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

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

10000/125/132 40/PAT – REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY
JUN. 44 – NOV. 44

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

20 NOV Recd

HQ No 1 ICU
C/o AAI
APO 777 US Army.

ICU/XYZ/6

14 Nov 44

SUBJECT: Periodical Summary

Allied Commission,
Patriots Branch,
Advance Detachment,
APO 394,
CMF.

It is requested that a copy of your periodical summary of information concerning Partisan activity in EOT be forwarded regularly to this HQ.

JHC

Major

0006

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PARTISAN BRANCH
APO 394.

Ref : AC/PAT. 21 Nov 44.
Subject: Periodical Summaries.

To : H.Q. No.1 I.S.U.
c/o A.A.I.
A.P.O. 777 U.S.Army.

In reply to your letter ref. ISU/XYZ/6 dated 14 Nov., it is suggested that your request should be addressed to the O.C. No. 1 Special Force.C.A.I.F.

This Branch is at the present time in the process of closing down that side of its activities which hitherto has been concerned with the distribution of Intelligence which was and is almost entirely produced by No. 1 Special Force.

P.N. Dayus
Major
for. C.H. STOKER,
Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

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

FILE

H-O/PAT	ATTACH SHEET No. 1.	
DATE.		PAGE.
20 NOV 44		33 A

Director
Col. Spicer

I feel doubtful about this request. There are so many competing intelligence agencies. I propose, if you agree, to ask Major DRAGE to investigate this request & to ascertain for what purpose our reports are required.

P.D. Baynes
Major

(2) 20 Nov. 44

Ref
Why to Major Drage? This seems odd.
Tell the writer that his report should be forwarded to No 1. Special Task Force, as we propose to close down on this side of our work so that it can finally be wrapped up.

21.

34 a.

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25 OCT Rec'd Ans

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(B) and 5(D) or (E)
JCS 1/16/74
BY J— NARS, Date 3/3/75

SECRET
D SECTION ITALY (CCC.) 18 October 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censroship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit NO. 12 APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY NO. 28

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Patriot Activity. There are signs that the Fascists, taking advantage of the lack of movement on the Allied Front, are concentrating forces against the patriots. In the Udine zone such action has already taken place and the enemy, employing several thousand troops, has driven the partisans out of a large area.

It is probable that in the near future an effort will be made to reconquer the Val d'Ossola. It is reported that considerable forces, mostly of the San Marco Division, are assembling at GRAVELLONA under General MISCHI. The FIAMME VERDE partisans have been very active in the VAL CAMONICA capturing or inflicting losses on garrisons at BORNO and BIENNA. In the VENETO and FRIULI regions violent fighting has been reported and Swiss sources state that the patriots control a large area in the CARNIA

In the TREVISO province on the CONSIGLIO plateau, German forces supported by Fascists have started operations. Another operation has been started against patriots in the Asiago region.

Reports from the Appenine region indicate raids and counter-raids throughout the zone.

The USCFPC Division has been active against enemy motor transport on the roads between TRIESTE and VENICE between 15-28 September.

Patriot Bands. Information has been received about the general organization and location of the following bands:

1) STELLA ROSSA BANDE, under MARIO MUSOLESI in the VADO, MENZONE,

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forces against the patriots. In the Udine zone such action has already taken place and the enemy, employing several thousand troops, has driven the partisans out of a large area.

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1) STELLA ROSSA BANDE, under MARIO MUSOLESI in the VADO, MENZONE, and VERGATO zone, south of BOLOGNA.

2) CORBARA group now under Romeo CORBARA, between R. SENIO and R. SINERI, south of IMOLA.

3) 36TH "BIANCONCINI" Garibaldi Bande, under "BOB", in two detachments, south east of BOLOGNA, between R.'s SENIO and SANTERNO, and between R.'s SENIO and LAMONE.

4) MAJOR MAURI's Division in N.W. Piedmont.

5) "FELICE CASCIONE" Garibaldi Division (Communist) in N.Liguria.

Large bodies of men are reported operating south of BETTOLA (PIACENZA Prov.)

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SEEN.	INITIALS.	DATE.
Col. Mc. CARTHY		
Maj. MAG[illegible]		
Maj. BRAG[illegible]		
Capt. SALV[illegible]		
Col. FAVA		
C. C.		

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 745046

Fascist Forces. A number of Black Brigades are reported as already formed.

Desertions. Many desertions are reported from German troops in Milan while Czechoslovak units are said to have indulged in incidents and mutinies.

Two companies of the Fascist Monte Rosa Division are said to have joined the partisans and a Battalion of the S. Marco Division en route fr m Liguria to ALESSANDRIA arrived only 100 strong.

Deserters describe the situation as chaotic.

General arrested for corrupt practices. General Filippo Diamanti, the well-known and ill-famed Fascist leader, has been arrested and charged with obtaining large percentages on military supplies.

Police Chief resigns. Eugenio Cerrutti, Chief of Police, has resigned for private reasons and is replaced by General Renzo Montagna.

Italian SS. In Nov. 43, the Italian SS was reported as consisting of 10,000 men in 11 battalions located in the chief cities. After the numerous desertions, the total s trength in March 44 fell to 6200, mostly concentrated around Torino.

End of Koch Band. A report from Milan states that as a result of protests on the part of Cardinal Schuster, the entire band of torturers has been arrested.

GERMANS

Reports persist that the Germans are ready to evacuate Piedmont. It is expected that the Fascist Divisions will eventually act as rearguards and there is considerable alarm among Fascist collaborationists who fear that they will be abandoned by their allies.

Atrocities A prisoner of war declares that a German Major looted books from the library of Princess Ginetti and from theCommune's library in VELLETRI.

The Carthusian monks of Farnata Monastery were removed by German troops and the monastery looted.

In a villa near FRASSINE (MASSA MARITTIMA GROSSETO) a lady and her two children were murdered by German soldiers and the Villa set on fire.

ECONOMICS

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 745046

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ECONOMICS

The food situation in Milan is now reported as very bad, that of LA SPEZIA as disastrous.

FIUME is favoured by the Germans and the Black Market there is fairly moderate.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

"D" Section Italy (Occ.) 18 October 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY NO. 28

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

18th October, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -No 28.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Partisans.

General Organisation, and Disposition of Bands.

Zone south of BOLOGNA. "Stella Rossa"Brigade. Mario MUSOLESI commands this brigade, he is known as the "Wolf of the Mountain". The brigade has always been active in the Tosco-Emilian Appenines, and more precisely in the zone of VADO, MENZONE and VERGATO. After a series of skirmishes, the said brigade divided itself into two parts, towards the middle of June; one group joined the 36 Baribaldi Brigade, and the other one established itself on Mount FIORINO.

"CORBARA" Group This group is at present in the zone between SEGNO and SINTRI. It is only made up of 150 men, but they are well armed. Recently in a skirmish against the nazi-fascist forces at PREDAPPIO the Commander of the Group (one of the brothers Corbara) was wounded. He took refuge in a peasant's house, but later on was discovered. He was accompanied by three other patriots and a woman called INES VESSALI. The latter, rather than fall into the hands of the enemy, killed herself and Corbara and the other three were murdered. The corpses were hanged and exposed in the Casto Caro Square, at Forli and Faenza. Now Remeo Corbara, brother of the deceased, commands this group.

THE 36TH GARIBALDI Brigade "BIANCONCINI". The Commander of the Brigade is "Bob" of IMOLA. The 36th Brigade is composed of the 4th and 8th Brigades Garibaldi. The 8th Brigade was made up exclusively of men from ROMAGNA, whilst the 4th contained men from IMOLA and BOLOGNA. Actually the 36th Brigade is composed of two sections with 550 men in each. The 1st Detachment is made up of men from BOLOGNA, and province; it is active on the mountain chain between SERNIO and S. ERNO. Among recent actions, were skirmishes on the flanks of Monte PAGGIOLA and Monte BARTAGLIA. It appears that this detachment started to move towards BOLOGNA in September, in order to take part in its liberation. The 2nd detachment is composed of men from ROMAGNA, commanded by "Ivo". It is active

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(P.W.B. Florence).

LA SPEZIA area. A Comando Unico has been formed controlling all partisans in the Spezia area. It consists of a Commander and a Chief of Staff, three Vice-Commanders and three political Commissars, representing Communists, Christian Democrats and Action Party. The Command has defined living and defence zones for each brigade, has issued orders forbidding requisitioning of cash, and has applied to the Italian Ministry of War for 3,200,000 lire for the upkeep of 3,000 patriots now in action near PARMA for one month.
(P.W.B. Special Service 2.10.44).

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This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

SOUTH-WESTERN PIEDMONT and NORTH LIGURIA. Patriots who control a large zone of south-western Piedmont are commanded by MAURI, a regular army major, with no strong political views, though he is reported to have leanings towards the monarchy. Under him are Captain COSA, a reserve officer and by all accounts an excellent type of man. He commands an "autonomous" division, ie. non political and organised on a military basis, but according to source, with leanings towards the "parties of order" - the Christian Democrats and Liberals. Also under MAURI is NANNI, a Communist divisional commander.

South of these divisions in Northern LIGURIA is the "FELICE CASIONE"GARIBALDI Division (Communist), which also, though to a somewhat uncertain extent, recognises Mauri's authority.

Source was of the opinion that the "autonomous" divisions have the highest military value, as they only can be relied on to take concerted action. (Mauri's bands, in spite of the Communist Nanni, he appeared to regard as autonomous) Communist divisions, he said, were often led by inexperienced young men, full of courage and enthusiasm, but tending rather to individual acts of gallantry than to large scale orderly actions. The Communists in PIEDMONT generally are tending to act independently of the CLN.

In TURIN there is a general known as ALESSANDRI, who has command of the "autonomous" bands in PIEDMONT. There is another general commanding the "GIELLI" (Giustizia e Liberta) divisions. As far as source knew there was no unified command of the Communists

Source emphasised that both the recruiting and division into units of patriots was on a regional basis rather than according to politics or numbers. Thus a native of western Liguria, from the zone in which the Garibaldi (Communist) division operates, would be more likely to join this division, even if he were not a Communist, rather than go elsewhere in search of a band more in accordance with his personal views. The leaders and political commissars of a division are Communists, but often a high proportion of the adherents would be patriots possibly without strong political views. Similarly a brigade would not be composed of any specific number of men, but of all the partisans operating in a certain area, probably a valley, who would come under the orders of one brigade commander. Three brigades is usually the composition of a division. (P.W.B. Special Service 7.10.44).

MAURI's divisions produce a weekly newspaper "La Rinascita d'Italia" on a hand printing press. The paper consists of two pages, gives instructions and appeals to discipline, and news of local partisans' activities, but not general war news (this is obtained from the wireless). One of the collaborators is a priest. On the same printing press the patriots produce leaflets in Czech, German and

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LA SPEZIA. The SALVADORI Band, which was attached to the National Liberation Committee of Spezia, but is now organised by a superior naval officer, works at the source of the river SERCHIO(PONTE DEL DIAVOLO). The 5000 workmen who are doing forced labour in the LA SPEZIA arsenal are very anti-fascist and are already in contact with the patriot organisations, (P.W.B. Florence R.P. 15.9.44).

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

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PIACENZA BETTOLA There are 10,000 partisans under army officers operating south of Bettola. Military Commanders have been appointed by the Committees of Liberation of BOLOGNA, MODENA, REGGIO, PIACENZA, PARMA, FERRARA, FORLI, and RAVENNA.
(P.W.B. Special Service 30.9.44).

Recent Partisan Activities.

DOMODOSSOLA.

A provisional liberation government has been set up for the MAZASCA, ANTRONA, BOGNANCO, DIVEDRO, ANTIGORIO, FORMAZZA and CENTOVALLI valleys. It consists of Professore E.T. and a council of six, mainly technical experts, chosen from four partisan groups - the "Garibaldini", who are Communist, the Valtece supporters of Badoglio, the Val D'Ossola local workers and Christian Socialists. Almost all-able-bodied men have been drafted into the partisan forces. Arms have been parachuted and landed by aircraft at the new airfield at VILLADOSSOLA. There is a British and Russian mission at DOMODOSSOLA, but it is not known how it arrived there. The Italian Frontier Guards have been removed and replaced by "Garibaldini". In every village there is a commissioner responsible for the maintenance of order and for the administration.
(La Suisse, Geneve 1.10.44).

On the other hand the food situation in DOMODOSSOLA is reported to be very difficult, especially for the civilian population, which is completely cut off from Fascist Italy. The Germans in the north west area are stripping cattle and fodder from the mountain regions, which have already suffered more than the plains from partisan requisitioning. (P.W.B. Special Service 30.9.44).

The shops have all their stocks in the windows, but often even the windows are empty. The people hope for Allied food supplies by aircraft as well as ammunition and guns to secure an extension of the liberated territory.
(Gazette de Lausanne 3.10.44).

The provisional Giunta at DOMODOSSOLA has set up a concentration camp for Fascists, collaborationists and those who were against resistance, who are all regarded as hostages in case of enemy atrocities.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 28.9.44).

It is reported that "Considerable fighting forces, largely consisting of Blackshirts of the "San Marco" Division, under MISCHI's personal command, are assembled in GRAVELLONA, possibly planning the reconquest of the DOMODOSSOLA region. The partisans were obliged to evacuate OMEGNA on LAKE ORTA and to retreat to the mountains. GRAVELLONA is in Fascist hands.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 20.9.44)

VAL CAMONICA Fiamme Verde partisans have occupied PONTE DI LEGNO, thus cutting [illegible] VAL CAMONICA. They have attacked German

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VAL CAMONICA Fiamme Verde partisans have occupied PONTE DI LEGNO, thus cutting one of the principal roads through the VAL CAMONICA. They have attacked German troops at work at PEZZO DI SCALVE, captured the entire garrison at BORNO and driven off an attack by enemy reinforcements, inflicting heavy losses. The same partisans attacked the Fascist garrison at BIENNO, taking 21 prisoners and a great deal of arms and ammunition. Fighting continues in the VAL CAMONICA.
(P.W.B. Special Service 5.10.44).

UDINE North East of CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI (UDINE) the enemy, employing several thousand troops as part of his drive to clear this area of patriot forces, succeeded in reoccupying a large zone. Wholesale murder and burning of houses is now in progress.
(P.W.B. Special Service 3.10.44).

VENETO Violent fighting is reported between partisans and Fascists in VENETO and FRIULI. The partisans occupied territory containing over 100,000 inhabitants in CARNIA. During a battle near VALDAGNO, in the TRENTINO, the Germans and Fascists lost 170 dead.
(Gazette de Lausanne 30.9.44).

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REGGIO EMILIA. In a brillient attack against German engineers rebuilding a bridge near CEREDOLO (frazione of Ciano d'Enza, Reggio Emilia) 35 Germans were killed.

CHIAVARI-VOGHERA. Patriots who were recently forced to withdraw from the Chiavari-Voghera road made the stretch of road between BOBBIO and SAN STEFANO D'AVETO impassable before they withdrew.
(P.W.B. Special Service 3.10.44).

BOLOGNA Partisan formations in the Imolese and Bolognese Apennines support the Allied advance by ambushing German supplies and lorry columns. Violent clashes took place in the BRONI zone, and many German lorry columns have been attacking along the Via Emilia and in PIACENZA and PAVIA. An attack launched by numerous enemy columns in the ASIAGO Plateau caused the patriots to retreat in an orderly manner to pre-arranged positions. Enemy losses were particularly heavy. A large zone in the MONFERRATO region was liberated, including the important centres of MONCALVO, VIGNALE and OTTIGLIO. In SCURZOLENGO a violent attack was repulsed.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 4.10.44).

TREVISO In Treviso province, on the CANSIGLIO Plateau, the Germans, supported by the Fascists, started intensive mopping up operations. The resistance movement reports the death of several hundred Germans and Fascists. The partisans, however, were obliged to retreat to the mountains owing to inferior armaments, having suffered heavy losses themselves. Another large-scale German and Fascist operation is in progress in the ASIAGO region. In the LANGHE district, the north PIEDMONT partisans now occupy a large area. In the MONDOVI region, they have set up a concentration camp containing 250 German prisoners.
(Gazette de Lausanne, 4.10.44).

The OSSOPPO Division The Ossopo Division between the 15th and 28th September has made 24 attacks against motorised enemy columns on the principal roads between TRIESTE and VENICE and on other secondary roads. 52 German soldiers have been killed, 32 wounded and 18 captured. 8 locomotives have been rendered useless, and two railway waggons destroyed.
(P.W.B. Rome 7.10.44).

FASCIST FORCES

II. Dispositions

Five Bersagilieri battalions, each of 1000-2000 men, exist on the strip of coast from Savona to Massa Carrara. The armament of each company is as follows:

4 pieces 47/32)
3 mortars 81) for coastal defence
2 " 45)
8 Breda "37"
18 Fucili mitragliatri
[illegible] pistole Berretta 34 cal. 9

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2 " 45)
8 Breda "37"
18 Fucili mitragliatri
36 Pistole Berretta 34 cal. 9
12 antitank mines
x individual arms, muskets and hand grenades.

These troops are organized as follows: 1 battalion of 5 companies, 1 company of 4 platoons, 1 platoon of 4 squadrons of 10 men plus a squadron for services. They are troops taken by force and the morale is very low. Desertions mount up to about 7 men per company per day.
(R.I. Repot FWBD Section 15.8.44)

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III. Black Brigades

The commander of these formations is the Minister Pavolini. In every principal town a "Black Brigade" has been formed. Each Black Brigade is formed of two groups; one used for the town and the other mobile, destined to external operations against Patriot formations.

According to other sources, it seems that the groups which had to operate against the Patriots were placed instead by the side of "SS" formations and depended from that Command for operations. From reliable sources the following "brigate nere" have been formed:

-1st Black Brigade "Ricciardini", Piedmont
-2nd " " employed in the Como zone (August)
-6th " " " " " Novara zone (September)
-7th " " " " " Vercelli zone "
-10th " " Brescia
-14th " " employed " " Varzi " (August)
-18th " " " " " Pavia " "
-28th " " Piacenza
-30th " " Reggio Emilia
-35th " " Apuania
-36th " " "Mussolini"; moved from Lucca torwards the north.
- " " "Ettore Muti"; Ravenna
- " " "Athos Cappelli"; Turin
- " " "Aldo Resega"; Milan
-? " " impiegate nella zona di Vicenza (Sept.)

(S.IMF. 28.9.44)

IV. Morale and Desertions

The "Libera Stampa" Lugano, 4.10.44, reports from MILAN: In Milan many German soldiers have deserted, and incidents and mutinies have occurred among the Czechoslovaks. In CUNEO Province, Cossack units have been disarmed and they are being employed in

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Sailors who have deserted describe the situation as chaotic. Orders and counter-orders are given, each more impossible to execute than the last. A sailor arrived in Milan on short leave and went to the German Command before rejoining his unit in order to obtain his traveling papers. He was immediately sent to MUNICH after being told it was now useless to go to LIGURIA. In BOLOGNA

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a revolt broke out among the members of the Black Brigades who had been ordered to move into the front line in the Adriatic. In the Piacenza region, 40 Russian soldiers crossed over to the partisans and were incorporated in the "Nadotti" detachment of the "Giustizia e Libertà" Brigade.

There is complete disagreement between the GNR and the Republican Army. The latter entirely lacks means of transport. The GNR and the Black Brigades requisition wholesale, even carts. Espionage has intensified inside the Republican Army on the part of violent Fascist elements which however are generally identified.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

V. General Charged with Corrupt Practices

Libera Stampa, Lugano, 4.10.44, reports from Milan: General DIAMANTI has been arrested during the last few days charged with having obtained large percentages on military supplies. Six members of his staff have also been imprisoned for defrauding soldiers' families who were due to receive special allowances.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

VI. Resignation of Police Chief

Eugenio Cerrutti, Chief of Police, has asked to be relieved of his post for personal reasons. He is replaced by General Renzo MONTAGNA, while (? Guido Leto) has been appointed Deputy Chief. General MONTAGNA's present position is that of Regional Commandant of the Republican Army in Lombardy.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

VII. Italian SS

According to news given by the officers of the SS Italian prisoners of war, in November 1943 "The Italian Armed Militia" had a total strength of about 10,000 men and was constituted of 11 battalions located in the principal towns.

The Commander of the "Armed Militia" was General Hansen. Afterwards the Armed Militia assumed the denomination of "Voluntary Italian Legions" or the "SS Italian Legion", and afterwards the "1st Grenadier Brigade of the SS."

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Some of the above mentioned battalions constituted the 1st regiment of the Armed Militia (Col. de Maria), who is notable for the composition and partial participation of war operations (1st SS Battalion on the Anzio Front); the remaining battalions self-sustaining.

After the numerous desertions, in March of this year, the total strength of the "Italian SS" had decreased to 6,200 men, who were mostly concentrated in the zone near Turin.

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In Rivoli Torinese the IX Battalion was fused with another which had orders, not very precise, to constitute, it seems, an artillery regiment.

In June of this year an instruction battalion (Col. Antenora) was stationed in Verona and included 600 officers. The tactical training was very carefully carried out and also the various instructions. /were
(S.IM. 28.9.44)

VII. Savage Reprisals Threatened in Novara

Libera Stampa, Lugano, 4.10.44, reporting from MILAN, publishes a document which has fallen into its hands and which runs as follows:

"Italian Socialist Republic - Novara Prefecture - 486th Division. To all Mayors and Commissioners of the Province of Novara. SECRET. The Head of the Province of Novara has proof of the connivance of relatives with deserters and defaulters. As the activities of these lawless men are carried out with inhuman bestiality and heartless violence against unarmed people, and with sadistic fury against state property in obvious disobedience to enemies of the State, it is decreed that: All male members of families of deserters and defaulters between the ages of 15 and 65 are to be arrested and sent to a concentration camp in Novara. Their property, both personal and real, is to be confiscated by the State as compensation for the losses incurred through the action of these outlaws. All police forces and mayors will present lists for approval and signature and will act with all urgency in the application of this order. State administrative offices will supply officials to deal with the properties so confiscated." Signed: Head of the Novara Province, E. Vezzalini."
(News Digest 7.10.44)

IX. End of the Koch Gen

The ill-famed Koch gang, probably composed of the same persons who tortured political prisoners in Rome, had as one knows established its headquarters in Milan, in Via Paolo Uccello 19. After Cardinal Schuster's protests, in which he revealed the ferocious tortures inflicted on political prisoners in Milan, the Questore's Villa was surrounded by police agents, and after a short resistance the entire band was arrested. It was composed of 53 persons, amongst whom were women, who assisted at the tortures. There was also a great quantity of cocaine, morphine, and other

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authorities have been obliged to take the Koch band away. It is a sign that his criminal activities, only too widely known, preoccupied the Germans and Fascists, who had him as a favorite until today.
(I.C. 8.10.44)

X Call-Up Fails in Udine.

Libera Stampa, Lugano, 4.10.44, reports from MILAN: The call-up of the 1914-26 classes in Udine Province was a great failure. Only 8% reported.
(News Digest 7.11.44)

GERMANY

XI. Dispositions

A fairly reliable report dated 23.9.44 stated that the German HQ in TURIN is moving to MILAN. The report warns that if the Germans evacuate Piedmont leaving it to the Fascists, resistance by the latter should not be underestimated.

All bridges on the roads and railways between TURIN and MILAN have been repaired. Traffic is very great.
(PWB Special Service 30.9.44)

Two German divisions, including the Hermann Goering armored division, are reported to be in MILAN.

Partisan band in the French Frontier area reports that it holds 2000 sheep and 500 pigs which are being kept concealed until the Germans go.

Negotiations have taken place to secure at least operational unity between CSOTPO and GARIBALDI divisions in UDINE.

Nearly all aerodromes in PIEDMONT are reported to have been blown up, and the damage camouflaged. This is a further indication that the Germans may be preparing to withdraw from PIEDMONT
(PWB Special Service 2.10.44)

LA SPEZIA. For the defence of the port of LA SPEZIA there are 2 battalions, one Marine and the other Infantry. There is the guarding of the 5000 Italian workers who are removing all the debris from the shipyard and digging the sites for the defence. The morale of these troops is very low, especially among the Austrians

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(R.I.43 Report PWBD Section 15.8.44)

XII. Preparations for Evacuation

GORIZIA
UDINE

Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 21.9.44, reports from VENICE. According to announcements made by the Prefectures of GORIZIA AND UDINE, the German Army authorities have demanded the immediate removal of maize and sunflower crops, as well as shrubs [illegible] for serving as hiding places, growing in fields over 200 m. wide along the following roads: GORIZIA=SANTA LUCIA= d'ISONZO, GORIZIA=AILUSSINA, GORIZIA=MONTESPINO, GORIZIA=GRADISCA,

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and GORIZIA=UDINE, as well as along the VIALE VENEZIA, the VIALE TRICESIMO, VIALE CIVIDALE and VIALE PALMANOVA, all within the boundaries of the UDINE municipality. The same applies to the following railway lines: UDINE=GORIZIA=SAGRADO and GORIZIA=MONFALCONE=SAN DANIELE, as well as the fields around the German barracks and all kinds of Army offices. Offenders will be prosecuted.
(News Digest 2.10.44)

XIII. Kesselring Confers on Fascists' Future

Der Bund, 29.9.44 reports from CHIASSO: It is reported that during the past few days an important military and political conference was held at Kesselring's GHQ attended by Graziani and Pavolini as representatives of Mussolini's Government. The fate of Fascists when the Wehrmacht evacuates the greater part of northern Italy was discussed.

According to information so far received, one of the most discussed problems was the fate of the Fascist troops. Apparently Graziani proposed that they should be withdrawn first to the Veneto and then taken to Germany if withdrawal beyond the Alps was necessary. Kesselring, who has always opposed the use of Blackshirts in the front line, appears to have been unwilling to accept the burden of the Fascist forces, which have often proved unreliable on a difficult retreat. Consequently the question is still unsettled and the fate of the Fascist Army is uncertain.

At the same meeting the fate of Italian collaborationists in the event of the Wehrmacht being withdrawn from Italy was studied. Fascist circles have been deeply impressed by what happened recently in Belgium and France, when hundreds of persons who had worked for the Reich were left to their fate. Pavolini pointed out that it was not only a question of withdrawing Mussolini's Government and the more important collaborators to safety, but also officials in the still occupied towns and provinces. On this matter too, Kesselring apparently gave vague assurances. It is expected that a further meeting will be called to discuss the same subject.
(News Digest 2.10.44)

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(News Digest 2.10.44)

[illegible] Libera Stampa, Lugano 4.10.44 reports: The Germans are continuing preparations for evacuation. All the Bologna sewers are mined and will be blown up before they withdraw. In Formovo, Parma, the "Petrolio" Company's plants have been mined. The population has been forced to evacuate Massa in Apuania. In order to accelerate the evacuation, the Germans used machine-guns and fired several buildings. In the same town 60 workers were sent to Germany without even being allowed to say goodbye to their families. It is reported that on the Via Emilia, tanks and armoured cars pass by with very clear Red Cross emblems on the upper parts of them.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

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XIV. German Evacuation Not Yet in Progress

Popolo e Libertà Bellinzona 30.9.44, reports from the Italian frontier: The situation in Milan remains chaotic. The Nazis concentrated in Brianza, who were due to leave two hours after the official announcement of the capture of Rimini have not moved yet. They are reported to have received counter-orders to wait longer, in view of military developments on the Emilia front. The delay is also believed to be due to the personal intervention of Mussolini on behalf of the Fascists, who want to postpone their isolation. There is no hurry, as the road to the Brenner via the Tonale Pass will still guarantee rapid evacuation for several weeks.

The British are expected to advance on Ravenna and Ferrara but, even if Bologna falls fairly soon, the Fascists do not think the Allies will immediately aim at Milan. It is confirmed that the Germans are hastily constructing a defensive line from CHIOGGIA along the Euganean Hills to Verona. The inhabitants of this region have been mobilized and work is proceeding day and night. Defence works are also being prepared along the MINCIO.

When there was a danger that Allied troops from France might cross into Italy via the Piedmontese Alps, the German High Command sent three divisions including an armored division taken from the Balkan front, to this zone. The armored division has now been hastily transferred to the Rimini front.

Meanwhile, there are constantly new signs that the Germans do not intend to remain much longer in Northern Italy. 16 German women employed at the Milan SS Command in the Hotel Regina have left for Germany. Industries carrying out work for Germany have been given October 15th as the final time limit for deliveries. Systematic destruction prior to the Nazi evacuation has already begun in various places.
(News Digest 4.10.44)

XV. German Defence Preparations in MILAN and COMO

Tribune de Geneve, 3.10.44 reports from CHIASSO: The Germans are preparing for street fighting in Milan. The whole quarter has been evacuated and mined, especially round Piazza Fiume. Many

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Gazette de Lausanne, 3.10.44, reports from CHIASSO: The Fascist press reveals that the Speer organization has requisitioned all means of water transport on the north Italian rivers, while the OT has confiscated all private cars. It is reported that barricades and trenches have now been built in the streets of Como, particularly in the Corso Varese.
(News Digest 5.10.44)

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XVI. Germans Destroy Turin Aircraft Plant

Gazette de Lausanne 30.9.44, reports from CHIASSO: The Commander of the German Engineers in TURIN has dynamited the Ali d'Italia aeronautical plant. The buildings were first surrounded by numerous machineguns as a precaution against popular reaction. The plant and the machinery of the FIAT, SPA, Lancia, Aeronautica d'Italia and Ferriere-FIAT factories have been requisitioned.
(News Digest 2.10.44)

XVII. Preparation for Evacuation

Libera Stampa, Lugano 4.10.44, reports from MILAN: The material and apparatus of the FLORENCE and VERONA radio transmitters, transported some two months ago to BUSTO ARSIZIO, have been forwarded to MERANO. The material of the San Remo transmitter recently arrived in MILAN and was also forwarded to MERANO.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

XVIII. Behaviour

Source thought that the Germans were preparing to hold TURIN but further west to the frontier they had been pulling out, leaving Czech and Austrian troops behind. They had not yet got to the last stages before the evacuation when he understood only police troops were left.

The morale of the Czech and German units was extremely low. They seemed to realize the Germans had lost the war. They did not venture much out after dark.

