with the lot price being the simple addition of all the unit prices in the lot. In this manner, of course, the ANLC protects itself from having to act as a retailer to any stray customer who might want a pair of shoes or one lamp bulb. American governmental agencies get first crack at the goods, the agencies including FEA which acts as a procuring agency for the AC and UNRRA, though the latter may shortly be given the right to buy in its own name. The priority list roughly then names the Italian Government, Allied Governments and, lastly, individuals of sound financial capacity. Payment is made in dollar consideration, though the Italian Government payment is naturally a matter of bookkeeping. Sales are made only after a 30-day waiting period to avoid fly-by-night speculators from reaping profits ahead of persons with true priorities.

In the Economic Section, Mr. Albert E. Dickens, U. S. civilian, has been studying the problem preparatory to the Section's probable early establishment of a unit to act as liaison between the ANLC and the AC whose Sub-Commissions are actively in the market to get needed materials, especially for industry. The unit also would have the function of knowing all availabilities and of so informing the Requisition Division, since it is basic policy that surplus materials should be substituted wherever possible for all items now being procured through the Requisition Division by FEA. In this manner, considerable of the $150,000,000 "troop pay" credit and the $100,000,000 former Lend-Lease credit can be used here in Italy and thus save shipping costs by buying on the spot, a trade advantage no one is going to overlook. The AC's first contacts with ANLC are resulting in 40,000 second-hand tires and 20,000 tons of trucks being made available to the Italian Government and industry.

British side.

The British side of army surplus is also now being worked out, with present indications being that the British system will be considerably simpler than the American one. As Brigadier D. L. Anderson put it, it costs too much to take the stuff home and there are not enough products in Italy to exchange. He said that to get a ton of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

scrap steel to the dockside at Naples, ready for shipment to England, would cost 7 pounds, with further shipping and handling charges in Great Britain raising the final cost to probably 10 pounds while such scrap handling costs in the British Isles are only three or four pounds. As with American stores, there are no accurate figures on quantities, although British engineer stores alone recently ran as high as 250,000 tons. Likewise, the brigadier said he believed, it would be much more economical for the Italians to use material in derelict vehicles as scrap to make new ones which would be more efficient machines and so burn less gasoline and oil and provide many more jobs rather than repair the broken-down vehicles which, in the end, would burn an uneconomic amount of fuel.

These advantages now accruing to Italy from the Allied side—this theater had a million Allied soldiers with their equipment and supplies at one time, with most of the latter still here—are multiplied by the availability of captured German Army material, of which there are also vast amounts now being finally tabulated and the lists turned over to the War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission. With its job barely begun, this Sub-Commission in the last four months turned over nearly 35,000 tons of salvaged material to Italian agencies, including armor plate, scrap iron and aluminum, rubber, paper and canvas, oil drums, boot soles, sandbags and a host of other items, most of which needed re-processing. The Sub-Commission also got its hands on 100,000 tires and 500 scrap vehicles, likewise turned over for reconditioning.

Besides the quantities of German Army material given over to the Sub-Commission, in brief pratically everything the Allied Armies themselves had no use for, there are large stores of non-military goods in North Italy which the Germans had set aside to transport to Germany. These include clothing, silk, spirits, motor car spare parts, tires and also machine tools and heavy machinery removed from Italian factories, and much of it stored in the tunnels of the Dolomites.

German stores.

The German military material lists are so full and complicated that no accurate compilation of totals has yet to be made but some indication of the scope of avaiability may be had from the following examples. (5th Army has been the compilative agency for AFHQ.) Incidentally, practically all Sub-Commissions of the AC will have some hand in eventual handling of the items, since much of the material will be returned to Italian agencies with which these Sub-Commissions are in touch. Signal supplies are abundant and the Communications Sub-Commission can hardly wait to get its hands on them. They include 1,250 types of stores, comprising, 80,000 insulators, 10,000 radio valves, 1,700 switchboards, 6,600 telegraph poles and 750 transmitters. Along this line, the AFHQ has ruled that civilian radio sets found in German stores and known to have been taken from Italian civilians be returned to them. That will be a nice one to untangle.

Public Works and Utilities and Industry Sub-Commissions similarly will be able to channel most effectively the quantities of German engineer supplies, which have 700 different items such as 500 gas cylinders, 7,900 brass rods, 40 generators, 138,000 glass plates, 2,850 electric motors, 99,000 steel bars and 150 water pumps. Public Health Sub-Commission has its eye on German medical supplies covering a wide field of drugs, salves and chemicals listed under 750 headings and amounting to 40,000 kilograms of certain items and 12,000,000 tubes of others. Chemical warfare supplies interest also Industry Sub-Commission, available being 190 oxigen breathing masks, 163 oxygen cylinders, 1,774 tons of rubber gloves and 625 tons of charcoal activators. Public Safety Sub-Commission will be thankful for the ordnance material of 57,000 small arms for its police as well as 900 binoculars. Considerable German salvage material has been collected in depots throughout the North and will be made available to Italians through Industry and Commerce Sub-Commissions. This stuff includes 7,000 large drums, 50 tons of light ferrous scrap, 50 tons of lead dross, 100 tons of scrap battery cases and 341 tons of scrap vehicle parts—bodies, gas tanks, car cabs, etc.

There are various German vehicle dumps that will be inspected in detail by the Transportation Sub-Commission. Near Rimini are nearly 600 vehicles. Also shortly available will be 658 horse-drawn wagons for farmers. In the Bolzano area are 814 lorries and 600 cars. In fact, final lists of all materials are not yet drawn up, especially of stores as yet not inventoried in the North, which AFHQ will allocate and which will remain frozen until such decision is made. This will include such items as men's and women's clothing, bedding, footwear, stationery, radio equipment and office supplies and equipment. In one dump alone, the sorting out has already produced 1,406 quintals of goods. To conclude, what the War Disposal Sub-Commission needs is a first-class junk man from Brooklyn.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MORE ECONOMICS

Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section, who, to the regret of all of us, will shortly be leaving the Commission after doing a most effective job here in stimulating Italian production, reports, after a swing through the North, that Italian heavy industry is definitely getting back on its feet. Coal and materials are arriving and are being put to immediate use. In Turin the Fiat works, where 11,000 are employed, are a good example, the Brigadier said, production now being about 30 vehicles a day—three- and seven-tonners and the little Fiat runabout car. It is hoped to step up the monthly output shortly to 1,000 for September and soon thereafter to 3,000 a month, which would be exactly half of the pre-war normal production. Biggest handicap at the moment is the supply of tires, a problem now being tackled with a hope to obtain some satisfaction from military sources in the shape of 40,000 second-hand tires. Further, and even more important in the long run, the American synthetic rubber process may shortly be available to Italian industry.

Brigadier Anderson also paid a flying visit to Trieste where he sat as chairman for the last time of the Joint Allied-Yugoslav Economic Committee. There are no striking economic problems on this front, it was indicated; rather a mild sort of freeze, with little actual trade to supervise, although an agreement has been reached whereby currency may now be transferred across the Morgan Line. Brigadier Ritchie of 13th Corps has taken over the chair of the Economic Committee.

Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, has returned from his trips to London and Washington with some clarification of the previously confused supply picture for Italy. The British supply agencies in London have agreed on certain commitments for Italy while in the U. S., the end of Lend-Lease will not mean the end of the $100,000,000 Lend-Lease credit to Italy, since FEA will take over.

The general was concerned with the scarcity of adequate civilian personnel to take over AC's economic mission after this command winds up. He is planning steps to insure further coordination and organization of the AC's civilian staff. General McKinley also reported, anent Venezia-Giulia, that that area was still a military responsibility for supply and that it was AC's technical responsibility to oversee this program.

The wheat amassing, as of 10 September, had mounted to 53 per cent, of the 1,304,000-ton goal or 693,900 tons collected. Italian Government collections were 59 per cent, while AMG-supervised amassing still lagged behind at 50 per cent. Coincident with this news, announcement will be made in a few days of the official details of the new uniform ration scale for all Italy. As previously reported, normal consumers everywhere will get 200 grams of bread and 2,000 of *generi di minestra* (pasta and rice) a month. Heavy workers and agricultural workers, the latter for the first time as a year-long proposition, will get supplements of 100 grams of bread and 20 grams of *generi di minestra* a day. Very heavy workers will get an extra 200 grams of bread and 20 grams of *generi* a day. As both an inducement and a reward, coal miners and foresters will get a supplementary 100 grams of bread and 20 grams of *generi* a day, in order to help spur the production of fuel now so essential to Italian reconstruction.

The Advisory Committees for Electric Power set up by the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission have been proving their worth in real coordination and joint action in the rehabilitation of the key power industry. The North Italy committee reports an urgent need for copper conductors and mica while indicating an increasing industrial load but also, unfortunately, a sharply increasing domestic consumption for cooking and heating. In fact, the latter in some places has already exceeded the normal winter peak, pointing up again the dire lack of fuel. In Sicily, the power committee's latest minutes sound like the reports on Sicilian wheat amassing. The rationing system put in last April to meet the shortage of power electricity has failed because of lack of enforcement. Power demand was met by drawing more water out of the reservoirs, with the result that, unless there are heavy rains, the reservoirs will be virtually empty any day now. That is, unless the rationing rules are enforced, a consummation apparently not in the Sicilian scheme of things.

UNRRA, picking up steam and AC responsibilities slowly as it gets more money and authority, is asking for personnel. It has approached AC for officers and there have been some discussions, but nothing definite, on posting of officers to UNRRA.

ODDS AND ENDS

More candidates for the decoration parades which have been held on Saturdays at AC Headquarters in recent weeks have come through: Bronze Stars have been awarded to Major Robert

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

M. Hill, T/5 Guy V. D'Aleo, Technical Sergt. Louie B. Croce, Capt. Alva A. Simpson, Major Earl A. Heassler, Major Francis F. Hoelscher, Cpl. Vasco Ciardella, T/4 Joseph P. Latella and First Lieut. Frank J. Amoruso while the Legion of Merit will go to Capt. Richard B. Bullock, Lieut. Col. Edward C. King and Lieut. Col. John McSweeney... Land Forces Sub-Commission reports progress on plans for demobilization in the Italian Army, the Class of 1917 being slated for civilian ranks in October, the Class of 1918 in November and the Class of 1919 in December, all calculated to boost Italian Army morale no end... Besides the internal problem of the AC archives, there is the voluminous matter of Italian Government archives in the North which are now in process of being moved from the ministries established by the Fascist Republicans back to Rome under the direction of Major H. E. Bell (B) of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, a job of tremendous proportions when one considers the fact that the records are located in a myriad of places, large and small, throughout Lombardia and Venezie Regions and that, for example, for one ministry alone, archives unearthed to date run to more than 5,000 chests; the importance and magnitude of the task cannot be over-estimated since possession of proper records will immeasurably help the planning and administration necessary to an effective rehabilitation of the Italian nation... Lieut. Col. S. H. White (B) has been appointed Chief Staff Officer of the Civil Affairs Section... Copies of the Public Relations Branch's *Review of Allied Military Government and the Allied Commission in Italy* will shortly be available to all officers, EM, OR and Allied civilians in field and headquarters through the agencies of the 2675 Regiment and G1 (B)... Effective at 2 a.m., 16 September, all clocks will be put back one hour to go on winter time... Major Harold V. Reilly, AMG Livorno Commissioner, has a good report on the results of a system of check points, road blocks and roving patrols established in the Livorno area by CC. RR., MPs, other Italian police and mechanics of U. S. Ordnance and British R. E. M. E. units: In one month 339 persons were picked up for questioning, including four counterfeiters with more than 5 million in forged currency, five fleeing burglars, four fugitive Fascist Republican officers, two escaped German POWs, and 50 smaller fry with criminal bent, while recovered were one stolen truck, three passenger cars and literally tons of army tires, tubes, batteries, accessories, blankets, cigarets, clothing, food, tools, gasoline, motor oil and diesel oil... Size of proposed liaison groups to be left in the North after the turnover will probably be reduced, with the exception of public safety officers, as a result of recent discussions between AFHQ and AC... U. S. enlisted men's promotion boards have made 100 new corporals in the AC... Officer promotions are still up in the air as a result of insistence by higher comand that recommended officers sign up statements that they will stay in service for the duration plus six months... There are more telegraph circuits in Italy now than before the war, the Communications Sub-Commission reports... Public Health Sub-Commission reports 12 cases of bubonic plague at Taranto, all off one ship, of whom four have died; proper steps have been taken... Brigadier M. Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, on returning from a Northern trip, says the public safety situation is somewhat better but that the problem of rearming the CC. RR., many of whom still have obsolete arms, is still acute... AC will lose 529 EM by 20 September while MTOUSA is suggesting a new T/O of 700 U. S. officers and men for AC by 1 December, with the British probably following suit as to the latter project...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

10 SEP Recd 33/. plc 30A

September 8, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION
WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 23

POLITICAL

Matat enim mundi valuvam labins aetas,
ex aliunque alius status excipere omnia debet;
nec manet ulla sui similis res: omnia migrant...
LUCRETIUS

Time, in the words of one of our better known contemporaries, marches on. And as we swing into September of this fateful year, the question of the *Costituente*, which some parties had hoped to solve before the year's end, is looming larger—if still somewhat vague like the shape of an iceberg in the fog. Nenni made two moves to sharpen the outlines during the week. On the second of the month the Committee appointed to study the electoral law for the Assembly began its work and Nenni, in his capacity as Minister for the *Costituente*, stressed the urgency, "for internal and international reasons", of having the law ready by the end of the month, suggesting as well that the system of proportional representation might be suitable to the particular occasion. Speaking at Frascati the following day, he told the crowds of the Socialist faithful that the *Costituente* must be "sovereign"; anyone who did not concede its sovereignty "should be cast out like a common delinquent".

Parri, too, alluded to the *Costituente* in his speech before the CLNAI at Milan on the first of the month. He said that the elections must be orderly and free, adding that he would be the first to declare them null and void if they were based on violence. The more important part of his speech, however, was perhaps the passage in which he defined the role of the C. L. N. in the present circumstances. The C. L. N.s, he said, must respect those decisions which the State has to make and must be as well the interpreters of the needs of the parties which do not belong to them. From the widely divergent *Unità* and *Risorgimento Liberale* came expressions of satisfaction with the spirit of the CLNAI meeting, but Parri's last statement brought indignant response from *Italia Nuova*. The Democratic party, said that sheet, does not want anyone to represent its needs; it further believes that the C. L. N.s have served their purpose (indeed *Italia Nuova* was saying this a year ago when Bonomi was in power) and finally the party would like to ask Parri a series of direct questions: how long is the C. L. N. to last? What are its powers? Does he consider himself the head of the Government or does he intend passively to allow the power to pass into the hands of the C. L. N.—under Communist direction?

Open war.

In fact the open war that *Italia Nuova* has waged on Parri during the week has been a most noteworthy development in the field of purely partisan politics. Its main grievances are three: the alliance between Parri and the C. L. N., the refusal of the authorities to permit publication of a Democratic paper in the North and—as a climax—Parri's request that *Italia Nuova* send to the periodic press conferences someone capable of reporting his words less "tendentiously" than the present agent—or abstain from sending anyone. This last item of discord originated in the form of a note from the *Presidenza* on the 4th (with specific references to *Italia Nuova*'s reporting of the press conference of the 18th of August—see *Weekly Bulletin* for August 25th). There is now open hostility; Lucifero, *Italia Nuova*'s most vitriolic writer, wrote that Parri was now clearly not the ingenuous amateur he had affected to be (and that, said Lucifero, would have been bad enough at this critical moment in Italy's history) but a downright "*furbo*".

From the point of view of the Democratic party it was a strategic moment, for the party was holding its convention during the week and ironing out its program. Like all the "opposition" parties, the Democrats declare that they represent the great majority of Italians and periodically point out that the C. L. N. is a non-elected group, implying—and frequently stating—that the six parties represent only a self-appointed monopolistic minority. The Democratic program was the same as ever: support of the monarchy, more or less *laissez-faire* economy and an

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

end to the six-party "tyranny". The party spokesmen affirmed that the *Costituente* was indeed necessary but neither the C. L. N. nor the Government was suited to the task of organizing the election. Further, the party reiterated its demand for a plebiscite on the institutional question. One speaker even suggested the party should take on the defense of Victor Emmanuel, but the secretary reminded him that the party was concerned with institutions and not individuals.

There was good news for Italy in the announcement made by Mr. Lehman in Washington that UNRRA was planning a 150 million dollar program for Italian rehabilitation... Otherwise the week was chiefly noteworthy for flurries which filled the papers for a day and then blew away in denials or indifference. The rumors about the peace circulated briskly, the most arresting being the alleged opinion of "informed British circles" that the peace treaty will not be signed until after Italian political elections. (Denied.) Another rumor which had at least *Avanti* up in arms was the story of Churchil meeting the Luogotenente in the North. (Repeatedly denied.) Then there was the end of the pilgrimage of Edda Ciano who was expelled from Switzerland and turned over by the Allied Command to Italian authorities. This was true enough but no one seemed to care very much...

Laski's reminder to Nenni that there was some danger that the present policy of the Socialist leader might bring about a "bureaucratic dictatorship" in Italy was, of course, greeted with joy by the conservative press; the mischievous Bauf wrote that it was only what Italian conservatives had been telling Nenni for a long time and suggested affably that Nenni might go off to Capri for a month or two now and forget politics—even if the Government had to pay it would be worth it.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The wheat amassing, according to latest reports of the Agriculture Sub-Commission, now stands at 653,200 tons or 50 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal, with AMG territory improving its standing in comparison with last week; the percentage collected in AMG-areas this week was 47 per cent. (last week: 39 per cent.) compared with 55 per cent. in Italian Government territory (53 per cent. last week)... Some 12,000 workers are affected in a cotton textile mill strike in Turin, which also has a strike of hall porters on its hands... The Transportation Sub-Commission announces inauguration of passenger train service between Venice and Turin, commencing 12 September... Naples is turning to cleaning up bomb damage (somewhat belatedly) as an unemployment relief project... Cotton from the States—to the tune of 91,000 bales—should be arriving in Italy by October... Trucks of all kinds, having a total life of 20,000 tons, are being turned over to the Italian Government from military sources... The uniform ration scale for all Italy will go into effect 1 October...

REFUGEES

In a week of scarce news, we are happy (and very relieved editorially) to run the account that follows of our esteemed Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission.

During August approximately 180,000 Italians have been returned to Italy. This number fell rather short of the original estimate of 225,000 for the month of August due, almost entirely, to the breakdown of bridges over the Brenner Pass route which is the main repatriation route, carrying an average of 5,000 Italians per day. Only 5,362 persons were received over the Brenner route throughout the period 11th-16th August, causing a drop of more than 30,000 in the total for the month, and a subsequent delay in the completion of the repatriation of Italians.

On 31st August it was estimated that only 75,000 Italians remained to be repatriated from Germany and Austria. This number does not, of course, include any numbers which have yet to come into the American, British and French Zones from the Russian areas. It has been agreed with the Soviet authorities to move 60,000 Italians into the U. S. zone from a Soviet area North of Czechoslovakia. There are a further 15,000 reported to be in the Soviet area in Austria.

A total of 180,000 Italians have been received from Germany and Austria to date. Since January 1944, 693,308 Italians have been returned to their homes. There are 1,150 Italians in Norway, 90 per cent. of whom fought with the Germans. These will not be moved until the Italian Government has facilities for internment. In any case the more deserving Italians elsewhere will be repatriated first.

The present rate of receiving Italians from Germany and Austria into Italy is approximately 5,000 per day through the Brenner Pass; 2,500 per day over the Bregenz route from Switzerland; and 2,000 per week through Annemasse to Como. Small numbers are coming through to Bordighera from France.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Greeks.

In addition to the movement of Italians from Northern Europe, Greeks are also being transported from Switzerland through Italy to Bari for repatriation to Greece. They are arriving at the rate of about 800 per week and are shipped to Patras. So far approximately 5,000 have been received in Bari, of which 3,300 have been repatriated to Greece. A party of 700 Jews from Switzerland, destined for Palestine have, after much discussion, arrived and are now awaiting onward sea movement to Palestine.

There were over 25,000 Allied and other nationals in Camps of the Sub-Commission on 31 August 1945. During August, 60,652 Italians have been transported from Rome to destinations in the South of Italy, and 59,169 have been moved down from the north to Rome. Small parties of Italians have arrived at Bari, Taranto and Naples from Greece, France, Sardinia, Yugoslavia and Albania. These parties total 3,548. Almost 3,000 Italians have been shipped from Piombino to Messina and Sardinia.

The repatriation of Italians should near completion by the end of September. It will take a short time after that to disperse them to their homes, but by the middle of October it is hoped all of them will be home. This does not, of course, apply to the large numbers of Italian POWs in England, America and North Africa.

Allied Nationals.

There will be a rather large Allied and other National population to be cared for during the winter months. To this end, certain camps have been earmarked as Collecting Repatriation Centers, others as Shipping Camps, and others to accommodate dissident, stateless and Jewish populations. They are as follows:

Repatriation Collecting Centers at *Milan* (French and Northern Europeans, Yugoslavs for return to Yugoslavia in transit to Padua); *Verona-Bolzano* (Germans, Hungarians, Czechs, Rumanians and Bulgarians); *Bari* (Greeks—except Tripolitanians—Albanians, Near East and Far East nationals); *Aversa* (all American continent, British, Spanish, Portuguese, repatriates for Tripolitania and North Africa (other than Egypt); *Genoa* (under consideration).

Shipping Camps (*Aversa*, *Bari* and *Genoa* are to be maintained as Shipping Camps and will probably be required the whole winter, whilst *Cine Città* will be required as a Transit Camp).

Camps for Dissident Nationals, Stateless and Jews. Dissident Yugoslavs are being concentrated at *Servigliano*, *Fano*, *Fermo*, *Chiaravalle*, *Emilia* (Modena or Reggio).

Stateless and Jews are being concentrated in *Di Bagno*, *Di Lecce* and *Ferramonti* (UNRRA Camps). Recent influxes of Jews (over 4,000) from Austria will probably necessitate a special Jewish Camp in Emilia. A Center for dissident Poles has been established in the *Barletta-Trani* Area under the administration of *Polcorps*, but with the supervision and advice of the Sub-Commission. On 31 August the population had risen to 3,500 with an ultimate possible total of 12,000 in mind.

It may be said that the Sub-Commission will soon reach the climax of its activities—but, unlike a well-written story, the "falling-off" is likely to be very prolonged with a distinct possibility of the all important word "Finis" never being penned. True it is that DPRSC as such will not see the work through to the end. Rather will it be finished by UNRRA, IGCR and other organizations. It will be their job [to return the nationals who wish to be returned to their own countries. It will be their job to find homes for the thousands who, by virtue of political uncertainty, are unable or do not wish to return to their own countries. In any event, it is clear that the settlement of the remaining thousands will take much longer than has done the earlier handling of almost 900,000.

FELICITATIONS

We think it appropriate to print the following comradely letter from the Executive Commissioner (B) to the Commanding Officer of the 2675th Regiment (U.S.) who received, in the name of the Regiment, the MTOUSA Meritorious Service Unit Plaque, from the Chief Commissioner 5 September in an impressive ceremony in Piazza Venezia, Rome, complete with troops, band and attendant dignitaries.

Col. C. M. Parkin
Dear Colonel Parkin,

May I add my congratulations to you and the 2675th Regiment for the honour which they have received and for the very smart turn-out which the H.Q. Coy achieved to receive that honour. Having worked with and almost in the Regiment since it came over here, I do know how much that honour has been deserved by you and the Regiment, and I felt very privileged to be invited as a guest to see you receive it yesterday.

Yours sincerly,
(*Signed*) MAURICE S. LUSH, *Brigadier*.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. James E. Regis (A), chief of the new Italian Prisoners-of-war Division of the Civil Affairs Section, has received some good news already, to wit, that the French are now willing to talk details about releasing 40,000 Italian prisoners in North Africa... Brigadier General William L. Lee has been appointed director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission... Major General Kislenko, Soviet Russian representative to the Allied Commission, is back in Moscow, leaving Col. V. V. Savko as his deputy... The date of turnover of the North is still up in the air... A raft of U. S. enlisted men's promotions—144, to be exact—has been announced: four men to master sergeant, 31 to technical sergeant, 55 to staff sergeant and 54 to sergeant... Twenty-two officers and men have been officially commended in MTOUSA General Orders for meritorious service, as follows: Pfc. Walter V. Ruisi, Pfc. Eric B. Shearer, Pfc. Panfilo Silvestri, Pfc. Lee E. Tradewell, T/5 John P. Kachmer, T/5 Paul Moriconi, T/5 Richard V. Rosenblum, T/5 Ralph M. San Filippo, Corp. Frank N. Solina, T/4 Bruno J. Nardi, T/4 Rocco A. Rizzo, Sergt. William Amorino, Sergt. Giacinto G. Manensi, T/3 Robert F. Reggiani, T/3 Domenic F. Storino, Staff Sergt. William Segal, Staff Sergt. Ernest Toscano, Master Sergt. Anthony J. Giuliano, Lieut. (s. g.) Perry B. Cott, USNR, Capt. Neil C. Baker, Capt. John Y. Elliott and Capt. James F. Keim... Master Sergt. Aldo L. Picetti and Capt. Mortimer Cornin (formerly of AC) have received Bronze Stars... Major Lloyd Stears, staff officer to the Chief Commissioner, has received the Legion of Merit...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

August 11, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 19

POLITICAL

The past week has been perhaps more remarkable for activities of the parties rather than for progress on purely governmental affairs. Following the victorious motion of Pertini (see last week's *Bulletin*) the directorates of the Socialist and Communist parties met and proposed to form a "board of management" to ensure the smooth functioning of the pact of unity. The urgency of convoking the *Costituente* was again stressed and the joint committees recommended that elections for the *Costituente* should precede administrative elections. Later in the week the Action party indicated its sympathy with this attitude, *Italia Libera* arguing that while administrative elections would have been very valuable at a time when Italy was half under occupation, it would now be more logical, since the whole country is free to express itself, to lay the foundations for the new democracy before giving attention to the personnel of the lower echelons, the whole structure of which may be affected by the new constitution, especially if, as is expected, greater regional autonomy is granted.

The Central Committee of the Republican Party also joined this school of thought, urging, in a statement published on 7 August, that all republican elements should unite for the *Costituente*, elections for which, the Committee said flatly, must precede those for local administration. The Committee further recommended proportional representation. As noted in last week's *Bulletin*, the sequence recommended by the Leftist parties and the Republicans is the reverse of that proposed by the Christian Democrats. *Il Popolo* chided *Avanti* on this point, recalling that a year ago Nenni was crying out for immediate administrative elections. *Avanti* simply answered that times have changed. The inner cabinet considered the matter on the 9th and rejected Nenni's suggestion that a date be set immediately for the elections; it was the cabinet's view that all parties should have time to express themselves on this debatable subject.

More deliberations.

The Council of Christian Democrats, concluding their deliberations on the 2nd, resolved to issue a statement to the effect that a majority of their members were of Republican sympathy, thus clarifying in some degree the party's attitude, though presumably De Gasperi's pronouncement of party neutrality on the institutional question still stands. Under the heading of party activity should also be noted the communiqué of the Communist party, released on the 7th, calling on all political parties and other groups to give up any arms they might have and to cease fighting the remnants of Fascism with "illegal" weapons. The Communist appeal also recommended that all partisan associations other than the ANPI be disbanded and denied official recognition.

The Council met on the 7th and listened to reports from Treasury Minister Ricci, Industry and Commerce Minister Gronchi and Transport Minister La Malfa. Further measures in favor of partisans and repatriates were approved as were the budgets of the various ministries. Earlier in the week progress was reported on the preparation of the *Consulta*: it was given out that the parties have submitted their lists of representatives and the new body may be expected to meet early in September. The Republicans are firm in refusing to take part. Brosio described the *Consulta*'s functions in a statement issued on the 4th; he was particularly anxious to make it clear that there was no "antithesis" between the role of the *Consulta* and of the *Costituente*.

Venezia Giulia came into the headlines again when Prime Minister Parri told a group of *Giuliani* that he intended to ask the Allies to consider reviewing the existing conditions under which the Italian Government is powerless to do anything for the inhabitants of the region since it is not allowed even to have an observer there. Jacchia, in the *Giornale del Mattino*, supported Parri's attitude; the situation, he wrote, has undoubtedly improved since the Allies moved in, "but we feel they must keep in mind that the region,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

until it is definitely decided otherwise, is still a part of Italy".

During the week Eugenio Reale, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs, was named Ambassador to Poland, and Celeste Negarville, Communist, as is Reale, took over the undersecretaryship. Press comment on Russia's declaration of war has been rather scant so far; *Avanti* rejoiced in the "reaffirmed solidarity" between the Big Three which is symbolized by the declaration. *Tempo* mischievously sees in it a natural consequence of the first demonstration of the atomic bomb; other papers are speculating on how much the war may be shortened.

McPHAIL RIDES AGAIN

The Allied Commission's Supergarage employs over 500 civilians including drivers, mechanics, etc. In these days, when anything connected with transport fetches astronomical prices on the black market, it is not surprising that all kinds of odds and ends like petrol, tires and even cars have occasionally a tendency to disappear from the Supergarage. So Capt. Arthur M. MacPhail (A) has transformed his domain into a little fort guarded by a picked police force of about 30 Allied and Italian men, and far from just sitting down behind his prepared defence, he sallies forth at times, counterattacking vigorously.

For several days recently Capt. McPhail's cloak and dagger boys had been hot on the tracks of some black marketeers, the A. C. men posing as prospective buyers of good Allied tires. The haggling went on for several days; our sleuths were very particular about the quality of the tires: so, better and more attractive ones were produced every night. One black marketeer tried to tempt our "buyers" with a jeep engine.

Last Monday, 6 August, the time for action came. A flying squad of ten Italian (Supergarage) coppers armed with everything but an atomic bomb, set forth at 9 a. m. The scene of the A. C. raid was the already notorious neighbourhood of the "Quarticciola", 10 miles out of Rome on the road to Tivoli and once the stronghold of the notorious and deceased "Hunchback, v. i. p. Similar forays took place in other parts of the city. Net result of the A. C. operation: Two British jeeps (handed over to British Military Police), 12 tires and 4 tubes plus the smashing up of a little crime gang. Two of the criminals were captured but three managed to make a temporary get-away. In the city-wide total, property worth 10 million lire was recovered.

The jeeps were found nearly completely buried, at the end of a 150-yard-long cave just off the Via Prenestina. The tires had a more idyllic setting: Some were buried between rows of tomatoes; some were mixed up with the bedclothes of some peasants, several of whom were invited to police headquarters for further conversation.

CROP OUTLOOK

The wheat crop, according to the latest view of the Agriculture Sub-Commission, is now estimated at 11.8 million quintals. This is the lowest figure since 1920 when the wheat crop total was 38 million quintals. Last year the figure was 61.3 million quintals. In peacetime the yearly consumption of wheat in Italy was approximately 80 million quintals. The problem thus arising for the Food Sub-Commission and the Italian authorities cannot be measured by this old figure, which appears now almost a mirage to hungry Italians, but by the much more sober and realistic little statistic of 300 grams of bread a day.

The problem amounts to this: Can the bread ration be *maintained?*

The answer lies only to a very small extent in Allied Commission hands. Italian farmers will decide the question by complying or failing to comply with the numerous appeals made by Italians leaders that they hand in the largest possible quantity of wheat to the *Granai del Popolo*. So far little progress has been made, wheat ammassed, as of 7 August, being only 3,322,529 tons. In the last week, however, following two broadcasts by Enrico Molè, Italian Food Minister, the percentage of wheat handed in has increased slightly. The ammassing situation has been particularly bad in Piedmont, and only slightly less so in Lombardy. The agriculturally opulent Region of Emilia has, by and large, "delivered the goods".

The change in the estimated "amassable total" from 15 milion quintals (forecast June 15) to 13 million (current forecast), which means a reduction of 2 million quintals in the total amount of wheat expected to be available for distribution to the non-agricultural population of Italy, has given yet another headache to the harrassed officers of the Food Sub-Commission. Besides the factor of the weather, the reduction is due, to a large extent, to the inclusion of refugees returning to Italian farms in the category of persons entitled to legal retentions. The A. C. food officers are now working out what additional quantity of wheat will have to be requisitioned from outside

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Italy to make good the anticipated deficit, taking into account that the large estimated corn crop will in part compensate for the poor wheat crop.

Requisitions for 10 million quintals of wheat have already been filed with the Combined Chiefs of Staff Supply board and there is a surplus of 2 million quintals from last year, but even if the 10 million quintals of wheat were granted, it is a toss-up whether the 300-gram bread ration can be maintained. Expected to arrive in Italy during the month of August are 50,000 tons of wheat and about 70,000 in September. In the meantime, to complicate matters, Austria has had to be supplied with wheat destined to Italy.

Other Crops.

Other crop estimates are good and bad. The corn (maize) crop is estimated at 23 million quintals, a normal crop. The acreage planted has been estimated at 120 per cent. of normal in Northern Italy. This was due to the inability of the farmers to complete the sowing of wheat in the autumn of 1944. Thus, more land was planted to corn in the spring of 1945. The greater acreage under corn is offset by the drought conditions which have reduced the yield per acre; so the crop finally balances up to about normal.

The olive crop is expected to be smaller than last year's. It is quite usual for a small crop to follow a large one, and last year's crop was a large one. It is too early yet to predict final results, as sciroceo winds may still materially reduce the yield, but the final figure may well be 9.5 million quintals.

The only important crop which has not materially suffered is that of fruits and fresh vegetables. Half a million quintals of early fruit will be available in the North and up to 800,000 quintals of apples and pears. The grape crop is in good condition due to dry wheather, which has prevented the spreading of disease. There is also promise of a good yield in tomatoes, about 9 million quintals. Potatoes will be nearly normal.

But most of the other crops have suffered heavily. Barley (1.3 million quintals) and rye (8.6 million quintals) will be scarce. Rice (4 million quintals) has taken a beating from considerable reductions in acreage and yield. Lack of fertilizers, severe frosts and drought have inflicted more damage on the *legume* (beans, broad beans, peas, etc.) crop than on any other crop in Italy. Lack of processing facilities and combat operations have drastically curtailed the production of sugar beets. The acreage of hemp is estimated at 50 per cent. of normal: apart from this the crop has further been reduced by drought and lack of fertilizers. Damage to hay crops has been most severe in Sardinia and Apulia, the total crop is estimated at 60 per cent. of the normal one. Transportation for re-distribution of livestock and local surpluses of forage is so limited that slaughtering has already been increased to bring the herds in line with the local availability of forage. Northern farmers, incidentally, are releasing, through AMG, 13,500 tons of forage to help maintain the dairy and breeding herds in the hard-hit areas of Southern Italy and Sardinia.

ODDS AND ENDS

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal by the War Department and the Order of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus by the Italian Government... The Soldier's Medal for has been awarded to WOJG Daniel Coley (who has since left the A.C.) for saving an officer from drowning at Fregene last May... Capt. Richard L. P. Garzarilli of Piemonte Region, Col. Clayton P. Kerr, deputy director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, Maj. Andrew J. Mabatesta and Staff Sergt. W. J. Davini have received the Bronze Star... Recipients of the Legion of Merit this week include Col. Charles Poletti, RC of Lombardia; Col. Leonard D. Deusmore, chief staff officer, Economic Section; Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG; Lieut. Col. Rowland W. Rushmore of the Public Health Sub-Commission; Col. Lester J. Hensley, A. C. Liaison Officer with PBS, and Lieut. Col. Frank E. Toscani, 5th Army AMG... MTOUSA has now ruled that it is permissible for U. S. officers to accept Italian decorations with approval of higher headquarters... A conference of Regional Commissioners will be held in Rome 13 and 14 August... Steps are under way to hand over to the Italian Government all Fascist Republicans now in Allied prisoner-of-war camps... Lieut. Col. Carleton W. Washburne, director of the Education Sub Commission is in Switzerland to obtain suitable textbooks in German for the re-opening of Bolzano schools... During the past week, 35,106 Italians came over the Northern frontiers while another 691 landed at Taranto from France and 795 others at Bari from Yugoslavia; some 29,000 Italians were evacuated from the North to points South... Personnel changes in the offing: Brigadier M. Carr will

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

succeed Brigadier Gerald R. Upjohn as Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, the latter going home, as is Lieut. Col. A. D. Bonham Carter, who will be succeeded by Lieut. Col. P.H.G.H.-S. Hartley; Col. Robert P. Marshall, RC of Piemonte, will be replaced by Col. Floyd E. Thomas, with Lieut. Col. William Turner-Coles as his Deputy; Col. W. R. Jordan, present Liguria Deputy RC, will go to Venezie to act in that capacity for Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, the RC, while the Venezie Deputy RC, Col. Thomas N. Page, will come to Rome to be director of the Public Health Sub-Commission; Col. W. J. Legg, director of the Food Sub-Commission, at present in the hospital, is going home... Olive oil ammassed, as of 7 August, amounted to 524,080 qts... Since 1 August Greece has received 1,570 tons of sulphur and Malta 244 tons of wine, from Italy... Subscriptions to the Italian loan in the North amount to more than 30 billion lire... Production had commenced of 4,000 tons of double-concentrated tomato paste... With the putting into operation of another 35,000 kw. unit at the Galleto generating station, three out of the four machines that were operating before the war are now again back in use, giving a capacity of 105,000 kw.; the fourth is scheduled to resume this fall... The Shipping Sub-Commission has been abolished and its functions taken over by Transportation Sub-Commission...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

August 18, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 20

POLITICAL

Meliur intiorque est certa pax, quam sperata victoria.

Livy.

Perhaps, it was the hovering shadow of peace, at once exhilarating and sobering; perhaps, the awe still lingering as the aftermath of the atomic bomb; perhaps, simply the dog days; whatever the cause, the past week has been almost without events worthy of note in the field of Italian politics.

The Council, to be sure, had a two-day session (July 9 and 10) but its agenda contained no surprises and nothing controversial. Administrative autonomy was granted to the Val d'Aosta; plans for welfare and reconstruction were discussed and it was decided to allot one billion lire for "shelter houses" for those whose homes have been destroyed. The exact definition of the word "partisan" was studied but no conclusion reached—or at least none announced. Approval was given to Italy's joining the Central European Railway organization, after exposition of its merits by Transport Minister La Malfa. Paretti-Griva, Commissioner for Epuration, was appointed President of the Brescia Court of Appeals. The Council then adjourned, presumably, like the rest of us, to wait for the official end of the war.

Comment.

Prime Minister Parri, commenting on the Japanese surrender, which he said "marked the end of one of the most despicable régimes", hoped that it would allow the United Nations to turn to the work of world reconstruction and that, in particular for Italy, more tonnage might be now available for relief and greater help forthcoming from the Allies to help put Italy on her feet.

Admiral Stone, in a statement given to the press, said that Italy could share in the universal satisfaction inasmuch as she, though still suffering herself, had shown her solidarity with the free peoples of the world by declaring war on the common enemy. He, too, said that it seemed "logical to expect that eventually more shipping and supplies will become available to the stricken countries".

On the question of the precedence of administrative or Constitutional elections, the issue is now very clearly drawn, Liberals and Labor Democrats having come out in favor of having the administrative elections first. This lines them up on the side of the Christian Democrats and divides the six parties into two groups of three. The Democratic party, outside the C. L. N., is also in favor of early administrative elections, thus balancing the Republicans whose contrary sentiments we recorded last week.

Not Ready.

The thesis of the moderate parties is that the country is not yet ready for the grave decisions that the *Costituente* will have to take; this point of view was put forward by Rossetti in *Ricostruzione* and supported by the non-partisan *Secolo XX*. Morandi, the socialist leader, speaking in Genoa, said, however, that the Socialists would come to the *Costituente* elections with a complete program for the solution of all major problems.

Parri, interviewed by Overseas News Agency, was quoted as saying that Italy must be a member of the United Nations before the *Costituente* elections can be held, but added that he hoped negotiations would not be long delayed. (He also said, when questioned, that, in his opinion it would be unjust to deprive Italy of Eritrea, Somaliland or the "Mediterranean colonies".)

Parri's speech is indeed the clue to the week. Italian politics are not so much inactive as expectant. Italy is waiting; waiting for the Council of Foreign Ministers, for the peace treaty, for a final clarification of her position, waiting, too —and more hopefully now— for more economic help from the victorious United Nations.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ITALY TURNS THE FIRST CORNER

As a change from the rather gloomy picture of Italian industrial prospects a month ago, it is good to report that, in the calculated opinion of Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, Italy has now turned the first corner on the long road back to economic recovery, keeping our fingers crossed over shipping despite the end of the war. One solid fact buttresses this thesis, namely, that the critical deficiency of coal will be met, in part at least. Brigadier Anderson brought this news back from London where he attended the conferences of the European Coal Organization and of the European Economic Council. To sum up, here is the story: As a result of the now verified coal imports and of a steel master plan basically drawn up by Col. Glendinning, director of the Industry Sub-Commission, and now being put into effect, Italian key industries should be back operating of least to 50 per cent. of capacity instead of the 10 per cent. or less they have been. The productive cycle has been planned to have a cumulative effect and should give employment to 500,000 persons in the related basic industries. Chronologically, the significant events are as follows:

Coal, of course, has been the great deficiency, being, as everyone knows, Shortage Item No. 1 in the world. A definite commitment has been obtained for 350,000 tons a month, perhaps even a little more, for the rest of 1945. For September 367,00 tons were promised and some of the shipments have already arrived and been delivered to factories where the coal has been welcomed with cheers by the workers and an immediate lift in morale. Coal allocation has been the subject of considerable thinking at A. C. Headquarters where an allocation committee has been set up which includes Italian Government representatives. The coal is allocated by user, that is, railroads, public utilities, industry, hospitals, bakeries and food plants. It is then re-allocated by bulk to regions which, within their own discretion, re-allocate within the area on the same principles.

The chief criterion of allocation within these premises is the productive efficiency of the plant and, naturally, the need for the product, counsel on which is given by the recently-established National Industrial Council, (comprised of representatives from industry and from the Government) which acts similarly to the War Production Board in the States and the Ministries of Supply and Production in England, as top dispensers of priorities and materials.

Keystone of the industrial recovery plan is the steel industry, for which a plan has been drawn up which envisages an annual production of 1,000,000 tons of steel a year or 50 per cent. of Italian steel capacity. Choosing only the most efficient plants, it is planned, for example, to produce this million tons by using only about 400,000 tons of coal a month and utilizing electric power to the highest degree possible, by conversion of furnaces where necessary. In fact, to produce the second million tons of steel would require another 1,300,000 tons of coal a month since second-class steel plants are involved. Thus, for the time being, only the first-class plants will be used since they can fully utilize the amount of coal that it will be feasible to import.

In the next six months, 565,000 tons of steel are programmed, of which electric furnaces, mostly in the North, will make 372,000 tons; Central Italy steelworks (Terni, Piombino and San Giovanni Valdarno) will make 154,000 tons and Southern plants (Torre Annunziata) will produce 36,000 tons. Terni, by the way, once one of the biggest armament works in Europe, has already been converted into one vast railroad repair shop and is fixing up locomotives and railroad cars and making electrical equipment. Terni plans to make 93,000 tons of steel by March, 1946. In the steel situation, it is imperative that swift progress be made this fall since steel depends on pig iron, which, with electricity falling off in the winter months, will have to be made the next few months. Manganese ore and chromite from Rhodesia for ferrous alloys and refractories from Austria are being arranged for.

Another basic industry being restored is that of textiles. Enough cotton and wool is on the way virtually to restore full production, which requires a monthly import of 13,000 tons of cotton (from Egypt and the United States) and 2,500 tons of wool. It is expected that 50 per cent. of full production will be reached within another month.

The Italian power situation, discounting the current cutback forced by the record dry weather, is also now in basically a more favorable condition than expected, although the lack of rainfall in the South will make that area a deficiency one this winter. However, the introduction of the 50 cycle frequency universally in Italy is now making it possible for real exchange of power between all sections, which had never been done before. Power from the North can be fed into Central Italy and power from Central Italy will

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

shortly be available to the South, subject only to the capacity of the conductors. To this end, the present emphasis is upon the repair of heavy transmission lines interconnecting North, Central, and Southern Italy. Already several transmission lines are in service to supply the Florence area from the North and will be supplemented by others. A line connecting Central and Southern Italy is expected to be ready this fall. With a transmission system available once more, it will be possible to move blocks of power through Italy to areas needing it most.

Water Supply.

There is a difference sometimes between the present generating capacity and the electrical demand for actual use because of insufficient water supply at various points to make full use of the available generating capacity. In Central and Southern Italy, and in Sicily, the electrical demand is the maximum that can be produced with the available water and fuel. If more electricity could be produced, it could be used. In Northern Italy, there is still a surplus of power, which will diminish as more electricity is used for industrial and domestic purposes, and as less water becomes available from melting snows in the North during the cooler months. Because of a scarcity of fuel in the North, electricity is being increasingly used for domestic cooking purposes and will also be used extensively for heating this winter.

The table that follows tells its own story:

Area	Pre-War Capacity (Kilowatts)	Capacity Available Upon Allied Entrance	Present Installed Capacity
North Italy	4,055,000	4,200,000	4,255,000
Central Italy	1,292,236	35,000	351,000
Southern Italy	356,355	156,200	286,000
Sicily	91,973	45,800	65,000
Sardinia	96,080	96,080	96,080
	5,476,023	4,543,780	5,052,080

The fertilizer industry this year will also be close back to normal. There are two complementary fertilizers used in Italy—nitrogenous and superphosphate. The latter in peacetime used a million tons of phosphate rock a year; at least 500,000 tons for the rest of 1945 have now been obtained in contracts from the French. Nitrogen production depends on power. One third of the plants are in the North and so adequately supplied with power; one third are small, scattered ones using coal, which is now arriving, but the remaining third of production is at Crotone, which has had to shut down because of the deficiency of power in the South.

Coal will also help the building trade industries—brick and cement—rise to 50 per cent. of production. Sardinian coal production is once more satisfactory, July having seen an output of 50,000 tons, which is 50 per cent. above the average of the 17 months ending last April.

Procurement.

On the general supply question, Brigadier General Edward R. McKinley, head of the Economic Section, is in London also and will now go to Washington to clear up the matter of who will be responsible for procurement of civilian supplies for Italy, now that military responsibility is ending (officially 31 August). The way matters stand at the moment, the supply responsibility would be in somewhat of a snarl by October if the channel is not laid down now. There has been talk of UNRRA assuming this responsibility but that has to be decided at the UNRRA Council now in session and in any event could not occur before the first of the year. On the American side, the FEA will probably do the procurement, with the War Department acting as its agent as long as there are military channels in the Italian theater.

The Italian foreign exchange situation—denoting the wherewithal to buy raw materials and fuel—is also a little clearer, though not rosy by any means. From the U.S., Italy now has $150,000,000 in credits for the Category B part of the joint program against which purchases are currently being applied. There is also another $100,000,000 of U. S. Lend-Lease aid, under different arrangements. The British Government has another earmarked $12,000,000 for the B program and also has other plans of assistance in the hopper.

In brief, Italy, can at least see the future. Italy will have to produce enough goods to obtain foreign exchange credits to buy coal and raw materials to produce goods to get credits to buy coal and raw materials, etc. This means one thing: Not as many commodities will be available for the civilian population as they require or want. To pay her way, Italy will have to sustain herself on a lower standard of living than before the war and trust to hard work, ingenuity and luck to bring her economy gradually and slowly to a higher level.

MORE MEDALS

In a ceremony at A. C. Headquarters attended by Regional Commissioners and all top executives of the Commission, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, the Chief Commissioner, pre-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

sented decorations to six officers and three enlisted men 11 August. Given the Legion of Merit were Colonels Leonard D. Densmore and Nelson W. Monfort; Lieutenant Colonels James H. Penick, Joseph D. Scholtz and Rowland W. Rushmore, and Major Joel Rosenbaum. Given the Bronze Stars were First Sergt. Robert A. Reid, Staff Sergt. Nicholas D. Angelini and T/4 Lawrence W. Shenfield.

Further awards were announced in MTOUSA General Orders, as follows:

Legion of Merit – Major Henry E. Hudson, Major Edmund L. Palmieri, First Lieut. Louis Mehr, Lieut. Col. Ernest T. DeWald, Lieut. Col. Harry G. Hershenson, Major Harry B. Bradbury, Col. John K. Weber, and Lieut. Col. Guy I. Warren.

Bronze Star – Lieut. Col. William A. Hartman, Lieut. Col. Wilson C. Williams, T/4 Donato A. Pascale, Sergt. Henry C. S. Piper, Staff Sergt. Louis J. Padula, T/3 Vincent Gambardella, Staff Sergt. Eugene J. Journalist, Staff Sergt. Eric Stein, First Lieut. Frederick Hartt, First Lieut. Edward E. Nevans, jr., First Lieut. Edmund W. Nash, Capt. Milton T. Hill, Pfc. Gaetano F. Avvelluto, Pfc. Anzo A. Grassi, Pfc. Bernard Horkheimer, T/5 John V. Apicella, T/5 Emanuele Di Matteo, T/5 Augustus J. Pusateri, Cpl. Albert L. Lavorato, T/4 Adolph S. Grossi, T/4 Joseph Lanizza, T/4 Anthony E. Visco, Sergt. Guy Ferri, Technical Sergt. Maurice G. Picciotti, T/4 Marshall Ruscetti and Major William H. Savin.

TURNOVER HUDDLE

Regional Commissioners of the North were called in to Rome 3 and 11 August to give last-minute reports on conditions preparatory to hand-over of the territory to Italian Government jurisdiction next month. The RC's were in general agreement that the sooner the turnover took place the better, with the only alternative being to remain until after the elections (probably in April) a contingency dependent strictly upon the retention of Allied troops in the country. It was thought probable that the return of territory would include Liguria, Piemonte, Lombardy and Venezie, with the exception of the Province of Udine, where AMG might stay on until December 1. Livorno would also be handed back in September, though the matter of Naples was still undecided at AFHQ. There were no other Army pockets of territory contemplated. September 15 was set as the tentative date to recommend to AFHQ, with prompt action needed to have time enough to put into effect all the necessary legal machinery of the operation.

From an administrative and economic standpoint, the turnover, it was pointed out, was feasible any day, but from a public safety standpoint, there were a lot of reservations, the Executive Commissioner said in summary. Col. Norman E. Fiske, the Deputy Executive Commissioner, remarked that AMG without Allied troops was futile and that a position of AMG being supported by the Italian Army not satisfactory. The Italian Army, incidentally, is to be returned to the operational control of the Italian Government by September 30. It was proposed that, after the turnover, a group of liaison officers, probably 150, be kept in the North to help in residual problems in industry and public safety as well as displaced persons until UNRRA takes over from the latter.

Col. W. J. Legg, director of the Food Sub-Commission, in his last appearance before the top field officers, since he is being invalided home, was paid tribute by Brigadier Lush for his energy and devotion to duty in feeding Italy up to the Alps. The Colonel explained his proposal for instituting a uniform food scale throughout Italy, making the 300-gram ration universal and equalizing present discrepancies between the North and the rest of the nation.

The plan, which is now going through the final coordinating clearances, would go into effect just before the AMG withdrawal. It is a return to the Italian system of rationing, contrasted with that imposed by the Allies, and is expected materially to simplify the present complicated rationing system. The equalization will give increases and decreases to both the South and the North. The proposed ration scale for all Italy would then be 200 grams of bread a day for the normal consumer and 66 grams of pasta. Normal consumers in the 9 to 18 age group would get 225 grams a day. Heavy workers would get a supplement of 100 grams of bread and 20 of pasta, the same amount of pasta going to very heavy workers plus 200 grams of bread. The nation-wide supplement to heavy workers would substantially assist in the cause of general reconstruction, Col. Legg said.

The North, whose special ration setup was not disturbed upon Allied entry at request of the civilian leaders, would be affected as follows: Normal consumers' ration would gain 50 grams, rising from 150 grams a day to 200. Workers who have been getting 325 grams would drop 125 grams as normal consumers but be eligible for the workers' supplements. In the South,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 744516

heavy workers who have not been getting supplementary rations except in isolated cases would get the new supplement while the normal consumers would have their pasta ration dropped by 14 grams from 80 to 66.

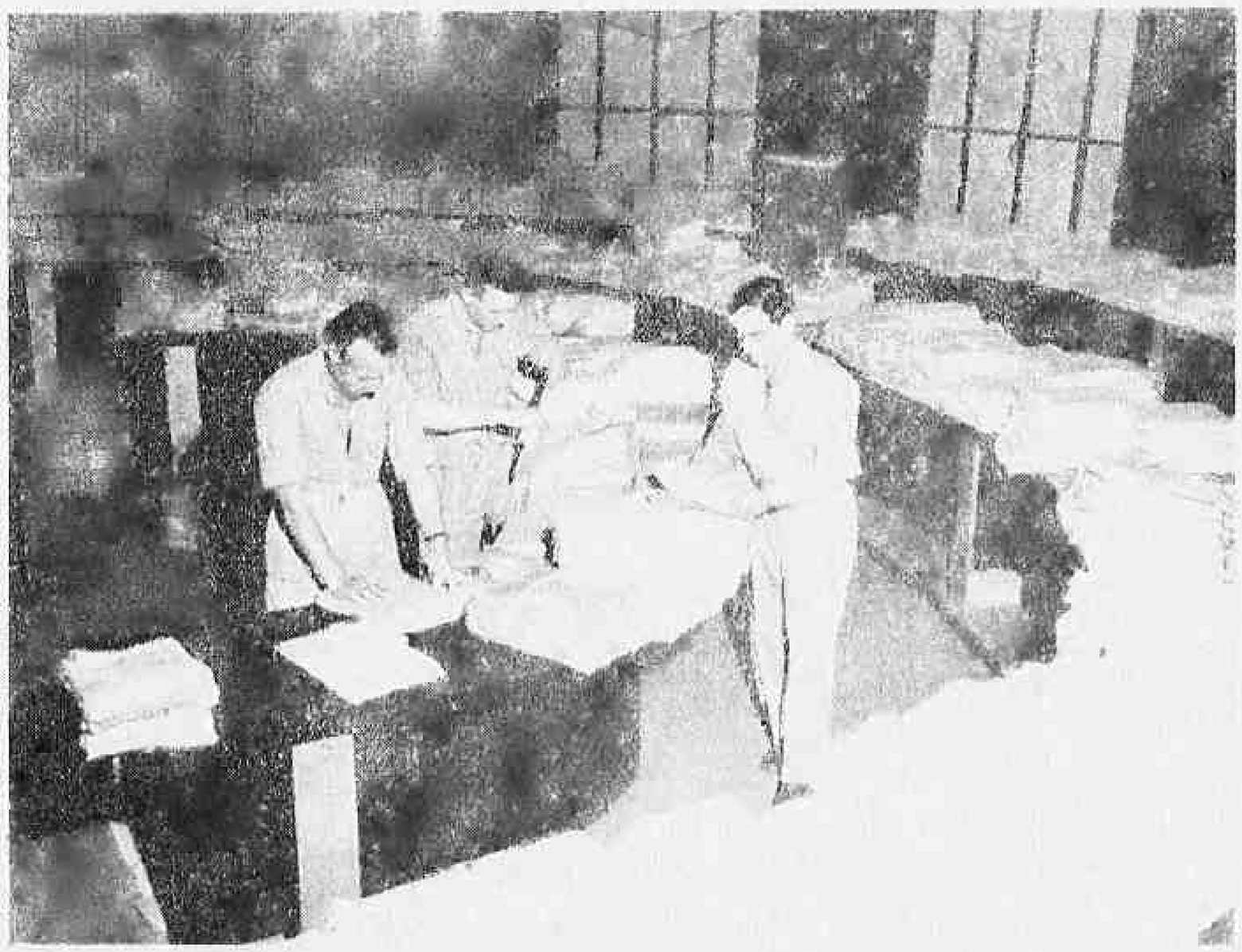
FOR THE RECORD

The photograph accompanying this item tells the story of Allied Commission archives problems better than most words. In a phrase, there are a hell of a lot of documents floating around and we had better tidy them, for history's sake, ere we depart this scene. As for Capt. A. J. Collins (IA), A.C. Archives Officer (in the center in the picture), he conservatively expects to remain on the job until at least 1961. Sergt. L. V. J. Atterby (IA), his assistant, is not quite certain whether to engage for so long a term, feeling he has his hands full enough of dusty records already. The American soldier in the picture is merely a ringer to round out the esthetic requirements of photographic art. The papers strewn around the important part of the picture are the records from one region alone, Marche-Umbria.

With AFHQ itself showing a keen interest in archives these days, requiring that all units appoint records officers, the Allied Commission itself, with records that will undoubtedly be gold mines for the historians of the future, will now have regional archives officers to organize the documentary residue of the regions, work on which will be given high priority on request of Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, Executive Commissioner.

Material received at headquarters to date, from regions and sub-commissions, amounts to approximately 1,500 cubic feet or nearly 15 tons. No accurate estimate of the eventual volume of records that will be accumulated can be ventured, though Capt. Collins makes a guess of 6,000 cubic feet. From past experience, a region will have about 300 cubic feet. It goes without saying that the lumpf from headquarters will outweigh the field. (It always has, say the regions.) In any event, if the regional archives officers follow the administrative instructions and take to heart the pointers to be given by Capt. Collins on a tour of the North, the time necessary to prepare a region's records for proper interment should take only about one month.

At any rate, this is one Annex so that should come up to expectations.



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ODDS AND ENDS

While there's life, there's hope, say the rest of us, as we lern that, promoted to First Lieutenant have been Peter F. Natale of Venezia-Giulia AMG, Joseph W. Durber, jr. and James M. Arensberg, both of the Economic Section... Col. Floyd E. Thomas (A), former law professor at the University of Arizona, gave a lecture the other day before the faculty of the University of Bologna on " Aspects of the American Legal System "... As a result of recent transfers of prisoners from Regina Coeli Prison in Rome, only about 1,000 inmates now inhabit the famous gaol... The Records Bureau of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission is approaching 100,000 names, 95,439 of 72 nationalities being on the rolls 31 July... During the past week, 37,688 Italians were received into Italy and 8,958 were moved from Rome to the South for dispersal... Major Harold Bentley, A. C. Liaison Officer at Catania in Sicily, reports that the current grain ammassing there amounts to one fifteenth of that collected for the same period in 1944, which was bad enough... Brigadier Lush is making a week's tour of the North...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

August 25, 1945

Rec'd 9/33

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 21

POLITICAL

Party divisions, whether on the whole operating for good or evil, are things inseparable from free government.

BURKE.

What may be called the political routine of the week got off to a start on 18 July when Prime Minister Parri held his customary press conference. He spoke vigorously about the "sad necessity" of enforcing the *ammassi*, gave a moderately optimistic survey of possibilities of industrial rehabilitation and expressed his hope that the *Consulta* would begin functioning by September 15. He took occasion also to chide "a certain section of the press" for its "alarmistic" accounts of unrest in the provinces. (This stung *Italia Nuova*, whose conscience was apparently uneasy, into indignant rebuttal and counter accusation to the effect that Parri is trying to muzzle the press.)

The Council held its regular meeting later in the week; here again the *Consulta* was discussed. It was decided to start work on the actual formation of the assembly on September 15 and the suggestion was made that Nitti and Orlando should be invited to become members. Nenni was reported to have expressed the hope that in three months epuration will be concluded. Other matters dealt with included further readjustments of social benefits and measures to facilitate industrial loans.

Aldisio gave an account of the general condition in Sicily, categorically denying that there was any truth in the most recent pronunciamento of that old Sicilian *cantastorie*, Finocchiaro Aprile. Prominently displayed in *Indipendente*, the statement referred to contained the usual Separatist charges and programs with the picturesque addition that "hundreds of Sicilian-American functionaries" had arrived in Sicily in the last few days to take over the administration of the island. Aprile even went so far as to thank President Truman for the "delicacy" he had shown in selecting such officials from Sicilian-American stock. Additional denials of these Separatists' yarns have been made by Allied spokesmen; as far as can be deduced from here, the stories seem to be malicious embroidery on the simple fact that more American personnel has recently arrived in Palermo which is serving as a U.S. naval base.

Labor.

The CGIL issued another appeal to the Government on the 24st. It ran along familiar lines. Asking for a vigorous campaign against the black market, co-operative management of mills and bakeries, employment planning and special increases in rations for needy elements among the working classes. There was general press approval of these objectives. *Risorgimento Liberale*, however, pointed out mildly that there exists a problem of production as well as distribution and that Italian agriculture might be more productive than it is now if "social peace" were allowed to exist.

Aside from routine political activities, there are two main problems that interest politically minded Italians at this time. One is the whole business of elections, the other is the kind of peace treaty that is in the making and, more specifically at the moment, the kind of machinery that will make it. On the question of whether *Costituente* or administrative elections come first, the week has brought nothing new. The Action party has formally confirmed its attitude already expressed informally and is prepared to press for the constitutional elections. The Government as such has still taken no stand on the matter. Reforms in the electoral law are still hanging fire and there has been some discussion of two possible amendments to the existing law. The Government in principle favors extending the vote to include those over 18 years of age but feels, according to Parri's statement at his press conference, that there would not be time to add these names to the lists for the coming election. *Italia Nuova* took issue with this, too, and published a manifesto from the *Fronte della Gioventù* asking

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

the Government to allow the young people to prepare their own lists and guaranteeing they would be ready on time. No other paper has taken up the cause as yet. Then there is the matter of whether voting should be made obligatory. *Il Popolo* thinks so, *Unità* has already come out against it, arguing that there are times when abstention from the polls is a form of political expression.

Peace Treaty.

The papers have been full of discussion of the peace treaty. The most burning question is the very natural one: Will Italy be allowed to be represented by a properly accredited delegation authorized to negotiate or will she not? To this, no answer has come. Rumor, as abhorrent of vacuum as nature itself, has been busy: it was said that an Italian delegation consisting of Tarchiani, Visconti-Venosta, De Courten and Ricci and presided over by Sforza and Orlando was already prepared to go to London, but there has been no official confirmation of this. Closely allied to the kind of treaty in prospect is the question of colonies and during the week there have been a number of articles defending Italy's right to keep her colonies "unless we are to have a peace of punishment" as *Tribuna del Popolo* puts it. Orbis news agency quoted "one of the members of the American Congressional mission at present visiting Italy" as saying it is possible that the pre-Fascist colonies may be given back.

Bevin's speech made news in Italy, as it did in all countries. There was something in it to please everyone. Moderate Leftists were pleased with his observations on Eastern European governments (conservatives like *Italia Nuova* were delighted) whereas Nenni dwelt with pleasure on the assertion that the *Costituente* should be called as soon as possible. And of course, all Italians cheered the reiteration of the statement that Italy must no longer be treated as if Mussolini were still in power. There was news, too, from France of some interest to the political scene on this side of the Alps. The rejection by the French Socialists of the projected fusion with the Communists represents a check to Nenni's policy within his party and, like Bevin's statement, tends to strengthen the moderate Left.

WASHINGTON IN ROME

Following on the trail blazed some time ago by a party of pioneering U. S. Senators, a Committee of U. S. Congressmen made its way into Rome last week. The group consisted of selected members from various Congressional committees dealing with war agencies of one sort or another and headed by Rep. Victor Wickersham (D., Okla.). The committee held a hearing on the afternoon of 21 July in AC Headquarters to which representatives of AC, FEA, OWI, UNRRA, ANLC, and the embassies were summoned. The hearing was not open to the press and was conducted in an informal atmosphere, almost chummy in tone – rather surprising to one who attended with anticipation of grim congressional grilling and sternly truculent defense. Actually, the distinguished visitors approached their task with humility, being principally concerned with learning details of recruitment of personnel, training, expense and objectives and accomplishments as seen by the men in the field, since presumably they get the more statistical stories in Washington. They had come, as their spokesman put it, not to embarrass anyone, but rather to learn what they could of problems and purposes and, if need be, what they could do to assist. Congressional amazement reached a new high, we suspect, when the spokesman for one agency (we won't give him away) actually confessed his organization had enough money and was quite content with his equipment. We were rather impressed ourselves with the coherent pattern emerging from the account of our overseas war-born institutions, not forgetting our own AC. We were, too, a little shaken by the realization that came upon us as we listened to some of the questions that we have been living in a world apart, taking for granted on our simple way that everyone knows what AC is, that everyone has heard of the CLNAI, that all intelligent men are at home in our alphabetical labyrinth beginning with AFHQ, running down through R.C., PW, etc., even to PRO (Advt.). Well, 'taint so... At the end of the hearing the *patres conscripti* kindly suggested that it was our turn to ask questions and if there was anything they could tell us, they would be very happy to oblige. We wanted to ask: When do we go home? but pity for our visitors stayed our tongue. They've probably heard that one before.

CULTURAL RELATIONS

Before the Allied Commission goes bye-bye, a project it wants to insure of a sound foundation is the resumption of cultural relations between Italy and the Allies and even more particularly, a greater understanding by the Italian people of the free institutions of the United States and the United Kingdom where elections of almost revo-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

lutionary portent can take place without the recrimination and blood-letting that sometimes occurs in other lands. The British and American Embassies, with the Education Sub-Commission of the AC as aide and counsel, are now going full blast on this program, operated specifically by the United States Information Service and the British Council and the Ministry of Information.

The USIS, for example, has quite a few activities lined up to explain democratic processes in the U.S.A. which should be of interest to the Italians in connection with their own proposed elections. Four booklets in Italian pertaining to the American democratic processes in general have now almost reached completion. They are: *Elections in the United States*, *How the United States Government Works*, *Documents of Liberty* and *The Making of the American Constitution*. About 100,000 copies each will be distributed throughout Italy.

In addition, USIS, in conjunction with MOI, has undertaken an educational film campaign concentrating on documentaries about democratic processes. Arrangements have been made for the widespread distribution in commercial cinemas throughout Italy of a British documentary on the recent election and a specially-prepared American documentary on elections in the United States. Further, the two agencies have just concluded an arrangement with ENAL (*Ente Nazionale Assistenza Lavoratore*) for the widespread showing of all such documentaries. ENAL is the successor agency to Dopolavoro and has taken over numerous cinemas and auditoriums throughout Northern Italy. A joint mobile film project has also been prepared. Vans completely equipped with 16-mm. projectors will tour the marked places of small towns, and outdoor showings will be provided to the assembled crowds.

Long Experience.

The long experience of the Education Sub-Commission in all parts of Italy and in contact with all phases of education and cultural activities, of course, renders it especially useful in interpreting Italy's needs and desires. The Sub-Commission, indeed, has made cultural contacts with several nations: Russia, China, Holland and Switzerland, besides the U. S. and the U. K.

The activities of the Sub-Commission, independently or in collaboration with one or more of the national cultural agencies, have been various. A systematic drive has been launched to obtain Allied books for publication in Italian. For example, Italian Ministers of Education have consistently expressed a strong wish to have available, in Italian, books which would give Italian educators a knowledge of the organization, methods, experience and problems of education, from nursery school through the university, in Allied countries. Leading authorities in Britain and the United States have been consulted, and about fifty books have been received for consideration. The Russian and the Chinese Embassies have likewise been consulted and the Chinese Minister of Education has sent an excellent pamphlet on Chinese education during the war years. No Russian publications have arrived.

A leading publisher, Le Monnier, of Florence, has been selected to have a series of books on Allied education translated and published. One of these books is now in the press. Others are in various states of translation or composition. British and American books are equal in number. Half a dozen comprehensive and significant books on American history, politics, and economics have been received for consideration as part of a similar series in the social science field analogous to the series on education.

For Juveniles, too.

An expert in juvenile literature, in consultation with the American Library Association, has selected 40 of the best children's books for publication in Italian. The books describe life in many lands, and include also science and general literature. While some of the books have their origin in Britain and other nations, the translation rights have been obtained from American publishers by USIS. The books themselves have been given by the Education Sub-Commission to USIS which has arranged for their publication in Italy.

The USIS is also publishing monthly bulletins in Italian in the fields of medicine, agriculture and veterinary medicine; industry, engineering, education, psychology, and social assistance. These are composed of digests of technical and professional articles in American reviews. They are printed in large quantities and distributed gratis. They are supplemented by monographs dealing more completely with single topics in the various fields. The Sub-Commission helps select most of the articles and arranges for the monographs in the field of education.

In response to the request of the Italian Society of Engineers, considering the reform of engineering education in Italy, literature has been obtained from the leading engineering schools of Britain and the United States and presented to the Society's committee. Boy Scout and Girl

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Guide publications also have been obtained from both Britain and the United States for the Italian organizations.

Numerous similar requests for information and publications have been filled: university catalogues and bulletins, catalogues of school supply houses, literature on the Association of University Women, technical books on radio technology, etc.

Libraries.

An extensive survey of the scholarly books and periodicals most urgently needed by the universities, technical institutions, and libraries of Italy has been made. The tabulated results have been sorted by nations of origin of the publications. The USIS is attempting to secure the American publications, the British Council is doing the same for the British publications, and the Education Sub-Commission has written direct to the other countries in an attempt to get their publications.

Two commissions have been appointed by the Minister of Public Instruction, one to work out plans for exchange of professors between Italy and the Allies, the other to work out similar interchange of students. A movement is being fostered to provide fellowships for scholarly Italian prisoners-of-war in the United States, and conversely for American military personnel already in Italy and desirous of remaining to study. All arrangements, except permission to travel by Allied transport (which is awaiting War Department approval) have also been made for sending Professor Cucciapuoti of the University of Rome to the United States to study recent developments in the field of nuclear physics and cosmic rays.

The Education Sub-Commission further has been negotiating with the Metropolitan Opera Company and Columbia Concerts on the one hand, and with Italian agencies, on the other, for the interchange of concert artists and singers between Italy and the United States. The British Council feels that the time is not yet ripe for such interchange with Britain.

Scouts.

Much energy has been expended in furthering the development of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides in Italy. In cooperation with the international, British, and American organizations, it has facilitated the federation of the Catholic and non-denominational Italian Boy Scout organizations. Both Scout groups and the federation have been accorded provisional recognition by the International Boy Scouts. A similar federation has been formed of the Catholic Girl Guides and the non-sectarian Girl Scouts. The female organizations have also been put in communication with British, American, and International organizations.

The Allied Scout groups have, in fact, been full of good turns. A grant of one thousand dollars has been obtained from the American Girl Scouts to help the Italian Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, to be used for goods, for uniforms, for Italian publications, etc. The International Boy Scouts has set up a credit of one hundred fifty pounds for similar purposes for the Italian non-denominational Boy Scouts. The American Boy Scouts are raising a "World Friendship Fund" to aid scouting in liberated countries and have promised to allocate part of this to Italy. Arrangements have been made to bring two trainers for Girl Scout and Guide leaders from Switzerland to help with the work in Italy, at the expense of the International Girl Guides. The American Girl Scouts have offered to attempt to send an expert on camping. The British Boy Scouts have offered full expenses for six young Boy Scout leaders from each of the two Italian associations to go to England for a training course.

The Education Sub-Commission has been cooperating also with UNRRA: in assisting Italian institutions for child care to avail themselves of the expert knowledge of a British specialist; with the European Student Relief Fund in arranging for teaching materials for universities and aid to university students; with the International Bureau of Education in Geneva in securing literature on various phases of education now being restudied by the Italian Ministry, and in general, acting as a sort of co-ordinating center for cultural interchange between Italy and the Allies.

Mr. UPJOHN, K. C.

Speaking as one who followed the departing practically up to the plane, Public Relations feels that the exit from A. C. of the ex-Vice President, Civil Affairs Section, should not go unnoticed and unchronicled. Brigadier G. R. Upjohn was indeed one of the *vieux grognards* of our brigade, an old Tizionsien and a member of the show from the early Palermo days. As head of the Legal Sub-Commission and Chief Legal Advisor to the Chief Commissioner, he played an important role in the period of early AMG administration and delicate negotiation with the first Badoglio government. On the departure of Lord Stansgate, he became Vice President, Civil Affairs Section, being promoted from Colonel to Brigadier. This post he held for more than a year, exercising during a

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

crucial period a supervising vigilance over such activities as Public Health, Public Safety, Local Government, all of which have had some complicated knots to unravel. We wish the Brigadier *buon viaggio* and *tante cose*. We hope that when he looks back on his life in AC, it may be not only with legitimate satisfaction but with just a touch of nostalgia for the mud of Tizi Ouzou, the fireplace in Brindisi, the Cava mess and the rambling maze of the Corporazioni. We have reason to believe he will; his last words to us were: "Send me the Bulletin."

ODDS AND ENDS

MTOUSA has awarded the 2675 Regiment the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque which entitles all U. S. personnel to wear a gold wreath on their right sleeve; the insignia will be ready for issue shortly... There have been further awards as follows: *Bronze Star:* CWO Nicholas Pionabino, Major Harold V. Reilly, Lieut. Col. Raymond Kenny, Col. John W. Chapman, Col. Robert P. Marshall, T/4 John F. Falkland, Major John G. Andrews, Staff Sergt. Cosmo Spinosa, Capt. Arthur M. McPhail, Capt. Samuel V. Noe, Lieut. Col. James O. Babcock, First Lieut. Mario Ravarino, Capt. Willis E. Pratt, Major Robert Levitt, Lieut. Col. Jack M. Rorimer, T/5 Anthony Selvaggio, Master Sergt. Adolph E. Costella, Capt. Arthur Carter, Major Joseph L. C. Ruisi, Major Benson E. L. Timmons, Lieut. Col. Paul D. Banning; *Legion of Merit:* Col. Alfred C. Bowman, Col. Martin E. Griffin, Col. Thomas N. Page... Col. J. G. Selby (B) has been appointed RC of Liguria while Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters (B) has been made Liaison Officer at Bologna... Brigadier General Lucas V. Beau has joined the Allied Commission as Deputy Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission... The Labor Sub-Commission reports that 380,119 Italians were employed by Allied forces on 1 July... Three Italian Army military tribunals have been established at Bologna, Milan and Turin to take care of disciplinary action among Italian troops, the Legal Sub-Commission reports... The wheat amassing looks better: As of 20 August, amassed were 191,200 tons of wheat or 38 per cent. of the 1,303,000-ton target figure, with Italian Government territory doing better (47 per cent.) than AMG areas in the North (31 per cent.), according to the Agriculture Sub-Commission... The Navy Sub-Commission says that the Port of Genoa will probably be turned back to Italian control about 1 September...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

W 3 SEP Recd 33/-

RESTRICTED

September 1, 1945

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 22

POLITICAL.

Once again Prime Minister Parri's weekly press conference affords a convenient point of departure for the political summary of the week. The conference given to the foreign press on 27 July began with Parri's expressing his surprise at the rumors of territorial sacrifices being requested of Italy by way of war reparations. He hoped that such rumors were without foundation. As for the *Costituente*, he said that the important thing was not so much the date of the elections, which depends on technical factors, as the simple intention to make it as soon as possible. Convocation of the *Costituente*, according to Prof. Parri, depends on four conditions: the peace terms and the international juridical position of Italy must be clear; technical preparations for a sound election must be complete; public order must be such as to ensure there will be no disturbances; and lastly, the parties must pledge themselves to a free, legal and honest contest. He then reaffirmed his statement of last week to the effect that public order while not as perfect as it might be has greatly improved.

For equipment and arming the police and the *Carabinieri*, he added, the Government has had to ask the help of the Allies. The Council President then answered questions put by correspondents. To a French journalist who asked what would be the policy of the Italian Government in the Val d'Aosta, Prof. Parri answered that the recent cultural autonomy accorded the region should satisfy French aspirations, adding that friendship between Italy and France was very important to the peace of Europe. He was then asked about the present exchange rate of the lira and answered that while the present rate does not truly represent the purchasing power of the lira, there is no possibility of changing it till after the peace conference. He ended his conference by expressing the hope that the terms of peace will not demoralize the Italian people and thus frustrate their efforts at reconstruction.

Presumably, the rumors of territorial sacrifices to which the President of the Council referred were based on an AP dispatch (published the 25th) stating rather vaguely that such sacrifices were "foreseen in Washington". This caused some uneasiness in the Roman press. *Tempo* – an independent and rather sensitive journal – commented that the old policy of the "stick and the carrot" was apparently yielding to that of the stick *tout court*. *Momento* took a calmer view however and cautioned its readers not to worry too much about rumors of peace terms as probably they were largely made up by journalists anyway. Sforza, too, urged Italians to be "intelligently selfish and remain serene", observing in rather sybilline fashion that some conditions which seem hard could really be advantageous.

A more effective antidote to the poisonous talk was forthcoming in Sir Noel Charles' statement to "Orbis" News Agency. He thought that, following the meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Italy would be invited to join the United Nations and said that for his part he would like to see this done immediately. He added the further encouraging tidings that Italian prisoners in England would probably be repatriated by next spring. On the question of prisoners, it was reported on the 26th and officially confirmed a few days later, that the Russians intended to release all Italian prisoners in Russia and repatriate them as soon as transportation permitted. *Italia Nuova* sourly regretted that this action probably represented a triumph for Di Vittorio rather than the official channels of the Foreign Affairs Ministry but admitted it was good news nonetheless.

Costituente.

On the *Costituente* the big news of the week is that the Council, meeting the 29th, appointed a committee to study the electoral law to govern the voting. This is a very necessary preliminary and there has been considerable anxiety about getting such a committee started on the necessary work of examination and possible revision of the electoral law. (See *Weekly Bulletin*, vol. II, No. 14, for 7 July 1945.) The parties have reached the stage of iteration and reiteration on the question of whether or not the administrative elections should precede. De Gasperi, speaking

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

on the 27th in Frascati, reaffirmed his party's stand on the matter; the Labor Democrats did the same in *Ricostruzione*, and Pertini, speaking for the Socialists made it clear that *they* hadn't changed *their* mind. And so it stands.

Incidentally the Labor Democrats' thesis (namely, that there is no point in holding up the administrative elections if, as seems likely, the Constitutional elections may be of necessity delayed till next spring) brought forth a brisk interparty skirmish. *Avanti* said that Labor Democracy was not very strong and didn't represent a very important part of Italian opinion. *Unità*, attacking on the flank, said the party was misnamed and could not be said to represent labor: it only created confusion "however good its intentions might be".

If the Costituente seems to lag somewhat, the *Consulta* is moving along briskly. At the Council meeting on the 29th the first list of *Consultori* was approved and the names published in the papers of the 30th. There has not been entire satisfaction with the nominating procedure, Labriola, writing in *Tempo*, said that the very foundation principle is wrong because members are chosen by the same self-appointed power which they are supposed to control. *Il Mondo* felt the same way about it and added that the body would be too big to be useful anyway. But these are independent papers; the six parties presumably are satisfied.

The most sensational item of news in the week was the more or less all-out action taken against the Senators who survived Sforza's first purge. On the 28th it was announced that all Senators, excepting only those few who will take part in the *Consulta* and Ricci, new Finance minister, have been turned over to the High Court of Justice for epuration proceedings. This includes such figures as Marshal Badoglio and Admiral Thaon di Revel. In the course of defending the latter from what was described as the summary action of the "*somma epuratore*", *Italia Nuova* charged that the move was not aimed so much at Senators as at the Senate, a charge which *Avanti*, in its rebuttal, did not entirely deny. At any rate this rather drastic action led to some discussion within the cabinet itself; as reported in the press, Nenni was asked to explain the measure and De Gasperi expressed regret at the publicity given it.

Other business.

Other work which the Council handled in its meetings of the week may be briefly summarized. Aldisio continued his report on Sicily and plans for public works projects for the island were discussed. It was stated that more coal would be sent to the island as soon as possible. At the end of the second meeting the Council passed a resolution confirming the Government's desire of satisfying the autonomistic aspirations of Sicily and Sardinia. A message from Stalin in answer to Parri's victory greeting was read (also at the second meeting) and Lussu described the unhappy condition of prisoners and internees in Germany. Other business was largely routine.

The Communist party held a meeting devoted to economic matters during the week at which Togliatti had some very interesting things to say. The Communists, he declared, are in favor of a policy of production and not of subsidies. A wide scope must be left to private initiative both in the field of production and distribution, asserted the Communist leader, a rigid plan under present circumstances would be absurd. Governmental controls must be similar to those obtaining in the U. S. and England. He ended by saying that the battle must not, therefore, be waged against capitalism in general but rather against speculation and "corruption in some capitalistic group". This program elicited the approval of even *Risorgimento Liberale* at the opposite end of the six-party spectrum. The Liberal organ stated that nothing would be more satisfying than to see Togliatti's theory put into practice but, added the writer sadly, in practice "the policy of the Left (and hence of the Government) does everything to discourage initiative".

On Venezia Giulia there have been the usual crop of reports and one new item worthy of record. Orbis Agency published on the 29th the manifesto of the Separatist Front of Trieste, declaring itself in favor of an Adriatic Free State. The Front has already distributed pamphlets and started its campaign. Another tender spot on the Italian frontier was the subject of a communiqué from the *Presidenza* (published the 24th) in which it was stated that the government intends to accord to the inhabitants of the Alto Adige (roughly Bolzano Province) and Venezia Tridentina the same measure of autonomy already given the Val d'Aosta.

The survey of the week may well end on the social-political note. On the 28th the Italian Government offered a reception to the Allies in honor of their victory. The reception took place in the Campidoglio. There were two speeches. Parri greeted the allies and Admiral Stone replied. His phrase, "Italy is for us more than a friend", was widely quoted in the Italian press and *Indipendente*, for one, waxed lyric, finding

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016



Left to right (back row): Staff Sergt. Peter Domelch, Lieut. Nicholas P. Theodore, Capt. James R. Reed, CWO F. Robert Wermuth, Staff Sergt. John Poulette; *(Center):* Capt. Howard E. Lee, Lieut. Col. Howard K. Seith, Col. C. M. Parkin, Major Clayton C. Craig; *(Bottom):* Master Sergt. Adolph E. Costello, Master Sergt. Anthony J. Giuliano.

the regimental staff were put to full utilization. Col. Parkin, for example, has been Executive Officer (U.S.) of the AC and often Acting Vice President of the Establishment Section.

The clearances and reports for higher military echelons filed by the Regiment by now run into astronomical figures, nearly 100 cables and letters arriving here each week and as many leaving. Working files of the office alone take up 636 cubic feet of space. Not a little of this space has been given over to the awards file which, since V-E Day, has been the special province of Mr. Wermuth. He has processed more than 165 awards to date. To process one award in the precise military way required takes eight hours. No comment needed. To date 65 per cent. of the award recommendations have been acted on by higher headquarters and only 6 per cent. disapproved. Further, 29 officers and EM have been cited in General Orders for exceptional performance of duty, 81 officers and EM have received awards proposed by other headquarters while 31 awards from other nations are still being processed.

The S-2 section is usually on the road with investigations: automobile accidents (mostly Italian drivers of WD vehicles), thefts, claims against the U.S. Government, lost baggage. Lieut. Col. Alexander R. Troxell, Major Richard D. Hildebrand and Lieut. Joseph E. Amoruso work in this department, while special mention should be given to T/4 Ernest C. Nusca for some fine undercover sleuthing, according to Col. Parkin. Nearly 1,000 reports have been filed.

S-3 is Capt. James R. Reed who runs Hq. Co. and is assisted by Capt. Robert A. Arens, the officer who normally pays out the lire on payday at Hq. Besides supervising the military training program for the EM, S-3 operates a Special Service unit under Capt. Arens which provides periodicals and books to the companies (about 1,500 a month) and issues sports equipment. Capt. Arens is currently on a tour of the North with a special motion picture unit to show movies and training films to the field. An Information and Education unit also is in this section, securing school books for interested men, giving advice on educational possi-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

E 3 SEP Rec'd 331.

September 1, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 22

POLITICAL.

Once again Prime Minister Parri's weekly press conference affords a convenient point of departure for the political summary of the week. The conference given to the foreign press on 27 July began with Parri's expressing his surprise at the rumors of territorial sacrifices being requested of Italy by way of war reparations. He hoped that such rumors were without foundation. As for the *Costituente*, he said that the important thing was not so much the date of the elections, which depends on technical factors, as the simple intention to make it as soon as possible. Convocation of the *Costituente*, according to Prof. Parri, depends on four conditions: the peace terms and the international juridical position of Italy must be clear; technical preparations for a sound election must be complete; public order must be such as to ensure there will be no disturbances; and lastly, the parties must pledge themselves to a free, legal and honest contest. He then reaffirmed his statement of last week to the effect that public order while not as perfect as it might be has greatly improved.

For equipment and arming the police and the *Carabinieri*, he added, the Government has had to ask the help of the Allies. The Council President then answered questions put by correspondents. To a French journalist who asked what would be the policy of the Italian Government in the Val d'Aosta, Prof. Parri answered that the recent cultural autonomy accorded the region should satisfy French aspirations, adding that friendship between Italy and France was very important to the peace of Europe. He was then asked about the present exchange rate of the lira and answered that while the present rate does not truly represent the purchasing power of the lira, there is no possibility of changing it till after the peace conference. He ended his conference by expressing the hope that the terms of peace will not demoralize the Italian people and thus frustrate their efforts at reconstruction.

Presumably, the rumors of territorial sacrifices to which the President of the Council referred were based on an AP dispatch (published the 25th) stating rather vaguely that such sacrifices were "foreseen in Washington". This caused some uneasiness in the Roman press. *Tempo* — an independent and rather sensitive journal — commented that the old policy of the "stick and the carrot" was apparently yielding to that of the stick *tout court*. *Momento* took a calmer view however and cautioned its readers not to worry too much about rumors of peace terms as probably they were largely made up by journalists anyway. Sforza, too, urged Italians to be "intelligently selfish and remain serene", observing in rather sybilline fashion that some conditions which seem hard could really be advantageous.

A more effective antidote to the poisonous talk was forthcoming in Sir Noel Charles' statement to "Orbis" News Agency. He thought that, following the meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Italy would be invited to join the United Nations and said that for his part he would like to see this done immediately. He added the further encouraging tidings that Italian prisoners in England would probably be repatriated by next spring. On the question of prisoners, it was reported on the 26th and officially confirmed a few days later, that the Russians intended to release all Italian prisoners in Russia and repatriate them as soon as transportation permitted. *Italia Nuova* sourly regretted that this action probably represented a triumph for Di Vittorio rather than the official channels of the Foreign Affairs Ministry but admitted it was good news nonetheless.

Costituente.

On the *Costituente* the big news of the week is that the Council, meeting the 29th, appointed a committee to study the electoral law to govern the voting. This is a very necessary preliminary and there has been considerable anxiety about getting such a committee started on the necessary work of examination and possible revision of the electoral law. (See *Weekly Bulletin*, vol. II, No. 14, for 7 July 1945.) The parties have reached the stage of iteration and reiteration on the question of whether or not the administrative elections should precede. De Gasperi, speaking

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

on the 27th in Frascati, reaffirmed his party's stand on the matter: the Labor Democrats did the same in *Ricostruzione*, and Pertini, speaking for the Socialists made it clear that *they* hadn't changed *their* mind. And so it stands.

Incidentally the Labor Democrats' thesis (namely, that there is no point in holding up the administrative elections if, as seems likely, the Constitutional elections may be of necessity delayed till next spring) brought forth a brisk interparty skirmish. *Avanti* said that Labor Democracy was not very strong and didn't represent a very important part of Italian opinion. *Unità*, attacking on the flank, said the party was misnamed and could not be said to represent labor: it only created confusion "however good its intentions might be".

If the Costituente seems to lag somewhat, the *Consulta* is moving along briskly. At the Council meeting on the 29th the first list of *Consultori* was approved and the names published in the papers of the 30th. There has not been entire satisfaction with the nominating procedure, Labriola, writing in *Tempo*, said that the very foundation principle is wrong because members are chosen by the same self-appointed power which they are supposed to control. *Il Momento* felt the same way about it and added that the body would be too big to be useful anyway. But these are independent papers; the six parties presumably are satisfied.

The most sensational item of news in the week was the more or less all-out action taken against the Senators who survived Sforza's first purge. On the 28th it was announced that all Senators, excepting only those few who will take part in the *Consulta* and Ricci, new Finance minister, have been turned over to the High Court of Justice for epuration proceedings. This includes such figures as Marshal Badoglio and Admiral Thaon di Revel. In the course of defending the latter from what was described as the summary action of the "*sommo epuratore*", *Italia Nuova* charged that the move was not aimed so much at Senators as at the Senate, a charge which *Avanti*, in its rebuttal, did not entirely deny. At any rate this rather drastic action led to some discussion within the cabinet itself; as reported in the press, Nenni was asked to explain the measure and De Gasperi expressed regret at the publicity given it.

Other business.

Other work which the Council handled in its meetings of the week may be briefly summarized. Aldisio continued his report on Sicily and plans for public works projects for the island were discussed. It was stated that more coal would be sent to the island as soon as possible. At the end of the second meeting the Council passed a resolution confirming the Government's desire of satisfying the autonomistic aspirations of Sicily and Sardinia. A message from Stalin in answer to Parri's victory greeting was read (also at the second meeting) and Lussu described the unhappy condition of prisoners and internees in Germany. Other business was largely routine.

The Communist party held a meeting devoted to economic matters during the week at which Togliatti had some very interesting things to say. The Communists, he declared, are in favor of a policy of production and not of subsidies. A wide scope must be left to private initiative both in the field of production and distribution, asserted the Communist leader, a rigid plan under present circumstances would be absurd. Governmental controls must be similar to those obtaining in the U. S. and England. He ended by saying that the battle must not, therefore, be waged against capitalism in general but rather against speculation and "corruption in some capitalistic group". This program elicited the approval of even *Risorgimento Liberale* at the opposite end of the six-party spectrum. The Liberal organ stated that nothing would be more satisfying than to see Togliatti's theory put into practice but, added the writer sadly, in practice "the policy of the left (and hence of the Government) does everything to discourage initiative".

On Venezia Giulia there have been the usual crop of reports and one new item worthy of record. Orbis Agency published on the 29th the manifesto of the Separatist Front of Trieste, declaring itself in favor of an Adriatic Free State. The Front has already distributed pamphlets and started its campaign. Another tender spot on the Italian frontier was the subject of a communique from the *Presidenza* (published the 24th) in which it was stated that the government intends to accord to the inhabitants of the Alto Adige (roughly Bolzano Province) and Venezia Tridentina the same measure of autonomy already given the Val d'Aosta.

The survey of the week may well end on the social-political note. On the 28th the Italian Government offered a reception to the Allies in honor of their victory. The reception took place in the Campidoglio. There were two speeches. Parri greeted the allies and Admiral Stone replied. His phrase, "Italy is for us more than a friend", was widely quoted in the Italian press and *Indipendente*, for one, waxed lyric, finding

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

in the reception an evidence that Italy and the Allies were now "united in the hope of a future based on the ancient traditions of the Campidoglio".

AMG IN THE NORTH

Regional and Provincial Commissioners in the North are determined that when the turnover to the Italian Government does come they will hand over as tidy a packet as possible, though it may well be a packet of trouble, officers returning from the North report.

This was emphasized especially at Brigadier J. K. Dunlop's Venezie Regional meeting in the Dolomites where, amidst autumn crocuses and warm hospitality, a great deal of serious work was done. Naturally discussions centered largely round the turnover: there was a quiet note of optimism on the question of public security and Provincial Commissioners reiterated what Brigadier Dunlop's Prefects had told him two days before at the same kind of party: that there was an increase in confidence among the public—and among the CC. RR. and the Prefects themselves. One gets the same impression in other Regions, though there are plenty of rocks ahead in this respect. The Dolomites, incidentally, are now quite clear of German surrendered army, and one wonders if the hotels will be open for winter sports this year.

Lombardy, too, is ready for the turn-over and in many respects it has already begun, so that when the bell rings there will be little or no dislocation. The general feeling among the public there is that so long as Allied troops remain, they don't need AMG any longer. The first arrivals of coal (and the Chief Commissioner's press release thereon) have given a great fillip to morale in the cities. The Lombardy plain escaped the full fury of the storm which recently swept down the N. E. corner of Italy and is reported to have destroyed 20,000 tons of standing corn.

General Nares, incidentally, whose command extends over most of Northern Italy, has just been appointed to the Berlin command—a high honor—and will be succeeded by Gen. Heydeman from No. 1 District, which now closes up.

The CC. RR. of Piemonte and Liguria have found a good friend in Brigadier Graham commanding Agra on the Italo-French frontier. The artillery Brigadier has been quick to see the potential value in the CC. RR. if properly trained and helped sympathetically by Allied troops, and his determination to have the police force in that area smart, self-confident and efficient will soon be achieved. The Liguria mountains behind the littoral present a ticklish problem for security and banditry goes on not very far from the smiling Riviera resorts.

Liguria, too, presents a difficult Public Works problem. For various reasons they seem to have lagged behind a little in this respect. But Lt. Col. Lee is quite determined to get the bulk of his program financially approved before the hand over—so look out C. F. A.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The economic news is suffering the same sort of doldrums as everything else these dog days, though the Industrial Council of North Italy is getting quite busy and there are a lot of meetings and talk on surplus and captured materiel. The Italian Prisoners-of-War and War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission has finally been split, the latter part going to the Economic Section and the former going for the time being to a special division of the Civil Affairs Section. Col. J. A. Campbell (B) will continue to head the new Materials Sub-Commission.

The wheat amassing continues as do the exhortations for more cooperation. As of 25 August, the collections were 593,300 tons or 15 per cent. towards the goal of 1,303,000 tons. AMG Italy has collected 39 per cent. of the target while Italian Government territory boasts of a 54 per cent. amassing. *Forza*, AMG!

The only other question of moment—and as yet not finally ironed out—is the matter of responsibility for civilian supplies to Italy now that military responsibility has ended. UNRRA is expected to take over this responsibility after the first of the year, some sort of interim arrangements being worked out with FEA. The question of Congressional appropriations looms large before the entire matter can be considered settled, which brings up the observation that UNRRA supplies for Italian rehabilitation hinges in essence upon the definition of rehabilitation, the UNRRA program largely stressing food, clothing and welfare whereas Italian rehabilitation previously has meant heavy industry reconstruction. We shall see what we shall see.

Lieut. Col. Frank Toscani (A), former 5th Army AMG Supply Officer, has been appointed director of the Food Sub-Commission, with Major V.R.A. Cowper (B) as deputy director. The Rail Division of the Transportation Sub-Commission announces a sleeping car service on the Rome-Naples-Reggio Calabria run; the Sub-Commission last week put in service a wine train from Bari to Milan. Incidentally, as the result of the intro-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

duction of an extra train this past week, black-market prices for Rome-Naples tickets fell drastically.

EN FAMILLE

Just to give you an idea of what goes on behind the scenes and to give you some simple notion of the multifarious activities of your versatile Public Relations Branch, we summarize briefly the final report of our Captain A. F. Braydon (B) who is soon to leave for Austria. Capt. Braydon has had charge of the Political Correspondents' Mess, a service which PRB runs for the benefit of homeless political correspondents of the United Nations at 5, Via Romagna in Rome.

The report alludes to such humble but persistent problems as lack of cutlery, infrequent and adventitious supplies of soap, geyser troubles, the fuel question ("it is not known" writes Captain Braydon with commendable restraint, "whether the fuel situation for the coming winter will enable the upper part of the house to be heated") and sundry other matters. But Capt. Braydon's principal concern has been the correspondents themselves, strong-minded folk, individualists to the core and calling for the combined characteristics of lion-tamer and kindergarten teacher.

Aside from one or two nondescript characters, difficult to describe but with properly authorized claims on the mess, Capt. Braydon lists the present residents as nine. Four actually live regularly in the house, one is peripatetic and may be anywhere between Washington and Algiers but wants his room kept; one takes only lunch and dinner in and wants his breakfast sent to him "in bulk"; three ignore the mess entirely—but not the rations to which membership entitles them. Capt. Braydon has kept a fatherly eye on this group for the last eight months and presumably has learned much and profited much from the association. He admits though, when pressed, that he is rather looking forward to Austria. *Hach's gut!*

GENTLEMEN, THE REGIMENT!

The 2675 Regiment (AC) may not have a history of centuries as some of the illustrious units in the British line can boast of but it can point with more than pride to the Meritorious Unit Service Plaque which has been awarded to us by MTOUSA in recognition for the American contribution to the success of Allied Military Government and the Allied Commission in Italy from the shores of Sicily to the mountain passes of the Alps.

An administrative unit running a most complicated job, with few or no precedents in American Army history, the Regiment is composed of flesh and blood creatures instead of the shadowy figures who always appear to cry for triplicates and indorsements to the men in the field. We will give you a little line on what the regimental headquarters men have been doing.

As everyone knows, the Regiment was organized by Col. Charles M. Parkin back in the last days of the Tizi-Ouzou and has an actual birthday—September 30, 1943. Col. Parkin has commanded the outfit ever since in the chain of U.S. military command that comes down from Headquarters Command, AFHQ. His Executive Officer is Lieut. Col. Howard K. Seith. The news comes appropriately just as we go to press that Col. Parkin has been awarded the Legion of Merit for his outstanding performance of duty.

The mission of the Regiment has been to provide administration, supply, housekeeping facilities and motor maintenance for AMG and the Allied Commission. To this end, several companies were organized, many of which have already been discontinued and the personnel transferred to new companies. The discontinued companies include: Co. A (Sicily), Co. C (Southern), Co. D (Lazio-Umbria), Co. E. (Umbria-Marche), Co. F. (Sardinia), Co. H (Tuscany) and Co. I (Emilia). Still functioning are Co. G (5th Army AMG), Co. O (IV Corps AMG), Co. M (Venezie), Co. N (Liguria), Co. R (Lombardy), Co. S (Piemonte), Co. J (Venezia-Giulia), Co. T and 2696 Technical Supervision Co. (Allied Motor Transport Group) and Hq. Co. in Rome.

The busiest part of the regimental staff has been S-1, which is natural enough when one thinks that the Regiment has always had between 500 and 600 officers (once close to 700), more than a complete infantry division possesses, and more than 1,200 enlisted men. Headed by Capt. Howard E. Lee, the S-1 section has had a staff of only four officers, 20 enlisted men and two civilians. As Regimental Sergeant Major, Master Sergeant Adolph E. Costello bosses the enlisted staff. Capt. Lee is also Adjutant of the Regiment and Adjutant of the Allied Commission, which makes his office even busier. Capt. Lee is helped on the regimental adjutant side by CWOs F. Robert Wermuth and Angelo Pascarella while CWO Nicholas Piombino takes the brunt of the load on the AC side. Lieut. Nicholas P. Theodore, Acting G-1 of the AC, again assumes much of the labor on the AC side of the combined offices, a feature which went into effect about a year ago when the clerical and administrative talents of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016



Left to right (Back row): Staff Sergt. Peter Domelect, Lieut. Nicholas P. Theodore, Capt. James R. Reed, CWO F. Robert Wermuth, Staff Sergt. John Poletti; *(Center)*: Capt. Howard E. Lee, Lieut. Col. Howard K. Seeth, Col. C. M. Parkin, Major Clayton C. Craig; *(Bottom)*: Master Sergt. Adolph E. Costello, Master Sergt. Anthony J. Giuliano.

the regimental staff were put to full utilization. Col. Parkin, for example, has been Executive Officer (U.S.) of the AC and often Acting Vice President of the Establishment Section.

The clearances and reports for higher military echelons filed by the Regiment by now run into astronomical figures, nearly 100 cables and letters arriving here each week and as many leaving. Working files of the office alone take up 636 cubic feet of space. Not a little of this space has been given over to the awards file which, since V-E Day, has been the special province of Mr. Wermuth. He has processed more than 165 awards to date. To process one award in the precise military way required takes eight hours. No comment needed. To date 65 per cent. of the award recommendations have been acted on by higher headquarters and only 6 per cent. disapproved. Further, 29 officers and EM have been cited in General Orders for exceptional performance of duty, 81 officers and EM have received awards proposed by other headquarters while 31 awards from other nations are still being processed.

The S-2 section is usually on the road with investigations—automobile accidents (mostly Italian drivers of WD vehicles), thefts, claims against the U. S. Government, lost baggage. Lieut. Col. Alexander R. Troxell, Major Richard D. Hildebrand and Lieut. Joseph E. Amoruso work in this department, while special mention should be given to T/4 Ernest C. Nusca for some fine undercover sleuthing, according to Col. Parkin. Nearly 1,000 reports have been filed.

S-3 is Capt. James R. Reed who runs Hq. Co. and is assisted by Capt. Robert A. Arens, the officer who normally pays out the line on payday at Hq. Besides supervising the military training program for the EM, S-3 operates a Special Service unit under Capt. Arens which provides periodicals and books to the companies (about 1,500 a month) and issues sports equipment. Capt. Arens is currently on a tour of the North with a special motion picture unit to show movies and training films to the field. An Information and Education unit also is in this section, securing school books for interested men, giving advice on educational possi-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

bilities and enrolling students in the University Training Center at Florence. The section also carries on safety in driving campaigns and is responsible for reports to higher headquarters on a variety of matters.

Major Clayton C. Craig is S-4 of the Regiment and G-4 (U. S.) of AC and has charge of requisitions, procurement, issue and accounting for all American supplies used by the Regiment. In the past year, rations have been drawn and issued for 113,166 U. S. military requests, 36,452 U. S. civilian, 17,947 foreign military, and 353,055 Italian labor. Cash payments for rations have averaged $2,257.75 a month while Lend Lease accounts average $2,396.25 a month.

The post exchange has handled 32,225 rations, averaging $14,000 a month, and having total sales of $200,379.55 for the last 14 months. The whisky sold to officers under the euphemistic title of "Special Service merchandise" has average sales of $1,200 a month. The liquor is drawn for every officer in the Regiment and distributed to headquarters and companies according to issue. Major Craig's staff also handles the 70 or W.D. vehicles of the Regiment not to mention the accounting on civilian requisitioned vehicles numbering 1,700 since the days of Sicily.

The Postal Officer of the Regiment, First Lieut. Neil Farris, also can contribute to the picture of the welter of administrative detail the Regiment is loaded with. Since 1 December 1944, to date, APO 394 has handled 2,240 pouches (weighing 89,600 lbs.) and 3,501 sacks (weighing 245,070 lbs.) of outgoing mail and 1,356 pouches (weighing 54,240 lbs.) and 6,668 sacks (weighing 466,760 lbs.) of incoming mail. Stamp sales have amounted to $20,278.25. Nearly 16,500 money orders worth nearly $1,000,000 have been sold. More than 1,000 money orders for more than $200,000 have been cashed. The APO handles all mail of the AC, the American Embassy (including diplomatic pouches), UNRRA and the rest camps near the Hq. building.

Reverting to the S-1 section, it might be put on record that the G-1 side is charged with the administration of 5,698 Italian civilians, 1,757 of whom are on headquarters records. The assignment of officers involves considerable clearances, 2,000 military personnel records having thus been processed in the last year. Issue of travel orders and TD assignments involve another 600 to 900 clearances a month and has run over 1,000. Promotion papers also go to this office, 112 recommendations having been submitted in the last year.

The most pressing subject of the moment, of course, is redeployment, S-1 and G-1 being up to their eyes in the business. Of the EM, 60 high-point men and 26 men who were 38 years old or older, have gone home while another 110 high-point men and 15 38-year-olds are awaiting orders to go home. Of the officers, only three high-point men (with points ranging from 116 to 138) have gone home. Awaiting orders for redeployment are 24 officers with 100 points or more. The next lot will consist of 34 officers with 85 to 100 points. The classification of "essential" or "non-essential" no longer holds for purposes of redeployment, according to Capt. Lee. Regardless of how one was previously classified, if your turn to go home comes, home you will go unless the officer personally and voluntarily agrees to stay on until he is no longer needed.

On this hopeful note we shall close and wish the Regiment (and ourselves) hearty congratulations for the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque, which will be formally presented to the Regiment Wednesday, 5 September, in a ceremony in Piazza Venezia in Rome.

OHS AND EXS

Advance information from the Directorate of Civil Affairs in London, according to the Executive Commissioner, indicates that British officers in the Allied Commission, after the Italian show winds up, will be offered civil affairs posts in the BMAs of the Middle East and East Africa (which are hard pressed for personnel) and also in the Allied Control Commission for Germany, from which latter post the officers may later, subject to age and other qualifications, transfer to the civilian Control Service... G-1 (B) reports that Groups 1 to 13 have gone home, that Group 14 is now being worked on and that Group 23 is slated for release 20 January 1946; there are 75 groups in all... Promoted to First Lieutenant is Paul L. Gallagher... Lieut. Col. Robert A. Martino, T/4 Armando Di Vincenzo, CWO F. Robert Wermuth, and Capt. Emanuel M. White have been awarded the Bronze Star... A posthumous award of the Soldier's Medal has been sent to the next kin of the late Technical Sergt. Earl A. Schulz who lost his own life as a result of exhaustion in saving an Italian woman from drowning at Fregene 1 July... The Civil Affairs Section is now looking for a new camp to which to transfer Republican Fascist prisoners from civil prisons after the Modena former POW camp, which had been promised, was found dismantled...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

33

August 4, 1945

6 AUG RECD RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 18

POLITICAL.

He that goeth about to persuade a multitude that they are not so well governed as they ought to be, shall never want attention and favourable hearers.

SAMUEL JOHNSON.

On Sunday, 29 July, the first day of the National Council of the Socialist party, *Avanti* appeared with a leading article by Nenni. "This congress", said Nenni, "is awaited with great interest, especially now, after the crushing victory of our British *compagni*; this victory shows that in Socialism lies the political directive of the new Europe which is looking for its way through the destructions caused by the infamous war imposed by Nazi-Fascist bandits.". Two years ago, when the Socialist party took up its activities again, he continued, the fight for national liberation was the necessity of the moment, now the Socialists must carry to its end the democratic revolution, create a new State and reorganise its economy. "Who, if not the working masses, can undertake such a task?" the Socialist chief asked. Nenni charged that reactionaries and moderates have not yet abandoned hope of putting off convocation of the *Costituente* indefinitely. He pressed for holding elections as soon as possible.

The congress lasted three days, with Togliatti invited to attend all discussions. The three days were almost entirely taken up by the tactical problem of the fusion between the Communist and the Socialist parties. There was no talk whatsoever of crucial Italian domestic or international issues, nor of reconstruction, nor of relations with other parties. Indeed, as many observers put it, the meeting was characterised by continuous and monotonous reference to the Marxist tradition, to proletarian unity, to the function of the middle class. All this was apparently laid on in order to allay the instinctive fear of Communism which perhaps a great number of Socialists still feel. It was often stated, by Nenni and other orators, that the precise moment for the fusion between the two workers' parties had not yet come.

However, when members were asked to choose between two motions (signatures on the first of which were headed by that of Sandro Pertini, ex-secretary of the Socialist Party of Northern Italy and the second headed by Ignazio Silone and Giuseppe Saragat, Italian diplomatic representative to France, the former won 76 per cent. of the votes. The two groups, having stated their confidence in the political line followed so far by the Socialist party and agreeing that the *Costituente* must be convened without further delay, diverged in that the Silone-Saragat one, representing the more moderate trend of the party, said that unity of action between Communism and Socialism must be strengthened, but without hindering the political independence and autonomous administration of each party. They deemed it necessary, in the interest of the whole proletariat, that the Socialist and Communist parties maintain their different ideals, in any event until internal and international circumstances are such to allow a union of all the working classes. The Pertini motion asked for all the working masses of the country to form a single bloc as soon as possible. It was requested that all the organisms of collaboration between the two parties be strengthened and new offices of liaison created. This latter motion represented the views of the present Secretary of the Socialist party, Pietro Nenni.

Lament.

Tito Zaniboni, the man who in 1925 tried to kill Mussolini, sent a letter to the meeting expressing his disillusionment at the petty fights going on among parties which had been united as long as the clandestine struggle against Fascism lasted. He asked the Socialists if they really believe that after twenty years of Fascist dictatorship the nation now wants a proletarian one. He questioned if reconstruction would benefit by completely upsetting the economic structure of the State. He lamented that the "glorious" Italian Socialist party was losing its character. The British elections show Italy the way, if one keeps in mind that the British Labour party is a declared enemy of Communism, Zaniboni concluded.

1497

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

The Council summarized the current duties of the party as follows: "*Costituente* immediately; through the *Costituente*, the Republic; at the head of the Republic, a government of workers".

The event elicited full comment from the Rome press. Speaking on the proposed fusion between the two leftist parties, Pacciardi said, in *Voce Repubblicana*, that though no one wanted to see any misunderstanding arising between the two workers' parties, all the same an alliance rather than a fusion would have been better. For the fight against monarchy the help of all democratic forces would be needed and it would, therefore, be better if each party maintained its own physiognomy, he said. Incidentally Pacciardi and Nenni met and talked the evening of 2 August. Lucifero, in *Italia Nuova*, remarked that Italians, worn out as they are by the endless talks and discussions which have been poured over them for two years now, were not paying enough attention to the deep crisis that Italian Socialism was undergoing. On the closing of the congress, *Secolo* said in the same paper that the Congress had been full of philosophical and political discussions but that no time to speak of had been dedicated to the problems of the working classes or of the nation. The Silone-Saragat motion was defeated, *Secolo* went on, by an act which has become customary in this "Nennistically" democrat country: that is, by having accused one of the signers of the motion of his Fascist past, as if everybody did not all know, that all those present were ex-Fascist hierarchs who have self-appointed themselves members of the Socialist party. *Risorgimento Liberale* gave the Socialists credit for being the only party to date, to expound its internal difference of methods and doctrine in public meeting.

Christian Democrats, too.

Meanwhile, the Christian Democrats were also in a general session, which opened 31 July. Aldo Airoldi, in *Tempo*, pointed out that while Socialists agreed on practical matters (*Costituente*, pact of unity, etc.) and disagreed on ideological matters (fusion with the Communists), the Christian Democrats agreed on all ideological problems, but not on the practical ones such as the institutional question. On this question, De Gasperi said in his speech that Christian Democrats are free to declare themselves in favor either of the Republic or of the Monarchy but that this division has not been encouraged so far, in order to avoid making definitive commitments without having begun consultations from the bottom of the party's rank and file. De Gasperi expressed doubt as to the wisdom of the *Consulta* being held before the *Costituente*, for fear it might overthrow democratic methods and ideals. He also said that he favored holding administrative (local) elections before the national elections for the *Costituente*.

The Republicans, too, had a meeting, in Milan, of the federations of the North. The Republican Central Committee meets in Rome on 4 August. The Action Party passed a motion outlining its aim to lead the masses towards the real participation in political power, and with a program similar to that of western Socialism, more particularly of the British Labour party, but not at all hostile to revolutionary projects realized by Russia.

Council of Ministers, etc.

The Council of Ministers met on 27, discussing claims of the C. G. L. L. and of the State employees and laying down the functions of the Ministry of Food (distribution and control, rationed food, non-rationed food, transport and food-relief). At the second session of the meeting the following day, a formal request was passed to the Allied Governments to give back to Italy her prisoners-of-war and to consider them as free workers until this return was possible. Disposition of textile inventories was examined and a decree on the functions of the Ministry of Labor and Welfare approved. In other governmental news the Ministry of Post-War Relief announced that it would select its personnel from repatriates, war orphans and widows.

On 28 July Prime Minister Parri held his weekly foreign press conference. He hailed the victory of the British Labour party on the ground of the economic international collaboration in its program. Questioned as usual about the elections, Parri replied that they cannot be held until Italy's international status is changed, evoking the speculation amongst some journalists that Parri may be using the date of the elections as a strong card in his bargaining with the Allies concerning Italy's needs.

Parri spoke on Radio Milan on 29 July, reminding Italians that though Italy's international situation had greatly improved of late, they should not forget that they still had to pay a high price for Fascism. He warned against impatience with the Allied and stressed that elections must be held without any coercion whatsoever so as to express the absolute free will of the people.

In Florence, Ivanoi, Minister of War, said that he intended reorganising the Italian Army as a small, compact, well trained body, organised according to democratic principles, though re-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

taining the respect for noble traditions that it has always had. Food Minister Molè further appealed to farmers for the *ammassi*. In Sicily the Separatists' "army" is reported as disbanded and the whole Separatist movement apparently dying out as an organized entity. Senator Federico Ricci was appointed Minister of the Treasury; he is well known for his opposition to Fascist financial policy and is reported gooda ministrator.

As we go to press, the Potsdam communiqué has been issued, in which Italian support of the Allied war effort was praised and announcement made of an Italian peace treaty to be negotiated, after which Italy was promised a seat among the United Nations. The entire press, of course, carried the news in banner headlines, Parri was quoted as expressing his pleasure at the recognition accorded Italy for her efforts to acquire a democratic order and voiced gratitude to the Allies for recognizing Italy's needs. He said he hoped that the nation's "just aspirations will be satisfied in the peace treaty".

ECONOMIC FRONT

Heading the economic news of the week was the virtual complete freedom of foreign trade restored to the Italian Government, effective 1 August. All activities of the Allied Commission with respect to exports in Italy, with the exception of Venezia Giulia, ceased as of July 31. The Commission will no longer serve as a channel of communication for export orders. Hereafter, all countries are free to deal directly with the appropriate Italian Government export authorities or with private Italian dealers subject only to such regulations as the Italian Government itself may impose.

The United Kingdom will use both the British Embassy and private British dealers in its trade relations with Italy. British Government purchases will be made through the British Embassy while private British buyers will contact appropriate Italian authority. For the time being, the United States Government will act as agent for private American buyers through the intermediary of the United States Commercial Company of the Foreign Economic Administration. This channel has already been accepted by the Italian Government and will function only until details of full resumption of private American trade with Italy have been worked out. The USCC will thus be the agent of the *Istituto Commercio Estero* in the United States as of August 1.

The sole conditions laid upon the new trade policy refer to Allied operational necessities, as follows: (1) *In order not to upset* the Allied civilian supply program already formulated for Italy by conflicting export activities, all Italian declarations of exportable surpluses will be examined by the Allied Commission. (2) *In the interests* of the United Nations world-wide war economy, any goods falling under the Reserved Commodities List of the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington will be exported only to specified countries. The list in question is one of articles in short supply throughout the world and to which Allied military necessities have prior claim. (3) *Exports from AMG-controlled areas* will be handled by the general agency established by the Italian Government as part of one economic unit, but such AMG-area exports will be subject to AMG approval, under the powers of military government, as long as AMG authority prevails in the territory. (4) *No dealings* will be had with firms on Allied "black lists".

The Allied Commission will cease making reports on exports but will keep itself informed as to amounts and destinations of exports and of the value of foreign exchange placed to Italy's credit by different countries. The freeing of restrictions on Italian foreign trade has come about as a gradual evolution under Allied Commission guidance, the first step having been to authorize government-to-government trade dealings with practically all Allied and neutral countries under arrangements somewhat similar to those used by the United States and the United Kingdom themselves.

Since the liberation of Sicily two years ago, the Allied Commission has supervised the exports of more than 167,000 tons of commodities worth more than $18,000,000. Of this total, $8,000,000 went to the United Kingdom, $1,000,000 to Malta, $2,000,000 to the United States, and $1,000,000 to other countries, including France, Greece and Yugoslavia.

The question of disposition of captured enemy material is occupying the War Materials Disposal and Italian Prisoners-of-War Sub-Commission these days. Currently, a considerable amount of equipment is being used by the Italians but on a loan basis, no actual turnover having yet taken place. For instance, 745 German vehicles are being utilized in Lombardy civilian truck pools and another 68 in a pool in Udine. Col. J. A. Campbell (B), the Sub-Commissions's director, is now setting up a transfer procedure in Milan.

Despite the mines, the port of Genoa will be used in part by 15 August, according to the Economic Section, which reports one channel satisfactorily swept and fuel docks ready to handle

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

up to 8,000 tons a day. Control of cement production has been handed over to the Italian Ministry of Industry and Commerce. Sir Eric Speed, Permanent Undersecretary for War (Finance) has been visiting the A. C. The Agriculture Sub-Commission reports several items: The slaughter up to 15 per cent. of live weight of cattle a year for meat has been authorized for Northern Italy. A survey has shown a critical lack of forage for livestock in Southern Italy and Sardinia, owing to the drought. Wheat ammassed, as of 31 July, amounted to 2,218,190 quintals and olive oil to 524,080 quintals.

The first meeting of the Northern Italy Industrial Council was held 31 July in Milan. Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, is going to London to join M. Harlan Cleveland (A) and Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President, in vital supply discussions. Mr. Franck Upman, jr. is to replace Mr. Merritt Taylor as director of the Transportation Sub-Commission. Both are Americans.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Public Relations Branch is proud (and awfully relieved) to be able to announce that the long-awaited history of the AC/AMG is finally written and actually in the production stage. The opus, which will run to 128 (maximum) of text, maps, chart and photographs, had to be cleared with the director of every Sub-Commission, the Vice Presidents of Sections, the Executive Commissioner, the Chief Commissioner, the British and American Embassies and AFHQ. It came through with only minor scratches. Now being produced are 100,000 copies in English and 100,000 copies in Italian. The work is entitled *A Review of Allied Military Government and the Allied Commission in Italy*, from D-Day, 10 July 1943, to the German surrender in Italy, 2 May 1945. The Information and Education Section of MTOUSA has asked for 50,000 to 75,000 copies for American troops while the British Education Office at AFHQ will take 15,000 copies. The Italian edition, which is being printed by U. S. I. S., will be distributed to at least 30,000 persons in Italian schools and universities while another 40,000 will go direct to a special mailing list of key Italians in the professions, industry and public office. Every officer and man in A. C. will receive his copy in due course. The copies ought to be ready for delivery in about one month.

VENEZIA GIULIA SCHOOLS

Of all the problems faced by AMG in Venezia Giulia, the question of gratifying the demands of the numerous national entities for the development of educational institutions is by no means the lightest. In this sphere are crystallised all the national political contradictions and difficulties which today beset AMG officers in the less erudite and more mundane fields of supplies, finance, labour and so on. Education in the disputed zone produces a problem which digs deep down to the source of the question of national dignity and culture, perhaps the very source of the whole problem itself.

Here has to be faced the stern fact that there are a number of quite distinct national entities involved and old cultural, racial and historical desires of peoples. Before any aspect of education, development or rehabilitation can be considered and before any attempt can be made to set up even schools of the most elementary type, it must be decided what text books are to be used and in what languages they are to be written. They must be free of Fascist doctrine and they must show bias neither in favor of the Italians nor of the Slovenes. This applies to all subjects—from a geography to pure mathematic.

The question of language is not simple. It is not always a question of Italian or Slovene alone. In Pola, for example, citizens complain that they cannot understand AMG proclamations because they are printed only in English, Italian and Slovene. The people of Pola insist that they only understand Croat. To all these problems must be added that created by the recent past. The people, culturally, have suffered severely under Fascism.

The question of education therefore is a serious one. During the partisan campaign, Slav troops established and created Slav schools in partisan-controlled areas and even organised clandestine classes in German and Fascist Republican-dominated Trieste prior to the liberation of the town. The main problem appears to be caused by shortage of trained teachers but already application has been made and permission granted for the opening of a Slovene teachers training school.

The problems are immense and AMG's intention is that they should be treated with impartiality. Preparation for the setting up of a fair and equitable educational system based on fair treatment to all racial, national and cultural groups in the zone is thus going ahead and should soon bear fruit, it is hoped.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775016

BRIGADIER DUNLOP'S BAILIWICK

Major Thomas Goddard Bergin, Deputy Director of the Public Relations Branch, professor-on-leave of Romance Languages at Cornell University (no pupils accepted at the moment, however) and the shark who usually writes the wise and graceful Political column of the *Weekly Bulletin*, has been touring the North these last few weeks, seeing for himself how the people live away from the metropolis of Rome. He has penned a few observations on the goings-on in the command of Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, Regional Commissioner of Venezia, at Padua. The report concerns a recent staff meeting.

The Exhibition of Five Centuries of Venetian Art at Venice is going strong and highly worthwhile to make a special trip to see. The Legal Officer told the group that the Courts of Special Assizes are now functioning. The most urgent problem was getting Black Brigade Fascists out of prisons into regular prisoner-of-war camps. Public Health reported that the Red Cross was about to begin distribution of 200,000 articles of clothing.

Good progress was reported on the electoral lists. It was suggested that T. B. refugees be placed in a summer camp. School textbooks may be late to arrive, maybe as late as the end of September. Some Provincial Commissioners complained about foraging trucks carting away grain and sugar and bringing no supplies in at all. The *Ammassi* were quite unsuccessful. The best province—Rovigo—had only 20 per cent. of its goal. All the farmers feel grain prices will skyrocket later in view of the poor crops in the South. The Deputy Regional Commissioner reported he had been unable to learn anything about U. S. redeployment. Verona Province reported a large supply of tear gas available. The neighboring contadini are somewhat upset.

The Region's officers were encouraged to take a rest at San Vito, a small Alpine village about ten miles from Cortina. It is also used as forward regional headquarters. A modest hotel serves as the regional rest center. The hotel used to be a convalescent home for German wounded. The place is cool and sometimes it rains. It is near enough to Cortina to run in and buy wood carvings and admire the scenery. It is also near enough Padua for officers to spend Sunday there and still be able to get back to the office on time Monday morning. The rustic retreat is full of appealing brown mice while the village itself contains an old gaffer who will talk for hours on end about Pittsburgh, Pa., U. S. A., which he left 35 years ago. This is an attraction of the resort of which Brigadier Dunlop probably is as yet unaware.

TAXI! TAXI!

Among the claimants for the hardest-working single office in the Allied Commission, one of the strongest contenders will not fail to be the Dispatch Office which comes under the Headquarters Com-



Maj. H. J. Birch

mandant, Col. R. H. Robertson (B). The Dispatch Office is where we all go when we want to get somewhere other than on foot. Run by Major H. J. Birch for about a year a half, the



Sgt. P. J. Sullivan



L/C. L. V. Smith



Sgt. H. V. Hill



Pte. J. R. Davis



Tatiana Wolodimeroff



A. J. Sergeiv

Office dispatches about 10,000 persons every month by land, sea and air. Maj. Birch is an old hand at the game, having been in the same business for 20 years before the war.

The biggest part of the job, of course, is land transport, which is handled by Sergeants Patrick J. Sullivan and Harold V. Hill (both British), Pte. John R. Davis (B) and an energetic young

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Italian civilian by the name of Albert J. Scoggin. Sergts. Hill and Sullivan have been with Maj. Birch for 17 months, Scoggin for 14 and Davis for ten months. The Office is responsible for the proper allocation of 430 assigned vehicles. Of these, 152 are WD vehicles, which are used for long-distance trips, in July, for instance, 168 such trips having been made. The next class of cars number 69 and are used for one-day trips and trips of more than one hour.

Best-known and most over-worked are the 166 ancient, green taxis. These are used in three shifts: 56 are on duty from 0730 to 1730 (dispatched from A. C. Hq.); 45 are used from 1730 to 0130, and five are on call from 2300 to 0800. The last two groups are dispatched from the Super-Garage. Taxi drivers are paid 300 lire a day, the garage furnishing gasoline and repairs. The taxis make an average of 350 trips a month. One can usually get a taxi easily enough by simply asking for one save at lunch-time, the end of the day or when it rains. Then, there is a subway train scramble.

It is of interest to us lesser fry to learn that 10 civilian and War Department vehicles are assigned to the chief officers and directors of the A. C. for their exclusive use. This pool of 10 is also used to transport visiting VIPs. In addition, there are 61 cars regularly assigned to Hq. personnel requiring daily transport in performance of their duties. These cars have to be returned each night. Lastly, the Dispatch Office also controls the two A. C. ambulances, and of course, dispatches the road couriers to the Army AMGs (twice weekly) and to Naples (daily).

The air transport section is now a considerably expanded activity since the A. C. has been flying its own line, or more precisely, using converted Italian bombers with Italian pilots. Sergt. Louis Galanga (U. S.), Lance Corporal Leonard V. Smith (B) and Pfc. Vincent Arnone (U. S.) work this end of the business. Sgt. Galanga has been at it in the same office 17 months and Cpl. Smith 10 months while Private Arnone is a newcomer of a few months. (May we at this point say we are sorry we could not run Sgt. Galanga's picture: it was not reproducible for technical reasons.) Helping with both air and road transport, as well as interpreting and being a general factotum, is another civilian, a Russian, Miss Tatiana Wolodimeroff.

The air section last month took care of 1,600 passengers and 50 tons of freight while also booking passages on the ATC runs for Cairo, London, Paris and Zurich. The A. C. courier planes fly to Milan, Turin, Bologna and Treviso and, aside from passengers, carry mail, baggage, official red bags, Italian Government documents, and when requested, even telegrams from the hard-pressed Italian communications system.

ODDS AND ENDS

The British in A. C. will have Bank Holiday off on 6 August... The Commune of Ancona, as well as Emilia, Lucca and Apuania, is being returned to the Italian Government 4 August... Enlisted men in 2675 Regiment are eligible for promotion again, but promotions for U. S. officers are still in doubt until the new T/O is clarified... Col. Hamilton T. Walker, SCAO, IV Corps, has been awarded the Legion of Merit... Pfc. Frederick W. Campo has received an official commendation from Headquarters Command, AFHQ, for his "meritorious" work in taking care of Naples billets the last two years... The Education Sub-Commission reports progress in working out a scheme whereby Italian students will receive U. S. scholarships (plus board, room and tuition) and similar arrangements will be made for members of the U. S. Armed Forces who remain in Italy to study... Supplies from Italian educational institutions in the shape of 150 cases of physics laboratory equipment has been found at Linz, Austria; steps are being taken to determine if the equipment was looted... On the recommendation of the Legal Sub-Commission, the summer holidays of Italian judicial personnel are being reduced, which should have a beneficial effect on the dockets... The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission announces that approximately 35,000 Italians came back to Italy in the last week, that 15,000 Italian refugees were evacuated from the North to Rome, that another 21,000 were sent to their homes in the North, that 10,000 were sent to their homes in the South from Rome, that 30 T. B. refugee patients have arrived at Verona, where another refugee died of typhus, and that all 100,000 Italians abroad in the former SHAEF area should be repatriated by 1 October... Col. Nelson W. Monfort (A) has been awarded the Bronze Star for "heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy"... Col. Dickens S. Adams (A), who has left the A. C., has received the Legion of Merit, as has Capt. Deane Keller (A), Fine Arts officer of 5th Army AMG... Colonel W. G. Pidsley (B) of Land Forces Sub-Commission, has received the O. B. E... Lieut. Colonel J. Imrie, Food Sub-Commission, and Major C. E. Keysell (B), Legal Officer, Venezie Region, have received the M. B. E...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

July 28, 1945 331. RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 17

POLITICAL.

Si vous songez au nombre de sottises qui doivent vous échapper, vous serez moins prodigue de vos paroles.

MICHELET

Whether because of the heat, which has been terrific throughout the entire week, or for some other reason, there seem to have been a lot of speeches by numberless Ministers. The Romans have spent these torrid nights tossing on their beds through the sleepless hours. One can not, of course, read all the time, so one starts thinking. And, in a Minister, these thoughts apparently take the form of speeches to deliver on the first occasion.

Prime Minister Parri held his weekly press conference on 20 July, and explained at length to the journalists that war against Japan must be considered merely as the last act of the war of the Italian people against dictatorship, and that Italians must realize that their contribution to it will naturally be limited by the shortage of means at their disposal. He then spoke about the wheat situation, which he described as very serious but not tragic. He said that the Allies will help Italy in spite of all the difficulties they have to face and stressed the importance of having all peasants and producers accomplish their duty and hand over all wheat to the *ammassi*. On the subject of the change of currency, Parri said that it will be only a physical change which will have no effect whatsoever on anybody. Concerning the *Costituente*, he said that the elections would be held as soon as possible in spite of the great material difficulties. Elections must, he said, be preceded by the establishment of the *Consulta*. Parri also announced that the Soviet Government had been informed once more of the desire of all Italians to receive some kind of news about Italian war prisoners in Russia.

Two days later, on the 22d, Parri paid his long-promised visit to Sicily. In spite of it being a Sunday, he was kept pretty busy all day long, meeting people, listening to grievances and making speeches. Sicilian High Commissioner Aldisio and Orlando met Parri on his arrival and carried him to meet assembled economic and political representatives of the island. He told them that his administration makes no promises which it can not keep, but that all the same it will do all that is in its power to solve the Sicilian problems which, he said, are, more or less, the same as those of all the other regions, but which deserve priority because of the bad treatment received by the island in the past. Sicily's *Consulta*, Parri said, represents the first step towards regional autonomy; the rest will follow in due course. He added that the necessities of the island would be kept in mind when distributing public works.

Nenni.

While Parri was busy in Palermo, Nenni was equally so in Milan, where he told the press on 21 July that the organization of the Ministry of the *Costituente* had only just started. He said that it would be a center of propaganda to call the attention of the country to the importance of the problems which will be solved through the *Costituente*. He said that, contrary to general belief, the problem of "monarchy or republic" is not the only one, but merely the first of a long series of equally important questions. Nenni added that, as soon as the AMG administration in the North came to an end, the "*pre-Costituente*" period would start. The next day in the *Castello Sforzesco*, Nenni spoke to several thousands of workers. He pleaded the importance of the public loan, warmly urged all peasants and farmers to hand in all the wheat to the *ammassi* and then passed on to his chief love, the *Costituente*, and stated that the Socialists would ask the *Costituente* to give Italy a republic. Winning the fight for the *Costituente*, he said, will mean winning the fight for democracy, and therefore setting the basis of fraternity between workers and peasants. Speaking about epuration, Nenni stated that he does not aim at punishing the young, on whom the black shirt was forced when they were children, not even those few real Fascists, who, convinced of the virtues of Fascism, served the blackshirt regime without making any profits

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

by it, nor workers or employees for whom the *tessera del partito* represented a necessity to which they had to submit if they wanted to live. But on the other hand all leaders and all those who profited by fascism or collaborated with Nazism, must pay, the Socialist leader said.

In the rash of comment that followed, Enzo Selvaggi, in *Italia Nuova*, warned that a *Costituente* formed without taking into account grave problems such as the absolute sovereignity of the Italian people, the independence of disputed territories, the repatriation of all Italian prisoners, the return to order and freedom and the alleviation of economic distress, would mean looking at the question in a false light, merely supporting the parties in the Government (which, he asserted, represent only a small part of the Italian people), and finally forcing Italians to accept certain political ideologies. Igino Giordani, in the Christian Democrat paper, *Il Popolo*, said that epuration, as in a surgical operation, must be carried out very swiftly; patients cannot be kept on the operating table more than a very limited time, unless they are supposed to die.

More Speeches.

Food Minister Enrico Molè also made a speech, addressed to all agricultural producers. Outlining the very serious food situation in Italy, Molè said that the life of the country was at stake, and that very severe measures would be taken against those who are discovered cheating the *ammassi*. Almost all papers have had long articles on the *ammassi* failure, blaming mostly the big landowners. Jabbing the needle into the Government as ever, *Italia Nuova* said that it was surprising that peasants should refuse to obey orders issued by a Government "presided over by one of the leaders of the insurrections of the North, and seconded by none other than the leader of the Socialist party himself". The newspaper went on to argue that those guilty of not doing their duty cannot possibly be the big landowners — whom all leftist papers seem to accuse — because the landowners were controlled by Communist and Socialist Unions and syndicates and thus would never dare to do anything but the right thing. But what about small farmers whose activities are little controlled and who, the paper asserted, "are very fond of red, whether in the form of flags or of handkerchiefs to tie round their necks".

Minister Mentcin Ruini, in Florence, spoke on the destruction and reconstruction of Italy and stated that war damage amounts to 2,000 billion lire. Treasury Minister Marcello Soleri, while on a bond-selling speaking tour, died suddenly in Turin on 23 July. It has not been decided yet who will take his place. Togliatti also made a kind of speech, though under special circumstances. A serious riot broke out among the prisoners of Regina Coeli, and on the second day, Togliatti, his name having been insistently shouted by 2,100 inmates, went to listen to their claims and to ask for order.

British Elections.

As we go to press, the first comments of the Rome press on the result of the British elections are appearing. Headlines announce the "crushing victory of the Labour party". Nenni, in *Avanti*, called it a "peaceful revolution" and "the greatest political event in Europe after the victory against Germany". He praised the Labour party for its past achievements and particularly for its opposition to Munich and to the non-intervention policy and said that Churchill was great in war, but that "our friends," Attlee and Bevin, will surely understand Italy's problems better. He concluded by saying that the Labour victory should be a warning to the Italian middle classes to give up their struggle for political leadership, and an incentive to the progressive forces to continue until final victory their struggle for a workers' Government.

Unità, under the headline "The British people have voted for a democratic and progressive policy" said that the British desire for a fresh start was clearly evidenced. According to Ivella, in *Italia Libera*, Churchill did not sufficiently realize the social significance of the war. Even *Italia Nuova* feels sure that the British Left will continue Churchill's international policy because, says Scrutator, the defeat of the Conservatives does not mean the defeat of Churchill himself. Naturally, Bevin's recent words that "Italy should not be treated as if Mussolini were still in power", are reported by a number of papers as a promise of better understanding between Great Britain and Italy. Parri, interviewed by Reuter, said that the Labour victory "will contribute to free the world from the atmosphere of misunderstanding that was menacing the world peace". Collaboration among the Three Big Powers, he said, will now be increased, as well as international safety and economic solidarity. The Italians, he ended, have now even greater faith in British democracy. The hopes of the Italians for prompt admittance to the United Nations and full Allied status almost visibly soared.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ECONOMIC FRONT

In general, the economic news is not of a startling nature, affairs more or less having fallen into a pattern and the major problem remaining the over-all one of national import supply, a matter the Economic Section is assiduously and continually studying with the Italian Government. There are many incidental items of interest, however.

The Commerce Sub-Commission reports the arrival from the Middle East of 850,000 salvage garments, which will have to be dyed. The U. S. Foreigns Economic Administration has been promised more personnel, what with several civilians returning home soon. Wheat ammassed, as of 23 July, totalled 801,270 quintals, the Agriculture Sub-Commission says. Industry Sub-Commission tells of a production increase in Sardinian coal to 1,901 tons a day, with 100 more workers recruited on the mainland and awaiting passage to the island. The Italian Ministry of Industry and Commerce has also made a preliminary allocation of 3,000 tons of sulphur for AMG territory. The C. I. S. A. Visrosa synthetic staple fiber plant in Rome has commenced a 3,000 kilogram a day production. The Central Italy electric system operated at a frequency of 50 cycles for the first time 22 July.

VENEZIA GIULIA

Outwardly Trieste does not strike one as being the hot spot or the powder-keg of Europe, as it has been variously described. Except when there is a general strike, a superficial air of normality abounds. The bulk of the population seems to be either in the sea, bathing alongside the Allied troops, or in the trams which take them to and from the beaches. Food does not appear to be very short and flour was being sold on the quaysides from little ships coming in from the coastal townsat 10 to 50 lire per kilo. Maize was cheaper and potatoes were going at 22 lire and there did not seem to be a vast crowd of purchasers.

But that is only on the surface. Underneath there is a complex problem of nationalism and politics, of economic distress and, at any rate in Pola and Monfalcone, the pressing problem of war damage, all of which are producing for the AMG authorities under 13 Corps one of the most difficult tasks that has faced the Allies in Italy.

But one and all are tackling it quietly and efficiently and in the true spirit of AMG's position as trustee in a disputed territory. AMG is dealing with the territory as an administrative case with the one object of establishing good government without fear or favour. There is no doubt that stability is being established; it may probably be upset from time to time by forces beyond control but the effect of impartiality and firm administration is being felt; it can be seen.

The general strike on 19 July was well and rapidly organised which shows the powers of the forces with which AMG has to contend, but it passed off without incident, without casualties and with only one or two arrests, a tribute to the stabilizing influence of Allied troops and the military government, a tribute which is even more creditable when it is realised that there are practically no indigenous police and that law and order is maintained by the machinery of the military police and special troops allotted to them. The organisation however of a composite police force is going ahead, including the training of some 3,500 indigenous police who will eventually form the civil police force for the territory.

Progress — Slow but sure.

The Area Commissioners are slowly but surely producing a structure of local government following the policy laid down. It needs infinite patience. The SCAO had a four-hour meeting with the "Regional Committee" left behind by the late regime and he got across to them one of the basic principles that AMG means military *government*.

One reads in a late Venezia Giulia report that talks with representatives of the two Yugoslav Committees in Trieste regarding representation for the area have so far met with no response from the City Committee, although the District Committee gave a favourable reply. In Gorizia, the President of the Provincial Committee and all the District Presidents met the Area Commissioner and listened to the definition of AMG as the governing power through the local committees. In Pola the institution of *Sepral* should result in a more efficient handling of food supplies.

Allied military courts are functioning throughout the territory and orders have been given for the native civil courts to resume their functions. Long discussions have taken place with regard to wages and it is probable that they will be brought into line with wages in Northern Italy, and that the economic price of bread will be applied at the same time. The recent general strike delayed the application of the wage increases.

The country does not look so dry as other parts of Italy, and although the crop will not be large, it will not suffer from the climatic damage prevalent in Central and Southern Italy. There

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

is already a grave shortage of timber and fuel and unfortunately most of the wood is located East of the Morgan Line. It is hoped that the Economic Committees, which appear to be working well, will be able to provide some remedial arrangement. A great deal of work has been done in collating lists of Italian civilians deported into Yugoslavia before occupation by Allied troops. A few have been returned.

The port of Trieste looked moribund as regards shipping and the great naval harbor of Pola, which has suffered tremendous damage from Allied bombing and is still full of mines (at any rate in the commercial harbor), was empty.

Altogether the AMG team there, which will be progressively built up until its has a strength of some 50 US and 50 British officers under its SCAO, Colonel Alfred C. Bowman (A), is doing, with tremendous help from 13 Corps and in spite of many difficulties of which the torrid climate is not the least, a quiet and efficient job.

HONORS

Awards are coming thick and fast for AC personnel in recognition of jobs well done, though it could probably be said there are not enough decorations to equal the amount of tireless devotion to duty and extraordinary ingenuity exercised by many of the officers and men. In any event, here are some of the latest honors, from both British and American sources, but the recipients this time are all U.S. personnel:

Legion of Merit. — Col. Robert Kirkwood, former RC of Tuscany; Col. Nelson W. Monfort, former SCAO of Venezia Giulia AMG and former assistant chief of staff, G-5, 15th Army Group.

Officer of the Order of the British Empire. — Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia Giulia AMG; Col. Leonard Bensmore, Economic Section; Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner; Col. Charles J. Farinacci, formerly of the 8th Army AMG who has now gone to Austria; Col. Monfort, again; Lieut. Col. Frank E. Toscani, 5th Army AMG.

Member of the Order of the British Empire. — Lieut. Col. Ernest T. De Wald, former director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, who has also left for Austria; Major Huston D. Crippen, likewise Austria-bound; Capt. Louis T. Montant, jr. of Col. Fiske's office; Lieut. Michael J. Desiderio of Lombardy Region.

British Empire Medal. — Technical Sergeant Dennis Giardina, chief clerk of Industry Sub-Commission.

Mention in Dispatches. — Col. Charles Poletti, RC of Lombardy; Corp. George D. Sheehan of Liguria Region.

Likewise mentioned in General Orders of Headquarters Command, AFHQ, on the American side, were the following men and officers: Pfc. Daniel S. Hacker of Emilia Region; Pfc. Oscar A. Ornati of the Agriculture Sub-Commission; Corp. Angelo A. Greeco of Naples Commune; T/4 Robert L. Principiano of the Legal Sub-Commission; Sergt. Joseph A. Marenzzo and Staff Sergt. Charles D. Muses, both of the former Southern Region; First Lieut. John P. Simoni of Venezia-Giulia AMG, and Lieut. Col. John W. Clarke, former finance officer of Tuscany Region.

Congratulations to all.

THE RETURNING TIDE AND OTHERS

The repatriation of Italian and other nationals is rising to a peak, the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission indicates according to its latest sitrep, which mentions that home-comings of Italians from SHAEF via the Brenner Pass has increased to 1,500 a day and from Switzerland to 2,500 a day. About one third of the SHAEF Italians (mostly from Germany) are from South Italy. Re-settlement within Italy is also proceeding apace. In the last week 9,310 refugees with homes in the South went back to their native towns while another 10,155 refugees arrived in Rome from the North to await the dispersing process. Allied and other nationals are also going home – 927 of various nationalities leaving for France and 710 Greeks returning to Greece by sea.

In brief, the results of the Bolzano conference of 11 June are working out exceedingly well, according to Lieut. Col. C. F. Fothergill (B), deputy director of the hard-working Sub-Commission. Close liaison is maintained with the Transportation Sub-Commission. All major movements are made by rail. The some 60 camps, which, besides Italians, hold some 15,000 United Nations nationals, are all active on a virtual assembly-line production basis. Sanitary conditions in the camps have received the o. k. of medical experts, who are especially keeping close tabs on stray cases of typhus. A case of smallpox was found in one refugee and proper steps taken to prevent spread of the disease. The Como-Berne terminals on the Switzerland route (which opened 29 June) and the Munich-Verona points on the Germany route are functioning smoothly, with SHAEF liaison officers stationed in Italy to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

straighten out tangles with AC officers at this end. Switzerland is reported to have had 32,000 Italian refugees and the SHAEF area 350,000.

Since the complete liberation, more than 265,000 refugees are said to have entered Italy. There were 80,000 in May, 81,000 in June, and 103,000 in July up to the 22d. Statistics are not as accurate as could be wished, since many refugees streamed over the Austro-Italian border in the first days before adequate controls could be set up. 5th and 8th Army AMGs heroically took care of most of them. The Records Bureau of the Sub-Commission is fast expanding its rolls, now listing nearly 90,000 names covering 72 nationalities and being very busy answering inquiries from families in search of relatives.

Books Closed.

The Sub-Commission has finally closed its books of financial assistance to hard-pressed refugees of more than a score of nationalities, including Germans. The program, started in October, 1944, wound up in June with a total cost of more than 75 million lire. Loans up to 1,000 lire a person a month or 12,000 lire for a single household were made and helped prevent malnutrition and privation for many. UNRRA now has taken over this program and also expects to take over United Nations nationals Northern camps (they are already operating in most of the South) this fall. When the money aid program was started, heads of 273 families were receiving help. The number rose to 5,000 persons last winter.

The job pioneered and organized by the Sub-Commission is no doubt in its last stage, (since January, 1944 to, date, the Sub-Commission has handled 190,000 Italian and 70,000 United Nations refugees). In its latest report, for example, the Sub-Commission states that 58,873 refugees were repatriated by land, sea and air through other organized movements. UNRRA is now taking an increasingly larger share of the burden. The report also refers to the ubiquitous but little-known IGCR or Inter-Governmental Committee for Refugees, which is not primarily an operating agency but a general advisor on the problem and lastly, the final catch basin for the refugees of other than Italian and Allied origin who do not fall under any convenient category. Germans outside of Germany, these days, of course, are usually prisoners-of-war and they are being returned through military channels. The refugee problem which now passes from the military in the form of the AC Sub-Commission and its field units to UNRRA will eventually finish up with the IGCR for the simple reason there will be refugees with no place to go to.

The IGCR was formed in 1938, on the initiative of the late President Roosevelt, and with the prime purpose at the time of succoring victims of Nazi persecution, for instance, Jews, deprived of German citizenship by Nazi laws, who fled on account of their race, religion or political beliefs. As an official humanitarian organization representing 36 member governments, IGCR, which one day might well be converted into one of the auxiliary agencies centered around the nascent United Nations Organization, has had as its particular baby the problem of what has been commonly but rather erroneously called "the stateless". More accurately, it is a complex and far-reaching problem concerned with individual conditions of "non-repatriability". Of those who might be loosely termed "stateless" now in Italy there are relatively few.

However, the number of Poles, Yugoslavs, Russians, Greeks, Spaniards, Balts and others now in Italy who for one reason or another do not wish to return home runs into many tens of thousands. They present another and analogous problem which may clarify as general post-war conditions in Europe improve.

Italian citizenship.

Sir Clifford E. Heathcote-Smith was IGCR representative in Italy until a short time ago when Lieut. Col. Julian L. Tomlin (B) took over. Sir Clifford arrived on the scene in the spring of 1944. A letter of his is on record to Mr. Harold Macmillan, former British Resident Minister at AFHQ and former Acting President of the AC, in which Mr. Macmillan is given the credit for suggesting in April, 1944 in Algiers that Italy herself help take care of part of the problem of the stateless. As a result of IGCR efforts and Italian cooperation, a decree of the Italian Government was published which offered Italian citizenship to IGCR-certified stateless refugees and cut red tape and costs to allow such refugees to accept Italy as an official haven. The first eight stateless refugees received their citizenship applications in October, 1944 and by March of this year had finally become Italian citizens. The usual residence requirement of five years was eliminated for their sake. Approximately 30 such non-repatriables have accepted the Italian offer to date. Many others would like to stay in Italy, but are waiting to see if bars will be let down in the future to other countries.

A recent survey of post-war refugee aspirations among about 1,000 families showed that

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

118 would like to go to the States, 40 to England, 57 to France, 93 to Austria, 13 to Germany and 91 to Poland. Italy was the preference of 151 while about another 100 wanted to emigrate to South America, various colonies and miscellaneous other places. Unable to make up their minds were 152, and 72 others apparently thought the question too academic to bother with. Only about one third were willing to take their chances in their native lands again. Most of the non-repatriables are over 40. Of some 600 sample backgrounds, 108 were professional men—doctors, lawyers, authors; 100 had led an academic life or as journalists, artists; 94 were skilled craftsmen and 310 were in commercial lines.

Approximately 1,600 Jews among the non-repatriables have been sent to Palestine, under authorized quotas, in three convoys since May, 1944. The last one sailed last month. In addition, 1,000 of the "stateless" were sent to the United States last fall. In Italy, the IGCR tries to look after cases which fail to meet the legal requirements of UNRRA, paying out about 260,000 lire a month for financial relief. In addition, a convalescent home for about 50 patients was started in a villa about five miles from Rome last May and sick refugees who could afford to pay 8 10 a month have been taken in and nursed back to health.

Of course, no account of these relief and welfare activities would be complete without paying tribute, however brief, to the invaluable assistance always forthcoming from the many voluntary organizations working in the refugee field.

AVE ATQUE VALE

On the departure of Brigadier G. S. Parkinson, Director of the Public Health Sub-Commission, who is going home on release to England next week, we are losing not only an eminent director of medical administration and a real friend of the Italians, but an outstanding figure of the Commission itself. One has only to think of the difficulties which have faced the officers, EM/OR and civilian experts of Public Health Sub-Commission and the work that has been done. They have had to face epidemics of the most serious type, conditions of hygiene which are sometimes appalling, lack of hospitals, lack of drugs, lack of means to distribute imported medical stores, all the aftermath of battle which is reflected so poignantly in the medical field. They have overcome them all and what is more, they have given the sympathy and the stimulus to the Italian medical authorities to make them, in their turn, achieve results. Allied military responsibility has been and is to prevent disease and unrest in Italy. Brig. Parkinson and his staff, in the field and at headquarters, have certainly fulfilled the first of these duties.

ODDS AND ENDS

AFHQ has agreed that Emilia Region and the Provinces of Lucca and Apuania can go back to the Italians 1 August; a Liaison Officer and specialists will be kept at Bologna... Lieut. Gen. Sir Frank Noel Mason MacFarlane, former Chief Commissioner of the AC, has been elected to Parliament on the Labour ticket while Mr. Harold Macmillan, former Acting President of the AC, lost his seat on the Conservative side... After the September 1 turnover of territory, the Establishment Section will make every effort to prevent officers from long stays in replacement depots before they are shipped home (not necessarily for discharge) or to other theaters... AFHQ is getting interested in the archives question, which may mean an increase in the staff of one captain and one sergeant now in charge of old AC documents... Plans are being made to evacuate practically the entire prisoner population of Regina Coeli in Rome while repairs are made; this was decided after the latest outbreak in the woefully overcrowded prison... The CC. RR. may get a change from their traditional costume; green-dyed British battle dresses are being made available for them... AFHQ is to be asked to return a number of army-requisitioned hotels to the Italian Government... The royal jewels of Abyssinia are finally to be taken from the Italian Ministry of Italian Africa and returned to the Emperor of Ethiopia... Ten million multi-vitamin tablets have been released to the Italian Government by the U. S. Quartermaster at AFHQ, the Public Health Sub-Commission reports... The end of July should see all Patriot centers closed down in Italy... Italo-American labor unions of New York have sent 1,600 new dresses to Italy, which will be distributed among school teachers, the Education Sub-Commission announces, adding the news that the British Boy Scouts have offered to pay the expenses of 12 Italian youth leaders to visit the U. K.... AFHQ PRO advises that announcement will be made shortly of the disbandment of the 8th Army... MTOUSA has awarded Bronze Stars to 62 Italian Patriots...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

July 21, 1945

/33

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 16

POLITICAL

« Quella guerra è giusta che è necessaria ».
MACHIAVELLI.