Partisans had greatly harried the retreat of the Germans on their way out. The whole attitude of the Germans to the Partisans had become more polite and cordial, especially to the well organized bands. The source related an incident which he seemed to think was typical: Towards the end of September source took part in negotiations at MONDOVI for the exchange of prisoners. Partisans had captured two Germans and the Germans three Partisans. Germans had taken 40 hostages at Mondovi, but the Partisans refused to open negotiations until the hostages were released, and this was promptly done. (Source says that the practice of shooting hostages was more

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(News Digest 2.10.44)

XVII. Preparation for Evacuation

Libera Stampa, Lugano 4.10.44, reports from MILAN: The material and apparatus of the FLORENCE and VERONA radio transmitters, transported some two months ago to BUSTO ARSIZIO, have been forwarded to MERANO. The material of the San Remo transmitter recently arrived in MILAN and was also forwarded to MERANO.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

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(PWB Special Service 7.10.44)

VICENZA In the Province of Vicenza, the Germans have arrested many Republican policeman.

LEGNAGO A few days ago the German [illegible] Command sentenced to death Renato Pasquato of San Pietro for having sheltered 5 British soldiers for some time, and for having kept in contact with a gang of rebels.
(News Digest 4.10.44)

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XIX. General Conditions

German control on the surface was strict. Permits from the Germans were necessary for any kind of movement or activity. Notices had recently been put up on the walls of TURIN saying that anyone who put his hand in his pocket would be liable to be shot at sight. Germans had control posts on all the main roads, and carried out frequent round ups of men in the streets, public meeting places, cinemas, etc. Actually, outside the towns it was possible to circulate pretty freely, especially after dark, as the Germans were afraid to put in an appearance then.

Transport of all kinds was almost entirely lacking. The railway services in the whole area had been suppressed. One effect of this was a big variation from area to area in economic conditions. In the Province of CUNEO, for example, food was plentiful because there was no means of transporting it elsewhere.
(PWB Special Service 7.10.44)

XX. German Looting

P/W was stationed in NEMI, a suburb of Rome during May 44. After the Allies attacked, the Germans had to make a hasty retreat and he was told by Major HILDEBRAND of DIENSTSTADT near DARMSTADT to pack some of his belongings. When he asked the Major if he wanted some of the books packed, he was told not to bother as there was not time. P/W looked over these books and found that they were stolen from the Library belonging to the Princess GINETTI and others from the BIBLIOTECA COMUNALE in VELLETRI. The Germans previously put out propaganda that they had taken this woman's valuable books to Rome and returned them to her. The books are still in a hiding place known to the P/W and could be shown for veracity. The Major was a personal friend of HIMMLER and had the rank of SS GRUPPENFUHRER in the SS. P/W Heard from a paratrooper that the Library of MONTE CASSINO was ordered confiscated by GOERING and shipped to him; among the important works taken were some parchments belonging to the time of Friederich II.
(ADV PWB. 29.9.44)

XXI. Monks Removed by Germans

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XXI. Monks Removed by Germans

FARNETA "After midnight of September 1st the Germans entered the Carthusian Monastery at FARNETA and shut up the Carthusians in one of the premises, compelling them to put on civilian clothes. All were taken away...The monastery has been robbed both by the Germans and by local thieves."
(Confidential source 28.9.44)

XXII. Atrocities

FRASSINE "In a villa near the Frassine, an Italian lady, 100% Aryan, had remained with her two baptized daughters; the husband, an engineer by name of EINSTEIN, brother of the physicist, was hidden. The Germans (not the SS but simply German officers and soldiers)

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killed with their revolvers wife and children and locked up in the house two of the wife's nieces (100% Aryan) both about 10 years of age, and before leaving set fire to the villa. Fortunately these little girls were saved by peasants of the neighborhood. (Confidential Source 2.9.44)

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

XXII. Alps Southwest of CUNEO

BLO said that broadcasts, especially Italia Combatte, were listened to "religiously". Reception was good. Each patriot division in this area runs a newspaper, for which they rely entirely on Allied news broadcasts. Even if only one patriot was able to listen, everything he heard would be known well all over the area in a very short time.

BLO had never seen a leaflet, though he believed that some, written in German, had been dropped on the area. Leaflets he thought would be less effective than radio because they would be regarded as less recent. Patriots were particularly delighted when a broadcast mentioned their bands or leaders by name. BLO did not think there would be any objection to the use of these names as they were all nommes de guerre. He particularly suggested that the bands under Mauri e Cosa should be featured shich have been doing excellent work.
(FWB Special Service 5.10.44)

XXIII. Ligurian Coast

A patriot from the FELICE CASCIONE Garibaldi Division (West Ligurian Coastal area to VENTIMIGLIA) said that he had never seen an Italian Combatte Leaflet, but that he had been within reach of a wireless set working on current and had listened regularly to the Italia Combatte programme. It had come through very clearly on short wave -- he thought 31 M. It was not always possible to carry out the instructions owing to lack of supplies, but they gave a general idea of the line of action required and were followed where possible. The greatest value of the programme, he thought, was that it made the patriots feel that their work was appreciated and overcame their sense of isolation by telling them

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POLITICS

24. Politics in La Spezia

There are 5 political parties (Liberal, Christian Democratic, d'Azione, Socialista and Communist), which are represented in the National Liberation Committee. The greater numbers of followers are in the ranks of Liberals or Communists.

As for the P.F.R., the Federation of La Spezia was closed May 29th, after an Allied bombardment, and the consequent demonstration by the women. The members of the party in the Spezia zone prove to be a very small number. (15/8/99 R.P. 43, Report PWB 'D' Section)

25 The German Fortress of Tyrol

K 12 Innsbrucker Nachrichten, 13/9/44 (do not quote). The commissioned Mayors from Bolzano Province have been convened to a three-day course at the Pana Inn, near St. Christina in the Val Gardena. Addressing them Hofer said: "War-experienced people in our majestic mountains will, in this fateful struggle again take the lead and, remembering their historical obligation in the struggle for the liberation of Greater Germany, desire to be among its champions. We want to be a tremendous fortress in the south of the Reich, the Reichs-Festung Tirol, inside which only one thing exists; unshakeable loyalty, the determined will to fight, absolute certainty of victory, [illegible] and readiness for the utmost sacrifices". (News Digest 7/10/44)

26 Zerbino's First Action

K 8 Transocean (for Far East), 3/10/44 . Seidlitz reports from Turin: The curfew in Turin has been relaxed and the hour when everyone must be off the streets is now 10 PM. This is the first measure of Dr. Paolo Zerbino whom Mussolini appointed High Commissioner Extraordinary for Piemonte. Zerbino is 39 and is looked upon as one of the most energetic Fascist fighters. As he is simultaneously also Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of the Interior, he has a special prerogative which enables him to attack problems from a new angle. (News Digest 5/10/44)

27. The Mussolini-Ricci Quarrel

The "Popolo e Liberta", Bellinzona, 29/9/44; reports from the Italian frontier: The Duce's letter to Ricci was apocryphal. The real reason for the quarrel between Mussolini and Ricci was a plot aimed at proclaiming Mussolini President of the Republic, depriving him of all political and military power and dismissing his chief collaborators, Pavolini and Graziani. Command would

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28. Compulsory Listening in

K 19 Deutsche Adria-Zeitung, 23/9/44, reports from Friuli: Owners of restaurants, cafes, etc., with radio installations are reminded of their duty to put on the loudspeakers during the news broadcasts.

29 Politics at Turin

So many members of the Turin CLN had been arrested, that it no longer met as a body. Two or three people at the most would meet together in a street rather than in their houses. Even the professor, who was supposed to be a delegate of the CLN, seemed hazy about the names and personalities of some of the SXXXXX

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party leaders.

The professor calculated that a maximum of 4% of the inhabitants of Turin were politically conscious. Of these, he rather hesitantly estimated that about 50% would be Communists, 10% Socialists, 20% Liberals,(older intellectuals) 15% Action Party (Younger intellectuals) and 5% Christian Democrats, who had only just begun to organise.

Many of the Communists, said the professor, who obviously did not care for this party, were not convinced Marxists and adhered to the Party because it seemed the one most likely to take action. Some he thought, liked it because of its resemblance to Fascism. He thought that many would cease to adhere to Communism when they realized the degree of State control entailed in the Party programme, and when other strong parties arise to rival it.

The Professor thought that the Turin Communists distrusted Togliatti, who they felt had abandoned them. He did not know of any link between Turin and Rome Communists. Nor did he have any clear idea as to the strength of Russian influence. He said that two patriot bands in the Val Sesia and in the Biellese had political commisars who were Russians sent from Moscow.

Of the other parties, he said that the Socialist Leaders are ambitious and squabbled for position. The Action Party, he said regretfully, might have counter-balanced the left, but it had swung over to the left itself, and the left parties now had preponderance. He said that it had been agreed upon that the Communists should control the Prefettura and the Socialists the Municipio.

Although he would not commit himself, the Professor seemed afraid of the possibility of disorders occuring after liberation, and he was anxious that there should be an Allied occupation of at least a month, and preferably longer.

In the country, interest in politics was negligible, and Communist influence slight. In Cuneo, Province, he thought that 60% of those interested in politics were Liberals, the province having a strong liberal tradition.

In the factories themselves, the workers commissions set up by the first pre-armistice Badoglio government, still functioned, with official recognition, as duly elected bodies. He thought these would on the whole be an influence against Communism, as excellent relations, based on anti-Fascist feelings, had been established between factory owners and managers and commissions. The representatives would realize they could not reason in the same way with a government, even if it were Communist.

There had been strikes two months ago, when the workers were ordered to dismantle their factories for transport to Germany. The Professor thought that a [illegible] Turin installations had been taken away. (FWB Special Service 7/10/44

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There had been strikes two months ago, when the workers were ordered to dismantle their factories for transport to Germany. The Professor thought that a great deal of Turin installations had been taken away. (FWB Special Service 7/10/44

ECONOMICS

30. Food Situation

CHIASSO.- With the beginning of the autumn rains a wave of pessimism has spread over northern Italy, where the people are terrified at the prospect of another winter under German occupation. If life is still tolerable in Milan and many evacuees have returned to the city, in Venice the situation of the inhabitants is extremely bad. Water is lacking and food is very scarce. Medical supplies are unobtainable and economic life has collapsed. Similar conditions prevail in many valleys cut off from the rest of the country owing to catastrophic communications. Bologna and towns near the fighting are in a particularly difficult situation. (4/10/44 News Digest)

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MILAN Popolo e Libertà, Bellinzona 28.9.44 reports from the Italian Frontier: For some weeks no meat has been available in Milan. The weekly ration has been substituted by 50 gm. of cheese, which is rarely obtainable. Rationed goods at controlled prices are absolutely impossible to find. Bread and milk supplies are inadequate and fats and eggs are totally lacking. The distress has led to a considerable number of suicides.
(News Digest 2.9.44)

LA SPEZIA . Owing to the interruptions of the communications with the agricultural zones in the north, the alimentary conditions of the population are disastrous. There is a vivacious Black Market with very high prices (for instance flour at 80 lire the Kg.)

Industry is practically non-existent after the bombardments and the public services do not give gas or electric light, and water is scarce.

The port does not function at all, as it is obstructed by 3 Italian cruisers which have been sunk there. Also the Submarine arsenal has been obstructed by the Germans with a ship commanded by wireless.

The evacuation of the town is almost total and includes the greater part of the administrative offices. The schools are closed.
(R.F.43 Report PWBD Section 15.8.44)

FIUME From the point of view of alimentation, the Germans are trying to attract the sympathy of the population by giving them some produce generously. There is a very well developed black market but at rather low prices. All the public services are in full function water, gas, light. The evacuation of the town is minimum. The bombardments have caused damage to the barracks of the 4th Artillery and 26th Infantry regiments (the latter has been transformed into a military hospital). The torpedo factory has been hit in various parts. FIUME VENETO (PORDENONE) has been for the greater part evacuated. The shipyard which has not been hit continues to work; The ROMSA (raffinerie oli minerali) has been almost totally destroyed.
(PWBD Section 18.9.44)

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LUCCA Black Market prices in May, 1944:

Cigarettes A.O.I.	Lire 80 per packet
Lard	" 600 per kilo
Oil	" 1200 per flask
Meat	" 100 per kilo
Butter	" 400 " "
White flour	" 55 " "
Cheese	" 350 " "
Beans	" 50 " "
Pork meat	" 400 " "

(Confidential source 13.5.44)

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XXXI Transport

The Transocean (for Far East) 29.9.44 Seidlitz reports from MILAN: Since the disappearance of taxicabs from MILAN, tricycles pedaled by men are doing a steady business. They have taken over from taxis the meter and flag. Formerly these tricycles, most riciety affairs, were used for transporting baggage. Now they have been upholstered and the Milanese proudly ride in them on their business trips. MILAN has adapted itself to the changed situation. For all problems, the people have found a solution. Work in shops and factories continues despite there being from 5 to 8 air raid alerts every 24 hours.
(News Digest 5.10.44)

TORTONIA=ALESSANDRIA LINE - On the 13 September three arches of the bridge on the River Scrivia to the west of Tortona fell on account of a bombardment; being difficult to mend, the Germans have abandoned the idea of repairing it.

VOGHERA=TORTONA LINE - On the 15 September the bridge on the CURONE torrent at TORTECURONE (17 Km. southwest of VOGHERA) was interrupted; no repairing is in process. On that date the trains from GENOVA, came as far as CARBONARA SCRIVIA (5 km. south of TORTONA) and those from MILAN and PIACENZA as far as VOGHERA. On the 22 September the Germans began the destruction (perhaps removal) of the lines from this railway.

ROADS - Three thousand workers repaired the PO bridge at OSTIGLIA, which began to function on the 24th September.

The OSTERIA DELLA BACCA bridge on the PO (7 km. southeast of PAVIA) attacked by aviation on the 23 September, was not hit.

Italian workers and German soldiers are working on the bed of the ORCO torrent (northeast of CHIVASSO) to allow the passage of motor traffic, also in case of an interruption of the autostrada bridge over the same torrent. (S.I.M. 27.9.44)

RAILWAYS - The Germans have begun the destruction of the trunk lines PARMA=BRESCIA and BOLOGNA=PIACENZA; one track of the latter is already ruined. Germans are taking away all the locomotives from the MILAN railway yards at PORTA MAGGIORE.

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VOGHERA=TORTONA LINE - On the 15 September the bridge on the CURONE torrent at PONTECURONE (17 Km. southwest of VOGHERA) was interrupted; no repairing is in process. On that date the trains from GENOVA, came as far as CARBONARA SCRIVIA (5 km. south of TORTONA) and those from MILAN and PIACENZA as far as VOGHERA. On the 22 September the Germans began the destruction (perhaps removal) of the lines from this railway.

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GENOVA=OVADA LINE -- Takes all traffic between West Liguria and Piedmont.

SPEZIA=PARMA LINE - all rolling stock of the Spezia division is being collected and sent up north.

TURIN=ASTI=ALESSANDRIA LINE - In working order; the VILLANOVA d'ASTI viaduct has been mended (22 September).

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MORTARA=ALESSANDRIA LINE - The PO bridge has been mended at VALENZA.

TORINO=PINEROLO LINE - The trunk line between TURIN AND CANDIOLO (12 km. south of TURIN) is in working order.

TURIN=IVREA=AOSTA LINE - Between TURIN-IVREA is working.

MILAN=TURIN LINE - Intense traffic is passing on the DORA BALTEA bridge at SALUGGIA (10 km. northeast of CHIVASSO); all the line is in working order.

VERONA=BRENNERO LINE - after the interruption of the ADIGE bridge south of MEZZACORONA (17 km. north of TRENTO) and at ORA, the Germans have fixed the railway lines on the high road parallel to the railway.
(S.I.M. 26.9.44)

XXXII. Industry

MILAN DNB (for Europe) 29.9.44 reports from Milan: To bring about the reorganization of the coal industry in the Fascist Social Republic, an "Ufficio per Combustibili Solidi" has been set up, which will supervise coal distribution among consumers, purchase and sale, transport and production. The activities of the coal monopoly, which has existed for several years, will be confined to the imports of foreign coal. (News Diges 30.9.44)

Degummed hemp, produced on a large scale only since the outbreak of the war, has developed into an excellent raw material for the Italian textile industry. Mixed with cotton, silk, lanital, and artificial silk, it is used in the manufacture of the most varied kinds of cloth. In the manufacture of cloth for military purposes it has completely replaced cotton, and it is also being used more and more for medical purposes.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

The Germans have commenced the requisition of the FIAT works where they have already fixed their Command and offices.

The Germans have asked for the inventory of all the sanitary material (inclusive of the radium) which exists in the Cancer Institute and other Milanese institutes; all this material is blocked.

The Galileo works in Florence have been moved to the NORTH-WEST

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VERONA=BRENNERO LINE - after the interruption of the ADIGE bridge south of MEZZACORONA (17 km. north of TRENTO) and at ORA, the Germans have fixed the railway lines on the high road parallel to the railway.
(S.I.M. 26.9.44)

XXXII. Industry

MILAN DNB (for Europe) 29.9.44 reports from Milan: To bring about the reorganization of the coal industry in the Fascist Social Republic, an "Ufficio per Combustibili Solidi" has been set up, which will supervise coal distribution among consumers, purchase and sale, transport and production. The activities of the coal monopoly, which has existed for several years, will be confined to the imports of foreign coal. (News Diges 30.9.44)

Degummed hemp, produced on a large scale only since the outbreak of the war, has developed into an excellent raw material for the Italian textile industry. Mixed with cotton, silk, lanital, and artificial silk, it is used in the manufacture of the most varied kinds of cloth. In the manufacture of cloth for military purposes it has completely replaced cotton, and it is also being used more and more for medical purposes.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

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The Galileo works in Florence have been moved to the PORDENONE zone (40 km. southeat of Belluno) They have been placed in what was a cotton factory, the building of which stands isolated to the north of the crossing of the PORDENONE=PORCIA (3 km. west of PORDENONE) with the RORAI GRANDE=RORAI PICCOLO roads (1½ km. northeast of Por. a)
(S.I.M. 26.9.44)

XXXIII. Finance

MILAN DNB 3.10.44 reports the three large Italian banks, Banca Commerciale.Italiana, Credito Italiano, and Banco di Roma held their annual general meetings in Milan. The balance sheets for the last

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business year were adopted and all three banks decided to transfer their net profits to the reserve or to carry them forward. This is the first time for a long period that no divident is to be distributed. The last dividend was 4% in the case of each bank.
(News Digest 5.10.44)

A decree published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale changes the regulations for registered shares. The new regulations envisage a card index of shareholders to be established in the Ministry of Finance. Within the next three months all joint stock companies are obliged to hand in a list of stockholders. All changes in property and stocks will be registered in the card index and shareholders must report their nationality and race. Joint stock companies must announce their non-Aryan shareholders by 29.11.44. Shareholders and their heirs are entitled to demand from the Ministry of Finance certificates for their share of property. Joint stock companies failing to change bearer shares to registered shares or failing to hand in the list of shareholders will be fined amounts to a maximum of 5% of the firm's share capital for each delay of half a year.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

Last August the Dinar was quoted at about 35 centimes to the Italian lire.
(S.I.M.) 27.9.44)

XXXIV General Conditions.

MILAN All stocks of firewood of more than five quintals, and coal of more than 50 kg. must be declared by October 10th.

The Commune warns all owners of petrol, charcoal and producer gas driven vehicles that they must declare them by Oct. 3d.
(News Digest 5.10.44)

PRATO "As you know the town is isolated and there are few inhabitants; shops as well as factories are all closed and the workers are all unemployed. Everything is lacking, because the Germans take everything up and take it away -- oxen, horses, everything else.... The railways hardly work and many bridges have been blown [illegible] are all mined."

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(Confidential source 22.7.44)

L A B O U R

XXXV. Conscription

An announcement of Sept. 15th made by the Trieste Prefecture and the Supreme Commissioner for the ADRIATIC coastal zone states that in accordance with the decree of 23.11.43, the labor mobiliz-

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ation of all men aged 16 to 60 domiciled in TRIESTE municipality has been ordered for war work. The Labour Exchange will start by calling up the youngest year classes for a period of four weeks. Men will be paid 50 lire a day and free board. Employers, moreover, are bound to continue the payment of normal wages. Anyone evading conscription will be punished by law.

VENICE All able-bodied Venetians between 14 and 40 who do not possess an official labour bookmust report for work. Laborers receive good wages and additional food rations.
(News Digest 5.10.44)

XXXVI. Strikes

MILAN. Libera Stampa, Lugano 4.10.44: A three hour strike took place in many MILAN factories on Sept. 22 as a protest against the intensified transports of machinery of Lombard industries to Germany. The Piedmont railwaymen's strike has now been going on for over ten days, almost without defedtions.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

C H U R C H

XXXVII The Church and Partisans

All parish priests are either politically agnostic or anti-fascists. Some help the Partisans with information, by smuggling wounded Partisans into hospitals, as recruiting agents, etc.

Mauri had approached the Bishop of Mondovi to ask for spiritual aid for his divisions. The Bishop replied that he could not openly supply this, as he must not embroil the Church with the occupation authorities. He would however double the number of priests in certain valleys, and if extra masses were said in the mountain churches, no question would be asked.
(PWB Special Service 7.10.44)

MILAN A Capuchin friar, Don Gian Antonio AGOSTI, 58 years old, was arrested the 13 June in MILAN because he had helped Jews and indirec

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(PWB Special Service 7.10.44)

MILAN A Capuchin friar, Don Gian Antonio AGOSTI, 58 years old, was arrested the 13 June in MILAN because he had helped Jews and individuals hostile to the State. The arrested man, who for 27 years has received confession in the Duomo, has admitted having given Jews forged identity cards, with the help of a forger whose name he has not revealed. Don AGOSTI has added that all dealings concerning the consignment of the forged documents, the withdrawal of the necessary photographs, took place in the confessional. In the Capuchin's residence a large correspondence with Jews has been discovered, which justifies the suspicion that AGOSTI has contrary to the laws of the State, favored the Jews, also helping them to transfer their funds abroad. It is pointed out that Jews have also been recently discovered hiding in a convent, where they had found refuge, although the documents in their possession were manifestly forged.
(Confidential Source 16.6.44)

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PRESS

XXXVIII. Press in Occupied Italy

The ordinary press continues to keep the same uniform character, thanks to the censorship system, according to which the schemes to follow in order to arrive at a determined conclusion are distributed. In MILAN the "Corriere della Sera" continues to be the most read newspaper together with the "Stampa" of Turin. Many daily papers have been stopped, amongst which even the "Popolo d'Italia", Fascist party organ; topical periodicals, except the German "Signal", fashion and art magazines, and also the courageous "Relazioni Internazionali" of the I.S.P.I. of which it is worth while to remember that it followed up to the last the judgment of true documentation. Great confusion reigns in the "interna corporia" of the daily papers, because no one wants to take the responsibility of the Direction, and so they are obliged to follow a rotation system. A daily paper which proclaims itself as Catholic, "L'Italia", does not vary from the others either in the omission of the publication of the Pope's speeches, or summaries of such. The "Regime Fascista" represents the absolute extreme of the Party Press. Violent attacks and personal quarrels create a panorama of curiosity of all the little Fascist stupidities. Recently, the polemic Borsani-Farinacci caused a great fuss, which had to be silenced by high authorities. Little newspapers such as "Mitra","Il Legionario," "La Fiaccola", "Il Moschetto", etc., have taken the place of daily papers and reviews suppressed, and are almost all unknown in the town and so are distributed gratis to the troops. The system of devalueing the military and political capacity of the Allies has had to be abandoned by the Fascist Press.

There are clandestine pamphlets, edited mostly by the Parties, but few copies are printed. The "Risorgimento Liberale" and "L'Italia Libera" come out and two other Communist and Demo-Christian pamphlets that are not known. Their circulation is difficult owing to the scarcity of numbers, and the risk which is serious for the readers. There is not a lack of paper, and the question is only expense, but the printers are scarce on account of the rigorous control. The compilation of the articles is worthy of praise, and from this aspect not to be compared with the Pamphlets of the Tuscan Parties. The news of the Partisan activities in Northern Italy, of the activities of the Parties, the dispositions of the Committee are clear and com-

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(Appendix D Section Bulletin 12)

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PERSONALITIES

XXIX FASCISIS of ROVERETO

DOTT. RENZO DE PRETIS - nicknamed Pet of Via Rialto
DOTT? RISSA of Corso Vittorio Emanuele
Stonemason Rome ROBISOLLA of Via Santa Maria
(PWB Special Service 5.10.44)

XL. BELLUNO

The head of the Fascio at BELLUNO is ALFREDO ROCCA.

XLI. Forze Armate Fasciste - Lombardia

GEN. SOLINAS - Regional commander, Republican Fascist army.
TEN. COL. SENATORE - Capo di Stato Maggiore (giustiziato?)
MAGGIORE ANELO - Assitant Capo di Stato Maggiore
MAGGIORE TESAPANE - Capo ufficio operazioni
TEN.COL. ZARDO - Ufficiale a disposizione
MAGG. DALL'OBSO - Ufficiale propaganda
COLONELLE CALLEGARI - Comandante provinciale di MILANO
GENERALE GATTI - Luogotenente della Milizia
(PWB Florence 7.10.44)

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(PWB Florence 7.10.44)

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

4th October, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY-NO 27.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(B) and 5(B) or (E)
JCS 1/4/72
BY ..... NARS, Date 3/3/72

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Patriot Activity.

The general rising in No Italy and the general offensive on the part of the partisans has still not taken place. On the other hand reports continue to come in of the growing strength and daring of the different bands. In the OSSOLA valley, while German SS succeeded in retaking and sacking CANOBBIO, it seems that the Fascists are abandoning the North shores of LAGO MAGGIORE. The Germans are making determined efforts to clear the AUTARET Pass in the VAL DI VIU, but so far have achieved no result in return for heavy losses.

From many widely separated points such as the PARMA, VENETO, CARNIA and LIGURIA regions, come similar reports of German punitive expeditions which, after bitter fighting and heavy losses succeed in dispersing the patriots, only to see the districts re-occupied by the partisans when the invading columns retire.

A typical battle has been fought in the region of the MONTE GRAPPA, where the Germans are said to have lost from 1000 to 500 casualties against the patriots 400.

Sabotage.

Since the allied landing in France, the line from TORINO to BARDONECCHIA (VAL DI SUSA) has been sabotaged daily. Concetto PETTINATO, editor of the Stampa, published a very frank article on the widespread destruction caused by the patriots to bridges, dams, power stations, cables and railway lines.

FASCIST FORCES.

A Black Brigade is reported in MASSA, under a ruthless Fascist Major Mauro PALADINI. These thugs have behaved abominably towards the populations.

It is reported from MILAN that the city is controlled by some Muti battalions and elements of the Flottiglia MAS, and Compagnie della Morte. These men are well armed, mostly do police work for the Germans, and their morale is fairly high.

[illegible] head of the provincial command at MODENA and

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A certain Lt. Col. Rossi is head of the provincial command at MODENA and is well known for his pro-German, and pro-Fascist sympathies.

Important military commands, such as those of the Milizia, G.N.R. etc, have been transferred to BRESCIA and the Fascist armed forces are strong in that city.

Precautions are being taken at PADUA in case military considerations should make it necessary to flood certain areas in the PO valley, and men between the ages of 16 and 60 have beencalled up to carry out the dismantling of the right embankment of the river in this zone.

Black Brigades. On September 20th it was announced that a special Black Brigade was being formed of officials from Italian ministries commanded by PELLIGRINI, Minister of Finance.

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SCRN.	INITIALS.	DATE.
Col. Mc[illegible]		
Maj. M[illegible]		
Maj. D[illegible]		
Capt. [illegible]		
[illegible]		
[illegible]		

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SUMMARY 2.

The COMO and VICENZA Black Brigades carried out what were reported to be successful mopping up operations against partisan bands in these areas.

Criticisms of Fascist Republican Army Swiss reports indicate that of the Italian troops training in Germany only two divisions- the San Marco and the Monte Rosa have returned and that neither have been used on the anglo-american front. The Fascist Army is thus believed to be much smaller than was previously stated and return of Italian troops from Germany has been suspended.

Farinacci recently criticised the fact that the Italian divisions were kept in reserve and not used at the front, as prolonged inactivity was bad for morale.

Other news of the army and navy includes reports that the Italian navy is operating along the Ligurian coast, under German command, that the Germans are keeping a watchful eye on Italian pilots to try and prevent them from deserting to the partisans; a story is reported of an accidental clash between units of the Folgore Division and the 10th MAS Flotilla near INTRA; officials of the Public Security Police in MILAN have been publicly accused of corruption; the Italian cruiser "Taranto" is reported badly damaged by a direct hit in LA SPEZIA harbour, and more details have been given of the torture chamber operated in MILAN by the infamous KOCH and his gang of criminals.

GERMANS

Large contingents of German troops are reported in PIACENZA, FIORENZUOLA D'ARDA and FIDENZA, also in MODENA, where there are a number of armoured units and in LANGHIRANO. In BRESCIA and ALESSANDRIA, on the other hand, there are comparatively few.

Reports of German preparations for the evacuation of Italy continue to come in. Preparations have been apparently made for giving news of impending withdrawal by means of the playing of certain music on the wireless. All transport facilities are being commandeered by the Germans for the removal of plant and machinery; they are reported to be moving towards VERONA, as the Stelvio pass is already snowbound. Petrol is said to be scarce, and all available supplies are being sent out of the country in the direction of the BRENNER; in addition to which the plant from the refineries in TRIESTE, SESTRI PONENTE and BOLOGNA is being rapidly removed. Orders given, however, to German civilians in MILAN to evacuate have apparently been temporarily suspended, owing to the lull in the military situation. The situation in TURIN appears to be very confused.

Morale. Among older German soldiers morale is reported to be low, although discipline and the force of habit keeps them at their posts. They have little in common with the fanatical young Nazis and the SS are hated by all German troops, who are made to suffer for their atrocities and appalling behaviour to civilians. The cleft between the SS and the Wehrmacht is reported to be widening

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Atrocities. Further unbelievable cruelties to Jews are reported from MEINA, a village on LAKE MAGGIORE, and from TRIESTE, and terrible reprisals were wreaked on civilians in RECOARO and TRIESTE.

Secret Weapons. Frequent rumours are in circulation regarding possible German secret weapons, which are said to include a new torpedo on the lines of the V.I.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

Radio Londra appears to be most popular and most easily received programme. Reports to this effect come from MODENA, BRESCIA and MILAN. There is still demand for news of liberated Italy in the form of leaflets, and only from BRESCIA has any report of the receipt of our leaflets been heard.

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SUMMARY 3.

POLITICS.