The main feature of the week and the one to which naturally the press gave most prominence was Italy's declaration of war on Japan. The communique appeared in the papers of 15 July, accompanied by scare head-lines. All the leading articles in the morning papers praised the steps taken by the Italian Government. Sforza, in *Il Giornale del Mattino*, defined it "an act of faith" and added that Italians should be proud to be allowed to contribute to the liberation of the Japanese people from "the cruel domination of the militaristic and feudal classes". Nenni, in *Avanti*, praised the moral value of the gesture. Even reactionary and monarchist *Italia Nuova* expressed its approval and seized the occasion to utter a long panegyric on the Italian Navy. Only Pacciardi, in *Voce Repubblicana*, commented bitterly that the Government should not have unconditionally thrown Italy—in the sad condition in which the country finds itself at present—into this new war. Evidently, said Pacciardi, no one can any longer have any doubts about De Gasperi's Christian and heroic feelings in having a whole nation "voluntarily" crucified in order to redeem the world from the crime of Fascism. De Gasperi must have asked the Allies' permission for the Italians to fight and die for them, Pacciardi added, which permission must undoubtedly represent a great success of Italian diplomacy.

But apart from this acid comment, the press was unanimous in pointing out that the new declaration of war proves that now Italy is linked to the United Nations and that it is a democratic country which joins in this fight, in which she has no direct interests, in order to express her anti-dictatorial feelings and to give all the contribution she can to the building of a new democratic world. The general expectancy of the week was that Italy's international status would soon change, everybody awaiting anxiously the decisions which the Big Three will think fit to take at Potsdam. Meanwhile, Parri has announced that, besides the navy and air forces, a number of partisans will be allowed to volunteer for the Far East. The Milan paper *Il Giornale Lombardo* said that Parri was thus trying to solve the problem of "what to do with the partisans".

Council Business.

Last week's second session of the Council of Ministers – a long and lively one – was being held while we were sending our *Bulletin* to the printers. The meeting approved a decree concerning the establishment of the Ministry of the *Costituente* and which outlined its functions. The new Ministry is charged with preparing for the convocation of the *Costituente* and drawing up a program for the new political order of the State and the lines of its economic and social future. A Commission for the study of the election laws will also be formed within this Ministry. Reaching an agreement on this basic instrument was a process both protracted and laborious because both Liberals and Christian-Democrats tried very hard to limit the Socialists' and Communists' apparent tendency to give too much executive power to the new Ministry.

The Council met again 18 July and produced organizational decrees for two more Ministries, despite the press campaign – Socialist and Communist papers excepted – against overloading the already topheavy bureaucratic machine. *Il Popolo* made the crack that "we must be grateful that the C. L. N. consists of only six parties, otherwise God knows how many new Ministries we would have". These latest additions were the Ministries of the Consulta and of Post-War-Relief. The decision on this last-named, particularly, gave rise to some hearty give-and-take. Though the creation of the Post-War-Relief Ministry replaces various High Commissariats (partisans, veterans, prisoners, internees, civilian victims of war, war "pensionati", etc.), all the same it was felt that a further increase of expenditure might perhaps have been avoided, not to mention the disquieting fact (for the parties) that this new Ministry will be free to choose its own personnel.

4/05

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

The gestation of these two new departments over, the Council passed on to less high-sounding matters, such as trying to obtain coal from Upper Silesia; once again re-assuring the High Commissioner for Sardinia that measures will be taken to help the island; examining the functions of the High Commissariat for Hygiene and Public Health; discussing the always thorny problem of the *annonsi* and the problem of text books for schools.

Puglie.

The situation in Puglie is now more or less calm, but the deadline for handing in arms has been postponed till 31 July. In the North, the situation has been less than tranquil: On 6 July an armed, masked band broke into the prison of Schio—near Padova—and machine gunned 76 political prisoners, of whom nearly 50 died. Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, AMG Regional Commissioner of Venezie, hurried to Schio as soon as he was informed of the matter and in an impromptu speech to the local C. L. N., he expressed regret that such thing should take place in Italy and said that Italians will never be able to gain British and American friendship as long as they continue to behave in such a manner. The Dunlop speech evoked sundry Italian soul-searchings and comment. *Libera Stampa* said that Parri should have spoken in this vein first and should have followed it by drastic action. *Capitale* said that Italians deserve Dunlop's "strong and hard" words, while *Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican paper, said that the Regional Commissioner should have remembered, before speaking so harshly, that Schio is not the whole of Italy and that anyhow the country is now going through a specially tragic period of hard moral and material conditions.

The busy week had little other news worth recording. With final agreement on extending the public loan to the North, Soleri went to Milan where he urged everyone to support the loan as an effort of the Italian Government towards stabilization of the lira. Togliatti spoke on the radio on 16 July, promising that he would do his best to give back to Italian magistrates their complete independence.

As we go to press, new incidents in Trieste and comment from Yugoslav sources fill the Roman newspapers but as yet without provoking any response, official or otherwise. On the heels of the AMG arrest of several journalists in Trieste, a general strike broke out, apparently in "protest" against the arrests. Reported interviews between AMG and the CLN of the area indicate an agreement has been reached and that the strike is being called off. What the true facts may be in this latest boiling of the Trieste pot, are not yet clear. All we can say for sure is that we shall hear more about Trieste before we hear less.

THE NORTH

Publication of *La Stampa* in Turin a few days ago resulted in a mixup between organized demonstrators and employees of the newspaper plant when the demonstrators raided the publishing plant and burned copies of the paper, all in alleged protest against the Fascist record of the journal. The demonstrators were apparently ignorant of the facts in the case: namely, that the paper had been epurated and was in the hands of a Commissario who had been instructed to freeze all profits and turn the property over to the Italian government with the cessation of AMG rule for eventual unscrambling of ownership. The incident highlighted the crisis which arose at the beginning of the week when it was learned that the Allied Publications Board regional staff and PWB press officers in the north were to be withdrawn, the order having been goven by AFHQ without prior notification to AC. The Chief Commissioner promptly got in touch with Brigadier General A. D. McCrystal, chief of INC at AFHQ, and in a conference attended by the Executive Commissioner, the Political Advisors and PRB, obtained the assurance that the APB shutdown order would be revoked and a press officer attached to each region to handle applications for licenses to publish and to give press advice to the RCs. A directive on the subject will be issued shortly.

Mr. Henry Hopkinson, British Political Advisor, raised a nice point at a staff meeting this week on the question of the surrender of arms. Higher authorities would like to know if the number of weapons turned in anywhere approximates the number estimated to have been held. Figures are most misleading and vague, no strict and correlated accounting having been made to date. Patriots Branch of AC, for example, itemizes 259,034 weapons, including 72,995 hand grenades, as having been handed in in the five Northern provinces. 5th Army also lists thousands. After cross-checking the duplications, there is the intricate matter of figuring the number of weapons that have been extant among the civilian population. Besides the arms dropped by the Allies, there are those taken by force from the Germans or Fascist Republicans, not to mention guns looted from the Italian Army

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

stores at the time of the Armistice. The fact remains, according to Public Safety, that there are still plenty of arms in hiding.

Devastated Belt.

Col. Floyd E. Thomas (A), RC of Emilia, has come forward with a detailed analysis of the problem in the 35 devastated communes in his region, scene of the bitter fighting of late 1944 and early 1945. Of the 252,939 persons in the area, 127,195 are homeless. Towns were damaged, on the average, to an extent of 70 per cent., with a third more than 90 per cent. The area is heavily mined, it being estimated that there are 2,000,000 mines still to unearth. Food reserves are gone and 80 per cent. of the livestock missing. To clothe the stricken population, 300,000 garments are needed and to house the shelterless 1,000 Nissen huts, salvage canvas for 15,000 makeshift tents and another 10,000 regulation army tents. The area's 11 hospitals were all damaged and there are no ambulances. Each of the devastated communes now has a doctor but he has to work with no transport, equipment or medical supplies. In the midst of worrying about the economies of the North, aid to meet this individual and most pressing problem has been somewhat overlooked, Col. Thomas said.

Bolzano has been figuring in the news, with reports that the former prefect and former mayor had gone to Allied capitals to plump for autonomy. The AC had to put its foot down on such rumors, officially denying that any travel permits had been issued for political purposes. The Local Government Sub-Commission met with the present prefect of Bolzano, and later with the Italian Government, on preparation of the electoral lists in that border area where so many of the residents are German. The apparent idea at the moment is to exclude those who opted for German nationality in 1939.

The Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission reports that plans are under way to establish an international center for art studies in Florence. The Public Health Sub-Commission, an eye peeled out for typhus, reports a case at the Verona refugee camp and another at Parma. The Communications Sub-Commission says that, of 1,035 telegraph offices in Lombardy before the war, 579 are now connected. The Public Safety Sub-Commission announces that nearly 9,000 CC. RR., who had hidden in the mountains from the Germans, have now reported back for duty. As of 25 July, 13 Corps passed to direct command of AFHQ, Corps now assuming control of all territory in Italy most recently under 8th Army.

ECONOMIC FRONT

In a rather quiet week, economically speaking, the chief item on the boards is the new financial directive from the Combined Chiefs of Staff, completing, in most particulars, the Macmillan Aide Memoire of 24 February to the Italian Government. The financial memorandum comes ten months after the Quebec Conference and in the midst of the Potsdam meeting. In brief, the directive gives free internal action on finances to Italy in territory under its own jurisdiction but retains control over external transactions. The AC must be consulted before any external claims prior to the Armistice are paid and also as to how Italy proposes to handle foreign exchange abroad. Further, rights under the Armistice are reserved and no promises made yet concerning sequestrated Italian property in Allied countries.

Speaking of foreign exchange, the black market in such currency has been active of late, presumably because of rumors of an impending conversion of the present lira for the new currency now being printed by the Italian Government. In the last month, the gold sovereign has jumped from 6,950 lire to 9,550; the pound sterling from 780 to 950; the blue seal U. S. dollar from 267 to 307, and the Swiss franc from 124 to 176 lire.

The free and easy use of gasoline by Italian civilians is being checked somewhat by stricter control of circulation permits by the Italian authorities. In Naples, for example, cancellation of 1,600 permits helped reduce thefts of Allied gasoline, not to mention another reason: Removal of the Allied pipeline to the North, from which artery Italians have at times removed as much as 1,000 gallons at one time. The Land Forces Sub-Commission is also trying to stop another leak: Italian Army vehicles, which are of British make, may stop at any British petrol point and fill up. Some charge that the Italian Army drivers then sell the gas to a civilian and then go to another petrol point for a re-fill and a repeat on the whole process.

Cost of Living.

The wage level in Rome is reported by the Labor Sub-Commission as 500 per cent. above that of 1942, when an unskilled worker made 58 lire a day compared with 270 lire a day the same man makes now. Prices are down, the Sub-Commission further reports. A family of five in Rome needed 9,865 lire in June for its food budget, compared with 11,607 lire in May and 12,456 in March. In June, the equivalent

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

food budget in Bologna was 7,962; in Turin, 10,418, and in Venice, 9,867... Employed by the Allied Forces in Italy last month were 445,000 persons. Italian industrialists are showing interest in U.S. work simplifications methods and are asking for courses to be started here.

In response to U.S. pressure to permit more commercial travelers to come to Italy, the AC is advising the FEA that such travelers had better be forewarned that responsibility for food, lodging and transport will be their own and that return to the U.S. will have to await the fortunes of redeployment and available shipping space... The Montecatini nylon plant at Verbania has been found in A-1 condition and is now making 500 kilograms of nylon fiber a day for yarn and tooth- and hairbrush bristles. The plant will get a high priority on available coal.

Plans are being worked out to have the Italian economy support an Italian Army of 140,000 and a CC. RR. of 65,000. Seven Italian labor leaders are going to Moscow to return the visit of the Russian trade union delegation last year... Major H. A. Gent (B) is the new director of the Commerce Sub-Commission... The new ammassing season has started, 342,560 quintals having been collected as of 17 July... The first shipment of Chilean nitrate—9,000 tons—is being unloaded at Naples.

A TRUE STORY

Col. J. A. C. Pennyeuick, AMG Commissioner for Naples and AC Liaison Officer for Southwest Italy, has given the Executive Commissioner a report on the grasshopper plague in his bailiwick. Col. Pennyeuick has an eye for details. To combat the plague of the insects near Battipaglia, DDT powder is now being used, the result of long and careful research. The colonel recalled that in April the 'hoppers' eggs had hatched and swarms of the dear, little things appeared. The Italian civilians, however, paid no attention to their chance, then, of simply stepping on the recumbent hordes. By May, Colonel Pennyeuick tells us, the insects had grown enormously, being semi-winged and extremely, extremely voracious already. In June, the grasshoppers began trying out their wings in their first solo flights and also began playing at biological tiddlywinks, thus thankfully having less time for eating grain. After this, usually, the males up and die; the females lay their eggs in hard ground and proceed to join their mates in Valhalla. But, it seems, in the interval between the life and death of the grasshopper, there is hell to pay.

The grain is practically stripped by the swarms, and heroic measures must be taken. A natural enemy of the grasshopper is the *Zanabris*, a certain wasp-like creature, to whom AC is now making overtures. The *Zanabris* lays its eggs in the same ground as the female grasshopper, according to Col. Pennyeuick (who is a professor of entomology in his spare moments). The *Zanabris* grubs, being no slouches themselves, eat the grasshopper eggs, which is good to hear. However, the *Zanabris* likes wet weather. This year Italy has had dry hot weather, and perhaps the grasshopper eggs have been rather brittle, because the Pennyeuick report gives us the news that the *Zanabris* babies are currently favoring wild honey as their principal diet. In any event, sterner steps had to be taken.

Poison.

Poisoning the grasshopper brats had been suggested. Sodium arsenate and copper arsenate, mixed with bran, had been used but the cast-iron stomachs of the grasshoppers did not seem unduly affected. A malarial control unit came up with the idea of using DDT, 5 per cent., in a kerosene spray. A test worked beautifully disastrous results on the grasshoppers. It was about decided to use the new method widely when an Italian came up with this remark:

"And what about the birds? If they eat the poisoned grasshoppers, they may die. And there are so few birds in Italy now."

This provoked widespread discussion in the Commune of Battipaglia, even the CLN being divided among itself. Italian authorities scoffed at the fear, asserting that birds do not often eat dead grasshoppers, not being tasty enough. But an experiment was insisted on. Some old hens, of no value, were selected; hens, moreover, chosen thriftily because they were past laying. The finding: The DDT-fed hens did not die. Instead, they re-commenced laying eggs.

This has inspired the following tribute from one M. S. L.:

ODE TO DDT

It pulverizes lice on men
This famous DDT
And stimulates a barren hen
To great fertility.

BACKGROUND ON SOCIALIZATION

As somebody has said, Mussolini, before he received his due, like a wasp, left a sting in the body of North Italy which he hoped would fester to the embarrassment of the nation. That sting was the Fascist Republican attempts at socialization of industry in the North. Opinion has it

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

on one hand that he was attempting to woo the workers with socialistic projects. Somewhat overlooked was the fact that the disintegrating Duce also wanted to use the threat of socializing plants as a club to force employers to meet German demands for an 80 per cent. increase in war production. Mr. William H. Braine, director of the Labor Sub-Commission, who has been investigating the situation, has some interesting remarks on the subject.

The Fascist Republican Government, we are told, started its attempt at socializing industry by the issue of Legislative Decree No. 375 on 12 February 1944. This Decree provided that joint stock or limited liability companies having a capital of more than 1,000,000 lire should be liable to reorganization under a management composed of a head, appointed by an assembly of equal worker and employer representation, and a council, appointed by the assembly and also having equal representation of workers and stockholders. Private undertakings, whether partnerships or under personal ownership, and having more than 1,000,000 lire capital and over 100 employees were also liable to be similarly organized.

The head of any socialized undertaking would be liable to dismissal or replacement if his conduct did not conform to the production plans or social policy of the State, and such replacement could be proposed by the management council. The management council was empowered to give decisions on all questions of scope, expansion and general production; it could deal with the protection and disciplining of all labor and it would be responsible for preparing a balance sheet of the undertaking and for proposing the allocation of all profits. Profits allocated to the employer interests of any undertaking would be limited by annual regulation and workers would take a share in profits according to the amount of pay received during the year. The share of any worker was not in any case to exceed 30 per cent. of his total annual pay. Surplus profit, after calculation of employer and worker entitlement, would be appropriated by the State.

Slow Start.

For some time after the publication of this decree, little effort was made to put it into effect extensively, although the Fascist *Ministero dell'Economia Corporativa*, at intervals, applied the new policy in selected concerns by way of trial. However, following a Supplementary Decree No. 361 of 12 October 1944, socialization was extended to a number of specified firms in the North of Italy and finally, by Fascist Republican Decree of 1 April, 1945, all undertakings were ordered to implement the policy of socialization. Three dates were fixed for the completion of socialization of industrial establishments, the time limits ranging from 20 April 1945 to 10 May. The liberation of the North, of course, put *finito* on Benito's plans.

During the immediate pre-liberation period, the clandestine Italian resistance movement, conducted by the Central C. L. N. for Northern Italy, made use of workshop C. L. Ns. in industrial establishments. The C. L. Ns. arrived at agreement among themselves on various questions affecting industry (as, for example, the promise of payment of a liberation bonus to industrial workers in the North). With regar to socialization of industry, the C. L. N. A. I. issued a "decree" on 17 April, 1945, just before the general uprising against the Fascists. The C. L. N. A. I. edict p rported to annul the Fascist Republican socialization decree and to suppress the management conneils established by the Fascists, substituting for them temporary management boards (*Consigli di Gestione Aziendali*), containing equal representation of owners and workers. Within three months of the date of liberation, workers' representatives would be freely elected by employees of the establishments concerned, to take the place of those appointed by the factory C. L. Ns. The C. L. N. A. I. ruling also provided for the continuance of the system of allocation of profits, limited the share to be given to the owners and required the workers' share to be paid into a national fund which would be used to meet the needs of the working classes arising from current circumstances, such as popular messes, assistance to children and to war orphans.

C. L. N. Activity.

In the interval before assumption of full administration by Allied Military Government, there was activity on the part of certain local C. L. Ns. and factory C. L. Ns. in the nature of interferenee with management by removal of managers, supervisors and foremen and widespread establishment of the workshop management committees. In some cases removal of managerial and technical staff was based, unfortunately, upon personal grounds rather than on reasons of collaboration with the Fascists. The effect threatened for a time to impair the technical and administrative efficiency of industrial concerns. The situation was rectified early in June by AMG which reviewed all C. L. N. appointments of Com-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

missioners and Receivers to act as heads of industrial concerns, made appropriate removals and appointed its own Receivers and Commissioners where necessary.

As indicated, time did not permit general socialization under Fascist administration as intended by the Fascists. The C. L. N. A. I. regulations, however, were interpreted by various elements in Lombardia as giving authority for the introduction of socialization into establishments which would have been liable to this process under the Fascist decree, even through they had not in fact been socialized at the time of liberation. A state of uncertainty thus existed in numerous plants.

Information is being collected on the subject but it is not yet complete. Reports received to date show that in Genoa four printing and publishing firms were socialized. In Piemonte Region firms which are concerned include Fiat, Italgas, Snia Viscosa, Venchi Unica, Vetrocoke, Ferrovie Torino-Nord, Soc. Editrice Torinese, S. I. P., Cartiere Burgo, Stipel, La Stampa, Officina Meccanica Zanzi and I. N. C. R. T. Lombardia statistics have not yet come in.

Nationalization.

The nationalization of key industries, the socialization of general industry, participation of workers in management and sharing of profits for workers, are basic questions of the political future, of course. The statements on the socialization of industry which have been issued by responsible Italian authorities are therefore important. On 3 June, 1945, the representatives of the six parties belonging to the central C. L. N. arrived at an agreement which *inter alia* laid down that C. L. Ns. should act in a consultative capacity and that workshop C. L. Ns. should be transformed into technical and syndical agencies which should prove themselves adequate to meet the requirements of production and social justice.

The next day Prime Minister Bonomi informed the Allied Commission that the Italian Government would immediately study this question of workshop management committees which embraced a complex problem having wide social, political and economical implication. He suggested that it would be desirable that any action which AMG might take in this connection should be such as not to prejudice any more stable and definite solution which the Italian Government would propose in the shortest possible time.

Although some workers' representatives in the North may have expected the post-liberation Italian Government to support a socialization program, the new Parri Government has not committed itself. A communiqué of 26 June, 1945, however, included the following reference to socialization:

"The Government intends to develop and organize the control of industrial establishments by the various categories of employees, in such a manner as not to disturb the productive capacity of the country and not to obstruct the revival of economic activity for which it widely relied on private initiative."

The Monarchist newspaper, *Italia Nuova*, on 27 June commented: "These are, as you see, beautiful and nebulous words capable of any interpretation from the most extreme socialism to the most reactionary liberalism."

Epuration.

On 2 June, 1945, AMG issued General Order No. 16 dealing with "Epuration in Private Industry". The order makes it an offence for any person other than properly appointed managers or receivers of an industrial establishment to dismiss or suspend any person from employment, or to prevent or endeavor to prevent a person from continuing in his employment. Dismissal or suspension on account of Fascist activities or collaboration must first be considered by an Epuration Commission for the firm concerned, duly appointed by a Provincial Commission and subject to the approval of Allied Military Government.

Besides allowing for proper consideration of complaints against employees, the Order provides that the employees dismissed for alleged collaboration with Fascists since the date of liberation and prior to the date of the Order, may appeal to the duly appointed Epuration Commission of the firm in question for reinstatement. There is also provision for appeal to a higher board against a decision of the Epuration Commission. The Order applies not only to employees and workers, but also to managers and persons of similar standing. The operation of the Order already has had a good effect and will help to rectify arbitrary acts of the first hectic days of liberation.

In brief, AMG has not committed itself on the socialization question, which is as it should be. The attitude has been that the issue is one for decision by the Italian Government and that AMG should not take any action to prejudice that Government's deliberation. This attitude on the part of AMG has not been easy to maintain amid C. L. N. pressures, to say the least.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ODDS AND ENDS

The Deputy Executive Commissioner is busy these days re-assigning personnel of 5th Army and IV Corps AMGs since their authority was turned over 15 July in the North... Although arrangements were made to enlist as many as 1,000 Patriots into the Italian Army (a figure set despite cries for a higher quota in some quarters), only 460 Patriots joined the Italian forces in June, the Land Forces Sub-Commission reports... Col. S. W. Miller (B), AC Liaison Officer at Bari, reports two items of particular interest: In the Brindisi area, there are already some 4,000 unemployed, another 7,000 persons will be laid off soon, and the district is expecting the return of another 8,000 Italian POWs who will want work; despite the personal requests of Italian Ministers for handing in of arms in the Andria-Minervino area, where disturbances occurred recently, only 198 weapons have been collected, the majority of which were from persons not concerned with the disorders and who had previously declared their ownership, while 50 of the arms were Balilla muskets... The first war crimes trial in the MTO will be held 23 July, when Italian Maj. Gen. Nicola Bellomo goes before a British military court charged with killing a British officer-prisoner; AC PRB is arranging to send Italian and political correspondents to cover the story... The Italian Government is preparing a decree giving the vote to persons who will be 21 on 31 December 1945, the Local Government Sub-Commission reports... The Education Sub-Commission announces completion of its exhaustive study of the Italian educational system started more than a year ago... The AC educators also tell of a pretty gesture by the Italians who, hearing that the House of Commons wanted a 35-volume set of the *Enciclopedia Italiana*, have presented one as a gift... Lieut. Clement Petrillo (A) has been awarded the Bronze Star... T/3 Frank E. Cicone (A) has received an official commendation from the 5th Army for "outstanding performance of duty" in helping distribute civilian supplies (as much as 200 tons a day) in the forward areas during the campaign with 5th Army AMG... AC is trying to persuade AFHQ to derequisition more hotels for the Italian Government, having in mind, for example, the prospective convention of the *Consulta* in Rome this fall... Approaches of Italian *Ex-Combattenti* organizations to AC about volunteers to fight in the Japanese war are being referred by the Land Forces Sub-Commission to the Italian Ministry of War; to date, incidentally, there has been no official request from the Government for permission to use the Italian armed forces against Japan...

Mr. Ivor Thomas, British Labor MP, and chairman of the Anglo-Italian Committee of the House of Commons, is visiting Italy; in an interview with *Avanti*, he told of meeting the Chief Commissioner whom he described as a "great friend of Italy's"... Mr. A. S. Halford of the British Embassy who also fills in as British Political Advisor to AC, is producing, directing and even acting in "Berkeley Square" at the Argentina in Rome...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

July 7, 1945

RESTRICTED

JUL 1945

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 14

POLITICAL

The pattern of the Parri Government of brisk and, on the whole, smooth-working political activity complicated by inconvenient interruptions of social-economic nature from the provinces, was maintained through its second week. All in all it may be said that the purely political operations (if there is any such thing as pure politics) were carried out with even more dexterity and the social-economic interruptions were even more serious though less violent. The Council meeting on 4 June got through a good share of its agenda: Nenni was formally appointed High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism and the special economic committee previously set up was officially approved. This committee will consist of the Ministers of Reconstruction, Treasury, Finance, Industry and Commerce, Public Works and Transport, thus bringing in the properly interested agencies and observing the six-party parity as well. The Council also approved the abolition of the Undersecretariat of Press, Theatre and Tourism and named Arpesani (one of the undersecretaries of the *Presidenza*) temporary Commissioner for its administration and liquidation. Three new Undersecretaries were appointed: Post War Relief, Ernesto Berardinone (Communist), Industry and Commerce, Ivan Matteo Lombardo (Socialist) and Reconstruction, Ernesto Rossi (Action). The last two replace Canevari and Foa, respectively, on our previous list.

A good deal of time in the Council meeting was spent discussing the formation of the *Consulta*. According to recent decisions, this body will now contain some 400 members, distributed as follows: 211 members of the six parties, 20 members of parties outside the CLN, 24 representatives of the CGIL and 22 from other workers' groups, 16 spokesmen for the partisans, four representatives of the Associazione *Combattenti* and two *Mutilati*. The rest of the membership will be made up of the surviving members (uncorrupted by Fascism) of Italy's last freely elected Parliament and the ministers and undersecretaries of the governments formed since the liberation of Rome (i. e., of the two Bonomi cabinets). This will be a somewhat larger body than originally planned (See *Weekly Bulletins*, vol. II, Nos. 2, 3, 4, for April 15, 22 and 27) and it is possible, too, that its function may be more important than was originally believed. Brosio (as quoted in *Tribuna del Popolo*) said that the *Consulta* must "accustom Italians to public debates and to free and meditated elaboration of legislation", and *Ricostruzione* urged that it be summoned as soon as possible, suggesting that vexing questions such as the pending decree on rents would be more expeditiously solved if the Consulta were available. Fear that the new body might indeed be too large and cumbersome was expressed by Gonella in *Il Popolo*, who unkindly called it an "unwieldy caravan" and wondered sarcastically if it had been designed as a part of the Government's announced intention of providing employment projects. For once *Avanti* concurred with the Christian Democrat organ and advised "streamlining".

Still Dissatisfied.

Still dissatisfied with the situation in Bari province, the Government dispatched Scoccimarro to follow the trail of Barbaresehi. Scoccimarro made a report on his return and the Government issued a communiqué (3 July) stating that "order, which had been previously re-established" had not been "further disturbed". To the press Scoccimarro stated that he had worked through the local Communist party and then through the CLN and had encouraged the latter to contact the local Carabinieri and cooperate with them for the preservation of calm. Latest news is that civilians are to hand in all arms by 15 July and, according to the Government communiqué, all the parties are now working together for the maintenance of order.

However, hardly had the situation in Bari province been officially declared well in hand when reports of unrest began to come in from

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

the North. A general strike began in Turin on 1 July and spread to Milan where on the following day, according to an AP dispatch "all of the city's workers" demonstrated. The number was given as "several hundred thousand" by *Italia Nuova*. The workers whose demonstration was called "orderly" by the AP dispatch, were protesting against high prices, low wages and spreading unemployment. Their formalized demands asked for a number of specific remedies including better pay, higher pension rates and an all-out attack on the black market, using the weapons of blocked prices and an efficient co-operative system. They also asked for implementation of the agreement of 23 June between the *Camere del Lavoro* and the *Unioni industriali* on partial unemployment benefits. The special economic committee referred to in our opening paragraph approved the request, subject to concurrence of the Allies, and the ministers Romita and Buini were dispatched Northwards to survey the situation on the ground. Less voluminous but persistent rumblings have been heard from Sicily during the week; here the age old grievances of the share-croppers as well as sulphur miners seem to be at the root of the trouble.

Parri's Speech.

On his first visit to Milan after taking over the Government, Parri made a speech to the press expressing hope for a new accord with the Allies which would "give Italy a more satisfactory international position". He is reported to have said that the Allies had reserved to themselves the right under the Armistice to decide when Italy is ready to pass on the institutional question. Italy's main problems to-day, he said, could be summed up in four words: Bread, work, order, peace. He stressed, as well, the urgent need of coal to start industry going again and to insure employment.

There have been a crop of rumors regarding Italy's international position. It was said (and written) that the American State Department had approved a motion to admit Italy to the United Nations, the A. C. was going to break up by the first of September, the Italian Government was opposed to publication of the Armistice clauses and that England was going to make a separate peace with Italy (see last week's *Bulletin*). All these rumors have been denied. There was, however, a message to Parri from the Foreign Office to the effect that "Great Britain has not forgotten her promises to Italy, but the needs of various countries, some of which are more urgent than Italy's, are subordinate to the necessities of carrying on the war in the Far East." Bonomi, too, received a note from the same source expressing satisfaction with the work he had done.

AMG IN THE NORTH

One of the most interesting stories to come out of the North recently concerns the so-called People's Courts or more precisely, the Extraordinary Courts of Assizes, to try cases of persons charged with collaboration with the German enemy. Col. W. E. Behrens, Chief Legal Advisor, and Lieut. Col. G. G. Hannaford, head of the Legal Sub-Commission's Italian Section, have just returned from a special meeting held in Milan June 30 at which the whole question of improving and expediting the judicial processes in connection with collaboration trials was reviewed.

The prisons of the North are chock-full with nearly 50,000 persons, either awaiting trial or investigation. Of these, it is estimated that as many as 20,000 might eventually be released from their arbitrary imprisonment by Patriots in the first hectic days of liberation. In Lombardy alone, there are 15 courts and 15,000 prisoners. There have been 600 cases tried, more than 50 of which resulted in death sentences since the first courts sat at Milan and Savona on 23 May. However, because of the legal necessities of appeal, at the time of the June 30 meeting, not one person had yet been executed. This, of course, accounts for many of the popular demonstrations in the North where crowds milled around the prisons clamoring for vengeance. Buffarini, Fascist hierarch, who was sentenced to death June 1, had not been shot a month later, but on July 3, a telegram was finally dispatched informing the Milan authorities that it was now legally clear to carry out the execution. Appeals to the Court of Cassation, the Italian Supreme Court, a special section of which sits at Milan, take about 15 days, and as many other days are consumed in final appeals to the King under Italian law, which in this case means the authority of Allied military government. AMG forwards the appeals to the Legal Sub-Commission, which simply asks the Italian Ministry of Justice for its opinion, and then gives the formality of concurrence.

Real Difficulties.

The real difficulties in expediting the prosecution of these cases, however, have been in administration, pure and simple. There are 48 special courts in the North. Each court has to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

have a presiding judge of Grade V (appellate) rank and four lay judges. This amounts to 240 persons on the bench. There are not enough high-ranking judges to go around and the matter is now being discussed with a view to permitting lower-rank judges to preside. Even more difficult has been the manning of the offices of the Ministero Pubblico or prosecutor. This official of the court interrogates the prisoners and witnesses, examines documents and prepares the case for trial. Each such offices requires about ten to 15 persons to function at all, or about 500 for all the North. Italian attorneys have been loath to accept such appointments because of the poor pay – 4,000 lire a month – when they could possibly make 100,000 lire for defending a Fascist who is in the frying pan. Taking a pointer from the French – in fact, French experience has been closely followed in the whole business – a project is under way to force attorneys to serve in turn in these prosecutor's offices, force to bee applied either by decree or else by "voluntary" agreement amongst the lawyers' groups. Incidentally there are plenty of lawyers, nearly 8,000 up North.

The meeting, which AMG regional legal officers and officers of the special Italian courts, as well as representatives of the Rome epuration authorities, also attended, discussed a variety of other problems, including the definition of collaboration, which sometimes is somewhat nebulous. In any event, only water-tight cases are being tried in continuous session. One of the improvements reviewed was the matter of denunciations. In Milan, for example, there were 4,800 persons in prison on general suspicion of collaboration but denunciations or charges existed against only 110. A public notice was given that all persons against whom there were no denunciations would be released. Denunciations promptly increased to more than 3,000. The mills of justice grind exceedingly slow, but thanks to the Legal Sub-Commission, they are grinding swifter and the teeth are beginning to bite.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The wage situation in the North is getting lively and Mr. W. H. Braine, director of the Labor Sub-Commission, is flying to Milan to look into the matter. In Trieste, two meetings have been held of the Joint Allied-Yugoslav Economic Committee set up under terms of the 20 June agreement. Three sub-committees were appointed—transportation, industry and commerce, and fuel and power. Further meetings will be held this coming week.

The Property Control Division of the Finance Sub-Commission reports that five French officers have been attached to AC to assist in the job of looking after French properties in the North. One officer is with Liguria Region, one with Piemonte and three in Lombardy. French interests up North are considerable. Of 1,000 real estate properties under Allied protection in Piemonte, the majority are French-owned. Of 300 industrial and commercial properties in Lombardy, more than a third are also French, according to Lieut. Col. E. C. King, chief of the division.

The Agriculture Sub-Commission reports that the locust threat in Sardinia is rather exaggerated, only one per cent. of the wheat-producing area being affected. Much damage to fava and forage has been done, however. The livestock situation is critical also, chiefly because of disease. Commerce Sub-Commission reports that North Italy can manufacture 60 tons of newsprint a day for some time to come. The newsprint requisition placed in the U. S. has therefore been cancelled. Sardinian coal production is now 1,700 tons a day; an Industry Office has been established in Milan; substantial stocks of mining supplies have been located in North Italy; and sodium carbonate production is rising, 1,500 tons being produced in the last six days of June, the Industry Sub-Commission reports. At least 500,000 tons of phosphate rock, and possibly 200,000 more tons later, have been allocated to Italy, which will bring the fertilizer industry back to par, the Economic Section announces.

TOWARDS A REAL DEMOCRACY

The Local Government Sub-Commission, directed by Col. R. R. Cripps (B) which all along has been doing yeoman work and remained more or less unsung, is coming into its own. One of the most fundamental points of the Allies' mission in Italy, voiced as early as the Moscow Declaration of 1943 and reiterated several times since, has been that Italy must hold free elections as the first step toward re-birth as a real democracy. Putting that fine ideal into shape for realization some day is falling on the shoulders of the small but expert staff of the Sub-Commission in this final phase of AC activity. As now everyone knows, before elections can be held, there must be electoral lists of qualified voters. And before the lists can be prepared, there has to be a dickens of a lot of work done by a great many agencies. And before hardly any of these can get into action, there have to be duly appointed and functioning local government officials. In

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

these three steps, one has the obstacles that must be overcome before the AC can call this particular job not well done, but well-started, on the proper foundation.

When all this can be completed, so that elections for communes and provinces can be held and delegates to the Constituent Assembly elected, is at most a guess at this time. Recalling that in the South, where local government has by now been pretty well-established, the preparations of the electoral lists began in February and ought to be pretty well finished this month, the best opinion says, as to the rest of the country, meaning the North, that the lists, preparation of which will begin July 15 on order of the Chief Commissioner, should be ready by December. Winter weather making holding of an election difficult, the earliest time for an election is thus set further back, possibly March or April of spring, 1946. Umbria-Marche and part of Tuscany started their list preparations in May and the rest of Tuscany in June.

First Steps.

The immediate step in the North is to insure that every one of the 4,083 communes in the 40 provinces (excluding the 178 communes in the five provinces of Venezia-Giulia, of course) have proper officials, from prefect to *Sindaco* and communal secretary. Sub-Commission officers will visit every province – where they have not already done so – to advise both on getting local officials into office, which means chiefly clearing up CLN appointees with AMG, and to give pointers on starting preparation of the electoral lists themselves. Why this job is one of the most difficult confronting AMG can easily be appreciated from the fact that there has not been a so-called free election in Italy since 1925 in a commune nor since 1933 in the nation and that even the last going to the polls – in 1939 – was merely for one of the Mussolini calls for a rigged vote of confidence. Plainly, hardly any officials exist who are familiar with the techniques of the duties involved. Extant are no electoral lists which might have been revised. Records of all kinds are in a parlous state—lost, burned, destroyed, scattered. And the amount of record-checking involved is appalling, as will be explained later. Let us not speak of the difficulty of communications with the outlying communes, the perennial lack of transport or even the scarcity of paper and of wood and glass to make the ballot boxes themselves.

One more sizeable hurdle remains to be met before the elections can be held and that is the basic law governing the function in Italy. At the present time, the Italian Government is proceeding on the basis of the 1915 election law, which, however, is not quite up to truly protecting the rights of the Italians themselves to cast a free, secret ballot in the security of their own consciences and untouched by any intimidation at the polls. Many other questions are also being raised: The use of proportional representation, the qualification and nomination of candidates, the eligible offices, the extent of suffrage, the establishment of election boards to supervise the impartial mechanics of the process, the safeguarding of the independent nominee, the printing of the official ballot papers. All these are matters which in the United Kingdom and the States have been taken for granted but here in Italy, where, as Major Ralph R. Temple (A), deputy director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, says, they are practically starting from scratch, the objections of the AC do not seem quite comprehensible to the Italian mind, perhaps somewhat obfuscated beyond its will by a generation of Fascist obscurantism. In any event, possible further revision of the law, which already has sustained some modifications, is up for discussion between the AC and the new Italian Government. One of the chief discrepancies, in addition to those mentioned, lies in the vote being given to officers of the Italian armed forces but not to ORs.

Material Shipped.

The material for the business has now been dispatched to the Northern regions and steps are being taken to free locations which may be of use as polling booths or election offices. Transport is being made available as freely as possible for the officials on electoral list duties, particularly to deliver the forms and instructions to country communes. Lombardy is getting 14 ½ tons of bumpf (Milan Province alone has a share of five tons.) Venezia is receiving 12 ½ tons, Piemonte nearly 10 tons, Emilia 9 ½ and Liguria 4 ½. The monumental task of compiling the lists themselves, for which the Italian Government has piously set the time schedule of 100 days (to be precise 105 days according a detailed timetable), is something which the Italian agencies concerned will have to carry out on their own. AMG officers have only to see that the requisite Italian offices are set up, get to work and do not linger on the job. All of which will take some doing. Incidentally, the importance of already having put into office the various local government agencies comes to light as a result of the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

most recent tour of the sub-commission's officers who have discovered that in many provinces the *Deputazione Provinciale*, which chooses three out of four members of the all-important electoral commissions, has not yet been established.

The Provincial Commissioners, on whom the brunt of the AMG mission of needling the Italian authorities will fall, will have to rely most heavily on the prefect on his staff – the Vice Prefect Inspector, the Prefectural Electoral Official and the various *Commissari* which it may be necessary to appoint if towns and villages fall too far behind in the lists. The Communal Secretaries will be key men in the individual spots, even more than the *Sindaci*, since in many cases they may have the job of drawing up the lists in a combined group of several small communes. Lastly, the Electoral Commissions previously mentioned will have to be alert and active since it is they who finally pass on the validity of the lists and proclaim them definitive.

Preparation of Lists.

The process of preparation of the lists will inevitably be impeded as a result of mass movement because of the war such as Italy has not experienced for generations. Refugees and persons who have changed residence are expected to be numerous, of course. Refugees will be able to register in the province they are presently located. Before registering anyone, the preliminary task is to decide who is to be registered. The answer is: All Italian citizens, both men and women, who were 21 by 31 December 1944. This means qualification to be registered but *not* necessarily to be able to vote, for which there are other complications in the form of a whole series of disqualifications, every one of which has to be investigated and verified. Among those who cannot vote are lunatics, habitual drunkards, brothel-keepers, registered prostitutes, permanent inhabitants of welfare institutions, certain police suspects, bankrupts, certain criminal convicts and certain Fascists, including former ranking party officials, those convicted of Fascist crimes and any whom a special Provincial Commission has decided to deprive of civil rights for offenses against the public morality. This last-mentioned Commission, incidentally, will have a lot of work to do in examining charges against alleged Fascists and can deprive them of their votes as late as ten days before any election.

The basic steps to construct the lists are simple, however hard their execution may be. First, the *Sindaco* advertises for all who want to vote to come forward and apply. Next, he begins to compile the *Elenco* or roll from the permanent population record of the town, which automatically will give the names of those obviously qualified because of age. Where these population records have been lost, registers of births, marriages, etc. may serve. Further, come the additions and subtractions. The former are fairly easy. The latter will be a nuisance. The properly constituted authorities for public assistance and for public safety have an original duty of sending the *Sindaco* the names of persons in his commune from their own records. Where criminal records in *Casellari Giudiziali* have been destroyed, the Sub-Commission is asking RCs for immediate notification so that adequate substitutes may be provided. Persons affected by any disqualification may appeal to the courts.

After receiving these surgical excisions, the electoral lists then go to the Electoral Commission itself, which reviews all relevant documents and again may add or subtract names on the basis of later information. There will be such a commission in every judicial district or *mandamento* and a Sub-Commission for every 50,000 inhabitants or fraction thereof of the district. The lists are then declared valid, are posted publicly in the communal municipio and cannot be changed except by death of a voter, disqualification through criminal conviction, or loss of civil rights or by an appellate court decision.

All that remains is selection of the polling booths, routine transfers of voting residence, the names of the candidates and the date of elections, but of course, that is where we came in.

THE BRITISH GO TO IT

The United Kingdom is first a democracy and then the heart of an empire, the schoolbooks tell us, and here we have an election coming up today (7 July) to prove it. Allied Commission British personnel at headquarters who did not take the trouble to vote individually by proxy—most of them did vote that way—had the privilege on 5 July of casting their secret ballot in Rome, which, in sealed envelopes, were straightaway air-mailed to England by Captain A. J. Dowsett of the Essex Regiment, who functioned as Polling Officer. There were 59 ballots cast by officers and ORs. Those who missed this week's vote will have a last chance on 14 July to do their democratic duty before the post voting deadline of 15 July.

While on the subject, news comes that Lieut. Gen. Frank Mason MacFarlane, former Chief

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Commissioner of the AC, who has now recovered from his serious illness, is running for Parliament on the Labor tic et. His opponent is no less than Brendan Bracken, crony of Prime Minister Churchill and holder of the key post of Minister of Information during the war. The contested constituency is North Paddington which went Tory by 7,000 votes in the last election, but has been known also to go Socialist. We are somewhat torn in our sympathies between Mr. Bracken, to whom we owe professional respect as one of our superiors on the stratosphereic echelons of public relations, and General "Mason Mac", who was such a doughty leader of our at times disorganized ranks in Italy. Inasmuch as this particular writer votes in Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A., perhaps it would be politic to wish them both the best of luck.

BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY

A couple of weeks ago our erudite director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, Lieut. Col. Ernest T. De Wald (A), who at the end of this month will transfer his allegiance to the Allied Commission for Austria, much to our regret, was taking a stroll in the streets of Florence after having arranged for the delivery of the recovered German art loot to the city when he spied a pretty, little ikon in a shop window. Loving art personally as well as professionally, the good colonel entered to price the piece. He did not buy – the price asked was $ 200 – but thought vaguely it would be a nice thing to own. The next day Col. De Wald had lunch with Bernard Berenson, the famous American art critic who lives in Florence. After lunch Berenson was telling the colonel about a worthy Italian curator who ought to have a job and proceeded to bring out some books the Italian had written. Leafing through one of them, the colonel saw the picture of an ikon from the 17th century Greek Orthodox Church at Livorno. He noted a resemblance to the ikon he had wanted to buy. The next day Col. De Wald re-visited the shop and his artistic nostrils flared. Asking the shop owner to hold the ikon for him in reserve, the colonel sent one of his Fine Arts officers, Lieut. Frederick Hartt, to substantiate his suspicions while he returned to Rome. Back at headquarters, he ran across the Italian superintendent of monuments of Livorno who told him, yes, the Greek Church had been badly damaged by bombs an ' some items were, indeed, missing, in fact, about 14 ikons. This was Saturday. By Monday, Lieut. Hartt, hot on the trail, had recovered four ikons in all from the shop and had traced the trail back to a Livorno Italian who lived near the Greek Church. The church neighbor was found with about eight more ikons. Total recovery: 12 ikons worth from $ 300 to $ 1,000 each.

ODDS AND ENDS

The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission reports that in the past week 12,441 refugees with homes in the South were repatriated; 22,947 refugees arrived in Rome from the North, and 11,331 refugees were repatriated by other organizations... Postscript to Texas: After reading the dithyrambic panygerie by Col. Floyd E. Thomas (A) in the last week's *Bulletin*, Col. Clayton P. Kerr, ever a loyal son of the Lone Star State, inquired: " ...and where is Arizona? "... Capt. Santo W. Crupe (A), attached to the IV Corps AMG, has been awarded the Bronze Star for his work in food supply... Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, has gone to England... We regret to announce the death of Technical Sergeant Earl A. Schulz (A) who suffered a heart attack at Fregene near Rome 1 July while engaged in rescuing an Italian girl from drowning... The Education Sub-Commission estimates that 15 million textbooks will be printed for all Italian schools this coming year... Cases of art believed to be from Monte Cassino have been reported at Alt Aussee in Austria; AC fine arts officers are to check the report... U. S. personnel may now apply for one week rest leaves in London and Paris...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

/33 DP

July 14, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 15

POLITICAL

Work is the grand cure of all the maladies and miseries that ever beset mankind.

CARLYLE.

During the past week, a large part of the energy of the still new Italian Government has been directed to the economic battle. Last week's strikes in the Northern cities focussed national attention on this front, but the battle was not confined to this area even though it was here that the biggest battalions were thrown into the fray. There was a flanking movement from Sicily which Gullo was dispatched to attend to, and from the Puglie came echoes of rear guard skirmishing, perhaps more strictly political in nature. In the North the action began at the end of last week with the arrival of the Government ministers in Milan to investigate the workers' claims. On 9 July the CLNAI gave out the news that following a conference on 8 July between members of the CGIL, the *Camere del Lavoro* and the *Unioni industriali* of Milan, Turin and Genoa "in the presence of the Ministers Bonomi, Gronchi, Romita and Barbareschi," it had been agreed to give the workers of the North an emergency subsidy. According to this agreement, later ratified by the Council of Ministers in its session of 11 July Northern workers who are unemployed or on part time will receive 75 per cent of the emergency subsidy (*indennità di contingenza*) and 75 per cent. of the total compensation for the hours of enforced idleness. According to the calculations of *Il Globo*, this arrangement will cost about six billion lire, one third to be paid by the industrialists and two thirds by the state.

The sporadic agitations in Sicily to which we referred last week were of sufficient magnitude to cause the Government to send Gullo down. On his return after a few days negotiation, it was announced that a new distribution of the produce had been arranged on a kind of sliding scale in which the share of the *mezzadro* varies between 40 and 50 per cent., according to the quantity produced. There has been, as might be expected, a re-awakening of interest in the whole question of the *mezzadria* with some spirited debating between the various parties. *Italia Nuova* sees the whole matter as "purely political" and suspects it is merely a tactical move by the Communists towards eventual expropriation, *Risorgimento Liberale* defended the institution as traditional and, on the whole, beneficial in Southern Italy. Lizzadri, writing in *Avanti*, replied that until a few years ago the ten-hour working day, and for that matter even malaria, might have been called "traditional", indignantly rejecting at the same time the idea that the CGIL attitude on the matter was a result of Communist pressure. We shall probably hear more from both sides.

No further outbreaks have occurred in Apulia but there has been considerable criticism from a large section of the press that the disarming of civilians is not proceeding as rapidly as could be desired. The CLN of Bari met on 11 July and confirmed its intention of settling all questions which may arise "in a spirit of reciprocal comprehension". The committee's report also called the attention of the Government to the unemployment situation in Apulia and recommended a program of public works, while, in stressing the urgency of turning in arms, it tacitly confirmed the suspicion that the citizens have been a little lax in complying with this particular civic duty.

New international status?

In the field of international affairs, the imminent meeting of the Big Three has again aroused the hopes of a new international status for Italy. On 6 July the Government announced its decision to petition for just that and the next day Parri said that he had "good hopes" that the petition would be well received. After the Council meeting of the 11th, De Gasperi reported that such an appeal had been sent. Italian expectations are particularly high as a result of the vote of the U. S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee suggesting that Italy be asked to join the United Nations and Parri no doubt spoke for the nation when he said he had heard the news with "great satisfaction".

Closely related to foreign affairs is the problem of Italy's non-Italian minorities and the Council

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

registered the attitude of the new Italy on this matter in a statement, also issued on the 11th, guaranteeing the free use of local languages and even the teaching of them in schools where the majority of the population demands it. Furthermore, according to the statement, all special necessities of such zones will be safeguarded by "free local autonomy". Specifically, a committee of ministers is to draw up a program for local autonomy of the Val d'Aosta, based on a memorandum drafted by the Valdostan CLN, and submit it for the consideration of the cabinet on 25 July. By a happy coincidence, the papers of the 12th carried the news that in Ventimiglia French troops had been replaced by Americans, thus removing at least one source of pre-occupation to the government.

Some attention has recently been given to the Bolzano situation by the Rome press. Some time ago a "Reuter's" dispatch from London reported that emissaries from Bolzano had been allowed to make direct contact with Paris, London and Washington. This was called "disquieting" news by Zingarelli, writing in *Tempo;* he made the point that presumably these emissaries were going to advance the cause of annexation of the *Alto Adige* to Austria, yet they were going without consulting the Italian Government, recognized by Britain and America who have not as yet given their blessing to the new government in Austria. Flaminio (in *Momento*) commented in the same vein. The party press has so far allowed the news to pass without comment.

Nenni's plans.

Nenni's plans for the Commission on Sanctions against Fascism have been approved. All that has emerged so far is a streamlining of the Commission by doing away with the *Commissariato* on confiscation of Fascist patrimony and the nomination of three new "*alti commissari aggiunti*" viz., Domenico Grixa of the Appellate Court of Turin, for Epuration, Giovanni Macaluso of the Court of Cassation in Rome, for Punishment of Fascist Crimes and Ferdinando Carbone, once Councilor of State, for Confiscation of Fascist Profits.

In the field of party politics the Communist statement of program issued on the 9th should be noted. This calls for re-conquest of national independence, epuration, creation of a really democratic regime in Italy and reconstruction. The party expresses the hope that these goals can be achieved by harmonious collaboration of the six parties. The statement adds that the Communists frankly look to the *Costituente* to get rid of the monarchy and clear the way for "a democratic workers' republic".

Other business in a busy week: Formal appointment of Bergami (Liberal) as High Commissioner for Health, with Perrotti (Socialist) as his Associate Commissioner; designation of Carlo Bassano as Prefect of Rome, and recognition of the new Polish government... And in the middle of it all Parri found time to pay a visit to Naples where he again made a speech on the unity of Italy and said that he regarded Naples as "the Milan of the South".

ECONOMIC FRONT

A special economic conference was held at AC Hq. 13 July on general economic problems, particularly wages and prices. The occasion was notable by the attendance for the first time of practically the whole of the Italian cabinet headed by the Italian Prime Minister Ferruccio Parri. On the Allied side, the Chief Commissioner, flanked by Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, and the Executive Commissioner, plus the AMG RCs of the North (with the exception of Col. R. P. Marshall who could not attend for urgent reasons), had an opportunity to hear Italian views on a variety of subjects in one place and at one time. In general, agreement of opinion was reached by both sides, though what the specifics might be exactly will have to wait until next week to be told because of the almost labyrinthine nature of the discussions which progressed laboriously through interpreters.

The central theme of all the talks was how to integrate the economies of North and South Italy and achieve one uniform policy for the nation. AMG procedures in the North anent the granting of wage increases were approved and the stipulation requested by the Italians that wage demands over and above the scale set by the Milan agreement of 8 July be referred to the Italian Government. Plans were made to apply the Milan increases, which refer only to industry, to commerce and agriculture. The increases are expected to cost the Italian Treasury, through advances to industrial firms, six or seven billion lire in the next several months, but, as Minister of the Treasury Marcello Soleri pointed out, the amount would be about the same if straight unemployment compensation were paid. In fact, if coal is not forthcoming, it is expected that there might be as many as three or four million unemployed in the North this winter.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Public Works.

This prospect gave rise to review of public works projects, where the main difficulty, besides the great cost of financing them – as much as 500 billion lire was indicated – was reported to be lack of transport for the workers. In any event, work will start on simple projects within a few weeks. One complication was mentioned in the fact that many companies are keeping hold of their workers rather than dismiss them, at which time the workers would be available for public works. It was suggested that labor battalions be formed to work on projects in the vicinity of the plants where the men are regularly employed instead of dispersing the industrial labor force.

Speaking of the need for coal, the Executive Commissioner told the meeting of his conversations on the subject in London. He reported that, until Italy obtained the maximum production from her own coal resources, viz., the Sardinian coal mines (where production is about half what it was under the Fascists in 1941), Italy's demands for coal would not be looked on too favorably in the light of the desperate cry for coal in Europe this year. Minister of Industry and Commerce Giovanni Gronchi said Italy was doing her best to produce more coal but was limited by factors beyond her control, such as lack of transport. He added that a share of military timber production would help to remedy the lack of lumber supports in the mines.

Bread.

The price of wheat and bread came in for some hot and heavy – not to mention long drawn-out – debate. A new economic price of bread, based on a uniform flour price throughout the North, but with the bread price varying provincially, is in the making. The anticipated range is from 13 to 16 lire, about two lire below the bread prices in the South. Signor Soleri wished that the bread price were the same throughout the country.

Bread led to the subject of increasing the bread ration – a point brought up by several Italian speakers. Col. W. J. Legg (B), director of the Food Sub-Commission, said that 60,000 tons of wheat were needed for the present bread ration in the North and 1,000,000 tons to cover the deficiency in the South. Col. Legg, as well as the Executive Commissioner in an earlier statement, strongly depreciated the possibility of increasing the Northern ration. The grain harvest is already forecast as being two million tons below last year's and if the drought continues, the colonel added, the deficiency may increase. Col. Legg asserted that bread consumption on a per capita basis in the North exceeded that of the South and that the North had a better all-around standard of living. He warned that neither the Italian economy nor the import program could stand further increases in the ration. Food Minister Enrico Mole had a different version of the amount that might have to be imported. Col. Legg had mentioned that, according to earlier estimates 560,000 tons would have been needed, but that added deficiencies of 664,000 tons were envisaged, making a total possible import need of 1,224,000 tons. Signor Mole stated that Italy needed 35 million quintals annually. Predicting a production of approximately 15 million quintals in all – nine in the North and five in the South, roughly, – he said that 20 million quintals more or two million tons would be needed.

The meeting went on to discuss price policies generally, Minister of Reconstruction Menecio Bruni making the point that the way to control wages would be to keep a lid on prices. Examined was the proposition whether to control all goods or only a restricted number of items, and if so, which ones. Trade between the North and South was also touched on – exchanges of finished products where available (like shoes and textiles) and of raw materials (such as pyrites and rock salt).

The Chief Commissioner told the assemblage that further meetings might be held later.

Other news.

There was other economic news of the week outside of the conference. Already permitted to become a member of the European inland transport organization, Italy, with AC help, is now aspiring to join the European coal organization.

In Milan, the Industry Office set up recently is going full blast, helping put into effect the plan for control of manufacturing plants and their products in North Italy. The Office works with the AMG regions and a North Italy Industrial Council and a North Italy Price Fixing Board, which are both in process of formal organization. Twenty-two committees, representing as many industries, have been set up and will survey existing production facilities and make recommendations on what products should be produced, control of the level of production, closing of unproductive plants and transfer of equipment, allocation of raw materials and tools and distribution of finished products.

The 1944-1945 ammassing season ended officially 9 July with 520,341 quintals of olive oil

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

and 26,786,000 quintals of wheat. Of the latter, 15,636,980 quintals were gathered in North Italy. Delivery of 11,716 captured enemy horses from Austria has been completed to farmers. As a result of U. S. Congressmen complaining about what appeared to be excessive non-essential civilian use of gasoline (most of which comes from the strictly rationed U. S.), the AC has made representations to the Italian Government, which in turn has started an investigation of the whole business. Direct rail service is now available from South Italy to Milan, Turin and Venice. The new Italian Government bond sale, which closed in Central and Southern Italy 19 May with 53 billion lire sales, will open in the North 15 July. It is expected that 30 to 50 billion lire worth may be bought before the sale closes 5 August.

EMILIA

Io udi' già dire a Bologna
Del Diavol vizi assai.
DANTE

Col. Floyd E. Thomas (A), who took office 4 July as Regional Commissioner of Emilia, is asking for appointment of a civilian commission with wide powers to supervise reconstruction of approximately 37 communes in his Region. Both Fifth and Eighth Armies fought their bitterest battles last winter and this spring in Emilia and great areas were blasted. Damage from concentrated air attacks is also extensive. "The problem," Col. Thomas says, "is as acute as in the Cassino area. Thousands of people are without homes for this winter." He has in mind an active group which will secure the release of blocked materials and speed temporary construction before the winter months, which will plan and arrange for long-term building after the Allied forces have been withdrawn, and which will reorganize and intensify the mine removal program. Emilia Region is dotted with mines and the Germans did not map their mine-fields.

Reconstruction of Bologna University, oldest in Europe and second oldest in the world, is also claiming Col. Thomas' attention. Damage to buildings housing various faculties and equipment is estimated at 450,000,000 lire. Worst hit were the School of Economics and Commerce, the Marconi Technical Institute and the Institutes of Agriculture, Physics, Anatomy, Chemistry and Botany. Clearing of rubble and salvaging of building materials has been going on for some weeks but steel, cement and wood are urgently needed for basic framework construction. Col. Thomas plans to set up a University Section in the Genio Civile, with AMG advisors, to go ahead with detailed plans and specifications, but much liaison and co-operation with Allied and Italian agencies will be needed to get the necessary materials and money. The Faculty recently elected a Rector and some classes and examinations have been resumed, but only a fraction of the 10,000 students so far registered can be accommodated. Bologna University, when the war hit it, was not only the oldest but one of the biggest Italian seats of learning. Figures of registrations since the unification of Italy show steady expansion, with a tremendous development in the last 15 years. In 1870 there were only 562 students. By 1910 the figure had increased to 1,903. In 1920 it was 2,908; in 1930, 3,121. By 1940 there were 9,146 in attendance, and in 1943 the total reached 13,952. University engineers have prepared a detailed survey of war damage, with maps showing every bomb-hit and charts indicating the exact condition of each building. There are scores of photographs and many pages of explanatory text. This survey, which will facilitate planning for reconstruction, is a model of its kind.

All Quiet — Almost.

In Emilia Region as a whole there have been no major political developments lately and all is calm on the surface. But the RC says there is a deliberate policy of deferred action on the part of the more lawless elements and the CC. RR. seem to fear that any zeal on their part will invite reprisals after the Allies leave. Communists are the most active of all parties as usual and are trying to get control of public offices. Public Safety officials report that, though the number of crimes has decreased, the situation is far from satisfactory. Intimidation of land-owners and even of public officials continues in the form of anonymous threats and acts of extortion. At Ferrara a number of men in British battle-dress got into the prison and shot the chief guard and 17 prisoners; nine others were injured and 34 escaped. At Carpi, in Modena Province, another armed band entered a prison guarded by Partisan police and shot 16 well-known Fascist prisoners. All Patriot Centres in Emilia were closed on or before 10 June but officers are functioning in each of the provinces and Patriots in transit are fed and accommodated in Refugee Centers. In June, 801 arms of all types were surrendered.

Unemployment is serious throughout the Region, with estimated numbers out of work in four provinces as follows: Ferrara, 40-50,000; Ravenna, 30-35,000; Piacenza, 15,000; Reggio

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Emilia, 20,000. Parades and short stoppages of work have been general but there were no actual strikes in June. The Regional Commissioner believes the *Camera del Lavoro* in some instances has fomented agitation and instigated demonstrations. More than 110,000 refugees, both Allied and Italian, passed through Emilia in June. Mines, shells and bombs neutralized, lifted or destroyed during the month totalled 17,233, with two Italian soldiers killed and 13 wounded and 11 civilians killed. There has been some trouble about indiscriminate requisitioning of private property by Polish troops in Forli and Bologna.

Industry Resuming.

Reactivation of industry in Emilia is going ahead rapidly: 82 factories have resumed production since the beginning of June and 24 more will open in July. Shortage of coal and lack of transport are the two greatest obstacles to industrial recovery. Cement is in short supply for lack of transport to carry it and POL cannot be distributed in sufficient quantities. The present food situation is exceptionally good, except for a shortage of meat caused by a ban on slaughtering. In June some 5,000 head of cattle were moved from the Provinces of Parma, Reggio Emilia and Modena to Bologna, Ferrara and Ravenna, 1,000 head were sold to Toscana and between 500 and 1,000 to Northern Regions. There is an acute shortage of fodder in all provinces. Wheat crops, after first threshings, are estimated to be down between 40 and 50 per cent. below former yields. In areas where there are generally four cuttings of hay, a second cutting has not yet been made. Rice alone is almost normal.

Health is good except for cases of typhoid and paratyphoid in Bologna Province. There have been two acute outbreaks of dysentery among very small children in Refugee Camps and the source of infection is not yet definitely known, though control measures have been taken. The water supply in Bologna has been increased by a million gallons a day; 21 drainage and flood control projects were completed in June; the health hazard from damaged sewage collectors in Bologna has been eliminated. Foreign mail service was extended to the entire Region 15 June; civil telephone and telegraph services are available in all provincial capitals except Ravenna, and Bologna is linked by long distance to Rome, Florence, Milan, Padua and Venice. Railways from the South now run as far as the Po River and the lines into Bologna from Florence and Ancona were opened 3 June.

ODDS AND ENDS

Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, Executive Commissioner, is back from London... Discussions are now going on concerning a further transfer of territory to the Italian Government on 31 July; subject to AFHQ approval, turned back may be the whole of Emilia Region, the Provinces of Lucca and Apuania and the Communes of Ancona and Naples... PWB is turning over to private agencies in the North on 15 July... Col. Lester J. Hensley (A) has been appointed AC liaison officer to PBS... Mr. J. Wesley Jones, First Secretary of the American Embassy in Rome, is the new U. S. Political Advisor to the Chief Commissioner... A new case of typhus – in a refugee – has been found at Alessandria in Piemonte... Practically all the classic art in national collections removed by the Germans from Allied territory below the Gothic Line last year has been recovered, with the exception of nine masterpieces from Tuscany and 15 cases of bronzes and paintings from Monte Cassino... 5th Army turns over its administrative responsibilies in Northwest Italy to No. 2 District 15 July... Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, was presented with the Legion of Merit 12 July by the Chief Commissioner for his outstanding work as chief of the Fiscal Division of the Office of the Quartermaster General of the U. S. War Department, the position the general held before coming to AC... Brigadier General Archelaus L. Hamblen (A) has succeeded Brigadier General Charles M. Spofford as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, at AFHQ... Air Commodore C. E. Benson announces the liquidation of 8th Army AMG and cessation of any concern with military government affairs of Italy or Venezia Giulia; any pertinent matters arising later for 8th Army will be dealt with directly through 8C AG, 13th Corps, and RC, Venezie Region...

THE TOLL.

We extend our heart-felt sympathy to Col. Charles M. Parkin, commanding officer of 2677 Regiment, and to Col. Robert P. Marshall, RC of Piemonte Region. Col. Parkin has just received word that his son, captured by the Germans on the Western Front 6 January 1945, died of starvation in a German prison camp 15 April 1945. Col. Marshall's son was killed in the final drive across Germany just a few days before the German surrender.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Reel 33

June 30, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 13

POLITICAL

The list of *Sottosegretari* approved by the Council in its first meeting on 26 June is as follows:

Presidency:
GIUSTINO ARPESANI, Liberal
GIORGIO AMENDOLA, Communist

Agriculture:
ANTONIO SEGNI, Christian Democrat

Air:
Gen. ERNESTO PELLEGRINI, Independent

Education:
ACHILLE MARAZZA, Christian Democrat
(*Fine Arts*) CARLO RAGGHIANTI, Action Party

Finance:
ENRICO PARESCE, Labor Democrat

Food:
RENATO SANSONE, Socialist

Foreign Affairs:
EUGENIO REALE, Communist
(*Italiani all'Estero*) RENATO MORELLI, Liberal

Industry and Commerce:
(*Industry*) EMILIO CANEVARI, Socialist
(*Commerce*) ENZO STORONI, Liberal

Interior:
GIUSEPPE SPATARO, Christian Democrat

Justice
DANTE VERONI, Labor Democrat

Labor and Welfare:
GENNARO CASSIANI, Christian Democrat

Navy
(*Military*) CARLO ARDIZZONE, Labor Democrat
(*Merchant*) ANGELO CORSI, Socialist

Post:
MARIO FANO, Independent

Post War Relief:
MARIO FERRARA, Liberal

Public Works:
GIUSEPPE BRUNO, Action Party

Reconstruction:
VITTORIO FOA, Action Party

Transport:
ANTONIO PRIOLO, Socialist

Treasury:
GIOVANNI PERSICO, Labor Democrat
PIETRO MASTINO, Action Party

War:
POMPEO COLAJANNI, Communist
Gen. LUIGI CHATRIAN, Independent

It will be observed that each party is to have four Undersecretaries; a post is ear-marked for the Communists in the Post War Relief Ministry and another is being saved for the Socialists in Industry and Commerce. Comparison with last week's list of Ministers will also indicate that the usual system has been followed of "scrambling" the parties, so that in no case are the minister and the undersecretary of the same party.

* * *

The new government is off to a brisk start. Even before the Council meeting, Parri spoke over the radio to the country, telling the people they could expect no miracles but with united effort and hard work, much could be done. Reaction to the speech was good. Parri's prestige remains high: Stories circulate about his devotion to duty and capacity for hard work; it is reported that he has set up a simple cot in the Viminale, choosing to sleep at his post rather than in an *albergo di lusso*. Allied correspondents found him earnest but not without a sense of humour, when he spoke to them at a press conference. "I feel like St Sebastian, waiting for the arrows", he said. The general feeling was that he acquitted himself well.

Niente donne, niente Eccellenze.

The first meeting of the new council got through a rather heavy agenda. The list of undersecretaries was approved (see above). There had been some talk of the possibility of giving one of the *sottosegretariati* to a woman. This plan fell through, however, because no party wanted to yield the primacy to another in this chivalrous and politically valuable gesture. Hence, there would have had to be six women in the new government – which, as several papers put it, would have been going a little too far. An-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

other matter attended to was the abolition of the title of *Eccellenza*. This measure was approved on the urging of Nenni but all parties expressed themselves as pleased. Indeed, "Eccellenza" had been accorded so freely in the recent past that it had become something of a joke and may well have detracted from the dignity of the office of Minister. From now on it is "Signor Ministro", though Parri is quoted as saying "since I am a professor, why not call me that?".

The Council then heard a report from Soleri and approved a budget for the next two months. A few days later it was announced that the campaign for the new loan will now be extended to the North. A special inter-ministerial committee was set up for economic co-ordination of North and South. The Committee is to be made up of Ruini, La Malfa, Gronchi, Scoccimarro and Barbareschi and is specifically to study the questions of prices, wages and salaries. The Council then decided to postpone publication of the decree on rents which the Bonomi government had approved but had not issued in the *Gazzetta*.

Nine point program.

Aside from these specific measures, the Council spent considerable time in preparing a statement of a general program. A steering committee, consisting of Parri, Nenni, Brosio, Togliatti, Ruini and De Gasperi, had prepared the day before a nine-point draft for approval of the ministers. The nine points, incorporated in the subsequent statement of the Council, are as follows: (1) preparation of the *Costituente*; (2) appeal to the Allies to replace the Armistice clauses by a peace treaty; (3) direct negotiations with Yugoslavia on the Venezia-Giulia question; (4) re-organization of the High Commission for sanctions against Fascism; (5) recognition of the advisory function of the C. L. N.; (6) holding of administrative elections as soon as possible; (7) inclusion of representation from the North in the *Consulta*; (8) collaboration with the CGIL and other workers' groups on problems of labor and supplies; (9) reconstruction.

This program received, not unnaturally, a good deal of applause from the party press but from *Tempo* (Ind.) came the gentle observation that it contains nothing very new; every government has set itself the same goals, generally speaking. The government must not forget, said *Tempo*, that the great majority of Italians, "in their instinctive political wisdom" have remained aloof from the parties and are waiting for action rather than words before letting themselves be convinced that the parties really mean business.

"Unsatisfactory arrangement"

There are two statements in the government's program, as phrased by the Council, that call for special reference in the light of recent events. For one thing, the Council branded the Venezia-Giulia agreement an "unsatisfactory arrangement". The papers during the week have carried an obbligato on the same theme, the *Tribuna del Popolo*, for example, asking the Allies if there is any *arrière pensée* in the division of administrative spheres, since "Italians do not quite understand what the line means in the minds of those who drew it" and *Globo* pointing out, in a realistic vein, that Italy has "lost" by the terms of the accord "about half the national production of coal, almost all her bauxite and a good part of her mercury". In Venezia-Giulia itself, however, the week passed without serious incident: a one-day general strike took place in Trieste on the 26th but there were no complications, and marshal Tito's latest speech, as quoted in the *Stars and Stripes*, expressed his belief that "the day will come when Yugoslavia and Italy will live in friendly relations in an atmosphere of progressive democracy."

The other statement alluded to above referred to the need of "ensuring respect for the law" and, indeed, Parri made the same point in his radio speech. Particular point was given to this part of the government program by the troubles in the little town of Minervino Murge in the province of Bari. The origins of the agitation are obscure, but on the 27th and 28th reports came to the press of Carabinieri set upon and subsequently besieged in their barracks by armed contadini. The infection spread to nearby Andria where the jail was stormed and some 40 prisoners released. *Avanti*, while hesitating to accept as gospel the account of the local authorities, admitted on the 28th that the situation was tense. The new Minister of Labor, Barbareschi, was sent to investigate and deal with the matter and the next day it was reported – though perhaps prematurely – that "calm had been restored."

Lussu, the incumbent of the new ministry of Post War Relief, issued a statement on the 27th to the effect that assistance must be given to veterans and repatriates "without any distinction whatsoever between Fascists and anti-Fascists." In the Italian view, this is sensible and it is a cheering symbol of the lack of vindictiveness in the new Italy, particularly coming, as it does, from a man who has suffered so much himself from Fascism.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Latest items as we go to press: *Lavoro* is much concerned over the replacing of Italian workmen by German prisoners-of-war, specifically in Florence and Livorno. This action by the Allied Armies, *Lavoro* fears, will increase unemployment and add to Italy's labor troubles. *La Capitale* and *l'Epoca* report that Carandini is back – possibly with the draft of a treaty of peace between England and Italy in his pocket. Carandini is indeed back in Italy; for the rest we cannot say.

TRIESTE

Venezia-Giulia, the latest sitreps indicate, is quiet but tense underneath, since basically the area must await the decision of the peace conference. AMG has its work cut out in making speedy decisions on immediate problems and the unprecedented task confronting the Allied civil affairs officers are calling forth the highest diplomatic skills. Col. Nelson Monfort (A), SCAO, XIII Corps, will shortly go home and be relieved by Col. Alfred C. Bowman (A), RC of Emilia Region, who in turn will be succeeded by Col. Floyd E. Thomas. Col. Monfort allowed the news to break through PWB that the Yugoslavs had taken 160 million lire from the Trieste branch of the Bank of Italy. Sufficient funds are now on hand or on the way to remedy the currency deficiency. AMG further announced that arrests were also being made of Fascists who had escaped Yugoslav surveillance. Supplies amounting to 1,850 tons already have been delivered to the Trieste-Gorizia-Pola area, including flour, milk, sugar, salt, lard and meat. More than 9,000 tons of grain and 750 of flour are also expected, thus guaranteeing the 200-gram bread ration for several months. There are 6,000 displaced persons in the district. Other non-Triestini are being evacuated but 4,000 remain in the city. Property control reports 337 Allied properties in the region. Six tons of medical supplies have been received, although there is still a shortage of insulin and sulpha drugs. All medical supplies are being distributed free.

An AMG proclamation throughout the corps area has announced the disbandment of all police organizations, including the *Difesa Popolare*, and disarmament parades were held 24 June, passing off with good results. In Trieste, for example, there had been an estimated 2,500 *Difesa Popolare* police before AMG took over. On parade were 1,420. Of these, 616 volunteered for the AMG police force (which will also number 2,500). Seventy elected to cross the Morgan line. Yugoslav troops, of whom 2,000 will be permitted to remain in a circumscribed area, are now moving to their concentraion point. CC. RR. are being moved into Gorizia. The PWB *Corriere Alleato* – 3,000 copies daily – is being flown to Pola.

On 26 June a one-day strike took place at Trieste and Monfalcone, where the dock workers, shipbuilding, chemical and train employes (but not electrical or waterworks employes) were involved. Mr. William H. Braine, director of the Labor Sub-Commission, had just left the spot a day or two before. There were no incidents. The cause was bruited to be a sort of protest against the disbandment of the police. The shipbuilding yards at Monfalcone, incidentally, before the war employed 14,000 persons. Now 5,200 are on the payroll but there is actual work for about 3,200, which leaves plenty of time for chatter amongst the others.