In MILAN the best organised parties are the Communists and Party of Action. In ALESSANDRIA the Liberal Party is also very strong.

Attempts are being made on the part of fascist propaganda in TURIN to discredit the BONOMI government, which is declared to be incapable of obtaining anything for Italy from the Allies.

Mussolini has presided over several cabinet meetings, during one of which discussions were held as to future policy on the retreat of KESSELRING's troops from Italy.

Fresh dissensions in the Fascist party are reported, including an attack by FARINACCI on PAVOLINI.

A recent issue of the fascist paper "Popolo di Alessandria" was confiscated on account of a very frank article by GRAZIANI on the patriot movement, in which he openly admitted that stimulus was given to the partisans' activities by the growing hatred of Fascism and the Republican government on the part of the people in general.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation In MODENA the Black Market exists, but prices are extremely moderate, whereas in ALESSANDRIA it flourishes and there are signs of inflation. In MILAN, in spite of all efforts to check it, it still increases, encouraged by the Germans. Rations which should be distributed to the populace are kept back by shopkeepers and sold to their wealthy customers.

Industry It is reported that machinery of the ANSALDO factory of GENOVA has been transferred to the VAL SERIANA, 25 km east of BERGAMO.

Italy is to continue to receive coal from Germany this winter.

Transport. The Germans continue their efforts to keep the bridges across the PO working, in spite of Allied attacks on them.

Air Raid Damage. According to all reports BOLOGNA has suffered heavily from Allied raids, and the food situation there is said to be extremely difficult.

At MODENA the wrought iron factory, the Fiat works, the Maserati (Candele) works, and the OCI motor works are reported destroyed.

LABOUR.

Strikes Railwaymen have gone on strike in TURIN, in an attempt, it is said, to [illegible] attempts at evacuation. In MILAN they have succeeded in obtaining [illegible] strikes round LAKE MAGGIORE are also

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CHURCH

Fascist radio lays stress on the fact that the church continues to hold its services everywhere in spite of allied raids, taking up temporary quarters in tunnels and air raid shelters.

PRESS.

In ALESSANDRIA, MODENA and BRESCIA the Committees of Liberation put up posters and distribute leaflets in opposition to the Fascist press, and in DOMODOSSOLA, recently captured by the partisans the first anti-Fascist paper Liberazione has been published openely.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

4th October, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY-NO 27.

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SEEN.	INITIALS.	DATE.
Col. Mc. [illegible]BY		
Maj. MAC [illegible]		
Maj. DRAC		
Capt. [illegible]		
Lieut. [illegible]		

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Report on Conditions in Enemy Occupied Italy - No 27.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ). 4th October, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NC 27.

This report does not in any way represent the political view of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Partisans.

Dispositions.

ALESSANDRIA Two brigades are active here - the Brigata CONTI and the Brigata CORNERO. The CONTI Brigade is commanded by the ex-infantry captain Conti, who declares himself to be apolitical. His men are inclined to be Communist (70%), except those from Sicily and Sardinia. This brigade works in conjunction with
(1) 40 men at CASTELLAZZO, armed with 47/32, one mortar 81, two machine guns, rifles and pistols.
(2) 40 men at VIGUZZOLI, with one 81 mortar, two machine guns, rifles and pistols.
(3) 120-125 men with one mortar 81, mortar 45, one Fiat 14, 3 machine guns. This group fights on the two bridges of the Scrivia.
(4) With about 60 men at CASSAGGIO. This group needs arms, so they have not been able to act effectively (up to date ie. 15.8.44) On 4th March they suffered a mopping-up operation by the Italian SS and two companies of Bersaglieri at ODALENGO (ASTI), when about 90 dead and about 120 wounded were suffered on both sides.

The CONTI Brigade lives on what they take from the population, but leave tickets issued by the C.L.N. At NOVI LIGURI there are about 200 men who belong to the brigade, but who live at home and are only armed with what they can lay hands on, pistols and rifles.

The CORNERO brigade is an armed organisation consisting of about 800 men commanded by Ten. Col. Cornero.
(P.W.B. Florence 15.8.44 R.P.).

BRESCIA. In the spring of 1944 two brigades were formed the "LIONESS" Brigade,

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BRESCIA. In the spring of 1944 two brigades were formed the "LIONESS" Brigade, and the TITO SPERI Brigade. These two brigades operate in the High TROMPIA Valley. The second brigade took its name as a tribute to Tito Speri, the patriot hero of Brescia. The patriots here are in frequent communication with those of VAL CAMONICA and of the Province of TRENTO. The G.P.A. are also very active; not a day passes but some fascist or spy is brought to justice. In every factory groups are established for the defence of the factory, and will come into action when the Germans try to sack them.

Arms are not wanting, as Brescia is the principal armament city of Italy. The number of arms taken from among those destined for the Germans is considerable (P.W.B. Florence).

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MODENA Acting on orders from the C.L.N. of Modena are partisan bands in the area of the Modenese Appenines. At ZOCCA, and MONTEFIORINO are nuclei with communistic tendencies; they are the best armed and equipped. In the region of SESTOLA a group which belongs to the Party of Action is working. There are about 6-800 partisans altogether and their numbers are constantly increasing. There is a special agency for recruitment which is responsible to the C.L.N. It is provided with money and arms by the Allies.

In the month of March German forces attempted a mopping up movement in the area of MONTEFIORINO, where the main group works. This action had no result, although the village of MONTEFIORINO was razed to the ground.
(P.W.B. Florence 15.9.44).

MILAN The people of MILAN help the patriots in the surrounding districts as well as they can - giving them hospitality and food. The C.L.N. has organised a lorry service which takes supplies to the distribution centres. Most of them arrive.

The patriots were formerly helped by arms etc. dropped by the Allies, but lately they have felt rather neglected, as attention has been concentrated on helping the patriots of central Italy. They need tommy guns, not rifles. The nazi-fascists maintain a defensive attitude and rarely attack unless they are certain of being able to surround the area in superior numbers.

In Milan the name of PUCKTER PASSAVALLI GIANCARLO is much honoured. For a long time he led a band of patriots and died fighting with them. The people of ERBA, near where he fought, honour his grave in spite of a guard placed there by the nazi-fascists.

In the city itself patriot activity consists in the organisation of clandestine press and distribution of leaflets. Women too take part in the latter and also act as messengers.

Many families shelter Allied PW in spite of large rewards offered for their recapture.
(P.W.B. Florence).

COGNE At least 2000 Carabinieri with their officers form a well-organised band in the area of Cogne (H-8389). They could assemble 3000 more men, all excellent regular soldiers, and the group could be used for effective work against enemy troops in the VAL D'AOSTA. They are in need of heavy arms and explosives.
(Confidential Source 20.9.44).

PELLICE Valley Despite the recent mopping-up operations in the PELLICE valley (H-6503), patriot bands are still intact and are ready to descend on TORINO. Some 900 men are ready for this operation. Others, now dispersed, are to join in the attack later. A squad of saboteurs, under the leadership of one of the men from this band, has been detailed to operate on all rail lines entering and leaving TORINO. The very important rail line from PINEROLO to TORINO is being continually

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(Confidential Source 26.9.44)

LAKE MAGGIORE The fascists are gradually withdrawing their troops from the north-western shore of Lake Maggiore. This is creating the impression that the partisans from the OSSOLA VALLEY will soon launch an attack in order to recapture CANNOBIO.
(Gazette de Lausanne 26.9.44)

Recent activities.

The OSOPPO Garibaldi Brigade operating in the UDINE area from September 15th to 28th carried out/on the main road between TRIESTE and VENICE and on the road [illegible] between [illegible] and CA[illegible] enemy forces. 52 Germans were killed, 32 wounded, and 18 taken prisoner. Nineteen sabotage actions were effected, with the following

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results: 8 locomotives rendered useless, 12 littorine burnt and two railcars destroyed.
(P.W.B. Special Service 2.10.44).

VALLE DI VIU Since 21st September, the enemy has been attacking partisans in force in the Valle di Viu. Their intention is to clear the AUTARET Pass and attack the Third Division. Enemy losses ascertained included more than 100 killed and several hundred wounded. One 47 mm gun and two 81mm mortars were captured. The patriots had six killed and four wounded. The battle continues.
(Confidential Source 22.9.44).

LESIGNANO (L-0768). On the night of 18th September patriots attacked the town of Lesignano. Many dead were reported on both sides.
(Confidential source 19.9.44).

The reorganisation of the Third Garibaldi Brigade is almost completed. Their immediate objective is the total interruption of German communications. They are in need of explosives, sabotage materials and clothing.
(Confidential Source 21.9.44).

VENETO The Veneto Garibaldi Division was severely damaged by the German mopping-up operation in the BOSCO DEL CANSIGLIO (B-7823) and the PIANO DEL CAVALLO(B-8626). Seventy-five patriots were killed and 100 wounded in the course of repelling the attack. Patriots have retaken the PIANO DEL CAVALLO and captured some heavy arms.
(Confidential Source 20.9.44).

LORENZAGO (B-8167). On 18th September Garibaldi patriots occupied the town of LORENZAGO They drove out the German garrison of thirty SS, and captured a large amount of booty.

CARNIA Other Garibaldi units have repelled Germans attempting to enter the Carnia region on Route 52-bis, through the PASSO DI MONTE CROCE CARNICO (C-1980) on three different occasions.

One source states that at present (19.9.44) the only routes open to the Germans for entering TOLMEZZO (C-3357) are Highways 12 and 52.

CORNINO Partisans have taken five machine guns from the American plane which fell into the FIUME TAGLIAMENTO, along with 500 rounds of ammunition. On 18th September twenty-five Germans were killed with these weapons. (N.B. Two reliable sources have already reported that an American Liberator returning from Austria crash-landed on the bottom of the F. TAGLIAMENTO near CORINO (C-2337) on 12th September. The crew of nine was taken prisoner by the Germans).
(Confidential Source 19.9.44)

LA SPEZIA-GENOVA At the conclusion of the mopping up operations in the region between LA SPEZIA and GENOVA, the patriots reoccupied their original positions, [illegible] SPEZIA road, which, in any case, is impassable

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(Confidential Source 19.9.44)

LA SPEZIA-GENOVA At the conclusion of the mopping up operations in the region between LA SPEZIA and GENOVA, the patriots reoccupied their original positions, with the exception of the GENOVA-LA SPEZIA road, which, in any case, is impassable at the moment. The attacking German forces were estimated at 19,000 men, supported by numerous artillery batteries. Enemy losses have been definitely ascertained at 800 men, while patriot losses were light. The armament of the patriots has been increased with captured arms. Patriot morale is high, and they thank the allies for their air support.
(Confidential Source 19.9.44).

GIAVENO (H-7727). On the night of 25th September, fifteen trucks of Fascists with four light tanks and two armoured cars arrived at GIAVENO (H-7727). They requisitioned all radios, all bicycles and food supplies from the population. As they were leaving the town, they were ambushed by a small group of patriots. They immediately fled the zone after receiving confirmed losses of eight dead and twelve wounded.
(Confidential Source 27.9.44).

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MONTE GRAPPA A bitter fight took place for several days in the area of MONTE GRAPPA, where strong groups of [illegible] fascists fought for the control of the bastion sacred to the memory of the last war against the Germans. The enemy attacks were held and repulsed many times, in spite of enormous numerical superiority of the nazi-fascists. The results of the battle cannot be calculated by the amount of ground gained, but by the respective losses. The enemy lost at least 1000 men and many motor vehicles; some sources put their casualties as high as 2000. The patriots lost about 400 men and 30 prisoners who were executed on the spot.

TRENTO The GRAMSCI brigade, working near CASTELLO TESINO, in the province of TRENTO, about a week ago conquered an enemy position, capturing 55 Germans. Further north an encounter took place on 11th September, during which 38 of the enemy were killed. Some patrols of the same brigade killed 12 Germans and took 24 prisoners on the 7th and 12th September.
(F.W.B. Rome 2.10.44).

Sabotage

From the day of the Allied landings in France, the railway line from TORINO to BARDONECCHIA/ the line through VALLE DI SUSA (H.8040)/ has been subjected to daily sabotage. The electric lines are unserviceable because the high tension lines from the high valleys have been completely interrupted, and the enemy can only use steam traction.

During the period between 5th August and 9th September patriots made 21 interruptions on this line by the use of mines, blocking stretches of track up to 300 metres in length. During the same period they also destroyed eight electric locomotives, damaged three electric locomotives and set four loaded box-cars on fire.

Also during the same period patriots used mines successfully to interrupt Route No 25 at eleven different places. 19 attacks were launched against troop trains and aut. convoys, but enemy losses have not been ascertained.
(Confidential Source 21.9.44).

IVREA Reliable sources report that the partisans seized the German Commander of Ivrea, who is considered as a hostage. Col ALFIERI, Commander of the Blackshirts in VOGHERA, has beenkilled in action. The Wehrmacht is taking severe reprisals for the successes of the partisans. In BARGE, PIEDMONT, 58 village houses were completely burned and the locality pillaged. The village of BARNOLO met the same fate. The Luftwaffe attacked the villages of VENASCA, BROSSASCO, MELLE and SAMPEIRE, in PIEDMONT, causing casualties.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 26.9.44).

MILAN Exchange of Hostages. An important exchange of hostages is reported to have taken place recently. The wife and niece of the Commander of the German Garrison in MILAN were exchanged for 12 partisans.

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(Libera Stampa Lugano 25.9.44).

Partisan Administration

The weekly paper Liberazione, issued in DOMODOSSOLA, published the following official acts: Firstly, the dismissal of DOMODOSSOLA's Podesta in the name of the north Italian National Liberation Committee. Secondly, the installation of a "Giunta Provvisoria di Governo", formed of seven persons each with specific administrative functions. The "Giunta" has jurisdiction over all the liberated territories in the OSSOLA valleys. Thirdly, the first decision about bread rationing. Fourthly, an order, given to all citizens to deliver arms in their possession, except sporting guns, and an order given to all able-bodies men over 16 years of age to report to the recruiting office, in order to be, in due time, incorporated, according to their wishes and occupations, either in the patriots' military formations or in the Ossola National Civic Guard.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 25.9.44).
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SUPERTI, Commander of a battalion in the VAL D'OSSOLA, accused of corruption, inefficiency and a shameful attitude towards the enemy has been brought before a partisan military tribunal. The sentence is not yet known.
(P.W.B. Special Section 26.9.44).

Pettinato's Frank Admission on Importance of Partisan Activity

The editor of the Stampa, PETTINATO, published a remarkable article, clearly showing the importance of the partisans' activity. Citing his prophecies made in February on the destructions which would follow the Germans' retreat, Pettinato said that there had still been reason to hope that the Allies would never reach ROME, and that it would be possible to prepare the defence of the rest of the country. Instead, however, the Italians had continued to wait for the Allies, even helping to pull down the last defensive walls. "They destroy bridges, dams, blow up power stations, cut electrical cables, tear up rails and signal to enemy airmen". Never in history had people given such proofs of foolishness. Power stations, employing 900,000 men, metal factories, and 10,000 textile factories were damaged or destroyed, irrespective of future economic and social repurcussions. The bread supply was sabotaged and the cattle, which were very necessary for the town dwellers, were driven to the mountains to the partisans. Nobody in German-occupied Italy believed Fascist reports on the tragic situation in the Allied-occupied provinces, unreservedly believing them to be the inventions of Fascist propaganda.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 25.9.44).

Food for liberated zones.

The Swiss Red Cross Commission, headed by MUSSA, delegate for Italy, arrived at DOMODOSSOLA station on September 22nd, accompanying the first consignment of food for the inhabitants of the liberated zone. Musse promised the local authorities further consignments with special relief for children. Following the arrival of the Swiss Red Cross train, children and normal consumers will be entitled to a daily ration of 800 g of potatoes and adult workers will be entitled to 1,200 g. There has also been a distribution of tinned milk.
(Libera Stampa 27.9.44).

FASCIST FORCES.

II. Dispositions.

MASSA. The Fascist "Black Brigade" is reported billeted in a huge building, which actually is two large buildings, with a red-tile roof. This brigade was organised and is headed by one Major MAURO PALADINI, of MASSA, described as a most ruthless Fascist. Paladini and his men are "credited" with having tortured hundreds of civilians in order to extort information. They serve as "stooges" for the German command and decide reprisal measures on the civilian population. The "Black Brigade" has a shoulder patch bearing two "M"s meaning

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MASSA. The Fascist "Black Brigade" is reported billeted in a huge building, which accually is two large buildings, with a red-tile roof. This brigade was organised and is headed by one Major MAURO PALADINI, of MASSA, described as a most ruthless Fascist. Paladini and his men are "credited" with having tortured hundreds of civilians in order to extort information. They serve as "stooges" for the German command and decide reprisal measures on the civilian population. The "Black Brigade" has a shoulder patch bearing two "M"s meaning "Mai Morte" - Never Die.
(Confidential Source 18.9.44).

MILAN There are some battalions of the MUTI and of the Flotiglia "MAS" and Compagnie della Morte, well armed, thanks to the Germans and increased in numbers by influxes of refugees from the south. They do mostly police work - even executions - and are looked upon with dislike by the populace in general. Arms consist mostly of hand grenades and machine guns. With the Germans behind them they make life very difficult for the patriots, and even for peaceloving citizens. The morale of these troops is comparatively high because they have nothing to lose and feel themselves masters of the situation. But the divisions of young men who answered the call-up or were made to do so, are a very different matter. Their morale and efficiency can be imagined. There are thousands of men in MILAN who have escaped from the army or military hospitals and who are hiding in convents or hospitals or private houses.
(P.W.B. Florence).
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MODENA The head of the provincial command is Lt. Col. COSTANTINO ROSSI, known for his fiercely anti-patriot sentiments and for his collaboration with the nazi-fascists In the barracks of the 36th Infantry there are Italian troops and a battalion of "lavoratori" whose numbers have been much diminished by continual desertions. At NONANTOLA in the elementary school there is a battalion of cadet officers MM commanded by a Console.
(P.W.B. Florence 15.9.44).

BRESCIA. The most important Commands and Ministries have been transferred here.

General Command of the Milizia Via Dante 19 (Palazzo Conte Salvadegno)

General Command of the Railway Milizia Via Milano (Casa del Fascio)

General Command of the GNR. Corso Magenta (ex-Barracks 7 Bersaglieri

General Command of the Financ Police. Porta Venezia (Istituto Rossi)

Ministerial Cabinet of Finances situated in a villa at Porta Venezia

Proveditorato Generale of the Ministry of Finance, also at Porta Venezia, in a red villa next to Prof. Tombola's villa.

The Fascist armed forces are strong in the city.
(P.W.B. Florence)

PADUA In Padua all men between the ages of 16 and 60 have been called up for compulsory labour service to dismantle the right embankment of the PO in case the necessity of flooding pre-selected zones should arise.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 27.9.44).

A special Black Brigade for fighting in the north Italian Alpine area is to be formed by officials from Italian Ministries, it was announced on September 20th. The Italian Minister of Finance, PELLEGRINI, will take over its command. Many leading officials of the Ministries will belong to the Brigade.
(Transocean 21.9.44).

III. Black Brigades.

The "Como" Black Brigade has completed, as at MONTE CARMELO, the mopping up of outlaws who tried to prevent work on the farms.

The 22nd "Vicenza" Black Brigade carried out, in the ASIAGO district, the mopping up on a vast scale of a band which had already been defeated at S. CATERINA di LUSIANA. In collaboration with German comrades the area was liberated as the result of fierce fighting, in which the rebels suffered serious losses. The criminal and anti-national organisation which had its HQ in this area, and in addition, was spreading and penetrating into other parts of the province was broken up.
(Nova Digest 26.9.44)

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(News Digest 26.9.44).

IV. Weakness of the Army and Criticisms.

Since the third week in July the return of Italian troops trained in Germany has been suspended and reports received in Chiasso indicate that the Fascist Army is much smaller than previously believed. Instead of five only two Italian divisions returned, the "San Marco" and the "Monte Rosa". The latter, which is weakened by desertions, is no longer used against the partisans. Neither of these divisions have appeared at the Anglo-American front. Only certain detachments of the "Folgore" Parachutist Division and the "Littorio" Infantry Division have returned to Italy, the remainder still being in Germany. The "Italia" Division has not even yet been formed. The "Alpine" Division and the Mussolini Division are still in Germany.
(Gazette de Lausanne 21.9.44).

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V. German Control of Fascist Forces.

Italian Home Service 21.9.44 quotes a letter sent by the Admiral Commanding the German Navy in Italy to Admiral SPARZANI, Under Secretary of State for the Fascist Republican Navy, congratulating the latter on the bearing and successes of the Italian officers and men of the special craft which have been operating along the Ligurian coast during the last few weeks under German command.

It is reported that The Germans are now keeping a careful watch on Republican Fascist pilots suspected of wanting to leave their units and join the patriots before it is too late to redeem their honour. Pilots at the TRENTOairport are now confined in the airport area and are guarded by German troops. (P.W.B. Special Section).

VI. Fascist Forces Clash with each other.

Units of the "Folgore"Division attempted to contact partisans near INTRA. Instead they were cornered by the 10th MAS Flotilla Battalion, which was also seeking the partisans. The two Republican forces did not recognise each other and opened fire. The fight lasted half an hour, resulting in four deaths for the "Folgore" Division and two for the MAS Battalion.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 19.9.44).

VII. Milan Police Officials charged with corruption.

Repubblica Fascista reports that the officials and agents of the Public Security Police are guilty of large-scale corruption. After enquiries had been made the Commissioner, Francesco RUSSO, Chief of the Public Security Police at (?GRECO), the Commissioner VITO SANSONE, and the Vice Commissioner VINCENZO PETRUCCI, both chiefs of the Porta Vittoria office in MILAN were arrested, with various minor employees and agents.
(Dovere Bellinzona 19.9.44).

VIII. Italian Cruiser Hit.

Morgen-Tidningen 24.9.44 reports that during a raid on LA SPEZIA on September 23rd, the Italian Cruiser "Taranto" received a direct hit, and the crew report that it was burning when they left it. The Germans intended to sink the Taranto in the port entrance in case La Spezia were taken.

IX. Milan Torture Chamber.

Koch's gang has further arrested many scores of individuals in MILAN. Scientific tortures devised by Koch defy description. The latest torture

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IX. Milan Torture Chamber.

Koch's gang has further arrested many scores of individuals in MILAN. Scientific tortures devised by Koch defy description. The latest torture consists in drilling teeth until the nerves are reached.

In spite of his foreign name FRANCESCO KOCH, born in 1912, is an Italian, even Roman, a selfstyled "Lieutenant", but actually an Auxiliary Police Commissioner. When he was in Rome he created a model prison with his own "scientific" methods of cross examination conducted in the torture chamber of Via Tasso. With the Allied advance Koch left, first for Florence and then for Milan, where his HQ at No 1 Via Paolo Uccello, has been converted into a small fortress with underground cells and an up-to-date torture chamber.

Koch's gang originally consisted of 32 members including a few women. The most prominent are Milita Captain MARIO CARITA, the film actor OSVALDO VALENTE, the film star LUISA FERIDA and a man calling himself the "Duke of Toledo", all cocaine addicts.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 23.9.44).

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GERMANS

X. Dispositions.

Large contingents of German troops have been noticed in PIACENZA, FIORENZUOLA D'ARDA and in FIDENZA.

From the 6th to the 10th August 1000 railcars went from the BRENNERO to VERONA and 872 from TARVISO to VERONA. They were carrying gasoline, oil, munitions and reserve troops.
(Confidential Source)

BRESCIA. There are not many German forces in the city except the Command established in Via Francesco Crispi in the Ex-Command of Division buildings and one or two fixed Commands such as the OT.

Fortifications. In the pre-alpi bresciane the work of fortifying has been carried on intensely for many months. A line of fortifications which begins at the Swiss frontier, passes immediately north of Brescia, crossing Lake Garda. As mines are constantly heard exploding it is possible that they are preparing positions in caves.
(P.W.B. Florence R.P. 11.9.44).

MODENA. In the barracks of the ex 6 Campale in Via Emilia there are largish German armoured forces. The Todt organisation has an HQ in the ex concentration camp for British officers (via Monantolana).

In the province of Modena from GIUGNO onwards there are strong concentrations of German troops, especially in the area of Modena to the Po.

The morale of the picked German troops such as the parachutists is high, but that of the others is very mediocre. Relations between Germans and Fascists are anything but cordial.
(P.W.B. Florence. 15.9.44).

ALESSANDRIA.

In the ex G.I.L. building near the Tanaro is the HQ of the 83rd German Army Corps. In the Citadel (south west side) there are about 40 men. At NOVI LIGURE there is a German infantry platoon to supervise the battalion of Italian Bersaglieri. At TORTONA there are about 80-100 infantry in the Passalacqua barracks, in the Orsi barracks and in the Central Hotel.
(P.W.B. Florence 15.8.44 R.P.).

LANGHIRANO The Germans have arrived at LANGHIRANO (L. 0465) in force and with armoured cars.

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(P.W.B. Florence 15.8.44 R.P.).

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(26.9.44) Confidential Source).

XI. Signs of German Evacuation

It is reported that Fascists have arranged to communicate news regarding the evacuation of Northern Italy by the Germans through the last song played on the evening broadcast from the stations at TORINO and MILANO. Playing of the song "TORNERAI" willmean that everything is normal. Playing of a not well-known song willmean evacuation. Playing of the song "CHIESETTA ALPINA" will mear rapid evacuation.
(Confidential Source 26.9.44).

The newspaper "Sera" demands that all transport facilities should be mobilised for food supplies. The result of such a measure would be doubtful, as petrol is becoming scarce and the Germans are using all available lorries for the evacuation which is in progress. As the STELVIO PASS is already covered with snow the evacuation is in the direction ofVERONA.
(Gazette de Lausanne 25.9.44).

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The preliminary signs of the imminent evacuation of northern Italy by the Wehrmacht are visible today. The Germans are running short of petrol and are evacuating factories and stocks across the Alps. All the petrol in TURIN has already been evacuated via MILAN in the direction of the BRENNER. Equipment belonging to the SESTRI PONENTE and BOLOGNA synthetic petrol factories has been transported to Germany, and that of the TRIESTE refineries is in process of being evacuated. While rail transport is naturally inadequate in order to ensure the food supply of MILAN the newspaper Repubblican Fascista complains that lorry services have also turned out to be insufficient.
(Tribune de Geneve 18.9.44).

On September 9th an order to the German civilians in MILAN was given to be ready to leave for Germany. It seems that the German consul of MILAN had prepared to withdraw all the capital of the consulate in the Banco di Roma. Later, the German Command having decided that the removal of German Commands from the zone of MILAN was premature, seeing that operations on the Gothic line were not so unfavourable, the German Consulate redeposited its capital (this time in the Reichskreditbank di Milano)
(Italian Official Source 25.9.44).

General RAUSCH, who went to Berlin for this purpose, has ordered the preparation of 6000 waggons for the removal of all the requisitioned material in Italy to be brought to the Reich.
(Official Source - Italian - 19.9.44).

The situation in TURIN remains very confused, but there are further indications that the Germans are preparing for evacuation. VON KLASS, Chief of the German Command in TURIN and VON LANGEN have left for Germany this week. Two companies of German saboteurs are reported to be in TURIN with the task of destroying factories. German police and signals personnel are reported to be leaving. Source sending this information warned that it should be treated with reserve owing to the general confusion of the situation.
(P.W.B. Special Service 26.9.44).

The Germans are reliably reported to be removing one complete track and overhead electric equipment from UDINE-TRIESTE line for transportation to Germany.
(P.W.B. Special Service 28.9.44).

XII. Morale.

A man who crossed the frontier into Switzerland from the AOSTA valley had the following conversation with a 50 year old German soldier: Asked whether he thought that his cause was lost, the soldier replied "On the day, several months ago, when the Italian soldiers flatly refused to obey me, looking me straight in the eyes, I realised that the wind had decidedly changed". Asked whether he thought of surrendering, the soldier replied "Not yet". Both he and his comrades who shared his completely isolated life were obviously tired of the war, but kept their sense of military honour. "We shall wait until we are attacked". In their

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Without being asked they gave their opinion of the SS in a tone which revealed their anger and reprobation. The SS in this region, as elsewhere, specialise in pillage, arson, breaking into villages and farms, requisitioning food, firing on houses and removing hostages after killing some unfortunates. After they have gone, small groups of the Wehrmacht have to suffer the fury of the population. As a result, soldiers who are not in the force and who witness impotently these incursions, fear them as much as the peasants themselves.

The cleft between the Wehrmacht and the SS is widening and, according to certain reports, this is so not only in certain regions, but all over the country. The 50-year old German soldier has nothing in common with the SS man aged 18 to 25.

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and when the former has to pay for the outbursts of the latter, he feels discouragement which even the cleverest propaganda cannot dispel.
(Feuille D'Avis Neuchatel 26.9.44).

German divisions on the Italian front have been told to hold on because new arms that would revolutionise the war would come into use on 1st October.

A Fascist leader says that the German secret weapons include a fast airplane, a flame thrower with huge [illegible], and a very powerful explosive, and a small and fast submarine.

Austrian officers in the PINEROLO region threatened to desert unless the new secret weapon was in use before the 20th September.
(Confidential Source 21.9.44).

XIII. Atrocities.

Treatment of Jews. There was an incident at MEINA, a small village on LAKE MAGGIORE where the SS took 20 Jews from a hotel. It was said that they were being taken to a concentration camp, but the next day their bodies were recognised floating in the Lake -- among them those of children.
(P.W.B. Florence).

RECCARO. When a German was killed by Partisans in the neighbourhood of RECOARO, the Germans gave the inhabitants two hours in which to supply them with the names of the perpetrators. As this was ineffective, the Germans shot several people and set fire to part of the town.

TRIESTE. A time bomb was placed in an NCO's club and exploded, killing five Germans. As a reprisal the Germans hanged the porter and two cloakroom attendants of the club and forty-eight other hostages.

Jewish patients from the REGINA ELENA hospital were taken, naked, to the grain elevators near the central station and left there with very little food and no one to look after them. The chief doctor at the hospital, DR. OLIANI, protested against this barbarous act and was arrested and deported to Germany.
(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. A. Sqdn. 24.9.44).

XIV. Secret Weapons.

From reliable sources it is reported that during the first week of September day and night trials have been made in the throwing of a special unknown contrivance in the zone of RAVENE on the western slopes of M. BALDO. The throwing of these contrivances (about 2 m long and with diameter of 150-200 mm) took place from an electrified platform, from which the objects in question are sent off together. According to source who furnished the information about three minutes after the shot a strong detonation was heard, calculated at several tens of kilometers distance, in the direction of SONDRIO. The German parties who made

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(Italian official source 19.9.44).