GATHERING OF THE CLANS

Allor fe' venire il console Ghezzalo
E squillaron le trombe a parlamento.
CARDUCCI

The first Regional Commissioners' Conference of the Allied Commission since the liberation of all Italy was held this week (Wednesday and Thursday, June 27 and 28) in Rome. The conference was held this time in the comparatively small room which used to house the Central Reference Library. At least everybody could hear for a change – and there was plenty to listen to, the two-day meeting being packed with meat. The first day was devoted to general policy matters, with the Chief Commissioner – cool, imposing and decorative in one of those Navy uniforms – opening the session. The second day was marked by the attendance for the first time of Italian officials who were called in as needed to participate in discussions of particular problems. Following the pattern set by the Siena meetings instituted by the Executive Commissioner, RCs brought up points aplenty and one would never accuse the RC's of not being frank in any event. Col. Charles Poletti (A), Lombardy RC, held up the opening of the first day's session for nearly half an hour and on eventual arrival announced that the Roman heat had just made him oversleep. The colonel made up for lost time by having something to say about practically everything and since Milan is the bellweather of the North, 98 per cent. of it was quite apposite, not to say strictly Poletti.

In his opening remarks, Admiral Stone touched on the possible future status of Italy and advocated full aid. He stressed intensification of cultural relations, especially explanation of the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

democratic methods of the Allies and noted that U. S. I. S. (United States Information Service) and the British Council would be opening offices in the North as soon as AMG folded up. In the interim period, use of AC officers to promote such democratic explanations and to help in the distribution of literature was urged by Brigadier Lush. The U. S. I. S., incidentally, it was announced, was bringing out its first labor bulletin, telling how labor grievances are negotiated in the States.

The Admiral queried the RCs as to the date they thought they would be ready to close shop in the North and received replies of August 1 from Col. Poletti, Col. R. P. Marshall of Piemonte and Col. A. C. Bowman of Emilia (which region he had headed for exactly one year that day). Brigadiers J. K. Dunlop of Venezie and M. Carr of Liguria gave the date of September 1. Brigadier General E. E. Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG, mentioned the fact that the army, including IV Corps, would probably be ready to move out by July 15. The Admiral, noting that Brigadier Dunlop had mentioned as exceptions the border provinces of Bolzano, Belluno and Udine (contiguous to unsettled Venezia-Giulia), where AMG might have to be continued a while longer, said September 1 was pretty well settled as the date of withdrawal. If the port of Genoa could have been re-opened for supplies, the AMG period in Northwest Italy could have been even shortened, according to Col. Marshall. As it is, the navy has announced indefinite closing of the Genoa port because of the apparent impossibility of removing the mines laid by the Germans. Last week a minesweeper hit a mine and blew up with a loss of 51 lives. Even the Germans who laid the mines and have been brought back to help aid in their removal are stumped, saying they sowed in such a hurry that no charts were kept. Only one sixth of the mines have been removed to date.

Elections

The hot subject of the first morning session turned out to be free elections in Italy, a consummation devoutly to be wished, but in the consensus of the moment, somewhat dubious of early execution. Brigadier Gerald E. Upjohn, vice president of the Civil Affairs Section, fired the opening guns on the subject before handing over to Col. E. E. Cripps, director of the Local Government Sub-Commission. Col. Cripps pointed out immediately that before elections of any kind could be held, whether for communes and provinces or for the Constituent Assembly, electoral lists would have to have to be prepared, a complicated task needing at least 100 days of work if the organization to do the spadework were at hand. Admiral Stone directed that work be started on the lists by at least July 15. Brigadier Lush brought up the problem of allaying fears of voters against intimidation on election day and mentioned that there would obviously not be enough troops around to put a man at every polling booth but the physical presence of Allied troops would help to allay fear. Most RCs agreed that the use of troops was desirable, since it was held that it was an Allied responsibility to see that Italy had a free and honest-to-goodness election. Col. Poletti went further and said the Allied Governments should issue a strong directive (and make it public) to the effect that the Allies proposed to take a direct interest insofar as insisting that the election be truly democratic. "Guys have died for democracy here in Italy", the colonel added. "We can't walk out now and leave chaos". The Admiral, however, recalling the cry in England and America to "get the boys home" stressed the difficulty of retaining troops for election policing, although he had advocated this.

Public safety in the North came in for a review, all RCs agreeing the situation was under control, but later in the day, practically none of the RCs were willing to give up any public safety officers to Venezia-Giulia which is in dire need of them. Brigadier Upjohn emphasized that the queasy status of the border region made it unavoidable that the quota of public safety officers be way out of proportion to the population. It seemed as if Brigadier Lush had pulled a fast one in the morning session when he innocently asked the RCs to report on public safety. The afternoon description of public safety was somewhat different. General Hume said the 5th commander had instructed him not to release any such officers. Col. H. T. Walker, SCAO, IV Corps, said ditto for his general. One never knew when trouble would break out, everybody said sagely. Each RC said he needed a minimum of 12 public safety officers or exactly the number mentioned in the T/Os. Col. Poletti said he never concerned himself with personnel matters and got along on as best he could on what was sent him. Whereupon Brigadier Lush asserted he would order the transfer of as many public safety officers from the regions as he thought they could spare and try to make up the deficiency with other personnel.

The Establishment Section discussion aroused everyone from the tea-time lethargy. Vacation leaves for personnel were up to individual RCs.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Col. Poletti wanted to know if a cash fund could not be set up for "reciprocal entertainment of Italians." Provincial commissioners, often poor majors, were being given the social rush by their Italian constituents and the necessity of reciprocal invitations was eating into the limited exchequeurs. Brigadier Lush sympathetically referred the matter to the Finance Sub-Commission, which promised to have a recommendation ready by Christmas.

The problems raised by the Economic Section were inevitably vital to the RCs' linterests and talk was fast and pointed. Col. Poletti urged economic centralization of the North. Already 23 committees covering as many industries exist for coordinated action. Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, vice president of the Economic Section, feared this might lead to industrial autonomy of the North. All RCs followed closely the report on coal. For July, 66,000 tons, not counting coal for railroad operations, was earmarked for the North. In August, there would be 286,000 tons imported, of which 146,000 was slated for Northern industries. June had had a promise of 10,000 tons, but there had been no ports open for delivery. The question was asked: What about coal from the Ruhr? Answer: Ruhr mines are operating at about 3 per cent. of capacity at the moment, due to manpower shortage, lack of food and bombed-out rail transport. Only about 6,000 to 9,000 tons a day are being produced. In 1938 the Ruhr produced 127,000,000 tons. The Allied authorities have drawn up a schedule of 30,000,000 tons to be produced by April, 1946, all but five million tons for use in Liberated Europe outside of Germany. Specialist German prisoners-of-war – 250,000 of them – are being released to man the mines. What Italy might get from the expected production, no one knew.

Mr. W. H. Braine, director of the Labor Sub-Commission, pointed out that the repatriation of Italian refugees and prisoners-of-war would further aggravate the unemployment situation. The Finance Sub-Commission, incidentally, was pressing the Italian Government for a more equitable unemployment compensation benefits – 50 lire a day instead of the present mi-erable 8 lire. Col. Poletti at this juncture related that in Milan labor committees had already approached him with proposals of wage increases far beyond current plans for raising wages. The colonel pointed out that Milan, as a labor center, gave the cue to the other industrial cities of the North, a point corroborated by Col. Marshall who added that every Milan innovation invariably spread to Turin. Col. Poletti was advised by Brigadier Lush to tell the importunate labor delegations that the matter was being taken up with the Italian Government in Rome.

Food Control.

Control of food movement in North Italy, the RCs were told, was about to be eliminated except for cereals, fats, milk, salt and sugar. Italian regional food commissioners were to be appointed as part of a national food plan and ration scales maintained substantially the same as now. The ration in the North is 150 grams of bread (compared with 200 in the South) but more pasta is issued, as recompense. Butter, cheese, jam, and tomato paste will be included in North Italy ration schemes because of the quantities available there. Private bartering, that is, farm for factory products, will not be permitted, but long-standing trade exchanges, such as Italian fruit and potatoes for Austrian salt and copper sulphate, will be allowed to continue. Only the corn crop looks good this year in the North.

Transport is better than expected. The Italian State Railways are getting 1,860 trucks. Military units disbanded during July will hand over their trucks to Italian truck pools, whose formation should be encouraged. The port of Savona is being opened for general cargo and as soon as enough coal is delivered, there should be ample rail capacity to move whatever supplies are on hand. Finance also had an item of interest. AMG in the North will suspend debt service during its regime, but this does not mean repudiation of, for example, municipal loans. The Italian Government later will look into each case separately. One billion 200 million French francs have been turned in for conversion to lire. Still unsolved is the problem of German Reichmarks brought back by returned Italian workers. The national loan has been extended to the North but the bonds are selling for 99 instead of 97 ½ as in Rome.

Most notable among the Italians invited to attend the second day's technical meetings were Signor Menceі Ruini, Minister of Reconstruction, and Signor Giovanni Gronchi, Minister of Industry and Commerce. Operating through interpreters, including among which at times was Col. Poletti, the two ministers came through in good enough shape despite some pretty straight cross-examination from the RCs. Ruini said that North Italy had an abundance of textiles, which, if collected and properly distributed, would have a healthy effect on present high prices. The Northern surplus arose, it was added, as a result of German freezing stocks preparatory

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

to requisitioning. Not only would prices fall, the minister asserted, but the black market, which thrives on shortages, would then be forced to bring its own stocks out into the open. It was a corollary of the project, he continued, that the Allies import wool and cotton for Italy so that the Northern mills could maintain a steady production of goods. Ruini also wanted a national price control plan, listing shoes and textiles as priority items. Both Ruini and Gronchi wanted the Italian Government to have a Minister to the North to deal directly with the Northern industrial committee. Admiral Stone, after a long debate with the two officials—all through an interpreter—had to decree that the Italian proposal was unfeasible but gave assurances that satisfactory liaison would be achieved by other means.

We could go on, but these are the high spots. And here is a lyric epilogue:

Au conseil des barons.

Seeming at once alert and dégagé
Sits stout Sun Maron's doge, the blythe J. K.
Beside him, with an air aloof, impartial
Behold Piemonte's sovereign, lordly M.....I;
Both listen spellbound while industrial snarls
Are unwound by the eloquence of C.....s.
Meanwhile the soft and soporific Roman
Sunshine and warmth have conquered sturdy B....n;
His eyes are closed, his fancy wanders far
(A similar course is followed too by C..c)
Lo, C.....s has spoken and a solemn hush
Precedes the fixed and fateful word of L..h.
The word is given and the ready P...e
Consents to share the burden and the risk.
Their council done the lords who hold in fee
The embattled North arise and take their tea.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The wheat crop estimate features the economic news of the week, though a variety of economic matters have been discussed under the heading of the ROS' conference. The wheat crop this year is expected to be two million tons less than last years's, largely due to the prolonged drought, which in turn has accentuated the fertilizer deficiency. The loss of the expected acreage reduces the food supply and raises other economic problems, the Agriculture Sub-Commission reports. The income of 47 per cent. of Italy's population dependent upon farming will thus be cut by $ 220 million. The farm, too, will not be able to absorb the surplus labor from shutdown industries as hoped for. Food shortages further raise the problems of public safety and even public health since subsistence farms have not been producing enough for the needs of their owners. Illegal distribution of available food is generally current in such periods and the black market in food gains the profit.

The estimate of the wheat crop cannot be definite until the crop is threshed but the dangers are clear enough to warrant calling attention to them in all fields of governmental activity, Italian as well as Allied, since the all-important question of increased imports is sure to rise again, the Sub-Commission points out. For the record, the crop last year in all Italy was 6,390,661 tons compared with an expected 4,427,000 tons this season. Acreage planted showed an 8 per cent. decrease, due largely to retirement of marginal land in the mountains. This year's acreage is estimated at 10,783,799 while last years's was 11,769,770. The drought, incidentally, has continued since March and is said to be the worst since 1922. The many small farms are harder hit than the large surplus-producing ones but there are so many of the former. Low yield is anticipated also because of other factors—late seeding, frosts, hot winds, flooding and war damage.

The Granai del Popolo for the seasons of July 1, 1944 to June 30, 1945 (but with actual reports to hand dated only June 26) reports that 11,123,472 quintals of grain or 95 per cent. of the 11,600,000 quintals target figure were ammassed south of the Pisa-Rimini line. In Liberated Emilia during this past season, another 591,081 quintals were collected, a making a grand total of 11,714,553 quintals.

Power.

The Electrical Division of the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission has sent an interesting report to the Electric Power Committee of AFLR. In the month of July in Southern Italy there should be 155,000 kw. of generating power available, which amount is expected to rise to 195,000 by December, 1945. In Central Italy, July will have 226,000 kw. and December 300,000. The drought has affected the power situation also, drying up streams and reservoirs. Individual reductions will occur at Sila in the South because of the breakdown of the generating plant while the Terni-Pescara transmission line repairs are proceeding slowly, 130 more structural steel towers needing to be built and more mines removed. The Central Italy outlook is aided by the operation of the third 35,000 kw. unit at Terni and of the transmission line between Ligonchio and Pian della Rocca, which will supply 10,000 kw. from the North.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

The North has had only 9.6 per cent. of its electrical capacity damaged and of that, half is repairable within three months. Pre-war capacity was 4,645,357 kw. Found damaged by the Allies were 443,100 kw. of plant. Another factor governing resumption of full use of the capacity is the damage to the transmission lines. Much of the power in the North, of course, is now unused because of the shutdown of factories lacking raw materials.

Captured enemy horses from Austria to the number of 10,099 have been distributed in Italy up to June 27, reports the Agriculture Sub-Commission, which further informs us that the Italian High Commissioner for Alimentation has begun negotiations with Turkey for resumption of fresh fish imports, which used to amount to 10,000 tons a year. The Commerce Sub-Commission announces that distribution of tires and tubes in Italian Government territory has been handed over to the Italian administration. In June 1,000 truck tires with tubes and 750 automobile tires with tubes were turned over, although 100 automobile tires with tubes were held apart for use of the diplomatic corps, consular service, the Vatican, etc. The Sub-Commission also reported the export of 350 tons of sulphur to Yugoslavia. If coal and coke can be supplied, 50,000 tons of sugar and 12,000 tons of molasses will be produced this year, Industry Sub-Commission says.

THE EYES OF ARIZONA ARE UPON US

Forwarded through proper channels (meaning, in this case, via Col. A. C. Bowman, Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region, who adds the irreverent indorsement "anything for a gag") the following *oei du coeur* comes to our desk. We publish it gladly, adding that we are glad to set the record straight, even if it seems to us – as it must to anyone born in Connecticut (the true intellectual capital of the United States) a rather trivial matter. The letter:

Subject: Honorary Texans.

"A very eulogistic article in the AC *Weekly Bulletin* of 16 June 1945 attempted to spot Major Gen. Langley Browning (Br) as the first Allied Commission recipient of honorary citizenship in the State of Texas, obtained for him *circuitously* by one Col. Clayton P. Kerr.

"As the attached letter shows, on *direct* request from Capt. Harry S. Pollard of Bologna Province, Emilia Region, to his friend the Governor, the dignity of becoming an honorary Citizen of Texas was *first* obtained way back in 1944 for Air Commodore (then Group Captain) C. E. Benson of 8th Army AMG.

"The writer, being from Arizona, U. S. A., that incomparable land of gorgeous sunsets, of soft moonlight on the desert, of all the wonders of nature in flora and fauna and geology, cannot help but take a rather dim view of this doubtful honor; but for what it is worth the Air Commodore and Emilia Region should have its just dues.

"It is requested that by proper indorsement this information may be forwarded to the proper authorities in order that the record may be corrected to conform to the facts."

(*sgd*): Floyd E. Thomas, *Colonel, Inf.*
Provincial Commissioner

ODDS AND ENDS

Major David H. Kennemur, jr., has been awarded, with permission of higher command, the Order of the Crown of Italy in the grade of Officer, by the Lieutenant General of the Realm, for his work with refugees in the 5th Army AMG... During the past week, the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission reports, 16,651 persons with homes in the South were repatriated, 18,559 refugees arrived in Rome from the North and 14,329 refugees were repatriated by other organizations... The Sub-Commission also announces that 600 Greeks are being flown from Bari to Greece at the rate of 100 a day, the movement having started 26 June... Apuania schools are 20 to 30 per cent. destroyed, but a summer session is commencing nonetheless, according to the Education Sub-Commission... Three cases of typhus have been reported from Crespina in Pisa Province, all hospitalized now, and 3,000 persons in the affected commune are being given dustings, reports the Public Health Sub-Commission, which is also asking AFHQ for 150 ambulances to turn over to the Italians... The CC. RR. situation is improving: Strength has been increased to 65,000; rations and clothing has been authorized from British sources; 12 mobile battalions with approximately 7,000 men are being organized to guarantee public safety throughout Italy; even transport, now that Italian Army needs are somewhat less, is being made available... It is announced, with regret, that Technical Sergeant Baldo S. Lazzerini, holder of the Bronze

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Star, in charge of the Emilia Region motor pool and first sergeant of Co. I, was killed in an automobile accident 24 June at Parma... Col. Floyd L. Simmons (A), former Land Forces Sub-Commission liaison officer in Sardinia and who has now gone home to the States, has been awarded the Legion of Merit... Four British officers with AC have received the Bronze Star: Capt. Richard C. L. Limbert, Major Ernest G. Tweedle and Lieutenant-Colonels Walter Doherty, deputy director of the Public Safety Sub-Commission, and John E. Pollock, former public safety head in Rome... Radio telephone calls on family and personal matters can be made on and after 1 July to the United States from Rome, the Communications Sub-Commission announces: Cost — $12 to 15 for three minutes; members of the armed forces and Italian civilians are eligible; in fact, there were nearly 50 calls booked by GI's a week ago...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

June 23, 1945

133

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 12

POLITICAL

Die Politik ist keine Wissenschaft, wie viele der Herren Professoren sich einbilden, sondern eine Kunst.

BISMARCK.

The government crisis, though some 50 days in incubation, moved rapidly to a solution once it had been formally "opened" by Bonomi's resignation last week. After a few days of negotiations, Parri accepted the designation of the six parties and the official charge from the Luogotenente on Sunday night, June 10. By the following Wednesday the slate was ready, on Thursday the Ministers took the oath and the first Council meeting is to take place on Saturday. The new government lines up as follows:

Office	Name	Birthplace	Date of birth	Party
President	Ferruccio Parri *	Genoa	1890	Action
Vice-President	Pietro Nenni [1] *	Faenza	1891	Socialist
Vice-President	Manlio Brosio [2]	Rimini	1896	Liberal
Agriculture	Fausto Gullo	Cosenza	1889	Communist
Air	Mario Cevolotto	Treviso	1887	Labor Democrat
Education	Vincenzo Arangio-Ruiz	Naples	1884	Liberal
Finance	Mauro Scoccimarro	Udine	1895	Communist
Food	Enrico Molè	Catanzaro	1889	Labor Democrat
Foreign Affairs	Alcide De Gasperi	Trent	1881	Christian Democrat
Industry & Commerce	Giovanni Gronchi	Pontedera	1887	Christian Democrat
Interior	Ferruccio Parri			
Justice	Palmiro Togliatti	Genoa	1893	Communist
Labor & Welfare	Gaetano Barbareschi *	Sestri Ponente	1891	Socialist
Navy	Raffaele De Courten	Milan	1888	Independent
Post and Telegraphs	Mario Scelba *	Caltagirone	1901	Christian Democrat
Postwar Relief	Emilio Lussu *	Armungia (Cagliari)	1890	Action
Public Works	Giuseppe Romita	Tortona	1887	Socialist
Reconstruction	Meuccio Ruini	Reggio Emilia	1877	Labor Democrat
Transport	Ugo La Malfa *	Palermo	1903	Action
Treasury	Marcello Soleri	Cuneo	1882	Liberal
War	Stefano Iacini *	Milan	1886	Christian Democrat

* First appearance in cabinet.

[1] To have charge of preparation of the Costituente and take over the Sanctions against Fascism, including epuration.

[2] To have charge of preparing the Consulta and the municipal elections. Also to be "coadjutor" in Foreign Affairs.

1491

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

It will be observed that there are three new ministries, giving the relatively large total of twenty portfolios. Pacciardi, his sturdy Republicanism still smarting from indignation at the vision of the leader of the partisan movement actually calling on the Luogotenente, calls it "elephantine" and sees in its unusual size evidence of the need of satisfying purely party demands. However, it is fair to point out that Post War Relief will absorb the work of various High Commissions and other agencies set up to deal with returning refugees, prisoners of war and veterans. Food was represented by a High Commission in the previous government and the creation of a special ministry is logical enough at this time, quite aside from the clamor raised for it by the CGIL. Reconstruction will also supplant the work of another agency, the Interministerial Committee for Reconstruction, and if it also serves to keep Ruini in the cabinet, thus insuring the Labor Democrats of their share of representation, there is good sense in that, too, since Ruini has been the key figure in reconstruction planning. And it should also be mentioned that one Ministry has been suppressed, that for Occupied Italy, Scoccimarro moving over to Finance. A separate ministry for Labor has long been urged and its combination with welfare will absorb a number of minor agencies. Since the Ministries without portfolio have been abolished the actual number of those who will sit around the Council table has only been increased by two over the number in December.

New Blood.

The proportion of new blood is substantially higher than in the last government. Counting Parri himself, there are seven new comers, as will be seen from the table above, and some of them in important posts. As might be expected, the North has a preponderance of representation; 14 of the Ministers were born North of Rome. However, it is the most representative cabinet on geographical lines that the new Italy has yet had: There are three members from Southern Italy, two from Sicily and one from Sardinia. Sentimental regionalism has no just grounds for complaint.

Politically, of course, the new cabinet is further to the Left than Bonomi's. For one thing, the President is a man of avowed republican sympathies and a member of a party which, though it is not Marxist and indeed, is not even ideologically coherent, has nonetheless worked in harmony with the Socialists in the past and certainly belongs on the left side of the six party line-up. Then, too, the fact that the cabinet now contains Socialists and Action representatives is enough in itself to warrant the statement that a move to the left has been made. Lastly, the powers given Nenni to take charge of preparation of the *Costituente* and Sanctions against Fascism are of enormous political significance at this time.

On the other hand, the Right has had its triumphs. It has succeeded in blocking the drive for a Socialist president which a month ago seemed sure of success. For Parri, though of republican convictions, does not share Socialist views on "social problems", as Nenni himself has stated. Further, the *Consulta* and municipal elections will precede the *Costituente* and will in all likelihood guide it at least to some extent, and a Liberal is in charge of the *Consulta*. It may be also noted that, generally speaking, whether by accident or design, the ministries that come in contact with the outside world have gone to moderates, Foreign Affairs, Treasury and Reconstruction, as well as all the service ministries; the more "internal" ministries such as Justice, Labor and Post-war Relief, as well as Interior itself, have gone to the leftist parties.

All plessed.

If it is true that both Right and Left have reason to be pleased, it is likewise true the CLN may congratulate itself on maintaining and even re-affirming its unity. There is much debate as to whether the preservation of a unity born of a resistance movement through a period of rehabilitation is a good thing or not; from the point of view of the CLN itself, it is certainly a matter for satisfaction that the individual currents of opinion have been successfully channeled into one stream. And from the national point of view, the country may well be pleased that a difficult corner has been turned without the violent and open dissension which has occurred in other countries and without falling back into the convenient pattern of dictatorship. One would think then that everyone would be happy and as a matter of fact nearly every one is. Pertini, the Socialist leader of the North, said with commendable frankness that the Socialists had not really won their battle since their goal had been to make Nenni President but he admitted that a great step forward had been made. Nenni himself spoke at somewhat greater length in the same vein. The Christian Democrats, according to Gonella in *Il Popolo*, still have some doubts as to how well a coalition will work but they are

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

on the whole content – as indeed they may well be, having one more portfolio than any other party and having won three successive battles to keep the Socialist-Communist combine out of the Presidency, the Interior and Education. Hence the comment from all shades of opinion is optimistic and confident – the exceptions being, of course, the monarchists whose *Italia Nuova* sees nothing but "the same old dictatorial monopoly of the six parties" and the Republicans who want no one to speak to the Luogotenente for any reason at all. Parri's personal prestige has, if anything, gone up after a week of tense negotiation. *Risorgimento Liberale*, in pledging Liberal loyalty to him, found time, in the best tradition of liberal courtesy, to pay homage to the serenity and poised statesmanship of the departing Bonomi.

Negotiations on the details of the accord with Tito came to a conclusion on the 20th when it was announced that the final agreement had been signed by the Yugoslav and Allied Chiefs of Staff. Among other things, the agreement defines very clearly the line of demarcation between the zones in Venezia Giulia to be administered by the two parties. Unhappily at the same time, U. P. and Reuter both reported Radio Belgrad as announcing that the administrative council in Gorizia had protested against the attempt of the Allies to "introduce" Italian laws in the territory, and that the CLN of Trieste had also protested against the suspension of the authorities elected under Yugoslav occupation. It may be that now that the agreement has been signed there will be no more of these protests. *Speriamo.*

AMG IN THE NORTH

The chief news comes again from Venezia-Giulia. Col. Nelson W. Monfort (A), SCAO, 13th Corps, and Air Commodore C. E. Benson, SCAO, 8th Army, have their hands full, putting AMG into effect. Allied troops have moved into Pola and AMG is being set up there as well as in all other places east of the Morgan line of demarcation between Allied-controlled and Yugoslav-controlled areas. The situation, politically, is and will continue to be delicate.

The labor situation in Trieste, particularly among dock workers, requires adjustment and Mr. William H. Braine, director of the Labor Sub-Commission, has flown to the city to look into the business. Apparently, the dock workers were promised bonuses, as yet unpaid. Public safety officers are also needed for Venezia-Ginlia. Priority on personnel and transport has been given the region, the former being especially important in view of the fact that only Allied personnel will be employed in the administration, no Italians or Yugoslavs being hired.

The other areas of the North are all busy stabilizing. Word comes to the Public Safety Sub-Commission that many of the C. L. N.-recommended Questori are proving unsatisfactory, mainly because of lack of police experience, and are being replaced. Permission to hold political meetings in the North has met with general approval. Udine and Venezia-Giulia are, of course, excepted for the time being. Into Milan is also moving the British Consulate General, AFHQ having given the o. k. for general re-opening of consulates on the North. In Milan, Leonardo Da Vinci's famed "Last Supper" is again on public view and only slightly damaged.

Venezie Region faces a crisis on POL, shortage of which is widespread through the North. AFHQ cut the Venezie allocation by 9,000 barrels but promised to supply the equivalent in methane gas. Containers for the gas, however, are scarce. Clothing from a 5th Army AMG allocation will go to 5,000 Venezie Patriots. Speaking of Patriots, Headquarters observers back from the field feel that the number of Patriots permitted to enlist into the Italian Army – 4,000 at this date – is much too small to absorb the number available in the whole of North Italy. Patriots in Northeast Italy are not yet disarmed but a plan is under consideration for deposit of arms in a central arsenal as an alternative.

Emilia Region reports a general improvement. Bologna water supply will shortly be increased by about 25 per cent. Twenty trucks are busy on garbage removal. Distribution is also being made of 20,000 blankets. Tuscany Region wound up formally 19 June with a simple ceremony of lowering the Allied flags over the Palazzo Vecchio. Air service to the North is being improved and a flying boat to Genoa may be available next week. A private telephone wire is finally in service between Hq. and Lombardy Region, AC using it by day and the Italian Government by night. AC also shares teletype facilities over the Army network. Internal mail censorship has ceased in all but the border provinces. In Rome from the North this last week arrived 15,548 refugees while 10,859 refugees with homes in the South were repatriated. In Rome again from the South arrived 181 refugees. In other movements, 6,001 refugees were repatriated by sea, air and rail.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ECONOMIC FRONT

Significant news in the economic field is scant this week, though several interesting developments are in progress which will be reported on shortly, particularly as to organization of industry in the North. The Sardinian situation is such that the Economic Section has been asked to send officers to investigate conditions. Wheat ammassed, as of 19 June, amounted to 11,702,293 qtl. and olive oil collected to 515,572 qtl. One thousand tons of binder twine have been delivered for the Northern harvest. Also, 1,000 tons of sulphur are being distributed to Northern farmers.

All public employes north of the former economic line will receive approximately one month's gross pay in anticipation of a salary increase. Cement production the past week totalled 3,868 tons, an increase of 1,177 tons over the week before. Mining in Sardinia has gone up to 1,635 tons a day and remained constant there. Naples hemp mills will shortly get 250 tons of raw hemp from the North. The handover of industry in the South is proceeding, the Giovinazzo steel works having been given back to civilian owners June 15 as a contract works. De-control of practically all controlled engineering materials has been recommended at the recent meeting of the Engineering Materials Committee of AFLR Board, a step which should greatly facilitate industrial operations generally. The Commerce Sub-Commission has received French inquiries for 50,000 tons of pyrites and Belgian and Norwegian demands for salt. The U. S., the U. K. and Switzerland have expressed interest in the stockpile of one and half million kilos of raw silk found in the North. The Finance Sub-Commission reports that the Fascist Republican Government spent 359.6 billion lire from September, 1943 to April, 1945, of which 189 billion were for German occupation costs.

ODDS AND ENDS

Bouquets have arrived for the archives officers of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission in the shape of a resolution transmitted to the Chief Commissioner from the Society of American Archivists, expressing appreciation for the "indispensable and untiring work in safeguarding European archives for current use in solving immediate problems and for future research purposes in the advancement of civilization" ... The three archivists of the Sub-Commission are all captains: Harry Bell and Humphrey Brooke (B) and William McCain (A)... Best wishes for a quick recovery to Lieut. Col. N. W. Dragneff, G-1 of 2675 Regiment, who is in a Leghorn hospital after a serious automobile accident last week... AC officers are now offered the opportunity for rest in Cairo or Palestine... Three more Bronze Stars come to notice: Lieut. Col. Eugene R. McPhee (A) of Liguria Region; Capt. Young A. Neal (A) of 5th Army AMG, and Capt. Lebre R. Garcia (A) of IV Corps AMG... MTOUSA's University Training Command has asked for 90 AC U. S. officers to help teach troops during the redeployment lull; Establishment Section will protest the attempted raid...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

June 16, 1945 RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 11

POLITICAL

Dans les crises politiques, le plus difficile pour un honnête homme n'est pas de faire son devoir mais de le connaître.

DE BONALD

Ferruccio Parri was born in Genoa in 1890. He served in the first World War, and in the post-war period, was an active enemy of Fascism, being for a while on the staff of the *Corriere della Sera*. When Mussolini came to power, Parri continued his opposition for which he suffered on several occasions imprisonment and "*confino*". At first he worked with the Socialist group headed by Morandi, but subsequently helped to found the Action Party, of which he is still a member. He was a leading figure in the organization of partisan resistance, collaborating first with Longo, the Communist, and later working under General Cadorna. He is regarded with respect almost amounting to veneration in the North and Pacciardi, whose own anti-fascism is above suspicion, says of him that he represents all that is best in the anti-fascist movement. His age and his political convictions being what they are, he has had no parliamentary experience.

On him much depends, for the six parties, worn out by long negotiations and debates and under the stimulus of the resignation of Bonomi's government, finally united on the 13th in inviting Ferruccio Parri to head the new cabinet. The following day, after a tentative acceptance, he arrived in Rome and embarked on his task, some of the difficulties of which will become more apparent if the background of the preceding week is examined.

De Gasperis letter.

On the seventh the Christian Democrat leader, De Gasperi, wrote a letter to Nenni, the Socialist leader, suggesting, in view of the deadlock between their two parties (see last Weeks's *Bulletin*), that a sort of dual hegemony might be advisable. He proposed that he might be President and Nenni vicepresident of the new government, with foreign affairs under the President and home affairs under the vicepresident. (He did not say, however, who would get the portfolio of the Interior). Nenni rejected the offer on the rather general grounds that this would make a "vulgar horse trade" of what with him was a matter of principle. This left matters between these two major contestants exactly where they were before and gave some hope to the backers of Bonomi, as well as bringing into the field of speculation such names as Croce, Orlando and Nitti. (Croce has been in Rome all week and has had many contacts with political leaders of all categories.)

On the 11th, the delegation of the CLNAI arrived in Rome and stated firmly that they would not have Bonomi. On the 12th Bonomi resigned, thus formally "opening the crisis" and, in the opinion of Pacciardi, "putting initiative in the hands of the Luogotenente". Bonomi was accused by Nenni of precipitating matters but it can hardly be said that he acted without warning; he had already delayed his resignation once and his intention to act was on record in the letter he wrote the party leaders (see last week's *Bulletin*).

Action of CLNAI.

In spite of Pacciardi's charge, the actual initiative did not come from the Prince but from the Northern CLN. On the morning of the 13th a resolution of the CLNAI delegation in Rome called for action on a three point program, viz: designation of Parri as President of the Council; representation in the new government of all the political forces in the CLN by the presence of their "leading exponents" such as Nenni, Togliatti and De Gasperi; and lastly, five ministers without portfolio to be named from the North.

By the late evening of the same day they had prevailed on the six parties to accept the first point and the other two are, of course, now up to Parri to put through. On the second point, it cannot be said that he is off to a good start since Nenni, though professing great admiration for the new leader, stated flatly in the columns of *Avanti* that he would not serve in his government and Togliatti and De Gasperi are said to have

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

taken the same line. Perhaps it was this consideration that prompted Parri in his first interview—given in the plane as he sped from Milan to Rome—to say that he still considered his nomination uncertain. He added also, on the questioning of Ann Springer of the UP, that the first two things he would do would be to "promote a perfect unity" of the country and raise salaries and wages. His first full day in Rome was spent in a series of interviews with party leaders, which are still going on as we write. The first to be interviewed, Ruini (Labor Democrat), expressed himself as optimistic regarding Parri's chances to form a government. Nenni's comment was somewhat ambiguous and non-committal. He said (as quoted by *Ricostruzione*): "There is a political problem existing which is connected with the consideration that the position of the popular masses and working classes will have in the government". Togliatti spoke after his hour with Parri in much the same vein and De Gasperi slipped out before the eager journalists could approach him. It is no secret, as *Tempo* pointed out, that the selection of a president is not the end of the crisis; there is the very important Ministry of Interior to be considered as well.

Agreement with Tito.

The agreement between the Anglo-Americans and Yugoslavia on the subject of Venezia Giulia was received with no particular enthusiasm and a rather tempered satisfaction in Rome. The news that the Yugoslavs are definitely retiring from Trieste, Gorizia and Pola was, of course, very welcome, but Italians point out that there is still a substantial bit of pre-war Italy (namely the Eastern part of the Istrian peninsula) under Yugoslav control, and furthermore, though there is to be left in Trieste a small group of Yugoslav observers, nothing is said about Anglo-American observers in Tito's sphere. De Gasperi, in an interview accorded ANSA, called the agreement "a compromise which will not prejudice the decision of the peace conference." This was a mild and diplomatic way of saying what some Italian papers, notably the independent *Tempo* and (rather surprisingly) the Communist *Unità* put rather more vigorously when they said that Italy, not having been a party to the agreement, did not feel herself bound by it. Tito, in a speech made on the 11th, referred to the efforts made by Yugoslavia to avoid conflict and observed sadly that "some of Yugoslavia's great allies" seemed unwilling to recognise her rights. However, on June 13 the Yugoslav flag was lowered in Trieste and recent reports have stressed the friendly spirit on which details of the agreement are being worked out. For the time being at least, Trieste has ceased to be a trouble spot.

News from the Val d'Aosta is also good. Definite reports of the relief of French troops have come in. The result of the French "occupation" may be some kind of regional autonomy for the Valley which has smarted under Fascist efforts made over the last twenty years to deprive it of its unique character. The Council of Ministers, at its meeting of the 8th declared itself favorable to the "main claims" of the valdostani.

Position of Italy.

The crisis has brought again to the fore the somewhat ambiguous position of Italy vis-a-vis the Allies. Now that the shooting is over in Europe, "co-belligerency" seems even more odd than ever to the Italians. All papers gave prominence to the communiqué from the *Presidenza del Consiglio* which explained the conditions laid down by the Allies that every Italian government must accept. *Italia Nuova* took it particularly hard; "if the parties do not protest", said the Democrat Monarchist organ, "it is because their consciences are not clean; the Italian people feels these conditions as a slap in the face. Have Italians no rights after two years of fighting and working?" *Avanti* made the point that the "institutional truce" could hardly be kept by a government which is to be "the government of the *Costituente*"; if there is to be a vote affecting the institutional character of the country, surely the people must be informed on the merits of the question. In connection with Italy's position, much prominence has also been given to Luigi Antonini's memorandum to President Truman calling, among other things, for Italy's admission to the United Nations and for her entry into the war against Japan. Walter Lippman's statement that America should now make peace with Italy and Sumner Welles' suggestion that the time has come to withdraw occupation forces were also very welcome to Italian ears.

Last word on crisis.

Between writing and printing of our report the following two developments have taken place in the crisis. The *Giornale del Mattino* speaks openly of the Socialist-Communist condition to serving in the Parri government. The price of their participation is the portfolio of the Interior, "the most delicate machinery in the life of the nation"... The *Giornale* states that the Liberals and the Christian Democrats are reluctant to concede this post to the Marxist parties. In

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

the afternoon of the 15th Parri was received by Admiral Stone. Parri's comment, as reported by *Libera Stampa* and other journals, was that the conversation was cordial and friendly, the good will of the Allies towards Italy was "repeated and confirmed" and he "had been given courteously to understand that the Allies would be pleased if a solution of the crisis could be reached as soon as possible".

AMG IN TRIESTE

On 12 June AMG took over in Trieste and matters have been lively enough ever since. Colonel Nelson W. Monfort (A) has been named SCAO 13th Corps and RC of Venezia Giulia, with Lieut. Col R. P. P. Robertson (B) as his deputy. The famous port this week has been crowded with brass, present being Lieut. Gen. W. D. Morgan (B), Chief of Staff of AFHQ; Brigadier General Charles M. Spofford (A), assistant chief of staff, G-5; Brigadier Gerald K. Upjohn (B), vice president of the Civil Affairs Section, besides a roster of military commanders. Details of the agreement of with Marshal Tito concerning the withdrawal of the Yugoslav forces beyond the Morgan line, the more explicit geographical description of the line itself, questions of the freedom of telephone and telegraph communications, economic controls, finance and so forth, are all being thrashed out on high levels.

The withdrawal from Trieste was comparatively uneventful. There was some last-minute looting and arrests and demonstrations and counter-demonstrations, reports advise us, including some by a "police force" of about 2,500 Guardia del Popolo operating under the Trieste Council of Liberation, composed of both Italians and Yugoslavs (predominantly Slovenes, of course). The Guardia was immediately ordered by AMG to cease activities and to keep off the streets. The last Yugoslav guards on public buildings are just now being removed and various Yugoslav observers, many in civilian clothes, are still in town.

AMG, which had been stockpiling food prior to taking over, began the ration distribution through Sepral at 1800 hours the first day of occupation. The bread ration has been increased from 150 to 200 grams, effective June 14. Four schooners unloaded potatoes which were sold in the market place, but no queues were seen. Repatriated Italian prisoners-of-war – 2,100 of them – have just arrived. Both the Slovene and Italian newspapers printed the AMG proclamations in full. Newspaper editors, particularly, expressed pleased astonishment at being allowed to continue publication, subject only to the usual military censorship.

AMG IN THE NORTH

A general easing of the situation in the entire North is evident in reports this week. French units in the Val D'Aosta are being relieved by other troops. Rumors are current that they will go to Austria to set up the French zone of occupation there. Some complaints were registered of French vehicles coming into Italy to buy food and then returning to France.

There is a variety of other news, much of it originating in Rome but affecting the North while other items of an economic nature will be found under that heading. The Local Government Sub-Commission is recommending that RCs fix uniforms dates for the formation of the registers of voters for the electoral lists. The Air Forces Sub-Commission has promised the use of a plane to fly 30 tons of forms to the North.

The special epuration courts are running full blast, the Emilia Special Court of Assizes, for instance, sentencing five persons to death. The Northern prisons, however, are still filled to overflowing, holding 95 per cent. political prisoners incarcerated by the Patriots. The epurative screening has been slow and releases few. The position of captured members of the Fascist Republican armed forces under Decree 142, which established an Extraordinary Court of Assizes for punishment of offenses committed by collaboration with the enemy, will shortly be made clear in a directive to be issued by the Legal Sub-Commission.

Refugees arriving in Rome from the North numbered 11,653 this week, during which period 6,178 with homes in the South were repatriated, the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission reports. By sea from Piombino to Messina, 1,337 refugees were moved and another 1,400 from Venice to Ancona in the same manner. Italian refugees still to come from Germany, France and Austria have been estimated as at least 400,000, according to the latest advices. The French, incidentally, have 3,000 refugees in Italy they would like to bring home.

Teletype communication between Rome and Milan is being established by the Communications Sub-Commission, the AC to use the facility during the day and the Italian Government at night... 14,000 weapons have been turned in by Liguria Patriots up to June 10... PWB wants to pull out of the North by July, 1, leaving behind

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

press officers to advise the RCs in each region... Some 90 per cent of the 318,000 Emilia school children are already enrolled in the schools... Brigadier General E. E. Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG, the past week installed four mayors: at Modena, Parma, Piacenza and Reggio Emilia... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, EC, Venezie Region, spoke at the Matteotti memorial service at Fratta Polesine this week... Visitors to Venice may now see at eyelevel the famous Lion of San Marco and the Bronze Horses, which have been brought up from basement storage places...

ECONOMIC FRONT

The work of integrating the economies of the North and the rest of Italy is going on apace, the Allied Commission consulting with the Italian Government on several steps in the last several days. Restlessness concerning payment of the liberation bonus and the dismissals of workers elicited two public announcements by AMG, both of which were drafted by the Labor Sub-Commission. The liberation bonus was a promise made to workers during the underground period encouraging them to defend industrial plants from German demolition. The communique pointed out that there was no law or decree which compelled the payment of the bonus by employers, and there was no official opposition to such payment, but that payments made should be spread over a period of three or four months to prevent an inflationary impact and that agreements for payments should be made in free negotiations between workers and employers.

The manpower announcement concerned the current surplus of workers in the Northern plants which have no raw materials to continue production. AMG said that it agreed with the Italian Government as to the undesirability of large scale layoffs by industrial employers. AMG will only arrange orderly transfers of workers to jobs in agriculture and public works. A CL ordinance forbidding such firings had been in effect before the arrival of AMG, which will issue a order of its own on the subject. The Italian Government also will finance the *Cassa Integrazione Salari* so as to allow loans to be made to employers who make payments to such workers until these can be moved to actual jobs.

Wheat prices.

The price of wheat has been fixed in the North. The area produces soft wheat mostly. Its price is 7[illegible] lire a quintal, effective June 13. Hard wheat will rate 830 lire a quintal. The calculation of the new prices is interesting. The prices just quoted are the aggregate prices. This aggregate price is composed of a base price of 450 lire a quintal for soft wheat and 500 lire a quintal for hard wheat; and of a cultivation premium of 300 lire a quintal for soft and 330 for hard. The cultivation premium is defined as a bonus paid to the actual or direct grower of the wheat or cerals in order to cover the additional costs incurred in cultivating that type of crop. In Southern Italy, where hard wheat is grown mostly, the price for soft wheat is 900 lire a quintal and 1,000 lire for hard, the same as last year. The higher cultivation premium in the South is paid because of the lower yields and extra labor involved in growing the crop. Sicily, incidentally, faces another poor anmassing because of discontent with the price, the same complaint that arose last year. The scirocco in Sicily and drought in Southern Italy are not conducive to the best crops this year, it is feared. The Northern wheat prices are effective in all five Northern regions, including the Provinces of Forli and Ravenna in Emilia, which up to now have been getting the Southern price. Prices have also been fixed for barley, corn, rye and oats. The new scales have been justified on the grounds of higher costs in the South, the price differential between North and South in 1942 being 16 per cent. Lastly, in the event of tenant farmers making payments in kind, the proprietor is to receive only the base price while the cultivation premium goes to the farmer who grew the grain.

Grain, by the way, is in large surplus in the Macerata area because of the lack of freight cars to move the stuff. In Sardinia, to the drought have been added locusts eating up all the forage, prompting the quick export, now under way, of 200,000 sheep and 10,000 cattle, all marked for slaughter. The 5th Army AMG in May moved 15,600 tons of foodstuffs, chiefly flour, to Northern cities to avert serious hunger conditions, the Food Sub-Commission reported, praising the work of the supply officers concerned.

Todt Organization German workers are busy repairing rail lines; the Organization's equipment may be handed over to the Italian Government... May shipping transported 56,606 tons, according to the Transportation Sub-Commission... Captured enemy trucks are being welcomed in the North, but may shortly become useless due to the shortage of petrol... The Italian Government has proposed the repair of 4,000 vehicles, which will provide work for Northern factories according to the War Materials Disposal and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Italian Prisoners-of-War Sub-Commission... The date of withdrawal of "yellow seal" dollars and BMA notes has been advanced to July 31... Mr. A. G. Antolini, former Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, who is on his way to the States, was honored before he left with the award of the Cross of a Grand Official of the Order of the Crown by the Lieutenant General of the Realm... Wheat ammassed, as of June 12, totalled 11,658,570 quintals, while olive oil collections were 509,776 quintals. The first postwar importation of lobsters from Sardinia occurred this week, the price ranging around 250 lire a kilo, half the black marked price... The Italian Government now has authority to import goods from Mediterranean areas under British administration... All pyrite mines have received an allocation of power and pumping has commenced to clear the flooding caused by the Germans... Salt stocks on hand, independent of current production, at Margherita di Savoia and Cagliari workings, are sufficient to cover the needs of all Italy... Cement production last week was 2,940 tons... The first 10,000 kw. of an ultimate 100,000 kw. of electric power from North Italy began flowing to Central Italy over rehabilitated transmission lines during the past week; the total interconnection will be completed by fall...

ODDS AND ENDS

A Regional Commissioners' Conference will be held in Rome June 27 and 28, the first day being devoted to high level discussions and the next to consideration of concrete problems with the various sections. Regional Commissioners will be accompanied by Italian officials who work with them in the North, thus enabling the latter to come into contact with their compatriots in the Italian government... Italian civil s owning bicycles at AC Hq. are in a whir their bicycles have been stolen from the basement in the last few weeks; Hq. Comdt. disclaims all responsibility... Maj. Gen. Langley Browning (B), director of the Land Forces Sub-Commissn, had a fast one pulled on him this past weekby his deputy director, Col. Clayton P. Kerr A), who presented the general with an honorary nd officially authentic membership in the State of Texas... Texas, as every schoolboy knows is the nation to which the United States was ad ted in 1845... Part of Naples harbor has be released to the Italian Government, one dischg berth entirely without restriction and three om berths with only the reservation that Ael tankers have priority on unloading, the Nav Sub-Commission reports... U. S. officers and E may take a holiday on the French Riviera, throu courtesy of 2675 Regiment, while all AC offis and EM/ORs may visit the Isle of Capri, throu the courtesy of the U. S. Army Air Corps A Lieut. Col. Guy D. Warren (A) of Naples AM Col. Clive E. Temperley (B), former DC Southern Region, who has left the AC, has a awarded the U. S. Bronze Star; congratulatio The Mantova Combat Group of the Italian is helping the British guard Germ POW the Rimini area, the Land Forces Sub-Commi announces... The Education Sub-Commissio ports receiving a request to remove a provi superintendent of schools alleged to have a Fascist record, to be incompetent and to be dicted to frolicking with the signorine; he rec went on to recommend that he be appoi instead, to the presidency of a teacies tra school...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

June 9, 1945

133

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 10

POLITICAL

Italia nuova, which from its secure position outside the CLN parties surveys the political scene with lofty and malicious disapproval, summed up the negotiations of the week under the heading *Sei partiti in cerca d'un governo*. The witticism, though mischievous, was not entirely without justification; there has been something Pirandellian in the intricacy of party dealings, the hair-splitting statements of policies, the unexpected shifts of alliances; above all, in the feeling in the audience – in this case the Italian people – that the suspense which has by now become nearly intolerable may end in anti-climax or paradox.

The past week has been one of complicated plot and sub-plot, and the thread is not easy to follow; chronology may be our best guide. The threatened cleavage between Right and Left which had arisen over the position of the CLN was settled after negotiation; the six-party agreement published on the 3d indicated, in substance, a victory for the Liberals. The provincial and communal CLNs, it was stated, shall continue to have advisory functions until normal elections are possible; all other "peripheric" CLNs will be reduced to their exclusively political character. After this rather noteworthy concession to Liberal scruples, it might have been expected that the parties would proceed to the business delicately referred to as "the structure" of the government. In this, it had been more or less understood, the Socialists would have a prominent position.

However, on the same day in the *Popolo*, Gonella wrote an article advancing the thesis that at this time the Christian Democrats would seem to be the party indicated to head the government, both because of its strategic coloration in the six-party spectrum and because, notably in the Trieste affair, it has shown an ability to defend the interests of the country while giving full loyalty to the principle of international collaboration. There has been of course violent reaction from the Left which accuses Gonella of trying to "torpedo" the six-party accord, but up to now the Christian Democrats have stood firm.

Nenni visits Croce.

At the same time *Il Popolo* appeared in Rome, Nenni was making a speech in Naples, on the whole moderate in tone, and stressing particularly the urgency of calling the *Costituente*. While in Naples he paid a call on Croce, with whom he was engaged for some time in consultation. This was interpreted as a gesture to win over Liberal support to the Socialist campaign or, alternatively, as affording the old philosopher an opportunity to give some advice to the potential President of the Council. In any case, on his return from Naples, Nenni wrote an editorial in *Avanti* assuring the middle classes that their fears of "the Marxist scarecrow" were totally unjustified. ("What has become of Nenni's Jacobin appeal for a Committee of Public Safety or of his revolutionary slogan 'all power to the CLN'?" cried the intransigent Pacciardi.) Nenni added that the Socialists, in putting forward their case, were not thinking of party prestige, which indeed, he said, would be more shrewdly acquired by avoiding prominence at this crucial time, but for the sake of their country they were willing "to quaff the bitter chalice of governmental responsibility."

Later in the week the Marxist parties turned their fire on the Christian Democrat candidacy. *Unità* charged bluntly that "the forces of effective democratisation" had not had their share of key posts under Bonomi and proclaimed that this state of affairs could not be allowed to continue. Nenni, on a somewhat more academic level, wrote that while he had nothing but admiration for De Gasperi's work as Foreign Minister and while certainly no one would hold the Christian Democrats responsible for the persistent anti-Soviet campaign of the Catholic *Quotidiano*, nonetheless the Socialist party was by its experience and its tradition the best equipped to deal with international affairs. And since the Allies realize, he added, that Italian Socialists have been with them from the beginning in their battle against Fascism, the necessary aid from the democracies can be obtained by a Socialist government on the basis of dignity and equality.

1489

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Text of Accord.

On the 5th of June the papers carried the text of another six-party accord, or rather, a fusion of recent agreements, in which the most important items were the (repeated) statement that the government must be the expression of the six parties and that the new government will ask the Allies to substitute for the Armistice a "pact of friendship and collaboration" and to hand back all Italian territory to Italian administration. At this strategic juncture Bonomi entered the scene, reminding the party leaders that he had kept his promise to give them time to come to an agreement but now that an "accordo programmatico" had been reached it was time to proceed to "an understanding". He added that the solution of major governmental problems was being retarded by the continuation of the crisis. This action, as might have been expected, was interpreted in some quarters as a reminder that the nation could do worse than go on with Bonomi; *Secolo XX* said as much and the independent *Tempo* went so far as to say that the failure of the Bonomi government – if it has been a failure – is not the responsibility of Bonomi any more than of any other of the ministers. It is no secret, of course, that many Christian Democrats and probably the majority of Labor Democrats would rather have Bonomi than Nenni.

Thus, the present position may be summarized as follows. The Socialist candidacy is supported by Communists and the Action Party. There are indications that the Liberals also prefer Nenni to Christian Democrat leadership, partly because of a traditional Liberal mistrust of a clerical party and partly because, so it is said, they expect to be able to do better political horse-trading with the Socialists. The Labor Democrats, after some hesitation, have come out with a statement, made by Rainì, that they will stick by Bonomi until it is apparent that he is definitely unacceptable; in that case they would probably back Nenni. Socialists and Christian Democrats, both protesting that they are thinking only of the country's welfare, are backing themselves. There are indications that the nation is getting a little weary of negotiations. The CGIL and the CLNAI have both urged speed in coming to an agreement and the independent press is growing impatient with party démarches. The *Osservatore Romano* remarked that there is a feeling that the crisis as such will not develop at all and the negotiations will end simply by taking the Action Party and the Socialists back in the government.

AMG ordinance.

The AMG ordinance of June 1 invalidating the measures and provisions of the CLNAI provoked from Pacciardi the bitter remark, "thus ends the revolution of the North", and from the sophisticated *Italia Nuova* the comment that the "action of Poletti removes the subject of the rôle of the CLN from the sphere of practical discussion." It would seem that both commentators missed the point; the position of the CLN in Italian political life is not the same thing as its position *vis-à-vis* AMG. This seems to have been well enough understood by people on the spot; Sereni, President of the Lombardy CLN, said over the radio that Poletti's ordinance "shows the spirit of comprehension with which Allied authorities have faced the Italian situation" and the Milanese Socialist Molinari, interviewed in *Avanti*, said the ordinance was "only natural" and that there is a healthy spirit of collaboration between Allies and northern Italians.

On the Val d'Aosta situation there is little that is new and perhaps less that is reassuring. A report from San Francisco on June 1 said that the French intended to occupy the Val d'Aosta until occupation zones in Germany were clearly delineated. Later reports spoke of the presence of French troops in Imperia and of persistent pressure, by means of distribution of food and money, to influence the Piedmontese peasants in favor of the French. An article by Zatterin in *Avanti*, however, said that the "occupation" was a very cordial one; it was his feeling that only "certain circles of French capitalism" had any ideas of expansionism; meanwhile, the way to oppose French propaganda was to accord regional autonomy to the valdostani who had felt themselves slighted in the past. On Trieste there have been no new developments. De Gasperi, in an interview accorded the French paper *Combat*, stated that Trieste is to Italy what Strasbourg is to France and he was counting on Allied understanding in this affair.

There has been some sharp-shooting between Bergami, the Food Commissioner, and the CGIL. The latter has been conducting a vigorous campaign for lower prices in consumer goods, particularly food-stuffs. Early in the week Bergami reproached the CGIL for inopportune agitation, inasmuch as prices were falling anyway. However the campaign continued and indeed has resulted, after conferences between all interested agencies, in a joint statement by "representatives of tradesmen" and "representatives of workers" that prices of food, clothing and shoes will be

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

reduced after recommendations of special committees who are to begin their work within a few days.

The one Council meeting of the week approved an appeal to the Allies asking for aid in reconstruction; "democratic Italy", said the appeal, "is full of good will but she cannot act without help". Coal and raw materials were mentioned specifically as immediate and urgent necessities. Soleri outlined Italy's financial situation at a press conference; particularly cheering was the report on the national loan to which over 31 billion lire have been subscribed.

AMG IN THE NORTH

A separate region will be made of Venezia Giulia shortly, with Col. Nelson Monfort as RC. Currently, he has charge of the area as a sub-region. 8th Army AMG has called forward 1,800 tons of supplies for eventual feeding of the Trieste-Gorizia area, the goods arriving at the port of Trieste at the rate of 150 tons a day and consigned to military units for safekeeping. Matters of AMG administrative policy for the region were discussed with Field Marshal Alexander in his recent visit to Trieste. Detailed instructions will come from AFHQ.

The Patriots Branch has obtained the release of 75,000 garments, 25,000 pairs of shoes and 11,800 blankets for Patriots. Up to 26 May, 26,490 weapons had been handed in in Emilia Region and 45,600 weapons and 15,500 hand grenades in Lombardy Region, where 17,882 Patriots have also been demobilized. Samples of the arsenal given up in Piedmont included 34 large guns, 94 mortars, 244 machine guns, 576 automatic rifles, 9,648 rifles, 619 Sten guns, 191 bazookas, 488 pistols and revolvers and 12 bomb throwers. Clearly enough for an old-fashioned American 4th of July celebration or British Guy Fawkes day...

Round-up of Fascist Republican Army officers camps has been speeded up, after the Chief Commissioner expressed concern that notorious Fascists might escape to the comparative security of prisoner-of-war compounds. In Liguria, where several large plants are threatened with closing because of lack of financial aid, the flour situation has been eased with the arrival of supplies by sea and 22 public works projects started. In Lombardy Region, Col. Charles Poletti approved a similar works program for 135,600,000 lire.

The first AMG court was held in Bolzano Province on May 31. The cases involved 14 persons who entered military dumps. In the same province, Tyrolese farmers petitioned AMG, asking for a Tyrolese agriculture inspector instead of an Italian one. The province, which is in the Northern Alpine military district, was formally taken over June 5 from the American 88th Division by the Italian Folgore Combat Group, the first Italian territory to be placed under the direct guard of Italian troops since the liberation. G-5, 15th Army Group, has moved its headquarters to Verona. Farther south, Col. Alfred Bowman (A), RC of Emilia Region, has just held a successful meeting with all the prefects of his area, stressing economic cooperation.

The newspaper situation in the North was fully canvassed at a Milan meeting June 5 of AC, AMG and PWB. The *Corriere d'Informazioni* in Milan is selling well and no incidents have arisen to follow the burning of copies recently. In Turin commissariats are being appointed for *La Stampa* and *Gazzetta del Popolo*. Publication will start in two or three weeks under the old names. Each will have a circulation of 125,000. Five party papers in Turin have 75,000 circulation each. Genoa is the most troublesome city at present. Considerable opposition exists to re-publishing *Il Secolo* because it is owned by the Perrone brothers, also owners of Rome's *Il Messagero*, now being published as the *Giornale del Mattino*. Re-appearance of pre-Fascist papers in Venice and Bologna was also favorably considered.

The refugee problem seems to be working itself out. During the past week, 11,876 Italians were repatriated to the South and 13,131 came to Rome from the North. Plans were initiated to return to the North 7,000 Italians in Calabria, Puglie and Lucania. Allied naval authorities have given permission for an Italian cruiser and several smaller vessels to be used to transport 3,000 refugees from Northern Italian ports to Sicily and Sardinia. A project was also advanced to establish «walking» camps every ten miles between Florence and Rome for refugees. The Transportation Sub-Commission reported that 71,791 refugees were moved, by all modes of transport, south of Forli, Florence and Leghorn in May.

"WELL DONE", SAYS LUSH

Regional Commissioners and their staffs are doing "a magnificent job of work" in the North in the opinion of the Executive Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, who has just returned from and extensive tour of all the five forward regions. The long months of planning have borne fruit and the regional and provincial

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

under AMG. Apuania and Lucca Provinces are to be turned over to Liguria Region. Political activity continues intensive but orderly. A returned Patriot leader is making things unpleasant for persons he is calling "fake" Partisans. A minor official in Apuania has been suspended for former Fascist activities. Local produce is plentiful. A minor disaster occurred in the breakage of a tuna fish net on the Livorno coast, causing loss of practically the whole season's catch. Pisa still has some cases of undulant fever. Typhoid persists on Elba, where it was found that contaminated raw vegetables were the offending agents. A systematic flow of 800 repatriated Italian POWs a day is leaving Florence. Prices, on the whole, are sloping downwards. Sugar has not been distributed since March because of insufficient supply to guarantee equitable apportioning. Shortage of transport makes deliveries to some communes difficult. Movement of lignite into the region is excessively costly. Seeds for late planting have arrived and Red Cross clothing has been issued in most communes. And so to a nice siesta...

ODDS AND ENDS

Redeployment news is about U. S. personnel: likewise the current fact that all promotions have been suspended applies only to us unlucky Americans, let our British brethren be informed... Fifteen American enlisted men are the first in the AC's American contingent to get the happy tap to go home; they all have 100 points or more... Regions and sub-commissions are being queried by 2675 Regiment as to classifying their U. S. enlisted personnel in categories of "required" or "non-required"; the case of every soldier listed as required will be reviewed by an officers' board at Hq. Command, Allied Forces, to decide whether the man should be retained in service or not; really trained specialists are the only ones whose cases may raise some doubt... The AC Awards and Decorations Board has processed some 30 recommendations, including ten British candidates... U. S. officer strength in AC is 539 at present, seven over the T/O... Lieut. Ralph Major, aide to Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG, has been awarded the Silver Star; congratulations... Signor Massimiliano Gaston, Italian civilian of the Security Division of the Public Safety Sub-Commission, has been notified by Prime Minister Bonomi that the Lieutenant General of the Realm has conferred upon Gaston the high honor of Cavaliere dell'Ordine dei Santi Maurizio e Lazzaro, for excellent work performed during the clandestine period before liberation... Col. Richard D. Wilmer (A), former director of the Legal Sub-Commission and now in the Civil Affairs Division of the War Department, has been awarded the Legion of Merit for his work in Italy: felicitations... Col. Howard M. Baldrige (A), of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, receives the same kudos for the same medal... All U. S. personnel in AC Hq. were required to see the War Department film, "On To Tokyo" last June 6... Lieut. Col. Henry H. Scudder (A) has been appointed director of the Communications Sub-Commission, succeeding Col. J. L. Henderson (B)... Col. W. E. B. Behrens (B) has been appointed Chief Legal Advisor to the Chief Commissioner and director of the Legal Sub-Commission... The Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission has been active as usual: The director, Lieut. Col. Ernest T. De Wald (A), is up North interviewing German Army art officers and preparing for the return of 10 truckloads of Italian art loot to the Florence area; opening on 12 June in a new museum at Ostia Antica in the center of the excavations, which unearthed some of the finest discoveries of classical sculpture in recent years; and the Sub-Commission is engaged in somewhat delicate negotiations with the Ministry of Italian Africa anent the return of the Abyssinian crown jewels, which were appropriated up North by two Italian officers... The Local Government Sub-Commission will shortly issue field instructions implementing in AMG areas the decree passed on compilation of electoral lists... Another Regional Commissioners' conference is in prospect in Rome within a few weeks... UNRRA plans to provide lunches for 37,000 of the poorest children in 167 schools of Rome on June 11... Italian prisoner-of-war news is brisk. By plane from France on 9 June are to arrive 160 Italian POWs, the plane taking back French POWs who have filtered down into Italy; on 6 June from India arrived 966 sick and wounded Italian POWs; discussions are going on with AFHQ about releasing all the more than 500,000 Italian prisoners still held – 390,000 by the British and 120,000 by the Americans – the main topic being the ability of the Italian economy to absorb the influx.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

June 9, 1945

133

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 10

POLITICAL

Italia nuova, which from its secure position outside the CLN parties surveys the political scene with lofty and malicious disapproval, summed up the negotiations of the week under the heading *Sei partiti in cerca d'un governo*. The wittieism, though mischievous, was not entirely without justification; there has been something Pirandellian in the intricacy of party dealings, the hair-splitting statements of policies, the unexpected shifts of alliances; above all, in the feeling in the audience – in this case the Italian people – that the suspense which has by now become nearly intolerable may end in anti-climax or paradox.

The past week has been one of complicated plot and sub-plot, and the thread is not easy to follow; chronology may be our best guide. The threatened cleavage between Right and Left which had arisen over the position of the CLN was settled after negotiation; the six-party agreement published on the 3d indicated, in substance, a victory for the Liberals. The provincial and communal CLNs, it was stated, shall continue to have advisory functions until normal elections are possible; all other "peripheric" CLNs will be reduced to their exclusively political character. After this rather noteworthy concession to Liberal scruples, it might have been expected that the parties would proceed to the business delicately referred to as "the structure" of the government. In this, it had been more or less understood, the Socialists would have a prominent position.

However, on the same day in the *Popolo*, Gonella wrote an article advancing the thesis that at this time the Christian Democrats would seem to be the party indicated to head the government, both because of its strategic coloration in the six-party spectrum and because, notably in the Trieste affair, it has shown an ability to defend the interests of the country while giving full loyalty to the principle of international collaboration. There has been of course violent reaction from the Left which accuses Gonella of trying to "torpedo" the six-party accord, but up to now the Christian Democrats have stood firm.

Nenni visits Croce.

At the same time *Il Popolo* appeared in Rome, Nenni was making a speech in Naples, on the whole moderate in tone, and stressing particularly the urgency of calling the *Costituente*. While in Naples he paid a call on Croce, with whom he was engaged for some time in consultation. This was interpreted as a gesture to win over Liberal support to the Socialist campaign or, alternatively, as affording the old philosopher an opportunity to give some advice to the potential President of the Council. In any case, on his return from Naples, Nenni wrote an editorial in *Avanti* assuring the middle classes that their fears of "the Marxist scarecrow" were totally unjustified. ("What has become of Nenni's Jacobin appeal for a Committee of Public Safety or of his revolutionary slogan 'all power to the CLN'?" cried the intransigent Pacciardi.) Nenni added that the Socialists, in putting forward their case, were not thinking of party prestige, which indeed, he said, would be more shrewdly acquired by avoiding prominence at this crucial time, but for the sake of their country they were willing "to quaff the bitter chalice of governmental responsibility."

Later in the week the Marxist parties turned their fire on the Christian Democrat candidacy. *Unità* charged bluntly that "the forces of effective democratisation" had not had their share of key posts under Bonomi and proclaimed that this state of affairs could not be allowed to continue. Nenni, on a somewhat more academic level, wrote that while he had nothing but admiration for De Gasperi's work as Foreign Minister and while certainly no one would hold the Christian Democrats responsible for the persistent anti-Soviet campaign of the Catholic *Quotidiano*, nonetheless the Socialist party was by its experience and its tradition the best equipped to deal with international affairs. And since the Allies realize, he added, that Italian Socialists have been with them from the beginning in their battle against Fascism, the necessary aid from the democracies can be obtained by a Socialist government on the basis of dignity and equality.

1489

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Text of Accord.

On the 5th of June the papers carried the text of another six-party accord, or rather, a fusion of recent agreements, in which the most important items were the (repeated) statement that the government must be the expression of the six parties and that the new government will ask the Allies to substitute for the Armistice a "pact of friendship and collaboration" and to hand back all Italian territory to Italian administration. At this strategic juncture Bonomi entered the scene, reminding the party leaders that he had kept his promise to give them time to come to an agreement but now that an "accordo programmatico" had been reached it was time to proceed to "an understanding". He added that the solution of major governmental problems was being retarded by the continuation of the crisis. This action, as might have been expected, was interpreted in some quarters as a reminder that the nation could do worse than go on with Bonomi; *Scendo XX* said as much and the independent *Tempo* went so far as to say that the failure of the Bonomi government – if it has been a failure – is not the responsibility of Bonomi any more than of any other of the ministers. It is no secret, of course, that many Christian Democrats and probably the majority of Labor Democrats would rather have Bonomi than Nenni.

Thus, the present position may be summarized as follows. The Socialist candidacy is supported by Communists and the Action Party. There are indications that the Liberals also prefer Nenni to Christian Democrat leadership, partly because of a traditional Liberal mistrust of a clerical party and partly because, so it is said, they expect to be able to do better political horse-trading with the Socialists. The Labor Democrats, after some hesitation, have come out with a statement, made by Ruini, that they will stick by Bonomi until it is apparent that he is definitely unacceptable; in that case they would probably back Nenni. Socialists and Christian Democrats, both protesting that they are thinking only of the country's welfare, are backing themselves. There are indications that the nation is getting a little weary of negotiations. The CGIL and the CLNAI have both urged speed in coming to an agreement and the independent press is growing impatient with party démarches. The *Osservatore Romano* remarked that there is a feeling that the crisis as such will not develop at all and the negotiations will end simply by taking the Action Party and the Socialists back in the government.

AMG ordinance.

The AMG ordinance of June 1 invalidating the measures and provisions of the CLNAI provoked from Pacciardi the bitter remark, "thus ends the revolution of the North", and from the sophisticated *Italia Nuova* the comment that the "action of Poletti removes the subject of the rôle of the CLN from the sphere of practical discussion." It would seem that both commentators missed the point; the position of the CLN in Italian political life is not the same thing as its position *vis-à-vis* AMG. This seems to have been well enough understood by people on the spot; Sereni, President of the Lombardy CLN, said over the radio that Poletti's ordinance "shows the spirit of comprehension with which Allied authorities have faced the Italian situation" and the Milanese Socialist Molinari, interviewed in *Avanti*, said the ordinance was "only natural" and that there is a healthy spirit of collaboration between Allies and northern Italians.

On the Val d'Aosta situation there is little that is new and perhaps less that is reassuring. A report from San Francisco on June 1 said that the French intended to occupy the Val d'Aosta until occupation zones in Germany were clearly delineated. Later reports spoke of the presence of French troops in Imperia and of persistent pressure, by means of distribution of food and money, to influence the Piedmontese peasants in favor of the French. An article by Zatterin in *Avanti*, however, said that the "occupation" was a very cordial one; it was his feeling that only "certain circles of French capitalism" had any ideas of expansionism; meanwhile, the way to oppose French propaganda was to accord regional autonomy to the valdostani who had felt themselves slighted in the past. On Trieste there have been no new developments. De Gasperi, in an interview accorded the French paper *Combat*, stated that Trieste is to Italy what Strasbourg is to France and he was counting on Allied understanding in this affair.

There has been some sharp-shooting between Bergami, the Food Commissioner, and the CGIL. The latter has been conducting a vigorous campaign for lower prices in consumer goods, particularly food-stuffs. Early in the week Bergami reproached the CGIL for inopportune agitation, inasmuch as prices were falling anyway. However the campaign continued and indeed has resulted, after conferences between all interested agencies, in a joint statement by "representatives of tradesmen" and "representatives of workers" that prices of food, clothing and shoes will be

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

reduced after recommendations of special committees who are to begin their work within a few days.

The one Council meeting of the week approved an appeal to the Allies asking for aid in reconstruction; "democratic Italy", said the appeal, "is full of good will but she cannot act without help". Coal and raw materials were mentioned specifically as immediate and urgent necessities. Soleri outlined Italy's financial situation at a press conference; particularly cheering was the report on the national loan to which over 31 billion lire have been subscribed.

AMG IN THE NORTH

A separate region will be made of Venezia Giulia shortly, with Col. Nelson Monfort as RC. Currently, he has charge of the area as a sub-region. 8th Army AMG has called forward 1,800 tons of supplies for eventual feeding of the Trieste-Gorizia area, the goods arriving at the port of Trieste at the rate of 150 tons a day and consigned to military units for safekeeping. Matters of AMG administrative policy for the region were discussed with Field Marshal Alexander in his recent visit to Trieste. Detailed instructions will come from AFHQ.

The Patriots Branch has obtained the release of 75,000 garments, 25,000 pairs of shoes and 11,800 blankets for Patriots. Up to 26 May, 26,400 weapons had been handed in in Emilia Region and 45,600 weapons and 15,500 hand grenades in Lombardy Region, where 47,882 Patriots have also been demobilized. Samples of the arsenal given up in Piedmont included 34 large guns, 94 mortars, 241 machine guns, 576 automatic rifles, 9,648 rifles, 619 Sten guns, 191 bazookas, 488 pistols and revolvers and 12 bomb throwers. Clearly enough for an old-fashioned American 4th of July celebration or British Guy Fawkes day...

Round-up of Fascist Republican Army officers camps has been speeded up, after the Chief Commissioner expressed concern that notorious Fascists might escape to the comparative security of prisoner-of-war compounds. In Liguria, where several large plants are threatened with closing because of lack of financial aid, the flour situation has been eased with the arrival of supplies by sea and 22 public works projects started. In Lombardy Region, Col. Charles Poletti approved a similar works program for 135,600,000 lire.

The first AMG court was held in Bolzano Province on May 31. The cases involved 14 persons who entered military dumps. In the same province, Tyrolese farmers petitioned AMG, asking for a Tyrolese agriculture inspector instead of an Italian one. The province, which is in the Northern Alpine military district, was formally taken over June 5 from the American 88th Division by the Italian Folgore Combat Group, the first Italian territory to be placed under the direct guard of Italian troops since the liberation. G-5, 15th Army Group, has moved its headquarters to Verona. Farther south, Col. Alfred Bowman (A), RC of Emilia Region, has just held a successful meeting with all the prefects of his area, stressing economic cooperation.

The newspaper situation in the North was fully canvassed at a Milan meeting June 5 of AC, AMG and PWB. The *Corriere d'Informazioni* in Milan is selling well and no incidents have arisen to follow the burning of copies recently. In Turin commissariats are being appointed for *La Stampa* and *Gazzetta del Popolo*. Publication will start in two or three weeks under the old names. Each will have a circulation of 125,000. Five party papers in Turin have 75,000 circulation each. Genoa is the most troublesome city at present. Considerable opposition exists to re-publishing *Il Secolo* because it is owned by the Perrone brothers, also owners of Rome's *Il Messagero*, now being published as the *Giornale del Mattino*. Re-appearance of pre-Fascist papers in Venice and Bologna was also favorably considered.

The refugee problem seems to be working itself out. During the past week, 11,876 Italians were repatriated to the South and 13,131 came to Rome from the North. Plans were initiated to return to the North 7,000 Italians in Calabria, Puglie and Lucania. Allied naval authorities have given permission for an Italian cruiser and several smaller vessels to be used to transport 3,000 refugees from Northern Italian ports to Sicily and Sardinia. A project was also advanced to establish "walking" camps every ten miles between Florence and Rome for refugees. The Transportation Sub-Commission reported that 71,791 refugees were moved, by all modes of transport, south of Forli, Florence and Leghorn in May.

"WELL DONE", SAYS LUSH

Regional Commissioners and their staffs are doing "a magnificent job of work" in the North in the opinion of the Executive Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, who has just returned from and extensive tour of all the five forward regions. The long months of planning have borne fruit and the regional and provincial

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

teams have their teeth into their new work. Circumstances are very different from what we had expected, the Brigadier recalled. Who ever thought that the coast road from Genoa to Spezia would be practically undamaged: that we should find a surplus of electric power, 17,000 tons of hemp, and about eight billion dollars' worth of German loot: did the Provincial Commissioner of Venice ever foresee breaking a strike of gondoliers by threatening to import 100 ducks?