It is reported that long winged torpedoes just like the well known VI have been transported to the big sheds at VILLAFRANCA DI VERONA. In other sheds, formed like a V upside down and in circular tents have been placed the machinery for assembling and mounting the weapons; the whole has been carefully camouflaged.
(Italian official source 15.9.44).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XV. Reports on reception of Allied Propaganda.

MODENA. Radio London is heard, especially the transmission at 22.30 hrs. on wavelengths 31/41 quite well. The people have not received any of our leaflets in this area.
(P.W.B. Florence 15.9.44).

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BRESCIA. Everyone listens to the radio, and Radio Londra is preferred. Such transmissions should be given (according to source) at 13.30, 20.30, 22.30 hrs. Less interesting is the American broadcast, because it does not give much news about Italy. The whole programme of "Italia Combatte", which is badly received should be relayed from Radio Londra.

Leaflets have been dropped over the city and province, and the people were glad to have them, but would like to receive them more often.
(P.W.B. Florence R.P. 15.9.44).

ALESSANDRIA. Allied propaganda is generally listened to on the 31 and 41 metre bands, especially at [illegible] and 19.30 because from 20.30 onwards transmissions are very disturbed. The allied propaganda is favourably received, but the people would be glad to receive leaflets and pamphlets giving them news of Free Italy, and above all speeches on the radio by well known people (among whom General MESSE, who is highly esteemed in this area).
(P.W.B. Florence R.P. 15.8.44).

MILAN. The BBC and NBC are much listened to - more than Moscow, especially as the latter is difficult of reception. The transmissions from Radio Londra have much disturbed enemy propaganda and in Milan the number of listeners to this programme has increased enormously. Radio Londra can be heard in the daytime on a four or five valve set on 16-19-25 metres, towards evening on 25,31, 41 and 50. Reception is difficult on medium waves in the daytime on account of local disturbances and at night because of strong German stations. "La Voce dell'America" retransmitted from N. York is not as popular as might be imagined and listeners prefer a transmission from London at 13,30 hrs. It would be as well if the special messages followed as well as preceded the news on account of the large number of people who wish to hear them. There is too little news of liberated Italy.
Leaflets. Propaganda leaflets are circulated, but it is never known whether they are of P.W.B. or some political party and therefore the effect is not satisfactory. A special newssheet of liberated Italy would be much appreciated.
(P.W.B. Florence).

POLITICS.

XVI. Parties in Alessandria, Parma, Turin and Milan.

MILAN. There are represented the Liberals, Party of Action, Christian Democrats, Socialists and Communists (the latter two united against the Nazi-Fascists)
The best organised are the Party of Action and the Communists.
(P.W.B. Florence).

TURIN. Attempts are being made through the press, posters, speeches etc. to persuade the people that [illegible] NOMI is incapable of dealing with the present situation or of obtaining anything for Italy from the Allies.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ. A.A.I. 29.9.44).

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(P.W.B. Florence).

TURIN Attempts are being made through the press, posters, speeches etc. to persuade the people that ... NOMI is incapable of dealing with the present situation or of obtaining anything for Italy from the Allies.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ, A.A.I. 29.8.44).

PARMA A secret political office of the Republican Party, disguised under the name of Ministry of Corporations is functioning in Viale Solferino No 21, or 31. There are about 25 employees.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ. A.A.I. 29.8.44).

ALESSANDRIA. In the Committee of National Liberation the following parties are represented, the Liberal Party, Christian Democrats, Action Party, Socialist and Communist Parties. Working classes are mostly communists and socialists, but the Liberal Party is also very strong.

In the Fascist party there are signs of great demoralisation and bitter criticisms are directed against the ... The Federazione of Alessandria situated near the Modern Cinema, includes about 3000 members, but there is an atmosphere of distrust and downheartedness.
(P.W.B. Florence R.P. 15.8.44).

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XVII. Pro-German Feeling in S. Tyrol.

In the valley of the RIO GARDENA (P 1480), the population is pro-German in the extreme. Even the children act as spies for the Germans and denounce any Italian Alpini who seek refuge in the valley. In the SELLA pass area the population is definitely pro-Italian. At BADIA (P 3982) 50% of the population is pro-Italian. (P.W.B. Advanced HQ A.A.I. 29.9.44).

XVIII. Meetings of Cabinet?

Mussolini presided over a Cabinet meeting on September 25th at which GRAZIANI reviewed the military situation and PAVOLINI the political situation. (Agence Telegraphique Suisse 25.9.44)

During the previous Cabinet meeting there was a lengthy discussion about the attitude to be adopted when Kesselring's retreating forces leave Liguria, Lombardy and Piedmont behind them. It is planned to regroup various ministries at present stationed in VENICE, VERONA and PADUA. At all events the Fascist Government has decided to remain as long as possible on national soil. The Blackshirts in the largest towns are preparing to defend themselves. The HQ of the Fasci are being transformed into veritable forts and Party members have already received orders on the attitude to be adopted in the event of a popular insurrection. (La Suisse Geneve 22.9.44).

XIX. Dissensions in the Party

The Fascist press denies the news that clashes have broken out within the Party which have, it is reported, resulted in the resignation of Pavolini. (Agence Telegraphique Suisse 18.9.44).

Farinacci, in Regime Fascista, violently attacked Pavolini, accusing him of not having removed officials who, one year after the establishment of the Fascist Republic, still have not sworn the prescribed oath of loyalty. (Gazette de Lausanne. 26.9.44).

XX. Graziani's Report on Rebel Movement.

The issue of the Fascist newspaper Popolo di Alessandria which published Marshal Graziani's report on "Ribellismo" was confiscated. The report said, among other things, "The mass of the people are following with interest and much sympathy the movements of the "rebels". Numerous factors go towards determining this attitude: the general hatred of Fascism, which is distrusted; antipathy towards the Germans, for whom there are also sentiments of fear, admiration and respect; the desire that the war shall end as soon as possible, by no matter what means; the call-up of the 1921, 1922 and 1926 classes, which has opened the way to easy and fruitful propaganda distic activities; the inefficiency of mopping-up operations, which until now have been feeble and undertaken with limited forces;; certain abuses on the part of the forces of order during mopping up operations, which have shown up the police of the Armed Forces in a bad light; the growing hatred of the Government has given enemy [illegible] the lack of supervision of the population on the part of

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The plans which the Germans are carrying out for the transfer of industrial machinery to other localities and the fear of being deported to Germany, have provoked widespread strikes and have induced the workers, and the majority of the population to support the rebel movement more or less openly."
(Libera Stampa Lugano 19.8.44).

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XXI. Appointments.

Under a decree dated September 21st the Under Secretary of State for the Interior, Dr. Paolo ZERBINO, has been appointed Special Commissioner for PIEDMONT. The present Head of the Province of RAVENNA, Emilio GRAZIOLI, has been appointed Head of the Province of TURIN.
(Italian Home Service 21.9.44).

The Fascist Republican, RENATO BURRINI, has resigned from his post as Secretary of the Federation of Republican Fasci of the Aegean. On the proposal of the Delegate of the Republican Fasci Abroad and Overseas, the Secretary of the Party has appointed as BURRINI's successor the Fascist Republican ANTONIO COCCHIERI, recently Federal Deputy Commissioner of the Aegean.
(Italian Home Service 22.9.44).

Andrea CALANI has replaced Angelo TUA, who has resigned, as Prefectorial Commissioner in CUNEO.
(Stampa, Turin 19.9.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXII. Food Situation.

ALESSANDRIA. Fats are not distributed, even on ration cards, and a flask of oil on the Black Market costs 2000 lires. Tobacco is no longer distributed. Financially there are all the signs of inflation because of the paper money issued by the Germans.
(P.W.B. Florence K.P. 5.8.44).

MODENA. The situation is not too bad here - there is a Black Market, but the prices are not high (for example flour costs 4 or 5 lire the kilo).
(P.W.B. Florence 15.9.44).

MILAN The Black Market still flourishes, encouraged by the Germans, who have unlimited supplies of currency stamped by themselves.

1800 lire for a flask of oil
100-150 lire for a kilo of meat
60 lire for a kilo of rice.

Rations are not distributed on the cards as they should be each month, but are often kept by the shopkeepers, who sell them to their wealthy customers. The [illegible] control over the sale of goods, either wholesale or retail. [illegible] at the road blocks poor people who are

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of the Delegate of the Republican Fasci Abroad and Overseas [illegible]
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(P.W.B. Florence 16.9.44).

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Rations are not distributed on the cards as they should be each month, but are often kept by the shopkeepers, who sell them to their wealthy customers. The Fascists have no control over the sale of goods, either wholesale or retail. All they worry about is trying to stop at the road blocks poor people who are endeavouring to bring in a little food from the country.
(P.W.B. Florence).

Under a decree issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, milk which is processed in industrial establishments from September 10th to November 1st must be totally skimmed in order to obtain more butter for winter requirements. Firms manufacturing dietary products for children are, however, exempted from total skimming.
(Sera, Milan 21.9.44).

The maize harvest in northern Italy is in full swing, and is up to the high expectations formed of it. Rice also promises a good yield. Harvesting of winter potatoes is making good progress everywhere. Particularly in those areas where German seeds were used, farmers are very satisfied with the crops.
(D.N.B. for Europe 18.9.44).

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As soon as possible a distribution of 17,000 quintals of laundry soap of one type only will be made throughout the Italian Social Republic. A distribution of 75 g. per head will be carried out gradually in all provinces.
(Italian Home Service 27.9.44).

Action against the Black Market in northern Italy is decreasing and is limited to crass cases. Last week, Milan had no meat. The coal import from Germany is decreasing, and stocks are dwindling to such an extent that distribution of cooking gas is limited to three hours a day. The destruction of the Po bridges very seriously hampers traffic and pontoon bridges have been built which are, however mainly reserved for military traffic. In some places, civilians, cattle and goods are being ferried across the river.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 29.9.44).

XXIII. Industry.

Special administrative boards have been appointed by the Heads of the Provinces to manage the following firms: Pietro Mauri of CAVENAGO BRIANZA, Ubaldo Nanni of COMO, Giuseppina Uboldi of SESTO SAN GIOVANNI, because of their illegal trading activity and for not carrying out their contractual obligations to their employees (Repubblica Fascista MILAN 16.9.44).

It is reported from reliable sources that: all the machinery of the ANSALDO factory of GENOVA has been transferred towards the north. Work has been started for the installation of the machinery of the above mentioned factory near the building of the DE ANGELI FRUA works situated in NOSSA (VAL SERIANA -25 km north east of BERGAMO). At the same time the plant for making shells has been set up.
(Italian Official source 18.9.44)

The Fascist Minister of Corporative Economy has reached an agreement with the Germans regarding Italy's coal supply. The Milan newspapers report that Fascist Italy will continue to receive coal from Germany this winter.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 26.9.44).

The factories at SAVIGLIANO are working at high pressure for the construction of armoured cars. During the month of August they produced on an average 7000 ball bearings per day, 3000 signets and pistons per day. The production is completely absorbed by the Germans; there are about 2000 workers employed, in three shifts.
(Italian Official Source 25.9.44).

XXIV. Transport.

BRESCIA The railway line MILANO-BRESCIA-VERONA is of very little use because the partisans cause frequent interruptions. The roads leading from the valleys and going to the various alpine villages are frequently interrupted. The

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(P.W.B. Florence R.P. 11.9.44).

There is a project for the construction of a new highway-bridge about 400 m. east of the railway bridge on the Po at PIACENZA. The work has already been started.
(Italian Official Source 19.9.44).

Every evening between 18.30 and 22 hours a pontoon bridge is thrown over the river between S.NICOLA AL PO (1 km south of MANTOVA) and PORTIOLO, near the old bridge destroyed by the raid last July.
(Italian official source 17.9.44).

The railway bridge on the Po at CASALE MONFERRATO was damaged during an air raid, and is now unusuable.
(Italian Official Source 25.9.44).

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XXV. Air Raid Damage.

BOLOGNA Allied air attacks on BOLOGNA, particularly near the station, have rendered 10,000 people homeless. All traffic was interrupted and rail traffic was paralysed. The food situation is very difficult, and prices are soaring, one meal costs 300 lire. All schools have been closed. The hospitals are packed with sick and wounded who receive insufficient treatment owing to the lack of medical supplies. Children, particularly, are suffering from the milk shortage. The lack of water, broken sewers, the disorganisation of street cleaning services, and the heat have caused epidemics in the whole of EMILIA.
(La Suisse Geneva 25.9.44).

MODENA The wrought iron foundry was destroyed by air raids. The Fiat works and Maserati (Candele) and the OCI motor works were also destroyed. The railway SEFTA still functions and serves the Germans with transport to the Gothic line.
(P...B. Florence 15.9.44).

XXVI. German Report on Economic Conditions in Italy.

The cheapest city in Italy is GENOA. MILAN has the richest assortment of goods. VENICE has the best food supply. Rationing is carried out most severely in TRIESTE. While VENICE is most bourgeois, TURIN is most revolutionary.

Agricultural production in northern Italy is so great that more than 25,000,000 people of the Fascist Republic could live entirely without restrictions if there were no transport difficulties. The industrial outlook is also very extensive despite war needs. But because the transport situation is a stumbling block in the Italian economic system, living conditions in northern Italy are unsettled. The main problem is transport, not production.

People live comparatively cheaply in the centres of production, even after five years of war. A meal in the fertile Po [illegible] costing 50 lire, is just as large as one in a luxurious VENICE restaurant costing ten times that amount. The 1.4 million Italians who feed daily in communal kitchens pay from five to 20 lire for a meal, consisting of soup, a main course and dessert.
(Transocean 22.9.44).

LABOUR.

XXVII. Strikes.

TURIN A general strike of the railwaymen has broken out in TURIN and throughout PIEDMONT. This report is connected with the rumours regarding the displacement of the HQ and the German troops towards the eastern part of northern Italy. It is probable that the railwaymen decided to paralyse completely all the movements of the occupying power, at the same time preventing them from carrying out the systematic deportation of workers and the removal of machinery.
[illegible]

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Another report of the same strike says " The extensive railwaymen's strike in TURIN was upheld by train personnel who refused to travel with German transports through areas subjected to aerial attack. The strike was still continuing on September 14th. Numerous railwaymen and their families have been deported. At the same time in MILAN railwaymen held meetings, resulting in the imposition of two month's advance of salary and other economic improvements. (Libera Stampa Lugano 22.9.44).

LAGO MAGGIORE. A series of strikes which recently broke out in the towns round Lago Maggiore has proved entirely successful. (P.W.B. Special Service 25.9.44).

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XXVIII. "Avanti" appeals to workers.

The socialist clandestine paper "Avanti" published in northern Italy addressed an appeal to the workers of TURIN and MILAN urging them to prepare the final details for the imminent general insurrection. The German Army in particular must be prevented from carrying out destruction or seizing industrial installations. (News Digest 21.9.44).

CHURCH.

XXIX. Air Attacks Drive Churches Underground.

Churches in northern Italy are reverting to a catacomb existence for protection against Allied air attacks. Chapels or altars have been set up in tunnels, mountain caves and air raid shelters where numerous city inhabitants have settled permanently. The church has followed the people underground in VOLTERRA, CHIUSE, BRESCIA, in the mine areas of TUSCANY and in the larger cities like GENOA and TRIESTE. Church services are held every Sunday in many tunnels between FLORENCE and BOLOGNA. Ten thousand people participated in services held recently in a tunnel in the TRIESTE area. In MILAN the church has also erected temporary quarters underground in the deep vaults of antique churches. The congregation of Milan Cathedral may also be found daily in the crypt of the old church.
(Transocean 23.9.44).

PRESS.

XXX. Press in Alessandria, Modena and Brescia.

ALESSANDRIA. A paper in German and Italian "Sudfront" is distributed. It is printed at GENOVA and circulates mostly among the soldiers. At TORTONA the daily paper "Leoncello" has been supressed because it was considered too critical and intransigeant.

It appears that every night posters signed by the C.L.N. are put up on the city walls.
(P.W.B. Florence 13.8.44 RP.).

MODENA. Recently a periodical was started by the well-known journalist Nino BASAGLIA, collaborationist with the Germans. The daily paper is "La Gazzetta dell'Emilia", directed by Vittore QUEREL. There are no known party publications, except posters put up on the walls.
(P.W.B. Florence 15.9.44).

BRESCIA. The two newspapers are "Il Popolo di Brescia" and "Brescia Repubblicana". There is much distribution of leaflets and pamphlets secretly printed, especially by the Communist and Christian Democrat parties, which are the strongest in the city.
(P.W.B. Florence, R.P. 11.9.44).

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(P.W.B. Florence, R.P. 11.9.44).

XXXI. New Anti-Fascist Newspaper Appears Openly.

The first number of the newspaper "Liberazione" edited by Ettore TIBALDI appeared in DOMODOSSOLA. It is the first anti-Fascist publication to appear openly and calls itself the organ of the Provisional Government Committee and the Patriots' Military Formations in the OSSOLA valley. The newspaper contains a flaming appeal to its readers to fight for Italy and freedom and to make sacrifices in order that the whole Italian people may be freed from slavery.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 23.9.44).

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PERSONALITIES

XXXII. Fascists of Modena.

Vice Prefect BALSAMO and his two sons, well known as spies and collaborators.
Avv. CAPPELLO and family - persecutors of patriots
The family of PINCHERLI-VICINI (Via del Taglio)
Cap. in S.P.E. Carlo BERNINI.
Lt. Col. Costantino ROSSI, one of the best known collaborators.
The journalist Vittore QUEREL, director of the Gazzetta dell' Emilia
The Secretary of the Capo della Provincia giornalista Nino BASAGLIA.

(P.W.B. Florence R.P. 15.9.44).

XXXIII. Collaborators among the Press.

GIANGINO PELLEGRINI - pro-German member of the staff of the Corriere of Milan who denounced some of his colleagues and received as a reward for his betrayal the position of Manager of the daily paper "Il Lavoro" of GENOA.

TARGIONI TOZZETTI -squadrist
CUCCO. sent to Berlin as a correspondent and there wrote many pro-German articles.
LUIGI ROMERSA
GUIDO CAPRA — Members of the Staff of Corriere
CESCO TOMASELLI — della Sera of Milan.
ARTURO LASAGNA
CIRO POGGIALI
GIOVANNI CENSATO
FRANCO ABBIATI -squadrist
SEGALA PAOLETTI

Members of the Trustee Board of Corriere della Sera.

GUIDO CAZZOLA - openly in relationship with the German police
CATTORINI PIEREMILIO - neo-Fascist and Squadrist
GILIBERTI VITO - in relationship with Italian SS.
TERLIZZI - and old Fascist and republican Fascist.
NATO GIOVANNI an old Fascist and official of the Dopolavoro

The head editor, a neo-Fascist UGO MANUNTA was soon replaced by GERMANI a man trusted by the Manager AMICUCCI.

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The Secretary of the Capo della Provincia giornalista
Nino BASAGLIA.

(P.W.B. Florence R.P. 15.9.44).

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The "Republica Fascista" a new daily paper, is an instrument of information against partisans, of political blackmailing and of instigation to the violent. The manager was
UGO BORSANI, head of the neo-fascists and a fanatical propagandist of Mussolini. Another neo-fascist adventurer on his staff is VITTORIO TRABALLESI.

(P.W.B. Florence)

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XXXIV. Fascists of Bassano, Vicenza and Parma.

Ing. PASSOFLLO of BASSANO (route 47 -n.e of Vicenza), Federal Secretary of Vicenza and commander of the Brigate Nere of the Province. A brutal man who has threatened to pull out partisans' finger nails if they refuse to talk.

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Dr. VELO, head of Bassano hospital. A friend of the Germans and enemy of partisans.

Maggiore BERENZI of VICENZA, director of Il Popolo Vicentino

(?Romolo) ROMUALDI, Federal Secretary of PARMA and commander of Brigate Nere in the Province.

(P.W.B. Special Service 1.10.44).

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BY ..... NARS, Date 3/3/75

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Allied Control Commission
Patriots Branch
Adv Det.

HEADQUARTERS
27 SEP 1944
A. C. C.

Ref: ACC/523/Pat
Subject. Conditions in province of MODENA
To: Distribution below

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2. Political Conditions
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Prof DELLA VOLTA Jew -- Now in the maquis
C. llo ARGIOLAS Monarchist persecuted for politics
Ten. C llo FILIPPONE former teacher at the Accademie
C. llo ANTONIO ALBERGHINI MOLTONI

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5. Names of the persons who are pro German and persecutors of Patriots are as follows:

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Giornalista VITTORE QUEREL - Director of Gazzetta dell' EMILIA
NINO BASAGLIA -- private secretary of head of Province

6. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

MODENA is very fertile province and so the food situation is not too bad. There is a black market but prices are low. For example flour costs 4 - 5 Lire per Kg.

7. After the bombardments the city's industries practically ceased to exist.

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8. The bombardments destroyed the cast iron foundary Corni S.A. iron works Orsi and seriously damaged the FIAT works (Candele) and the motor works C.C.I.

9. The railway S.E.F.T.A. still runs and is of great use to the Germans as it transports material to the Gothic Line.

10. The town has been mostly evacuated. Since the bombardments of Feb. 14 the schools have been closed.

11. WORK CONDITIONS

The Organizzazione Sindacale still exits. Salaries are not high owing to low cost of living. Very little unemployment.

12. The workers nearly all took part in the strikes of May 1st in upper Italy.

13. VATICAN AND CHURCH

Clergy are almost totally favourable to Patriots. The Vicar of Stuffione di Nayarino periodically subsidises partisan groups. An Encyclical of the Archbishop of MODENA in favour of liberty and denouncing German acts of violence was very well received by the population.

B. L. Drage.

Distribution.

AMG 5th Army (4)
AMG 8th Army (3)
AMG Region IX (2)
Provincial Commissioner MODENA (1)
No.1 Special Force (2)

0105

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Civil Affairs (2)
PRO (1)
Information Section (2)
Patriots Branch (2)
File (2)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

Patriots Branch ACC

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Allied Control Commission
Patriots Branch
Adv Det.

Ref: ACC/523/Pat
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AMG 8th Army (3)
AMG Region IX (2)
Provincial Commissioner MODENA (1)

0109

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

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Patriots Branch (2)
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

27th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

This report to be seen in future by Brig Appleton CMSm 4/x

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY-NO 26.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE.

Patriot Activity. The slowness of the Allied advance through the Gothic line and the difficult country of the Appennines has apparently had the inevitable effect on patriot activity. The general partisan offensive from the Alps in combination with Allied armies descnding into the Po valley has not been realised. Nevertheless considerable progress has been registered. The entire VAL D'OSSOLA is practically controlled by patriots and a provisional government has taken over the administration of a large zone in the LAGO MAGGIORE and VAL D'OSSOLA region on behalf of the Committee of National Liberation of N. Italy. The NW shores of LAGO MAGGIORE are apparently still held by Germans and elements of the S. Marco Division, and CANNOBIO, after changing hands once or twice, was last reported in the possession of the patriots.

In the Alps the Fascist press rather belatedly admits fighting in the MONT GINEVRE and MONT CENIS passes, and the practical encirclement of the Germans in the MADDALENA PASS (COL D'ARGENTERA). In the CUNEO region patriots have repelled German attacks in VAL VARAITA and VAL MAIRA. In VENEZIA GIULIA, good relations are reported between Italian and Yugoslav partisans. The former operate in the UDINE and CARNIA zones; the latter in GORIZIA, TRIESTE and ISTRIA. GORIZIA is completely isolated and travel in that zone can only be undertaken with a permit issued by partisans.

Reprisals. COLICO (COMO Province) was the scene of reprisals and counter reprisals between Fascists and patriots. Unfortunately the German SS. intervened and destroyed a neighbouring village.

From BOLOGNA and MODENA provinces and the ROMAGNA come tales of partisans executed and numerous villages destroyed.

Assassination. Dr RAFFAELE MANGANIELLO the notorious Fascist tyrant, was killed by patriots on the road from MILAN to TURIN.

FASCIST FORCES.

The morale of the Tagliamento G.N.R. Legion is said to be good and the discipline strict.

Towards the end of July the "Aldo Resega" Black Brigade of MILAN was reported to number about 2000. At that time they were transferred to NOVARA to take part in mopping-up operations.

VAL SESIA, VAL D'OSSOLO,

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

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Partisans and the G.N.R. The Garibaldi Divisions of VAL SESIA, VAL D'OSSOLO, CURIO and VERBANO distributed leaflets last August to G.N.R. Carabinieri and Public Security Police, calling on them to abandon the Fascists and join the partisans.

Ricci's dismissal from the G.N.R. A Swiss explanation of Ricci's dismissal attributes it to the ridicule Ricci heaped on Mussolini when he described to certain ladies the Duce's effort to fire a cannon on his recent trip to Germany.

Carabinieri A letter-writer in PIEDMONT states that in BRESCIA about the beginning of August the Carabinieri and Police spontaneously joined the partisans.

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SUMMARY 2.

Milan Torture Chambers. The torturers of San Vittore Prison in MILAN who were deposed by the German Commandant, have resumed their work at the Aberdan H.Q. Porta Venezia, Milan. It is said that one of them, MANFREDINI, unable to make a prisoner speak in the San Vittore prison, tortured his four-year-old daughter before his eyes. The prisoner broke down and subsequently hanged himself.

GERMANS.

Reports from Switzerland indicate that the Germans are ready to evacuate COMO and VARESE provinces en masse. Almost all civilians, with their families, have already left COMO.

From VERONA it is reported that the S.S. Command has left the city in the direction of the BRENNER PASS. It seems that German H.Q. forsees that wide zones in N. Italy will have to be abandoned so as to occupy certain strategic points in force to protect the escape of German troops back to Germany.

Morale. It is said that recent events in France are not generally known to the German soldiers. Throughout the VENETO Germans are steadily buying civilian suits. In VERONA alone over 700 have been sold.

Propaganda. On Sept. 10th German aircraft dropped leaflets on MILAN declaring a wonderful new weapon was shortly to come into action and then 250,000 Fascists would march on Rome.

Atrocities. Massacres are reported from GOMBITELLI (CAMAIORE), FORNO (near APUANIA) and along the shores of LAKE MAGGIORE.

POLITICS.

From BOLOGNA it is reported that the city workers are in general distinctly Communist, while the country people are Catholic and conservative. Nevertheless, even in the country round LUGO, MOLINELLO, BUDRIO, FAENZA there are large districts which are intensely communist.

Appointments. Ing. GIUSEPPE SPINELLI is Podesta of MILAN in place of GIUDO ANDREONI PIERO RANDI is appointed Federal Commissioner of FERRARA.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation. The grain harvest has been excellent and though threshing is proceeding slowly, there have been abundant offers of wheat so that the Black Market price has dropped to 620-700 lire the quintal (100 kilos) In MILAN province, to save petrol for ploughing, its use for threshing or for transport

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Situation in GENOVA. The harbour is completely mined and all port installations and quays destroyed. Almost all buses and the best trams have been taken away by the Germans. Many works have had their machinery removed. A letter dated 17th August states that the city has been without water for a month and a half due to air raids.

LABOUR.

Italian labourers recently escaped from Germany report that amongst Italian, Polish, Russian and French workers clandestine organisations are very active, particularly Communist ones, but so far they lack arms. It is reported from N. Italy that the deportation of workers to Germany has ceased owing to chaotic railway conditions, but nevertheless mass arrests continue and all the prisons of LOMBARDY, VENETO and LIGURIA are crammed with prisoners.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ)

27th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 26.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

27th September, 1944.

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Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -NO 26.

RESISTANCE

I. Partisans

General Situation.

It is reported from Switzerland that up to 12th September the VENTIMIGLIA zone was firmly held by Italian patriots who controlled the coast up to DIANO MARINA The Nazis have withdrawn from the whole of the western Riviera, concentrating their available forces in GENOA. The so-called Ligurian Wall has been almost entirely abandoned, owing to its doubtful effectiveness. Apparently it was not even finished owing to lack of cement. The most important coastal cities are still garrisoned by the Fascist "San Marco" divisions whom the partisans constantly harass, while awaiting the signal for general insurrection.

The patriots carry out constant attacks along the Via Aurelia. They are also very active in the CUNEO region and have repulsed German attacks in the VAL VARAITA and the VALMAIRA, heavy losses being inflicted on the enemy. The situation for the civilians is deteriorating daily in GENOA and the eastern Riviera. Numerous railways under bridges on the GENOA-PISA line have been converted into shelters where hundreds of families bivouac together pell-mell. Sabotage has almost completely eliminated all rail traffic. Fearing general insurrection the Nazis take drastic preventive measures. The Marazzi prisons are crammed with hostages.

Recent reports from VENEZIA GIULIA show that good relations exist between the Italian and Yugoslav partisans, the latter operating in the GORIZIA, TRIESTE and ISTRIA regions. The Italians are operating in the regions of UDINE and CARNIA. GORIZIA is completely isolated. Anyone wishing to travel in that zone must obtain a permit from the partisans.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 12.9.44).

The Fascist press reveals that the Germans who evacuated Briancon are retreating towards the Mont GENEVRE pass, 12 km away. The Germans still hold the MADDALENA Pass, where they are practically encircled by the partisans from the STURA pass. On September 13th Fascist sources for the first time indicated that fighting was going on in the MONT CENIS district, where the Germans are trying to hold the pass.
(Gazette de Lausanne 14.9.44).

As far as can be judged from BERNE the importance of the Italian partisan [illegible] in the fact that it gives the German troops a feeling of

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As far as can be judged from BERNE the importance of the Italian partisan movement consists largely in the fact that it gives the German troops a feeling of being surrounded by small groups of fanatical anti-Germans, thus gradually undermining their fighting morale. All report the catastrophic conditions of the roads and railways in northern Italy, when captured, and the difficulties which will arise when Kesselring attempts to withdraw his army.
(News Digest 13.9.44).

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Disposition of Bands.

GORIZIA 9 partisan corps and 33 partisan Divisions (entirely Slovene) are operating in the GORIZIA area. A band of 70 britons, commanded by an English Major, was operating in the TARNOVA area. A TRIESTE assault brigade is operating on the CARSO (plateau on which Gorizia stands) The Garibaldi brigade is operating towards CARNIA, while the MAZZINI and MAMELI Bns are operating east of UDINE in the COLLIO area. Battalions, according to one informant, are composed of three companies of 30 and 60 men each armed with rifles, pistols and hand grenades. Nearly all the men wear Italian army uniforms, stolen from stores, wearing the Red Star on their forage caps. Each Battalion has a political commissar and a vice commissar who give Communist propaganda lectures to the troops when they are not on the move.
(P.W.B. Adv. HQ. A.A.I.)

ROMAGNA The whole organisation of volunteers of ROMAGNA is mobilised to ensnare German movements. The patriots have extended their occupation of the MODENA and REGGIO EMILIA zones up to a point near the VIA EMILIA. The entire VAL D'OSSOLA is, for every practical purpose, controlled by the patriots.

In the VAL D'OSSOLA, near the MASSONE mountains there is the patriot band of DEDIO, 600 men, well-armed, disciplined, and without political affiliations. They can be used for surprise attacks They captured DOMODOSSOLA.

The Garibaldi forces in VALLE GRANDE, VAL DI ALA and VAL DI VIU (upper valleys of VAL LANZ O -TORINO) include 4000 partisans, but they are badly armed.
(Confidential source 15/16 September).

SESIA and ANZASCA Valleys. Here there is the Garibaldi MOSCATELLI Division, 2000 men strong, but without heavy arms.

The Third and Fourth Garibaldi Divisions regrouped after the mopping-up operations, and their forces are moving towards GENOVA. Detachments have been left to control the CHIAVARI-PARMA, the CHIAVARI-BUSALIA and the GENOVA-PIACENZA roads.
(Confidential Source 7/8 September)

The news broadcast by the 5th Army Radio on 1st September at 2100 GMT, about the disbanding of the MONTE ROSA division is not true, and has had an unfavourable effect on listeners. The Monte Rosa is located between NERVI and CHIAVARI and fights against the patriots with ferocious reprisals on the population. The Monte Rosa is at present moving towards the Western Alps, perhaps to MONCENIZIO and MONGINEVRO
(Confidential Source 14th September)

GARFAGNANA area

COREGLIA ANTELMINELLI band - about 400 men, partly armed.

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(P.W.B. Adv. HQ. A.F.H.Q.)

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GARFAGNANA area

CCREGLIA ANTELMINELLI band - about 400 men, partly armed.

FIANO (Torino H 9246) (locality called Luccese) 500 partisans headed by a naval officer called BROFFERIO.

ALPE DI SANT'ANTONIO (north of Lucca) to the north east of Mount PANIA. 200 partisans led by source Only 50 of them armed a month ago.

STRADA DI ARNI to the north of Alpe di Sant' Antonio; 300 partisand headed by a British officer.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

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A confidential report of the Republican General Staff gives a list of the valleys where the partisans were most active during July. In the CANAVESE district there were 2,000 partisans, in the VAL DI LANZO 2000 committing acts of sabotage throughout the valley and in the VAL DI SUSA 1,500 who were most active in cutting railway communications. The list stated that the main partisan group was commanded by "Captain Butler" and had occupied the majority of the Canavese district. In the VAL SANGONE there are 1,800 partisans. The men under Captain Butler had occupied the whole of the Upper CHISONE Valley, which also dominates the FINESTRE PASS. The 2,000 partisans in the GERMANASCA and PELLICA valleys have mined almost all the bridges and control the most important centres.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 15.9.44).

GENOA The nos of patriots vary greatly from place to place. Many thousands are operating in the province of GENOA and even more in the province of SPEZIA.

SESTRI PONENTE, placed in the industrial area of GENOA, and inhabited mainly by workmen is perhaps the most dangerous spot for Germans and Fascists. After September 8th 1943 no organised fascist activity was possible there. Germans can enter Sestri Ponente only if two battalions strong at least. Recently they occupied all the town with large forces, to cope with workmen's rebellions and strikes. In the workshops of Sestri Ponente armed groups were formed for the purpose of locating mines and seizing workshops to prevent destruction. In the beginning these groups received instructions from the workshop managers, but they are at present controlled by the various political parties.

As to organisation, there are squads which meet for a particular operation, and then disappear to assemble again for another action. In the main units there are (1) the military chief with his staff (2) the political commissaioner in ___ liaison with various parties or with the local underground centre or committee (3) the President of the Court Martial which issues regular sentences concerning the discipline and offences of the men in the unit. (4) various services.
(G.B. P.W.B. Rome 21.9.44 Italian Source).

Recent Activities of Partisans.

TREVISO On 4th September patriots blew the bridge/rail/ over the river DESE between TREVISO and MESTRE. It caused an interruption for five days. They also caused minor interruptions on the BASSANO GRAPPA-TRENTO line at the SOLAGNA tunnel (G-2394)

VAL SERIANA A group of patriots invaded the station of GAZZANIGO in VAL SERIANO, in the province of BERGAMO. Having stopped two trains on arrival and controlled all the personal documents of the travellers, they captured a German Lieutenant, a Fascist aviator, three militiamen and many other Fascists. Following this incident Nazi-Fascist troops flowed in to the Val Seriana. A very vident battle took place, which lasted four hours, resulting in losses on both sides.

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DOGLIANI Patriots made a violent attack against the German garrison at DOGLIANI (Province of Cuneo 0 1967), obliging the enemy to retreat. Two armoured cars were destroyed. Much booty was captured.

PADOVA. During an air raid alarm in PADOVA patriots killed COLONEL BARTOLOMEO FRONTEDU, who collaborated actively with the Germans. 10 hostages were shot as a reprisal.

BOLOGNA Patriots planted a bomb in the office of the Fascio at BOLOGNA. The explosion completely destroyed the building. Three Fascist militia were killed and others wounded.

MILAN The Germans have taken 250 hostages in Milan, whom they threaten to shoot in reprisal for the shooting of 25 German soldiers. The Archbishop of Milan has

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taken steps to prevent the new massacre.

TUSCANY The well known Fascist official MANGANIELLO, who had recently ordered inhuman atrocities against the civil population in TUSCANY, has been captured whilst trying to escape to the north.
(P.W.B. Rome 19.9.44).

PISTOIA North of PISTOIA the Germans have been obliged to send three battalions to the PAVIA region where over 1,000 partisans are fighting.

ISTRIA The Commander of the Carabinieri at the head of the police force of ISTRIA has gone over with all his men to the patriots. He appealed to the Italians in Istria to unite with him in the fight against Nazi-Fascism.
(P.W.B. Rome 24.9.44).

LAKE MAGGIORE-VAL D'OSSOLA In the Lake Maggiore and Val d'Ossola regions the partisans are now in control of territory containing over 100,000 inhabitants. A provisional Government containing representatives of all political parties has assumed the administration on behalf of the National Liberation Committee for northern Italy. Christian Democrats are in charge of the departments of Education, Social Welfare and Justice. One of the first tasks of the new administration is the acquisition of special foods for children and of medical supplies. The International Red Cross is taking up the matter. (Popolo e Liberta 14.9.44)

The partisans have not yet mastered the counter-attack by the Fascist "San Marco" Divisions on the north-west shore of Lake MAGGIORE. The Germans are still at LORO DI VALMARA, near BRISSAGO (14.9.44) At attempt to advance into the interior in the direction of the VALLE CANNOVINA has been halted at CAVAGLIO and, according to unconfirmed reports the partisans have retaken CANNOBIO (Also reported from other sources)
(Tribune de Geneve 14.9.44).

II. Reprisals.

LAKE MAGGIORE After occupying CANNOBIO, the SS arrested part of the population, transporting them to the further shore of Lake Maggiore.
Agence Telegraphique Suisse 9.9.44).

COLICO. The Fascists recently executed an anti-Fascist in the public square of Colico (province of COMO E 4438) who was suspected of helping the partisans. A few days later the partisans executed a Fascist in reprisal and the Fascists replied by hanging three hostages in front of the Hotel Risi, leaving the bodies exposed for three days. The parish priest of Colico, who had tried to bury the bodies, was himself threatened with hanging. The partisans then executed three Fascists in the public square and the German SS replied by destroying the village of (VILLADICO?) above Colico, the partisan staff HQ. Only the church and convent were spared.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzone 9.9.44).

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(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 9.9.44).

BOLOGNA In the province of BOLOGNA seven partisans were killed at FUNO on August 7th, four at SAN LAZZARO DI SAVENA on August 8th and 14 were hung at PIANORO. The village of FUNO was burnt down, as were many farms at SASSO, MARZABOTTO, BUDRIO, MEDICINA, ANZOLA and other villages.

MODENA In the Modena region 121 persons were shot during August. In the Modana Appenines, BARDI, VARSI, BORE, PIANINO and other villages were devastated or destroyed.

ROMAGNA In Romagna 30 persons were shot at FORLI, 33 shot and 30 houses burnt down at GALEATA, SANTA SOFIA and SAN PIERO, 80 shot and 30 houses destroyed at FRAGHETO

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At Mussolini's birthplace PREDAPPIO, five persons were hung and the bodies were taken down and hung again at FORLI
(Libera Stampa Lugana 14.9.44).

III. Assassination

Italian Home Service 18.9.44 declares: "On the morning of Friday, September 15th, DR. RAFFAELE MANGANIELLO, while driving from MILAN to TURIN, to take up his post as head of the province, fell into an ambush organised by the outlaws. A company of the GNR and the Duce's bodyguard, together with a group of the Black Brigade "Athos Capelli" commanded by the Federal Commissioner of TURIN, immediately carried out a mopping up operation. After a clash with the outlaws, three bodies were recovered, and it was possible to proceed to the identification of the body of Dr. Manganiello, brutally mutilated.

FASCIST FORCES

IV. Disposition.

LUCCA. In Lucca itself the only Fascist organisation is the Black Brigade, composed of about 50 men whose morale is very low.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

BOLOGNA At the beginning of July the republican army was still in existence, but in great disorder at Bologna. Some of source's friends who had to present themselves for enrolment were sent home again because the republican army had neither food, nor clothes nor arms. Others were taken by the Germans and incorporated in German uniform under German officers in the coastal detachments. The GNR is made up of old "squadrists" and of boys of 16-18. There are also in BOLOGNA special groups such as the parachutists, very few in number, with their centre of conscription in the city and barracks, Via Zamboni and the 10th MAS 1. Bn.
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TAGLIAMENTO LEGION of the GNR. Morale is good and discipline strict. The Battalion is engaged in rounding up partisans behind the German lines. It has previously been operating in a similar role with the rest of the Legion in the SESTA valley.
(C.S.D.I.C. report - Italian source(reliable)

NOVARA At the end of July the Black Brigade "Aldo Resega" of MILAN contained about 2000 men- women also belonged to the Brigade. They were armed with rifles Mod. 91 and Beretta automatics. Their uniform was khakhi cotton trousers and black shirts At the end of July the brigade was transferred to the zone of NOVARA, in order to finish up a mopping-up action.
(Italian official source 15.9.44)

V. Call up.

In the provinces of BOLZANO, BELLUNO and TRENTO, besides the 1922, 1923 and 1924 classes, young men belonging to the 1927 class, and very recently the whole of the 1910 class, have been called up.

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(Gazzetta Ticinese 14.9.44).

VI. Italian Troops in Germany.

"I am in a city called Gunzenhausen. We are not treated as prisoners, but survey the Italian workmen, and are called "Italian Police".
(Censorship Intercapt 8.6.44)

"I find no words to describe my life. Night is day and in the morning we start again our military training. I cannot complain about my physical condition, although I have seen gigantic people often exhausted. The food is quite German

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a loaf of black bread made of barley flour and pine sawdust, which gives us violent stomach aches. Our living conditions are so hard, that we do not even wish them to beasts. I hope I shall soon be back in Italy."
(Censorship intercept 25.8.44)

VII. Partisan Ultimatum to National Republican Guard.

Propaganda leaflets were distributed in late August by the Garibaldi partisans of North-East Piedmont to Fascist Republican Guards and to Carabinieri or Public Security Police. The documents are sent out from the Command of the Garibaldi Shock Divisions of VAL SESIA, VAL D'OSSOLA, CUSIO and VERBANO. They tell the G.N.R. that "The hour of final decision has come,"and that the"Allied armies are now crushing the last remnants of Hitler's hordes" that "even the National Republican Guard is safe no longer, and for this reason the Fascists have sold it to the Germans, by having it incorporated into the Armed Forces enrolled by the violence of Hitler and Mussolini". They appeal to them to "break the chains which enslave you to Nazism and Fascism and join our units with such arms and ammunition as you can carry. You will be received like brothers.", telling them "This will be the last appeal which the Garibaldi men will make to you;".

A similar appeal is made to the Carabinieri and Public Security Police, urging them to come over to the ranks of the patriots as so many of the Carabinieri had already done.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 11.9.44).

VIII. Carabinieri and Police take to the bush in Piedmont.

A Censorship intercept of 18.8.44 declares "The General Command of the Carabinieri was transferred to BRESCIA with all the archives.... From direct information it appears that until a short time ago the Carabinieri continued their regular service of maintaining public order and only a few weeks ago they and the police spontaneously took to the bush".

IX. Reason for Ricci's Dismissal from G.N.R. Command.

On the evening of August 18th Mussolini and Ricci had a violent quarrel at HQ. Next day Mussolini wrote a letter to Ricci as follows: "Dear Ricci. After what happened last night I can no longer avail myself of your collaboration. I cannot tolerate that you should question my orders, still less that this should occur in ladies' drawingrooms; nor can I permit you to treat Graziani and Comrade Basile with contempt. We need men, true men, who stand by their cannon without laughing at such a form of training. Therefore from August 19th I myself will take over the command of the GNR and you will proceed on a date which I shall specify to hand over to the Chief of the General Staff, who will be advised by me Mussolini".

The conflict between the two was thus the result of a disagreement between Ricci and Graziani. As regards the illusion to cannon and ladies' drawingrooms, it appears that during his recent trip to Germany Mussolini tried to fire a cannon and

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The conflict between the two was thus the result of a disagreement between Ricci and Graziani. As regards the illusion to cannon and ladies' drawingrooms, it appears that during his recent trip to Germany Mussolini tried to fire a cannon and Ricci ridiculed him in certain drawingrooms.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 14.9.44).

X. Attempt on Graziani's life denied.

Foreign press reports of an alleged attempt on Graziani's life in BOLOGNA are officially denied in MILAN. The official denial stresses that he is now at the HQ of the Italian Army, which he commands, and that the Army HQ is not located in BOLOGNA, but at some other Italian town.
(Transocean 17.9.44).

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XI. Milan Torture Chambers Still Active.

The infamous group of torturers who were relieved of their posts at the San Vittore Prison by the German SS Command are carrying on their activities with increased vigour at the "Oberdan" HQ near the Porta Venezia in MILAN where torture chambers have been established underground. The group, composed of the Squadrists BOSSI, COLOMBO, MORELLI, BIANCHI, DESIO and MANFREDINI, is commanded by Lieut. MELLI. Manfredini is still at San Vittore.

An episode is reported of a political prisoner at San Vittore, who, having refused to speak under torture, was confronted with his four-year-old daughter whom MANFREDINI tortured in his presence. The prisoner broke down and disclosed the required information, subsequently hanging himself in his cell.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 9.9.44).

XII. Police Instructions regarding escaped Allied P.W.

A document recently captured dated 18th September gives a list of South-African, New Zealand and British PWs who were "sent to labour camps in this province (Padova) and who escaped after the German occupation.... They are to be traced and held". This list was for distribution to "all police stations of Northern and Central Italy, and gives names of men who were in camps at SAONARA (PADUA), ABANO TERME (PADUA), MEGLIADINO S FIDENZIO (PADUA), VIGODARZERE (PADUA), BAGNOLI DI SOPRA (PADUA), MESTRINO(PADUA), VIGHIZZOLO D'ESTE Labor Camp, and PONTE SAN NICOLO (PADUA) Labour Camp.
(Censorship Intercept 18.9.44)

XIII. Appointment.

The Former Under-Secretary of Republican Aviation TASSARI, has become Chief of Staff of Aviation.
(G.2, Adv. Intelligence 18.9.44).

GERMANS

XIV. Dispositions.

Reports from the Swiss frontier state "The Germans are ready to evacuate the COMO and VARESE regions en masse. Almost all civilians with families and soldiers' families have already left COMO with their luggage. Petrol reserves are thus being exhausted. Final stocks are kept carefully hidden for the evacuation of troops, which, according to orders must be carried out an the receipt of a telephone signal, within two hours at most. Outlying garrisons in militarily important zones are constantly complaining of their urgent requests for petrol. The situation is very confused in VARESE. The Germans hardly take any interest in the partisan offensive on Lake MAGGIORE. The German Command in VARESE does not answer the anxious appeals for reinforcements coming from detachments in the villages along the western shores of the Lake. It merely occupies itself in [illegible] offering to exchange them for hostages taken by Fascists.

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(POPOLO E LIBERTA Bellinzona 14.9.44).

VERONA The SS Command, together with much heavy material, has suidenly left the city, travelling in the direction of the Brenner. The few remaining communications have been interrupted owing to these exceptional movements and many motor vehicles coming from VENICE with regular permits have been requisitioned. The German Command foresees the relinquishing of wide zones in northern Italy in order to limit the occupation to certain strategic points and key positions which protest the retreat of the German divisions when they have to open a passage back to Germany.
(P.W.B. Rome 18.9.44).

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It is reported that no German reinforcements have reached the Italian part of the CENTOVALLI Valley, which is held by the partisans and from whence 40 Germans fled to Switzerland on September 9th. The Germans, however, apparently consider it important to keep both shores of LAKE MAGGIORE free in order that they may use it as a corridor of escape to Switzerland. Reinforcements have also arrived on the left shore of the Lake, where the railway line from BELLINZONA to MAGADINO and LUINO is being watched day and night by strong German patrols.
(Basler Arbeiter Zeitung 11.9.44).

The German Command has ordered the Nord railway of MILAN to concentrate at SARONNO all the German rolling stock in service and 200 goods waggons; they have asked also for 40 waggons daily for the urgent removal of stock. This news can be connected with previous reports of preparations for evacuating the town.
(Italian Official Source 15.9.44).

XV. Morale.

The German local Command in BOLOGNA has issued a report on the purge of German officers suspected of anti-Nazi sympathies. The soldiers have been unfavourably impressed by it. The introductory salute to Hitler was received with particular irony.

Events in France are not generally known and many German soldiers ask civilians for news. Morale is not at all high and the opinion that the war is lost has gained foothold. There is very little confidence in new weapons, and a remarkable tendency to shirk service by all kinds of devices such as medical certificates or even desertion.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 15.9.44)

Throughout the VENETO the Germans are buying civilian clothes in increasing numbers. In VERONA alone over 700 suits have been sold.
(Gazzetta Ticinese 14.9.44)

By the first week of September various German offices in COMO had been closed down and there was a brisk trade in civilian clothing. One shop in Como sold two hundred raincoats to Germans in two days.
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 11.9.44).

XVI. Propaganda.

On the morning of September 10th aircraft dropped thousands of leaflets over MILAN saying: "Resist"! The second weapon is ready to come into action immediately Prepare yourselves for extraordinary events. Two hundred and fifty thousand Fascists are ready to march on Rome and to carry the Duce with them on their shoulders.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.9.44).

XVII. Nazi Fascist Relations.

According to reports from Chiasso relations between the Germans and the Fascists are very strained as, inter alia, was noticeable from a letter from Major Giuseppe Santero addressed to the Fifth Regiment of the Marines of the

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The shortage of arms, insufficient food rations, bad equipment, the confiscation of our reserve boots, although the Germans realise that the remaining footwear is not sufficient for us, the revolting attitude of the German troops towards Italian officers, all this has a bad influence on the morale of our soldiers. These facts

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are also the principal reason why large numbers of Italians desert and join the patriots. The great majority of the Italian soldiers who betray the Germans were trained in Germany. It cannot be denied that the Germans do their utmost to make themselves disliked.
(Aftontidningen 17.9.44)

The Fascists complain and accuse the Germans of systematic robbing, not only of the last miserable remaining industrial resources, but even of private houses, out of which every object of value is being removed. Industrial establishments are closed owing to the following causes: air attacks, German pillaging, transport paralysed by sabotage, decreasing labour and lack of raw materials.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 8.9.44)

XVIII. Atrocities.

GOMBITELLI (CAMAIORE Town) Because of an attempt on the lives of two Germans, 15 peasants were executed and not allowed to be buried.

FORNO (Near Apuania) As a reprisal for partisan activity the Germans and Fascists of the Flottiglia MAS killed 63 men, without trial, all innocent.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

LAKE MAGGIORE. The Germans and Fascists, having re-occupied the right shore of Lake Maggiore, carried out a terrible revenge against the villagers. Swiss residents who managed to escape to Switzerland asserted that the revenge was carried out with "unimaginable bestiality" Women and children were herded into the public square, where they were kicked and struck with rifle butts. Some of the wives of partisans were shot. Towards evening, four transport boats arrived, and took the women and children to LUINO in order to frighten the partisans from further activity. The Fascists threatened to shoot these hostages in the event of further partisan activity.
(Basler Arbeiter Zeitung 11.9.44).

An account was recently given by a Commander of the Fascist Republican Carabinieri of reprisals taken by detachments of the Hermann Goring Division against the people of STIA (AREZZO) because of partisan activity. Among the dead, who numbered 88, were several children (one less than a year old) and two women over seventy.
(P.W.B. Advanced.)

POLITICS

XIX. Politics in Bologna.

The clergy, according to source, have great influence, especially in the [illegible] the workmen of the city are clearly communist; the countryman on the

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The clergy, according to scurce, have great influence, especially in the country; the workmen of the city are clearly communist; the countryman on the whole is quite well-off and very catholic and conservative - therefore a bitter enemy of communism. In the province, near ROMAGNA (LUGO, MOLINELLO, BUDRIO, and FAENZA), there are large stretches of countryside quite extremist and intensely communist. The Communist party is trying to moderate the violent character which the communes of Romagna are adopting. The Party of action is very strong also and the chiefs of Bologna often come from this violent part of the province.
(P.W.B. Rome)

XX. Foreign Diplomats' new Quarters.

The moving of foreign diplomats from VENICE to the new Italian "City of Diplomats" has practically concluded. The name of the new diplomatic city has not been revealed yet, but it is known that it is a famous health resort situated in beautiful surroundings. All first-class hotels here have been placed at the disposal of the foreigh diplomats. Eleven countries in Europe and Asia are at present maintaining

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diplomatic missions at the seat of Mussolini's Government. Important departments of the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Popular Culture will also move to the "City of Diplomats", where the first foreign journalists have also arrived. (Transocean 12.9.44).

XXI. Propaganda.

The illegal newspaper of the Socialist Party Youth Federation, "Rivoluzione Sociale", in its Lombardy edition, reports that propaganda activities were carried out by the Youth Federation including film-showing in a street and in a public place, and the distribution of pamphlets, arousing favourable comments everywhere from the population, who strongly encourage them. Two pamphlets have been distributed.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 8.9.44).

A Censorship intercept - captured telegram - reads as follows: "Most urgent instruct newspapers: publish as STEFANI news food difficulties in ROME

Minister MEZZASOMA.

(9.8.44)

XXII. Appointments.

Ingeniere Giuseppe SPINELLI has been appointed Podesta of MILAN in place of Guido ANDREONI. Spinelli is Fascist Provincial Labour Commissioner.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.9.44).

The Party Secretary today appointed Comrade Piero RANDI? Federal Commissioner of FERRARA.
(Italian Home Service 15.9.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXIII. Food Situation.

The Italian grain harvest is excellent, according to the latest reports. Owing to the lack of coal and fuel, the threshing, however, is proceeding slowly. Nevertheless, offers of wheat are abundant, especially on the black market, and the price in many north Italian provinces is now 620 - 700 lire a quintal, as compared with a price two or three times as high a short time ago.

Milan. In order to assure the supplies of fuel necessary for agriculture, the Head of the Province has forbidden, until further notice the use of motors,

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Milan. In order to assure the supplies of fuel necessary for agriculture, the Head of the Province has forbidden, until further notice the use of motors, for threshing cereals and small seeds. From now onwards machines worked by water power must be used for such work. It is also forbidden to use liquid fuel for tractors or small tractors used for transporting goods".
(Sera, Milan 11.9.44).

CREMONA. The Cremona Prefecture announces: Owing to the milk shortage, the Head of the Province prohibits the sale of ice creams containing milk under any form.
(Regime Fascists, Cremona 12.9.44).

Whilst heavy rain has spoilt the first potato crop and has only permitted the distribution of restricted quantities, the present crop is abundant and of good quality. The Venice Provincial Food Office has therefore been able to supply households with sufficient stocks.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 30.8.44).

The Head of the Province of VENICE as Chairman of the Provincial Corporation

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for nutrition and agriculture, has decreed that potato growers must, within ten days of lifting their crop, report the quantity harvested to the Munidpal Office of Agriculture, and, until they surrender it, preserve it from theft and damage by weather. Potatoes needed for the next season, as seed or fodder, and for home consumption, need not be reported.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 5.9.44).

MILAN. The Head of the Province received the Commissioner of the Fascist Industrial Workers' Union, the Chief of the local Economic Police, and the Secretary of the Provincial Food Supply Control Board, whom he instructed as regards the future activities of the workers' food supply control squads. These consist of employees and workers cooperating with the competent official bodies in the campaign against the Black Market. One of these squads recently discovered 2,335 kg of soap in a Milan poultry shop, the owner of which, Alfonso Mariani has been arrested.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 10.9.44).

BOLOGNA. Food is good because of the proverbial richness of the country products. On the black market everything one needs can be found at a reasonable price, e.g. a kg of meat costs 80 lire, 1 kg of butter 150 lire, a kg of bread 30 lire, eggs (free sale) from 7 to 9 lire each. Material and shoes are lacking. A man's suit costs about 8000 lire, a pair of men's shoes 3000 lire.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

XXIV. Industry.

To save labour andachieve a simple control of production and distribution, the Italian textile trade will undergo considerable concentration. Wholesale trade will be confined to a few original so-called "confidence" stores, while retail trade will be limited by a redistribution of licences. Businesses to be closed down must declare their stocks to the local Economic Boards, which will turn over such stocks to the National Textile Board.
(D.N.B. 12.9.44).

XXV. Situation in Genoa.

In GENOA the harbour is completely mined - all cranes and other elevating apparatus have been destroyed. The Caracciolo and Morsini quays are said to have been blown up; the breakwater has been interrupted at several places; the quays of the seaplane enclosure have been cut off from the mainland. All is ready to destroy electric power stations and ship repairing sheds.

Almost all the buses as well as the best tramcars have been taken away by the Germans. In many works the plant was taken down and the machinery removed.

Railways did not operate during July. At that time it took a day to reach MILAN from GENOA for passenger trains, and goods trains could not operate at all. Along the Ligurian Riviera railways operated for passengers only, as far as VENTIMIGLIA with five or six interruptions on the west coast, and only over a distance of 20 kilometers on the east coast, ie. from GENOA to SORI.

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(G.B. P.W.B. Rome 21.9.44 (Italian Source)

An intercept from a letter dated 17.8.44 says "GENOA is now an inferno. They have been without water for a month and a half continuous indiscriminate bombing. You can understand what this means, let us hope it will all be over soon, as at GENOA they are waiting with open arms to receive the Allies".
(Censorship Intercept 17.8.44).

LABOUR.

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XXVI. Fascists and Germans Compete for Labour.

For months in Fascist Italy there has been sharp competition for labour between the Italian and German military Commands, and also between the State and Communal Labour Offices. Each branch makes alluring offers in order to attract

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the few available volunteers. Regime Fascista publishes an appeal from the Fascist military labour inspectorate calling up workers for "urgent reconstruction and defense work" Besides the usual promises of good wages and food they are also promised unconditional protection against the German and Italian authorities and a special document whereby they can only be employed in Italy and, if possible, near their homes. The possessor of such a document is exempt from military service and other services, and cannot be arrested in razzias. Many workers have become distrustful of these increasingly liberal working conditions and prefer to await events, staying with relatives in the country, or joining the maquis.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 16.9.44).

XXVII. News of Workers in Germany.

Considerable groups of Italian workers are reported to have arrived in northern Italy after a dangerous flight from deportation centres in Germany. The workers generally enter the partisan brigades, fearing Fascist reprisals, or because they are unable to reach their homes in central or southern Italy. They report increasing desertions among foreign workers deported to Germany.

A member of the staff of the clandestine paper Italia Libera interviewed some of these workers, from whom he obtained the following details: Resistance organisations are very active, especially among Italian, Polish, Russian and French workers. There exists a well-organised clandestine Communist Party which has, however, hitherto been unable to procure the arms for its supporter which would be necessary for over-throwing the German tyranny.

It is reported that the Germans in northern Italy recently stopped the deportation of workers to Germany and also the recruiting of so-called "voluntary" workers. This is ascribed to the catastrophic transport conditions between Italy and the Reich. Mass arrests among the Italian population are, however, continuing According to reports all prisons in LOMBARDY, PIEDMONT, the VENETO and LIGURIA are packed with political prisoners, while the concentration camps are becoming more numerous. Italia Libera estimates that there are now over 100,000 political prisoners.
(Der Bund 14.9.44).

XXVIII. More details of the Todt Organisation.

At SIRMONE on Lake GARDA there is the HQ of the Organisation TODT in Italy responsible for Regional H.Q.s (Bauleitungen)

At MONTEPIANO (L.7304) there was until the end of July Bauleitung 5, O.C. Hauptmann, FENN, with an administrative staff of thirty Italians and responsible for 7000 workers.

Of these 7000 workers 600 were furnished by the Austrian firm of "POAR" of VIENNA (Manager BANNERT) and the others were furnished by the following firms:

(1) DEL PONTE of ROME, represented by Ing. CATTANEO

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(2) TONELLI of ROME, represented by Ing. MORETTI.
(3) BERTOLINI, represented by Ing. BERTOLINI
(4) LENZI, of PISTOIA, represented by Ing. LENZI.
(5) MONARI, of PORRENTA, represented by MONARI Bros.
(6) GARBATI of CARRERA, represented by Ing. GARBATI.
(7) VANNUCCI of FLORENCE, represented by Ing. VANNUCCI.
(8) ILSA, of FERRARA, represented by Ing. RIMONDI
(9) FREGHI, of FERRARA, represented by Ing. FREGHI and Ing. PRAMPOLINIL.
(10) ROBATTI, represented by Ing. ROBATTI
(11) GIACHETTI, represented by Ing. GIACHETTI.