Emilia Region suffers most from war devastation. Its problems center largely around public security, movement of surplus food, the stream of refugees who pour in from all directions - and the accomodation of thousands of prisoners of the surrendered German Army. Thanks to the sympathetic handling of the problem by GOC, No 1 District, the Germans are now being settled in the Rimini area, and instead of the eviction of 29,000 civilians - as had been feared at first - only 234 have had to be moved to date. Col. G. G. Feasey (B) has been helping both the District and the Region on this problem. The arrival from Austria of 5,000 horses into the region brought down the price of local produce by 50 per cent., and started the Bologna sausage factories!

And Venezie

Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, from his university seat at Padova (it reminds one of Cambridge University, especially on a wet day), has a multitude of problems and bad communications. Venezie's Southern provinces are almost back to normal. Venice City inevitably is the center of attraction for troops. The frontier provinces of Bolzano, Belluno and Udine have their delicate problems of racial minorities and Jugoslav penetration and until recently have been full of German troops. Indeed, quite a number of these are still left, especially in the Cortina area where there are many wounded. Although Brigadier Dunlop will no longer be concerned with Venezia Giulia, he has many problems west of the Isonzo. The disposal of an enormous mass of looted plant material in Bolzano Province and in the neighbouring provinces will probably be tackled by the despatch of an Allied-Italian Mission. The machinery and plant in 57 tunnels on the edge of Lake Garda are a remarkable sight, Brigadier Lush continued.

Turning further west, the political problems seem to increase. In Lombardia, under the Poletti-Hancock management, a great deal has been done to get the CLNAI and the local CLNs to reconcile their policy with that of AMG, and to recognise AMG authority. Security here is rapidly improving and arms are no longer carried into the cities. The Montecatini Building in Milan is worthy of the Region, though it is believed that several officers have been lost for weeks, helplessly soaring between the ground and tenth floors, unable to work the doors of the automatic lifts. Colonel Poletti, like others, wants direction on policy and co-ordination in Rome.

Piemonte, too.

Piemonte almost inevitably is looking to the west, where the Provincial Commissioners and their officers seem to be handling the situation admirably, with a light hand and good humor. Vercelli, the scene of Nenni's arrest, seems to be the political hot spot of the Region and there is no doubt that there will be considerable problems in the factories. In the meantime the Fiat works are still turning out transport and crops are good, but like all the northern Regions, the spectre of unemployment looms large unless we can import coal and raw materials, the Executive Commissioner said.

Headquarters of Liguria Region ought to be happy, living as they do on the Italian Riviera, and the temptation continually to inspect the southern provinces must be very great. Genoa and the 91st U. S. Division had a tremendous festa celebrating the birthday of Columbus. The port has been badly knocked about by bombs and shells but the city has not suffered so much. Unfortunately the Navy cannot open the port because of the number of mines which sit at the bottom and defy even German experts who have been brought from as far away as Hamburg to deal with them. Unemployment will be a problem and the numbers employed by the military are disappointing. There is also at the moment a serious congestion of refugees. Moreover, Liguria is a deficiency area in grain. It had to import 10,000 tons of grain and flour in May. The Agricultural officer is hopeful about wine but despairs of moving fruit to consumer areas. Liguria probably has a hard time ahead of it because it was undoubtedly the center of the tourist traffic; its flower trade is still at a low ebb and many of its villages, especially in the south, have been badly damaged by bombs and shells, while the railway will probably take years to repair.

None of this work in the regions, of course, could have been effected without the initial efforts of the AMG staffs of 5th and 8th Armies and IV Corps, under whose operational command the regions, for the most part, continue to function. Between them, these AMG staffs have

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

covered the whole of Northern Italy (and a slice of Austria, too) and the gradual delegation of day-to-day administration to the regions has worked out admirably.

(Editor's Note: Modesty prompts us to add that the foregoing excellent article was written by Brigadier Lush himself and appears with a minimum of copyreading. Let us have more contributors).

ECONOMIC FRONT

Economic news is at a low ebb this week, though it is of interest to all to learn that AC may shortly be getting a substantial number of passenger cars, trucks and ambulances from captured German Army stocks. At a meeting in Florence attended by Col. J. A. Campbell, director of the War Materials Disposal and Italian Prisoners-of-War Sub-Commission, it was learned that the AC allocation will be made as soon as sufficient enemy transport is segregated to provide for the administrative requirements of handling the German prisoner-of-war population. All vehicles turned over will first be put into A-1 running order by German Army service units now being organized for that purpose. Along the line of German prisoners, the offer of such personnel to aid in reconstruction work has been accepted by the Italian Government, which proposes to use 10,000 on mine clearance and 6,000 in the Sardinian coal mines.

The coal import outlook is reported black. Diplomatic channels are investigating the possibility of eventual restoration of the Istrian coal mines in the disputed Trieste area. These mines used to provide Italy with 1,000,000 tons a year. Commerce Sub-Commission, which reported the shipment of 50 kilos of concentrated jasmine essence to the U. K. by air last week, announced that authority was passed to the Italian Government to carry on direct trade negotiations with "additional countries". The only country now having direct dealings – not counting the U. S. and U. K. – is France. The "additional countries" will include Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, the Argentine and, in general, United Nations and neutral states, clearances being made as the individual cases arise.

The Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission reports that arrangements are in hand to transmit 100,000 kw. of power from Northern to Central Italy, the import to be made on a 50-cycle frequency, necessitating an increase in Central Italian frequencies, a development which may cause inconvenience to consumers. The Orbetello plant of the Montecatini Co. has started operating at the rate of 2,100 tons a month.

Yellow seal dollars and British Military Authority notes expressed in sterling will be withdrawn as legal tender in Italy after June 30, the Finance Sub-Commission announces. The two currencies, used for a short time in Sicily in the summer of 1943, have been steadily withdrawn since that time. The volume outstanding is quite small. Similar withdrawal of the same currency has been made in French North Africa. The currencies may be exchanged at any branch of the Bank of Italy at the official rates during July. After August 1, holders of either currency will be violating the law. Withdrawal in Italian Government territory will be effected by decree and in AMG areas by a new proclamation.

On the farm front, Agriculture Sub-Commission reports that 11,640,322 quintals of wheat had been ammassed, as of June 4, and 503,190 quintals of olive oil, as of May 31. Bad weather and war damage will reduce this year's wheat and small grain harvest by 25 to 35 per cent, it is estimated. Limited quantities of sulphur mixed with 5 per cent. copper, nitrogen fertilizer and copper sulphate have been found in the North and are being distributed to farmers. The military ban on fishing in the Venice area is causing the loss of hundreds of tons of sardines and anchovies, the sub-commissions adds, with a lament.

The Agriculture Sub-Commission also has a new director – James M. Merritt, who until May 11, 1945, was Major Merritt to most of us. Mr. Merritt is the first AC officer to be decommissioned to accept a FEA post with the Economic Section. He reports that he put on civilian clothes for the first time May 18 in Washington, where he traveled to return to civilian status. He came back to Rome June 6. He says he does not feel any different. His clothes fit him, too, probably because he always was thin, he adds. The former director, Mr. Leland Albaugh, is back in the States on a new assignment.

TUSCAN ROUND-UP

The sun is shining and its world seems fairly peaceful as Tuscany Region surveys its classic hills on the eve of closing down and giving over to the Italian Government, to whose jurisdiction on June 19 will pass the Provinces of Florence, Pisa, Pistoia and Livorno, excluding the contiguous communes of Livorno, Pisa and Colle Salvetti (which is in between the other two towns). The three communes, which include the port and large military supply dumps, will remain

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

under AMG. Apuania and Lucca Provinces are to be turned over to Liguria Region. Political activity continues intensive but orderly. A returned Patriot leader is making things unpleasant for persons he is calling "fake" Partisans. A minor official in Apuania has been suspended for former Fascist activities. Local produce is plentiful. A minor disaster occurred in the breakage of a tuna fish net on the Livorno coast, causing loss of practically the whole season's catch. Pisa still has some cases of undulant fever. Typhoid persists on Elba, where it was found that contaminated raw vegetables were the offending agents. A systematic flow of 800 repatriated Italian POWs a day is leaving Florence. Prices, on the whole, are sloping downwards. Sugar has not been distributed since March because of insufficient supply to guarantee equitable apportioning. Shortage of transport makes deliveries to some communes difficult. Movement of lignite into the region is excessively costly. Seeds for late planting have arrived and Red Cross clothing has been issued in most communes. And so to a nice siesta...

ODDS AND ENDS

Redeployment news is about U. S. personnel: likewise the current fact that all promotions have been suspended applies only to us unlucky Americans, let our British brethren be informed... Fifteen American enlisted men are the first in the AC's American contingent to get the happy tap to go home; they all have 100 points or more... Regions and sub-commissions are being queried by 2675 Regiment as to classifying their U. S. enlisted personnel in categories of "required" or "non-required"; the case of every soldier listed as required will be reviewed by an officers' board at Hq. Command, Allied Forces, to decide whether the man should be retained in service or not: really trained specialists are the only ones whose cases may raise some doubt... The AC Awards and Decorations Board has processed some 30 recommendations, including ten British candidates... U. S. officer strength in AC is 539 at present, seven over the T/O... Lieut. Ralph Major, aide to Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG, has been awarded the Silver Star; congratulations... Signor Massimiliano Gaston, Italian civilian of the Security Division of the Public Safety Sub-Commission, has been notified by Prime Minister Bonomi that the Lieutenant General of the Realm has conferred upon Gaston the high honor of Cavaliere dell'Ordine dei Santi Maurizio e Lazzaro, for excellent work performed during the clandestine period before liberation... Col. Richard D. Wilmer (A), former director of the Legal Sub-Commission and now in the Civil Affairs Division of the War Department, has been awarded the Legion of Merit for his work in Italy: felicitations... Col. Howard M. Baldrige (A), of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, receives the same kudos for the same medal... All U. S. personnel in AC Hq. were required to see the War Department film, "On To Tokyo" last June 6... Lieut. Col. Henry H. Scudder (A) has been appointed director of the Communications Sub-Commission, succeeding Col. J. L. Henderson (B)... Col. W. E. B. Behrens (B) has been appointed Chief Legal Advisor to the Chief Commissioner and director of the Legal Sub-Commission... The Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission has been active as usual: The director, Lieut. Col. Ernest T. De Wald (A), is up North interviewing German Army art officers and preparing for the return of 40 truckloads of Italian art loot to the Florence area; opening on 12 June in a new museum at Ostia Antica in the center of the excavations, which unearthed some of the finest discoveries of classical sculpture in recent years; and the Sub-Commission is engaged in somewhat delicate negotiations with the Ministry of Italian Africa anent the return of the Abyssinian crown jewels, which were appropriated up North by two Italian officers... The Local Government Sub-Commission will shortly issue field instructions implementing in AMG areas the decree passed on compilation of electoral lists... Another Regional Commissioners' conference is in prospect in Rome within a few weeks... UNRRA plans to provide lunches for 37,000 of the poorest children in 167 schools of Rome on June 11... Italian prisoner-of-war news is brisk. By plane from France on 9 June are to arrive 460 Italian POWs, the plane taking back French POWs who have filtered down into Italy; on 6 June from India arrived 966 sick and wounded Italian POWs; discussions are going on with AFHQ about releasing all the more than 500,000 Italian prisoners still held – 390,000 by the British and 120,000 by the Americans – the main topic being the ability of the Italian economy to absorb the influx.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

133

June 2, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 9

POLITICAL

Probably no activity is more frustrating than the effort to chronicle the contemporary. Hardly had we sent our last week's stint off to the printer than the potentially pyrotechnic affair of Nenni at Vercelli burst on the political horizon. Perhaps, however, the perspective of the week helps to put the matter in proper light. What might have seemed a serious matter, indeed, can now be seen as a mere incident, rapidly diminishing in importance.

The facts are simple. Nenni arranged to hold a political meeting in Vercelli on his way to Turin. This was not permitted in Army areas and Nenni, as all other politicos visiting in the North, had agreed to refrain from such activities. In spite of formel warnings, Nenni attended the meeting. He was promptly arrested and, after writing a "lettera di scusa", was released. However, for a day or two—the 26th and 27th—the press was naturally somewhat excited about the matter. On his return to Rome a few days later Nenni told *Avanti* that it had been a result of the "impuntatura" (pedantry) of a local official and that as far as he was concerned the incident was closed. He added that nothing should be allowed to disturb good relations between the Allies and Italy but the Italian Government, and Washington and London as well, might profitably reconsider the advisability of suppressing political discussion in a country now liberated and with hostilities at an end. The Socialist Party and the CLN combined in a request to the Italian Government to take up with the Allies the granting to all citizens of the "right of propaganda" and of holding meetings and the abolition of "all restrictions still hampering the complete exercise of political freedom". The value of the affair at Vercelli is certainly that it focuses Allied and Italian interest on this very important point. Its effect on Nenni's prestige is less clear; there is a tendency on the part of the Left to make him a martyr or at least a champion of free speech (this only in conversation, for the press has been very discreet) while the conservatives like to think that the Socialist leader has been made to seem a little ridiculous.

Party differences.

Togliatti, reporting to *Unità* on his trip through the North, also referred to the difficult self-restraint he had had to exercise when surrounded by "tens of thousands" of followers. He added, somewhat unexpectedly a propos of the new government, that he himself did not expect to be in it unless called upon by his friend Nenni, whom he could not very well refuse. However, there seems to be another snag in the negotiations for the new government and one that may prove to be serious. Although a week ago the parties were reported to be substantially in accord on the program, if not on personnel, the Liberals, on returning to Rome, where the scirocco is more conducive to meditation than to action, somewhat unexpectedly announced that before it is possible to go on with the selection of the new cabinet the whole subject of the CLNs needs further "clarification". This opinion has received some support from the Christian Democrats and has been vigorously opposed by the parties of the Left. The difference in point of view is crucial; to the Leftist parties the CLN represent the "vital forces" of the nation whose energies are necessary for reconstruction and reorganization; to the Liberals the Committees, however admirable their service in resistance to the invader, now seem an ultra-governmental, undemocratic, politically dangerous element. The Liberals do not want as yet to abolish them but they want to give them a merely advisory function and confine their representation to "purely political" (as opposed to social and economic) currents. Ugo Giuffrè in *Tempo* (though *Tempo* is not a Liberal paper) sums up this point of view when he says that "the CLNs have fulfilled their function; to have them carry on would be absurd and only create confusion. There is in them a fatal tendency towards oligarchy".

Both sides have stated their arguments quite freely on the subject, the Liberals more or less

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

officially in a letter of the party secretary on May 29, the Socialists and Communists on a joint answer two days later. *Unità* called the Liberals' letter "a wicked action against the interests of our country" and *Avanti* accused them of trying "to discredit Italian democracy". The Action Party joined the Communists and the Socialists in support of the CLN. The Liberals have found their allies not only among the Christian Democrats but, to judge from the speech of Ruini on the 29th, among at least some factions of the Labour Democrats as well. Thus, the whole question may have very serious effects on the unity of the six parties; it has certainly retarded the formation of the new government.

The Frontiers.

On Trieste the situation is substantially unchanged. The latest development is a letter from the CLN of Venezia Giulia accusing the Yugoslavs of tampering with the municipal records. On a higher level the *London Evening News* reported that the Allies are preparing an answer to Tito's latest offers (see last week's *Bulletin*). From Piedmont came the news (on the 24th) that the French had refused to withdraw from the Val d'Aosta just now because of snow on the mountains. Radio Paris contributed two days later the announcement that 15,000 Valdostani had expressed a desire to become French citizens. AMG reports do not bear out this assertion. Italian papers pointed out that the population of the region is some, in any case 80,000.

The government is discussing the situation, having been requested by the CLNAI to ask the Allies to put "contested frontier territories under temporary and impartial administration until the conclusion of the peace negotiations".

The action of Franco in blocking all Italian holdings in Spain has not been very popular in Italy. Franco's argument that such action is in line with anti-Axis measures recommended by the Allies seems a little anachronistic; for a long time, the wits are saying, Franco did'nt seem to know there was a war on and now he does'nt know it's over. Of course, the measure has given *Voce Repubblicana* and *Italia Libera* the chance to ask again why democratic Italy is even willing to speak to Franco anyway.

Fascist trials go on: Acerbo has been condemned to thirty years' imprisonment, Bottai, Federzoni and Rossoni to life, though they were not on hand to hear the sentences. All gerarchi and pezzi grossissimi in the dock dead days.

AMG OPERATIONS

With the French in the West, the Yugoslavs in the East and Patriots in the center, AMG in the North would appreciate some balmy weather. The weather, indeed, off Liguria has been such that supplies have not been able to land and the long land haul from Leghorn is resulting in a precarious bread situation. The haul of fish is excellent, however, in Liguria, the port price dropping from 130 lire a kilo to 5 lire. Otherwise, events are moving along, though it is yet too early for summings up. The French are in some 14 communes of Imperia Province and in Aosta Province have been bringing in coffee and flour by mule from France. The matter of French francs may be adjusted in some areas, in others not as yet. In one Aosta bailiwick the French commander has agreed to withdraw French francs and use AMG lire. In others, the banks have been told to accept only francs. AMG also had to put its foot down on unofficial dealings such as barter trades involving French potatoes and fish for Italian rice and flour. In Vercelli a project to prevent erosion to the banks of the Sesia River has been conceived as a good unemployment relief measure. There is a need for kerosene or diesel oil in Piemonte to lubricate farm machinery. Throughout the North the program to distribute captured enemy draft animals to farmers is under way. Some concern is also felt about the lack of fertilizers and insecticides, which the North has been short of for the last few years. A minor but perplexing problem of AMG in Turin is the plumbing. Hotel hot water taps, when turned on, give forth beautifully hot, boiling water. Cold water taps give off steam. To get cold water (or moderately cool-tepid-lukewarm), one flushes the toilet several times. These Italians.

More than 3,000 denunciations of purported Fascists have been filed in Milan alone. Newsprint manufacturers in the North have agreed to make 60 tons of newsprint a day for four months at a price of 42 lire a kilo. 5th Army has called for a team of AC economic experts to inspect the vast amounts of industrial and technical equipment found in the Bolzano area. Through Bolzano have been passing refugees released from the Dachau concentration camp, many of whom have been exposed to typhus. Proper precautions are being taken. Two Nazi mayors of German-populated towns in the Alto Adige have been dismissed by AMG in the person of Capt. Paul M. Jackson (South African), CAO of Bressano Province. Speaking of refugees, in the past week,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

12,237 arrived in Rome from the North and 8,347 left Rome for the South. The Records Bureau of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission also handled 59,000 messages from the North in this one week. (Distribution was made from Rome through the International Red Cross.)

Less than 1,000 civilians are being evacuated from the Rimini area – instead of the previously rumored 10,000 – to make way for the compounds being built for German prisoners-of-war.

To the East, where the Trieste question is going through the slow toils of diplomatic protocol, AMG teams are ready for operations but naturally cannot yet function. A separate region may be made of Venezia Giulia because of the problems involved. The food situation in Trieste is reported as "deteriorating" but not yet acute enough for alarm. A Yugoslav application to buy yeast in considerable quantities in Udine Province was turned down. The Yugoslavs are reported to have been removing machinery, spare parts, leather belting and batteries. Patriots in eastern Venezie are still armed, with some reports indicating captured enemy tanks and anti-tank guns in their possession.

ADMIRAL VISITS NORTH

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, the Chief Commissioner, made a one-day trip to the North and back to Rome by plane May 29 to confer with 5th Army, IV Corps and AMG officers on the situation. Accompanied by Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, who has been designated the Admiral's representative in the North, the Chief Commissioner conferred with Lieut. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, jr., commanding general, Fifth Army, about AMG problems. Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume, 5th Army SCAO, and his executive officer, Col. Arthur E. Sutherland, jr., also attended.

In Milan the Admiral met with Maj. Gen. Willis D. Crittenberger, commanding general, IV Corps, his SCAO, Col. Hamilton T. Walker, and with Brigadier M. Carr, Col. R. P. Marshall and Col. Charles Poletti, RC's, respectively, of Liguria, Piemonte and Lombardy. Agreement has been reached that the RC's may soon activate streamlined versions of their regional administrations, the Army AMG still serving as a channel.

In general, the Chief Commissioner said that he was "satisfied" with the trip, which, translated from the laconic style in which the Admiral usually speaks, means he thinks the plans of AC and work of AMG are working out fairly well.

The trip also saw the Admiral perform the honors at a ceremony at 5th Army AMG Hq, at which he presented to the senior non-commissioned officers of Company "G" of 2675th Regiment and to the British detatchment assigned to 5th Army AMG Hq the Meritorious Service Plaque awarded the 5th Army AMG by General Truscott for its "outstanding services in support of combat operations".

UPJOHN TRIP

Brigadier Gerald K. Upjohn, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, and Colonel R. R. Cripps (B), Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, are back at Hq. from a nine-day tour of the North. They report greatly varying conditions but, apart from some political headaches, in all the Regions, the problem of disarming of Patriots looms largest. While disarmament parades have been held in most provinces and large numbers of arms of all sorts have been handed in, everyone knows that there still exist very large caches as yet uncollected, which will provide a very serious Public Safety problem for some time. While few Patriots continue to carry arms by day (except in the border provinces) the nightly killings, especially in Milan, Genoa and Bologna, point to the continued existence of armed bands of Patriots or thugs masquerading as Patriots. The Carabinieri have everywhere met with a mixed reception. It is plain that the Government will have to undertake a complete reorganization of the police forces before the Public Safety situation is fully restored. Arrangements are already in hand for recruiting Patriots into police forces other than the CC. RR.

So far as Local Government is concerned, on the whole, members of the CLNs appear to be serious minded and cooperative, but all provinces have had trouble in varying degrees in getting members of the Committees to become aware of their purely advisory role. The main heat has fallen on Colonel Poletti who has to deal with the CLNAI, but he has scored a signal success in obtaining a letter from Morandi (leader of the CLNAI) to CLNs pointing out the purely advisory role of CLNs.

Prefects appointed.

In every case, except one, where prefects have already been appointed or nominated for appointment, Provincial Commissioners have recommended the CLN candidate. In the remaining case, the Government candidate was asked to accept the appointment of Prefect and he refused.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Of eleven provinces in Emilia and Venezie for which figures are available, proposed Prefects were the following party colours: Socialist 2, Non-Party 1, Communist 1, Christian Democrats 3, Action Party 3, Liberal 1.

General Order 35, providing for the dismissal of Fascists from state concerns, has been put up in nearly every province and is beginning to work without more than the usual birth pangs. General Orders dealing with the epuration of personnel of private concerns have been found to be necessary to prevent wholesale sacking of employees and workers for reasons of private vendetta and are now under preparation at Headquarters.

The decree setting up People's Courts has met with a very favourable reception and Courts have been set up in nearly every province. Illegal courts appear to have died down without undue trouble. By the time these words appear in print, Courts in most provinces will have commenced sitting. The first sitting in Milan was on 24 May and reports of convictions have already been received. Lieut. Colonel G. G. Hannaford (B) has had a very busy time providing for special sittings of the Special Section of the Court of Cassation sent up from Rome to hear appeals from these Courts.

Cultural notes.

In the field of education there are no special problems except in the East of Udine where the inhabitants appear unwilling to permit Italian to be taught. Capt. Willis E. Pratt (A) hopes to have 13,000 students, including a large number of Patriots, attending summer courses at Bologna University, as against 3,000 during the German occupation.

Many exciting things were found to be happening in the world of Monuments and Fine Arts. Nearly all the Florentine treasures have been discovered and will shortly be returned there (40 truck loads). Some of the Abyssinian crown jewels have also come to light.

The Public Health situation is on the whole good and a Deputation of experts from the North is due in Rome any day now to make plans with the Government for the manufacture in the North of considerable quantities of medical supplies which should greatly relieve the present position.

ECONOMIC FRONT

Chief news of the week economically is the formulation of the revised joint program for first-aid to the Italian economy, which has been revised, of course, by reasons of the undestroyed industrial capacity found in the North. Prime Minister Bonomi, in a letter to the Chief Commissioner, asks for certain immediate supplies and further requests that these latest items have absolute priority over all other supplies previously asked for. Col. Leonard T. Densmore, chief staff officer of the Economic Section, has left for the States, bearing with him the Bonomi letter and revised requisitions, which, in brief, ask for 710,500 tons of supplies, including 383,000 tons of coal, as the first part of the transitional program (for September of this year). The Prime Minister said that he was aware of the sizeable sea transport problem involved, but pleaded, in the name of Italy's 40 million war-stricken inhabitants, for immediate help to ward off unemployment – if coal and raw materials continue lacking – and possible unrest.

Mr. A. G. Antolini, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, this week confirmed that he was leaving the Commission about June 15 to return to private business. He had announced some time ago his intention to retire. He will be succeeded by Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, who has been Deputy Vice President (Supply). Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President (Production), has just returned from a trip to London, where he took up, among other matters, the need of more British civilian personnel in AC.

Other news of economic interest: Of the more than 200 inquiries by AC officers into employment by the Foreign Economic Administration (FEA) as civilians in AC, 37 officers have been found qualified. — The Economic Section is currently working out ways and means whereby inter-regional commerce between the North and South can be most effective and controllable. — A large part of the Italian schooner fleet (once as many as 2,000 vessels) and some coast-wise ships are being turned back to Italian control by the Mediterranean Shipping Board (MEDBO). — Wheat amassed, as of the latest report, is 11,622,539 quintals, and olive oil, 499,473 quintals. — Nine and a half tons of vegetable seeds were exported to Albania and Yugoslavia in the past week, the Commerce Sub-Commission reports. — Reclaimed rubber from salvage supplied by U. S. Ordnance Tire Repair companies is now being produced for general article use by Pirelli at Tivoli at the rate of nearly two tons a day, according to the Industry Sub-Commission. — The Sub-Commission, with some pride, also announced that at long last the Solvay caustic soda plant at Rosignano is in production – 240 tons a day, as a consequence of which black market prices in caustic soda dropped in

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

three days from 750 lire a kilo to 250 lire and for sodium carbonate from 300 lire to 60 lire a kilo. — Cement production in four AC-controlled plants this week was 3,428 tons, an increase of 1,036 tons over the previous week.

MACMILLAN MESSAGE

Mr. Harold Macmillan, who has just left the posts of Acting President of the Allied Commission and British Resident Minister at AFHQ to enter the Churchill cabinet, sent the following message to all ranks of the Allied Commission:

"I cannot leave without sending a message of thanks and good wishes to all my friends in the Allied Commission and Allied Military Government. Ever since the landings in Sicily, nearly two years ago, I have seen and admired your work. During recent months I have been more intimately associated with you. Many conflicting duties have hampered my capacity to do more than try to help my friends and your chief, Admiral Stone, to the best of my ability. But I shall always be proud of my association with your enterprise, and the high ideals which have inspired you all. Good luck and God speed".

VERBA VOLANT, SCRIPTA MANENT

Whatever immortality AC/AMG will have in years to come, aside from the fireside reminiscences of old men, is in the hands of AC's Archives Branch. Sobered by this thought, which may well have been a by-product of the sense of mortality and impermanence following a discussion about age groups and release dates among certain officers (B), we called on Capt. A. J. Collins (B), head of the Branch and discovered that a lot of things have been going on that more people ought to know about. Capt. Collins has been in charge of the Branch since its inception about a year ago and emerged, willing but harassed, from behind a few packing cases to tell us something about it. The first thing he made clear was that Archives is not a reference department for current matters. If you want to look for a copy of that definitive letter that Colonel Blank wrote Maj. Whozis last week, Archives is not the place to come. This intrusion of the transitory is merely distracting to a man whose eyes are fixed on eternity and Capt. Collins thinks that by now the principle should be well understood. Archives is essentially where the files and records go when they die. When a Region ceases to exist, when a certain aspect of the work of a Sub-Commission is past, or when lapse of time has rendered records non-functional, they then go to Archives to be catalogued and made available for research in the future.

This sounds easy but is not without its hazards, which in the aggregate might well drive anyone but a born archivist mad. In the first place (this was true particularly in the early days) the files sometimes don't turn up. They have a way of being lost in office drawers, left behind in abandoned headquarters, absentmindedly thrown into wastebaskets, of falling off jeeps and so on. This sort of thing is offensive to any right-minded librarian and leaves gaps which will be seriously annoying to the future historian. Fact is, at first many administrative centers didn't appreciate the importance of records and didn't always have time to think about them, even when their intentions were good. The worst of that period is over but other difficulties remain and are indeed of the essence of the job.

Order from Chaos.

Bringing order into a catalogue of Ming Porcellain or a collection of editions of Petrarch (oddly enough we know something about the latter) is bad enough, but when you are dealing with anything as peripatetic, chameleontic and amorphous as AC/AMG, you have what may fairly be described as a problem. A black market trial in Portici, for example, will provide materials for the files of Public Safety (Regional and Provincial), Legal (ditto) and will involve, before you get through, Hq. (Provincial and Regional), possibly Public Health, very likely Legal (Hq.) AC, maybe even Political, Liaison or PRO (Adv.). Hence, the main job of Archives has been to work out a system whereby with the least possible loss of time, the future historian (and there will be one, if not many) can untangle the snarled skein of our bureaucratic threads and make some kind of a pattern for posterity. Captain Collins, neatly combining the Functional and Regional approaches, has done just that.

The system once set up, there remains plenty to do. Archives Branch has analyzed the contents of each set of files (frequently mislabeled) and has made check lists, easily accessible, prefaced by a brief history of the set of files in question, stating its origin, scope and sequel—if any. These little prefatory remarks are in themselves a sort of thumbnail history of the Allied Commission. Obviously things never work out even; some Sub-Commissions, for example, have deposited in archives only a few loose sheets of paper, others have sent down enough to fill a dozen or more cabinets. Any morning either the former or the latter may descend on Archives with another

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

five or six packing cases to be collated and dovetailed. (This brings up the question of space; how much will be needed to house our records is impossible to say, though in all probability it will be more than Archives has now, being a mere three rooms, two of them with three tiers of book shelves.) And as for the Regions, well, Region I is definitely dead, but its records have an awkward way of getting tangled up with those of Hq. AMGOT, and Southern Region, now almost completely in, is a little chaotic, what with tributary material from the older Regions it supplanted. Handover of territory in the North will inundate the Branch and when AC itself turns in its records — well, we didn't even dare bring that up.

Aside from the tactical head of Archives, there is a special committee which meets for strategic directives. The committee, headed by the Executive Commissioner, has one representative from each section of Hq. and two members of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, themselves archivists in civilian life. There have also been visits from advisers representing the Library of Congress and the British Records Office. What is going to happen when the Commission dissolves we don't know. Perhaps the British and American Embassies will be interested, perhaps special experts will take over. The Branch is interested in having records up-to-date, tidy and at least ready for proper indexing. All help that Sub-Commissions and Regions can give in the way of efficient listing and packing will be deeply appreciated and more than welcome. All joking aside, it's a big job and one that will hardly be through the first phase when the *rest* of us have arrived home. In fact, going out the door and observing the inscription *Verba volant scripta manent* we could not help adding (but very softly): Et tu, Collins.

AUSTRIA

Reports are now arriving (for information only) from our former colleagues with the 8th Army in the Austrian show and indications are that AMG troubles are still the same no matter where you are. Yugoslav withdrawals from some Austrian provinces have improved the feeling of the population, not to mention another result: declaration of hidden flour stocks. A Slovene minority delegation was informed that Slovenes would receive fair and impartial treatment from the Military Government of Austria. Search for Nazi Gauleiters to date has been unsuccessful, though two aides of one of them were caught. Military courts are functioning at Klagenfurt, Villach, Hermagor and Spittal, curfew infringements largely. A maximum of 2,000 refugees a day (with Italians having priority) are being evacuated from Austria to Italy. Allied Military Schillings have been introduced and banks will open shortly. The bread ration has been reinstated at 170 grams. Approximately 10 per cent. of the vehicles listed use wood fuel. Labor is short for agriculture and essential industries — sawmills, cement, wire and nails — though German POWs are now being made available.

ODDS AND ENDS

Redeployment news is practically nil, though it is of interest to report that Headquarters Command, Allied Forces, is now in process of setting up the rules for classifying units and personnel essential and non-essential in order to fit them into one of the four categories (I, occupation troops; II, redeployment to the Pacific and the U. S. for continued service; III, dispatch to the U. S. for eventual release, and IV, outright release). — All promotions, as everyone knows, have been suspended in the interim, a state of affairs which will obviously continue until the manpower re-shuffling is in the clear. — The Economic Section, however, got a new lieutenant-colonel in John M. Murtagh, who, being on TD here, got his promotion via the War Department; congratulations. — The AC Awards and Decorations Board has been meeting, considering about 15 recommendations to date. — Maj. Gen. Anderson of the British Civil Affairs Office visited Rome this past week. — The Hq. PX has moved to the basement and has been fixed up by Cpl. William H. Ferri in elegant department-store style; all that seems lacking is a floorwalker. — Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, is touring the North. — The Swiss have offered to send Red Cross help to the devastated areas and to house tubercular students in summer camps in Switzerland. — The Education Sub-Commission is aiding the Italian authorities to establish a central catalogue of historical and archeological works in Rome, so the city can become an international center for such research, already possessing Europe's best source material in this field; present collections are scattered and badly indexed. — One case of typhus has been reported from Aosta in the North; the outbreak in two Sicilian villages is under control. — Ten counterfeiters have been sentenced to from four to 15 years in Naples AMG courts. — The concurrence of CCS is still being awaited concerning the release of Italian POW « cooperators » in Italy.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

May 26, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 8

POLITICAL

The sensitive frontiers of Italy have had their usual share of the headlines this week. From the Northeast the news has been good, and it would seem, looking back over the week, that Field Marshal Alexander's plain speaking in his message to his troops marked the turning point in a very delicate situation. From Belgrade to be sure came the answer that the frank comparison of Tito's action with those of Mussolini and Hitler caused "surprise and resentment"; nevertheless within a few days it was announced that Anglo-American forces were moving into Venezia Giulia and being greeted "politely if coldly" by the Jugoslavs. A telegram from the *New York Times* correspondent at AFHQ stated (on the 24th) that Tito had accepted in principle the Allied proposals. He asked however, so the *Times* reported, that representatives of the Jugoslav army be allowed to take part in Allied Military Government, that Jugoslav units be permitted to remain in territory under Allied control and that the Allied command act through civilian authorities already established. Later press reports say that negotiations are continuing and at the moment all is reasonably quiet along the Isonzo.

Bolzano and Val d'Aosta.

However Italy has a long northern frontier and two other trouble spots remain. De Gasperi, back from Trento, reported that the situation in Bolzano is disquieting; "attempts are being made by external elements", he said, "to influence the attitude of the German part of the population towards the future of our country". Bolzano, it will be remembered, formed part of the old Austrian Empire before 1918. — More disturbing to the Italians is the continued presence of the French in Piedmont. It is said that they are making efforts—using the peaceful inducements of plentiful supplies of salt and sugar and a promise of lower taxes—to persuade the population to seek French citizenship. It is further reported that they are having some success; according to an AP dispatch of May 22 a partisan leader stated that if a plebiscite were held now the Val d'Aosta would probably go to France. More recent developments in this charming Alpine valley have been very puzzling. On the 23d the CLNAI announced recognition of the regional autonomy of the Val d'Aosta. Whether this means any more than the changing of a few place names back to French spelling and the recognition of the bilinguilism of the region is not clear, nor indeed is it clear whether the CLNAI is within its rights in according autonomy to a Province. Even more "preoccupante" is the NNU story of May 24 reporting the resignation of the prefect of Aosta in the face of a growing separatist movement. The official French attitude has been mild enough; France wants no territories from Italy but merely "a rectification of the frontier", according to the Quai d'Orsay. The Italian press however does not find the phrase entirely reassuring. Comment of the Rome papers has been more in sorrow than in anger, the burden of their song being that "a stab in the back" is only what one would expect of Fascism—with which the new Italy has no connection—but is shockingly out of keeping with the traditions of liberty-loving Marianne.

Party negotiations.

The government crisis continues to live its busy but so far rather subterranean life. Negotiations have been going on in Milan during the past week and various parties or speakers have from time to time interrupted their secret deliberations to throw out iterations of their principles or plans. The CLNAI listed its requirements on May 18: the new government must be appointed by the Central CLN, the CLNAI should be given the "free representation it deserves", Italian government legislation must be integrated with CLNAI legislation, the Volontari della Libertà must be allowed to enter the regular army and the police force and the new government should take immediate measures for setting up a temporary representative assembly to study the electoral law for the Costituente. Speaking for the communists Togliatti insisted on convocation of the Constituent Assembly and said that

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Italian democracy must be republican; the socialists were pleased to find themselves as usual in perfect accord with the communists and the Action Party appropriately clamored for action, proclaiming that "the new government must be formed in two or three days not in two or three months". Brosio, Liberal, in an interview given on the 23d said negotiations had now reached a point where it was possible to deal with concrete problems and he believed that full agreement would soon be reached. Nenni's statement in the papers of the 25th contained a little more meat. There will be a new government, he said, it will have "a new poltical line" and will be the expression of the six parties—which means the socialist and action lambs will return to the fold. There is as yet no agreement on who will head the new government, De Gaspari for one feels it should be a man of no party affiliation. In Rome there has been speculation on the possibility of a Bonomi-Sforza-Orlando cabinet. (Orlando was 85 this week, but his friends maintain that he is still "in gamba"). Obviously there is a good deal of behind the scenes activity and there may well be a bit more before the new east emerges.

Election in England.

Italians were very pleased at Bevin's remark: "We must not continue to treat Italy as if Mussolini were still in power". It is just what they have been saying themselves these many months. Political developments in England are being followed with keen interest in Italy; even though *Risorgimento Libvrale* instructed its readers that British foreign policy would be much the same, no matter which party came to power, there is a feeling that what happens in England will have its reperecussions if not on Italy at least on the Italian political situation and on the prestige of various parties.

AMG IN THE NORTH

Conditions in the North are so good that discussion is now going on as to exactly when Phase II or regional control will commence. June 7 has been set as the date by Maj. Gen. W. D. Crittenberger, commanding general, IV Corps, for all Patriots who have not done so, to turn in their arms. In Emilia Region, 15,000 of 36,000 Patriots have handed in their weapons – 24,000 of them. Piemonte disarming is progressing well. Milan apparently has been slower than others.

Liguria has filed its first full report. Food has been landing on the beaches but the weather stopped landings and some craft were wrecked. Banks are open in Genoa, Savona and Imperia. The last named city is somewhat restless, incidentally. Some anti-monarchist disturbances occurred in La Spezia, necessitating the dispatch of 300 CC. RR. Genoa. The port city has only 73,000 liters of POL on hand. There is an acute shortage of currency in the region, due to loss of shipments before the Allies moved in. Genoa monuments have been damaged extensively, we regrefully report. Postal service has started.

Col. R. P. Marshall, EC of Piemonte, asks all officers to give advance notice of their arrival because of shortage of accomodations. Turin fine arts, including the library, have been badly damaged. In Venezie, AMG is complaining about the non-existence of telecommunications. Transport is also lacking, although all Northern RC's are doing their best to «scrounge» captured German and Fascist Republican transport from military units. Tuscany finally has come under regional control. Tuscany also reports that the fish sent in — in lieu of meat — was in bad condition. Venezie AMG operations are naturally somewhat obscured by the Trieste problem, officers moving cautiously and tactfully in dealing with the Jugoslavs, who have been exporting a certain amount of food. Jugoslavs have evacuated all Italian civilians from Caporetto, scene of the World War I Italian military disaster, and are reported politically active in Vittorio Veneto, locale of Italy's World War I major triumph.

In the Bolzano area, where Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, acted last week as escort for Dr. Rudolph Rahn, Nazi ambassador to Fascist Italy, on his way to internment, it has been found somewhat difficult to enforce the rule which forbids the civilian population to fraternise with German Army, since many Teuton soldiers have married into the civilian population. Lieut. Roger Paquette, 5th Army AMG finance officer for Bolzano Province, is the custodian of some 23 million in currency and securities taken from a captured secret agent for former Nazi Gauleiter of the region.

Civilian movement restrictions in all of North Italy are about to be completely removed below the control line of the Piave. 5th Army instructions to that effect will be issued, it is hoped, by May 28. The Fifth Army has also called forward Italian frontier control units, consisting of 350 Carabinieri, 600 Guardie di Finanza and 60 customs guards.

After a visit of Brigadier General E. E. Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG, to the Val d'Aosta, where he looked over French activities, 98 Fifth

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Army combat officers have been sent to the area to help AMG. In addition, 68 5th Army combat officers who took the indoctrination course at AC, have now also been assigned to Northern regions, but will not be retained beyond a short time.

ECONOMIC FRONT

Coincident with the imminent announcement of the removal of civilian movement restrictions, there will be published news of the lifting of the economic boundary line established by the Allied Commission as a temporary "freeze" between the lower wage-price level of the North and the rest of Italy. Movement of trade, of course, will be controlled through ENAC and Autotrasporti and regulated freight charges. The economic line served very effectively as a barrier to what otherwise would have been a ruinous rush of speculators, according to Mr. A. G. Antolini, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, who has returned from an extended tour of the North. The barrier was, in effect, psychological, since road blocks were practically non-existent. It served the purpose of allowing AC to go in and look over the situation. Army control of military movements also kept in check inflationary spending by soldiers, Mr. Antolini reported. The job now is to beat an orderly retreat to a fused economy of the North and South by means of calculated, individual adjustments of wages and prices in provinces, regions or areas, as the case may be, and in process of which it may be necessary to deflate the South a bit and correspondingly inflate the North.

The inspection trips will also result in a revision of the Category B items in the joint program for first-aid to the Italian economy on the basis of providing more raw materials or productions goods instead of finished goods since the operating plant of the North has been found in such excellent condition. This will also help relieve strain on the shortage of finished goods which the United States itself is experiencing. Lastly, the intricacy and scope of AC economic operations in the North may require the setting up of a forward echelon of headquarters at Verona as long as the armies retain control of the area. Permission has already been given for sub-commissions to write directly to regional commissioners on technical matters.

Coal scarce.

The lack of coal, which is in world-wide scarcity, is the main problem of the North. A suggestion has been put forward to pump in electrical power to replace coal power and technical difficulties are now being studied. The vital importance of coal to the Italian economy and the industrialized North can hardly be overstressed, all key industries being dependent on this fuel in some way or another. Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President (Production) of the Economic Section, has pointed out that Italy normally had to import more than one million tons of coal a month. Employment in industries affected (which had in times of peace a payroll of nearly five and a half million) would be seriously endangered, and a consequent unemployment of four to five million might easily result. Scheduled for Italy, however, are only some 300,000 tons a month and that not certain. The consequences for political unrest are obvious.

Col. W. P. Evans, director of the Commerce Sub-Commission, Mr. W. H. Braine, director of the Labor Sub Commission, and Col. W. J. Legg, director of the Food-Sub-Commission, all filed reports on their Northern findings.

Approximately 85 per cent. of the industrial plant is undamaged. The North can supply finished goods for all Italy if raw materials and coal are provided, as already indicated, Col. Evans was told by Italian technicians, who added they could get by this summer with only 142,000 tons of coal. Also available are 16,000 railway trucks out of 80,000 (pre-war figures), 400 electric locomotives out of 2,000 pre-war, 800 steam engines out of 2,500 pre-war. There are also 23,000 trucks, of which 5,000 are over 3-tons. The Italian motor industry – Fiat alone employs 65,000 in one big plant – could make nearly 2,500 trucks in the next few months – once again if materials were on hand. Chemical industries are 70 to 80 per cent., textiles 90 to 95 per cent. and tanneries and shoe factories 90 per cent., operative. Steel mills could produce 120,000 tons of finished steel through November. The paper industry can produce enough for all Italian needs. Rubber production can be resumed in four months. To repeat, in all cases, coal and raw materials are the missing links.

Mr. Braine was concerned with the necessity of finding alternative work schemes if industrial employment does not materialize. State relief and communal feeding seemed to be a necessity of the future. It was also found that in the pre-liberation period, Italian employers had kept on their books as much labor as possible to save men from being deported to Germany. To those for whom no work could be found, 75 per cent. of normal wages were paid. Both under Fascist law and CLNAI rules, no worker could

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

be dismissed without permission. Employers state they now need the power of dismissal to enforce factory discipline. Returning workers from Germany who are getting only 16 or 20 lire day public relief, are sore at those who have been getting pay. Ideas suggested for work relief include construction activity: repairs of bridges and roads, houses and buildings. Meal tickets for those without resources will soon be needed to enable them to eat in the public restaurants where meals cost 20 to 25 lire and whose food supply is guaranteed. Prices are rising, helped upwards by free-spending refugees who have cash on their persons but little else. Mr. Braine also discussed the workers' committees appointed to run plants, a political matter which has to be adjusted between the CLNAI, the Italian Government and the Allied authorities.

Col. Legge was able to bring back the happy news that the North has 50,000 more tons of food-stuffs than was anticipated. Transport and petrol has to be provided quickly in order that the food resources might not be dissipated. The food situation in Milan and Turin has improved as result of rail movements arranged from the Cesena railhead. About 150,000 or 25 per cent. of Milan Province's population eat in industrial messes, the public restaurants (mentioned above) or communal kitchens. Emilia Region will have 10,000 to 15,000 tons of new potatoes this summer and many cattle for slaughter. 5th Army AMG has supplied 20,000 cubic feet of methane gas to Milan to haul local food resources. Bologna was given 200,000 refugee rations. Venezie Region is using captured German food stocks. Venezie also has 25,000 tons of grain for export, but the grain is located in about 1,000 small warehouses. The daily ration of 150 grams in Milan to date has been corn flour. Piemonte had a stockpile of 40,000 quintals of rice but only three days' food supply in Turin. Liguria had fair stocks of olive oil, a 500-gram per capita having been issued just prior to liberation. Lots of fish was at Imperia but much was also being dumped back into the sea because of lack of transport.

An effort is being made to repair the Bologna transmission system so that surplus electric power of the North can be fed to Central and Southern Italy. Captured enemy draft animals are being loaned to Northern farmers. The Pirelli plant at Milan started a small-scale production of tires from existing materials last week. All AC visitors from the Economic Section were generally impressed with the efficiency of the CLNAI and its prompt supply of information. Other economic activities include: Export of 12 tons of corks to Greece; wheat ammassing — 11,534,411 quintals; olive oil collection — 491,783 quintals; the French and the Italians have signed a contract whereby the French promise to deliver the 24,000 tons of phosphate rock still outstanding from the 100,000 tons requisitioned last year; 262 quintals of materials were released to pharmaceutical industries last week; Lampedusa is now shipping 50 quintals of fish a day to Naples and Rome, the fish deliveries having been an aid in knocking down the black market price of meat in Rome, which now gets, from all sources, 400 quintals of fish a day.

REFUGEES

The refugee problem, as anticipated, is growing and long-laid plans of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission are coming smoothly into operation to meet the expected influx of 1,000,000 Italians over the frontiers once they are open again. Approximately 10 camps have been set up or are being established to handle the stream of prisoners-of-war and forced labor that was taken from Italy to swell the dwindling manpower reserves of the former Reich. Special steps are also being studied to move to their homes approximately 100,000 Italians from the Po Valley to Southern Italy and from Southern Italy to homes in the North.

Military and AMG units have been attempting to speed the movement of an estimated 50,000 refugees now on the roads who crossed the borders into North Italy before the borders were closed. All Army trucks proceeding South from the Bolzano area, for example, have orders to pick up all refugees and transport them as far South as the trucks are travelling. Practically every commune in the area also is helping by providing special food counters where the refugees can eat.

The critical shortage of rail transport is handicapping the movement of refugees now under control, since the railroads are facing heavy military demands for maintenance of the long military lines of communications and emergency shipment of food and industrial coal to the North as well as moving German prisoners-of-war.

Two chief bottlenecks to the refugees movement exist—at Bologna and at Rome. Movement south to Bologna is fairly easy but movement from Bologna further south is difficult due to the aforesaid limited rail capacity. At Rome where this past week 13,323 refugees arrived and another 10,060 left for homes in the South, only one train a day for 1,000 persons can be used for refugees. At least 2,000 refugees have

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

been arriving each day in Rome. Many have walked the entire distance from Berlin and Danzig to Italy.

The Northern camps range in size from those at Treviso, with a capacity for 20,000, and at Modena with a capacity for 12,000, to camps with capacities for 3,000 to 5,000. In addition, many AMG regional and provincial commissioners have established smaller camps for refugees moving in trucks from coast to coast. Steps are also being taken to move refugees south by sea from Venice and Genoa.

The first rush of refugees over the frontiers met the sweep of the Allied Armies to the Alps. Most of the persons encountered on the roads were able-bodied men, without women or children, who had been conscripted to help the German Todt Organization in building fortifications in the Bolzano area, which apparently was to have been the southern limit of the so-called Nazi bastion for last-ditch resistance. The Udine section has been one avenue of ingress into Italy. In one day 30,000 persons were found in one border hamlet. AMG officers, Red Cross officials and even war correspondents helped pile them into trucks for their southward and homeward trip. Among the refugees are an estimated 10,000 Jugoslavs in Northeast Italy who are trekking southwards.

Way stations on the way to Southern Italy are already crowded. Forli has 10,000, Bologna has at least 1,000. Emilia Region was said to have at least 20,000 refugees all together, including many Italian soldiers taken prisoner by the Germans and sent to Germany. AMG units are providing the refugees with biscuits, canned meat, dehydrated soup, medical supplies and DDT powder for delousing. 5th Army wants a senior officer to coordinate refugee movement, especially through the Brenner Pass. The Swiss have also offered to assist with the loan of 80 doctors and 150 soldiers.

Many of the refugee arrivals are dressed in the oddest garments—improvised kilts out of blankets, a spangled gypsy skirt, boots and a loin cloth, an Italian flag and nothing else, striped convict uniforms. Special personal probelms of an intricate sort are also cropping up among the refugees and aliens found in the camps. Polish, Austrian and Russian women assert they were brought into Italy by German soldiers and ask assistance. Others have married Italians and want to stay in Italy. German soldiers of satellite Axis nations who turn up in refugee camps ask to be returned to their homes in the Tyrol, Austria or Hungary.

OUR LIAISON BRETHREN

It is now nearly two months since the Allied Commission, following the Macmillan directive, withdrew from Italian Government territory, and AC liaison officers were left to carry the ball. Their first reports are currently arriving. It is of some interest to note their comments. As everyone knows, liaison officers are stationed at Palermo and Catania in Sicily, Cagliari in Sardinia, Bari, Rome and Naples on the mainland, the AMG Commissioner of Naples also acting as liaison officer for Southwest Italy. As enjoined to do, all brief headquarters on the political situation in their bailiwicks, which situation may be generally described as "active but not startling."

The Sardinian High Commissioner, according to Lieut. Col. Lester R. Albert (A), plans to resign. Sardinia exported 13,165 tons of salt in April among a total tonnage of 31,578. The coal mines produced 28,650 tons, still below par. Lack of rainfall is making matters critical for the cereal crops, which are expected to be poor. Grasshoppers are also a menace. The livestock—to continue the somewhat grim news—is also parched, because of the aforesaid drought. Fishing is good and there may be an exportable surplus. Cities have some unemployment and rural areas manpower shortage because of the military call-up. There were only seven murders in the month but four misfires at the same crime.

Lieut. Col. Edward Morton (A) at Palermo is still winding up unfinished business left when the region closed down. Plans are in progress to turn over control of INT, the Sicilian transport combine, to the Italian Government. Pantelleria and Lampedusa are under control, though the latter island had a minor problem concerning certain "unnamed" objects bring brought to the surface by fishermen. A student demonstration April 21 attacked Separatist headquarters, the date being one long celebrated by Fascists as the birthday of ancient Rome.

Major H. Bentley (B) at Catania had a fuller report, reporting political quiet, a slow upturn in trade, a continued disparity between high prices and low wages, continued increase in crime and adequate distribution of the 300-gram ration with the arrival of grain ships. Soap is short. There has been no sugar through official ration channels since February. Fertilizers are in production. School attendance has risen sharply from 8,000 to 20,000 in the district.

At Bari, Lieut. Col. L. F. Dawson (B) – who has since been succeeded by Lieut. Col. S. W. Miller (B) – has a sizeable staff of six to take care

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

of the military liaison duties involved with the port. His first big job was to help in the aftermath of the disastrous munitions ship explosion which rendered 600 families homeless. Several small labor disputes called for action. Tangles with Allied military, including an incident involving a truck accident in which civilians clubbed some American Negro soldiers, occupied much time in unraveling. Repatriation of Italian refugees in the area is proceeding slowly. The Fasano Hospital, near Brindisi, is naming a general word in the memory of President Roosevelt.

Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick (B) at Naples, who was formerly RC of Sardinia, affirms the gradual return to normaley of the region and reports some labor trouble and a rash of crimes of violence. Tidying up the city has been speeded up and attention is being paid to pumping stations of the sewage system. Labor complained that Allied wages are not matching those paid by civilian firms, several strikes on such grounds resulting during April.

ODDS AND ENDS

Mr. Joseph Harris, former colonel and instructor at the U. S. Army School of Military Government at Charlottesville, Va., through whose portals have passed so many Americans in AC, has been visiting Rome (in connection with his UNRRA duties) and meeting former students. — A U. S. Awards and Decorations Board has been established at Hq., following Natousa instructions, to recommend deserving personnel for the pretty medals, now the war in Europe is over. — The redeployment survey being carried on by 2675 Regiment for U. S. personnel has disclosed, according to incomplete returns, that there are at least 151 enlisted men with critical scores of 85 (which means eligibility for release if military necessity does not intervene), among which (to date) 1st Sgt. Herbert S. Nicholas of Venezie Region has the top score of 124. — Average score among EM's of Hq. Co. is only 65. — Maj. Robert Doe, former Secretary-General of the Commission and more recently a staff officer of the Economic Section, is quitting the AC to attend the Charlottesville course on the Far East before he leaves for the Pacific. — The next transfer of territory will probably include the Provinces of Florence, Leghorn, Lucca and Pistoia. — A dribble of promotions may be noted: Edward J. Muldoon, to captain; Stanley Dobosinski, Charles T. Kurlan and Willard B. Northrop, to first lieutenant. — The British side of the Allied Commission, Austria, is waiting in Rome while the American contingent is in Florence. — The U. S. War Department has asked AFHQ and AC about the possibilities of repatriating 33,000 Italian prisoners-of-war in the States who have been used as service units: it may be that 10,000 a month will be allowed to return. — The Legal Sub-Commission has distributed a memo listing general orders and proclamations which are still current, showing four consolidated proclamations (from an original 15), 21 general orders (from an original 40) and five notices (which number has remained static). — The Local Sub-Government Sub-Commission reports that the Italian Ministry of Interior, for the first time since 1939, has arranged to resume the holding of examinations necessary to qualify for appointment to the post of communal secretary, the key career job in all communes. — Maj. J. S. Reakes (B) of the Civil Affairs Section reports that mine clearing civilians and Italian military teams in Italy to date have lifted 1,185,000 mines, with about three million yet to find. — Typhus in two villages near Messina has shot up to 48 cases, with ten deaths: an UNRRA team is going in, besides AC officers.

ACTING PRESIDENT TO LONDON

Mr. Harold Memillan, Acting President of the Allied Commission, has been appointed Air Minister in the new "caretaker" cabinet of Prime Minister Winston Churchill and has left Rome to assume his duties in London.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

May 18, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 7

... e di bolani
Trieste in bando cavando il capo
leva fra' scanbi.

CARDUCCI.

POLITICAL.

Trieste has been the center of political interest this week, and not only for Italy, for, as the Italian press has repeatedly pointed out, there is more at stake in this crisis than the rectification of a boundary line or even the fate of a historic city. The Council of Ministers, having heard the report of Bonomi and De Gasperi who had been instructed to approach the Allies on the matter, asked formally on the 12th that the occupation and administration of Italian territories be carried out by the powers with which Italy signed the armistice. De Gasperi in an interview two days later told Edward Murray of the United Press that if Tito persisted in holding Trieste by force the result would be a nationalistic and reactionary government in Italy with consequent danger to the future peace of Europe.

On the 15th the Roman papers headlined the news of the British and American notes to Tito, asking him, in essence, to turn over Venezia Giulia to A. M. G. *Italia Nuova* hailed this move exultantly as evidence that the Allies were not going to consent to the solution of problems by force and other papers followed the same line, the notable exception being the Communist *Unità* which played down the story and indeed affected skepticism as to the existence of the note or notes. The Communist position which has been rather ambiguous on the subject of Trieste was clarified by an article of Togliatti in *Unità* (16 May). He wrote: "we Communists affirm the Italian character of Trieste and we do not wish to see her destiny compromised by unilateral acts or statements", adding however that the Communist party wants to find a solution fair and acceptable to all and furthermore "looks at the situation both from a national and international point of view."

All parties, at least in theory, could probably subscribe to Togliatti's words but at the moment the point at issue is not the eventual disposition of the city but the question of who is going to administer the territory until some kind of peace treaty is made. The Italian point of view is set forth above; final solution of an admittedly delicate problem must take place in an atmosphere of calm and reason and meanwhile "violent, unilateral action" or the policy of the fait accompli cannot be tolerated. The Jugoslavs have taken the somewhat emotional line that since their armies liberated the territory they have a right to administer it especially for the protection of the Slav population which suffered persecution under the Italian Fascist regime. Belgrade adds furthermore that "allied occupation" might well be stretched to include Yugoslav administration, for Tito was an ally of England before the United States or even Russia.

Latest news to come in is more encouraging; it is understood that Tito has voluntarily undertaken to retire west of the Isonzo and there are rumours (unhappily unconfirmed as yet) that he will evacuate Trieste and Gorizia as well. Further, Sylvia Sprigge, *Manchester Guardian* correspondent in an interview given *Avanti*, said that concord and harmony prevail among the Slavic and Italian elements of the rural population of the region and, while the situation in Trieste itself is somewhat strained, there is no evidence of mass deportation or persecutions of Italians which earlier reports had spoken of. She feels that good will on both sides is abundant.

Piedmont no problem.

No official steps have been taken on the subject of Italy's northwest frontier where the French have occupied certain regions inside the Italian boundary. De Gasperi turned aside Mr Murray's question on that matter (in the interview referred to above) and said it was "not important".

The press however has been a little uneasy about it and in the last few days the papers have also given their attention to a fresh crop of rumours, said to emanate from London, concerning the disposition to be made of the African colonies, Pantelleria and Sicily.

Turning to internal matters, the reaction to Nenni's speech (see last week's *Bulletin*) was that the Socialist leader was announcing his candidacy for head of the next government. Nenni brushed this aside and asked the readers of *Avanti* and other parties to consider the content and sub-

1486

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

stance of the Socialist platform rather than indulge in personalities. He did not however entirely deny the soft impeachment. Meanwhile members of the CLNAI, after a trip to Naples where Morandi made another speech calling for a new government, took off for the North again where they will shortly be joined by representatives of the government and the central CLN for further negotiations. On the 16th at a convention of the CLN of Lombardy it was announced that the CLNAI had asked for the Costituente within six months. How soon the government crisis will be allowed to break is difficult to say; it is certain that the Socialists are rather impatient for it and a resolution of the executive committee of the Milanese Socialists reminded Bonomi of his promise to resign on the complete liberation of the country. In the committee's opinion this means now. Other leftist parties share the Socialist impatience though perhaps to a lesser degree. The Christian Democrats however issued a manifesto asking for time for clarification of party programs before taking action and it is reported that the Liberals too are in no hurry. For the time being the pace is that of the scirocco rather than the vento del nord but the next week may bring some development.

Council business.

Somehow in the midst of all these first priority distractions the government found time for a good deal of routine business and for some special legislation as well. At the Council meeting on the 12th plans were made for integration of police and partisans and for incorporating partisan units into the regular army. Another meeting three days later heard Bonomi announce that 200,000 German prisoners are to made available for work in Italian reconstruction. (*Avanti* thanked the Allies, but thought the prisoners would be more trouble than help, unless they could be used for clearing mines.)

Italy has asked the International War Crimes Commission for permission to try in Rome those responsible for the Fosse Ardeatine executions. — And the venerable Nitti, pre-fascist premier and staunch anti-fascist exile, interviewed in Paris, said he intends to return to Italy and offer his contribution to reconstruction, particularly in the economic field.

AMG IN THE NORTH

AC and CLNAI representatives have been meeting in Milan on the economic situation and discussion of the economic boundary, of course, ensued. Free trade movement should be permitted as soon as possible was the consensus of the meeting, especially for commodities surplus to the North. The question of unemployment was touched on, a temporary remedy suggested being work in the rice fields which are to be planted soon. The problem of the bonus promised Italian workers in the North who would refuse to comply with German production demands was also considered. Lombardy Region alone has 1,000,000 such persons, indicating a theoretical outlay of three billion lire in bonuses. Partial payment in Italian Government bonds was talked of.

In Liguria Region the first AMG court in Genoa met, convicted and sentenced a man to a year in prison. Food supplies are beginning to arrive by sea, the ration being raised to 150 grams daily from the previous 100 grams. Approximately 6,000 arms have been handed in, but the difficulty, said reports, lies in the fact that most Patriots have more than one weapon. French in the western part of Liguria are quiet, but the situation has been such that General De Sevin, French representative to the Allied Commission, has been asked to investigate personally.

The Venezie Region situation is, as everyone knows, delicate. From Venice South things are going well, but farther inland there are refugees by the thousands and to the East there is Trieste. Brigadier D. J. K. Dunlop, RC, is also SCAO of 8th Army AMG since the departure of Air Commodore Benson for Austria. In the Bolzano area where some trouble was feared between the Germans, who were still armed, and the population, the air has been cleared by restriction of German troops to billets when not on duty and by American military police on the scene. Many of the population are reported armed, the Germans, it is said, having sold or bartered large quantities of small arms. Italian workers have refused to work with Germans in repairing the Brenner Pass railroad, so the Germans are doing it alone as best they can.

Education officers have been reporting to Hq. also. Liguria schools have been closed since April 23. Of 122 schools in Genoa, 45 are occupied by Allied troops or Patriots and 52 are unusable because of damage. Of the 52 damaged buildings, only 11 are destroyed or almost so. The CLN has cooperated well in Liguria and also in Piedmont. In Turin 34 school buildings have been destroyed, so schools run on shifts in the remaining buildings. Venice has only four schools badly damaged but four others requisitioned. Schools along the Po, where the fighting took place, are closed because of the destruction.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

Other Northern news:

Prisons are almost all in good shape, and empty of prisoners. In Ferrara Province there is the worst devastated belt since Cassino, about ten miles deep. La Spezia is worse off than "moderately damaged" as reported earlier. Lieut. Col. H. P. P. Robertson, PC, advises us that the town is 30 per cent. completely damaged, 30 per cent. uninhabitable and 10 per cent. habitable. The Finance Sub-Commission has been informed that 25 tons of gold, worth approximately $ 10,000,000, belonging to the Bank of Italy, has been found in cliff caves in the Bolzano area. Ferrara, it has been found, possesses the largest shoe factory in Italy and although the building was blasted, all but five machines have been saved. Forli will also make shoes from 10,000 kilos of heavy salvage canvas released by PBS at Leghorn.

ECONOMIC FRONT

Allied Commission action on the economic front is still waiting the return from the North of Mr. A. G. Antolini, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, although some such news from that sector will be noted in another section of this *Bulletin*. Extensive data being compiled by the Labor Sub-Commission (which is concentrating on wages) and other sources indicate, at first glance, that there may be as many as 2,500,000 unemployed up North, especially because of the lack of raw materials and coal, which latter need is being studied by Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President (Production) of the Economic Section.

With warm weather, and wheat harvesting about to start for the 1945 crop, the question again has arisen of use of Italian Army personnel for help in getting in the wheat in the same way in which Italian soldiers were used last year to harvest the Foggia crop. The matter is now under discussion between the Land Forces Sub-Commission and the Economic Section. No AC harvest control officers are to be used in Italian Government territory this year, it seems, although they will be probably employed in AMG areas. Emphasis is placed on the Macmillan aide memoire of last February which pointed out to the Italian Government that the responsibility (and a heavy one) for insuring a successful ammassing belonged strictly to the Italian Government.

Other economic news is as follows:

Wheat and olive oil ammassed, as of May 15, was 11,447,585 quintals (or 94 per cent. of 11,600,000 quintals target) and 183,840 quintals, respectively. — The Commerce Sub-Commission arranged recently for the export of 18 tons of cotton seed and 8 tons of dessert olives to Malta and 1,000 tons of sulphur to Yugoslavia. — Cement production last week amounted to 2,392 tons. — The first shipment of Sicilian sulphur to the Italian mainland has been scheduled, 1,000 tons going from Catania to Leghorn. — The Prato woollen textile center now has a daily production of more than 10,000 meters of blankets and heavy cloth. — Although 20,000 tons of hemp hare been reported in the North, only 165 tons have been found undamaged to date. — Two pasta factories at Gragnano (near Naples) and two food processing plants at Cesena and Sesto Fiorentino have been derequisitioned in the past week. — Mr. John A. Rudderham (B) has been appointed Deputy Director of the Agriculture Sub-Commission. — In the current internal re-organization of the Economic Section, stress is being put on fast action in answering all correspondence so that accusations of red tape and delay can be eliminated, according to Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley (A), Deputy Vice President (Supply). — Present electric generating capacity in Italy south of the former Gothic Line now is 701,580 kw., more than double the 343,780 kw. found by the Allies on entry.

REDPLOYMENT CHATTER

The Adjutant's Office of 2675 Regiment at AC Hq. has been burning the midnight oil to get out the verified records of all U. S. personnel to Natousa, as ordered, by May 19 so that first computations on releases from the Army can begin. All U. S. personnel also had to attend a command performance of the War Department film, "Two Down and One To Go," May 16 in Rome, in which the mechanics of release were explained and emphasis put on the sobering fact that the Japanese war will need a vast number of men with specialized talents. A questionnaire recently distributed to all U. S. officers who were asked to indicate their preference as to staying in the army or getting out has now been collected and will be sent to Natousa along with the 66-1's or records of each officer.

A quick and unofficial tabulation of returns from the U. S. officers at Hq. shows that a little over 30 or one fifth of some 150 officers questioned will be eligible for early release, figuring the critical number of points at 85, a figure, incidentally, which will be officially announced later by Natousa. It might be well to add immediately, that military necessity has priority, and that even though one possesses a high credit, he may still be required for duty. Highest American officer credit to date goes to Maj. E. E. Sass of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, with 146. Other high scorers included Lieut. Col. H. K. Seith,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

executive officer of 2675 Regt., with 126; Capt. Steve Riggio, who works with the American Embassy, 138 (and he says he is not counting two Pacific campaigns for technical reasons), with others running from 125 down to 86. Regular Army officers, of course, do not have take the trouble of calculating their release dates. Four of the nine colonels at headquarters are Regular Army. Of the others, Col. L. D. Densmore of the Economic Section, at this reading, leads the pack with 108 points.

Interesting to note also was the expression of desire as to staying in or getting out. Of the group examined, 32 wanted to be discharged but would take a commission in the reserve corps (B2); 24 wanted out pure and simple (B1), which makes a total of 56. Twenty-nine others were listed as follows: 11 offered to stay for the emergency (A1); four would stay and take reserve appointments (A2), and 14 would stay and take Regular Army appointments (A3).

Although this sampling shows two thirds "want out", chances seem slim for early releases, according to the word at regimental headquarters at the moment. The British component, however, had 111 officers earmarked for early release but orders have delayed this happy event until July 31, for the reasons that AC has military necessity for these officers. Another 150 are slated to leave in August. A poll of the original May draft resulted in 60 officers volunteering to stay until no longer needed in AC. In the interim the British side is trying to find replacements for those who will leave, appealing to the British War Selection Board. Eventual departure of the British officers will put respective national officer strengths at more like parity, the British command having been more liberal in their assignments to AC.

Lastly, but not yet official, U. S. Navy personnel are talking of an imminent order sending back home a sizeable contingent of Navy men attached to AC.

ODDS AND ENDS

On May 15 a daily air courier service to cover the North from Rome was started through arrangements by the Air Forces Sub-Commission (lending the use of Italian planes) and Maj. U. J. Birch, Hq. Dispatch Officer. — The Civil Affairs Section will for the present continue having charge of mine clearance activities, not Land Forces Sub-Commission, as we said somewhat prematurely last week but there may be changes. — The ceiling of the Carabinieri, who were reviewed by Field Marshal Alexander in Rome last week, has been increased to 65,000, but there is difficulty finding an equal number of rations at the moment. — The Communications Sub-Commission will be able to start postal service to the North as soon as it finds another four of the eight trucks it needs and which it may get from the Fiat works in Turin. — Messina reports 38 cases of typhus and 8 deaths; Public Health Sub-Commission specialists with dusting powder have been dispatched to the area as a safeguard. — 50,000 older Italian soldiers are to be demobilized on AFHQ authority. — Col. Ernest T. De Wald, director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, whose staff has labored like beavers to protect Italy's classic heritage, is leaving for the North to inspect the art treasures hidden by the Germans in the Alto Adige, a trip which should help bring to a close the mission of the Sub-Commission in Italy. — Public Safety Sub-Commission reports that an armed band, in the best Wild West style, held up a train near Licata, Sicily, and robbed 100 passengers. — The Local Government Sub-Commission has made arrangements for Italian Ministry of the Interior officials to proceed North to search for the complete administrative records of the Italian Government which were removed by the Fascist Republicans. — The United States Information Service (U. S. I. S.) in Italy is seeking American speakers to talk before Italian organizations on their specialities; candidates apply to the Public Relations Branch. — Speaking of public relations, AC's PRB sent off 14 Italian and two neutral correspondents to Milan in a private plane last week in cooperation with AFHQ PRO. — All AMG officers have been requested by Hq. to give all possible help to Allied correspondents, including mess, billet and transport, who may wander into their areas in search of stories; it is one of the sure-fire ways that AC and AMG can get a good press. — Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, is acting as AC representative at German Army Hq. at Bolzano. — The German prisoners-of-war under British control will probably be concentrated in Emilia Region, in the Rimini neighborhood, a factor which may help retard turnback of that particular territory to the Italian Government. — The Germans under U. S. Army control will probably be near Brescia. — Brigadier McCarthy, former director of the AC's Patriots Branch and now in charge of Eritrea, was back in Rome still trying to get authority to bring back to Italy 5,000 surplus Italians from the colony.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

71

1 Boat Rock 1/33

May 11, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 6

POLITICAL

The North wind, so exultantly sniffed by Pietro Nenni many months ago, blew into Rome this week and deposited representatives of the Northern CLN in the capital for a series of conversations and negotiations sure to determine the trend of Italian political developments in the months to come. The Northern delegates were met at the airport by De Gasperi, Scoccimarro and other dignitaries and subsequently were given various opportunities to express their views. They had indeed a rather busy program, calling on the Allied Embassies and on Admiral Stone as well as having frequent contacts, not entirely social, with the central CLN, the secretaries of the six parties in Rome and individually their own opposite numbers. Only five parties were represented in the Northern delegation, the Labor Democrats not being included in the CLNAI.

Bonomi, who was unable to be at the airport because of his visit to Alexander at Caserta for reciprocal congratulations, later received the group and heard Morandi, Socialist and President of the CLNAI, voice the desire of the North for "a complete democratic revival in the life of the nation". The delegation also presented to Bonomi a specific five point program, as follows: Epuration extending from the political to the administrative and economic field; clarification of relations between prefects and regional and provincial Committees of Liberation; economic reconstruction to be financed particularly by those who profited from years of autarchy or by collaboration with the Fascists and the Germans; agrarian reform; and lastly, a foreign policy "free from any kind of nationalism" and aiming at democratic collaboration among nations. Pacciardi, who had obviously hoped for a demand for a republic, complained that the North wind had turned out to be merely a sigh; he was however somewhat consoled by the report brought down by the delegates that the prefect of Milan had made no effort to receive the Luogotenente.

Speeches in piazza.

On the 8th the Northern emissaries made a series of public addresses at a meeting in Piazza Santi Apostoli, headquarters of the CLN. Morandi's speech was particularly noteworthy. He made the point that the insurrection of the North should not be regarded as a regional thing; the problems and the feelings of Italians were national and not regional; it was pure circumstance that had given the North its role. This forestalled somewhat the criticism in *Italia Nuova* that the North was trying to claim the lion's share of the credit for Italy's long resistance to the Germans and it was certainly calculated to allay the feeling of being slighted which some Romans (and other Italians of points South) very naturally evidence (though not for publication) at the lavish praise accorded the Northern patriots. Morandi then went on to say that the country must have a new government to bring about national unity and truly to represent the people.

Such statements may be regarded as logical from a Socialist for the Socialists are the leading opposition party and they have made no secret of their desire to get rid of Bonomi. Whether or not he goes, the next step on the agenda of the Leftist parties is the summoning of the Constituent Assembly. Actually the other parties, notably the Labour Democrats who have recently shown somewhat more sympathy to the Left, are also concerned with this matter but it is the Socialists who have taken the lead and stressed the urgency of action. On May 4th *Avanti* stated that an immediate campaign for the summoning of the Constituent Assembly would begin and on the 10th Nenni fired the first shot, speaking from the stage of Rome's Teatro Brancaccio.

Assembly needed.

He began by stressing the need of calling the Assembly as soon as possible and went on briskly to denounce the machinations of the reactionary forces during the Bonomi regimine, which he characterized, in passing, as one of compromise with the past. These forces of reaction, he asserted, were trying to divide Italy by driving a

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

wedge between the Northern worker and the Southern contadino. They were also responsible for bringing to the fore the question of Trieste, on which he took occasion to reiterate the Socialist thesis that the Italian character of the city can be preserved by a democratic understanding between the two peoples and a rectification of the Eastern frontier in such a way as to do justice to both parties. He also castigated the reaction for what he called its efforts to nullify the efforts of Scoccimarro, Berlinguer et al. in the field of epuration. The Socialist leader then went on to plead with the Christian Democrats to take a clear-cut stand on the institutional question, arguing that the socialization of industry and agrerian reform are inevitably allied to the proper – i. e. in his opinion the republican – solution of this problem.

Nenni's speech was in part a kind of oral implementation of the Socialist program announced in a communiqué from party headquarters on May 3rd. There it was stated that the time has come for a revision of Italy's political position (meaning of course an end to the ambiguous state of co-belligerency; lest there be any doubt about it *Unità* spelled it out for us very clearly later in the week: "Allied control must be liquidated"). The communique added that "a new political orientation" is needed to provide immediately for setting up the Costituente and to carry on meanwhile the work of democratisation and reconstruction.

Position on Trieste.

The communiqué had also given the Socialist position on Trieste, stating, as Nenni later repeated with embellishments, that the final solution must take into account both the "Italian character" and the "European function" of the city. Less conciliatory on this subject was the order of the day (May 4) of the Democratic (Monarchist) party, affirming the "italianità" not only of Trieste but of all Venezia Giulia and Zara as well and calling on all parties to rally to the defence of the integrity of the national territory... The situation in Trieste is a matter of concern to all Italians at the moment; the announcement on May 8th that Tito had appointed a commander of the town caused general uneasiness and the Council of Ministers on the 9th charged Bonomi and De Gasperi to take the matter up with the Allied authorities. A by-product of this *febbre triestina* was the rather violent street affair on the 4th. A pro-Trieste demonstration was interrupted by a counter-demonstration of the Communists and in the ensuing mêlée there were a number injured and many arrests. All parties seem to have been a little sobered by the affair and have ordered their followers to abstain from street demonstrations.

Churchill's message to Bonomi, congratulating the Italian army and partisans and looking forward to the time "when Italy... will cooperate with the United Nations in the fruitful works of peace" was very well received. The phraseology, of course, is susceptible of various interpretations. Italians are on the whole inclined to an optimistic reading. *Voce Repubblicana* remarked rather mischievously, however, that Churchill's words are good but "we must learn to be like the English and put our trust not so much in words as in deeds."

...AND MORE THAN POLITICAL

The biggest event of the week, political or otherwise, was the end of the war. It came to Rome as something of an anti-climax since the fighting was already over in Italy and rumours of the surrender in Germany had been frequent enough to dull the edge of triumph. Nonetheless the screeching of the siren and the ringing of churchbells at six o'clock on the afternoon of the seventh were somehow impressive. The next two days were holidays; flags were displayed and thanksgiving services were held. Crowds of exultant Italians marched around to the Allied embassies on the evening of the seventh, and later that night and on the two succeeding evenings groups of exuberant and happy youngsters on leave milled around the streets singing more or less tunefully the proper songs for the occasion not forgetting that old favorite: "Show Me the Way to go Home." The weather of the 8th and 9th was ideal holiday weather-hot with recurrent cooling breezes and a generous and sympathetic sunshine that somehow recalled the days when the circus came to town... One could sense an air of freedom and cheerfulness though there was nothing in the nature of frenzied or hysterical celebration... So it ends, as the poet says "not with a bang" but not "with a whimper" either; rather in a sense of satisfaction and relief. And perhaps too with an underlying awareness of unfinished business. Italians were asking, after the first flush of rejoicing: "And now what?" And many of us are asking, with varying emotions, "And now where?"

AMG IN THE NORTH

Plenty of details are being carried on the official wires about the North these days but they may all be summed up thus: Everything is fairly under control, although obviously the international political situation in Venezia Giulia

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

and Trieste is one which will have be ironed out by the highest commands. SCAO VIII Army has the Venezia Giulia AMG teams close to Isonzo but only a few officers have entered Trieste as yet as Liaison Officers with the military units. Bolzano, which the Germans were methodically preparing for incorporation into the fallen Reich, now has AMG in control. It has 150,000 German-speaking inhabitants and 100,000 Italians, but no discord between the races, in fact, reports say, close accord. Bolzano sustained little damage. In the Udine there is quiet and also Yugoslav detachments. Many Italians conscripted to work for the Todt organization are now moving away from Bolzano, incidentally.

Food seems to be in hand throughout the Po Valley, though transport difficulties about getting the stocks into the cities are appearing. AFHQ has indicated that all captured German transport will be turned over to AMG for this use. Turin and Milan feel the food pinch most, but nowhere critically. Liguria, because of its location, has to be fed principally by sea and some concern is felt. Arms are being satisfactorily handled in at Genoa, as at other places. At Verona, for example, about 4,000 weapons were turned in. Verona and Vicenza have suffered more art damage than any of the other cities in the path of the fighting. The French who came into western Liguria disarmed many Partisans, although AMG is now on the ground in all parts of the region except in a small portion still held by the French. There is also talk of French electric power being relayed to Genoa.

In Milan, after protracted discussion between the Italians, IV Corps and PWB concerning the establishment of the *Corriere della Sera*, it has been decided to go ahead with publication of the famous pre-Fascist newspaper as soon as possible, under a duly appointed Commissariat. Milan also has an exportable surplus of electric power. Factories are working but are not expected to do so long since raw materials are short. Even a few railroad trains are running. Gas works are in usable conditions, but everywhere there is a shortage of, and great cry for, coal.

Prices, in general, are going up and the disparity between the North and the South seems to be disappearing, although wages were a complicated problem, being in some cases better than in the South but in most others lower.

Refugees are developing into a problem, one estimate putting 300,000 north of Verona. Many of these refugees are from Germany and Austria. Speaking of refugees, Mussolini's wife, Rachele, and two children, are being moved to an internment camp not far from Rome.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Section is busy looking into the Northern economic situation, with Mr. A. G. Antolini, Acting Vice President, inspecting conditions on the spot. Other news of importance has to do with the sale of surplus U. S. war equipment to the Italian Government which is a straight deal between the U. S. and the Italians, with the Allied Commission being used as a general advisor. The list of materials to be made available is now being made up by G-4 at AFHQ while the U. S. Army and Navy Liquidation Board, sitting in Rome, is figuring out procedures for the sales and transfers of ownership.

Use of German prisoners-of-war – and there are certainly plenty of them – is under discussion by Economic Section sub-commissions. There is a question of the ration they should receive if put to work. Under terms of the Geneva Convention, they are well-off as POW's. If treated as a disbanded army, they may get a ration one third as large as the British-American one. Brigadier General E. B. McKinley, Deputy Vice President — Supply, is investigating the matter.

Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President, Production, is proposing to establish an Industrial Advisory Board, with sub-committees for each basic industry, composed of representatives of the AC, the Italian Government and of each industry, to counsel on general industrial priorities and re-activation procedures.

Looking forward to the day that the Economic Section might be a mission attached (in respect of nationality) to the embassies here, the sub-commissions are being asked to keep the embassies informed of all their plans and activities. The two commercial attaches of the embassies have been privy to AC economic affairs in detail for some time, having been principals in the current negotiations concerning revival of Italian foreign trade.

A new factory has started in Ravenna for the manufacture of substitute machinery belting, where, instead of rubber, impregnated canvas is used; the plant, once materials flow in steadily, will have a capacity of 3,000 meters a month. — The wheat collection, as of May 9, was 11,123,583 qtl. and that for olive oil 474,241 qtl. — The Etruria Co. sulphuric acid plant near Florence has commenced production. — More than 185 qtl. of sodium materials were released to pharmaceutical manufacturing firms last week. — The Sicily Advisory Committee on Electric Power has fixed a three-year program of importing foreign machinery and plans to increase the storage capacity of the Gammmanta Dam by 500,000 cubic meters.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ANOTHER TRANSFER OF TERRITORY

On May 10 the fifth transfer of territory back to Italian Government jurisdiction was consummated. Umbria-Marche Region closed down May 9 and officers began to withdraw. Affected were the Provinces of Grosseto, Siena and Arezzo in Tuscany, Terni and Perugia in Umbria and Ascoli Piceno, Macerata, Ancona and Pesaro in the Marche, with the Port and Commune of Ancona remaining under AMG. This brings approximately three-fifths of Italy and 24,000,000 persons back under direct Italian rule. The Chief Commissioner, in a press release, said there would be another transfer of territory in the near future. It will probably consist, it was indicated, of the rest of Tuscany Region – the Provinces of Lucca, Apuania, Pistoia, Pisa, Livorno and Firenze – plus the Ravenna and Forli Provinces of Emilia Region. This would then close down Tuscany Region, too, thus freeing more officers for the North.

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner and Vice President of the Establishment Section, who has been acting as a sort of roving fullback for the Allied Commission in the North, has been awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star he only recently won. The Cluster was presented by Maj. Gen. Willis D. Crittenberger, commanding general, IV Corps, in recognition of the colonel's "bravery and good judgment" in seizing the commander of the German SS troops in Milan and arranging the surrender of the Nazis under SS command there. — May 12 is known as R-Day in NATOUSA, meaning that all records must be up to date so that redeployment of U. S. personnel can commence, at least from the bookkeeping side. — Air Vice Marshal I. E. Brodie (B) is the new director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission. — 600 tons of U. S. medical supplies are being unloaded at Leghorn while at Naples another 750 tons are being turned over to Italian authorities for distribution in Southern Italy. — The Public Health Sub-Commission has borrowed 50 tons of Paris green from military sources for the malaria campaign. — American school children are sending, through the Junior Red Cross, 20,000 gift boxes to Italian children, the Education Sub-Commission reports. — AFHQ has lent the AC 50 mine detectors for use in mine-clearing, which activity will hereafter be directed by the Land Forces Sub-Commission, using Italian Army personnel. — The Rear Army Control Line, according to the Civil Affairs Section, will shortly be moved on the line of the River Piave and due North and, in effect, result in virtually complete freedom of civilian movement in Italy again.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

RESTRICTED

May 4, 1945

ALLIED COMMISSION
WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 5

POLITICAL

A new and invigorating current has flowed into the Italian political stream during the past week. If similes were not out of place in the sober columns of our *Bulletin*, we might say that this current has in it something of the fresh swiftness of the Adige and something of the serene purposefulness of the Po. The Tiber, itself not normally a stream to be sneezed at, looks a little sluggish by contrast...

What will be the final result of recent political developments in the North is as yet not predictable but certain effects are already discernible. The rapid and coordinated operations of the patriots which enabled them to seize and organize Milan, Genoa, Turin and other large cities of the North before the Allied armies entered have given Italian morale a lift perceptible even in the capital. "Italy has now not only martyrs but heroes as well", wrote Pacciardi in *Voce Repubblicana*, concluding that Italians have now the right to talk to the "heroic Tito" on terms of equality.

Summary Justice.

The case for Allied status has of course been much strengthened—and not only in Italian opinion—by the deeds of the patriots, praised by Italian and Allied authorities alike.

The summary justice inflicted on Mussolini and his henchmen brought forth cries of exultation from those who had been saying bitterly that epuration in Italy has so far been a joke and general approval from all sides—except the *Osservatore Romano*, which entered a protest against the "violent and macabre" circumstances of Mussolini's execution. Finally the end of German resistance in Italy proclaimed by General Clark on the 30th and confirmed by the announcement of the May 2, surrender at Caserta of General Vietinghoff's emissaries has reminded the antimonarchist parties (if indeed "remind" is the word for something they have never forgotten) that by the terms of the Salerno agreement the "institutional truce" comes to an end with the liberation of the country and the setting up of the Constituent Assembly which should follow. (See *Weekly Bulletin*, no. 12, for June 25, 1944.)

The C. L. N. parties held a joint rally on the 29th to celebrate the glorious events in the North and speakers from all of the six parties addressed the crowd. According to reports the audience was strongly anti-monarchist in its reactions, and when the Christian Democrat speaker attempted to say—quoting Churchill—that "one man alone" had brought ruin to Italy, he was interrupted by shouts of "No, no; the King too", "Badoglio", etc. The republican party as might be expected, lost no time in taking advantage of this state of mind and published a manifesto declaring the institutional truce was over and the time has now come for summoning the Costituente (in which the monarchists may also be represented, added the manifesto) and meanwhile a provisional government should be set up.

May Day.

A May Day pronouncement of the Socialist and Communist parties likewise called for the Constituent Assembly and announced their joint platform would have three points: establishment of a republic, socialization of monopolistic industry and agrarian reform. Other parties or factions of parties are invited to support this program. Togliatti in two speeches commemorating Gramsci (Communist leader who died in a Fascist prison in 1937) and in another radio talk as well called for "a new political direction" for the country, and, at the public meeting of the 29th, recalled Bonomi's promise to resign as soon as the North was liberated.

The government's response to events has been, as is logical, somewhat less revolutionary. A message of congratulation to the Allied Armies and the patriots was issued on the 27th with the accompanying statement that the needs and aspirations of the North would be studied and satisfied as far as possible. The government has also asked the Allied Commission for permission to contact Northern C. L. N. as soon as possible and it is reported that representatives of the Northern groups are soon to come to Rome to meet with the government and the opposition

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

parties in the capital. What—if any—changes will come out of this meeting is yet to be seen. Nenni (in *Avanti*), leading the Leftist drive for immediate convocation of the Constituent Assembly, declared that anyone who retards or obstructs the formation of the new body is a traitor, and the time has come to sweep aside the "putrefying corpse of the monarchy". The government papers however have so far confined themselves to exultant and laudatory comments on liberation and the partisans.

Concern for Trieste.

The general concern for the future of Trieste and Venezia Giulia was sharpened by the rumour of Tito's occupation of the Adriatic port—recent reports which state carefully that the city was liberated by partisans and not Tito's regular troops may have somewhat allayed this concern though it is too early to assess the reaction. The government, after consultation with Allied authorities, declared on the 30th that the problem of Venezia Giulia cannot properly be studied until the war is over and that meanwhile, by the terms of the armistice, the Region must pass under Allied military administration... Italians are also somewhat troubled by the advance of French troops in Piemonte, a move which, as *La Capitale* sees it, "makes no sense at this time from a military point of view."

Another result of the pride in the heroism of the North has been the intensification of the campaign in the press against the proposed economic barrier between North and South. As noted last week there has already been much criticism of this scheme; this week's press has returned to the charge with reinforcements. Not only *Avanti* and *Italia Libera* but the Liberal *Risorgimento Liberale* and the economic journal *Secolo Ventesimo* have attacked the project as politically deplorable and economically unsound. It is clear that Italians are unanimous in wanting unity and territorial integrity; many, too want a change in the government—just how many, time will tell.

AMG WITH THE ARMIES

With the surrender of the German armies in Italy on May 2, an end finally came to the rush of special sitreps following the swift advance of the Allied Forces, and one may stop to take stock of what has been found in the North where AMG is in full control, having moved almost as rapidly as the combat troops. Everywhere, of course, there is praise for the Patriots whose guard on power plants and supplies has helped immeasurably to ease the situation. Northern Italy, in brief, is largely undamaged, which makes the work of AMG that much easier. In fact, as the Chief Commissioner told the forward staffs in a recent memorandum, the period of AMG control may be shorthr and should be lighter than what was anticipated, especially with the Northern C. L. N. apparently anxious to cooperate with Allied authority in local administration.

From special reports by the two Armies, 15th Army Group and Special Force officers, whose undercover work with the Patriots has paid off in big dividends, the following summary account of key cities in the North may be made:

Bologna, little damaged outside the railroad yards, had 50,000 refugees, but with power and water limited. A large number of trucks are available, needing about two weeks to be made roadworthy. La Spezia was also only moderately damaged. Verona suffered heavily, all bridges being blown but the power station escaped unscathed. Some art damage, also. Food distribution needed and is getting a re-organization. Genoa, with Brigadier M. Carr, RC of Liguria, in charge, is normal. First food shipments by sea are on the way. Ferrara, where the 8th Army smashed into the German flank, has no water or power. Venice is completely undamaged, with all conditions normal. Milan suffered heavily from air raids naturally but all utilities are working. Food is short but not critical. Lombardy has 70,000 tons of coal but hardly any gas. Reports from Pavia, Reggio, Modena, Piacenza, Treviso and Turin, all indicate no damage and installations saved.

In cooperation with PWB, AMG is also trying out a new scheme for transport in the North. Civilians are being asked to assemble hidden vehicles and register them with AMG for food distribution. It is pointed out to the civilians that the trucks are to be rented, as it were, and not requisitioned unless absolutely needed. Other news includes another big Patriot parade, this time in Modena, where Brigadier General E. E. Hume reviewed 10,000 Patriots who handed in ten truckloads of arms. Carabinieri have moved into the North in force also, some 6,000 being there now and another 4,000 on the way.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The news from the Economic Section this week is all in the North, as with practically all other AC activity. Every Sub-Commission has sent or plans shortly to send, special delegations to the area to investigate conditions on the ground. Mr. A. G. Antolini, Acting Vice President, is

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

expected to take a tour of the region also in the next few days. Mr. K. E. Stauffer of the Economic Section is currently looking into Northern price levels. Mr. L. J. Kugel, Deputy Director of the Commerce Sub-Commission, is examining the trade possibilities. The Section is also waiting on information concerning key installations and supplies from the surrendered German forces. The economic boundary, with road blocks, set up between the North and the rest of Italy came in for a press release in which the Economic Section told the Italian press particularly, that the control line would be kept only as long as was necessary to work out means to weld the two economies together.

The Industry Sub-Commission is in process of trying to derequisition the Arrigoni food processing plants, largest canners in Italy and much of whose equipment can be put back to work in short order. — Emilia Region hopes to export 5,000 tons of fruit this season. — A new system in forward regions whereby payment is required for WD transport has boosted traffic on the Autotrasporti agencies, in Emilia, for example, to 8,000 tons in March, compared with 5,000 in February. — The wheat collection, as of May 2, was 11,387,440 quintals and the olive oil collection 463,159 quintals.— The Rome Tuscolana plant resumed production of sulphuric acid April 28.

PBS IN NAPLES

Close cooperation between officials of the U. S. Army's Peninsular Base Section and those of the Allied Commission resulted in lasting benefits to Italians through the restoration of shattered utilities in the Naples area. This was revealed in a recent PBS report on rehabilitation of utilities in that zone during the first 11 months of Allied operations there. While vital to the military in the conduct of an arduous campaign, the work of restoring sewers, electric power installations, water facilities, streets, roads and sewers had an all-important bearing on the everyday lives of the civil population.

Chaotic conditions were found to prevail in the Naples area when our troops first occupied it and officials of the AC took over the administration of civil affairs. As one of the first steps in restoration and rehabilitation, civilian officials and contractors were called upon for such manpower and materials as were available. The actual work started immediately under the supervision of PBS Engineers and the ensuing results were impressive, the report revealed.

First task was to open up street and road nets from the port to Army installations throughout the vicinity. This called for mine clearance, the removal of huge quantities of rubble and the filling of hundreds of bomb craters using Army Engineer troops and equipment together with many civilian laborers and such rock, gravel and other materials as the immediate area afforded.

This work, which started immediately upon the arrival of Allied troops, expanded steadily from mid-December 1943 until early in May 1944 when a road net of 225 miles outside of Naples and all of the main arteries within the city were maintained by PBS Engineers. The work continued to expand until, at the end of the 11 months period, 1,284,918 Allied military man hours had been expended on the work. In addition, Italian civilians worked 2,007,650 man hours and Italian military units worked over a half million man hours. Nearly a half million truck and heavy equipment hours were expended.

Next in importance to traffic arteries was the need for swift action to repair Naples' sewers and water system. Faced with the threat of a major epidemic, PBS and AC officials rushed sewer repair work and at the end of the period covered in the report had accomplished emergency work on sewers at 24 key points in the Naples system. On this work the military expended 27,444 man hours while 136,298 civilian man hours were used.

The retreating Germans had shrewdly demolished key installations in the city's water system and this problem had to be met aggressively. The result of extensive repairs to reservoirs, aqueducts and city water mains was the immediate establishment of a series of water points for civilians, as well as to fill military needs, and the eventual restoration of normal services through a series of emergency and permanent installations.

Like work was accomplished in the restoration of minimum electric power facilities. Here again the Germans had done their usual thorough job of destruction. Despite the extent of the damage, which had completely deprived the Naples area of electric power, emergency repair work resulted in near normal conditions at the end of the 11 months period.

The same result was achieved in the matter of communications. Beginning two days after the initial landing at Salerno, PBS Signal troops worked steadily forward with the advancing combat units and, by the end of the period covered in the report, had restored civilian switchboards destroyed by the retreating Germans, maintained military lines of communication and re-established a minimum civilian service covering the entire metropolitan area. On all of the work done in the area by and under supervision

1483

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

of PBS troops, civilians were employed whenever possible in order to relieve Armed Forces personnel for close support of combat units.

ODDS AND ENDS

The next transfer of territory to the Italian Government will take place shortly subject to ratification by the Allied Advisory Council, and will include the Provinces of Grosseto, Siena and Arezzo in Tuscany, Terni and Perugia in Umbria and Pesaro, Ancona, Macerata and Ascoli in the Marche, with the Commune and Port of Ancona remaining under AMG. — The Umbria-Marche Region will be abolished in course and AC officers withdrawn except for a few specialist and liaison men. — Arrival of sugar shipments made possible the first distribution of sugar in four months in Perugia, Umbria-Marche Region reports. — Col. Paul F. Russell, famed Rockefeller Foundation malarialogist, who was on duty with the Public Health Sub-Commission until recently, has been awarded the Legion of Merit. — We have two new full colonels Arthur E. Sutherland, 5th Army AMG chief of staff, and Hamilton T. Walker, SCAO, IV Corps: congratulations to all. — UNRRA reports that 12,000 tons of goods have been delivered to Italy, with three more ships on the way. — More than 200 U. S. officers in AC have expressed interest in being civilianized on the spot in response to the recent circular asking for applicants for FEA and the Auxiliary Foreign Service of the State Department. Permission is about to be given for the Italian Government to discuss its hopes for civil aviation — The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission is studying the question of repatriating Libyan school children brought to Italy from that Italian colony. — Lieut. Col. C. T. Francis (B), Public safety Chief in Lombardy, has received the OBE and Lieut. Col. E. J. Pullen, SCAPO, 8th Army AMG, and Major T. Sculby, the MBE: felicitations. — Emilia Way, house organ of Emilia Region, tells us that a free election was held (with permission) in the Commune of Mondaino in Forlì Province, in which voted 833 persons out of 1,085 men and women eligible and that 60 per cent. cast ballots for the Communist Party. — The first civil air mail service abroad – to Tripolitania – has started.

ERRATUM

Our face is red. In our account of the Acting President's trip to the North in the April 27th issue of the Bulletin, there was a slight mix-up of names. Mr. MacMillan was met at General Clark's headquarters by Col. Nelson Montfort, DCCAO, and Lieut. Col. P. Friend-James and not by Col. A. C. Bowman, who met the Acting President later in 8th Army territory. Our apologies.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

937

April 27, 1945

33

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 4

POLITICAL

The government's "definitive decisions" on the formation of the Consultative Assembly were announced at the end of the Council meeting on Wednesday. As noted in last week's Bulletin the parties of the C. L. N. will have a preponderant majority in this assembly which will number around three hundred in all. In addition to the representatives of the parties there will be appointed also spokesmen for the various unions, and twenty four members from the CGIL. The new partisan group (Associazione Nazionale Partigiani Italiani, known as ANPI) will have six members and representation of other agencies will bring the veterans total up to 10. The free professions will have ten delegates. As planned originally too the Consultative Assembly will include the 60 staunch anti-Fascist ex-deputati of the pre-Mussolini parliament and 9 senators. *Italia Nuova* (whose democratic non C. L. N. party gets 10 seats) doesn't like it much and described the new organization as "neither political nor technical, neither traditional nor revolutionary, founded on compromise and a typical creation of neodemocracy Bonomi style", which is to say, in *Italia Nuova*'s opinion "totalitarian in essence". It is true that the representation is weighted heavily in favor of the C. L. N. — even more heavily than is apparent since it is likely that many of the labor representatives, many if not most of the old parliamentarians and some others may belong to one of the six parties. It is also true, however, that almost every kind of political and social current has been given expression in the new assembly and since it is purely a "Consulta" and not a parliament, the actual strength of the representation is probably not as important as *Italia Nuova* would have one think.

Wednesday's meeting began with a message read to the Council by Bonomi congratulating the Allied armies on their successes in the North and landing with particular pride Italy's two armies—regulars and the partisans—for their share in the victories. It was in a way symbolic that the meeting should begin on this strain for Italians are looking North these days and the press has been full of accounts of the physical and moral conditions encountered in Bologna and adjacent points, many papers commenting on the "dignity" with which the people of Bologna received the liberating armies—some contrasting it sharply with the behaviour of Romans and Neapolitans. Incidentally the Roman press is beginning to show some signs of uneasiness at the principle of the economic "cordon sanitaire" between North and South planned for the early stages of AMG administration (see last weeks Bulletin: Warming up for Northern Italy). Nenni in *Avanti* led the attack and was supported by *Italia Libera* and *Il Popolo*. More discussion of this matter is to be expected.

The press is in unhappy unanimity on the subject of exclusion of Italy from San Francisco. *Marforio*, a weekly comic sheet, proposed that the opening day of the conference be declared a day of mourning—not for Italy but for the rest of the world since a new world order could hardly hope for success if it began by excluding "a country as rich as Italy in political experience". This puts the case rather more strongly than most but all parties regard the action—or rather lack of action—of the United Nations as an indication of their misunderstanding of the new Italy. Indeed at the meeting of the Council De Gasperi read a message to his fellow ministers expressing Italy's disappointment—this message is to go to the United Nations.

ACTING PRESIDENT SEES AMG IN OPERATION

Anticipating events in the north, Acting President Harold MacMillan left his desk last week to make a flying four-day trip to the forward regions. He was accompanied by the Director of Public Relations and Lieutenant John Atkinson, his aide.

On the initial day he conferred with General Mark W. Clark regarding the progress of the offensive. He was met at the General's headquarters by Col. Alfred C. Bowman, Regional Commissioner for Emilia, who later conducted him by special plane to Forli where Air Commodore C. E. Benson, SCAO, 8th Army AMG, joined the party.

The second day saw the President out early to inspect various phases of AMG work in Ravenna, Rimini and Riccione. Lt. Col. Henry P. Kucera, Provincial Commissioner in Ravenna, and Major Norman Newton, Monuments and Fine Arts, showed him the splendid work that had been done in restoring damaged historical monuments in and around the city.

Inspection of mine clearance came next with Major N. W. Harrisson conducting the party. The President interestedly watched AMG-trained Italians prodding out "SCHU" mines from a farmer's field.

The next stop was at the Saccheria Ravennate plant, near Ravenna, where Major H. B.

1482

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Bradbury (a former Connecticut lawyer turned industrialist by the mysteries of AMG) has done a fine job in reactivating a hemp and rubber plant. The plant is concentrating on the production of machine belting made from hemp cloth and scrap rubber. The plant will soon produce enough belting to supply all the machinery of Italy. It also will manufacture sacks, tarpaulin, shoes, rubber soles, etc.

Inspects Plant.

Enroute from Ravenna to Rimini the President inspected one of a series of repaired pumping plants which have drained the land flooded by the Germans. He was shown around by Capt. C. H. Ault.

In Rimini the President was unusually interested in the new town plan and the rehousing project. He went over the blueprints with Lt. Colonel H. S. Robinson, Major T. Goodacre and Lieut. Peter Natale.

A refugee station occupied chief interest of the President in Riccione. He saw how the refugees were brought in, vetted by security, bathed, disinfected, fed and lodged. Grateful refugees spoke warmly to him of the care they were receiving.

During the afternoon word came through that Bologna had been liberated. To celebrate the news and the imminent transfer of Emilia headquarters to that city, Col. Bowman "threw" a banquet with flowers and speeches.

The third day of his visit was spent with the 8th Army Commander witnessing military operations in forward areas and meeting with members of the Guards Brigade, in which he served in the last war. The President returned to his camp near Imola covered with dust and in a happy frame of mind.

The red-letter day of the trip was the visit to Bologna and Modena, the latter visit a few hours after it was liberated. Brig. General Erskine E. Hume SCAO, 5th Army AMG, met Mr. MacMillan at the Municipio in Bologna where AMG had established headquarters.

The streets were crowded with happy Bolognese and jubilant partisans roamed the streets looking for Fascists and collaborationists. There was an occasional bit of shooting between Partisans and members of the Black Brigade, some of which the President saw from the window of General Hume's office.

Conditions Good.

Generally the President found conditions were good in Bologna and that AMG had matters in hand. He complimented General Hume on his early arrival in the city and the way things were being handled. Colonel Bowman in the meantime was scouting around for office space for his regional headquarters when the territory will revert to him.

To the Allied war correspondents who had established themselves at AMG headquarters, Mr. MacMillan made the following statement:

"It has been a great occasion for me to visit Bologna so soon after its liberation, and to see that most of the city has escaped destruction. Allied Military Government, with the cooperation of the population, appears to have the situation well in hand. Essential public services are being quickly restored and life is rapidly returning to normal.

"In due course Emilia will probably pass to the administration of a freely-chosen Italian government. Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, and I call upon the people of Bologna and the population of the rest of Emilia which is being rapidly liberated from the invader, to put their hands, their hearts and their minds now to the reconstruction of a democratic Italy, welded together by the idea of national unity."

Trip to Modena.

By lunch time word had come through that Modena, to the north of Bologna, had been liberated. General Hume, without lingering at lunch, decided to hurry there on behalf of AMG. Sensing the possibility of excitement, the President insisted on going along. His civilian hat flapping in clouds of dust, the President jeeped to Modena with the General, passing long lines of troops moving forward. At the gates of Modena the President's jeep was halted by enthusiastic natives who tearfully shook his hand and that of the General. Bunches of flowers were tossed into the car.

Partisans, loaded with every variety of lethal war equipment, jumped aboard the jeep and directed the General and the President to the Municipio where they met briefly with the Partisan leaders who had been running the city since the day before.

The Partisans reported there still were a few Germans and Fascists in the city and this was verified by the sound of an occasional burst of gun fire from various sections of the city. Later, as the party moved through the streets alongside a group of German prisoners and collaborationists being taken to prison, the shooting increased in tempo and everyone (including the visiting Liberators) had to take cover temporarily. Before leaving the President received assurances from the Partisans that order would be promptly restored in Modena.

Following his return to headquarters in Rome, the *Bulletin* asked the President to give our readers a short message. Here it is:

MacMillan Message.

"When I was appointed Acting President of the Allied Commission last November by President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill, I sent a

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

message to all AC/AMG officers and officials saying that I hoped to meet them personally as often and as soon as possible.

"In spite of a number of distractions (including a visit to London to lay the foundations of the New Deal for Italy and several weeks of civil war in Athens) I have seen a good deal of the work both at headquarters and in the field. I have also had the good fortune to make two four-day trips to the forward areas in recent weeks – one upon the west of the line, and the other a few days ago upon the eastern side.

"Like every other observer I have been immensely impressed by how much you have achieved with very modest resources. The whole conception of Allied Military Government is unique in two ways: first, because never have victorious armies turned so immediately to the task of liberation and reconstruction, and secondly, because never has an alliance between two nations been accompanied by such closely woven and integrated effort. At Headquarters we deal with papers and plans; in the field one has the inspiration of seeing these plans translated into action. And what a variety of things I have seen in recent days!

"My visit to the Fifth Army a few weeks ago enabled me to appreciate the work of consolidation behind the lines and preparation for the great forward move. My visit to the Eighth Army and to part of the Fifth a few days ago gave me the privilege of seeing the actual forward spring. After many disappointments and great hardships the Allied armies have won a complete and resounding victory. The courage of the troops has been made fruitful by the rare skill of their commanders. In this triumph AMG officers can claim their share. They have at least enough taste of the risks to stimulate and inspire. I have seen this with my own eyes. They also have the satisfaction of carrying into actual operation plans so long prepared. And the variety and complexity of their work would hardly be believed by the ordinary public. Under your guidance the agricultural and industrial life of Italy is being salvaged and restored. The housing and the feeding of her people is in your hands. The preservation of the greatest and most traditional of her national resources – her arts and monuments – is in your keeping. Hardly has the smoke of battle been lifted when the work of reconstruction begins. You have to improvise by new and unconventional methods. You have to depend on resourcefulness and initiative. From the first landings in Sicily to the Pisa-Rimini line where we have stood so long you have done a splendid work.

"We now set out together on a new task. I am certain that you will crown your efforts by success in the solution of the problems that await us in Northern Italy. If you can do this (and I am sure you can) and set the Italian people upon a new path towards liberty and dignity, you will be able to look back with legitimate pride as partners in an undertaking unique in history."

AMG WITH THE ARMIES

The front lines in Italy are moving so fast that it is simply impossible to give an accurate and complete picture of conditions AMG is finding in the liberated towns. Two facts stand out: Italian Patriots are doing excellent work in maintaining law and order while waiting for AMG to come in and AMG staffs and regional follow-up teams are moving as rapidly as possible to assume their new tasks. Lombardy, Liguria and Venezie Regions are moving into their bailiwicks. An unverified report had a British colonel, a liaison officer with the Patriots, speaking over Milan radio early April 27. The fall of Verona, railroad link to the Brenner Pass, announced as captured in communiques of April 27, but badly damaged, caused Brigadier General Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG, to rush to the city at once, shortly after reviewing a Patriot parade in Bologna and receiving the surrender of 1,000 weapons by 3,500 Patriots. Lieut. Col. Thomas Michie and a small team were also en route to Verona. An AMG team has also left for Genoa. All three RC's of the forward regions – Brigadiers Carr and Dunlop and Colonel Poletti – are now forward and on the heels of the on-rushing troops.

La Spezia, the West Coast naval base, was found only moderately damaged. Carabinieri and the provincial commissioner are already on the job. 2,500 Patriots are there, well-disciplined and under command of an Allied officer. Reggio Emilia has water, power, little damage and 5,000 Patriots. Food will last for a few days yet. The 8th Army AMG reported on a large number of smaller towns, where incidental damage was indicated and no acute problems. Ferrara was mainly undamaged except for the railroad station and outskirts. The water aequeduct was broken for two kilometers but city wells had water. Power was out but food and health were o. k. Ferrara, incidentally, was first entered by two AMG officers, Capt. Keith Erskine (B) and Lieut. Don Pesaro (A), who accompanied two Patriots into town and took 30 German prisoners.

ECONOMIC FRONT

In the midst of concentrating to the utmost to help the fast-moving field operations of AMG, the Economic Section found time during the week to overhaul its shop and divide the sub-commissions between the two Deputy Vice Presidents, Brigadier D. L. Anderson and Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, for general supervision. Brigadier Anderson will be in charge of production activities and so will supervise Industry, Public Works and Utilities and Labor Sub-Commissions. General McKinley will be in charge of supply and has jurisdiction over Agriculture, Food, Commerce, Shipping and Transportation Sub-Commissions. Finance Sub-Commission will report directly to the Acting Vice President, Mr. A. G. Antolini. General McKinley started off his group by having an afternoon

1481

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

session on supply and requisition procedures and general functions under the New Deal economic directive.

Mr. Antolini will hold a press conference April 29 to explain the economic boundary line between Liberated and North Italy, the private trade program and the amount and value of the civilian supplies which the Allies have imported into Italy — Mr. David C. Sachs, American civilian, has been appointed deputy director of the Labor Sub-Commission — The trouble at the Sardinian coal mines seems about over and normal production should be reached again soon, it is hoped — The Italian Ministry of Agriculture plans to name a Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Forest among its long-range re-forestation plans — Wheat ammassed, to April 24, was 11,177,975 qtl. and olive oil collected was 449,541 qtl — A sulphuric acid plant has gone into production at Castellino at the rate of 300 tons a month — Glass production also has commenced at the Bordoni plant in Rome — Arrangements have been made to hand over to COGENA 10 ships flying the Italian flag for use in coastwise shipping — The second 35,000 kw. generator at Terni has been repaired after six months' work and is now supplying power to Central Italy — A Joint Military Finance Committee has been set up at AFHQ to coordinate Allied military financial policy in this theater; the committee will work in closest cooperation with the AC.

ODDS AND ENDS

The Commerce Sub-Commission has made 182,000 blankets available to the Welfare Branch of the Public Health Sub-Commission for distribution to needy Italians through ENDSI — Civil cablegram service to the U. S. and U. K. will be resumed, probably about May 4, the Communications Sub-Commission reports — The first call-up for recruits for the Italian Navy will take place in May and June, the Navy Sub-Commission announces — The War Disposal and Italian Prisoners of War Sub-Commission has finally worked out the status of Italian prisoners of war still held in Italy and who are called "cooperators": the lot – 34,000 – will be released to the Italian Government July 1 — Undulant fever is reported at Pisa, Tuscany Region says — The Public Health Sub-Commission, incidentally, has caused an imported American vaccine for brucellosis – the cattle disease which results in undulant fever in humans – to be manufactured on quite a large scale in Rome, 5,000 tubes having been produced, although only 12 cows have been vaccinated to date — A new transfer of territory to the Italian Government is being studied, approval for which has to be given by the Allied Advisory Council — Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, has been awarded the Bronze Star "for meritorious service in support of combat operations in Italy during May and June, 1944"; congratulations — British officers in AC are also being offered the chance to go into civil affairs in the Far East — Lieut. Col. Joseph D. Scholtz (A) and Col. John B. Thornhill (A) have been appointed Deputy PC's of Venezie and Umbria-Marche Regions, respectively — The Local Government Sub-Commission has suggested to the Italian Government that its election plans, based on a 1915 law, are not yet good enough to guarantee a free election democratic style — New U. S. Army regulations state that officers going home on TD will not be returned to this theater — Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, has returned from London.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

/33

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED C MISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH SECRET

R2S/WSB/PRB

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN
Vol. II, No. 5
22 April 1945

1. Political

The Council of ministers, having postponed the scheduled meeting of the 15th on learning of the death of President Roosevelt, met on the 17th and began its activities by offering its thanks for the "gesture of generous fraternity" on the part of Argentina which has announced a gift of 100,000 tons of wheat to Italy. The Council added that it looked to the Allies for help in bringing the wheat to Italy as soon as possible. A draft decree was approved creating a Defence Committee to advise the government on military matters and a new Chief of the General Staff, General Claudio Trezzani, was named. The functions of the General Staff were carefully defined as "advising...on principal technical questions affecting the armed forces". General Trezzani is an infantryman who fought in Africa and has recently spent some time in the United States as a prisoner of war. According to reports he is regarded in military circles as a man of monarchist sympathies.

The Council then elaborated further the rules for repression of Fascist activities which it had approved some weeks ago. One point is noteworthy; the presidency of the epuration committees may now be entrusted to University professors, lawyers or retired state functionaries as well as to magistrates, the only category eligible in the past. This is a move long since recommended in the interests of efficiency by Associate High Commissioner Berlinguer and the Leftist press. It was also announced that special Assizes Courts would be set up in the liberated North and that punishment for fascist activities had been made more severe.- even including the death penalty. It was perhaps this last measure which caused ITALIA NUOVA to exclaim "The government is fighting Fascism with Fascist methods."

At this meeting too De Gasperi made a dignified commentary on the relations with Juogoslavia. The question of Trieste, he said, could hardly be settled while the patriot elements of both countries were bending all their efforts to expel the German invader. He hoped the matter would be studied on a level "above that of press polemics". The Council followed these remarks with a resolution stating its desire to see a harmonious good neighbor relationship grow up and flourish between the two countries. These manifestations of reason and calm were applauded by some sections in the press but did not prevent others from continuing their campaign to establish the Latin character of Trieste; one Montemuliano (in ITALIA NUOVA) going so far as to prove, at least to his own satisfaction, that there were fewer than 60,000 Slavs in the city in 1941. Nor did the conciliatory tone

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

met on the 17th and began its activities by offering its thanks for the "gesture of generous fraternity" on the part of Argentina which has announced a gift of 100,000 tons of wheat to Italy. The Council added that it looked to the Allies for help in bringing the wheat to Italy as soon as possible. A draft decree was approved creating a Defence Committee to advise the government on military matters and a new Chief of the General Staff, General Claudio Trezzani, was named. The functions of the General Staff were carefully defined as "advisory...on principal technical questions affecting the armed forces". General Trezzani is an infantryman who fought in Africa and has recently spent some time in the United States as a prisoner of war. According to reports he is regarded in military circles as a man of monarchist sympathies.

The Council then elaborated further the rules for repression of Fascist activities which it had approved some weeks ago. One point is noteworthy; the presidency of the epuration committees may now be entrusted to University professors, lawyers on retired state functionaries as well as to magistrates, the only category eligible in the past. This is a move long since recommended in the interests of efficiency by Associate High Commissioner Zoppi nguer and the Left-ist press. It was also announced that special Assizes Courts would be set up in the liberated North and that punishment for fascist activities had been made more severe.- even including the death penalty. It was perhaps this last measure which caused ITALIA NUOVA to exclaim "The government is fighting Fascism with Fascist methods."

At this meeting too De Gasperi made a dignified commentary on the relations with Jugoslavia. The question of Trieste, he said, could hardly be settled while the patriot elements of both countries were bending all their efforts to expel the German invader. He hoped the matter would be studied on a level "above that of press polemics". The Council followed these remarks with a resolution stating its desire to see a harmonious good neighbor relationship grow up a[illegible] Yugoslavia between the two countries. These manifestations of reason and calm were applauded by some sections in the press but did not prevent others from continuing their campaign to establish the Latin character of Trieste; one Montemuliano (in ITALIA NUOVA) going so far as to prove, at least to his own satisfaction, that there were fewer than 20,000 Slavs in the city in 1941. Nor did the conciliatory tone of Italy's foreign minister prevent Tito from repeating his claims to Istria, Gorizia and war reparations from Italy as well as the city of Trieste...It was also reported, perhaps by way of diversion, that Abyssinia intended to present its claim for Eritrea at the San Francisco Conference.

In this context further irritation was added by the Separatist Convention in Palermo. The session lasted three days and was full of fiery speeches and talk of defence of Sicilian independence at all costs. The signal accomplishment of the convention was the dispatch of a message to the United Nations urging that the Separatist case be considered at San Francisco. The government in an official

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Communique called this an act of treason and the Fascist press of Rome fell to belaboring the separatist movement, though explanations for its existence varied. To Nenni in AVANTI a Fascist plot was clearly visible; ITALIA NUOVA saw in the movement the hand of "outside forces" which had been known to stir up trouble in the South in pre-unification days. Alfieio, Sicily's High Commissioner, called the whole business a bluff but the CHIESA DEL POPOLO pointed out shrewdly and sadly that Italy will not be represented at San Francisco while the Separatists, thanks to their memorandum, will.

Further and apparently final plans for the Consultation Assembly were worked out at the second Council meeting of the week (April 20.) Noteworthy is the representation accorded parties outside the C.L.N. The Republicans are to have ten representatives and the Democratic Party and the Democratic-Liberal Concentration (both Rightist and Monarchist) five each. (Each of the six C.L.N. parties will have twenty-six representatives.) ITALIA LIBERA promptly took up the cudgels for the Sinistra Cristiana (Leftist Catholic Communists) and it is likely that other opposition groups will be heard from when the press has had more opportunity to study the Council's report, not yet officially published.

Balstrocchi, Fascist hierarch, once Undersecretary for War and self-appointed chief of the General Staff in the old days, has been arrested. Balstrocchi was responsible for such modernizations in the Italian Army as the introduction of the "passo romano" (elsewhere known as the goose step) and the adoption of "Giovinezza".

The Camera del Lavoro of Messina was reported attacked by "Fascist elements" and, according to the first version of the story, was set on fire. This brought threats from EL LAVORO that the workers would take the law into their own hands if the government failed to act. However it now seems to have been a matter of minor banditry and the theft of a typewriter and the government reports the situation under control.

2. AMG with the Armies

Bologna, goal of Allied arms for the last six months, fell to American, Polish and Italian troops 21 April. Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume, SCAD, 5th Army AMG, following his penchant for getting into newly liberated cities as soon as possible, was one of the first Allied officers to enter the city. Colonel Norman E. Fiske, Acting Executive Commissioner, likewise was on the spot. The gist of the Bologna situation is as follows:

"The city is in fairly good shape. The railroad yards are badly bombed but the center of town is practically intact. The water system is likewise intact. Sewers are all right. The electric power system also seems to have escaped destruction and connections should be made shortly. The same for the telephones. There are a lot of people in the city, but the exact number is unknown. There is enough food on hand. Partisans are in fairly good order. Just before the Fascists left, they caught and shot a few partisan leaders, whose followers immediately retaliated with a little shooting of their own. Political problems do not appear acute. The C.L.N. has nominated a Communist for Major. Lieut. Col. Frank Wray (A) has moved into the Municipio."

Towns on the 8th Army side have been falling faster than on

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775016

[redacted] five each. (Each of the six C.L.N. parties will have twenty-six representatives.) ITALIA LIBERA promptly took up the cudgels for the Sinistra Cristiana (quondam Catholic Communists) and it is likely that other opposition groups will be heard from when the press has had more opportunity to study the Council's report, not yet officially published.

Bastrocchi, Fascist hierarch, once Undersecretary for War and self-appointed chief of the General Staff in the old days, has been arrested. Bastrocchi was responsible for such modernizations in the Italian Army as the introduction of the "passo romano" (else where known as the goose step) and the adoption of "Giovinezza".

The Camera del Lavoro of Brescia was reported attacked by "Fascist elements" and, according to the first version of the story, was set on fire. This brought threats from IL LAVORO that the workers would take the law into their own hands if the government failed to act. However it now seems to have been a matter of minor banditry and the theft of a typewriter and the government reports the situation under control.

2. AMG with the Armies

Bologna, most of Allied arms for the last six months, fell to American, Polish and Italian troops 21 April. Brigadier General Ernest Erskine Hume, SCAC, 5th Army HQ, following his penchant for getting into newly liberated cities as soon as possible, was one of the first Allied officers to enter the city. Colonel Norman E. Fiske, Acting Executive Commissioner, likewise was on the spot. The gist of the Bologna situation is as follows:

The city is in fairly good shape. The railroad yards are badly bombed but the center of town is practically intact. The water system is likewise intact. Sewers are all right. The electric power system also seems to have escaped destruction and connections should be made shortly. The same for the telephones. There are a lot of people in the city, but the exact number is unknown. There is enough food on hand. Partisans are in fairly good order. Just before the Fascists left, they caught and shot a few Partisan leaders, whose followers immediately retaliated with a little shooting of their own. Political problems do not appear acute. The C.L.N. has nominated a Communist for Mayor. Lieut. Col. Frank Wray (A) has moved into the Municipio."

Towns on the 5th Army side have been falling faster than on the West Coast side where Massa and Carrara were liberated earlier in the week. Food for 12,000 was ordered for Massa. Scabies was rampant in the area. Carrara had 90,000 population. 400 Partisans were keeping order in both towns. The Apuania team has already moved in to administer the province. Power stations suffered minor damage and power is expected to be restored shortly. Water was o.k.

On the East Coast Imola fell first. A 62-year-old former Lancashire football player, William Garbutt, was found in the town and hired as an interpreter. 50,000 persons were in Imola, including 330 patients in the hospital. Mills, water and food appeared satisfactory. In its onward rush toward Ferrara, the 8th Army was

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

less than 25 miles from the first provinces of Venezia Region which has four provincial teams ready to move in. Castel San Pietro had 6,000 population on entry, including 1,500 from Bologna. Normal population is 5,500. AMG is already functioning. More than 100 tons of grain were found stockpiled. There was no electricity but two steam-operated flour mills were found. Massa Lombarda, with half its normal population of 4,000, sustained heavy damage. San Agata was 90 per cent. destroyed. Conselice was also somewhat damaged, but in all three towns food and public health gave no concern.

3. The Economic Front

Wheat amassed to April 15 was 11,804,884 qtl., while the olive oil collection stood at the same date at 436,540 qtl...The third Italian agricultural conference has opened, with 40 Hq. and regional agricultural officers in attendance...A shortage of raw material has caused the shutdown of five hemp weaving plants while half the spinners are idle...The Colleferro cement plant now has a production of 164 tons a day, an increase of 45 tons over the previous week... Reconstruction of the generating unit at Castelnuovo-Lardello has increased total power capacity by 10,000 kw.; the plant is the only one in Italy and one of the few in the world - run entirely by volcanic steam, requiring no oil or coal...Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission also reports that 220 communities housing committees are functioning, that 12,000 housing projects have been initiated, valued at 1,_10 million lire, and that 6,000 of the projects have been completed... In eight months the five national betting lotteries in Italy have garnered 242.6 million lire; Naples alone now contributes at the rate of 10 million a week...Umbria-Marche Region says that road blocks definitely reduced black market prices whenever tried and that 340,000 eggs are being amassed monthly and are being sold to the public at 10 lire each...560,000 Italian Navy shell forging are to be converted to scrap to make at least 8,600 tons of steel for carpenter's nails and other construction materials...Mr. L.J. Kegel, former merchandising manager of Marshall Field & Co. in Chicago, is the new Deputy Director of the Commerce Sub-Commission...A United States Army and Navy Liquidation Board is in Italy to look over surplus war equipment and negotiate sales to the Italian Government, which, in turn, will sell/a to private dealers, netting, it is hoped, a good profit which will help as a deflationary measure...For a 2,250-calory diet/would have to/ have to spend in March 12,456 lire, compared with 10,277 lire last/ October, 2,362 in September, 1943 and 1,147 in September, 1940...Five Lucca factories are selling sewing thread at 14 lire per 100 meters while the Rome sales price for the same is 140 lire...Prato textile mills report that labor costs amount to only 6,000 lire out of a daily production cost of 300,000 lire, or only 2% per cent. compared with the normal 33 per cent. of normal times...Imported civilian supplies, according to accounting records of the Finance Sub-Commission, amount to 1,581,00 tons since the days of Sicily through December, 1943...A further shipment of 1,500 trucks to Italy has been approved, which, with the 1,700 authorized (of which 1,502 have already arrived) will make 3,200 trucks to help relieve the transport situation...The Allied Motor Transport Group, which will use these trucks, hopes to have a strength of nearly 6,000 officers and men (60 per cent. Italian [illegible] and [illegible] operating trucks and maintenance when ac-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

agricultural officers in attendance...A shortage of raw material has caused the shutdown of five hemp weaving plants while half the spinners are idle...The Colleferro cement plant now has a production of 164 tons a day, an increase of 45 tons over the previous week... Reconstruction of the generating unit at Castelnuovo-Lardello has increased total power capacity by 19,000 kw.; the plant is the only one in Italy and one of the few in the world - run entirely by volcanic steam, requiring no oil or coal...Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission also reports that 280 communities housing committees are functioning, that 12,000 housing projects have been initiated, valued at 1,[illegible] million lire, and that 2,000 of the projects have been completed... In eight months the five national betting lotteries in Italy have garnered 242.5 million lire; Naples alone now contributes at the rate of 10 million a week...Umbria-Marche Region says test road blocks definitely reduced black market prices wherever tried and that 340,000 eggs are being amassed monthly and are being sold to the public at 10 lire each...660,000 Italian Navy shell forgings are to be converted to scrap to make at least 2,000 tons of steel for carpenter's nails and other construction materials...Lt. Col. L.J. Kesel, former merchandising manager of Marshall Field & Co. in Chicago, is the new Deputy Director of the Commerce Sub-Commission...A United States Army and Navy liquidation Board is in Italy to look over surplus war equipment and negotiate sales to the Italian Government, which, in turn, will sell/a to private dealers, hoping, it is hoped, a good profit which will [illegible] as a deflationary measure...For a 2,200-calory diet/would have to eat to spend in March 12,600 lire, compared with 10,277 lire last/ October, 2,992 in September, 1943 and 1,147 in September, 1943...Five Lucca factories are selling sewing thread at 14 lire per 100 meters while the Rome sales price for the same is 140 lire...Prato textile mills report that labor costs amount to only 6,000 lire out of a daily production cost of 300,000 lire, or only 2% per cent, compared with the normal 35 per cent of normal times...Imported civilian supplies, according to accounting made up of the Finance Sub-Commission, amount to 1,021,00 tons since the days of Sicily through December, 1943...A further shipment of 1,550 trucks to Italy has been approved, which, with the 1,700 authorized (of which 1,552 have already arrived) will make 3,250 trucks to help relieve the transport situation...The Allied Motor Transport Group, which will use these trucks, hopes to have a strength of nearly 5,000 officers and men (30 per cent. Italian army personnel) and 2,400 operating trucks and replacements when complete...Since its first small beginnings in February, 1944, this organized AC transport has hauled 451,000 tons of civilian supplies... Once fully organized the group will have monthly lift of 150,000 tons...

4. Warming up for Northern Italy.

With the final drive to clean the Germans out of Italy now going into high gear, AC Hq. and the regional teams for the North have been on the qui vive and last-minute plans and projects are rolling off the rounds preparatory to entry of the Allied Forces into what

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

promises to be the biggest job of military government since the liberation of Sicily. Regional commissioners for the North have all been introduced to Major General Willis D. Crittenberger, commanding officer of IV Corps, which, as a separate unit under 15th Army Group, will be the first to enter the Northwest areas, first phase military government being thus under its command. The Economic Section & its sub-commission directors paid a mass visit to IV Corps this last week-end to discuss economic plans. Northwest Italy after the combat troops give over, will be in charge of No. 2 District under General Naves.

From the North, where AMG will also encounter for the first time national frontiers with France, Switzerland, Austria and Yugoslavia, reports have arrived that Italians have ridden considerable machinery and that Germans have orders to destroy as much equipment as possible on withdrawal. Grain has been systematically shipped to Germany, though there is not much Germany left to ship to now. Germans are said to have bought up Italian goods right and left, using 200 billion Italian-printed lire to do so. Milan is reported crowded with refugees, 8,000 Italian workers having recently been returned from Germany. Wheat is short but adequate stocks of rice and corn are said to be available. Fats, cattle and fertilizer are scarce. Despite the low price levels of the North, sugar in Turin is said to be selling for 600 lire a kilo on the black market and butter for 700 lire.

Venezia Region will have a new problem in AMG - besides Trieste and the Yugoslav - in the Provinces of Trento and Bolzano, which have been incorporated into the Reich economy and which will probably need systematic change-over into the Italian system, including introduction of new lire currency, an exchange rate for the Reichsmark and new administrative procedures, all points on which CCS and AFHQ will rule.

The geographical delimitations of North Italy will be officially announced shortly. At this writing they will probably consist of Italy north of the northern boundaries of Tuscany and the Provinces of Forli and Ravenna. Comprising about three-eighths of all Italy, the industrialized North will present two major headaches - one political, the other economic (of which more later). The first consists of Fascists in their last lair, and of Patriots who are called Volunteers of Liberty under the Committee of National Liberation of Alta Italia. The Patriots, well organized and functioning with Allied support and even officers from our military units, are hoping to defend key installations against German attempts at scorched earth tactics. Speaking of destruction, Fine Arts officers of AC have made a detailed map of North Italy art deposits and monuments for the Air Forces, copies of which map are being distributed down to squadron level. Rations, hospitalization and clothing for Patriots will be a military responsibility, according to the latest AFHQ ruling, pending CCS confirmation. The military units will also try to get the Patriots to disarm as early as possible, after which it will be an AMG Responsibility until the Carabinieri move in. For the new tasks of frontier patrol, some discussion is under way to use Guardia Finanze is pre-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

machinery and that Germans have orders to destroy as much equipment as possible on withdrawal. Spain has been systematically sucked to Germany, though there is not much Germany left to strip to now. Germans are said to have bought up Italian goods right and left, using 300 billion Italian-printed lire to do so. Milan is reported crowded with refugees, 6,000 Italian workers having recently been returned from Germany. Wheat is short but adequate stocks of rice and corn are said to be available. Fats, cooking and fertilizer are scarce. Despite the low price levels of the North, sugar in Turin is said to be selling for 800 lire a kilo on the black market and butter for 700 lire.

Venezia Region will have a new problem in AMG - besides Trieste and the Yugoslav - in the Provinces of Trento and Bolzano, which have been incorporated into the Reich economy and which will probably need systematic change-over into the Italian system, including introduction of new lire currency, an exchange rate for the Reichsmark and new administrative procedures, all points on which OCS and AFHQ will rule.

The geographical delimitations of North Italy will be officially announced shortly. At this meeting they will probably consist of Italy north of the northern boundaries of Tuscany and the Provinces of Forli and Ravenna. Comprising about three-eighths of all Italy, the industrialized North will present two major headaches - one political, the other economic (of which more later). The first consists of Fascists in their last lair, and of Patriots who are called Volunteers of Liberty under the Committee of National Liberation of Alta Italia. The Patriots, well organized and functioning with Allied support and even officers from our military units, are hoping to defend key installations against German attempts at scorched earth tactics. Speaking of destruction, Fine Arts officers of AC have made a detailed map of North Italy and historic and monuments for the Air Forces, copies of which map are being distributed down to squadron level. Rations, hospitalization and clothing for Patriots will be a military responsibility, according to the latest AFHQ ruling, pending CCS confirmation. The military units will also try to get the Patriots to disarm as soon as possible, after which it will be an AMG responsibility until the Carabinieri move in. For the new tasks of frontier patrol, some discussion is under way to use Guardia Finanza in preference to the CC.RR. A spearhead of 3,000 Carabinieri (eventually 7,000) is already set to move into the North and AFHQ has authorized the transfer of 46 armoured cars, 30 trucks and four light utility cars to the CC.RR.

The C.L.N.A.I. is expected to have set up "shadow" governments in many places which will be found operating when AMG move in. They are supposed to resign at once and recognize the authority of AMG, which in turn, is prepared to try to use as much C.L.N. personnel in the civil administration as possible. Prefects, for example, should be appointed from local non-career persons acceptable to the C.L.N., while the vice prefects may come from career administrators being

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

Tied up with this question is that of re-creating the great pre-Fascist newspapers of the North like the Corriere della Sera of Milan and La Stampa of Turin. The PWB Press plan, agreed to by AC, envisages close cooperation between AMG and PWB, with PWB willing to check with AMG about all news and radio materials used. All newspapers will be suspended immediately and Fascist papers suppressed for good. Those publications the authorities decide to authorize will be in charge of personalities approved by AMG. Clandestine papers which operated despite the Germans will be allowed to continue but must apply for a license within seven days. Military censors will operate in the larger towns. In others AMG will act as the censoring power. Newsprint is now being stockpiled for the North. A stockpile of 5,000 tons, belonging to Milan and Turin papers, has been found in Switzerland, incidentally, and will be shipped into Italy as soon as the Swiss border is negotiable.

What is worrying the Economic Section is the Northern economy of wages and prices, the availability of industrial production (Italian technical experts are to enter the area as soon as possible for that purpose) and the first priority problem - food and transport. The Allied Motor Transport Group, under its commander, Col. G. F. Cames (A), and with new trucks arriving from the States, is set for its big job. Both Army Groups have requested transport help. AC will lend 600 trucks in the first phase. As advance echelon of the Transportation Sub-Commission will go forward as fast as possible to help coordinate movements. Col. Lenz, Director of the Food Sub-Commission, has been devoting his time almost exclusively to the North. A food directive for all regional officers has been issued. Approximately 40,000 tons are already stockpiled, major dumps being at Livorno and Ancona. Salt, a Northern deficiency, is well in hand. Summer stocks of Food 10,000 to 20,000 tons - are ready further down the peninsula and so should provide all together a cushion of one to two months at least. The initial ration of bread will be 200 grams plus what can be supplemented from local grain resources, with the aim to get at the 300 gram ration as soon as transport and supplies permit. Bread rations in North Italy under the Germans vary from 100 to 150 grams, though one report has it that the Milan ration has been cut to 50 grams.

The main economic problem, of course, lies in the fact that the North Italy wage-price structure is on a much lower level than in Liberated Italy where the inflation spiral has been in evidence. Bread in North Italy, for example, is five lire, here it ranges from 10 to 18 lire. It will be of the utmost importance to get in as much local wheat as possible as quickly as possible. A nation-wide requisition policy for next harvest cannot be established until Northern conditions are examined. Present thinking is to introduce the U.S. AAA system of pre-determined crops, of which the Government will ask for a certain share at a set price and allow the farmer to keep or sell the rest in

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778046

/33

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 514
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

SECRET

PRB/WEB/PRB

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN
Vol. II, No. 2
15 April 1945

1. Political

For Italy as for the world the tragically significant event of the week was the death of President Roosevelt. It would be inaccurate to say that concern for possible political consequences was absent; this concern was evident in such things as Sforza's reassurance to his countrymen that American policy was a matter of principles rather than individuals and Salvatorelli's commentary tracing the connection between the American declaration of independence and Wilson's and Roosevelt's application of its statements to the world at large. But the tragedy far transcends politics and Italy and Italians are not at this moment thinking politically but feeling deeply and humanly. The Capital has gone into three days mourning, schools and theatres are closed and all flags at half mast. Formal visits have been paid by leading personalities on Ambassador Kirk and Admiral Stone, messages sent to Mrs Roosevelt by the Luogotenente and De Gasperi. The meeting of the Council was adjourned after a tribute by Bonomi to the President. Such manifestations have been merely the official indications of the very real sense of shock and loss that is widespread and profound and is perceptible in every street corner conversation among Italians of all classes. Intellectuals and workers, conservatives and liberals, politicians and simple folk who know nothing of politics - all are as one in feeling quite sincerely and deeply that Italy and Italians have lost a friend.

Our copy was torn from our hands last week by the inexorable deadline while we were in the middle of the Duca D'Aosta affair. We were speaking in our last paragraph of the protest of the President of the High Court against the words attributed to the Duke by the Manchester Guardian Correspondent. The response was not long in coming. Bonomi, on the recommendation of DeCourten and after consultation with leading members of the government procured the Luogotenente's order for removal of the indiscreet Duke from his post of admiral. This action was of course most welcome to the Left and anti-monarchist circles and even the royalist ITALIA NUOVA could find no fault with the procedure.

The Consulta seems to be taking shape. On the 10th a meeting was held of the special interministerial committee in charge of plans for the new body and representatives of the Action and Socialist parties were invited to attend. ITALIA LIBERA had a very good analysis of the difference between the government and the opposition point of view; the main issue being that the latter wants a Consulta that is "politi cal" (and having the right of self-convocation) and the government, at least judging by its original statement, visualizes it rather as a

For Italy as for the world the tragically significant event of the week was the death of President Roosevelt. It would be inaccurate to say that concern for possible political consequences was absent; this concern was evident in such things as Sforza's reassurance to his countrymen that American policy was a matter of principles rather than individuals and Saltarelli's commentary tracing the connection between the American declaration of independence and [illegible] Wilson's and Roosevelt's application of its statements to the world at large. But the tragedy far transcends politics and Italy and Italians are not at this moment thinking politically but feeling deeply and humanly. The Capital has gone into three days mourning, schools and theatres are closed and all flags at half mast. Formal visits have been paid by leading personalities on Ambassador Kirk and Admiral Stone, messages sent to Mrs Roosevelt by the Luogotenente and De Gasperi. The meeting of the Council was adjourned after a tribute by Nenni to the President. Such manifestations have been merely the official indications of the very real sense of shock and loss that is widespread and profound and is perceptible in every street corner conversation among Italians of all classes. Intellectuals and workers, conservatives and liberals, politicians and simple folk who know nothing of politics - all are as one in feeling quite sincerely and deeply that Italy and Italians have lost a friend.

Our copy was torn from our hands last week by the inexorable deadline while we were in the middle of the Duca D'Aosta affair. We were speaking in our last paragraph of the protest of the President of the Nice Court against the words attributed to the Duke by the Manchester Guardian Correspondent. The response was not long in coming. Bonomi, on the recommendation of DeCourten and after consultation with leading members of the government procured the Luogotenente's order for removal of the indiscreet Duke from his post of admiral. This action was of course most welcome to the Left and anti-monarchist circles and even the royalist ITALIA NUOVA could find no fault with the procedure.

The Consulta seems to be taking shape. On the 10th a meeting was held of the special interministerial committee in charge of plans for the new body and representatives of the action and Socialist parties were invited to attend. [illegible] had a very good analysis of the difference between the government and the opposition point of view; the main issue being that the latter wants a Consulta that is "politi cal" (and having the right of self-convocation) and the government, at least judging by its original statement, visualizes it rather as a group of technical bodies. Nenni, in AVANTI, sticks to his opinion that it is now too late for the Consulta to have any meaning; he informs the government that their first duty must be to resign as soon as the North is liberated, and make way for the Costituente. Meanwhile the government, through the Ufficio Stampa, emphasized that a Consulta, not being elective, could hardly be regarded as a parliament nor as a real political expression of the people. Adding up the discussions on the subject it looks as if a) the Consulta may soon come into being with some concessions to the opposition in its framework and b) it may not mean much when it does, especially if the

1176

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775016

liberation of the North comes as soon as is known.

The Communist Party held its second National Council meeting this week. Togliatti, outlining the party program, said that the first essential at this time was a war government with a war policy. He feared that unless the democratic forces in liberated Italy manage to achieve unity, and clarify their program, there may be a dangerous rift between an "anti-fascist and progressive North" and a "stagnant and anti-democratic Centre and South". The working classes and the popular masses, he said, were in the vanguard of the nation; the communists intend to give unity and leadership to the forces of the people, and conservatives and reactionaries were warned, as was the Church, not to oppose the popular will. Togliatti also suggested that if the Costituente is not formed immediately upon the liberation of the North, it might be advisable to replace the Luogotenente by a "civilian regency". The resolution approved at the end of the party's deliberations asked for expeditiousness in calling the national C.L.N. congress and in holding the administrative elections.

At the other end of the political scale the Democratic party sounded its firm conservative note. The party council came out with a nine point program, stressing the need of preserving law and order, private initiative, and the rights of individuals against any form of state dictatorship. The party expressed its preference for the "monarchical solution" of the institutional problem, though urging a plebiscite on the question as soon as the country has been entirely liberated and all prisoners of war repatriated. Another plank in the platform vigorously defends the "territorial integrity" of the country, including Italy's right to all colonies held at the end of the last war. The two final points are in contrast to communist silence on these matters.

It cannot be said that relations with Yugoslavia have improved during the week. On the night of the 7th a bomb exploded in the vicinity of Tito's Partisan Mission in Rome and the reaction of the Yugoslav press was immediate and violent, charging the Italian government, described as "Fascist" with responsibility if not complicity. The Ufficio Stampa announced that investigation had shown that the bomb was not, in fact, aimed at the Mission. And indeed the chief of the Mission himself was quoted as holding the government guiltless in the matter. None the less the tension understandably increased Italian concern for the destiny of Trieste. The Liberal party during the week took occasion to affirm its solidarity with the Trieste section and by now all shades of political factions have found some way of expressing their conviction that Trieste is Italian- the only exception being the communists. Togliatti has played down the whole business as "not being on the international plane."

AMG with the Armies

The spring and - we hope - final campaign in Italy opened April 9 and AMG at once began assuming new responsibilities. Not much news came from the front but on the 8th Army side, according

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

Church, not to impose the pol[illegible]
that if the Constituente is not formed immediately upon the liberation of the North, it might be advisable to replace the Luogotenente by a "civilian regency". The resolution expressed at the end of the party's deliberations asked for expeditiousness in calling the national C.L.N. congress and in holding the administrative elections.

At the other end of the political scales the Democratic party sounded its firm conservative note. The party council came out with a nine point program, stressing the need of preserving law and order, private initiative, and the rights of individuals against any form of state dictatorship. The party expressed its preference for the "normational solution" of the institutional problem, though urging a plebiscite on the question as soon as the country has been entirely liberated and all prisoners of war repatriated. Another plank in the platform vigorously defends the "territorial integrity" of the country, including Italy's right to all colonies held at the end of the last war. The two final points are in contrast to communist silence on these matters.

It cannot be said that relations with Yugoslavia have improved during the week. On the night of the 7th a bomb exploded in the vicinity of Tito's partisan Mission in Rome and the reaction of the Yugoslav press was immediate and violent, charging the Italian government, described as "Fascist" with responsibility if not complicity. The official Stefani announced that investigation had shown that the bomb was not, in fact, aimed at the Mission, and indeed the chief of the Mission himself was quoted as holding the government guiltless in the matter. None the less the tension understandably increased Italian concern for the destiny of Trieste. The Liberal party during the week took occasion to affirm its solidarity with the Trieste section and by now all shades of political fuctions have found some way of expressing their conviction that Trieste is Italian- the only exception being the Communists. Togliatti was played down the whole business as "not being on the international plane."

AMG with the Armies

The spring and - we hope - final campaign in Italy opened April 9 and AMG at once began assuming new responsibilities. Not much news came from the front but on the 8th Army side, according to the first action sitrep at hand, the situation is well in hand. Civilian wounded and refugees were not yet problems, only some 100 of [illegible] each having been found as of April 12. Food seemed plentiful. Alfonsine was badly damaged. Fusignano had no inhabitants. Ostignola was totally destroyed, but contained 2,000 inhabitants who had to be evacuated. All the wounded were taken care of but many feed are said to be under the rubble caused by the tremendous air bombardment. Lugo, which normally has a population of 18,000, was found to contain 30,000 since the Germans used the town as a center for evacuating the surrounding countryside. The hospital held 150 wounded. Capt. E. Ellison, our Public Relations Officer with the 8th Army AMG, got into Lugo ahead of the CAO, with about 61 war correspondents on his heels.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

he reported that the town's government has been re-organized two hours after the town was taken; that 30 volunteer police had been appointed pending the arrival of the CC.RR who showed up shortly after; that volunteer workers are keeping the shell-torn road in condition for tanks, and that the new Allied news sheet, the PWB Comunicato Alleato, is being distributed. Duro, incidentally, was the town in which Garibaldi organized the expedition for his Sicilian campaign. Lastly, word comes that Brigadier J.K. Dunlop, AC of Venezia, is sniffing the smoke of battle and has established his advanced headquarters as near 8th Army Main as possible, in the hopes of quickly following the troops into Venice. In his spare time, the brigadier is studying Russian.

3. The Economic Front

The mechanics of re-opening private export trade with Italy were being fashioned by the Economic Section as the week ended. A letter of suggestions was going to the Italian Government, which, in effect, proposed to promote direct private trade as soon as possible and to use the government as an intermediary agency only until direct contacts could be worked out. The AC proposals also would place certain Italian products necessary to the war economy of the United Nations on a Category A priority list at which the Allies would have first crack at set prices. All else would be in Category B, for which products the Italian merchants could try any market at the best prices they could find. Pending the time of direct contacts, the U.S. Commercial Co. would act as the American agent. Deals with neutrals are on the fire also, specific propositions coming up for 1,000 tons of anchovies from Spain, 3,000 tons of frozen meat from Argentina and unspecified amounts of food, medicines and machinery from Switzerland.

In the meantime, controlled foreign export continues and March was the record month to date, exports amounting to more than 280 million lire and 9,636 tons and included goods to Metropolitan France for the first time. The citrus fruit season came to an end, 911,434 boxes of lemons and 80,380 boxes of bitter oranges having been shipped to the U.K. To the U.S. will go soon essential oils, mercury, processed human hair (120 kilos), straw goods, marine salt juniper berries, snuff and certain building stones.

The other highlight of the economic week - to leave aside the matter of planning for the North which will be discussed in detail next week - was the news that Brigadier D.L. Anderson, O.B.E., is arriving from AFHQ to take a post alongside Brig. Gen. McKinley as a Deputy Vice President. Brigadier Anderson will supervise production activities while General McKinley will look after the supply side of the Section. Mr. Antolini is Acting Vice President. A worry which may become worse before it becomes better also cropped up during the week in the shape of the Sardinian coal situation where a slowdown has cut production to 800 tons a day or to 20,000 tons a month instead of the previous 40,000 tons. Representations are being made in high quarters to meet the problem, since adequate Italian coal production is a major contribution to the war effort.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

3. The Economic Front

The mechanics of re-opening private export trade with Italy were being fashioned by the Economic Section as the week ended. A letter of suggestions was going to the Italian Government, which, in effect, proposed to promote direct private trade as soon as possible and to use the government as an intermediary agency only until direct contacts could be worked out. The AC proposals also would place certain Italian products necessary to the war economy of the United Nations on a Category A priority list at which the Allies would have first crack at set prices. All else would be in Category B, for which products the Italian merchants could try any market at the best prices they could find. Pending the time of direct contacts, the U.S. Commercial Co. would act as the American agent. Deals with neutrals are on the fire also, specific propositions coming up for 1,000 tons of anchovies from Spain, 3,000 tons of frozen meat from Argentina and unspecified amounts of food, medicines and machinery from Switzerland.

In the meantime, controlled foreign export continues and March was the record month to date, exports amounting to more than 260 million lire and 9,668 tons and included goods to Metropolitan France for the first time. The citrus fruit season came to an end, 811,434 boxes of lemons and 80,360 boxes of bitter oranges having been shipped to the U.K. To the U.S. will go soon essential oils, mercury, processed human hair (120 kilos), straw goods, marine salt, juniper berries, snuff and certain building stones.

The other highlight of the economic week - to leave aside the matter of planning for the North which will be discussed in detail next week - was the news that Brigadier D.L. Anderson, C.B.E., is arriving from AFHQ to take a post alongside Brig. Gen. McKinley as a Deputy Vice President. Brigadier Anderson will supervise production activities while General McKinley will look after the supply side of the Section. Mr. Antolini is Acting Vice President. A worry which may become worse before it becomes better also cropped up during the week in the shape of the Sardinian coal situation where a slowdown has cut production to 800 tons a day or to 20,000 tons a month instead of the previous 40,000 tons. Representations are being made in high quarters to meet the problem, since adequate Italian coal production is a major contribution to the war effort.

A host of items may be added as indicating heightened economic activity. The Commerce Sub-Commission issued a fancy brochure on te correct drill for handling controlled non-subsistence materials, which should be valuable to all officers in the field...30,000 tons of steel for construction is expected to be made from 450,000 Italian shell forgings made available for scrap by the Navy Sub-Commission...Coastwise shipping moved 74,000 tons in March, 30,000 more than February. the Transportation Sub-Commission reports...Commander J.J.Lawlor, is leaving the Allied Commission, to the regret of all of us; Col.R.B. Menapace has replaced him as joint director of the Finance Sub-Commission. The Granai del Popolo, as of April 11, was 11,252,534 qtl... The olive oil collection was 450,741 qtl...A program to raise 45,000 tons of potatoes in the Arezzano Valley for the Army has been drawn up...Tire repair materials have arrived; the job is now to set up AC controlled repair plants...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Ammonia is now being produced at the Montecatini plant at Crotone.... Col. Ernest J. Fischer (A) is Acting Director of the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission in the absence of Col. Jenny in Switzerland... Many new train schedules state that passengers will ride in box cars, there being few coaches for civilian use....