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Average daily pay for workers is 60 lire. One man in thirty is made Squad Chief and is better paid. A register was kept of all workers employed. Forty percent of wages was withheld by ITALIAN firms, causing some discontent.

At the end of June, 1944, Bauleitung 5 moved from MONTEPIANO to NOVELLARA, near MODENA.

In March 1944 all ITALIAN employees of Bualeitung 5 were forced to sign a document vowing never to speak of the activities of the Bauleitung and of their fidelity to the Nazi regime No part was taken at any time by the Republican Fascist Government in the relations between the workers and the Organisation TODT.

The following are further names of ITALIAN contractors on the GOTHIC Line (Central Appenines):-

(1) Area S. BUCIA: ROMANELLI and Cooperativa RAVENNA
(2) Area GIOGO: RODIO, LIVERANI and PAOLETTI.
(3) Area DICOMANO: AURELLI, ALIBONDI, LA BRUNA AND MANNINI.
(4) Area S. GUADENZIO: RICCI, SIAF.

(G-2 Advanced Intelligence 18.9.44)

PERSONALITIES.

XXIX. Fascist Chief of LUCCA.

IDRENO UTIMPERGHE Violently hated by the population.

(P.W.B. Advanced)

XXX. Black List in Cupramontana and Matelica.

BALDUCCI, a Lieut in the Fascist Militia, of CUPRAMONTANA (Sh.24(W)S2828) Is known to have murdered P.Ws and handed others over to the Germans. Balducci is said to be still in the Cupramontana area.

FINAGUERRA, a Lieut in the Italian Army, of MATELICA. Is responsible for the death of the parish priest at BRACCANA. Very anti-British and acted as a spy for the Fascists. Finaguerra is said to be now in prison at Matelica (Sh.24(W) S 1908)

(CSDIC 2.9.44)

XXXI Fascist Republican Officers.

Captured letters reveal that the officers listed below are on service with the Fascist Republican Government:-

ERSTONI, Luigi Lieutenant Colonel, commanding the 65th Deposito Misto Provinciale

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

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(G-2 Advanced Intelligence 18.9.44)

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(P.W.B. Advanced)

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(CSDIC 2.9.44)

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TESTONI, Luigi Lieutenant Colonel, commanding the 65th Deposito Misto Provinciale
FRACASSI, Pompeo Lt. Col, Vice Commandante Provinciale G.N.R. PISA
FERRAUTO, Agostino, Colonel 46th Comando Military Provinciale.
MENCACCI, Ottorino Lt. Col. Commanding the 101st Military District.
VALENZA, Ignazio Major, Commissary for the settling of Allowance claims of families of Navy personnel -ABUANIA MASSA.

(Censorship Intercept 8.9.44).

XXXII. Carita's Assistants.

The names of Carita's Assistants are:-

CAP. LOWLEY, Cap. GENTILI. Ten. SOTTILI, Ten, CASTALDELLI
Ten. UFARTINI (UFARTUCI?), Ten. FAEDDA, TEN BELLESI, and Ten. CORRADESCHI.

(P.W.B. ADVANCED)

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File.....

CIRCULATION SLIP
(Please circulate quickly)
Date 7.5.44

From: INFORMATION DIVISION
HQ. A.C.C.

To:	Seen & Initialled by
Acting Chief Commissioner	
V.Pres. Admin. Section	
V.Pres. Economic Section	
V.Pres. Political Section	
Executive Commissioner	
Deputy Executive Commissioner	
Chief Liaison Officer	
Liaison Officer to Foreign Reps	
Public Relations Officer	
Director of Sub Commission:	
Displaced persons	
Italian Refugee Br.	
Security Br.	
Navy	
Army	
Air	
Communications	
War Material Disposal	
Regional Commissioner:	
~~Region~~ Palermo	
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Report No
CSDIC,CMF(East)/CD/17.
13 Sep 44.

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Attitude and Action of the Cetniks prior to and after the Armistice

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Source: Gen L. VIVALDA, Commanding TAURINENSE Div.

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1. PREAMBLE.

This report contains the views of Gen VIVALDA ex OC TAURINENSE Div and later OC Garibaldi Div, fighting with the Partisans, on the collaboration of the Cetnik bands first with the Italian occupation forces and, after the Armistice, with the Germans.

When Source arrived in MONTENEGRO with the TAURINENSE Div at the beginning of Aug '42, the local forces were split up into the following groups:-

a) NATIONALISTS (Cetniks).

This was the largest group and controlled nearly the whole of MONTENEGRO. It was divided into two sections: ZELENASCI and BIELASCI (or Cetniks).

The ZELENASCI, under Gen KRSTO POPOVIC, were most influential in the NIKSIC-VILUSE-GRAHOVO-CETINJE and coastal areas. Their political ideal was an independent MONTENEGRO, separated from SERBIA.

The BIELASCI on the other hand considered themselves part of SERBIA and looked forward to the constitution of a "GREAT SERBIA" which would include MONTENEGRO. The BIELASCI stationed in the NIKSIC-DANILOVGRAD area were commanded by Col RAJO STANISIC; those in KOLASIN-BERANE-PODGORICA and SANDJAK areas by Maj PAVLE GIURISIC.

The strongest and most powerful section was the one under Maj GIURISIC; the one under Col STANISIC came next, followed by the ZENELASCI under Gen POPOVIC. The BIELASCI hated the ZENELASCI, whom they considered pro-Partisan, and sometimes even fought against them.

Despite the rivalry and personal jealousies existing amongst the BIELASCI leaders, they were all in agreement on the political and military course to be followed, and they all acknowledged Gen DRAZA MIHAILOVICH, War Minister of the Provisional Yugoslav Government in LONDON, as their C in C. As a result of this attitude, they considered themselves at the time in a certain sense Allies of the Anglo-Americans and the only ones who were really acting in accordance with the war aims of the Allies.

They hated the Partisans and fought against them as representatives of Communism which they fiercely opposed.

b) MOSLEMS.

This group disposed of a few armed bands in the SANDJAK, in the area between PLJEVLJA and CAJNICE, at PRJEPOLJE and at SJENICA which, being near Moslem ALBANIA, represented their stronghold.

They had NO special political leanings, but usually sided with the strongest party and the only object of their armed forces was to protect the territories inhabited by them from attacks by their traditional enemies - the Cetniks. The Cetniks accused them of being pro-Croat and pro-Partisan.

c) PARTISANS

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c) PARTISANS.

At that time there were very few Partisans left in MONTENEGRO, as they had been driven out of the country by the concerted action of Italian and Cetnik troops. There were a few bands wandering around the mountains, who every now and then appeared on the roads, raiding isolated MT or small Italian columns.

d) INDEPENDENT BANDS.

Besides the above, there were a few bands composed of members of the Orthodox Church, who did NOT side either with the Cetniks or the Partisans - for instance the RADE KORDA band - and who sometimes took action against the Italians either on their own or supported by one or other of the above groups.

2. ATTITUDE OF THE LOCAL ARMED FORCES TOWARDS THE ITALIANS.

a) CETNIKS. The attitude of the Cetniks was ambiguous. Despite the fact that some of the Cetnik leaders and other members of this group had received

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arms from Italian HQs with which to fight against the Partisans and were continuing to receive food and money for services rendered to protect the lines of communication from Partisan attacks, the Cetnik propaganda was anti-Italian and tended to keep alive in the people the feeling of hatred for the invader who must sooner or later, with the help of the Anglo-Americans, be driven out of MONTENEGRO. It was apparent at a later date that this propaganda had not had much effect on the people, who, even in the most tragic moments after the Armistice, were on the whole friendly towards the Italians.

On the whole the Cetniks were grateful to the Italians for having saved the lives of thousands of Serbs in CROATIA, when the Ustashi, to get rid of the Serbs, started a wholesale massacre of the Serbian population. In consideration of the above the Cetniks often told the Italians that, if they were obliged to capitulate, they would be disarmed and accompanied to the coast for repatriation, without any harm being done to them.

Some of the Cetnik leaders told the Italians that the anti-Italian propaganda was only fictitious and served to keep the organisation on its feet, as without a theoretical enemy to fight against, it would have collapsed in a short time.

As a matter of fact, the Cetniks showed NO open hostility towards the Italians up to the time of the Armistice.

b) MOSLEMS.

The Moslems were obedient and devoted. For them the Italians represented a safeguard against possible outrages on the part of the Cetniks or other groups, and, therefore, they were only too willing to collaborate with them.

c) PARTISANS.

Their attitude was markedly hostile.

d) INDEPENDENT BANDS.

Their attitude was ambiguous and sometimes hostile.

During the whole of 1942 and the first months of 1943, the Cetniks commanded by GIURISIC and STANISIC lived in the full glory of their successes against the Partisans. They enlarged their organisation and sometimes assumed a proud and independent attitude towards the Italians; to put matters in their right perspective Source was obliged, on various occasions, to put up a show of force and disarm some of them.

In Feb '43, probably to prove the efficiency of their organisation, or perhaps only to maintain the fighting spirit of their troops, the Cetniks mobilised thousands of men and started an action against the Moslems in the SANDJAK area. The Moslems, taken by surprise and overpowered by superiority in numbers, were obliged to retreat to the left bank of the DRINA, into territory controlled by the Germans, thus placing themselves in safety.

On this occasion the Cetniks committed all kinds of outrages against the Moslem population.

Though the Italian intervention on this occasion was weak, as their forces were distributed over 11 garrisons far away from each other and their Supreme Command did NOT intend them to fight against the Cetniks, it served however to put a brake on more serious excesses, and helped to bring things back to normal within a short time.

[illegible] for the Italians were as follows:-

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a brake on more serious excesses, and helped to bring things back to normal
within a short time.

The consequences for the Italians were as follows:-

(i) They lost prestige in the eyes of the Moslems.
(ii) Many of the Moslems, who had fled across the DRINA, joined the Croat formations of the Ustashi and some joined the Partisan formations.
(iii) There was an influx of thousands of Moslem refugees into PLJEVIJA and other localities in the SANDJAK area garrisoned by Italian troops, with resulting epidemics, scarcity of supplies etc.

The actual fighting capacity of the Cetniks, however, was put to the proof in
Apr when some Partisan divs arrived at the DRINA. Though on this occasion
GIURISIC mobilised all available men - about 9000 in all - the action of the Cetniks,
which was badly directed by GIURISIC himself, was weak and uncertain and did NOT
meet with success. The Partisans crossed the DRINA and invaded MONTENEGRO,
whence they were later driven out again by German and Italian troops.

After this action, during which many Cetniks went over to the Partisans, the

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prestige of GIURISIC, who was captured and interned by the Germans, was seriously shaken. The Cetniks returned disheartened to their homes, after part of them had been disarmed by the Germans. From then on they lived in dread of the Partisans, against whom they knew they could NOT now put up any resistance.
Following an order received from their Supreme Command after this action, the Italians started to disarm the Cetniks and send the leaders of the movement to PODGORICA for internment.

When, in Jul '43 Source moved with his div to the NIKSIC area, he had various interviews with Col STANISIC, who came to ask him for weapons for his troops, as he was worried by the then once more increasing Partisan threat. The reply was always in the negative.

During one of these interviews, held after the fall of Fascism, at a time when the Italians had lost all interest in fighting the Partisans or in the internal strife amongst the various Montenegrin parties, Source asked STANISIC unofficially whether he did NOT think it possible for the Cetniks to join up with the Partisans to continue the fight for the liberation of MONTENEGRO. He replied with a very decisive NO.

Hatred of the Partisans was so deeply rooted in the Cetnik leader that he would even have been prepared to become an Ally of the devil so as to drive the Partisans out of his country.

Source was therefore NOT very surprised when a few days after the Armistice, whilst preparing to leave NIKSIC for DANILOVGRAD, he overheard the mayor of NIKSIC (a Cetnik) speaking in French to the German col who was taking over the town:

"I am very glad the German troops are coming to NIKSIC as their presence is a guarantee that the Partisans will NOT be able to come here".

On the other hand, Cetnik elements declared at the same time their intention of taking up position against the Germans and attacking their columns returning from PODGORICA; they promised that the whole of MONTENEGRO would fight against the Germans should the Italian div do the same. However, nothing happened, and the activities of the Cetniks during the few days in which the TAURINENSE Div was at DANILOVGRAD, were confined to currying favour with some of the Italian units by promises of food, money etc, with the object of winning them over to their side and eventually taking possession of their weapons in order to prevent them from going over to the Partisans and reinforce the Communists which they considered their sole enemies.

When the first action against the Germans started at DANILOVGRAD on 15 Sep 43, NOT only did the Cetniks stay altogether away from the battle, but they also endeavoured - without success - to impede the movement of Source's column to CEVO. Also in the GRAKOVAC-CERVICE area, the local Cetniks took NO part in the fight of the Italians against the Germans; they took advantage, however, of every opportunity to steal Italian horses, weapons, etc.

Source states in conclusion that undoubtedly any attitude adopted by the Cetniks had and has only one object: Fight the Partisans in order to prevent Communism, which they consider the basis of the Partisan movement.

They have proved that they are ready to make any compromise for the achieve-

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They have proved that they are ready to make any compromise for the achievement of this object; and in fact, during the action in Apr '44, the Cetniks, (commanded by Maj GIURISIC, who had been liberated and reinstated by the Germans) became Allies of the Germans, the Moslems, and even of the Croat Ustashi, whom in the past they had always considered as their worst enemies.

HN. N.P.

for [illegible], Capt
Lieut.
Officer i/c CSDIC (Sub-centre East), C.M.F.

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Distribution as attached.

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D. Section. P.W.B.

Secret.

Appendix.

Title. MEMORANDUM ON P.W.B. INTELLIGENCE FROM OCCUPIED ITALY. (LUCCA)

RESISTANCE

In the Garfagnana mountains there are the following groups of partisans :

1. Coreglia Antelminelli, about 400 men, partly armed and partly to be furnished with arms. This nucleus is composed of very brave elements and very desirous to fight. If these men have not yet been furnished with arms, it would be advisable to repeat the special message, agreed upon with us : E' arrivato l'Avvocato" and provide for refurnishments . The fires will be lighted in the Coreglia - Antelminelli Zone on the left side of the Serchio river, near Barga.

2. Fiano. (Locality called Lucchese) 500 partisans, headed by a naval officer called Brofferio . A month ago they needed refurnishments.

3. Alpe di S!Antonio, at the north-east of Mount Pania; 200 partisans headed by me. Very zealous and brave. A month ago only 50 of them were armed.

4. Strada di Arni, at the North of the Alpi Sant'Antonio. 300 partisans headed by an English officer, named Oldam, waiting for refurnishments.

Three bridges have been destroyed on the Garfagnana road, between the Passo delle Radici and Abetone, which were very important and difficult to rebuild. Many Germans were killed in their attempt to blow up bridges over the Serchio River.

FASCIST AND ARMED FORCES

In the city of Lucca the only Fascist Organisation is the "Brigata Nera", composed of about 50 men. Their moral is very low.

GERMANS.

In the Plain between the Pisani Mountains and Lucca, a month ago, there was a slight defence and only two batteries of guns. Other guns were on the Pisani Mountains facing Arno River. The real [illegible] begins in the Garfagnana Valley, especially on the [illegible] d'Ottavo. Many

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Title

MEMORANDUM ON LUCCA

An exact detailed map of all these fortifications belonging to the Gothic Line is prepared and ready at Lucca and will be delivered through me or by someone charged by me. Many atrocities have been committed by Germans, who, fired in the corn fields, where young men were hiding, in order not to be captured. In the village of Combitelli (Camaiore town), because of an attempt on the lives of two Germans, 15 peasants were executed, forty days ago, and nobody was allowed to bury them. In the village of Fermo, near Apuania, because of the entry of the partisans, the German and Fascist Flottiglia Mas, killed 63 men without trial, who were without any responsability.

4. Allied Propaganda.

The Allied radios are listened to everywhere and without disturbance. The population is very favourable towards the Allied Countries and forces.

POLITICS

The most compromised fascists have escaped, and the moral, of the remainder is very low. The Carabinieri and the Police are mostly favourably disposed towards the Liberation Committee, even if they pretend to collaborate with the last remaining Fascists.

ECONOMICS.

All the cattle and poultry have been carried away by the Germans. The peasants have ground the wheat in secret and succeeded in saving part of it. All the stores and deposits of every kind of wares were sacked. All the flour mills were sacked and destroyed. The prices were exorbitant.

PRESS.

The only fascist organ a month ago was still the weekly paper "Brigata Nera". The behaviour of fascists and Germans is very insolent towards everyone. No man would freely circulate in the streets, and the houses were broken into to catch workmen.

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Appendix. D. Section.P.W.B. Secret.

Title.

MEMORANDUM ON LUCCA

PERSONALITIES

The chief of the Fascists is DUILIO UTIMPERGHE and he is violently hated by the population. The most eminent personalities and leaders of the anti-fascist parties are the following :
Prof. August Mancini (University of Pisa): democratic party; imprisoned for three months by the Fascists.

Giuseppe Luigi Veleni, lawyer ant anti- fascist.

Natale Mancini, lawyer, liberal Party.

Avv.Paolo Rossi of Gattaiola, refugee from Genoa. Eminent for his genius and means.

Other members of the Committee of Liberation.

P. di Azione.	Dott. Maloci.
Liberale.	Prof. Mastori
Liberale.	Prof. Francesconi
Communiste.	Avv. De Pace.

P.S. A list of the most important fascist spies will be delivered by me as soon as I arrive at Lucca.

SEEN.	INITIALS.	DATE.
Col. Mc... HY		
Maj. MAS...		
Maj. DRAC...		
Capt. SALVADORI		

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Liberale.	Prof. Mastorni
Liberale.	Prof. Francesconi
Communista.	Avv. De Pace.

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SEEN.	INITIALS.	DATE.
Col. Mc [illegible]HY		
Maj. MA[illegible]		
Maj. DRAG[illegible]		
Capt SALVADORI		
Col. TAV[illegible]		
[illegible]		

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Appendix. D. Section P.W.B. Secret.

Title. INFORMATION ABOUT BOLOGNA AND ITS PROVINCE.

Prof Bernardini of the Bologna University, has been questioned. Prof. Bernardini is a young man of science, well known in Italy for his studies on the cosmic rays and the composition of the atom. Politically he declares a leaning towards Communism and the Party of Action(Partita d'Azione), although specifically he has nothing to do with either party. He has always been against Fascism and has had to undergo disciplinary punishments even before 25th July 1943. He left Bologna about a month ago.

GENERAL SITUATION Bologna has had to undergo about 20 air-raids. Only about 7 or 8 of these have reached military objectives. All the others have destroyed civil places. Great stretches are destroyed at Porta Mazzini, Porta Dami, Via Irnsio etc. Much less justifiable were the air-raids that touched such unimportant parts as those between the Città Giardino and the Via Mazzini. The population is very irritated about this.What caused more surprise was the fact that, after 8th September air-raids continued over Bologna and over other cities of the North, such as Ferrara, Treviso etc, causing the death of many civilians without getting any war utility. For example on the 24th September an air-raid over Bologna caused the death of 4200 people(Prof, Bernardini was given this information by Prof, Forni of the University Clinic) and the railway traffic remained just about the same as ever., and if the Central Railway Station was useless the trains went through the secondary railway stations of S. Rufilio and Borgo Panigalletti . The population that had evacuated in great part,after 8th September, came back into the city, hoping that the Allies would no longer raid without discrimination, avoiding terrorist attacks on the population. Seeing that was not the case, many returned to the country, from where they came back again into the city, the German troops having invaded the country-side, perpetrating the usual damages. The return to the city was also favoured by the fact that good refuges had been finally built, and the sirens were functioning well, and what is more, Bologna had been declared a hospital city.There are about 200,000 inhabitants in the city at present. It is full of hospitals. Posters have invited the population to help in the work of caring for the wounded in the interest and safety of the city.

ECONOMICAL SITUATION

Bologna is characterised by the presence of many industries of medium and small importance(the employees are composed of a few hundred workmen).These industries, in spite of the continual interruption of the electric current, are still working. The big Ducati factory is also active.

Alimentation is in a good state, because of the proverbial richness of the country production. On the black market, is to be had easily and at a reasonable price, all that one needs: for example a Kg of meat costs 80 lires, a Kg. of butter 150 lires; a Kg. of bread without a ration card 30 lires eggs (free sale) from 7 to 9 lires each. Clothing and shoes are wanting. A man's suit costs about 8000 lires; a pair of mans'shoes 3000 lires.

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POLITICAL SITUATION

As everywhere else Fascism has few followers. Prof, Bernardini on a visit to Milan was able to notice that the anti-fascist movement in the latter city is much stronger than in the former, and virtually Milan is already in anti-fascist hands. The same thing cannot be said of Bologna, although here as well, hatred against the Germans is very great, and the fascist republic is held in no consideration. In the University"milieu" which he knows best, Prof, Bernardini indicates as men of anti-fascist leanings Giuseppe BAITTA, student of philosophy, an independent and bitter anti-fascist, even if he did pronounce a speech on the death of his Master Gentile. Businco pathology, Party of A Action. FORTUNATI, economics, a Communist. CLIVO anatomy, independant. BATTAGLIA economics, Communist, CANELLA, assistant in anatomy, a very active man of the Party of Action. There must be socialist and Demo- Christian groups, but Prof, Bernardini has never beenin touch with them. He thinks that the clergy have great influence, especially in the country; the workmen of the city are clearly Communist; their passion is pure, strong and active, with a marked socialist leaning. The country-man is on the whole, a quite well-off, if small proprietor, very catholic and conservatist, therefore a bitter enemy to Communism. In the Province near Romagna(Lugo, Molinella, Brufrio and also Faenza, there are large stretches of country-side quite extremist and intensely communist. Here the struggle takes on a bloody aspect; many murders between fascists and anti-fascists are continually committed. The Communist Party is trying to moderate the violent character that the Communism of Romagna is taking on. In such places the Party of Action is very strong, and the Chiefs of Bologna often come from this violent part of the Province. There also exists the Labour Party a kind of Socialism of which Prof, Bernardini is not able to indicate the characteristics; it seems to be pretty much diffused in Romagna.

THE FASCIST ARMY In the beginning of July the Republican army was still in existance at Bologna, but was in perfect disorder. Some of Prof, Bernardini's students, who had to present themselves to the army corps, were sent home again, because the Republican army had neither food nor clothes nor arms. Others were taken by the Germans and incorporated in German uniform under German officers in the coastal detachments. As usual the G.N.R. is made up of old"squadristi", full of responsability and of boys enlisted God knows how, from I6 to I8 years old. These groups go around the city shedding blood in the ways as will soon be indicated. There are also in Bologna special groups, such as the Parachutists, very few in number with the Conscription Centre in the city and barracks in Via Zamboni the IO Fleet M.A.S. I°. bat. M. All these men behave like real bandits.

Prof Bernardini remembers that blood was shed in the following ways:

a). In the month of July, IO bodies were found in the Via Malpighi, and rumour had it that they had been killed by the Fascists.

b). In the month of June, 3 bodies were found in the same way in Piazza del Duomo.

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c). Ten hostages were shot to revenge the death of the Federale Facchini.

THE BEHAVIOUR OF THE GERMAN TROOPS

Prof, Bernardini has lived for some time on the Appenines, at Lizzano at Belvedere. A German Command lived there for some time and then moved elsewhere. The German troops cover all the area.

On the flank of the Appenines, facing Tuscany, the Germans are going to excesses and committing all kinds of devastations. Sometimes they order the evacuation of whole villages: this happened at Gireglia, (Pistoia), and Prof, Bernardini saw the fugitives from that hamlet, arriving at Lizzano. On the flank facing Emilia, they are behaving better so showing their intention of not evacuating the territory of the line of the Goths. A German Colonel at Lizzano, told Prof, Bernardini, that the German troops will stop on the line of the Goths until the end of the war; textually he added: "We shall see the end of the war on the line of the Goths."

THE PARTISANS.

Prof, Bernardini never came inc contact with the partisans. There was a group of partisans with communist leanings, near Lizzano, (they wore a red star). Two partisans were arrested by the Germans in the month of July. One was shot immediately, the other was tied to his dead companion, and left so in the Square for the rest of the day. On the following day he was hanged. The people paid honour to his death with flowers, although they had been forbidden to do so by the Germans.

2.9.1944. S.Sp.

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By [illegible] NARS, Date 7/31/96

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Ccc). 20th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12 APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 25.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans The patriotic movement is growing rapidly and in the Piedmontese mountains has assumed the appearance of genuine military operations. The Ligurian and Parmesan zones have also been the theatres of heavy fighting recently. The Germans made determined efforts to clear the GENOVA-PIACENZA road and succeeded in doing so owing to the shortage of ammunition among the partisans. In the ORCO valley (SAVONA Province) the 10th Flotilla MAS has suffered severe losses in their mopping-up operations.

In the BELLUNO Province a week's fighting resulted in losses of 500 men for the Germans. The patriots eventually retired, owing to lack of ammunition it is claimed, but succeeded in escaping to the mountains.

From the VAL D'AOSTA, IMPERIA, TREVISO, TOLMEZZO come reports of sharp fighting and considerable German losses. A Swiss correspondent with the partisan forces in northwest Italy speaks of a general patriot offensive in the Provinces of TORINO and NOVARA, on the Riviera and in the LAGO MAGGIORE district. He reports extensively the capture of DOMODOSSOLA, CANNOBIO, BRISSAGO, describes the organisation of the patriot brigades under Italian generals, and notes the presence of British officers.

Sabotage Railway and road communications have suffered severe damage as a result of widespread and determined sabotage offensive on the part of Garibaldi Brigades. The most important operations were in the TOLMEZZO region, Routes 13,15, and 52 and the MILANO-TORINO and NOVARA-LUINO railway lines.

Assassinations In MILAN the German Police Commissioner was shot and killed by two cyclists.

Reprisal Atrocities. The Popolo e Liberta of BELLINZONA reports that hostages have been killed by being hanged on butchers' hooks, thrust under their chins.

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FASCIST FORCES

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Fascist radio claiming successful operations, mentions the 10th Black Brigade in BRESCIA Province, 22nd Black Brigade in VICENZA, 18th Black Brigade in PADOVA, the 28th in PIACENZA, the 30th in REGGIO EMILIA and the 1st in TORINO.

Fascists ready to run More Fascist gerarchs and squadrists have taken up quarters near the frontiers, so as to be ready for any emergency.

S. Vittore Prison Treatment of political prisoners in said to have improved considerably as the German Commandant, Colonel Rauf, deposed the warders who were responsible for the cruelties inflicted.

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SUMMARY 2.

GERMANS

Swiss sources declare that the Germans are ready to evacuate LIGURIA, and even PIEMONTE and LOMBARDY.

Behaviour Reports from the front indicate that the German troops are behaving better than previously and villagers complain less of their conduct.

Atrocities. Massacres are reported from VALLUCCIOLA and PARTINA. A particularly horrible story comes from SAN POLO, where it is said 47 patriots and civilians were buried alive with gelignite, which was then exploded.

Poison Gas. Rumours that the Germans intend to use poison gas are persistent. The RUMIANCA factory at PIEVE VERGONTE (Novar Province) is said to be manufacturing gas.

POLITICS

No report has been issued on Mussolini's cabinet meeting of August 31st. It is believed that one of the subjects discussed was the difficulty of providing offices for the Government departments which are crowding into the shrinking territory along the Swiss frontier. There is also difficulty about replacements for State and Party officials who have resigned or been dismissed.

Generals on Trial. German wireless announces that in late September a trial will be held of Generals CARACCIOLO, GARIBALDI, ROSI, VECCHIARELLI, MOIZO, ROBOTTI and SCUERO, as responsible for the collapse of the Italian Army.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation In MILAN producers and shopkeepers have been ordered to make a general stock-taking by September 15th, and since the 10th stocks have been blocked and can only be sold by permission of the authorities.

Cheese in the north is generally in good supply and Black Market prices are not much above controlled prices. The Tobacco ration is to be reduced to a daily 15 grammes as from 11th September. In TRIESTE owing to shortage of electricity water consumption is to be reduced.

LABOUR

A general strike is reported in BOLOGNA, REGGIO EMILIA and GENOA, with partial strikes in MILAN, TURIN and NOVARA.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ). 20th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -NO 25.

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LABOUR.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

20th September, 1944

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 25.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items sidelined.

RESISTANCE

I. Partisans.

The attacks conducted by partisans against the German troops and the Fascists in every region still occupied are becoming more orderly every day, and assuming the character of a real general offensive. In LOMBARDY, LIGURIA and PIEDMONT there are reports of great progress. Even in the principal towns, where the German and Fascist troops are concentrated, the situation is very black for the oppressors; many localities in the immediate vicinity of the Italo-Swiss frontier have been firmly occupied by the patriots, who want to try and prevent Fascists from slipping into Switzerland. There is news also that the patriots of GENOVA have obtained control of some parts of the town and some of the surrounding areas. At TRIESTE the mass of workers have gone on strike, refusing to work any more for the Nazi war mechine. In ISTRIA more than a thousand patriots are working with the support of the population. In many regions Fascist control has been entirely swept away and German troops do not halt in the area, merely passing through on their way to the front.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.9.44).

Disposition of partisan bands

SAVONA The position of the patriots in the SAVONA area has excellent possibilities. They are on their way to unifying their command and their actions. (20-24 August)

VENETO Within established blocks patriots of the Garibaldi Divisions in northern Veneto are setting up their own military government, organising police, civil and transportation services in the liberated territory. (9.9.44).

VALMOZZOLA-FORNOVO-SALSOMAGGIORE. In this zone there are six detachments with 340 individual arms, one MG, one 20mm MG and twelve machine rifles. (early Sept.) (W.S.W. Parma - route 62)

At TORRIGLIA there is a concentration of German troops to carry out the

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VALMOZZOLA-FORNOVO-S.LEONARDO. In this zone there are six detachments with 340 individual arms, one MG, one 20mm MG and twelve machine rifles. (early Sept.) (W.S.W. Parma - route 62)

At TORTIGLIA there is a concentration of German troops to carry out the Nazi plan to free the VOGHERA - ALESSANDRIA - TORTIGLIA-GENOVA road from partisan control. (Late August 44).

COLLE ARGENTERA Italian patriots in full cooperation with French patricts are fighting the common enemy at the COLLE ARGENTERA and in the STURA Valley. Numerous encounters took place in the PADOVA area and in the upper POLESINE. In the town of IMPERIA the local jail was attacked and 80 political prisoners were freed. Also numerous German artillery emplacements have been damaged in the same region (31.8.44).

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L. SPEZI. The Command of the Fisa Division of patriots operating near L. SPEZIA has been reorganised with less personnel. For the time being, certain Communist Bands have been excluded because, in the opinion of the divisional leaders, their actions on the occasion of a recent mopping-up operation were not satisfactory. However, arrangements have been made with leaders of these Communist bands for coordination of action wherever feasible. (30.8.44).

TOLMEZZO Heavy fighting between German and Patriot forces is reported going on in the region of TOLMEZZO (Highway 52). There are more than 1000 Cossack troops in TOLMEZZO who fight with the Germans. The military situation in the territory of the Garibaldi Division is improving, and partisans are extending well-managed control of military and political affairs in the entire zone. The Command desires to occupy TOLMEZZO, capital of the CARNIA region. There is now a battalion of SS troops, a battalion of Russian Cossacks, a battalion of Fascists and other minor forces in TOLMEZZO. Occupation of this town would limit German control to a narrow stretch along the railway PONTEBBA-TARVISO. (30.8.44).

The patriot column GIUSTIZIA E LIBERTA under the command of BOIA was planning to open an operation against the road tract L. SPEZIA-CHIAVARI-SESTRI LEVANTE -S.N METRO V.R.-V.L DURASCA on the night of 2-3 September.

P.R.I. Thirty First GARIBALDI Brigade is in the P.R.I. zone. The Commander is GIACOMO CROLLALANZA; Captain is ETTORE COSENZA; Commissar is LUIGI LERIS. The force consists of 400 men (3.9.44)

GENOVA. One source made contact with a band of 100 armed and 300 unarmed men who intend to operate in the zone east of GENOVA. They have only one commander, a Ten. Di VASCELLO ZOLESIO ANTONIO. Arms include 12 Stens, one MG and some Italian rifles, but they have very little ammunition. This ZOLESIO band, principled and well-disciplined is always interfered with by MARZIO because they are not communists. (Confidential Source).

Recent Partisan Activities.

The fight between the partisans and the German-Fascist forces has been continuing for some weeks. About 26th August the enemy made a desperate attempt to clear the highway, and the partisans were in great need of weapons and ammunition to stem the attack. By 2nd September it was reported that the highway had been cleared of partisans, giving the Germans the free use of the entire route from PIACENZA to GENOVA. The patriots are out of supplies and an Alpine Division is continuing mopping-up operations against them. There are German planes over the area nightly. These look for signal fires and then bomb and strafe the dropping zone (area referred to is in the PIACENTINO APPENNINES centered on BOBBIO with a 30 km radius) (Confidential Source)

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(Confidential Source)

ORCO Valley During operations in the ORCO valley a contingent of 100 men, belonging to the 10th Flot. MAS has been annihilated. 380 dead have been counted, 300 have been captured and the same number wounded, during the whole operation.

BELLUNO From 27th August to 3rd September, Germans, supported by tanks and armoured cars, conducted a large mopping-up operation against patriots southeast of BELLUNO. Violent fighting for a period of one week resulted in about 500 dead for the enemy. The Garibaldi Brigades after receiving the brunt of the attack successfully, retreated into the mountains because of the scarcity of ammunition.
(Confidential Source)
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Through actions now in progress (9.9.44), the Ligurian Division has killed 52 Germans and wounded 15, destroyed two trucks and damaged three, and blown one bridge and damaged another. Only two patriots were wounded. This division will be forced to suspend activities in ten days due to the lack of ammunition.

VAL D'AOSTA Four hundred Germans were killed and wounded when patriots attacked a strong German column at QUARTO PRAETORIA in the VAL D'AOSTA The patriots also suffered severe losses before withdrawing into the lateral valleys. 8.9.44.

IMPERIA Patriots launched surprise attacks in the IMPERIA zone, causing severe losses to the San Marco Division. DIANO MARINA, five kilometers northeast of IMPERIA, has been occupied. (8.9.44)

TREVISO At PIEVE DI SOLIGO and CISON DI VALMARINO in the province of Treviso, 120 Germans were killed and many captured. Much booty was also taken. The large mopping-up operation in the CANAVESE and in the SESIA valley did not diminish the efficiency of the patriot formations.

TOLMEZZO The TOLMEZZO-PALUZZA road and the TOLMEZZO-AMPEZZO-FORNI DI SOPRA road have been closed by patriot action. Partisans were fighting Germans and White Russian Mercenaries in VILLA SANTINA as of 3rd September but partisan munitions were almost expended. Routes 51 and 52 are temporarily closed to heavy traffic.

TIZZANO VAL PARMA It is believed that a mopping-up operation against patriots has begun in the area of TIZZANO VAL PARMA. (1.9.44).

The enemy has been attacking in force in the SESIA valley. Fascist troops have been severely beaten in numerous encounters in the CANAVESE, in the BIELLA region and in the plains of NOVARA. Bitter and sharp fighting took place in the SERIANA valley. The road has been interrupted by the patriots in the vicinity of LANA. (COL DI LANA). Numerous German fortifications have been destroyed in the Region. The town of LANGHIRANO DI PARMA (35 Km s of Parma) has been occupied by the patriots.
(Confidential Source 31.8.44).

The Garibaldi Divisions which are operating in the provinces of VICENZA, PADOVA and TREVISO have begun with great success violent campaigns against all the railway communications of the zone. Some trains have been derailed and many switches have been either destroyed or damaged. Besides this, owing to the many attacks against convoys, the enemy is obliged practically to stop all night traffic. The patriots of a Garibaldi Division which is operating inthe province of UDINE, has shaken off an attack against NIMIS; with the help of the concentrated and precise fire of the mortars they have obliged the Germans to retreat towards TARCENTO.

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severe losses to the San Marco Division. DIANO MARINA, five kilometers northeast of IMPERIA, has been occupied. (8.9.44)

TREVISO At PIEVE DI SOLIGO and CISON DI VALMARINO in the province of Treviso, 120 Germans were killed and many captured. Much booty was also taken. The large mopping-up operation in the CANAVESE and in the SESIA valley did not diminish the efficiency of the patriot formations.

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(P.W.B. Rome 9.9.44).

DOMODOSSOLA After two days siege DOMODOSSOLA has been captured by partisans from the neighbouring valleys. The garrison, approximately 600 strong, 50% of whom were SS, surrendered to a numerically superior and well-armed force of partisans. According to certain reports, all the SS have been killed and other Wehrmacht soldiers and Blackshirts succeeded in escaping to the mountains, from whence they are trying to reach Switzerland. The garrisons of PREGLIA and VARZO have also surrendered.
(La Suisse Geneve 11.9.44).

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The liberation of DOMODOSSOLA by the partisans represents a brilliant military success achieved after eight days' clever and daring fighting. The town fell without any fighting however. The partisan brigades which took part in its capture were the "Piave", and "Valdossola" which cut the DOMODOSSOLA-NOVARA highway, and the "Garibaldi" which held the western operational areas.
"Basler Nachrichten" 11.9.44).

A special correspondent who visited the GHQ of the "Piave" Brigade on Lake Maggiore writes that operations developing in that sector form only one phase of the strategic plan which includes the liberation of the whole of Italy. The Supreme Command is composed of Italian generals to whom is attached an Allied Military Mission. The present offensive is developing in four main sectors, that is, the Provinces of DOMO and NOVARA, the Riviera and LAKE MAGGIORE. The partisans are gaining ground everywhere, several thousand Germans and Fascists being killed, wounded or taken prisoner.
(Corriere di Ticino Lugano 7.9.44).

The "Piave" Brigade consists of two battalions -the Cesare Battisti" and the "General Perotti", commanded by Captains ARCA and PIPPO. These troops, which appeared to be excellently commanded, have already brought civilian life back to normal in the villages which have so far been liberated. It is generally thought that the Lake Maggiore partisans will launch a large-scale offensive in order to capture the whole zone. They now possess a small fleet, which will shortly be increased. Every partisan has a pseudonym, for instance, one is called "Robespierre". The men do not know each other's identity, but only the pseudonyms. They come from all over Italy. Hitherto the partisans have not received any pay, but have been supported by their families.
(La Suisse, Geneva 6.9.44)

CANNOBIO After the liberation of Cannobio, where the German garrison had to put up the white flag, the patriot offensive extended to the entire province of NOVARA. A partisan brigade, advancing beyond Cannobio has occupied COGLIO, obtaining control of all the surrounding area.
(P.W.B. Rome 11.9.44).

On September 2nd at 11.00 hours, partisan groups, armed with rifles, revolvers and hand grenades, came down from the mountains and attacked the German occupation troops in CANNOBIO. The Germans opened violent machine-gun and tommy-gun fire and the fighting lasted until 16.00 hours. The German customs post at the Swiss frontier was very violently attacked, but on September 3rd in the morning at the frontier the Italian tricolour was hoisted, and three young partisans assumed the customs control
(Arbeiter Zeitung, Schaffhausen 4.9.44).

The operation at DOMODOSSOLA is apparently being led by a British Colonel and a Captain. On the evening of September 3rd, the Union Jack was hoisted simultaneously with the Italian tricolour near the Swiss frontier at BRISSAGO.
(Arbeiter Zeitung, Schaffhausen 4.9.44).

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The population on the shores of LAKE MAGGIORE supports the partisan offensive and general strikes have been called in STRESA and PALLANZA. The Germans have arrested numerous hostages. In expectation of an important partisan offensive on the right shore of Lake Maggiore the patriot brigades are advancing fighting in the direction of PALLANZA and STRESA.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 5.9.44).

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During the afternoon of September 8th, an exchange of hostages took place between the Wehrmacht and the partisans in LUINO, which is still occupied by the Germans. An SS Captain from the German GHQ in MONZA arrived at the HQ of the Brigade in order to discuss the exchange of further hostages. Apparently the Wehrmacht recognises the Lake Maggiore partisans as belligerent units.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 8.9.44)

Owing to the agravated situation Fascist Militiamen have been obliged to abandon INTRA and to take refuge in LUINO. The "San Marco" Blackshirt battalion come to the rescue and have begun to fortify the surroundings of LUINO. Fighting in this district appears to be imminent.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.9.44).

II. Sabotage.

Route 51 was completely cut by sabotage at PERAROLO on 3rd September. Railway tunnel collapsed and the road was cratered. The resulting landslide buried both, and it will take at least three weeks to repair. Patriots in this area now have routes 51 and 52 blocked at two defiles as well as two blocks on Route 52 to the east.
(Confidential Source 5/6 Sept.)

On September 8th patriots of the Giustizia e Liberta Division blew up the powder factory at CANTONE a few kilometers from AGAZZANO The establishment contained over 200 tons of explosives. Every day the Germans came there in vehicles to load charges for small and medium artillery.
(Confidential Source 11.9.44).

On the night of 7th September patriots of the 31st Garibaldi Brigade blew the rail bridge on the FORNOVO-FIDENZA line, 1000 meters north of MEDESANO. On the night of 8th September the same group did complex damage to the overpass west of BRUCIATE. Ten days would be required for repairs.
(Confidential Source 11th September 44.

Patriots have sabotaged the MILANO-TORINO railway near CHIVASSO THE SEMPIONE railway has been sabotaged at the CUZZEGO Bridge and the NOVARO-LUINO line at the galleries. 56 trucks with aeronautical material have been captured in the TORINO zone.
(Confidential Source 20-24 August).

The northern Italian Command has announced that it has detailed 300 saboteurs to harass the German retreat.
(Confidential Source 8.9.44).

Patriots destroyed rail bridge over the T. MALONE between CHIVASSO and TORINO on the MILANO-TORINO line. Saboteurs have cut the rail line between AIRASCA and TORINO.

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(Confidential Source 3.8.44).

Patriots now have all roads between PONTEBBA (highway 13) and the BRENNERO cut.
(Confidential Source 9.9.44).

During the last days of August railway points at the GALLARATE sorting station at MADONNA in CAMPAGNA were blown up by a bomb, the result of sabotage activity, which caused the death of four Fascist Militiamen and serious damage to the railway plant.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 6.9.44).

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III. Assassination

In MILAN two cyclists attacked and shot the German Police Commissioner on his way home on August 27th. The Fascists executed five partisans in MILAN.
(Neue Zuricher Zeitung 5.9.44).

IV. Certificates of Safe-Conduct for German Deserters.

The following is a copy of a certificate delivered by a partisan band in ASCOLI-PICENO to a German deserter.

"It is herewith declared that Sig -, born at Linz (Austria) on 24.8.1909, previously belonging to the German Medical Corps, voluntarily joined the patriots of the Banda "S. Vito" and has taken part with them in armed combat against Nazi-Fascist elements".

Vice Commandant
Ten.Col. L. Lescai.

V. Latest Fascist atrocities against Partisans.

It appears that in the CANNOBIO area, among other things innocent hostages were "hanged" by a new method, that of suspending them on hooks such as those used by butchers for hanging carcases of beef up on the wall, driven under their chins. The martyrs expired after hours of excruciating agony.
(Popolo e Libertà Bellinzona 7.9.44).

FASCIST FORCES

VI. Black Brigades in action.

According to the Italian Fascist Radio Black Brigades have been active recently as follows:

In the locality of SALÒ (BRESCIA) units of the 10th Black Brigade "Enrico Fermi" carried out a large scale mopping up operation which brought excellent results. The same brigade carried out some fruitful mopping-up operations in collaboration with German units in the area near GOLLIO. Another similar operation was completed with full success at FORNI DELL'OGLIO.

The 28nd Black Brigade at VICENZA has completed mopping-up operations in PIAN VERDAGNO. There was much fighting with rebel groups and a large quantity of arms and war material was also taken.

The 18th Brigade at PADUA has carried out an effective operation at BORGO BAVIZZINO.

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(Popolo e Libertà - Bollettino 7.9.44).

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In the locality of BAGNOLO (BRESCIA) units of the 10th Black Brigade 'Ettore Faustini' carried out a large scale mopping up operation which brought excellent results. The same brigade carried out some fruitful mopping-up operations in collaboration with German units in the area near DESIO. Another similar operation was completed with full success at PONTE DELL'OGLIO.

The 22nd Black Brigade at VICENZA has completed mopping-up operations in PIAN VERLAGNO. There was much fighting with rebel groups and a large quantity of arms and war material was also taken.

The 18th Brigade at PADUA has carried out an effective operation at BORGO BAZZINO.

The 28th PIACENZA Black Brigade carried out mopping-up operations in SAN PAOLO and BORGONUOVO.

The 36th Ruggero Emidio Black Brigade carried out anti-rebel disinfection operations in some localities. Near BELLINA, in collaboration with the German Command, the men of this Black Brigade fought for three hours on and against the bandits, ending by annihilating them completely.

Elements of the 1st TURIN Brigade, in collaboration with a company of the Republican Army, engaged in a hard struggle with the rebels in CASALECCHIO TORINESE, succeeding finally in dispersing the bandits, many of whom were killed and others captured.
(P.W.B. Monitoring. Axis Radio 18.9.44).

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VII. Propaganda for enlistment in Compagnie della Morte.

Fascist Republican propaganda posters inciting young men to enlist in the COMPAGNIE DELLA MORTE have been found in recently liberated territory and run as follows:

"With the Fallen in mind, return to the fight with the DEATH COMPANIES"

"The DEATH COMPANIES will vindicate our dead and bring new honour to our arms. Join Now."

"If you, young man, think of yourself as an Italian, if in your veins runs the uncontaminated blood of our race, to arms. The Federal Enrolment Centre will give you arms and a stretch of Italian soil to defend".

Young Man
Who has never denied your country. The Federal Enrolment Centre will willingly provide you with the opportunity of contributing to the salvation of Italy. Enrol now."

(P.W.B. 8th Army).

VIII. Fascists Take Refuge in Frontier Zone.

More and more Fascist leaders and Squadrists, coming from every part of Italy, are fleeing as the Allies advance, and have chosen places very near to the frontier as their last refuge. A large percentage of high naval officers, no longer safe at sea, has gone to the mountains, many having chosen their HQ in RECOARO TERME in VICENZA, others who are more prudent choosing LANZO D'INTELVI, COMO. Many members of the 10th MAS Flotilla are stationed in the latter place. They had formed the personal bodyguard of the former commander of the submarine "Barbarigo" ENZO GROSSI .
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 6.9.44).

IX. Finance Guard Take to Flight

All the Finance Guard stationed around CREMENAGA fled to the "maquis" in order to avoid deportation, having previously received instructions to prepare for departure to the front.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 6.9.44).

X. German Ultimatum to Republican Troops

On 25th August at ASTI Republican troops were confined to

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X. German Ultimatum to Republican Troops

On 25th August at ASTI Republican troops were confined to barracks and given a choice of entering German units or being transferred to Germany as labourers.
(Confidential Source 1.9.44)

XI. Improved Conditions in San Vittore Prison.

An Italian who had recently escaped from San Vittore Prison in MILAN gave the following description of the treatment meted out to political prisoners: "The treatment has very much improved since Sergeants KLIMSA and KOCH and Corporal HEIMMLER, who was chiefly responsible for the brutalities inflicted on prisoners, have been deprived of their authority. At present the prison is under the command of a Czech NCO of the Feldgendarmerie whose behaviour is correct. This change of guard occurred owing to the determined intervention of Col RAUF and Captain SEVECKE. Captain Sevecke, a young

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man aged 32, a native of Hamburg, was formerly a naval officer. It can be said of the SS Commandant of the MILAN garrison that he has performed his task with energy, but without cruelty. Several times he has intervened personally in the prison in order to recall his over-zealous underlings to the observance of regulations and correctness of procedure. It was through him that Sergeant KLEMM, the predecessor of KLIMSA, notorious for the tortures inflicted, and the disgraceful means he used in interrogations, was sacked.
(Popolo e Liberta, Lugano 4.9.44).

XII. Fascist Atrocity.

At COSSATO, near BIELLA, two young brothers were stopped by a patrol of the Republican Guard; as they had failed to report for military service they were shot on the spot. Their bodies were thrown on to a cart and their parents were obliged to yoke oxen to it and drive it through the village six times as an example to the population.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.A.I.)

GERMANS

XIII. Dispositions.

German garrisons are reported as follows:-

SAPPADA:	one battalion	(Province of BELLUNO)
CROCE COMELICO	120 men	" " "
SAN STEFANO	100 men	

(Confidential Source 10.9.44).

The zones controlled by partisans in LIGURIA are hourly expanding. The Wehrmacht is withdrawing from this zone, and the impression is given that Kesselring plans to abandon the whole of Liguria, with the exception of GENOA. A strong German garrison in GENOA is at present fighting the patriots. All the industries in the town are paralysed. Thousands of workers are being evacuated.
(La Suisse Geneve 5.9.44)

General Leyers assembled all the officials of the various RUK offices on September 7th, informing them that, in view of the present war situation, it was necessary to foresee the possibility of abandoning PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY. Everything was already arranged for the transfer of offices, but it was necessary to arrange for the transport of the most important industries and the dismantling of others. Individual centres would be visited by German officers who would take the necessary measures. All goods on order must be delivered before November 15th.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 8.9.44).

XIV. Behaviour.

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XIV. Behaviour.

Investigations carried out in towns and villages show that there has been a slight improvement in the behaviour of the German troops. Although in PESARO and FANO, for example, indiscriminate destruction and demolitions have been carried out, in the villages the peasants do not complain as they used to and in certain places have said that the soldiers behaved very well.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 8.9.44).

XV. Morale.

During a meeting concerning the distribution of wheat to the population a German officer said to another officer "Give it to them, as we have no time to take it away".

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Many German officers, in hotels and other public places, do not talk to each other for fear of being overheard by Nazi spies.

Morale of all troops is very low and they are tired. Equipment is in a bad state of repair. They all expect the end to come soon.
(Confidential Source 27.8.44).

Officer prisoners taken by the Garibaldi seem to have faith that the Siegfried and Alpine lines will hold, according to another report.
(Confidential Source 9.9.44).

XVI. Atrocities.

VALLUCCIOLE 160 women, 20 boys, 6 children - 230 innocent people massacred whilst standing on their doorsteps watching the German soldiers going up the mountain.

PARTINA 30 innocent people massacred, peasant women, artisans, all engaged in their work.

SAN POLO In three common graves 47 patriots and civilians were buried. After being obliged to put gelignite among their clothes, they were buried alive and them blown up.
(P.W.B. Rome 13.9.44).

The villages of BORGO LUCREZIA, PONTE MURELLO, CARRARA BASSA AND CARRARA ALTA, north of the river METAURO have been completely destroyed by systematic blowing up of every single house. In each case the occupants were given very few minutes to evacuate the building and were unable to save any of their belongings. It has not been possible to ascertain the reasons for this, if any, as these devastations were obviously not part of reprisal measures. Partisan activity had not taken place in these villages.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 31.8.44).

XVII. Manufacture of Poison Gas.

It is said that much poison gas is being manufactured at the RUMIANCA factory at PIEVE VERGONTE. It is liquid of the FT type, which evaporates when in contact with air.
(Confidential Source 21.8.44).

POLITICS

XVIII. Mussolini's Activities.

The Duce, in the presence of the Head of the Province, received the new Mayor of MILAN, GIUSEPPE SPINELLI, former secretary of the Union of Industrial Workers of Milan. Together with Spinelli the Duce received the two assistant Mayors, ANGELO GAMBA and MANLIO MORSETTI. GAMBA, a veteran of the first world

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The Duce, in the presence of the Head of the Province, received the new Mayor of MILAN, GIUSEPPE SPINELLI, former secretary of the Union of Industrial Workers of Milan. Together with Spinelli the Duce received the two assistant Mayors, ANGELO GAMBA and MANLIO MORSETTI. GAMBA, a veteran of the first world war, was section manager of the building and upkeep department of the Caproni Company of Milan.
(P.W.B. Monitoring Axis Radio. 18.9.44). 2616

The Fascist Press had not yet published a report on the cabinet meeting held by Mussolini on August 31st (6.9.44) Measures were probably discussed and approved which were not intended to be made known to the public. Such affairs are numerous. The transfer of Ministries, chancelleries, public offices etc, in the constantly shrinking area causes the authorities much worry. The area along the Swiss border is already crowded. Except for the German Embassy, which is staying close to Mussolini's HQ the remaining diplomats have mostly established themselves in BELLAGIO on Lake COMO. The Fascists are also concerned about the replacement of those State or Party officials, officers etc. who have resigned or who have been dismissed.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 6.9.44).

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XIX. Removal of Officials to Germany

According to well-informed circles the Germans have notified employees of administrative offices in COMO that they will be transferred to MUNICH next week The CKT has adopted the same measures for public officials inLOMBARDY cities. (Agence Telegraphique Suisse 8.9.44).

Reports from Birassago on 7.9.44 say "It is learned that several Fascist dignitaries have just left northern Italy in order to move to the Reich with their families. Mussolini is apparently still remaining in Italy. German offices in MILAN and TURIN have been transferred to the South Tyrol.
Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.9.44).

XX. Trial of Generals.

It is announced from Mussolini's HQ that a treason trial against the Italian Generals who bear the main guilt for the collapse of the former Italian Armed Forces will take place in the second half of this month. The Special Tribune will meet in a northern Italian town so far unnamed. The following generals have been under arrest since the beginning of this year: CARACCIOLO, GARIBOLDI, ROSI, VECHIARELLI , MOIZO, ROBOTTI and SCUERO. General Caracciolo, the Commander of the Fifth Army, is the one best known abroad. He was found in a Roman Monastery disguised as a monk. General Gariboldi, the Commander of the Eighth Army and successor to General Messe, is also very well known. The charges against him include that of sabotage. Rosi and Bechiarelli were commanders of the troops stationed in MONTENEGRO and ALBANIA and of those in GREECE. MOIZO was the High Commissioner for LJUBLJANA. General VERCELLINO, who commanded the Fourth Army was also under arrest, but was found not guilty in preliminary investigations, and was released. A number of Generals who are in the enemy camp are expected to be sentenced in contumacia. They include AMBROSIO, the former Chief of the General Staff.
(Front und Heimat (German Telegraph Service for Forces Papers) 7.9.44)

XXI. Appointments.

The PAVIA lawyer PANIGATTI, Prefectorial Commissioner of PAVIA, has been appointed Podesta of PAVIA.
(Pomeriggio Milan 31.8.44).

The Secretary of the Party has appointe d the following Federal Commissioners:
Reggio Emilia Republican Fascist GUGLIELMO FERRI
Treviso Republican Fascist Captain ALFREDO VALENTI
Ferrara: Republican Fascist CIRO RANDI.
(P.W.B. Monitoring Axis Radio 18.9.44).

ECONOMICS.

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Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.9.44).

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(P.W.B. Monitoring Axis Radio 18.9.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXII. Food Situation.

Black Market foodstuffs recently assumed such proportions in MILAN that the authorities have bwen obliged to order all producers and tradesmen to make a general stocktaking by September 15th. Goods will be blocked from September 10th and may be sold only with the permission of the authorities. Stocks which are not announced will be confiscated. The mere announcement of this measure has caused a further shrinking in the food supply.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 9.9.44).

According to a new decree of the Ministry of Agriculture, Parmesan cheese must henceforth only be produced in the Provinces of PARMA, REGGIO EMILIA, MODENA, MANTUA and BOLOGNA, and the fat content must not exceed 25-27%. The butter ration is difficult to obtain.

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Hungary is supplying 6,000 tons of sunflower oil, some of which has already arrived. The new cultivation programme rejects the growing of sunflower seeds in favour of winter rape, which may become free Italy's most important oleaginous plant, as it is now possible successfully to combat the rape beetle.

A large number of dairy machines have arrived from Germany, as well as several wagonloads of churns and other dairy implements badly needed by the Italians in order to increase production. It is easy to obtain cheese on the black market, almost at controlled prices, and cheese merchants hold large stocks.
(News Digest 9.9.44).

The local State Monopolies office announces that the tobacco ration will be reduced to 15 g daily per smoker as from 11.9.44. The reduction is entirely due to transport difficulties which, it is hoped, will be overcome very shortly.
(Pomeriggio, Milan 5.9.44).

The Prefect of TRIESTE Province announces that, owing to the shortage of electricity, the city's water consumption must be reduced. The mains will only be open from 07.00 to 09,00 and 18.00 to 19.00 hours. If this measure fails to reduce consumption, the main valves will be altogether closed and consumers will be forced to fetch water from fountains.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 24.8.44).

XXIII. Transport.

The recent Republican Fascist measures to maintain Italian goods traffic include stipulations to ensure the transport of lumber. In future transports on railways, roads, rivers, lakes, and lagoons are subject to permission having been obtained. This measure is designed not only to regulate the transport of timber, but also to control the lumber market, and to combat the numerous abuses in the past. The transport of fruit and vegetables calls for special measures as the difficulty in arranging, and the interruptions in railway traffic have led to the use of lorries to an increasing extent which is not desirable owing to the necessity to economise in fuel, and the influence on prices. By the measures taken fruit and vegetables must again be transported by rail, and efforts will be made to supply large towns from the nearby districts. By a system of various zones, growers can guarantee fair prices.
(Verkehrs Nachrichten 26.8.44).

The Fascist authorities in MILAN have forbidden people to ride bicycles in groups. Individual cyclists are allowed to ride in the city, but they must dismount ten metres before any of the numerous control posts.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 5.9.44).

XXIV. Air Raid Damage.

Out of TURIN's 25,000 houses, about 19,000 have been destroyed or damaged

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XXIV. Air Raid Damage.

Out of TURIN's 25,000 houses, about 19 000 have been destroyed or damaged by air attacks. 99000 have been repaired as well as 215 industrial establishments and 158 buildings. 6,000 houses are being repaired. It is estimated that the sum of 1.5 milliard lire will be necessary for the reconstruction of the city.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 8.9.44).

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LABOUR

XXV. Strikes.

A general strike has broken out in BOLOGNA, REGGIO EMILIA and GENOA and partial strikes in MILAN, TURIN and NOVARA. In the smaller and still unliberated cities such as BALLANZA, STRESA, and ARONA all work has ceased and the Germans are systematically arresting all men between 16 and 50 years. All who can do so escape through the forests and join the partisans.
(Basler Nachrichten 6.9.44)

PRESS

XXVI. German Instructions to Press.

The Fascist Newspapers of September 2nd did not contain reports of the Allied entry into VENTIMIGLIA, and the advance along the LIGURIAN coast. Instead of this the newspapers report news which readers already know and which originated from enemy and neutral radios. They continue imperturbably to follow the dictated course of ignoring or touching up disagreeable reports as long as possible. It is perhaps just because this is becoming increasingly difficult that the Prefect of MILAN, on August 29th, discussed "propaganda problems" with the newspaper editors. At the same time the arrival is announced of a new press chief at the German Consulate General in MILAN. Replacing Heymann who is being sent to Stockholm for more important press affairs, PABST, the correspondent of some Berlin newspapers, will in future hand German instructions to the fascist press in MILAN.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 5.9.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXVII. Pesaro Fascists.

The following Fascists fled north at the entry of the Allies:

Sgt. Major MACCHI and his son; war criminals well known in the province, responsible for the arrest and execution of several hostages.

Capt. IACULLI, Capt. of the Milizia in Pesaro.

Ten. Col. MANDINI. Comissario of the Republic for the Marche.

Capt. TARQUINI Chief of the U.P.I. (Ufficio Politico Investigazioni).

Col. BALARINI of the Milizia, was responsible for the arrest and execution of several partisans.

CASPARINI: Console of the Milizia

CANESTRANI, Primino: was the prefect's right hand man and general

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CANESTRARI, Primino: was the prefect's right hand man and general factotum for all the "dirty work".

(P.W.B. 6th Army 8.9.44)

XXVIII. Turin Kamandant.

Col DIERICA, Sicherungs Kamandant for the TORINO area, is responsible for about 20 hangings of hostages and burnings of houses. His HQ is located at SCALENGHE.

(Confidential Source 28.8.44).

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"D" Section Italy (Ccc). 13th September, 44.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512

REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 24.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans

While there does not yet appear to be a general insurrection, reports, mostly from Switzerland, indicate a state of widespread civil war in the mountain regions of PIEDMONT and LIGURIA, with constant raids and counter raids on both sides. The OSSOLA valley seems to be firmly held by the patriots who have extended their control to STRESA. Sharp clashes are reported from the VAL D'AOSTA, the VAL TICINO and near PAVIA.

At FOSSANO and SALUZZO patriots succeeded in liberating political prisoners and now control a number of villages in the area. In the province of CUNEO punitive expeditions failed to dislodge the partisans from the Communes of BARGO, NOVELLO and ENVIE.