4. Odds and Ends

Hq. observed a five-minute period of silence and prayer at 1600 hours 14 April in memory of the departed President of the United States....Mr. Stone and Mr. Eric Biddle of the U.S. Bureau of the Budget is looking over operations of AC....Lieut. Col. Dawson (S) had his hands full with his first big liaison job this past week when the munitions ship blew up at Bari....Italian news agencies have asked the Public Relations Branch for help in stationing Italian correspondents at Florence, now that PWB no longer services news in Italian Government territory....Brigadier M. Carr has been appointed RC of Liguria ....U.S. officers in AC may, a War Department circular states, volunteer for civil affairs in the Far East....Lieut. Col. Arthur E. Sutherland, jr., chief of staff of the 5th Army AMG, has been awarded the Croix de Guerre for "exceptional services to French troops in the Italian campaign": congratulations....Through the persistence of the Education Sub-Commission, Italian refugees have been evacuated out of all Roman schools since January....The Bronze Star has been awarded to Major Ray Ashworth (A) for services in AMG when he was in Italy: good wishes....The AC also ought to be proud of Major Francis J. Hoelscher (A) who has been awarded the Soldier's Medal for entering a mined wheatfield and evacuating a wounded Italian civilian last summer.... The ruling for AC is that there will be no stoppage of work or official celebration of V-E Day, should it suddenly burst upon us....AMG public safety officers in Naples have cracked a counterfeiting gang with ten arrests, confiscating three printing presses which are said to have printed 40 million lire of forged notes....Four more American promotions are in: To major - Henry E. Hudson; to captain - William A. Lessa and Daniel J. Petrucci, and to first Lieutenant - William H. Crago, Jr....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

,2

[illegible] APR 1946 /33

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CC ISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH SECRET

R25/WE1/PRB

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN
Vol. II, No. 1
6 April 1946

1. Political

The past week has been relatively quiet on the political front. The Council, meeting on the 4th, approved some matters which had been pending for a long time. The Fascist racial laws were rescinded in toto, and the constitution of a Consulta for Sardinia, projected some time ago, was approved. Pensions of wounded veterans are to be increased by 100% and farmers granted bonuses by Fascism are to pay back sums to the state expected to reach one and a half billion lire. Action on these rather heterogeneous matters had been expected and there was no press comment worthy of quotation. The new issue of government bonds went on sale on the fifth and Soleri made a statement for the press urging subscription and affirming that Italy's financial situation while grave was not beyond salvation. The papers have all urged support of the bond issue, even the usually irreconcilable VOCE REPUBBLICANA.

In the field of foreign affairs it was announced on the third that Saragat had been formally accepted by the French and would shortly leave to take up his post in Paris. Marchetti, proposed ambassador to Turkey is also soon to leave. There has been a good deal of comment on the San Francisco conference, with emphasis on the unhappy exclusion of Italy. Croce spoke with some vigor to Reuter's correspondent on the subject - and later in the week the London Times printed a letter from him to the same effect- arguing that to deny Italy representation would be on offense to the nation in view of its long devotion to democracy and the recent heroic struggle of the partisans. It would also be a mistake for the United Nations, he feels, to attempt to lay the foundations of a durable peace without Italy's voice being heard. A similar line was taken by Don Sturzo (quoted in IL POPOLO.) On the subject of colonies Bonomi said that Italy was anxious to establish friendly relations with an independent Abyssinia. What Italy had accomplished in East Africa, Eritrea and Somaliland, he added, should not be forgotten: these colonies, in his opinion "had been administered with great wisdom, especially in the pre-Fascist period." TEMPO, commenting on this statement, brought into the open the widespread Italian feeling on the colonial question which has been hinted at in various articles over the past months; if there is to be a general reorganization of the colonial system with international administration, Italy will have no objection but she would resent being deprived of her pre-Fascist colonies if the old colonial system is to be continued by other nations.... Sonnino (IL POPOLO) is the most recent addition to the list of politicians who have proclaimed publicly that Trieste is [illegible] Christian Democrat party,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

had been pending for a long time. The Fascist racial laws were rescinded in toto, and the constitution of a Consulta for Sardinia, projected some time ago, was approved. Pensions of wounded veterans are to be increased by 100% and farmers granted bonuses by Fascism are to pay back sums to the state expected to reach one and a half billion lire. Action on these rather heterogeneous matters had been expected and there was no press comment worthy of quotation. The new issue of government bonds went on sale on the fifth and Scelba made a statement for the press urging subscription and affirming that Italy's financial situation while grave was not beyond salvation. The papers gave all urged support of the bond issue, even the usually irreconcilable VOCE REPUBBLICANA.

In the field of foreign affairs it was announced on the third that Saragat had been formally accepted by the French and would shortly leave to take up his post in Paris. Marchetti, proposed ambassador to Turkey is also soon to leave. There has been a good deal of comment on the San Francisco conference, with emphasis on the unhappy exclusion of Italy. Croce spoke with some vigor to Reuter's correspondent on the subject - and later in the week the London Times printed a letter from him to the same effect- arguing that to deny Italy representation would be an offense to the nation in view of its long devotion to democracy and the recent heroic struggle of the partisans. It would also be a mistake for the United Nations, he feels, to attempt to lay the foundations of a durable peace without Italy's voice being heard. A similar line was taken by Don Sturzo (quoted in IL POPOLO.) On the subject of colonies Bonomi said that Italy was anxious to establish friendly relations with an independent Abyssinia. What Italy had accomplished in East Africa, Eritrea and Somaliland, he added, should not be forgotten; these colonies, in his opinion "had been administered with great wisdom, especially in the pre-Fascist period." IL MONDO, commenting on this statement, brought into the open the widespread Italian feeling on the colonial question which has been hinted at in various articles over the past months; if there is to be a general reorganization of the colonial system with international administration, Italy will have no objection but she would resent being deprived of her pre-Fascist colonies if the old colonial system is to be continued by other nations.... Tomolin (IL POPOLO) is the most recent addition to the list of editors and politicians who have proclaimed publicly that Trieste is Italian. IL POPOLO is the organ of the Christian Democrat party, whose leader, De Gasperi is also foreign minister.

The opposition papers have been much concerned with possible developments consequent on the liberation of the North. ITALIA LIBERA believes that it will mean the cross-roads for Bonomi; either he will have to recognize the "new forces" in the country or reveal himself and his government as definitely reactionary. The meeting of the six parties of the C.L.N. which took place on the sixth may be seen as significant in this light. The order of the day voted at the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

to be moved, all available bottoms from North Africa [illegible]
000 tons of wheat at Augusta is waiting, and Sardinian food stocks must be flipped into and around South in view of the currently low rate of imports. Savanna has been cleared as a port. Last month 72,000 tons were moved by sea. A good example of adequate planning for shipping is the project to swing in 600,000 sacks from Sardinia for Food Sub-Commission use. Notice of the movement has been given in advance to the Transportation Sub-Commission, which will try to get the ships required at the proper time some weeks hence.

Six sugar beet processing plants will be re-activated, starting in July, to make an expected 13,000 tons of sugar for the civilians and 6,000 tons of molasses from which to obtain yeast for the armies, the beets to be had from plantings of an estimated 17,600 acreas, the Industry Sub-Commission reports....The 1944 Prestiti Del Fascio now stands at 11,420,627 qtl. or rather more than 96 per cent. of the 11,800,000 qtl. goal....The present olive collection, as of April 4, had a total of 486,194 qtl. or better than 66 per cent. of the target, with former Lazio-Umbria Region having the best results - 68 per cent. - to date....Another 160 trucks have arrived, bringing the shipments this year to 1,184; the trucks are being put together in Rome on regular assembly lines and are being assigned to the Allied Motor Transport group for service....The Finance Sub-Commission is testing what assistance it can to the Italian Government's first major try at floating a bond issue; the issue is for 20 billion lire of 5 per cent., five-year maturity bonds, sold at 97½, which would give them an effective yield of 5.14 per cent., a good bait for the loose money the issue is aimed at....Col. Prenge, PG of Umbria-Marche Region, reports that in the four Italian Government provinces of the Abruzzi (which he gave over April 1), there were 1[illegible] projects engineering projects worth 812 million lire prepared, of which 361 worth 119.2 million lire have been completed, 360 worth 150 million lire are in progress and 243 worth 212 million lire are awaiting G.C. by the Italian authorities....A case of foot and mouth disease in Sardinia has forced cancellation of mainland livestock shipments.... Scoring of livestock, AC officers believe too much emphasis is given over to raising livestock which could be used for crops....In the last monthly report before withdrawal, Col.Pennycuick, PG, reported that the power project at Flumendosa(whose three dams and canals is expected to increase generating capacity 80 per cent. on the island) is progressing well....Cagliari, it was also reported, although severely damaged in by Allied bombings, now has complete water supply, sewage facilities, electricity, street lighting and trams and half of its normal gas service....Although the largest producer of Italian lignite, (84,000 tons last month - 6,000 tons below schedule because of manpower shortages and slow-down strikes), Sardinia has to import

1473

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

6,000 tons of Allied coal a month for its industries and railroads,... In Naples, as Southern Region gave over, 1,267 telephones were added and nine long distance lines....Lemon grain ship arrivals are 10,000 tons below schedule and April looks worse, with a 30,000 shortage indicated....A sulphur program has been started which will mean a distribution of about 450 tons of ground sulphur a week for northern farmers....Col.L.A. Jenny, Director, Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission, is in Switzerland, looking over possibilities of transporting electric power into Northern Italy; Swiss manufacturers, incidentally, are dourish on their chances for making power equipment to repair the devastated Italian electric plant, asserting they lack raw materials....Salt is reported at 1,100 lire a kilo in Milan; Food Sub-Commission salt stockpiling is going on a pace for such future contingencies....

3. Advertisement

All U.S. officers in AC, although those under 31 may find it more difficult, are to be offered a chance to apply for a limited number of civilian jobs with the Foreign Economic Administration and the Auxiliary Foreign Service of the State Department. Acceptance would mean taking off the uniform over here and working for AC as a civilian, the change-over taking effect immediately. There are some 60 FEA jobs open. Commanding officers of applicants will be asked to give their opinions on the applicants under their present commands. After the Italian assignment is completed, FEA personnel will be considered for other foreign assignments or work in Washington. Those who go with the State Department will serve in the AC as long as needed and then be subject to appointment at a diplomatic or consular post. All officers relieved from active duty will get honorable discharge and will be eligible for all pay and allowances accorded after honorable separation from the service, except for accumulated leave. Anyone interested has only to tell the Establishment Section through channels. In turn, the applicant will be informed if any position exists for which he may be considered and full particulars forwarded. After an interview, recommendations will be made through AFHQ to Washington for action.

4. Ciis and Ehis

In its final monthly report, Sardinia Region reports that 16,000 cases are still hanging fire in Italian courts....AFHQ has asked for an interim report on how the New Deal for Italy is working out.... A typhoid outbreak is noted at an AMG camp in Florence, 34 cases and suspects and one death being reported....New York University is offering fellowships to graduate Italian art students, the Education Sub-Commission says....Increased postal facilities in Terni Province, Marche-Umbria Region indicates, may make Terni the only province in Italy with daily mail service....AFHQ Fine Arts officers have approved expenditure of $2 million lire for fine arts reconstruction in Ancona ....The Patriots Branch and the Local Government Sub-Commission have amalgamated: Col.R.R. Cripps (B) is the new director of the sub-Commission, succeeding Col.F.G.B. Spicer (B); Major Ralph R. Temple (A) is Deputy Director in charge of the Local Government Branch, and Lieut. Col. F. Craig (B) is Deputy Director in charge of the Patriots Branch ....Lieut.Col. A.D. Bonham-Carter (B) takes the place of [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

contingencies....

3. Advertisement

All U.S. officers in AC, although those under 31 may find it more difficult, are to be offered a chance to apply for a limited number of civilian jobs with the Foreign Economic Administration and the Auxiliary Foreign Service of the State Department. Acceptance would mean taking off the uniform over here and working for AC as a civilian, the change-over taking effect immediately. There are some 60 FEA jobs open. Commanding officers of applicants will be asked to give their opinions on the applicants under their present command. After the Italian assignment is completed, FEA personnel will be considered for other foreign assignments or work in Washington. Those who go with the State Department will serve in the AC as long as needed and then be subject to appointment at a diplomatic or consular post. All officers relieved from active duty will get honorable discharge and will be eligible for all pay and allowances accorded after honorable separation from the service, except for accumulated leave. Anyone interested has only to call the Establishment Section through channels. In turn, the applicant will be informed if any position exists for which he may be considered and full particulars forwarded. After an interview, recommendations will be made through AFHQ to Washington for action.

4. Odds and Ends

In its final monthly report, Sardinia Region reports that 16,000 cases are still hanging fire in Italian courts....AFHQ has asked for an interim report on how the New Deal for Italy is working out.... A typhoid outbreak is noted at an AMG camp in Florence, 34 cases and suspects and one death being reported....New York University is offering fellowships to graduate Italian art students, the Education Sub-Commission says....Increased postal facilities in Terni Province, Marche-Umbria Region indicates, may make Terni the only province in Italy with daily mail service....AFHQ Fine Arts officers have approved expenditure of 52 million lire for fine arts reconstruction in Ancona....The Patriots Branch and the Local Government Sub-Commission have amalgamated: Col.R.R. Cripps (B) is the new director of the sub-Commission, succeeding Col.P.G.B. Spicer (B); Major Ralph R. Temple (A) is Deputy Director in charge of the Local Government Branch, and Lieut. Col. F. Craig (B) is Deputy Director in charge of the Patriots Branch ....Lieut.Col. A.D. Bonham-Carter (B) takes the place of Col. Cripps as Chief Staff Officer of the Civil Affairs Section....Under the tutelage of the Chief Commission and Col. Fiske, Acting Executive Commissioner, regional commissioners were officially presented to Prime Minister Bonomi the other day....Col. Kirkwood, RO of Tuscany, is ill in a hospital at Florence; we wish him a quick recovery....The Public Relations Branch is beginning to grope with the problem of what to do about the horde of civilian correspondents who will be left in Rome after the housekeeping establishments of AFHQ PRO move forward....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Italians who still retain prisoner of war status in Italy and work under supervision of military authorities (but with considerable freedom) seem loath to lose their prisoner status because they would at the same time lose good pay and maintenance conditions, it is reported, thus bringing a new factor to the keeping of the Allied promise in the New Deal for Italy memorandum as to freeing Italian POW's held in Italy itself....City lights went on in Naples for the first time in five years last week; Rome is also having street lights for the first time since liberation....The Education Sub-Commission, in cooperation with the Italian Ministry of Education, is planning an interchange of lectures in Rome and Florence between Italian professors and scholarly Allied officers; officers who wish to volunteer should send in their names....What is believed to be the first free technical school in Italy has been started at Rimini under auspices of the 8th Army AMG and the town's civic leaders to train unskilled laborers in various crafts....Honorary appointment as a Commander of the British Empire has been conferred on Admiral Stone by the King of England on the recommendation of the First Lord of the Admiralty; congratulations....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

...[illegible] in their names....What is believed to be the first free technical school in Italy has been started at Rimini under auspices of the 5th Army AMG and the town's civic leaders to train unskilled laborers in various crafts....Honorary appointment as a Commander of the British Empire has been conferred on Admiral Stone by the King of England on the recommendation of the First Lord of the Admiralty; congratulations....

1477

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

586.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

SECRET

R26/WB52/PRB

2 April 1945.

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN NO. 52
26 Mar 45 to 2 Apr 45.

1. Political

The principal business of the Council meeting on the 28th was to set up the long-awaited Consulta (Advisory Assembly). As planned the Consulta will have 320 members divided as follows: 180 chosen "by the most important parties", 70 by the syndical organizations and 70 from among old anti-Fascist senators and ex-deputati. These will be divided among various commissions and will give their opinion - when asked - on legal measures and "general problems". The commissions correspond roughly to the Ministries; they are eight in number, as follows: Foreign Affairs, Public and Administrative Affairs, Justice, Education and Fine Arts, National Defence, Finance and Treasury, Agriculture and Alimentation, Industry and Commerce, Labor and Welfare, Reconstruction, including Public Works and Communications. The creation of the Consulta was hailed enthusiastically by the government parties (except by the Communists whose approval was temperate; they felt all representation should be confined to the parties of the C.L.N.) but the Left had many reservations. AVANTI finds the move comes late "as usual" and ITALIA LIBERA objects to the "commission" principle, arguing that what emerges is not an advisory council at all but simply a number of groups of "experts" that the government may convoke or ignore as it chooses. The Action Party organ indeed calls the new institution "comporative" - no longer a flattering adjective in Italy. Parties out of the C.L.N. are of course waiting to see how much - if any representation they will have; for ITALIA NUOVA (Democrat) Leftists skepticism has already been sufficient to draw forth some words of praise for the scheme.

The government announced during the week that Italian diplomats would soon leave to take up their posts in South America...Otherwise the week has been relatively quiet on the political front. Perhaps because it was Easter Week, perhaps because, like everyone else, the Italians have their eyes fixed on rapidly moving developments in Germany.

2. The Economic Front

The biggest economic news of the week was getting the joint program for first-aid to Italian economy off the ground. The Chief Commissioner tendered his congratulations to the Economic Section for their "monumental work" and mentioned Brigadier General Edwards B. McKinley, Deputy Vice President (who inspected the Category A part with a fine-tooth comb), Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Executive Director (who put in three-weeks' of day-and-night grind on the job) and vice president A.G. Antollini, who supervised the job. Mr. Cleveland took the Category B part with him to Washington last week while the Category A section went to AFHQ at Caserta for transmission to the Combined Chiefs of Staff. As the first complete supply program drawn

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

70 from among old anti-fascist senators and ex-deputati. These will be divided among various commissions and will give their opinion - when asked - on legal measures and "general problems". The commissions correspond roughly to the Ministries; they are eight in number, as follows: Foreign Affairs, Public and Administrative Affairs, Justice, Education and Fine Arts, National Defence, Finance and Treasury, Agriculture and Alimentation, Industry and Commerce, Labor and Welfare, Reconstruction, including Public Works and Communications. The creation of the Consulta was hailed enthusiastically by the government parties (except by the Communists whose approval was temperate; they felt all representation should be confined to the parties of the C.L.N.) but the Left had many reservations. AVANTI finds the move comes late "as usual" and ITALIA LIBERA objects to the "commission" principle, arguing that what emerges is not an advisory council at all but simply a number of groups of "experts" that the government may convoke or ignore as it chooses. The Action Party organ indeed calls the new institution "corporative" - no longer a flattering adjective in Italy. Parties out of the C.L.N. are of course waiting to see how much - if any representation they will have; for ITALIA NUOVA (Democrat) Leftists skepticism has already been sufficient to draw forth some words of praise for the scheme.

The government announced during the week that Italian diplomats would soon leave to take up their posts in South America...Otherwise the week has been relatively quiet on the political front. Perhaps because it was Easter Week, perhaps because, like everyone else, the Italians have their eyes fixed on rapidly moving developments in Germany.

2. The Economic Front

The biggest economic news of the week was getting the joint program for first-aid to Italian economy off the ground. The Chief Commissioner tendered his congratulations to the Economic Section for their "monumental work" and mentioned Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Deputy Vice President (who inspected the Category A part with a fine-tooth comb), Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Executive Director (who put in three-weeks' of day-and-night grind on the job) and vice president A.G. Antolini, who supervised the job. Mr. Cleveland took the Category B part with him to Washington last week while the Category A section went to AFHQ at Caserta for transmission to the Combined Chiefs of Staff. As the first complete supply program drawn up for Italy since the fall of Fascism, the plans represent three months' work by both the Italian Government and the Allied Commission. The Category A part includes all items classed as a military responsibility and which are provided to allay disease and unrest where it might prejudice military operations. Such items include food, medical supplies, some transport and clothing, etc. These supplies are paid for out of regular appropriation of the British and American Governments. The Category B part of the program covers the basic items needed for a start toward economic rehabilitation and apply to the whole range of the Italian economy from basic industries, electric power, transport to a certain amount of consumer goods and including

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

the minimum materials and products commonly needed for general manufacturing schedules. Cost of the Category B program will be assumed by the Italian Government from credits in excess of Lire 600,000,000 provided by the U.S. (mostly from troop pay exclusive of money spent in PX's and sent home) and from further funds to be made available by the British. As everyone knows, when the goods asked for (assuming the requisitions are approved, in the main) will arrive, depends entirely on the industrial market and the availability of shipping, which is getting tighter and tighter in this direction.

What will undoubtedly be an important agency was created March 30 in the shape of an Advisory Anti-Inflation Board to make reports to the Chief Commissioner on measures and policies which should be recommended to the Italian Government for immediate action to check and control the existing tendencies towards inflation. It is noted that since the issue of the Anti-Inflation Committee report about a year ago, the situation has grown worse. Particular attention in anti-inflation considerations will be given to the bearing of such advice on problems of military production and procurement. Chairman of the Board will be the Vice President of the Economic Section. Other members will be the Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, the Joint Directors of the Finance Sub-Commission, and the Director of the Labor Sub-Commission. Advisors who will be invited as needed will be the Treasury attaches of the British and American Embassies Mr. K. E. Stauffer is secretary.

Activities in the economic line also filled the sitreps from the field as well as HQ. : Truck arrivals this week - 216; total this year - 1,034; promised consignment - 1,700..Marche-Umbria Region reports that transport cost of moving 4,300 schoolbooks from Rome to Macerata was 23,000 lire, an eyebrow raising fact which prompted the Chief Commissioner to order the charge investigated...The War Material Disposal and Italian Prisoners of War Sub-Commission received 7,550 tons of salvage material last in February, including aluminum, ferrous and heavy metals, old canvas and derelict vehicles... The Public Works and Utilities and Agriculture Sub-Commissions are happy to report that 82 per cent of the flooded Pontine Marshes have now been reclaimed and that planting is proceeding on much of the drained land...Hazards of the fishing industry off Tuscany - floating mines which sank three boats off Ercole Giannutri...Exports made records last week when 4,587 tons valued at 135 million lire went to the U.K. (lemons), France (mercury and bergamot oil), the U.S. (salt), Malta (wine, salt and oranges) and to the Middle East (citric acid)... The Granai del Popolo now reads at 11,023,503 qtl and the olive oil collection at 400,079 qtl...Increased allocation of power for civilian use is making possible increased industrial production in fertilizer and textile items..Approximately 400 tons of 4,000 tons of heavy engineering equipment requisitioned a year ago by Public Works & Utilities S/C has arrived, including trailers, cargo trucks, air compressor, asphalt kettles, mixing plant and crushing and screening plants...The AC Priorities Board has allocated 520,000 available blankets as follows: 182,717 to the Public Health S/C, 91,359 to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778506

should be recommended to the Italian Government for immediate action to check and control the existing tendencies towards inflation. It is noted that since the issue of the Anti-Inflation Committee report about a year ago, the situation has grown worse. Particular attention in anti-inflation considerations will be given to the bearing of such advice on problems of military production and procurement. Chairman of the Board will be the Vice President of the Economic Section. Other members will be the Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, the Joint Directors of the Finance Sub-Commission, and the Director of the Labor Sub-Commission. Advisors who will be invited as needed will be the Treasury attaches of the British and American Embassies Mr. K. E. Stauffer is secretary.

Activities in the economic line also filled the sitreps from the field as well as HQ. : Truck arrivals this week - 216; total this year - 1,034; promised consignment - 1,700..Marche-Umbria Region reports that transport cost of moving 4,300 schoolbooks from Rome to Macerata was 23,000 lire, an eyebrow raising fact which prompted the Chief Commissioner to order the charge investigated...The War Material Disposal and Italian Prisoners of War Sub-Commission received 7,550 tons of salvage material last in February, including aluminum, ferrous and heavy metals, oil, canvas and derelict vehicles... The Public Works and Utilities and Agriculture Sub-Commissions are happy to report that 82 per cent of the flooded Pontine Marshes have now been reclaimed and that planting is proceeding on much of the drained land...Hazards of the fishing industry off Tuscany - floating mines which sank three boats off Ercole Giannutri...Exports made records last week when 4,587 tons valued at 135 million lire went to the U.K. (lemons), France (mercury and bergamot oil), the U.S. (salt), Malta (wine, salt and oranges) and to the Middle East (citric acid)... The Granai del Popolo now reads at 1,023,500 qtl and the olive oil collection at 400,079 qtl...Increased allocation of power for civilian use is making possible increased industrial production in fertilizer and textile items..Approximately 400 tons of 4,000 tons of heavy engineering equipment requisitioned a year ago by Public Works & Utilities S/C has arrived, including trailers, cargo trucks, air compressor, asphalt kettles, mixing plant and crushing and screening plants...The AC Priorities Board has allocated 820,000 available blankets as follows: 182,717 to the Public Health S/C, 91,359 to Displaced Persons and Repatriation S/C, and 42,044 to Public Safety S/C.

3. ELBA

Major T. L. Bullock, DDPR (Field), sends the following report after a visit to Elba.

Both the immediate and long-term problems of Elba are economic, says Major Harold V. Reilly (A) who has administered the historic island since last December, almost as an independent entity under Livorno Province and Tuscan Region. There are two schools of thought among the islanders. The Christian Democrats say the ancient mines have had their day and the people must look to the land and the sea for a living. The Communists, a vocal minority of less than 1,000 in a population of 31,000, claim the mining industry must be revived even if the state has to operate it at a loss. There are variations

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775016

on this theme, of course, though the people of Elba do not seem particularly sensitive to political currents on the mainland. But the iron mines which were once the springboard of Etruscan power and later gave Rome her dominance in the world have dwindled in importance and ILVA, the greatest corporation on the island, is reluctant to rebuild its war-smashed plants. For several years past they are said to have been run at a loss under pressure from the Fascist government. Transport, industry and mining combined have never given a living to more than 20 per cent of the people, 65 per cent of whom live off the land. The wine industry, with 30 million seed plants and a value of 1½ billion lire, is of great importance. Elba wines are fine and rich and could be exported for high prices. Fishing will become again a major factor in island economy when present restrictions are relaxed. Green vegetable production meets about half the needs of the population. But a year's grain crop will feed Elba only a month because the acreage of arable land is comparatively small. The war did much here. In September 1943, when the people resisted German occupation, the chief town of Portoferraio, where 36 per cent of all Elbans live, was bombed and shelled by the Germans. In April 1944, it was bombed again by the Americans and British, the entire population was evacuated and the city was partly looted by Germans and civilians. The French landed at Marina di Campo on the south side in mid-June 1944 and threw the Germans out after a battle which swept through one-third of the island. Elba remained under stern French rule, with AMG in an advisory capacity, until 11 December 1944, and it was not until December 20 that Toscana Region formally took over. In the last three months there have been great changes. Elba is divided by old custom into 6 communes but for purposes of feeding, schools, public health and public welfare, AMG is administering it on an island basis and has recommended the appointment of a resident Vice Prefect. Local administrations are running well. SEPRAL has a capably staffed and efficient branch in Elba and the Italian officials have been held wholly responsible since 15 January for indenting for, financing, transporting and distributing all civilian basic foodstuffs, though AMG helps get supplies to the quayside in Piombino, nearest mainland port. The CAC says SEPRAL in Livorno overcharges fantastically for transport to Piombino and leakages in transport are serious, so unrationed foods are not being imported in any quantity. There is considerable undernourishment in the two main port towns and clothing and shoes are badly needed, and though the Red Cross has distributed one ton of clothes, nearly 3000 people are still in need. Fresh meat is available only for institutions and fish will be in short supply until the Navy relaxes its ban on night fishing. The nearby islands of Capraia and Pianosa have been connected to Elba by phone over old Morse circuits and there is military telephone communication with the mainland. Mined and demolished harbors are being cleared, 10 sunken ships have been raised and are being refitted in a local shipyard, small boats run regularly to Piombino in good weather, though travel to the mainland is limited to 10 persons a day beyond Piombino. Shops are open and doing some business. Banks have been in operation since last August. Large amounts of French [illegible] in 500 and 1000 franc notes, some issued by the Germans, have all been redeemed by France, easing a situation which for some Elbans was serious. Two electrical power plants are running on Diesel oil left in a German submarine base, yielding 350 kilowatts for domestic lighting, milling and light mining. Roads have been resurfaced with stone and earth. Bridges are intact. The civilian transport [illegible] is good though bus [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785066

a year's grain crop will feed Elba only a month because the acreage of arable land is comparatively small. The war hit hard here. In September 1943, when the people resisted German occupation, the chief town of Portoferraio, where 36 per cent of all Elbans live, was bombed and shelled by the Germans. In April 1944, it was bombed again by the Americans and British, the entire population was evacuated and the city was partly looted by Germans and civilians. The French landed at Marina di Campo on the south side in mid-June 1944 and threw the Germans out after a battle which swept through one-third of the island. Elba remained under overall French rule, with AMG in an advisory capacity, until 31 December 1944, and it was not until December 20 that Toscana Region formally took over. In the last three months there have been great changes. Elba is divided by old custom into 6 communes but for purposes of feeding, schools, public health and public welfare, AMG is administering it on an island basis and has recommended the appointment of a resident Vice Prefect. Local administrations are running well. SEPRAL has a capably staffed and efficient branch in Elba and the Italian officials have been held wholly responsible since 16 January for indenting for, financing, transporting and distributing, all civilian basic foodstuffs, though AMG helps get supplies to the quayside in Piombino, nearest mainland port. The C4L says SEPRAL in Livorno overcharges fantastically for transport to Piombino and leakages in transport are serious, so unrationed foods are not being imported in any quantity. There is considerable undernourishment in the two main port towns and clothing and shoes are badly needed, and though the Red Cross has distributed one ton of clothes, nearly 3000 people are still in need. Fresh meat is available only for institutions and fish will be in short supply until the Navy relaxes its ban on night fishing. The nearby islands of Capraia and Pianosa have been connected to Elba by phone over old Morse circuits and there is military telephone communication with the mainland. Mined and demolished harbors are being cleared, 10 sunken ships have been raised and are being refitted in a local shipyard, small boats run regularly to Piombino in good weather, though travel to the mainland is limited to 10 persons a day beyond Piombino. Shops are open and doing some business. Banks have been in operation since last August. Large amounts of French [illegible] in 500 and 1000 franc notes, some issued by the Germans, have all been redeemed by France, easing a situation which for some Elbans was serious. Two electrical power plants are running on Diesel oil left in a German submarine base, yielding 350 kilowatts for domestic lighting, milling and light mining. Roads have been resurfaced with stone and earth. Bridges are intact. The civilian transport situation is good though bus fares are high because operators have had to buy tires in the black market; the rate of 2 lire a kilometre is still lower than on the mainland. Liberated refugees have all left the island and the only refugees now are residents of Portoferraio living in the country because their homes were destroyed in the blitzes which levelled 40 per cent of the town. Water systems are back to normal. Drainage sewers in Portoferraio will be restored when rubble from bombing has been removed. The fire department has torn down all insecure walls and the work of clearing debris is proceeding. Private building is being encouraged and 200 tons of cement have been released for reconstruction, but acute shortages of tiles and timber are delaying restoration of the Portoferraio municipio and schools. All primary schools are open, but on a part-time basis. Teachers have been vetted and books

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

were supplied by Rosca Region. The Italian court calendar is up to date and the first AMG court since December will sit next week. A new, modern prison at Porto Longone is being cleaned up for use. Health is good. There was an outbreak of scabies which reached nearly 5,000 cases, but Major Reilly improvised ointment from machine grease, crappa and sulphur until a more conventional salve could be brought from the mainland. Extra soap is now available for sale on doctors' certificates and the epidemic is breaking up. Medical supplies have been received for the Portoferraio hospital and the only desperate needs are rubber surgical gloves and an operator for the X-ray machines. Bedding is scarce and the four ambulances on the island are immobilized for lack of tires. Serious accidents have been caused to children playing with "Red Devil" grenades and fishermen dismantling shells to get explosives for illegal fishing. Elba is not rated as one of the Italian malarial areas, but the situation would be considered bad by American or British standards and control measures are being carried out by the local Genio Civile under instructions from AMG which are now being supplemented by the Italian government. There is practically no typhoid but tuberculosis is serious because of bad living habits. There were four cases of diphtheria around Christmas time. Bread, which sold all winter for 3 lire, is now 12 lire and all ration scales and rationed food prices have been raised to mainland levels. The Assistenza rate is 8 lire a day and wages have been ordered up to national standards. There is one exception: the mines, under pressure, are employing labor to produce ore at twice the old wage scale, which is still below the set rate, but there is no outlet for the ore and if standard wages are enforced either the mines will close or the Italian government must pay the difference. AMG has put an export duty of 5 lire a litre on Elba wines and is blocking a percentage of the crop for island consumption at controlled prices. The levy is earmarked for public welfare and the proceeds are distributed by a committee of the 8 sindaci. Prices of fish, vegetables and milk are also controlled. Rains this week have improved the prospects for a good crop but 500 tons of sulphur are needed for the vineyards. Garden seeds were imported last December. Some farmers moved their vineyards up the hills and put in gardens on the lower levels. The Social Democrats are campaigning to persuade the people to extend this practice. Political parties are allowed to operate headquarters if they pay rent; they may solicit members and hold social and welfare gatherings, but all manifestos, pamphlets and political meetings are banned. The CAO thinks that in a election with the women voting, the Social Democrats would win. A committee of ex-partisans has been set up to examine claims for partisan certificates and it is anticipated that the number who can show they actually risked their lives opposing the Germans will be about 75.

4. Odds and Ends

8th Army AMG reports that 1,500,000 seedling trees are being planted in Forli and Ravenna and that 800 mines were lifted at Forli [illegible] days....U.S. School of Military Government graduates from Charlottesville may be interested to know that 36 of the 180 members of the third class have been [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778016

for illegal fishing. [illegible] would be considered bad by merican
areas, but the situation would be considered bad by [illegible]
standards and control measures are being carried out by the local
Genio Civile under instructions from AMG which are now being supple-
mented by the Italian government. There is practically no typhoid
but tuberculosis is serious because of bad living habits. There were
four cases of diphtheria around Christmas time. Bread, which sold
all winter for 3 lire, is now 15 lire and all ration scales and rationed
food prices have been raised to mainland levels. The Assistenza rate
is 8 lire a day and wages have been ensured up to national standards.
There is one exception: the mines, under pressure, are employing labor
to produce one at twice the old wage scale, which is still below the
set rate, but there is no outlet for the ore and if standard wages
are enforced either the mines will close or the Italian government
must pay the difference. AMG has put an export duty of 5 lire a
litre on Elba wines and is blocking a percentage of the crop for island
consumption at controlled prices. The levy is earmarked for public
welfare and the proceeds are distributed by a committee of the 8
Sindaci. Prices of fish, vegetables and milk are also controlled.
Rains this week have improved the prospects for a good crop but 500
tons of sulphur are needed for the vineyards. Garden seeds were
imported last December. Some farmers moved their vineyards up the
hills and put in gardens on the lower levels. The Social Democrats
are campaigning to persuade the people to extend this practice.
Political parties are allowed to operate headquarters if they only rent;
they may solicit members and hold social and welfare gatherings, but
and manifestos, pamphlets and political meetings are barred. The CAO
thinks that in a election with the women voting, the Social Democrats
would win. A committee of ex-partisans has been set up to examine
claims for partisan certificates and it is anticipated that the
number who can show they actually risked their lives opposing the
Germans will be about 75.

4. Olives and Elms

8th Army AMG reports that 1,500,000 seedling trees are being
planted in Forli and Ravenna and that 800 mines were lifted at Forli
5 days....U.S. School of Military Government graduates from
Charlottesville may be interested to know that 95 of the 100 members
of the third class have been promoted: one to brigadier general, seven
to colonel, 25 to lieutenant colonel, and 26 to major....The HQ of
Emilia Region and 8th Army AMG staff members are attending the April
1st inauguration of the Captains Regent of the Republic of San Marino
(founded 301 A.D.) ....800 Jewish emigrants embarked for Palestine
last week while 200 Greeks, Arabs, Britons and others, went to
Tripolitania and Cyrenaica, all under auspices of the Displaced
Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission....3,000 of the 3,500 re-
patriated Italian soldiers of the Garibaldi Division will be sent to
Viterbo for re-grouping and training....A new and definite list of
appointments of provincial commissioners, superseding all previous
appointments, has been issued by the Establishment Section....Italians
under 8th Army and Fifth Army direction are recovering precious gems
valued at millions of pounds sterling from the bomb debris of the
Museo Nazionale at Ancona....U.S. promotions are still coming through,
the latest being one to colonel - Robert B. Lenhart; five to lieu-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

tenant colonel - John W. Clarke, Leon V. McCa[illegible]lle, Vinal S. Renton, Glenn E. Riddell [illegible]d Rowland W. Rushmore; and six to major....Good luck to all....Civilian postal service is to be started for parts of Pistoia and Lucca Provinces by April 9....Epuration of Italian state officials in the higher grades (not counting the prefects reported on last week) has resulted in nearly 1,000 investigations, 300 trials and 100 dismissals to date, the Civil Affairs Section reports....

5. Amendment:

In Weekly Bulletin No. 49 for 6 March paragraph 2 on page 2 should be amended to read as follows:

Mr. Henry Hopkinson, British Political Advisor, emphasized that the policy of AC in the North should be to absorb so far as possible into the military government administration the local authorities set up by the Committe of National Liberation during the German occupation.

6. Cumpleanno

Somehow our sentimentalism - or time-sense whichever it is - will not permit us to let this week's Bulletin go out without some expression of pleasure and modest satisfaction, muffled a little by secret surprise, that we have rounded out the year. With more punctuality than you would think possible if you were behind the scenes, we have sent our weekly message out to our little world. We aren't asking for compliments; we are soldiers (of a sort) and it is our simple duty. None the less, there is a sense of accomplishment and an even deeper sense of amazed gratitude that our customers have put up with it so long. Perhaps now, if they had to pay for it...

We remember the first Bulletin, a minuscule two page affair, the work of one man alone; we hope you remember it too, shyly, timidly edging its way onto your desk. Since then the world has moved faster, the Commission has become more articulate, and we have been privileged to convey more and more information to our friends within the circle. We have even found people telling us what to put in as well as what to keep out. Since in the nature of things the Bulletin is made up at the last minute, and since it is also classified as SECRET the weekly preparation of it has been as nice a combination of frenzy and circumspection as you could wish for. Still all in all it's been fun; we only hope you've enjoyed it as much as we have. But we won't be misunderstood when we say we don't really want to have it run another year. Nor you either, we suspect.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

that the policy of AC in the North should be to absorb so far as possible into the military government administration the local authorities set up by the Commiste of National Liberation during the German occupation.

6. Cumpleanno

Somehow our sentimentalism - or time-sense whichever it is - will not permit us to let this week's Bulletin go out without some expression of pleasure and modest satisfaction, muffled a little by secret surprise, that we have rounded out the year. With more punctuality than you would think possible if you were behind the scenes, we have sent our weekly message out to our little world. We aren't asking for compliments; we are soldiers (of a sort) and it is our simple duty. None the less, there is a sense of accomplishment and an even deeper sense of amazed gratitude that our customers have put up with it so long. Perhaps now, if they had to pay for it...

We remember the first Bulletin, a minuscule two page affair, the work of one man alone; we hope you remember it too, shyly, timidly edging its way onto your desk. Since then the world has moved faster, the Commission has become more articulate, and we have been privileged to convey more and more information to our friends within the circle. We have even found people telling us what to put in as well as what to keep out. Since in the nature of things the Bulletin is made up at the last minute, and since it is also classified as SECRET the weekly preparation of it has been as nice a combination of frenzy and circumspection as you could wish for. Still all in all it's been fun; we only hope you've enjoyed it as much as we have. But we won't be misunderstood when we say we don't really want to have it run another year. Nor you either, we suspect.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

512

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH SECRET

R25/WB51/PRB 25 March 1945

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN NO. 51
18 Mar to 25 Mar 45

1. Political

The delicate task of fusing Italy's two armies - the partisans and the regulars - was attacked at the Council meeting on the 15th. The problem was of course to give the partisans recognition (politically vital to any government) and to keep alive their militarily valuable enthusiasm without detriment to or adulteration of the regular army which, however much discredited after the Armistice in the eyes of the more radical parties, has still the monopoly of technical and professional skill. The fusion was arranged on the basis of temporary enrollment of the partisans with recognition of ranks up to Lt.Col. It seems to be a solution acceptable to all; even Sertorius, ITALIA NUOVA's able military expert, expressed satisfaction with the arrangement. Somewhat later in the week Scoccimarro, Minister for Occupied Italy, stated in an interview that camps for feeding, clothing and re-organising the partisans had been set up, a special camp for partisan women being in preparation. He said rather expecting help from the North it would be more likely that the liberated areas would need aid from the government and he looks to the C.L.N. to mobilize the working masses immediately after liberation. He further claimed for Italy the right to try German prisoners of war for war crimes committed in Italy.

The government has been somewhat harassed during the week by repercussions of the affair in Caulonia (Calabria) some two weeks ago. Accounts of the origin and development of the episode vary but it is clear that for a time at least the Communists took over the town and replaced the normal authorities. There were two casualties; a priest and the secretary of a local C.D. group. RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE, IL POPOLO, and ITALIA NUOVA have again raised the cry of "red domination of the South" - and pressed the government for action. The Press Office of the government reported on the 20th that steps have been taken to ascertain and punish the guilty parties and to maintain law and order, but, since the outcry still continued, the same statement was repeated the following day, with the additional comment that the main source of disorder is in the number of armed

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778046

The delicate task of fusing Italy's two armies - the partisans and the regulars - was attacked at the Council meeting on the 16th. The problem was of course to give the partisans recognition (politically vital to any government) and to keep alive their militarily valuable enthusiasm without detriment to or adulteration of the regular army which, however much discredited after the Armistice in the eyes of the more radical parties, has still the monopoly of technical and professional skill. The fusion was arranged on the basis of temporary enrollment of the partisans with recognition of ranks up to Lt.Col. It seems to be a solution acceptable to all; even Sertorius, ITALIA NUOVA's able military expert, expressed satisfaction with the arrangement. Somewhat later in the week Scoccimarro, Minister for Occupied Italy, stated in an interview that camps for feeding, clothing and re-organising the partisans had been set up, a special camp for partisan women being in preparation. He said rather expecting help from the North it would be more likely that the liberated areas would need aid from the government and he looks to the C.L.N. to mobilize the working masses immediately after liberation. He further claimed for Italy the right to try German prisoners of war for war crimes committed in Italy.

The government has been somewhat harassed during the week by repercussions of the affair in Caulonia (Calabria) some two weeks ago. Accounts of the origin and development of the episode vary but it is clear that for a time at least the Communists took over the town and replaced the normal authorities. There were two casualties; a priest and the secretary of a local C.D. group. RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE, IL POPOLO, and ITALIA NUOVA have again raised the cry of "red domination of the South" .. and pressed the government for action. The Press Office of the government reported on the 20th that steps have been taken to ascertain and punish the guilty parties and to maintain law and order, but, since the outcry still continued, the same statement was repeated the following day, with the additional comment that the main source of disorder is in the number of armed individuals who go about calling themselves partisans and that "economic difficulties and party differences still further complicate the situation." This has not satisfied the protesting parties either but so far at least there have been no further "complications of the situation."

1468

The second meeting of the Council during the week (March 21) was high-lighted by the report of Bergami, High Commissioner

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

for Food, who told the Council and the Country that the wheat situation is in hand until the next harvest; the population will have its 200 grams of bread and 80 grams of pasta. The High Commissioner spoke again on the need of controlling prices and protecting the citizens against speculation. At this meeting the Council also approved a decree to keep existent agrarian contracts in force till the end of the war. On the subject of the black market Lizzadri wrote (in IL LAVORO) in rather strong terms; it was idle for the government to raid a few street vendors, he asserted; either it should show it means business and go after the profiteers who are in back of the black market or the people may be expected to take the law into their own hands. The C.G.I.L. followed this lead with its motion of the 22d asking for more governmental energy in this matter and for greater power to the Italian people, adding as well that railways, telephones and public utilities should be nationalized.

Turning to the international scene the long waited appointment of Italy's ambassador to France was made during the week, the post going to Saragat, Socialist leader, and no stranger to France where he spent thirteen years as an anti-Fascist exile.

The Quintieri-Mattioli mission gave its report which was acclaimed by most of the press, not so much for any real concessions that had been won as from the encouraging tone of American interest in Italy. AVANTI pointed out that nothing had really been obtained in the delicate matter of the Am-lire and found the optimism created by the report was "exaggerated" but optimism there is, nonetheless...All parties have been campaigning for some kind of a seat at San Francisco where, it is objected, even Turkey can go though she has fired no shot in the war. In this context the Pope's speech of a week ago has won general approval, insisting as it does on the rights of small nations and on the need of doing away with selfish nationalism.

The speech of the venerable Orlando calling for national unity did not evoke such unanimous approval; "national solidarity is a fine thing", said UNITA, " as long as it doesn't mean whitewashing those who were guilty of Fascism" - and other Leftist papers followed the same line....Perhaps under international items should be noted the departure of one of Italy's more celebrated guests; Kesselring left during the week for more important business at home. Italians only wish he had taken his friends with him.

2. Organizational Changes

As promised by the New Deal for Italy, [illegible]
staffs of the [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

for more governmental energy in this matter and for greater power to the Italian people, adding as well that railways, telephones and public utilities should be nationalized.

Turning to the international scene the long waited appointment of Italy's ambassador to France was made during the week, the post going to Saragat, Socialist leader, and no stranger to France where he spent thirteen years as an anti-Fascist exile.

The Quintieri-Mattioli mission gave its report which was acclaimed by most of the press, not so much for any real concessions that had been won as from the encouraging tone of American interest in Italy. AVANTI pointed out that nothing had really been obtained in the delicate matter of the Am-lire and found the optimism created by the report was "exaggerated" but optimism there is, nonetheless...All parties have been campaigning for some kind of a seat at San Francisco where, it is objected, even Turkey can go though she has fired no shot in the war. In this content the Pope's speech of a week ago has won general approval, insisting as it does on the rights of small nations and on the need of doing away with selfish nationalism.

The speech of the Venerable Orlando calling for national unity did not evoke such unanimous approval; "national solidarity is a fine thing", said UNITA, " as long as it doesn't mean whitewashing those who were guilty of Fascism" - and other Leftist papers followed the same line....Perhaps under international items should be noted the departure of one of Italy's more celebrated guests; Kesselring left during the week for more important business at home. Italians only wish he had taken his friends with him.

2. Organizational Changes

As promised by the New Deal for Italy, headquarters and staffs of the Southern, Sicily and Sardinia Regions - all Italian Government territory - are being abolished. Lazio-Umbria Region headquarters at Rome and Abruzzi-Marche Region headquarters at Aquila are likewise undergoing a change in dropping off representation in the Italian Government provinces under their present jurisdiction. The Southern Italy and Island changes are taking place April 1 and the new Umbria-Marche Region, with headquarters at Perugia, probably, will come into being on April 1. The new region will have its four military government provinces in the Marche plus Terni and Umbria from the former Lazio-Umbria Region. The Regional Commissioner will be Col. C.H.A. French, present head of Abruzzi-Marche (B). Col. Charles Poletti (A),

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778506

from his RC po at Lazio-Umbria, goes to Anning for his RC post in Lombardia making his staff headquarters at Siena. Brigadier J.K. Dunlop (B) leaves Southern Region to intensify his planning for Venezia Region, where he is RC. He is winding up his Naples sojourn with a quick tour of calls on the Italian Prefects in his bailiwick and a farewell press conference with Italian journalists March 28. Col. J.H.C. Pennycuick (B), RC of Sardinia, will take up the post of AMG Commissioner in Naples still controlled by the Allied Commission. Liaison officers will be stationed at Catania and Palermo in Sicily, in Rome with the Rome Allied Area Command and at Bari on the mainland and at Cagliari in Sardinia, where such duties will probably be handled by a representative of the Land Forces Sub-Commission. Regional Executive officers also will henceforth be known as Deputy Regional Commissioners.

3. The Economic Front

The Economic Section seems to be keeping about a dozen balls in the air these days. Intensive work is being done, tidying up presentation of the joint program for first-aid to Italian rehabilitation, with Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley (A), Deputy Vice President, and Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Executive Director, as well as a battery of AFHQ G-4 and G-5 experts lending their touches. General McKinley; Mr. Cleveland; Mr. W.S. Vaughan, director, Industry Sub-Commission; Major J.M. Merritt, Agriculture Sub-Commission, are all going to Washington shortly to be on hand if the Combined Chiefs of Staff want to ask questions. The program is being whipp into technical shape in such a way that military responsibilities for Category A requirements are clear-cut, which should help speed approval, it is hoped.

The export outlook is also occupying considerable space in the AC economic agenda. The Italian Government is going ahead with various projects while the AC gives its opinion and something definite ought to emerge before long. There are possible deals in the air concerning import of frozen meats from the Argentine, the repayment of 10,000 tons of wheat from Spain as well as barter suggestions in which Italian cement and wine would be swapped for Yugoslav prunes and salt. Speaking of exports, this past week was an outstanding one, 100 million lire worth going to the U.K. (silk, hemp and acids), Greece (1,265 tons of sulphur) and France (38 tons of mercury).

Derequisitioning of industrial premises is progressing, 11 plants having been freed from military control the last 6 weeks with further requests on file to return to civilian ownership an olive oil extracting plant at Bari and a fertilizer plant at Taranto among others...386 more 1½-ton trucks have arrived, bringing to 818 the deliveries to date on the 1,700-trucks promised last Fall...4 special perishable fruit train from Southern Italy to Rome has been started, running well as to schedule and so eliminating previous high wastage figures...Power allocations for April are expected to include larger proportions for civilian

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

3. The Economic Front

The Economic Section seems to be keeping about a dozen balls in the air these days. Intensive work is being done, tidying up presentation of the joint program for first-aid to Italian rehabilitation, with Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley (A), Deputy Vice President, and Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Executive Director, as well as a battery of AFHQ G-4 and G-5 experts lending their touches. General McKinley; Mr. Cleveland; Mr. W.S. Vaughan, director, Industry Sub-Commission; Major J.M. Merritt, Agriculture Sub-Commission, are all going to Washington shortly to be on hand if the Combined Chiefs of Staff want to ask questions. The program is being whipped into technical shape in such a way that military responsibilities for Category A requirements are clear-cut, which should help speed approval, it is hoped.

The export outlook is also occupying considerable space in the AC economic agenda. The Italian Government is going ahead with various projects while the AC gives its opinion and something definite ought to emerge before long. There are possible deals in the air concerning import of frozen meats from the Argentine, the repayment of 10,000 tons of wheat from Spain as well as barter suggestions in which Italian cement and wine would be swapped for Yugoslav prunes and salt. Speaking of exports, this past week was an outstanding one, 100 million lire worth going to the U.K. (silk, hemp and acids), Greece (1,265 tons of sulphur) and France (38 tons of mercury).

Derequisitioning of industrial premises is progressing, 11 plants having been freed from military control the last 6 weeks with further requests on file to return to civilian ownership an olive oil extracting plant at Bari and a fertilizer plant at Taranto among others...386 more 1½-ton trucks have arrived, bringing to 818 the deliveries to date on the 1,700-trucks promised last Fall...A special perishable fruit train from Southern Italy to Rome has been started, running well as to schedule and so eliminating previous high wastage figures...Power allocations for April are expected to include larger proportions for civilian use...The olive oil collection reads 370,610 qtl as of 19 March; olive oil control officers in Southern Region, however, will remain on duty until April 15 (notwithstanding the general withdrawal) which should help bring in as much oil as possible until the last minute...Remittances to Italian relatives from Americans from last June to the end of February amounted to $10,850,000 while similar payments in the same period from England amounted to 150,000 pounds...The Granai del Popolo now stands at 10,953,315 qtl...The first chlorine factory to be re-activated in Liberated Italy (capacity: 45 tons a month) started production this past week in Rome...Sixteen gas plants have resumed operations

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

in recent months and 6 others will do so shortly, according to the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission...

4. Voice from SHAEF

One of the most interesting tales brought by a visitor to AC Hq. recently has been that of an American officer who has returned for duty in this theater after having been originally in Sicily and then in SHAEF on German planning. He is Major Aldo L. Raffa, who devised the original schema personnle in Sicily for separating the Fascist goats from the sheep and has been working on a similar job for the Nazi problem. He has come back to take up a post in North Italy where we get there. The Italian experience has been invaluable in planning for Germany, Major Raffa said, the German Fragebogen or questionnaire being modelled strictly on the Italian AMG one and the general lines of purification of the body politic following profiting by the Italian experience. In brief, the German epuration proposes to clean out immediately all Germans on the normal "black lists" and all those who were either political leaders or held any sort of important civil office, since the thorough Teutons have completely infiltrated the German civil service with Nazi Party members. In addition, since Nazi Party requirements are much more strict than eligibility for joining the Fascist Party, there are expected to be many more ardent Nazis than there have been ardent Fascists. The CIC will close down Nazi Party offices and arrest leaders and war criminals. AMG exclusively will clean out Nazis from the public administration. The business of finding the "real" Nazis among those who say that they were simply members of the party is again complicated, as in Italy, the major reports, by the fact that most of the Germans so far encountered proclaim that they "have never been Nazis" just as the Italians announced that they had "never been Fascists". Perhaps, at the moment, finding admitted Nazis is even more difficult than it was to find avowed Fascists. The people in the towns taken and seen by Major Raffa up to the time of his departure are simply sullen and dazed but despite the rigid anti-fraternization rule, there are as many attempts on the part of the Germans to ingratiate themselves with the Allied authorities as there were here among the Italians. Finding competent and trustworthy Germans to use in the civil administration under AMG is also more difficult since the Germans fear that the Nazis may reconquer the territory. Particularly amazing to the Germans has been the scrupulous justice of the AMG court procedure which to a people used to totalitarian Peoples Courts for the last several years, is something quite incomprehensible. In general, Major Raffa says, the AMG problems are the very same as those met in Italy - public health and sanitation and food transport, complicated by the fact that German towns captured to date have suffered much greater destruction than most of those in Italy.

5. Allied Properties

Lieut. Col. E.C.King (A) of the Property Control Division of the Finance Sub-Commission has just completed tidying the picture of Allied properties taken under the protection of the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

the body politic following profiting by the Italian experience. In brief, the German epuration proposes to clean out immediately all Germans of the normal "black lists" and all those who were either political leaders or held any sort of important civil office, since the thorough Teutons have completely infiltrated the German civil service with Nazi Party members. In addition, since Nazi Party requirements are much more strict than eligibility for joining the Fascist Party, there are expected to be many more ardent Nazis than there have been ardent Fascists. The CIC will close down Nazi Party offices and arrest leaders and war criminals. AMG exclusively will clean out Nazis from the public administration. The business of finding the "real" Nazis among those who say that they were simply members of the party is again complicated, as in Italy, the major reports, by the fact that most of the Germans so far encountered proclaim that they "have never been Nazis" just as the Italians announced that they had "never been Fascists". Perhaps, at the moment, finding admitted Nazis is even more difficult than it was to find avowed Fascists. The people in the towns taken and seen by Major Raffa up to the time of his departure are simply sullen and dazed but despite the rigid anti-fraternization rule, there are as many attempts for the part of the Germans to ingratiate themselves with the Allied authorities as there were here among the Italians. Finding competent and trustworthy Germans to use in the civil administration under AMG is also more difficult since the Germans fear that the Nazis may reconquer the territory. Particularly amazing to the Germans has been the scrupulous justice of the AMG court procedure which to a people used to totalitarian Peoples Courts for the last several years, is something quite incomprehensible. In general, Major Raffa says, the AMG problems are the very same as those met in Italy - public health and sanitation and food transport, complicated by the fact that German towns captured to date have suffered much greater destruction than most of those in Italy.

5. Allied Properties

Lieut. Col. E.C.King (A) of the Property Control Division of the Finance Sub-Commission has just completed tidying the picture of Allied properties taken under the protection of the Allied Commission in Liberated Italy. No estimate of the total value of these properties can be made at this time, Col. King remarks, except to say that an "immense" value is indicated. Allied bank accounts alone sequestrated by Istcambi on behalf of the Italian Treasury when Italy was against us amounted to one billion 435 million lire, of which 815 million was American, 295 million British, 287 million French and 41 million in other Allied accounts. Up to the end of February, with more properties being steadily taken over in Tuscany, the Property Controllers had assumed charge of 6,454 items, the bulk to that date in Southern Region. These included 4,529 American, 945 British,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

484 French, 20 Russian, 86 Greek, 16 Yugoslav, 12 Brazilian, 189 other Allies, 181 Italian statal or parastatal accounts and six German. As many as 3,990 items had been returned to their owners or legal representatives. These were broken down as follows: 988 in real estate (villas, farms, buildings); 34 in industrial and commercial entities (plants, shops and banks); 3,862 in securities and miscellaneous objects of value, and 131 Italian statal and parastatal properties, usually Fascist. British real estate generally has been more valuable than that held by Americans. North Italy is expected to show the greatest list of Allied properties, both industrially in Milan and habitations in the resort districts, 2,500 real estate items and 500 industrial and commercial items being already listed. In addition, the Property Control Division is holding some 115 million lire, for the Psychological Warfare Branch (PWB) Film Section, the results of proceeds of the distribution of British and American films in Italy.

6. Odds and Ends

Brigadier Maurice S. Lush (B) is on a month's leave in England; Col. Norman E. Fiske (A) is Acting Executive Commissioner, in the meanwhile...While under constant enemy observation on the edges of Mount Belvedere, Italian civilians mobilized by Capt. Jack Garcia (A), AMG officer in the area, built an excellent military road from Lizzano to Silla, 5th Army AMG reports...A temporary Allied-Italian Film Board to facilitate the revival of an epurated Italian film industry has been finally formed...The Local Government Sub-Commission announces that all 98 prefectural officials in Italian Government territory have now been epurated, 34 having been sent to trial, six having been dismissed and 16 others having received minor punishment...The Public Relations Branch is arranging for the weekly showing of documentary films held by PWB to Allied Commission officers...Lieut. Col. Frank E. Toscani (A), 5th Army AMG economics and supply head is now back from leave in the States...Some more U.S. promotions have come through: To Colonel - Clarence R. Birchett; to Lieutenant Colonel - Charles J. Bint, Paul Gardner, William F. McBratney, Paul D. Scriver and Carleton W. Washburne; plus four new Majors: to all, congratulations...The Communications Sub-Commission has turned over four more Rome-Naples telephone circuits to the Italian Government....Buona Pasqua and watch out for the pesci d'aprile!

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Division is doling some 175 million lire, for the Psychological Warfare Branch (PWB) Film Section, the results of proceeds of the distribution of British and American films in Italy.

6. Odds and Ends

Brigadier Maurice S. Lush (3) is on a month's leave in England; Col. Norman E. Fiske (4) is Acting Executive Commissioner, in the meanwhile...While under constant enemy observation on the edges of Mount Belvedere, Italian civilians mobilized by Capt. Jack Garcia (A), AMG officer in the area, built an excellent military road from Lizzano to Silla, 5th Army AMG reports...A temporary Allied-Italian Film Board to facilitate the revival of an epurated Italian film industry has been finally formed...The Local Government Sub-Commission announces that all 98 prefectural officials in Italian Government territory have now been epurated, 34 having been sent to trial, six having been dismissed and 18 others having received minor punishment...The Public Relations Branch is arranging for the weekly showing of documentary films held by PWB to Allied Commission officers...Lieut. Col. Frank E. Toscani (A), 5th Army AMG economics and supply head is now back from leave in the States...Some more U.S. promotions have come through: To Colonel - Clarence R. Birchett; to Lieutenant Colonel - Charles J. Bint, Paul Garrison, William E. McBratney, Paul D. Scriver and Carleton W. Washburne; plus four new Majors: to all, congratulations...The Communications Sub-Commission has turned over four more Rome-Naples telephone circuits to the Italian Government....Buona Pasqua and watch out for the pesci d'aprile!

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

418

20 MAR Recd

33

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

SECRET

R26/WB50/PRB

18 March 1945.

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN NO. 50
10 Mar to 15 Mar 45

1. Political

The long drawn out trials of Roatta, Suvich et al came to an anti-climactic end on the 12th when sentence of death was passed on Anfuso (once Ambassador to Berlin) and life imprisonment to Roatta. Suvich and Jacomoni were given 24 years. The sense of anti-climax was due partly to the fact that the two principal figures were not present (Anfuso reputedly in Berlin and Roatta still at large, reported variously as in Bengasi, Florence and in Kesselring's Italy) and partly to a rather vague feeling that the trials had not been handled efficiently. Spano, in UNITA, thundered that the present law had been proven inadequate; a few hours, he said, should suffice to condemn "fascist scoundrels." RICOSTRUZIONE remarked in a more legalistic vein that the existent law is bad in that it fails to conciliate political and legal criteria and that the trials just concluded had grouped together too many accused and too many charges. TEMPO complained that the sentences - except for Anfuso - were either too easy or too light; if Suvich was indeed sufficiently guilty to deserve a 24 years sentence he might well have been given life; if he was not a big criminal then who are the minor penalties for? As remarked in last week's Bulletin the trials have been more noteworthy for their tangential effects than in themselves. The latest indirect product of the affair was the government's statement, at a press conference on the 13th, that it intended to enforce firmly the regulations for sending "socially dangerous elements" to labor camps and for removing from official posts all who once held political charges in the Fascist party, no matter what their present affiliations may be. Nonetheless there is much discontent with the machinery of epuration and Grieco last week delivered himself of what ITALIA NUOVA unsympathetically called "one of the usual Jeremiads", pointing out the difficulties in carrying out the task expeditiously; citizens are afraid to sign their denunciations, he said, and employees who reported on their superiors are terrorized. Meanwhile some progress may be noted: the properties of Bocchini (Fascist head of the police) and Crollalanza (once minister of Public Works in the old regime) have been confiscated, and Chiavolini, erstwhile private secretary to the erstwhile duce, has been arrested.

The Council's meeting on the 8th was particularly important for the sanctioning of a national loan "for intensifica-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

to an anti-climactic end on the 12th with sentence of death was passed on Anfuso (once Ambassador to Berlin) and life imprisonment to Roatta. Suvich and Jacomoni were given 24 years. The sense of anti-climax was due partly to the fact that the two principal figures were not present (Anfuso reputedly in Berlin and Roatta still at large, reported variously as in Bengasi, Florence and in Kesselring's Italy) and partly to a rather vague feeling that the trials had not been handled efficiently. Spano, in UNITA, thundered that the present law had been proven inadequate; a few hours, he said, should suffice to condemn "fascist scoundrels." RICOSTRUZIONE remarked in a more legalistic vein that the existent law is bad in that it fails to conciliate political and legal criteria and that the trials just concluded had grouped together too many accused and too many charges. TEMPO complained that the sentences - except for Anfuso - were either too easy or too light; if Suvich was indeed sufficiently guilty to deserve a 24 years sentence he might well have been given life; if he was not a big criminal then who are the minor penalties for? As remarked in last week's Bulletin the trials have been more noteworthy for their tangential effects than in themselves. The latest indirect product of the affair was the government's statement, at a press conference on the 13th, that it intended to enforce firmly the regulations for sending "socially dangerous elements" to labor camps and for removing from official posts all who once held political charges in the Fascist party, no matter what their present affiliations may be. Nonetheless there is much discontent with the machinery of epuration and Grieco last week delivered himself of what ITALIA NUOVA unsympathetically called "one of the usual Jeremiads", pointing out the difficulties in carrying out the task expeditiously; citizens are afraid to sign their denunciations, he said, and employees who reported on their superiors are terrorized. Meanwhile some progress may be noted: the properties of Bocchini (Fascist head of the police) and Croliadanza (once minister of Public Works in the old regime) have been confiscated, and Chiavolini, erstwhile private secretary to the erstwhile duce, has been arrested.

The Council's meeting on the 8th was particularly important for the sanctioning of a national loan "for intensification of the war effort" and emergency expenses. Bonds are to go on sale on April 1st, and in this project the government has had a good press, even the recalcitrant ITALIA NUOVA coming to its aid with an article urging all Italians to get in back of the government and buy. IL GLOBO also reported that the Solidarity Fund was going well and predicted that 5 billion lire would be collected within three months. A further cheering note was the return of the Mattioli-Quintieri financial mission from Washington; their report has not been made public but Tarchiani announced in Washington that Italy had been granted 125 million dollars in credit for purchases in America. In a related sphere the signing of the agreement between UNRRA and the government should be noted; Italy is to get supplies and services to the amount of 50 million dollars for relief purposes. The first 5,000 tons of supplies are to arrive this month.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775016

Bonomi made a visit to the front and came back impressed by the "new spirit" and the friendly collaboration between Italians and Allies. Another happy symbol of this collaboration was the "inauguration" of the new Cassino. The first houses were ready and tenanted on Thursday when the ceremony took place. The Ambassadors of the United States, England, Russia and France were present as well as three Italian Ministers (including Bonomi) and a number of other dignitaries. IL POPOLO saw in the rebirth of Cassino a symbol of the new Italy which is rising from the past and ITALIA LIBERA, ordinarily no friend of the government, wrote lyrically of the occasion and of the "victory of life over death" which it symbolized.

Political life - in the narrower partisan sense - has continued active throughout the week. The Action Party is ever vigorous in its attacks on the government; ITALIA LIBERA of the 16th carried a number of resolutions of the party's central committee, calling for a Consultiva, more power to the C.L.N. and more efficacious epuration and proclaiming that the Bonomi government was incapable of "creating proper conditions for the renewal of democracy." The Communists have been under fire from both the Christian Democrats and the Liberals for (among other things) the pronouncement that Communism and Anti-fascism are one and the same. Trieste slipped briefly in the headlines again when Tarchiani was quoted as saying in Washington that the "italianita" of the Adriatic port was beyond discussion. IL GIORNALE DEL MATTINO, which speaks for the government, approved the sentiment, manifesting admiration for Tito, the heroic liberator of his country, but adding that questions of frontiers must be settled in a spirit of reason and not in one of inflamed nationalism.

Recently there has been a tendency on the part of papers of all parties and independents to ask the government for some preliminary notice of measures under consideration. Even IL GLOBO, normally not given to harassing the government, has written an open letter to Bonomi on this subject. This may be worthy of note as indicating the need of some kind of parliament - or perhaps simply of better press relations.

2. <u>AMG with the Armies</u>

Typical of the communes liberated by Fifth Army this Spring after a cruel winter just within the German lines is the tiny group of settlements grouped around and above GAGGIO MONTANO. The main village lies up a winding country road three kilometres west of Route 64. To reach it you climb more than a thousand feet in two miles. Normal population of the entire commune is only 6,600 souls of whom 5,800 are still sheltered in partly ruined buildings, sharing what cover they can find with 1,300 refugees from other places. Over the hamlet rise the twin peaks of Monte Belvedere and Monte Torraccia. GAGGIO MONTANO is in

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Political life - in the narrower partisan sense - has continued active throughout the week. The Action Party is ever vigorous in its attacks on the government; ITALIA LIBERA of the 16th carried a number of resolutions of the party's central committee, calling for a Consultiva, more power to the C.L.N. and more efficacious epuration and proclaiming that the Bonomi government was incapable of "creating proper conditions for the renewal of democracy." The Communists have been under fire from both the Christian Democrats and the Liberals for (among other things) the pronouncement that Communism and Anti-fascism are one and the same. Trieste slipped briefly in the headlines again when Tarchiani was quoted as saying in Washington that the "italianita" of the Adriatic port was beyond discussion. IL GIORNALE DEL MATTINO, which speaks for the government, approved the sentiment, manifesting admiration for Tito, the heroic liberator of his country, but adding that questions of frontiers must be settled in a spirit of reason and not in one of inflamed nationalism.

Recently there has been a tendency on the part of papers of all parties and independents to ask the government for some preliminary notice of measures under consideration. Even IL GLOBO, normally not given to harassing the government, has written an open letter to Bonomi on this subject. This may be worthy of note as indicating the need of some kind of parliament - or perhaps simply of better press relations.

2. AMG with the Armies

Typical of the communes liberated by Fifth Army this Spring after a cruel winter just within the German lines is the tiny group of settlements grouped around and above GAGGIO MONTANO. The main village lies up a winding country road three kilometres west of Route 64. To reach it you climb more than a thousand feet in two miles. Normal population of the entire commune is only 6,600 souls of whom 5,800 are still sheltered in partly ruined buildings, sharing what cover they can find with 1,300 refugees from other places. Over the hamlet rise the twin peaks of Monte Belvedere and Monte Torraccia. GAGGIO MONTANO is in bad shape. One-third of its buildings have been completely destroyed; of four post offices in the commune, two are shattered and one has been hit. It will cost six million lire to restore smashed public works alone. Water works, sewers and electrical installations are gone. The peasants hid their grain because the partisans told them it was the thing to do. The grain ration up to the end of May was distributed to 4,700 persons and there is said to be more concealed in various corners of the commune. There is a shortage of meat and fats; only one-third of the livestock is left alive. Fifth Army AMG has brought in fodder to save that remnant, as well as garden seed, oxygen, tobacco, and fuel for mills and vehicles. Financially the commune is bankrupt, though it was once self-supporting. No taxes have been collected since last August when 150,000 lire were levied. There

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

is an overdraft of 70,000 lire at the local Credito Romagnolo. Many records have disappeared, the tax roll must be revised; local officials say it will take until June to finish the job. In the meanwhile, to supplement preliminary financing done some weeks ago, AMG has advanced a further 2,500,000 lire, more than a million of which will be spent in the next two months to restore essential public services. The rest will cover normal budget requirements, pensions and a State payroll of 42,000 lire a month. At the junction of the GAGGIO MONTANO road with Route 64 Italian civilians under the direction of combat engineers have built a stone memorial to Fifth Army troops who died to free the Commune.

3. Pisa Comes to Life

Pisa is coming to life again after its many ordeals last fall and winter, reports Maj. T.H.Bullock, our PRO with 15th Army Group. But it will be a long time before the city returns to normal, says the Provincial Commissioner, Lt. Col. T.W.J. Walters (B). It will take a year to get roads, bridges and essential public works completed, though they are off to a good start. The city is about 60 per cent destroyed or badly damaged, particularly on the south bank of the Arno. German shelling continued for 24 days after the Commissioner entered on 3 September. Both the Cathedral and the Leaning Tower were hit by small calibre shells. The famous Campo Santo suffered terrible damage to frescoes and sculptures when shelling set fire to the lead roof and molten metal poured into the quadrangle. Fifth Army engineers have built a temporary roof to prevent further damage. Pisa's troubles were aggravated by a flood when broken retaining walls and spread along the streets to depths which varied between two and five feet. Four hours after the flood began the Lucca Gate became impassable. Bakeries were drowned out and nearly 50 tons of army biscuit had to be brought in and distributed in Army "ducks." The water did not go down for three days and the sea of mud which remained behind is still being cleared away. Flood prevention works, undertaken with Army help, have now been completed. Fortunately a good cesspit sewage system withstood the flood and there has been very little typhoid. Health is good. An outbreak of scabies has been controlled. Hospitals are working very well in Pisa, as well as in Pontadera and Volterra, and some supplementary items of diet are available for patients. Food is scarce in the towns of Pisa Province but the ration scales of bread and pasta are being maintained. The province reports a good grain amassing; vegetables are available in quantities but prices are high. Civilian transport could help relieve local shortages if batteries and tires were obtainable. When sufficient lignite is available, it is hoped to reopen the light railway line from Pisa to Cascina and Pontedera. Work animals are in very short supply. In the City of Pisa water is on again in the mains and leaks are being fixed. Some electricity is going to essential offices and mills and a little is left over for olive pressing and industry. When more power is available several plants in the Arno Valley will reopen. Industry is reviving slowly. The salt monopoly plant at Volterra is working well and an alabaster industry there has enjoyed a boom from sales of souvenirs to troops. Schools are open throughout the province

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778016

fall and winter, reports Maj. T.L.Bullock, our PRO with 15th Army Group. But it will be a long time before the city returns to normal, says the Provincial Commissioner, Lt. Col. T.W.J. Walters (B). It will take a year to get roads, bridges and essential public works completed, though they are off to a good start. The city is about 60 per cent destroyed or badly damaged, particularly on the south bank of the Arno. German shelling continued for 24 days after the Commissioner entered on 3 September. Both the Cathedral and the Leaning Tower were hit by small calibre shells. The famous Campo Santo suffered terrible damage to frescoes and sculptures when shelling set fire to the lead roof and molten metal poured into the quadrangle. Fifth Army engineers have built a temporary roof to prevent further damage. Pisa's troubles were aggravated by/broken retaining walls and spread along the streets to depths which varied between two and five feet. Four hours after the flood began the Lucca Gate became impassable. Bakeries were drowned out and nearly 50 tons of army biscuit had to be brought in and distributed in Army "ducks." The water did not go down for three days and the sea of mud which remained behind is still being cleared away. Flood prevention works, undertaken with Army help, have now been completed. Fortunately a good cesspit sewage system withstood the flood and there has been very little typhoid. Health is good. An outbreak of scabies has been controlled. Hospitals are working very well in Pisa, as well as in Pontadera and Volterra, and some supplementary items of diet are available for patients. Food is scarce in the towns of Pisa Province but the ration scales of bread and pasta are being maintained. The province reports a good grain amassing; vegetables are available in quantities but prices are high. Civilian transport could help relieve local shortages if batteries and tires were obtainable. When sufficient lignite is available, it is hoped to reopen the light railway line from Pisa to Cascina and Pontedera. Work animals are in very short supply. In the City of Pisa water is on again in the mains and leaks are being fixed. Some electricity is going to essential offices and mills and a little is left over for olive pressing and industry. When more power is available several plants in the Arno Valley will reopen. Industry is reviving slowly. The salt monopoly plant at Volterra is working well and an alabaster industry there has enjoyed a boom from sales of souvenirs to troops. Schools are open throughout the province except in Pontedera, many of them in teachers' houses; attendance is high and text books have been epurated by the Italian authorities. The Italian courts began to function early and AMG courts, while they are busy, are not overworked. Eight young Italians were sentenced to one year each by an AMG court for cutting the hair of an Italian girl who went out with Allied soldiers. The Prefect is giving satisfaction to AMG officials, but there are only three CAOs in the province to administer 38 communes. While the Provincial Commissioner believes the bulk of the people are Christian Democrats, he says the Communists have the best organization. Taxes are coming in well, the Italian administration

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

is functioning satisfactorily and bank deposits are up. Five small papers, two of them published by the Church, are appearing regularly under AMG supervision.

4. Travel Agency

It came as a surprise to us, and probably will to others, that the AC HQ. Dispatch Office moved approximately 25,000 persons through its facilities during the past month. The office, which functions under the Hq. Commandant, is run by Major H. J. Birch (B), assisted by Lieut. H.L.White (A), and in addition to running the motor pool, providing transport for out-of-town trips and local visits, has moved personnel by sea, rail and air to countries all over the globe. For example, 245 passengers, mail, urgent medical supplies, luggage, seat and photographs were moved by the Courier Section. Every night 350 female employees of AC HQ. are taken home by car. HQ. officers and staff, totalling 6,524 passengers during the month, made 233 taxi trips a day. By rail to places up and down Italy - speaking of rail, there is now a sleeping car service to Rimini - 52 persons were dispatched. Another 80 went by air to cities in Italy, Sicily and Sardinia as well as to the States, U.K., India and Caire. Sea lanes were used by 14 to get to Madrid, South America and Tangiers. Diplomats were escorted to points of departure. Trips by officers out of town amounted to 114, trips within the Rome area to 530, local trips to 1,348. In addition, the American maintenance unit, also supervised by the Dispatch Office, took care of 1,712 jobs. Major Birch and his staff rate a brace of bouquets at least, for the care, planning and dispatch, with which one of the most vital services of AC is performed.

5. Odds and Ends

Congratulations to Lieut. Col. Robert B. Menapace (A), 5th Army AMG finance officer, for his award of the Legion of Merit..... Eight more American promotions have come through in the last few weeks; two to First Lieutenant, one to Captain, one to Major, one to Lieutenant Colonel and three to full Colonel, the last lucky three being Colonels Floyd E. Thomas, Russell A. Snook and John B. Thornhill..... A temporary (we hope) freeze is on, however, for Hq. U.S. promotions..... The census promoted by the Economic Section last Summer has been finally published. 1,000 copies are in process of being distributed of the 253-page, preliminary statistical abstract of 38 provinces of Liberated Italy, which, incidentally, shows that four out of ten industrial plants on this side of the line have suffered sufficient war damage to be out of production..... The approximately 70 U.S. combat officers who are now in process of being indoctrinated into AMG background in a series of courses will be earmarked for future use but returned to their units in the meantime..... A political strike in Sardinia the first week in March caused an estimated loss of 2,000 tons of coal production..... 1,800 tons of pyrites have been exported from Piombino and 800 from Civitavecchia to Sardinia for the superphosphate plant making fertilizer; this is the first such shipment from the Italian mainland..... Mr. H.R.W. Wade, British Treasury representative,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

over the globe. For example, 245 passengers, mail, urgent medical supplies, luggage, seed and tools were moved by the Courier Section. Every night 300 female employees of AC HQ. are taken home by car. HQ. officers and staff, totalling 6,924 passengers during the month, made 238 daily trips a day. By rail to places up and down Italy - speaking of rail, there is now a sleeping car service to Rimini - 58 persons were dispatched. Another 84 went by air to cities in Italy, Sicily and Sardinia as well as to the States, U.K., India and Cairo. 834 lanes were used by air to get to Madrid, South America and Bangkok. Diplomats were escorted to points of departure. Trips by officers out of town amounted to 116, trips within the Rome area to 830, local trips to ...,548. In addition, the American maintenance unit, also supervised by the Dispatch Office, took care of 1,712 jobs. Major Simon and his staff rate a brace of bouquets at least for the care, planning and dispatch, with which one of the most vital services of AC is rendered.

5. Odds and Ends.

Congratulations to Lieut. Col. Robert B. Menapace (A), 5th Army AMG finance officer, for his award of the Legion of Merit.... Eight more American promotions have come through in the last few weeks; two to First Lieutenant, one to Captain, one to Major, one to Lieutenant Colonel and three to full Colonel, the last lucky three being Colonels Floyd E. Thomas, Russell A. Snook and John B. Thornhill.... A temporary (we hope) freeze is on here, for Hq. U.S. promotions.... The census promoted by the Economic Section last Summer has been finally published; 1,000 copies are in process of being distributed of the 252-page, preliminary statistical abstract of 38 provinces of Liberated Italy, which, incidentally, shows that four out of ten industrial plants on this side of the line have suffered sufficient war damage to be out of production..... The approximately 70 U.S. combat officers who are now in process of being indoctrinated into AMG background in a series of courses will be earmarked for future use but returned to their units in the meantime.... A political storm in Sardinia the first week in March caused an estimated loss of [illegible] tons of coal production.... 1,800 tons of pyrites have been exported to Piombino and 800 from Civitavecchia to Sardinia for the superphosphate plant making fertilizer, this is the first such shipment from the Italian mainland.... Mr. H.R.W. Wade, British Treasury representative, has been visiting HQ. to discuss financial matters.... Mr. E.E. Hunt, head of the Italian Section of the U.S. Foreign Economic Administration, likewise has been a visitor, particularly inspecting the joint program for Italian first-aid rehabilitation, which is almost ready for dispatch to the Combined Chiefs of Staff.... With increasing use of Ancona as a port, AMG summary court cases have shot up 100 per cent., most of the cases being (of course) for illegal possession of Allied property.... A survey just completed shows a full 1,000 bridges out in Pesaro Province..... The black market price of bread in Rome rose a sympathetic 25 per cent with the increase in the official price.... Congratulations to Capt. Sidney B. Waugh (A) for winning the Bronze Star for his spearhead AMG work.... The list of American officers for Austria

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

is now"firm" (a HQ. expression meaning more or less "definite", "certain" or "pretty sure") - at 123 officers so earmarked..... The Italian Army Order of Battle - though its WE is 368,000 - now stands at 342,258, including a CC.RR. strength of 53,990, of whom only 45,207 are being used for normal police duties..... Some 23,000 are in administrative units, 8,000 slated for combat & 155,000 being used in service units.....U.S. inquiries have been received for accordions from the Marche Region.....25 million lire worth of straw hats and braid are being offered for export to the U.S.....27 tons of Persian cocoons have been imported for the Calabria silk mills.....Italian troops in the line will now receive a cognac ration of three centiliters per man, the rate of issue being at the discretion of unit commanders..... Major Lionel Fielden (B), former director of the Public Relations Branch, has left for England.....Mr. G. Stewart Brown, new director of the Branch, has just made his first trip into forward areas, promoting bigger and better public relations from the AMG field staffs, all of whom he found highly cooperative, he reports... Cement production for civilian use now amounts to 4,000 tons a month.....A Consultative Committee representing the supervisory staff, employers and workers has been formed at the Terni Co. (electricity, chemicals, steel and cement) to examine technical and administrative problems, the Labor Sub-Commission reports..... AFHQ is now considering an AC proposal to form a limited number of reconnaissance companies from Patriots to serve with Italian units in combat areas.....The olive oil collection at this date is 351,144 qtl.....Mr. A.G.Antolini (A) is back at his job as Acting Vice President of the Economic Section; Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley is a Deputy Vice President.....All 15 universities in Liberated Italy are open and functioning.....The Agriculture Sub-Commission is currently scratching its head over the supply of sheep and goats to Indian troops, to whom only male animals are acceptable, though our people are trying to offer ewes, first guaranteeing that the females in question will be non-pregnant.....The Granai del Popolo of 1944, now practically written off, stands at 92 per cent of the target or 10,911,754 qtl..... 610 Italians were returned from Rome and the North to Sicily and the South by the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission this past week.....Felicitations are also in order for the SCAO, 8th Army AMG, who is now Air Commodore G.E.Benson.....Although the Political Section was abolished as of March 1, the American and British Embassies will furnish HQ. with two political Advisers: HBM Minister H.L.d'A. Hopkinson and Mr. W.C.Dowling, Second Secretary of the U.S.Embassy.....Visiting officers from the field will be glad to learn that, after many complaints about lack of accommodations, there is going to be more room at the Flora Hotel in Rome, an exodus having been ordered of, first, all personnel not members of AC, which will mean chiefly UNRRA; second, some of the female civilians of AC, and third, all officers below field grade.....Interned German and Bulgarian diplomats are to be moved to Taormina in Sicily, where Spring is at its loveliest and where AC officers will be assigned as "guard", the tour of such duty being a month.....Applicants for the job please line up at the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

for the Calabria silk mills.....[redacted]
now receive a cognac ration of three centiliters per man, the rate of issue being at the discretion of unit commanders..... Major Lionel Fielden (B), former director of the Public Relations Branch, has left for England.....Mr. G. Stewart Brown, new director of the Branch, has just made his first trip into forward areas, promoting bigger and better public relations from the AMG field staffs, all of whom he found highly cooperative, he reports... Cement production for civilian use now amounts to 4,000 tons a month.....A Consultative Committee representing the supervisory staff, employers and workers has been formed at the Terni Co. (electricity, chemicals, steel and cement) to examine technical and administrative problems, the Labor Sub-Commission reports..... AFHQ is now considering an AC proposal to form a limited number of reconnaissance companies from Patriots to serve with Italian units in combat areas.....The olive oil collection at this date is 351,144 qtl.....Mr. A.G.Antolini (A) is back at his job as Acting Vice President of the Economic Section; Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley is a Deputy Vice President.....All 15 universities in Liberated Italy are open and functioning.....The Agriculture Sub-Commission is currently scratching its head over the supply of sheep and goats to Indian troops, to whom only male animals are acceptable, though our people are trying to offer ewes, first guaranteeing that the females in question will be non-pregnant.....The Granai del Popolo of 1944, now practically written off, stands at 92 per cent of the target or 10,911,754 qtl..... 610 Italians were returned from Rome and the North to Sicily and the South by the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission this past week.....Felicitations are also in order for the SCAO, 8th Army AMG, who is now Air Commodore G.E.Benson.....Although the Political Section was abolished as of March 1, the American and British Embassies will furnish HQ. with two political Advisers: HBM Minister H.L.d'A. Hopkinson and Mr. W.C.Dowling, Second Secretary of the U.S.Embassy.....Visiting officers from the field will be glad to learn that, after many complaints about lack of accommodations, there is going to be more room at the Flora Hotel in Rome, an exodus having been ordered of, first, all personnel not members of AC, which will mean chiefly UNRRA; second, some of the female civilians of AC, and third, all officers below field grade.....Interned German and Bulgarian diplomats are to be moved to Taormina in Sicily, where Spring is at its loveliest and where AC officers will be assigned as "guard", the tour of such duty being a month.....Applicants for the job please line up at the left.....

T.G.Bergin 1463

T. G. BERGIN
Major, AUS
DDPR.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

C

53

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

26/PRB

11 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Weekly Bulletin No. 49

TO : All Whom It May Concern.

Will recipients please note that AC WEEKLY BULLETIN NO. 49 is SECRET and not repeat not RESTRICTED and should be altered accordingly.

For the Director:

T. G. BERGIN
Major, AUS
DDPR.

785016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

11 MAR Recd

March 9, 1945

SECRET

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. I, No. 49

POLITICAL

The outstanding event of the week, both from the point of view of political effect and sheer spectacular interest, was the escape of General Roatta from custody of the Carabinieri and his subsequent disappearance into the blue. Roatta is in process of being tried along with Cavich, Jacomoni et al for crimes against the Italian state. The trial which has dragged on for some time is approaching the final stage and the verdict has been awaited with some impatience. Only a few days ago the Pubblico Ministero asked that the ex-Chief of Staff be given a thirty years sentence and the General has further achieved a rather unenviable international prominence, for Tito's government has asked to try him for war crimes allegedly committed in Jugoslavia. On the night of March 4th, taking advantage of what seems to have been rather lax guard, he simply vanished from the Virgilio hospital where he was under detention. The next day the government, harassed by agitation from the Left, Action and Socialist parties leading the hue and cry, issued a communique offering a million lire reward for his capture and announced that the head of the Carabinieri had been removed. This was by no means the end of the matter. On the afternoon of the sixth an indignation meeting was held in the square of the Colosseum and, after speeches by various leftist leaders, moved on to the Quirinale, where an attempt was made to storm the palace. Bombs were thrown — some say by the Carabinieri or the police, others say by members of the crowd — and the Carabinieri fired. One of the crowd was killed and a number (18 is the last figure we have heard) was wounded. The demonstrators then proceeded to the Viminale where a delegation forced its way with insistence if not violence into the presence of Mole and Bonomi. They asked for immediate resignation of the government. Bonomi refused to resign and, of itself, stating that he could not desert his post and that he was responsible to the Council, which was a real issue, but promised to take the suggestion under consideration at the Council meeting the following day. The membership of the delegation is interesting from the political point of view. It was made up of representatives of the Action Party, the Socialists and Communists, the Unione Donne Italiane, a partisan, a pair of "ex-validi di guerra" and General Azzi, himself a storia center and a long ago (see *Weekly Bulletin*, Nos. 39, for 30 Dec. 1944).

The papers of the seventh were full of speculation on the government's possible course of action and indeed on its duration. However, the communique which followed the meeting of the afternoon of the seventh relieved all fears of another crisis. It stated that "after a lengthy discussion which clarified the attitude of the parties forming the government, the Council concluded that there is no reason to break the coalition". It added further that Roatta had been transferred from Regina Coeli to the hospital on order of the court and not, as had been rumored, through intervention of political or military elements. It stated that no bombs had been thrown by the police, who were indeed commended for their discipline under trying circumstances. The demonstration was called "deplorable and painful" and the behaviour of certain organs of the press was defined as irresponsible. On the other hand the communique announced the appointment of Brunetto Brunetti as head of the Carabinieri in place of Orlando and proposed to strengthen the police both in the matter of leadership and in "technical and moral" qualifications of its members. A special committee was named to reorganize the Alto Commissariato for Sanctions against Fascism and it was stated that immediate measures would be taken for internment or incarceration of "socially dangerous elements of the previous regime". Meanwhile, the papers are full of speculation about Roatta's accomplices (it is generally conceded he could not have managed his escape unaided) and his present whereabouts. His wife is quoted as saying she believes he has committed suicide and he has been variously reported as on his way to Florence, "in a neutral country", or hiding in the Vatican. *Italia Nuova* reported on the 7th that he had asked to have his trial continued *a bois clos* for he was about to make "sensational revelations" but this was denied the following day.

Other events of the week pale before such a dramatic (some say "farcical" and some say "tragic") event. But the meetings of the Liberal and Christian Democrat party directorates should be noted. Noteworthy in the Liberal meeting were the satisfaction of Casati with the answer to the roll-up and the reasonably optimistic report of Soleri on the Treasury; he refuses to be downcast, because he sees the future of Italy's financial life bound up with the Allies, in whom he expressed faith and confidence. The final manifesto at the end of the meeting stressed the Liberal belief in private initiative and urged limitation of governmental intervention while admitting the urgent need of social reform. It also recommended speedy convening of an Advisory Assembly. The Christian Democrats among other things looked to a gradual transfer of political power to the masses, stressing that the process should not be accompanied by violence, and urged that for the moment reconstruction should be the first political priority. In this they expect help from the Allies both in imports of raw materials and equipment and in repatriation of prisoners.

REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE

The first Regional Commissioners' Conference since last August was held this week (March 8-9) in Rome, with full attendance of all the dignitaries from the field and the resident ones at Headquarters, including the Acting President who met the Commissioners en masse for the first time and in the evening of the first day's meeting entertained the lot at a cocktail party. Unfortunately, the Chief Commissioner, being ill and confined to bed, was unable to attend. Closed to the press and without the requirement of reading reports, the meeting was devoted principally to an explanation by Mr. Macmillan of the Allied Commission's role vis-à-vis the Italian Government as a consequence of the new status for Italy and to discussion of plans for operations in the North. As was to be expected, economic problems and technical details of their handling occupied the largest part of the agenda. A chronological record of the conference follows, somewhat abbreviated by the necessity of meeting our first printing deadline.

Mr. Macmillan pointed out that the New Deal for Italy was simply a natural development of AC policies as they have been worked out since the Armistice rather than anything drastically novel. He said AC objectives are still: (1) to facilitate military operations; (2) to assist in the immediate rehabilitation of the civilian population as fast as possible; (3) and to prepare for transfer of territory and administrative functions to the Italians. He stressed that the continuity of policy from the initial AMG phase to the turnover stage was of the greatest importance and should be kept in mind in all field operations. He predicted that the new populations of the

1 1451

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

North would have an invigorating effect on the AMG-AC operations. He added that, should hostilities cease, their ending probably would have to be arbitrarily fixed by the Combined Chiefs of Staff, and that there would be no collapse of AC functions but rather an immediate intensification (excluding the temporary festivities) and a continuation of activity as long as the military in any force were still stationed in Italy.

Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, opened the business by mentioning the withdrawal from the South, where regional headquarters will be abolished by April 1 and officers withdrawn as fast as possible except for approximately 66. These will be stationed as follows: Two in Sardinia to look after the mines; seven in Sicily; 24 in Italian Government territory (supply, transportation and financial) and 33 in the AMG Commune of Naples, whose status will continue the same for a few more months. The Executive Commissioner insisted that relations between AC and the Italian Government concerning Italian territory problems be restricted to a high level, that is, between Ministers and Directors, in order to insure that no idea of control is still in evidence. He said there will be a policy of close follow-up of Army AMG's by the AMG regional teams and that the bulk of the officers are naturally being assigned to the Northern regions, headquarters maintaining a staff of 370 of the total of 1,325 officers allotted to AC. Sixty 1,8 officers are coming to AC from combat units. (The first of these are even now getting indoctrinated.) There will be no forward headquarters of AC, although it might be necessary to appoint another DCCAO for Northwest Italy, should the DCCAO with 5th Army Group move in another direction. Military authorities have also promised to give NW Italy AMG operations a high priority on materiel assistance.

Mr. Henry Hopkinson, British Political Adviser, emphasized that the policy of AC in the North should be to recognize the local authorities set up by the Committee of National Liberation, which as pledged itself to co-operate with AMG and to have the Partiots disband and surrender their arms. Stability of government is the prime objective and to that end every effort will be made to make the national Italian Government more representative by inclusion of Northern representatives through the proper channels of negotiation. The Italian Government will try to make contacts as early as possible. Colonel Charles Poletti (A), who whill be RC of Lombardy, made the point that there should be a minimum of Rome imposed administrators and Brigadier J. K. Dunlop (B), whose future region is Venezia, also insisted that local consultation and local appointments be kept in hands of AMG people on the spot.

The question of implementation of Italian Government decrees in AMG territory was raised by Col. W. F. Behrens (B), Deputy Chief Legal Adviser, who remarked that 5th Army AMG usually accepts most such decrees while 8th Army AMG does not. He pointed out that where the decrees are not implemented, it imposes a considerable problem on handover of territory to the Italians in that a new and heavy body of law comes into effect, which complicates administration and impedes a smooth transition.

Col. W. J. Legg (B), Director of the Food Sub-Commission, explained the new procedures on the price of bread and pasta, the main point of which lies in the fact that the price of these items will vary from place to place, as, for example, 15.5 lire for bread in Lecce, 16.5 in Bari and 18 in Rome, the price being fixed by Sepral. Effective date of the new prices in Southern Italy will be March 12, the 15th in Sardinia and 16th in Sicily. The question of these prices in the North was ticklish. German-held areas now pay 4 lire a kilo for bread. Col. Poletti suggested that AMG in the North keep to the 16 lire price. Col. Legg reminded the meeting that the imported flour for the North would be white, which was not being given under the Germans. The final procedure would be recommended by the Economic Section. The same decision was reached in the matter of the Granai del Popolo for 1945, whether the same amassing system will be used or other measures. The question of inter-provincial trade came up again, Col. Legg being against it. Col. Robert G. Kirkwood (A), RC of Tuscany, for one, said that barter had come to Italy to stay for a while. It would be more sensible to set up channels to control the barter rather than try to stop it, he added. (The present system of inter-provincial trade is based on the procedure of declaring surpluses and distributing them to deficiency areas at AC Hq. direction).

Commander J. J. Lawler (A), joint director of the Finance S/C, outlined the new plans of the Italian Government on Finance. A Committee of Economy will examine the State administration and re-organise or eliminate departments set up under Fascism which are no longer necessary. Another proposal was for the formation of local Tax Committees. This would create within each Province a local committee made up of local business men rather than officials. They will co-ordinate State revenues within their area. The Allied Commission favours this idea. State support was proposed to increase the number of food co-operatives and to form local Ente for that purpose. No decree has yet been made, but it was planned to control millers and all food processors. Violation of the decree would lead to the complete confiscation of the property of offenders. There will be two new bond issues. One will be a small issue and will open on April 25th, issued at par. The final bond issue will probably be for 100 million at 3, 3½ and 4% and for this there will be extremely complicated conditions. It will be issued at par and there will be various guarantee clauses. Commander Lawler asked AMG officers to keep an eye on any attempt of local officials to give a purely local interpretation to any decrees issued.

Mr. William Henry Braine (B), Director of the Labor Sub-Commission, gave one of the most interesting and lucid expositions. He outlined the policy for labor in AMG territory. The keynote would be encouragement of accredited organisations, and a sympathetic approach on the part of AMG. He pointed out that the deportation of agitators would serve no useful purpose since the agitators would merely be removed into another region. Although criticized in the past, the Labor Offices in the North will be supported by the Confederation General of Italian Labour and the employers' organisations, particularly in connection with wage agreements. To avoid unrest it is to the interest of AMG to encourage the appearance on the scene of representatives from the CGIL and the workers' organisations. It is hoped they will give advice and guidance on local conditions so that the national economy will not be upset. The impression is that wages and prices are considerably lower in the North and that for some time there will be a sufficient margin to meet the upward trend and yet keep within the level applying here. On the question of wage negotiations, the policy of the CGIL and the employers'organisations is to provide a new basic wage structure. This will be coupled with a sliding scale and cost of living bonus. The CGIL is the workers' organisation and AC policy is to recognise it. The CGIL will hold an extraordinary general conference as soon as possible after liberation of the North so that the area can have full representation. With regard to the Internal Commissions or Workers' Committees the policy of the CGIL and the employers' organisations is not to allow these to negotiate on wages and conditions. The Fascists have been giving these groups rather more leeway in management problems in hopes of currying favor. AC policy is to set up the Armed Forces Wage Scale a little above the normal rates. AMG RC's will naturally be responsible for permits for labor leaders to travel to the North.

Major Ralph Temple (A), of the Local Government Sub-Commission, reported the current preparation of electoral lists and the desirability of holding local elections in AMG territory once it was safe to do so, a condition it would be up to the regional commissioner to decide. Brigadier G. R. Upjohn, vice president for the Civil Affairs Section, added, however, that such elections in AMG territory would have to be on a uniform basis and that, whenever they were held, it would be even more desirable to hold them in all AMG areas at one time. This, of course, was not taken to apply to areas still under direct Army control. It also was decided that the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission's field operations should be placed under direct regional command on a gradual scale.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

The last item on the agenda was public relations upon which Mr. G. Stewart Brown, Director of the Public Relations Branch, told of his plans to combat previous criticism of AC by more and fuller information as to achievements, especially by more worthwhile stories from the field. The perennial question of control over PWB news announcements when the North opens up was also discussed. As Mr. Macmillan remarked, should hostilities cease, PWB will no longer have a mission, which is to direct propaganda to the enemy. It would then be particularly desirable to have closest coordination between news to the Italians by PWB and approval thereof by AMG, which is responsible for conditions in those territories.

THE ADRIATIC SIDE

Things are definitely on the up grade on the Adriatic side of central Italy, reports Abruzzi-Marche region. The inhabitants are setting to with a will to even out supplies of essentials among the various provinces, some of which have surpluses of commodities found deficient in others. Ancona, for instance, in return for textiles from Florence, is to provide breeding cattle and alcohol, which, for better or for worse, is said to be against the best principles of the Food Sub-Commission. With the bread ration now at 300 grams imports for Pescara province have gone up to 1,400 tons a month, Chieti 2,000 tons and Aquila 2,037 tons, which has put a great strain on transport.

Wheat collections have reached 255,345 tons, or 114 % of the target figure. Shortage of sacks has been hampering exports from Macerata, but 3,100 tons have already been moved by motor transport and 102 tons went by rail only last week from Ortona to Lecce. Olive oil amassed now totals 6,002 quintals, 14 % of the goal aimed at. Several prosecutions under way against non-complying big producers are expected to ginger up the campaign. Producers are complaining that potato growers, who now get more than double the price they used to for their crop, are being unduly favoured. Road-blocks in Ascoli and Macerata Provinces brought in 51,000 eggs, 4 tons of flour and pasta and 18 tons of olive oil.

Vatican-operated communal soup kitchens to the number of 74 are being set up in the devastated Abruzzi to cater for the immediate needs of 17,000 persons and ultimately for 91,000. Italians, however, are still chary of soup and an Allied supply officer drily remarks: "You can lead people to a bread line but cannot get them to eat green pea soup; they prefer pasta to vitamins".

In Macerata 29 small industries are back in operation again and another 25 being repaired. Mine-clearance in the provinces of Chieti and Pescara has so far accounted for more than a quarter of a million mines and a second training course has begun in the Abruzzi. Morale among troops employed is high.

American films are much in demand and proving very popular in the provinces of the Abruzzi, where they vastly outdistance all other forms of entertainment.

ODDS AND ENDS

Collections of pressed olive oil now stand at 325,281 quintals or 34 per cent. of the goal. — The Granai del Popolo of 1944 (on the point of passing into history while plans are being made for the 1945 Granai) now stands at 10,884,736 quintals or 92 per cent. of the target. — Imported British seed potatoes are now flowing to the regions, 800 tons having gone to Tuscany, 400 tons to Apulia and the rest to Campania. — Exported to the U. K. in the last week were 1,514 tons lemons, 725 tons bitter oranges, 237 ½ tons wine, 140 tons tartaric acid and 85 tons citric acid. — Ancona is getting some warehouse space to meet its shortage; after repairs space will be available for 22,000 tons (covered) and 8,000 tons (open storage). — The sulphuric acid plant at Castellina Chianti is going into operation to supply the alum plant at Salpa, which alum is required in army map paper production. — Another flat-glass factory has started near Arezzo and a calcium carbide plant at Papigno, which latter has materials for 2,400 tons of carbide at the rate of 20 tons a day manufacture. — Industry Sub-Commission has got five more key plants derequisitioned and are trying to free 32 more, including a tannin extract factory and a wood impregnating plant; among the important factories returned to civilian use are an agricultural machinery plant at Ostia, a railway rolling stock plant near Naples, an olive oil refinery at Caserta, the Stucky Flour Mills at Bari and also a tobacco warehouse at Zagarolo. — Although he is now with Civil Affairs in France, congratulations nevertheless to Capt. Murray Richards (A) for being awarded the Bronze Star for "Meritorious achievement" in Italy when he was with AMG. — Mr. M. H. Taylor, director of the Transportation Sub-Commission, has left for the States by way of London to plug AC transportation problems and search for more civilian personnel in his field. — Public Relations Branch is conducting a party of Allied correspondents to the Cassino memorial services and rebuilding inspection March 15. — Major Evan Talbot (B) has been named Chief Staff Officer to the Executive Commissioner, succeeding Col. G. W. L. Shipp, who has been recalled to the Colonial Service. — 375 refugees from Lucca and Chiaravalle arrived in Rome during the week. — Italian police agencies, thanks to the Public Safety Sub-Commission and the AC Priorities Board, have now received nearly 20,000 items of clothing, including shoes, from Allied sources. — U. S. personnel of AC in the Rome area may now study a variety of subjects, including languages, at government expense in their leisure time at an Information and Education Center just set up. — A Motor Transport Group, operating under AC direction as an integral unit comparable to a region, has been established, consisting of the 1st Truck Bn. and the 2nd and 3rd Truck Brs. (now in process of organization), all to be commanded by Col. J. J. Carnes (A).

226

5 MAR Rec'd 33

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

RESTRICTED

R20/WE48/PRB

4 March 1946.

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN NO. 48
24 Feb to 4 Mar.46

1. Political

"The Allies", according to the vigorous simile of AVANTI, "are giving Italy the hot and cold shower treatment - which may not always be the best thing for a convalescent." Specifically AVANTI had in mind the new directive for Italy (see last week's Bulletin) and the statement of U. S. Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau in the roles of docile Calia and truffa respectively. Leaders and articles throughout the week have been dedicated to either or both of these manifestations of Allied policy and to their relationship to each other and (if any) to the Paris conference. Press reaction to the directive was particularly interesting; in general it might be described as one of tempered enthusiasm. The warmest appreciation came from IL GIORNALE DEL MATTINO (to be expected since it is the government's mouthpiece) and from IL POPOLO which saw in the move "a personal success of Bonomi" and did not forget to thank Admiral Stone and his officers. And indeed all papers recognized that the new status does represent a step forward. Yet there was a rather strong undertone of discontent; even L'INDIPENDENTE, which also speaks for the government, regretted that "parity status" was not yet forthcoming. UNITA was very lukewarm in its approval, and felt that Italy had not yet been given a chance to offer her full contribution to the war effort. Carnacchio, writing in the Action party's ITALIA LIBERA, had hoped for a policy of "great gestures" from the Allies rather than one of petty concessions. And Nenni in AVANTI said that the move was good only four months too late and noted in one of his now celebrated "post-scripts" that this would be the proper time to turn over Umbria, the Marches and Tuscany to the Italian government.

On the same day that the papers carried the text of the new status for Italy they printed as well the statement of Secretary Morgenthau to the effect that the U.S. has not pledged itself to re-absorb occupation currency after the war but that in the case of Italy this responsibility had been accepted by the Italian government under the armistice clauses. This was indeed a cold shower - not only to AVANTI. VOCE REPUBBLICANA was particularly bitter and said the concessions granted in the new status order were totally meaningless "if the Allies intend to ruin the economic structure of Italy". Scelvi came to the rescue with an article in RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE assuring Italians that there was no reason to be pessimistic; the situation had not changed for the worse, as this responsibility had been realized all along, and that, in any case, he was hopeful

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

always be the best thing for a convalescent." Specifically AVANTI had in mind the new directive for Italy (see last week's Bulletin) and the statement of U. S. Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau in the roles of Foggia Bari and Sicilia respectively. Leaders and articles throughout the week have been dedicated to either or both of these manifestations of Allied policy and to their relationship to each other and (if any) to the Bari conference. Press reaction to the directive was particularly interesting; in general it might be described as one of tempered enthusiasm. The warmest appreciation came from IL GIORNALE DEL MATTINO (to be expected since it is the government's mouthpiece) and from IL POPOLO which saw in the move "a personal success of Bonomi" and did not forget to thank Admiral Stone and his officers. And indeed all papers recognized that the new status does represent a step forward. Yet there was a rather strong ostimato of discontent; even L'INDIPENDENTE, which also speaks for the government, regretted that "purity status" was not yet forthcoming. UNITA was very lukewarm in its approval, and felt that Italy had not yet been given a chance to offer her full contribution to the war effort. Omodeiolo, writing in the Action Party's ITALIA LIBERA, had hoped for a policy of "great gestures" from the Allies rather than one of petty concessions. And Nenni in AVANTI said that the move was good only four months too late and noted in one of his now celebrated "post-scripts" that this would be the proper time to turn over Ustica, the Lipares and Tuscany to the Italian government.

On the same day that the papers carried the text of the new status for Italy they printed as well the statement of Secretary Morgenthau to the effect that the U.S. has not pledged itself to re-assert occupation currency after the war but that in the case of Italy this responsibility had been accepted by the Italian government under the armistice clauses. This was indeed a cold shower - not only to AVANTI. VOCE REPUBBLICANA was particularly bitter and said the concessions granted in the new status order were totally meaningless "if the Allies intend to ruin the economic structure of Italy". Soleri came to the rescue with an article in RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE assuring Italians that there was no reason to be pessimistic; the situation had not changed for the worse, as this responsibility had been realized all along, and that, in any case, he was hopeful that the Allies, who were increasingly sympathetic, would yet do something to ease the burden. Evidence of "increasing friendliness" for Italy was seen by Italians in Churchill's references to Italy's war effort in his report on the Malta conference. And Roosevelt's frank statement that America must participate in the foundation of a new world order was also applauded by all parties. Further good news in the field of international relations came on the 23 of March with the announcement that French-Italian relations are to be resumed. True the special status allowed Italians in Tunisia by the 1896 agreement is done away with but it is hoped that with a new start and a true spirit of collaboration between the nations this matter will cease to be a cause of irritation. The appointment of Couve de Mourville as Ambassador was welcomed; rumour has it that Storza will be chosen as Italian Ambassador to Paris.

1480

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Dealing strictly with internal affairs the Council meeting on the 27th decided to increase pay of State employees by 30% and family allowances by 100%. The rates followed the recommendations which the CGIL had earlier in the week persuaded the General Confederation of Italian Industry to accept. There has been much comment in the press on the futility of fighting the rising price level with these dangerous tactics but in this emergency the government has hardly any alternative.

Sicily was in the news again as the new Consulta convened in Palermo. Bonomi sent a message in which he called the machinery of the High Commissioner and the Consulta "an experiment" and said he hoped their work would give him guidance. The president of the Consulta had been expected to be himself and ITALIA NUOVA thought it a great mistake that he had not done so. And VOCE REPUBBLICANA was merciless in its criticism of the whole scheme: "An imposition from above and not a spontaneous growth from below it is destined to failure" it said of the Consulta, adding that if the members were honest men their first act would be to weigh.

2. What's Who At G-5

Military government operations on the stratospheric levels of AFHQ may be a long way from officers and men in the field but it may be enlightening to explain the organization and list the key personnel of an echelon which to many of us has been only a name.

Head of the staff section of less than 30 is Brigadier General Charles L. Spofford, AUS, who holds the title of Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, and who was one of the very first men in AMG. His deputy is Brigadier T. R. Henn (A). Under these officers are two main divisions and a sprinkling of special divisions. They are as follows:

ECONOMICS AND SUPPLY - Chief: Col. James D. Butterworth (A).
Requirements and Regulations - Major Reginald V. Brady (A).
Commerce and Movements Liaison- Lieut. Col. M.J. Glenn (B).
PLANS AND OPERATIONS - Chief: Lieut. Col. D. S. Jackling (B).
Deputy: Col. J. Murray Mitchell (A).
Italian Section - Lieut. Col. Trevor B. Jackman (B).
Austrian Section- Lieut. Col. R.E.Nichols (B).
Balkan Section - Col. H. E. Herbert (B).
CHIEF LEGAL ADVISER - Col. Franklin P. Hammond, Jr. (A).
CHIEF FINANCIAL ADVISER - Commander Frank A. Southard (A).
CHIEF, REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS - Lieut.Comdr. Samuel D.Weissbuch(A)
PUBLIC RELATIONS - Major Floyd E. Waldman (A).
EXECUTIVE OFFICER - Major Norman P. Seagrave (A).

3. Power

Here is an item that speaks for itself. The Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission will take the bouquets.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778506

from above and not a grandiose "push" from below it is destined to failure" it said of the Consulta, adding that if the members were honest men their first act would be to resign.

2. Who's Who At C-S

Military government operations on the strategic levels of AFHQ may be a long way from officers and men in the field but it may be enlightening to explain the organization and list the key personnel of an echelon which to many of us has been only a name.

Head of the staff section of less than 30 is Brigadier General Charles L. Spofford, JAGD, who holds the title of Assistant Chief of Staff, C-5, and who was one of the very first men in AMG. His deputy is Brigadier J. R. Henry (B). Under these officers are two main divisions and a sprinkling of special divisions. They are as follows:

ECONOMICS AND SUPPLY - Chief: Col. James E. Butterworth (A).
Requirements and Regulations - Major Reginald V. Grady (A).
Commerce and Movements Liaison- Lieut. Col. L.J. Glenn (B).
PLANS AND OPERATIONS - Chief: Lieut. Col. D. S. Jenkins (B).
Deputy: Col. J. Murray Mitchell (A).
Italian Section - Lieut. Col. Trev r B. Jackman (B).
Austrian Section- Lieut. Col. A.E.Micholl (B).
Balkan Section - Col. H. E. Hebbert (B).
CHIEF LEGAL ADVISER - Col. Franklin T. Hammond, Jr. (A).
CHIEF FINANCIAL ADVISER - Commander Frank A. Southard (A).
CHIEF, REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS - Lieut.Comdr.Samuel D.Weissburn(A)
PUBLIC RELATIONS - Major Floyd E. Weitman (A).
EXECUTIVE OFFICER - Major Norman P. Scarrave (A).

3. Power

Here is an item that speaks for itself. The Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission will take two bouquets.

Region	Prewar Power Capacity	Capacity Found on Allied Entrance	Present Capacity (as of 3 Nov 45)
Northern Italy	1,262,335 Kw.	45,000	205,000
Southern Italy	350,955	168,800	282,000
Sicily	91,670	46,870	84,000
Sardinia	96,750	90,040	90,000
TOTALS	1,801,724	349,750	665,000

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

4. Army Requisitioning

As every military government student knows, an army has the right to requisition the goods and services of a population it is fighting among in the interests of its military effort, and needless to add, the British and American Armies in Italy have, as their right, taken what they needed. With peace (we trust and pray) not too far off, the question of tidying up the requisition picture is coming to the fore and new and more liberal rules are reported by Brigadier A.P. Grafftey-Smith, Joint director of the Finance Sub-Commission, to be under consideration by AFHQ which will permit much more rapid payment for goods on the spot under the criterion that the army may pay spot cash for those goods and services which it deems necessary to keep in continuous production for benefit of the war effort. In short, if one takes away all the production of a factory without paying for it, the factory, which may be making items useful to the war, will necessarily close down because it will have no money with which to buy more raw materials or support its labor costs to continue making the same product allegedly necessary to the military.

The whole matter of military requisitions, in the history of which AC and ANG figure as only other military units, starts, of course, with the first days of the Sicilian invasion when the army began taking what it wanted and giving out slips of paper indicating that the person from whom the property was requisitioned would eventually get paid by some proper authority. Not a few of the slips of paper in those early days, it is reported, bore signatures purporting to be "F.D.Roosevelt" and "Winston Churchill." There were also signatures of "Thank You" and "In God We Trust." In any event, the authority, under terms of the Armistice, would naturally be the Italian Government, who, in terms of its own sovereignty over its own people, would decide the rate and scale of payments. The problem of payment has been handled differently by the British and by the Americans. The British have had more clearly defined requisitioning procedures and have kept extremely careful records in a central register. Also, they have been allowed much more discretion from the start in paying for goods or services required, whereas the Americans were for a considerable time quite restricted by cogent War Department rules from employing as liberal policy, except insofar as certain items such as vegetables and direct services (that is, labor) were concerned. That the amounts involved are considerable can be seen at a glance when one recalls that the average reasonably spent sum by the armies on goods and services amounts to around 1.2 billion lire.

At any rate, as our finance people explain it, until at least January 3, 1945, the vast majority of unpaid requisitions (Island Base Section, for example, is asking where to send their packing cases full of unpaid requisitions) were American. Peninsular Base Section, as another example, had 80 million lire in unpaid requisitions three months ago. Much of the American claims, however, have been met or are being met under the liberalization of the payment provisions recently authorized by the War Department. Italians, in view of the former virtual non-payment policy, were found to be concealing their goods rather than sell. Even lately the forward areas reported that merchants of Bologna are hoarding and hiding goods. For the record, the other main Allied requisitioning authorities in Italy

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

arily close down because it will have no money with which to buy more raw materials or support its labor costs to continue making the same product allegedly necessary to the military.

The whole matter of military requisitions, in the history of which AC and ASC figure as only other military units, starts, of course, with the first days of the Sicilian invasion when the army began taking what it wanted and giving out slips of paper indicating that the person from whom the property was requisitioned would eventually get paid by some proper authority. Not a few of the slips of paper in those early days, it is reported, bore signatures purporting to be "F.D.Roosevelt" and "Winston Churchill." There were also signatures of "Thank You" and "In God We Trust." In any event, the authority, under terms of the Armistice, would naturally be the Italian Government, who, in terms of its own sovereignty over its own people, would decide the rate and scale of payments. The problem of payment has been handled differently by the British and by the Americans. The British have had more clearly defined requisitioning procedures and have kept extremely careful records in a central register. Also, they have been allowed much more discretion from the start in paying for goods or services required, whereas the Americans were for a considerable time quite restricted by cogent War Department rules from employing as liberal policy, except insofar as certain items such as vegetables and direct services (that is, labor) were concerned. That the amounts involved are considerable can be seen at a glance when one recalls that the average reasonably spent sum by the armies on goods and services amounts to around 1.2 billion lire.

At any rate, as our finance people explain it, until at least January 5, 1946, the vast majority of unpaid requisitions (Island Base Section, for example, is asking where to send their packing cases full of unpaid requisitions) were American. Peninsular Base Section, as another example, had 80 million lire in unpaid requisitions three months ago. Much of the American claims, however, have been met or are being met under the liberalization of the payment provisions recently authorized by the War Department. Italians, in view of the former virtual non-payment policy, were found to be concealing their goods rather than sell. Even lately the forward areas reported that merchants of Bologna are hoarding and hiding goods. For the record, the other main Allied requisitioning authorities in Italy, in addition to those already mentioned, have been the 5th and 8th Armies, Rome Allied Area Command and Adriatic Base Depot.

1409

The reasons why the American payment policy appeared less open-handed at first may well be understood in light of the fact that U.S. expenses are directly chargeable to definite War Department appropriations granted by Congress and that it seemed to fiscal officers in the early days that the account was in danger of being overdrawn beyond anticipations. The order went out from fiscal officers to purchasing officers on the American side in this theater to make as few payments as possible since, under the Armistice, it was the Italians who had to foot the bill, not the Allied Armies.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

The situation, which was in danger of veering toward snafu, was unsnarled by General McSherney's January memorandum so that now U.S. procurement officers report that they are fast regaining their popularity with the Italians. In line with prospects of the even further liberalized policy of spot payments, the AC's Finance Sub-Commission has also arranged for all military requisition files to be sent en bloc to the Commando Genio Militare of the Italian War Ministry who will have the task of sorting out the claims of their fellow Italian citizens for goods taken ranging from accordions and grand pianos to iron girders and a host of industrial products, not to mention divers motor cars. In the meantime, when in the cases where the army does not, for some reason or other pay on the spot for goods it requisitions, AC will take it upon itself to recommend to the Italian Government that in the country's interest the claim be paid at once when it appears that it is vital to continued production for essential civilian needs. What, of course, would have been ideal would have been a lira account whereby the Allied military could have drawn from the Italian Government the sums necessary to meet bills for immediate payment. The absence of provision in the Italian budget, already rather astronomical, for such financing, particularly, the absence of adequate accounting machinery and general political considerations, has made that impossible except, strangely enough, in the case of the Italian Navy, where the departmental budget is prepared to meet certain expenses and has done so whenever they were incurred on the part of the Allies in using Italian marine facilities. The entire question naturally is a post-war problem: for the Italians to decide politically and with an eye out for inflation, how much of the claims shall be paid to its citizens, if at all in many cases; for the Allies, how much to charge the Italians in occupation costs, decisions which are tied up on the highest levels with factors of Italian hopes for membership in the United Nations, the value of the currency and plans for economic reconstruction.

3. Odds and Ends

There are now more than 4,000 Boy Scouts in the two Italian Scout organizations re-established in Italy with the help of the Education Sub-Commission....Greetings to "Emilia Way", new house organ of Emilia Region, which is keeping the Region's officers and men informed of what the other fellow is doing....Beginning with the next issue, the AC Weekly Bulletin will be printed,...All HQ. sub-commissions must immediately cut their officer staffs to the manpower ceilings set for them and send all other officers back to the field.... A 25 per cent reduction in Italian civilian personnel, with prospects of a later cut up to 50 per cent has also been ordered....Rear Admiral Guy L. Warren (B) has been named Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, succeeding Rear Admiral C.E.Morgan, former chief, who will continue as Flag Officer at Taranto....100,000 yearling pigs are available for export from Macerata Province for fattening elsewhere....Olive Oil collections, as of 27 February, amount to 268,824 qtl or 32 per cent of the goal....Frost is souring amassed olive oil in some areas.... 10,000 qtl of wheat have been declared unfit for human consumption in Pesaro Province after rotting because of lack of transport and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

appears that it is vital to continued production for essential civilian needs. What, of course, would have been ideal would have been a lira account whereby the Allied military could have drawn from the Italian Government the sums necessary to meet bills for immediate payment. The absence of provision in the Italian budget, already rather astronomical, for such financing, particularly, the absence of adequate accounting machinery and general political considerations, has made that impossible except, strangely enough, in the case of the Italian Navy, where the departmental budget is prepared to meet certain expenses and has done so whenever they were incurred on the part of the Allies in using Italian marine facilities. The entire question naturally is a post-war problem: for the Italians to decide politically and with an eye out for inflation, how much of the claims shall be paid to its citizens, if at all in many cases; for the Allies, how much to charge the Italians in occupation costs, decisions which are tied up on the highest levels with factors of Italian hopes for membership in the United Nations, the value of the currency and plans for economic reconstruction.

5. Odds and Ends

There are now more than 4,000 Boy Scouts in the two Italian Scout organizations re-established in Italy with the help of the Education Sub-Commission....Greetings to "Emilia Way", new house organ of Emilia Region, which is keeping the Region's officers and men informed of what the other fellow is doing....Beginning with the next issue, the AC Weekly Bulletin will be printed....All HQ. sub-commissions must immediately cut their officer staffs to the manpower ceilings set for them and send all other officers back to the field.... A 25 per cent reduction in Italian civilian personnel, with prospects of a later cut up to 50 per cent has also been ordered....Rear Admiral Guy L. Warren (R) has been named Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, succeeding Rear Admiral C.E.Morgan, former chief, who will continue as Flag Officer at Taranto....100,000 yearling pigs are available for export from Macerata Province for fattening elsewhere....Olive oil collections, as of 27 February, amount to 285,894 qtl or 35 per cent of the goal....Frost is souring amassed olive oil in some areas.... 10,000 qtl of wheat have been declared unfit for human consumption in Pesaro Province after rotting because of lack of transport and weatherproof warehousing....45 qtl of a 231-qtl shipment of caustic soda has disappeared from a train en route from Bari to Ortona; the missing lot is said to be worth three million lire on the black market... PWB ceased furnishing news to Italian newspapers and radio stations in Italian Government territory on March 5, also closing down its four remaining dailies in Palermo, Catania, Bari and Naples which are being returned to private control....110,000 eggs have been collected at Siena for sale at 7 lire each (in Rome eggs sell from 24 to 35 lire each)....Incidents continue to come in from AMG areas of slightly strained relations between the civilian population (males) and Allied troops over attentions paid to (and reciprocated by) the local signorine....Congratulations to Lieut. Col. Thomas J. Michie (A) of the 5th Army AMG for his award of the Legion of Merit, the citation

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

for which refers to his "outstanding services as Senior Civil Affairs officer with the French Corps" in last year's campaign....Bids have been submitted for reconstruction of two of Florence's six destroyed bridges....Radio telephone service between Rome and New York was opened for the first time since the war began 2 March when Prime Minister Bonomi spoke to Signor Alberto Tarchiani, Italian Ambassador to the U.S.: the service will be in late afternoon to a select list of authorized callers, including dignitaries, top AC officials, Italian Ministers and Allied correspondents....2,000 persons have been vaccinated in Arezzo Province where typhoid cases number 150....Forli now has a water system which would soon provide 120,000 gallons a day....Dykes and drainage pumps are being increasingly restored in the 8th Army area where the Germans had taken full advantage of flooding the cut-up terrain....Schools in the area are also using glass from picture frames to replace windows....265 more trucks from the U.S. have arrived as part of the 1,700 promised shipment; also eight tons of truck spare parts....The Canal del Popolo currently reads at 10,800,000 gti or 31 per cent of the target of 11,000,000 gti....Capt. John L. Kay (A), steamend C40 with the 10th Mountain Division, which took Mount Belvedere, reports that the newly liberated area includes four small fractions of communes, but not a single civilian, all the population having been evacuated from front line areas some time ago....Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, following a trip to Emilia Region, reports a particularly interesting item about sugar: 300,000 tons of sugar beet was allegedly wasted from last year's crop because of destruction of factories; one processing factory at Cesena could be re-activated; it would take 4,000 tons of coal, much of it imported, to make 7,000 to 8,000 tons of sugar; it is essential to fix the price of sugar beet immediately to meet spring sowing needs....Following complaints from Army AMG's about loose travel controls into forward areas, Executive Memorandum No. 72 laying down the rules for such movement is being revised, with the end in view that the Public Safety Sub-Commission will be the one and ultimate rear authority for screening and clearing with the Army elements....

J G Bergin
T. J. BERGIN.
Major, AUS.
DDPR.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

[illegible] flooring the cut-up terrain.... [illegible] 245 no 6
glass from picture frames to replace windows....245 no 6
the U.S. have arrived as part of the 1,700 promised shipment; also
eight tons of truck spare parts....The Unanai del Popolo currently
reads at 10,800,258 qtl or 31 per cent of the target of 34,800,000
qtl....Capt. John L. Ray (A), spearhead CAO with the 10th Mountain
Division, which took Mount Belvedere, reports that the newly liberated
area includes four small fractions of communes, but not a single
civilian, all the population having been evacuated from front line
areas some time ago....Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive
Commissioner, following a trip to Emilia Region, reports a particularly
interesting item about sugar: 300,000 tons of sugar beet was allegedly
wasted from last year's crop because of devastation of factories; one
processing factory at Cesena could be re-activated; it would take
6,000 tons of coal, most of it imported, to make 7,000 to 8,000 tons
of sugar; it is essential to fix the price of sugar beet immediately
to meet spring sowing needs....Following complaints from Army Chiefs
about loose travel controls into forward areas, Executive Memorandum
No. 72 laying down the rules for such movement is being revised, with
the end in view that the Public Safety Sub-Commission will be the
one and ultimate near authority for screening and clearing with the
Army elements....

J. G. Bergin
J. G. BERGIN.
Major, AUS.
DUPE.

1458

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

143

26 FEB Recd 33

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

RESTRICTED

RB3/WB47/PRB

25 February 1945.

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN NO. 47
18 Feb to 25 Feb 45.

1. Political

Problems of food and finance continue to take first place both in the government's program and the interest of the people. Following on the deliberations of the interministerial committee (see last week's Bulletin) which took place on the 15th the Council, meeting next day, gave its whole attention to the matter and drafted some concrete measures. The political price of bread was definitely abolished and other measures to protect the unhappy treasury included the institution of a special committee to reduce state expenses by pruning non-essential items from the budget, and setting up of a national Solidarity Fund to which, the government hopes, many voluntary contributions will be made. Some revenue tax increases were planned and local committees (elective) are to be empowered to aid the treasury in estimating incomes. Again it was stated that the goods of high ranking Fascists would be confiscated and the war excess profits taxes already in force were extended to farmers - a class previously exempt. On the other side in order to compensate the poorer classes for the increase in the price of bread it was stated that "opportune increases" in the pay of state employees would be granted with effect from Feb. 16; similar increases are to be granted workers in private industries with the details to be worked out between the unions and the employers. The pay of the troops is to be doubled. On the score of control it was announced, as the interministerial committee had suggested, that cooperatives and communal kitchens would be set up and encouraged and the Food Commissariat was given broad powers of control of markets and supplies. The special price control committees alluded to in last week's Bulletin were also sanctioned by the Council.

Press reaction to all this was a little guarded. Almost unanimously the press approves the governments good intention and line of action (though there is still some carping at increase of controls from the private initiative diehards) but what the press and public alike are waiting for is, quite simply, results. One thing is clear to the man in the street; bread(i.e. legally obtained bread) is going to cost more money (an estimated 16 lire instead of 5 per kilo) and almost everything else is expensive and irregular in supply. The government on the 23d decreed a special " carovita" indemnity of 50 lire which goes a long way to lessen the burden but perhaps the best news of all was the increase of the ration. A joint release of AC and the government was issued on the 21st stating that the bread ration, effective March 1st, for Liberated Italy would be 300 grams or its equivalent (200 grams of bread daily and 650 of pasta weekly.) This announcement too was received with gratitude but perhaps overtimely without the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

place soon in the government's program and the interest of the people. Following on the deliberations of the interministerial committee (see last week's Bulletin) which took place on the 15th the Council, meeting next day, gave its whole attention to the matter and drafted some concrete measures. The political price of bread was definitely abolished and other measures to protect the unhappy treasury included the institution of a special committee to reduce state expenses by pruning non-essential items from the budget, and setting up of a national Solidarity Fund to which, the government hopes, many voluntary contributions will be made. Some revenue tax increases were planned and local committees (elective) are to be empowered to aid the treasury in estimating incomes. Again it was stated that the goods of high ranking Fascists would be confiscated and the war excess profits taxes already in force were extended to farmers - a class previously exempt. On the other side in order to compensate the poorer classes for the increase in the price of bread it was stated that "opportune increases" in the pay of state employees would be granted with effect from Feb. 1st; similar increases are to be granted workers in private industries with the details to be worked out between the unions and the employers. The pay of the troops is to be doubled. On the score of control it was announced, as the interministerial committee had suggested, that cooperatives and communal kitchens would be set up and encouraged and the Food Commissariat was given broad powers to control of markets and supplies. The special price control committees alluded to in last week's Bulletin were also sanctioned by the Council.

Press reaction to all this was a little guarded. Almost unanimously the press approves the government's good intention and line of action (though there is still some carping at increase of controls from the private initiative diehards) but what the press and public alike are waiting for is, quite simply, results. One thing is clear to the man in the street; bread(i.e. legally obtained bread) is going to cost more money (an estimated 1c lire instead of 5 per kilo) and almost everything else is expensive and irregular in supply. The government on the 22d decreed a special "carovita" indemnity of 50 lire which goes a long way to lessen the burden but perhaps the best news of all was the increase of the ration. A joint release of AC and the government was issued on the 21st stating that the bread ration, effective March 1st, for Liberated Italy would be 300 grams or its equivalent (200 grams of bread daily and 350 of pasta weekly.) This announcement too was received with gratitude but, perhaps surprisingly, without too much enthusiasm. Even L'EPOCA which spoke most warmly of the sacrifice the Allies had made added that "bread is not enough; Italy must also be allowed to fight" and IL POPOLO repeating the statement "bread is not enough" added the less idealistic comment: "We should like something to eat with it." Symptomatic of the general feeling on the food question is the press reaction to the recent raids on black market centers. They have been going on for a week and at first were almost universally applauded. However the last few days have seen a change of tone and there has been an outcry that such raids should be accompanied - or better, preceded - by larger distribution of foodstuffs from legitimate channels. "Let us not destroy the carrots here before we have a

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

mercato bianco" protested ITALIA NUOVA and papers of all parties have taken up the same cry.

The political "color" of the week was supplied rather more than adequately by the contentions of the government in dealing with the paper shortage and the AVANTI vs Navy engagement. The Italian Press Commission, faced with the situation described in last week's Bulletin, decreed (on the 13th) the suppression of six recently licensed dailies. This led on the following day to indignant articles not only from the victims but from some of their unscathed confreres as well, all arguing that the action was arbitrary and the Commission had exceeded its rights and that in any case the sacrifice should have been equally apportioned among all dailies. Before indignation could reach the boiling point however, Bonomi announced that the suspensions were revoked and the newsprint would be forthcoming. Just where it will come from is still a little obscure but at any rate the flurry has subsided leaving, it must be said, some dents in the prestige of the Press Commission (the six injured editors have decided to withdraw from the Association of newspaper editors and set up their own organization) and also in that of Libonati, Undersecretary for the Press. The AVANTI incident stems from an article in its pages rather roughly and, in the opinion of the Navy, inaccurately criticising the service. On Monday some fifty indignant editors occupied the offices of the AVANTI, cut off the telephone and argued passionately with the editors that an apology was in order. No harm was done, nothing was broken but AVANTI the next day reported the affair with indignation and UNITA, VOCE REPUBBLICANA and ITALIA LIBERA took up the cry of "neo-squadrismo". On the 22d a mass meeting was held by various elements sympathetic to AVANTI and a demonstration which ITALIA NUOVA was quick to call "anti-Navy" took place. However, the skies seem to have cleared somewhat; the Ministry of Marine has issued a communique saying that the culprits have been punished and AVANTI has gracefully admitted that one cannot blame the whole service for the regrettable incident.

Parchiani left for Washington at the end of the week, preceded by Sforza's blessing, radioed to the United States. ITALIA NUOVA added its invariably critical note by observing that the Action Party would be represented in Washington but who would represent Italy? Two cheering items to conclude the political summary: the Giornata del Soldato e del Partigiano, celebrated on the 15th, was a great success, with speeches by Bonomi, Casati and Scoccimarro; Allied observers found the crowds in the Piazza del Popolo impressive in their enthusiasm. And response to the call-up in Sardinia is reported as exceeding expectations, drawing words of praise from our own Major General L. Browning, Director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission. Apparently when the Italians talk of wanting to participate in the war effort they really mean it.

2. Italy Reaches Third Po

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775016

from is still a little obscure [illegible] subsided leaving, it must be said, some rents in the prestige of the Press Commission (the six injured editors have decided to withdraw from the Association of newspaper editors and set up their own organization) and also in that of Libonati, Undersecretary for the Press. The AVANTI incident stems from an article in its pages rather roughly and, in the opinion of the Navy, inaccurately criticising the service. On Monday some fifty indignant sailors occupied the office of the AVANTI, cut off the telephone and argued passionately with the editors that an apology was in order. No harm was done, nothing was broken but AVANTI the next day reported the affair with indignation and UNITA, VOCE REPUBBLICANA and ITALIA LIBERA took up the cry of "neo-squadrismo". On the 22d a mass meeting was held by various elements sympathetic to AVANTI and a demonstration which ITALIA NUOVA was quick to call "anti-Navy" took place. However, the skies seem to have cleared somewhat: the Ministry of Marine has issued a communique saying that the culprits have been punished and AVANTI has accepting that the culprits have been punished and AVANTI has accepted that one cannot blame the whole service for the regrettable incident.

Tarchiani left for Washington at the end of the week, preceded by Sforza's blessing, radioed to the United States. ITALIA NUOVA added its invariably critical note by observing that the Action Party would be represented in Washington but who would represent Italy? Two cheering items to conclude the political summary: the Giornata del Soldato e del Partigiano, celebrated on the 18th, was a great success, with speeches by Bonomi, Casati and Scoccimarro: Allied observers found the crowds in the Piazza del Popolo impressive in their enthusiasm. And response to the call-up in Sardinia is reported as exceeding expectations, drawing words of praise from our own Major General L. Browning, Director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission. Apparently when the Italians talk of wanting to participate in the war effort they really mean it.

2. Italy Reaches Third Base

As Mr. Harold Macmillan, Acting President of the Allied Commission, told a press conference of Allied correspondents Saturday at the Grand Hotel, Italy has now reached the "penultimate stage in the evolutionary process which began 18 months ago on a golden September afternoon when the Armistice terms were signed in a Sicilian olive grove." Mr. Macmillan informed the correspondents that he and the Chief Commissioner had just visited Prime Minister Bonomi to advise him of a new status for Italy, consisting principally in a general restoration of all controls (the rights of the Allies under the Armistice being held in reserve in matters of day-to-day administration) and the role of the Allied Commission vis-a-vis the Italian Government being henceforth one of consultation and advice, although the Commission

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

will continue exercising its functions of organizing military government operations and planning for military government in areas still under Nazi control.

The directive from the Combined Chiefs of Staff outlining the new position covers political, administrative and economic aspects. Further directions as to finance will follow. The Political Section of the AC will be abolished and political advice obtained from the British and American embassies. The Italian Government is permitted to have direct relations with foreign diplomatic representatives accredited to the Quirinal and may appoint ambassadors to all Allied and neutral countries. The AC will naturally be kept informed of general negotiations with outside powers. The AC will no longer have to approve all decrees and other legislation enacted by the Italian Government for Italian Government territory, (which included Sicily, Sardinia and the peninsula south of the Northern boundaries of Viterbo, Rieti and Teramo Provinces.) Likewise, all Italian Government appointments in the area under its jurisdiction will no longer have to be approved by the AC except in regard to the three Service ministers and about ten other top military positions. All AC officers will be withdrawn from Italian Government territory as soon as possible, free and exchange of all cultural media, especially books and publications shall be encouraged and travel permitted for professional men, artists and scholars between Italy and the United Nations as soon as shipping allows. Local elections should be held as soon as possible. Italian POWs in Italy should be freed as soon as satisfactory arrangements can be made.

The staff of the AC should primarily occupy itself with consultation and advice to the Italian Government at high levels, that is, generally speaking, directors to ministers. Certain sub-commissions will exercise their advisory functions only when requested by the Italians in respect to Italian Government territory. These sub-commissions include Education; Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives; Local Government; Labor, and Legal. The AC should be progressively civilianized except in regards to the Service S/Cs and except to the extent work is done in regards to AMG operations.

As a prerequisite to increased economic assistance, the Italian Government is being advised that it must formulate effective economic controls and secure maximum production and equitable distribution of local resources. For the duration of military operations, the Allies will provide those quantities of food, fuel, clothing, medical, sanitary and other essential supplies necessary to prevent disease and unrest prejudicial to military operations. The Allies will also provide supplies such as fertilizer, raw materials, machinery and equipment whose provision will help reduce imports of essential civilian supplies; further, supplies for restoration of power and transport as will aid the Italian military effort. The date of termination of combined military responsibility for providing these supplies will be decided by the Combined Chiefs of Staff on AC's recommendation. The AC will assist the Italian Government to prepare a supply program for rehabilitation, supplies for which will be

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ment for Italian Government territory, (which included Sicily, Sardinia and the peninsula south of the Northern boundaries of Viterbo, Rieti and Teramo Provinces.) Likewise, all Italian Government appointments in the area under its jurisdiction will no longer have to be approved by the AC except in regard to the three Service ministers and about ten other top military positions. All AC officers will be withdrawn from Italian Government territory as soon as possible, free and exchange of all cultural media, especially books and publications shall be encouraged and travel permitted for professional men, artists and scholars between Italy and the United Nations as soon as shipping allows. Local elections should be held as soon as possible. Italian POWs in Italy should be freed as soon as satisfactory arrangements can be made.

The staff of the AC should primarily occupy itself with consultation and advice to the Italian Government at high levels, that is, generally speaking, directors to ministers. Certain sub-commissions will exercise their advisory functions only when requested by the Italians in respect to Italian Government territory. These sub-commissions include Education; Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives; Local Government; Labor, and Legal. The AC should be progressively civilianized except in regards to the Service S/Cs and except to the extent work is done in regards to AMG operations.

As a prerequisite to increased economic assistance, the Italian Government is being advised that it must formulate effective economic controls and secure maximum production and equitable distribution of local resources. For the duration of military operations, the Allies will provide those quantities of food, fuel, clothing, medical, sanitary and other essential supplies necessary to prevent disease and unrest prejudicial to military operations. The Allies will also provide supplies such as fertilizer, raw materials, machinery and equipment whose provision will help reduce imports of essential civilian supplies; further, supplies for restoration of power and transport as will aid the Italian military effort. The date of termination of combined military responsibility for providing these supplies will be decided by the Combined Chiefs of Staff on AC's recommendation. The AC will assist the Italian Government to prepare a supply program for rehabilitation, supplies for which will be in addition to supplies provided under military responsibility. Final o.k. on such programs will be decided by the Combined Liberated Areas Committee in Washington. Requisitions should go forward at once so that such supplies may be dispatched as soon as shipping becomes available. On this last point, the joint program of planning started a few months ago is now in the stage of last-minute preparation to be sent to Washington.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

3. Olive Oil Warms Up

With weekly collections now in the neighborhood of 30,000 quintals, the drive to get as much as possible of Italy's olive oil harvest into the Ghezzi del Popolo goes on. Agriculture Sub-Commission reports that progress is "generally satisfactory", total collections up to February 15 amounting to 264,770 quintals or 28 per cent of the target figure of 800,000 quintals. Of this total Southern Region amassings accounted for 210,912 quintals, Toscana Region 25,324 quintals, Lazio-Umbria 17,515 quintals, Sicily 6,696 quintals, Abruzzi-Marche 4,770 quintals and Sardinia 2,563 quintals. Italian specialists concentrating on the drive have by now, with the help of Allied officers on loan from the Allied Commission, covered a "sizeable portion" of their territory in most of the chief olive oil producing provinces. At the end of November 1944 only 3,338 quintals were in the Ghezzi: December brought in a further 6,817 quintals, but it was not until the drive got under way early this year that the figures really began to show promise, 10,912 quintals being added to the total in January and another 8,140 quintals in the first half of February. Although in past seasons the collection has always shown a big decline in March compared with January and February, it is expected that this year, due to the late harvest the present collection rate will be maintained until later in the year. The low-range Plan "C" total of 346,590 quintals as a goal was passed a week ago and if the present rate continues the more hopeful Plan "B" total of 404,990 quintals as a target should be passed by the end of March. The Allied Commission naturally is aiming at the optimum target of Plan "A" - 800,000 quintals.

Evasion of the olive oil amassing decrees is, as expected, considerable, and as once with the Granai del Popolo, there are anguished cries of lack of transport for the Italian law enforcement officials. In Frosinone, for instance, one small Ballilla car is all that UPSEA and the Carabinieri have between them to cover the whole province. Then, roads to many of the communes have been impassable and the inhabitants have not even seen an Italian official in months.

Results in Cosenza and Catanzaro are described as "encouraging", but Reggio Calabria has had the poorest crop for 30 years. Road-blocks on a 24-hour basis are operating in Reggio. Questura control squads carry out spot-checks on civilian trains entering and leaving Calabria. At Gioia Tauro in Reggio, a thriving source of the "borsa nera", a ten-day blitz to clean up the district is being carried out by a large force of CC.RR. Rome Province, it is reported, is a good example of "everybody for himself". Many producers have had their olives pressed and taken away the oil. There are not nearly enough CC.RR., Tivoli, for one, having only 10 when at least 35 are needed. There are no road-blocks. A 90minute spot-check on the Rome-Tivoli road a few days ago yielded 1.67 quintals of oil - 70 liters from a horse and cart, 40 liters from a light truck, 20 liters from one bus and 6 from another, 10 liters from each of two bicycles and 6 from a third. At Monteliberetti, where three steel drums containing

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

of November is a mere 3,388 quintals were in the Ufficio, December brought in a further 6,617 quintals, but it was not until the drive got under way early this year that the figures really began to show promise, 10,912 quintals being added to the total in January and another 6,180 quintals in the first half of February. Although in past seasons the collection has always shown a big decline in March compared with January and February, it is expected that this year, due to the late harvest the present collection rate will be maintained until later in the year. The low-range Plan "C" total of 240,000 quintals as a goal was passed a week ago and, if the present rate continues the more hopeful Plan "B" total of 404,000 quintals as a target should be passed by the end of March. The Allied Commission naturally is aiming at the optimum target of Plan "A" - 800,000 quintals.

Evasion of the olive oil amassing decrees is, as expected, considerable, and as once with the Granai del Popolo, there are unpublished cries of lack of transport for the Italian law enforcement officials. In Frosinone, for instance, one small Balilla car is all that UPSEA and the Carabinieri have between them to cover the whole province. Then, roads to many of the communes have been impassable and the inhabitants have not even seen an Italian official in months.

Results in Cosenza and Catanzaro are described as "encouraging", but Reggio Calabria has had the poorest crop for 20 years. Road-blocks on a 24-hour basis are operating in Reggio. Questura control squads carry out spot-checks on civilian trains entering and leaving Calabria. At Gioia Tauro in Reggio, a thriving source of the "borsa nera", a ten-day blitz to clean up the district is being carried out by a large force of CC.RR. Rome Province, it is reported, is a good example of "everybody for himself". Many producers have had their olives pressed and taken away the oil. There are not nearly enough CC.RR., Tivoli, for one, having only 10 when at least 30 are needed. There are no road-blocks. A 90minute spot-check on the Rome-Tivoli road a few days ago yielded 1.80 quintals of oil - 70 liters from a horse and cart, 30 litres from a light truck, 20 litres from one bus and 6 from another, 10 liters from each of two bicycles and 6 from a third. At Montelibretti, where three steel drums containing 1.46 quintals were seized, 240,000 lire was said to have been paid for the shipment. In such circumstances producers have no worries about the disposal of their crop. The roads from Rome are often thronged with bicycles, carts and trucks, the riders of which are all ready to pay anything from 300 to 400 lire a liter for the oil. The price paid by the Ufficio is 80 lire a liter. Producers claim costs of production are 80 lire a liter.

Tuscany, where the crop has been good (but seasonally is late) and where potential production is high, has a problem of a different sort. Growers are chary of bringing in their crops when the Fascist Government still owes them over 22 million lire in

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

subsidies p[illegible]aised on the last crop, wh... they were told they would get 10 lire a kilo.

Apart from the collections of pressed oil nearly 1,125,000 quintals of sansa have been handed over to the sansa oil plants since the beginning of the year, which should yield, after processing, another 40,000 quintals of edible oil.

4. Odds and Ends

Fish from Lampedusa is finally arriving at Naples...First shipment of oranges to U.K. this season has been made this past week...The Italian Government will take over responsibility for allocation of POL in Lazio and Abruzzi March 1...The Italians will also take over the administration of the distribution of food in Italian-Government territory this coming week...The AC will implement the new price of bread and pasta in AMG territory as soon as it is fixed by the Italian Government, following the announcement of the 300-gram ration...Allied wage scales will also be raised accordingly....Four tugs and six barges are to run on the Fiumicino-Rome Canal...The Nera Montoro plant at Terni has been re-activated for a daily production of approximately four tons of ammonia...Industry Sub-Commission has succeeded in de-requisitioning the Ilva Steel Works at San Giovanni Valdano and the cotton-weaving plant of the Manifatture Cotoniere Meridionale at Angri, to which will be added 100 looms from the damaged plant at Naples, said looms being capable of producing 100,000 meters of cotton cloth a month...Coal production in Sardinia is improving, 9,879 tons being produced last week and steps being taken to increase the labor force by exempting miners from the call-up...Speaking of Sardinia, the call-up was so successful that 13,000 men reported instead of an anticipated 10,000 for the period closing February 18, the improvement being laid to the new mobilization system, improved family allowances and generally better administration...Ancona and Rimini are now receiving a limited amount of power from the Central Italy grid...Four per cent of the meat animals slaughtered in Ascoli and Macerata Provinces has been earmarked for Rome...Major Carleton W. Washburne (A) has been appointed Director of the Education Sub-Commission...The AC will definitely lose at least 100 EM, of which a third at least will go from HQ...The next Regional Commissioners' Conference will be held in Rome March 8, will be closed to the press and will hear plans and policy discussions led by the Acting President and Chief Commissioner...Orders will shortly be issued to abolish the Southern and Island regions by April 1...The correct figure as to CC.RR. strength is 84,971, the Public Safety Sub-Commission reports after a review of the rolls...Col.A.E.Young(E), deputy director of the Public Safety S/C, is leaving the AC to return to his civil duties as Chief Constable of Hertfordshire...The ration of the Italian Army has been increased to 3,700 calories a day...The Granai del Popolo now stands at 10,535,866 qtl or 91 per cent of the target...Congratulations to the following CM who have been mentioned in dispatches: SSM L.Waron and T.Clarke, Staff Sergt.H.W.Thompson, CQMS W.H.Keen, Sgt. V.E.Bishop and Corp.R.Watson...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

will also take over the administration of the distribution of food in Italian-Government territory this coming week...The AC will implement the new price of bread and pasta in AMG territory as soon as it is fixed by the Italian Government, following the announcement of the ACC-grain ration...Allied wage scales will also be raised accordingly....Four tugs and six barges are to run on the Fiumicino-Rome Canal...The Nera Montoro plant at Terni has been re-activated for a daily production of approximately four tons of ammonia...Industry Sub-Commission has succeeded in re-requisitioning the Ilva Steel Works at San Giovanni Valdano and the cotton-weaving plant of the Manifatture Cotoniere Meridionale at Angri, to which will be added 100 looms from the damaged plant at Naples, said looms being capable of producing 100,000 meters of cotton cloth a month...Coal production in Sardinia is improving, 9,879 tons being produced last week and steps being taken to increase the labor force by exempting miners from the call-up...Speaking of Sardinia, the call-up was so successful that 13,000 men responded instead of an anticipated 10,000 for the period closing February 15, the improvement being laid to the new mobilization system, improved family allowances and generally better administration...Ancona and Rimini are now receiving a limited amount of power from the Central Italy grid...Four per cent of the meat animals slaughtered in Ascoli and Macerata Provinces has been earmarked for Rome...Major Carleton W. Washburne (A) has been appointed Director of the Education Sub-Commission...The AC will definitely lose at least 100 EM, of which a third at least will go from Hq...The next Regional Commissioners' Conference will be held in Rome March 6, will be closed to the press and will hear plans and policy discussions led by the Acting President and Chief Commissioner...Orders will shortly be issued to abolish the Southern and Island regions by April 1...The correct figure as to CC.RR. strength is 64,971, the Public Safety Sub-Commission reports after a review of the rolls...Col.A.E.Young(B), deputy director of the Public Safety S/C, is leaving the AC to return to his civil duties as Chief Constable of Hertfordshire...The ration of the Italian Army has been increased to 3,700 calories a day...The Granai del Popolo now stands at 10,838,888 qtl or 91 per cent of the target...Congratulations to the following OR who have been mentioned in dispatches: SSM L.Warom and T.Clarke, Staff Sergt.H.W.Thompson, CQMS W.H.Keen, Sgt. V.E.Bishop and Corp.R.Watson...

14

T. F. BERGIN
Major, AUS
DDPR.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016