In LIGURIA the Garibaldi Brigades are increasing their activities and have scored several successes against Nazi-Fascist columns. In the province of MODENA German motor transport is constantly attacked.

A report from BELLINZONA mentions the surrender of the garrisons of MERGOZZO, FONDOTOCE and OMEGNA, mostly composed of Poles, and of the voluntary enrolment of individual Poles and Slovak soldiers in the patriot bands.

Information has been received about the formation of apparently large and well organised bands in the VENETO and VICENZA regions.

Reprisals.

The tale of reprisals on innocent people continues. These have occurred in PADOVA, TORRE PELLICE (PIEMONTE), CANNOBBIO (LAGO MAGGIORE), where 40 hostages were hanged in the main square, and other villages.

Fascist radio claimed successes for the First Mobile Black [illegible] Brigade in the SALUZZO region.

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Fascist radio claimed successes for the First Mobile Black Brigade and the Seventh Black Brigade in the SALUZZO region.

Assassinations.

The principal cases reported this week are those of FLAVIANO RIPETTA, Fascist Commissioner of ESILE in the VAL DI SUSA, Lt. Col. GAMBETTI, near BIELLA, and BENEDETTO PIRILLO, a notorious warden of the ill-famed San Vittore prison in MILAN.

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SUMMARY 2.

FASCIST FORCES

The Repubblica Fascista states that a Blackshirt Legion "TAGLIAMENTO" has been stationed south of RIMINI to set free German troops. The Fascist radio claims that the "ETNA", 1st Anti-parachute and Div. Division is almost complete.

In addition to the Black Brigades who garrison their own towns and their neighbourhood, Mobile Black Brigades are being formed to operate where required.

GERMANS

Apparently preparations have been completed to cope with a sudden and enforced evacuation of Italy. In the meantime occupied Italy is being systematically ransacked and machinery etc. prepared for removal to Germany.

The PO Bridges A fascinating duel is going on between the Allied Airforces and the partisans on one side and German engineers on the other over the bridges of the Po. German engineers are working ceaselessly to restore communications over the Po as fast as they are broken. Pontoon bridges are used by night and concealed by day.

POLITICS

Mussolini is reported as still in the Villa FELTRINELLI, at GARGNANO (LAKE GARDA) and securely guarded by German agents. An unconfirmed Swiss source considers that the Swiss Government may allow asylum to Mussolini only if he reaches the frontier in a very bad state of health.

The Fascist Party The recent resignation of FARINI and RICCI are thought to be symptomatic of the break up of the Fascist Party, which is looked upon as a sinking ship.

Political tendencies in the VENETO The strongest anti-fascist parties in the VENETO are said to be the Christian Democrats and the Communists The exect proportion is unknown, but it is thought probable that the former are the more numerous. The Veneto was usually Monarchist in the past, and it is possible that even today about 20% of the population are still monarchist.

ECONOMICS

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ECONOMICS

In the North an increasing shortage of dairy products is reported. No butter is reaching the large towns, and the price in MILAN has risen from 400 to 420 lire the Kilo; the daily milk ration in MILAN has been fixed from the 1st September at 500 grms for children under three, 150 grms for children between 4 and 18 and 250 grms for adults over 65. For the rest of the population the ration will depend on available supplies. The city of VENICE is reported to be without drinking water owing to air raid damage. Epidemics are feared in consequence.

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SUMMARY 3.

Harvest The wheat and maize crops are reported as being better than last year.

Finance There is an acute shortage of paper currency in N. Italy. Notes have practically disappaered. Items as low as 100 lire are being paid for by cheque. The shortage is believed to be due to hoarding in the hopes of a favourable revaluation when the Allies arrive. Italian gold deposits are reported to exist in Switzerland the Argentine and Japan.

Air Raid Damage. MILAN marshalling yards are repeatedly bombed with great precision by low flying Allied aircraft. BOLOGNA station has also suffered from the continual raids.

LABOUR

The clandestine Socialist paper "Avanti" has made an appeal to workers to resist deportation.

Trains deporting workers to Germany now have military escort to prevent rescues by partisans.

PRESS

The clandestine press in N. Italy is continually increasing. The "Avanti" has trebled its circulation and the Socialist Party possesses six other newspapers, appealing to different classes of the population.

THE CHURCH

Cardinal SCHUSTER recently made a reply from the pulpit to the large-scale attacks made by the Fascist press on the Pope and the Church.

The Crociata Italica. This Catholic Fascist paper has for editor a priest called DON CALCAGNO, with a correspondent and agent in VENICE, DON ZANIBELLI. Both priests have been black listed by the Committee of Liberation.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

13th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -NO 24.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ) 16th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 24.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans

Disposition of bands.

CHISONE Valley Here there is a band commanded by Sgt. MARCELLIN and his brother, the Olympic ski champion.

PELLICE Valley There is said to be a band here commanded by Gen. OPERTI.

SUSA Valley Various small groups are being formed at points scattered about this valley.

SESIA Valley Here there is a band commanded by the Communist COSCHELLI.

AOSTA All the war material from the TESTI FUOCHI barracks is in the hands of the Alpini who are fighting the Germans.
(C.S.I.D.I.C. Report 3.9.44)

Recent Partisan Activities

SUSA. Having been informed of the presence of Partisans in the area, sixty men of the Italian SS arrived on a mopping-up and requisitioning expedition. Partisans in the surrounding mountains were warned and attacked the SS, taking most of them prisoner. After this setback a mixed Bn of Italian and German SS arrived and carried off all the male inhabitants between the ages of fourteen and seventy. Sixty-eight of them were condemned to death and as the Italian Republicans refused to carry out the sentence, a German NCO shot them one by one in the [illegible]

information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans

Disposition of bands.

CHISONE Valley. Here there is a band commanded by Sgt. MARCELLIN and his brother, the Olympic ski champion.

PELLICE Valley. There is said to be a band here commanded by Gen. OPERTI.

SUSA Valley. Various small groups are being formed at points scattered about this valley.

SESIA Valley. Here there is a band commanded by the Communist COSCIELLI.

AOSTA. All the war material from the TEST. FUOCHI barracks is in the hands of the Alpini, who are fighting the Germans.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report 3.9.44).

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BARDONECCHIA. The German SS Bn stationed at BARDONECCHIA took part in a mopping-up operation in the ROMANCHE and MAURIENNE valleys on the French side of the frontier, against armed formations of the Maquis. An NCO told sources that the French partisans inflicted heavy losses on the Germans, who had about two hundred men put out of action.

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GENOA Partisans are continually sabotaging telegraph and telephone wires, high-tension cables and other military works. On three occasions amunition dumps were heard exploding. The partisans in the area around GENOA are in need of assistance, as they get caught by the SS if they come down into the city in search of amunition, weapons and food.

In Vice CASANOVA, in broad daylight, a partisan shot a Republican SS Lt. dead and afterwards got away.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report 3.8.44).

PISTOIA To the north of PISTOIA there is open warfare between the patriots and Nazi-Fascists. The patriots keep control of many strategic points on the Appenines and of many of the heights around SPEZIA. Near VERCELLI on the 9th August during a lively combat the patriots killed 162 Germans. A Fascist garrison has been captured in VAL SABBIA

MODENA In the province of MODENA, where the Germans can only depend on motorised transport for their supplies, there are continuous attacks on the enemy vehicles

LIGURIA The Garibaldi Brigades in LIGURIA keep the enemy forces at bay. Fascist patrols have been repeatedly disarmed on the Via Aurelia in broad daylight. A thousand metres of telephone lines have been cut near CHIAVARI. The BOSSI tunnel between the valleys of BISAGNO and FONTANA has been destroyed. From IMPERIA the enemy has been obliged to initiate operations on a coastal sector occupied by the patriots. The latter have repulsed the Germans at VIANO CASTELLO capturing a considerable quantity of war material. A motorised nazi-Fascist column, of about a thousand men, fell into an ambush near PIEVE DI TECO; 100 Germans and fascists were killed in the encounter. In the valley of NERVIS, the Nazi-Fascists who had sacked and burned some villages were attacked by patriots and driven away. The patriots took possession of the Republican Fascist Guards' camps at CASTIGLIONE, CHIAVARI and BARGONE, capturing an arms dump and a food deposit which was ready to be sent to Germany. At BARGAGLI patriots patriots captured some German functionaries and liberated a group of 60 men who were about to be deported to Germany. They have overcome the local Fascist Garrison at PIAN DI PRETI.

PIEDMONT 30 patriots of a Garibaldi Brigade carried off from the powder magazine of FOSSANO 15 quintals of explosives which

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PIEDMONT 30 patriots of a Garibaldi Brigade carried off from the powder magazine of FOSSANO 15 quintals of explosives which was subsequently used to blow up the entrance of the prison and thus 175 political prisoners were liberated and immediately joined with the patriots. Similar operations were carried out at SALUZZO, where other political prisoners were liberated. LANGHE, DOGLIANI, LA MORRA, BAROLO, MONFORTE, NOVELLO, BASSOLASCO, SERRAVALLE and PESANO are all in the hands of the patriots. In the liberated villages popular councils have been formed

CUNEO Notwithstanding the mopping-up operations in the Province of Cuneo, it has not been possible to drive the patriots away from the Communes of BARGE, NOVELLO and ENVIE, which are controlled by them. (P.W.B. Rome 5.9.44).

MILAN Province. Attacks, sabotage and reprisals border on civil war here. The Fascist "Muti" Brigade has its own torture chambers in MILAN and as a result several of its members were ambushed and killed during the last few days.
Nine hundred soldiers belonging to the "Muti" and "Veroni" Brigades encircled SANT'ANGELO LODIGIANO village at 04.00 and after killing a

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woman and a man, the father of four children, began to search and pillage houses under the pretext of capturing young recruits. As a reprisal patriots killed the federal Commissioner, BACICCHI, whom they held as a hostage.
(Tribune de Geneve 30.8.44).

IVREA Two partisans wearing Red Cross uniform presented a false document to the authorities of IVREA hospital authorising the removal of two wounded partisans captured during an encounter with Fascists. The guards, happy to avoid having to watch the prisoners, handed over the wounded, who were promptly transferred to a safe place in an ambulance.

VERBANO Patriots are making converts among the heterogeneous invasion troops. Polish and Slovak troops present themselves voluntarily at partisan road blocks, handing over their arms, food and ammunition, and asking to be enrolled.

In MERGOZZO a garrison comprising 35 men passed over completely to the partisans, their commanding officer, a German Major, committed suicide. Their example was followed by the garrisons of FONDOTOCE, and OMEGNA, the latter comprising 150 men, mostly Poles.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 25.8.44).

BERGAMO A strong rebel band, commanded by former officers of the Royal Army, invaded the Piazzale of Gazzeniga station, in VALSERIANA in the Bergamo area, where they halted two trains which were arriving. They then examined the personal documents of all the travellers, removing a German lieutenant, an NCO, an officer of the Republican Air Force, three militiamen of the GNR, a Finance militiamen, a Fascist Brigadier in mufti, and several other Fascists, all of whom were taken to their mountain HQ.
(Dovere Bellinzona, 28.8.44).

TURIN The entire electricity system which furnishes the town is in the hands of the patriots, who are able to interrupt it as and when they wish.
(P.W.B. Rome 3.9.44).

OSSOLA Valley Partisan activity in the OSSOLA valley was extended on September 3rd over the whole region to the west and north of STRESA, which, according to reports received, is entirely occupied by the Italian maquis. Fascist and German detachments evacuated the region or let themselves be interned, as, for instance, did the frontier post at SAN BARTOLOMEO in VALLARA, which consisted of Germans who reported at the Swiss frontier on September 2nd at 5.30 pm.
(Gazette de Lausanne 4.9.44).

AOSTA Valley The Italian press reports that Blackshirt detachments of the German SS engaged a group of 300-400 partisans in the QUARTO

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AOSTA Valley The Italian press reports that Blackshirt detachments of the German SS engaged a group of 300-400 partisans in the QUARTO PRAETORIA region, in the AOSTA valley, killing 38. Detachments of the GNR and a group of partisans, commanded by a British officer, clashed at another point in the Aosta valley. Further fighting took place in CERANO, in the TICINO Valley and near PAVIA
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 3.9.44).

MILAN During working hours a small group of patriots, belonging to the GAP, entered the Siciliano factory in Via Carlo Pisacane in MILAN seized the telephone exchange and all entrances and called a meeting of the workers. A member of the partisan group addressed those

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assembled, inviting them to cooperate with the patricts in sabotage activities, and to be ready for the next decisive blow against the Fascists. All the workers responded to the full.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 2.9.44).

BOBBIO After three days fighting the Germans have occupied BOBBIO at PASSO DEL PENICE. Apparently they are interested in the PIACENZA-BOBBIO-GENOVA road, which they now control in part. Patricts will be obliged to abandon some positions in this area unless assisted by Allied Air power.
(Confidential Source 4.9.44).

CASARSA An entire goods train was destroyed when patricts attecked the station of CASARSA.

Germans are attacking in force in the VARAITA valley to gain access to the ARGENTER pass. The Germans are being held at DEMONTE, with heavy losses on both sides. Encounters are also taking place in the CANAVESE valley.
(Confidential Source 4.9.44)

Partisans in VENETO and VICENZA

On MONTE NOVEGNO there are about 2000 partisans made up mostly of Alpini, and commanded by a Tenente Colonello of the Alpini. These are considered a first-rate group of men.

On the ALTIPIANO DI ASIAGO there are bands of partisans amounting to some 1000 men, neither well-armed nor well-organised. They are led by an ex Communist Deputy

The ARZIGNANO Brigade, about 1000 strong, is well organised and armed and has had a successful operation against Germans and Republican Fascist forces.

At the COLLINE DI CHIAMPO there are three well organised bands, about 500 strong.

All these bands receive their directives from MILAN.

The partisan bands in the VENETO are organised by the FRONTE UNICO DELLA LIBERTA (with HQ in MILAN) and not by various political parties, as occurred south of the Gothic line. The result is that the partisan bands are absolutely non-political.

Bands in the PADOVA area

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Bands in the PADOVA area

The partisan bands under the Padovan Military Command are as follows:-

Zone 1. Brigate CALVI - Bands of VILLANOVA DI CAMPOSAMPIERO
CURTAROLO
STRA.

Zone 2. Brigate BRENTA - "
LEGNARO
PONTELONGO
PIOVE DI SACCO.

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Zone 3. Brigate "X" Bands of STANGHELLA
PONTELANCO
S. SIRO DI BAGNOLI

Zone 4. Brigata MAZZINI " MONSELICE ESTE
GALZIGNANO
TREPONTE DI TEOLO

(P.W.B. Advanced).

Reprisals

The Fascist press reports that the police authorities executed 13 partisans in (?BIGNALE) NOVARA province in reprisal for attacks carried out in this region. The Mayor of CASTAGNOLE LANZE, ASTI province, was kidnapped by partisans and executed in a wood.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 30.8.44)

PADUA Besides hanging three partisan leaders in retaliation for the killing of the Fascist Colonel in PADUA, the authorities also shot ten partisans which they kept as hostages.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 24.8.44).

TORRIGLIA The mopping-up near Torriglia concluded with the capture and execution of three patriots. As a reprisal three Germans were executed. This provoked a punitive expedition which a German unit, assisted by the GNR and the Militia, effected against the inhabitants of the hamlet of SCOFFERA in the Commune of DAVAGNA, where the houses were set on fire. A certain woman called Fossa protested against the burning of her few possessions. She was bound for three hours with her hands raised, and then, before being set free, one of her arms was shattered by machine-gun fire.

ARGELATO The partisans blew up the Fascio in Argelato with a time-bomb wounding four and killing five people. The Black Brigade carried out unspecified reprisals.
(Gazette de Lausanne 24.8.44).

In TORRE PELLICE in PIEDMONT six respected Waldensians were publicly hanged and several houses were destroyed in reprisal for the activities of the patriots.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 29.8.44).

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CANNOBIO A group of partisans descending from the Cannobio valley during the afternoon of August 26th, carried out a successful surprise attack on the hamlet of Cannobio on Lake Maggiore, killing four German soldiers. In reprisal on August 27th, during the evening, 40 hostages were taken from the civilian population and hanged in the main square

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(Libera Stampa Lugano 29.8.44)

On August 17th three companies of the First Mobile Black Brigade "RICCIARELLI" carried out a wide mopping-up operation in the CAVALLERMAGGIORE-SALUZZO-PONTE SUL PO area.

The Seventh Black Brigade of VERCELLI carried out a mopping up operation on August 19th in the CLEMENGO-SAN GERMANO-CAVAGLIA-CASTELLO-BORGO D'ALE-PIGNANO area. On August 20th the same brigade carried out a mopping up operation in the SALUZZO-CAVAGLIA-PIVERONE area, arresting four people.
(Italian Home Service 21.8.44).

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II. Assassinations.

The Fascist Flaviano Ripetta, Commissioner of the Republican Fascio of ESILE in VAL DI SUSA, has been killed by partisans. A unit of the "Athos Capelli" Black Brigade, accompanied by members of the "Leonessa" Armoured Group and by airmen from the "Dobbiaco Battalion, under the direct command of the Federal Commissioner of TURIN, immediately went to the locality and engaged in combat.
(Italian Home Service 27.8.44).

Near BIELLA partisans killed Lt. Col. GAMBETTI.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse)

Patriots killed BENEDETTO PIRILLO, the infamous guard of SAN VITTORE prison in MILAN.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 28.8.44).

A few days ago a German soldier was killed by unidentified persons in PONTE TRESA. In reprisal German troops broke into a house near which the soldier had been killed, arrested the whole family, including women and children, and executed them on the spot. Their cries could be heard in Swiss territory.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 27.8.44).

FASCIST FORCES

III. Dispositions.

The Repubblica Fascists states that in the Adriatic sector of the Gothic Line, south of RIMINI, the Black Shirt "TAGLIAMENTO" Legion has been installed in order to set free German units. Mussolini is hastily forming a new Division, also supposed to replace German troops which have been sent to the Franco-Italian passes.(31.8.44).

Recently formed companies of Alpenvorland police regiment took the oath at BOLZANO and SLUDERNO.
(News Digest 28.8.44).

IV. Organisation.

According to news received the formation of the First anti-Parachute and Guards AA Division is almost completed. This Division which, As Marshal GRAZIANI announced, will be called "ETNA" , will be undertaking operations in Italy.
(Italian Home Service 24.8.44).

In addition to the Black Brigades for garrison purposes which operate in their own town and surrounding region, Mobile Black Brigades are being formed which are intended to be transferred according to various requirements. The

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In addition to the Black Brigades for garrison purposes which operate in their own town and surrounding region, Mobile Black Brigades are being formed which are intended to be transferred according to various requirements. The first Mobile Black Brigade is at present operating in PIEDMONT, under the direct orders of Minister PAVOLINI, commanding officer of the Auxiliary Corps of the Action Squads.
(Stampa Turin 20.8.44).

The Italian POLICE are divided for purposes of action to deal with common crime, economic offences and political offences. The economic Police are utterly corrupt, while the Political police do their best to help victims escape from persecution by the neo-Fascists. Local groups of Neo-Fascists claim autonomy of action; for example one such group recently arrived at MONTECATINI to kill DONEGANI, who was however away. (P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 28.8.44)

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According to an announcement in TRIESTE province, men in offices belonging to the classes 1914 to 1926 and who are liable for military service, must report by August 16th, and will not be called to account provided that a delay is satisfactorily justified.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 16.8.44).

The Fascist Air Force, will, it is reported, shortly be dissolved. All officers and personnel who do not accept incorporation in the Luftwaffe will be deported to Germany. In anticipation of this measure, a German detachment arrested all members of the Air Force at the Italo Balbo Barracks in Milan on August 25th.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 2.9.44)

Military parachutists belonging to the "FOLGOR" and "NEMBO" divisions, apart from the normal allowance, receive an extra flight indemnity of Lire 794 net monthly. This sum is paid to officers, N.C.Os and troops alike.
(Civil Censorship Intercept 18.8.44).

V. Morale.

There is great friction in MILAN between the Police and "Muti" units and all militarised Fascists in general. A few weeks ago a Fascist was killed by a member of the Security Police; a few days ago an agent was disarmed and brutally beaten by a Fascist. Similar incidents continue to take place in a steady stream. The Questura HQ is guarded every night by a picket of police armed with machine guns and hand grenades, for fear of a Fascist "coup de main". The chiefs of the police carry on very intense work in order to disembarass themsleves of rivals who command the new competing Fascist formations.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 31.8.44).

The National Liberation Committee for northern Italy quote a statement concerning the disappearance of an SS General, a Colonel and several officers under false names... The report continues "The police are in a state of crisis, but the GNR are in no better condition. Every day brings tales of desertions, complaints of embezzlement and acts of violence among the soldiers themselves.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 22.8.44).

VI. Further Deportations of Carabinieri

Over 1,000 Lombard Carabinieri officers were urgently summoned to MILAN and deported to Germany without their families being informed.
(Der Bund Berne 23.8.44).

VII. Atrocity by Squadrist

During the recent enemy occupation of TORLANO 22 persons have been burnt alive and two children massacred in their beds; the butcher responsible for this was PETARCA, head of the Squadristi of the village.
(P.W.B. Rome 5.9.44).

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VIII. Appointments.

Gen. TESSARI, Head of the Air Force General Staff, has been relieved of his post; a subsequent order has placed him on the retired list.
(Italian Home Service 3.9.44).

Colonel MARIO CANDELORI has been appointed Commander of the Forest Militia.
(Italian Home Service 3.9.44).

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GERMANS

IX. Dispositions

It is reported from MILAN that trucks carrying heavy and light arms and ammunition were unloaded in the DUNNANZIO district, some at PORTA GARIBALDI. The building was surrounded by Chevaux de Frise, entrances and windows were protected by reinforced sandbags with loopholes. Similar preparations are being made in other districts. Twenty thousand fascist Militia of Black squads who had escaped from liberated Italy are operating throughout the city. German soldiers have received detailed instructions for the possible evacuation of the city within two hours. Their assembly point is the HQ of the Kommandantur at Piazza Brescia.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 25.8.44).

The German authorities have forbidden navigation on the Italian parts of Lake Maggiore and the Ticino river. Fishermen may not go beyond 50 m from the shore. No boats are allowed out at night. Offenders will be fired on immediately.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 28.8.44).

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GIAVERA DI MONTELLO (TREVISO) The Germans had built underground petrol dumps into the side of the hill just below the British war cemetery.

TRISSINO near ARZIGNANO (Province of VICENZA) The Germans are constructing an airfield here.

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(P.W.B. Advanced)

Firms south of the PO are reported to have been ordered by the German authorities to prepare for removal northwards. La SPEZIA is being feverishly evacuated.
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 28.8.44).

German authorities have ordered Italian Industries to deliver large quantities of chlorine which will, it is believed, be used for the production of poison gas.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 24.8.44).

X. Security Precautions

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X. Security Precautions.

According to Corriere della Sera the Germans are taking extraordinary precautions in northern Italy, and have organised in MILAN "Scherheits Kompagnie" in which youths are to be enrolled.

The Germans are frantically trying to repair the bridges on the river PO and in many places have already constructed temporary floating bridges, which are moored at the side of the river when not in use.
(Italian Official Source 9.9.44).

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XI. Behaviour

Extracts from a document regarding orders issued to German troops in FLORENCE demonstrates the stress laid on maintaining the discipline and prestige of the German army. For example:

"Requisitioning of all supplies, including those intended for immediate consumption by the troops is prohibited. Merchandise released for free purchase is exempted".

Requisitioning of even the smallest quantities must be authorised by the Military Administrative Group of Florence and the Administrative Officer of the Army".

"4th Prcht Division must again inform all its units that looting and all acts of violence against the civilian population must be prevented. This is absolutely essential in preserving the prestige of the German Armed Forces and the Parachute Troops".

On the other hand ruthless action is ordered against partisans etc.

"Ruthless action against any act of violence committed against German soldiers is essential. The use of arms in that case is authorised in accordance with the "Army Order for Combat against Partisans".

"Civilians must be conscripted ruthlessly for labour-services - such as filling up bomb-craters, clearing streets of debris etc."
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 7.9.44).

XII. Reprisals.

The Germans have occupied and sacked the town of FANANO. They hanged 18 patriots and evacuated the population.
(Confidential Source 30.6.44).

The Germans and Fascists punished the inhabitants of INTRA and PALLANZA for helping partisans by depriving the two places of bread rations for an indefinite period.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 2.9.44).

POLITICS.

XIII. Mussolini's Refuge.

Mussolini is reported to be still living with his family in the Villa Feltrinelli at GARGNANO on LAKE GARDA. The strictest guard is kept and in order to reach him one must pass the control of 32 German agents in GARGNANO.
(Tribune de Geneve 24.8.44).

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(Tribune de Geneve 24.8.44).

The Swiss Federal Council has recently agreed that in case Mussolini should apply for admittance into Switzerland, the request will be denied, according to a report from a diplomatic source in Switzerland.

According to the same source the Council may admit Mussolini into Switzerland only in case he should reach the Swiss frontier in a state of very bad health. It was stated that to date (August 7th) no request had been made by Mussolini.
(Confidential Source 29.8.44).

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XIV. Disintegration of Fascist Republican Party.

Facts indicate that the Fascists today can, less than ever, expect to halt the internal political disintegration by terrorist means. The rapidity of this disintegration is shown by the resignation of many noted Fascist officials who, under various pretexts, are one after the other leaving the sinking ship. Instances of this are the resignations of PIETRO PARINI and RICCI.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 23.8.44).

XV. Diplomatic Corps has not moved.

Transocean reports from VENICE. Diplomats accredited to Mussolini's government have not left their official residence, it was stated here by authoritative quarters, in reply to rumours abroad that the diplomatic corps in Italy had moved to the Alps in view of the situation on the southern front.
(25.8.44).

XVI. Propaganda: Fascist and Anti-Fascist.

During the last week, the walls of MILAN have been plastered with an alleged text of Croce's letter of resignation to Bonomi, without comment, but with obvious passages in heavy type. It is reported that the public is not impressed.
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 28.8.44).

The Communist Party in northern Italy is conducting intensive propaganda among the working classes through its paper COMBATTENTE and by means of pamphlets.
(P.W.B. Adv. HQ. A.A.I.)

XVII. Pavolini's Health.

It is reported from TURIN that PAVOLINI had his right leg amputated, though his condition is not serious. The newspaper denies the version given by the Fascist radio and newspapers regarding the heroism of Pavolini and his companions. Actually, dressed as ordinary Militia without distinctive signs of rank, they were ambushed by patriots some distance from the fighting zone and fell without offering any resistance to their attackers, who suffered no casualties. "Poor Pavolini, how slow and difficult will his coming flight to Germany be with only one leg".
(Corriere del Ticino Lugano 25.8.44).

XVIII. Anti-Fascists Tortured and Murdered.

The Action Party's clandestine newspaper "Italia Libera" gives details of the death of GIANANTONIO MANCI which occurred in the first fortnight of July. Count Manci, the well-known Trentino Socialist, was arrested in Trento and taken to Bolzano for interrogation. He was installed in a hotel which had been converted into a prison, and after 16 hours of torture, which did not succeed in making him

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The same newspaper reports the death in PADUA of Professor LUIGI TEDESCO, leader of the Action Party in Padua. During Curfew time a group of Fascist assassins removed him from his house, ostensibly for interrogation at the SS HQ, but actually they brutally murdered him en route, leaving his body in the street. Simultaneously with Manci's arrest the SS broke into the office belonging to Lawyer (BETTINI ?) in TRENTO, a well-known anti Fascist and an active member of the Action Party. While they carried out a noisy search of the surroundings Bettini was brutally beaten then killed in his own office.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 31.8.44).

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XIX. Anti-Fascist Parties in VENETO.

The strongest parties in the VENETO are the Christian Democrats and the Communists. It is difficult to know which has the greatest following, but probably the Christian Democrats are the stronger. The Veneto used to be monarchist in sympathy, and the informant thought that about 20% of the people would still declare themselves monarchist.
(P.W.B. advanced)

XX. Appointments.

The Party Secretary appointed Comrade NELLO CAREUCCI Commissioner for the Federation of Republican Fasci at NOVARA.

The Republican Fascist MARIO CAVALLERO has been appointed Podesta of AOSTA.
(Italian Home Service 25.8.44).

The Secretary of the Party has appointed the Squadrist Dr. FEDERICO LOCATELLI as Federal Commissioner and Commander of the Black Brigade of ALESSANDRIA and Comrades GIORGIO RODA, CELESTE ZANELLI and Dr. GIUSEPPE TORDI as Federal Vice-Commissioners.
(Italian Home Service 29.8.44).

The Commandant of the Varese Legion, Brigadier CESARE BRACCI, has been appointed head of the Province of PESARO
(Libera Stampa Lugano 26.8.44)

ECONOMICS.

XXI. Food Situation

MILAN As from 1st September the daily milk ration for children under three is 500 g.; children between four and 18 150 g, for adults over 65 250 g. The ration for adults between 19 and 65 will depend on the amount available.
(Corriere della Sera Milan 29.8.44).

Despite the favourable pasture conditions the shortage of dairy products in northern Italy is increasing, especially in areas where cattle are on the mountain pastures which are often under partisan control. Consequently no butter is reaching the large towns, and the butter price is increased in MILAN from 400 to 420 lire per

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(News Digest 30.8.44).

VENICE Reports from the frontier state that the city is almost completely without drinking water as a result of air raids. It is feared that epedimics may break out.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 30.8.44).

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MILAN Wheat threshing is now in progress and figures so far show the yield to be far above the average. It can already be stated that this year's crop per ha is bigger than last year's. Maize prospects are described as excellent; crops are likely to be bigger than last year's The unfavourable weather has caused only slight harm.
(D.N.B. 1.9.44)

XXII. Fuel and Power.

TURIN The Societa Italiana pel Gas announces that from August 26th until further notice the gas service in TURIN will be reduced to three and a half hours daily.
(Stampa Turin 26.8.44).

XXIII. Transport.

Military events in France and on the central Italian front are beginning to be felt in the MILAN, TURIN and GENOA area. Numerous transports going in various directions indicate that the war is approaching northern Italy. Allied bombings of communications are so habitual that they are scarcely mentioned in the press. The cutting of railway communications has made transport by motor vehicle necessary over long distances. Transport difficulties are felt most in food supplies by the large cities. Corriere della Sera mentioned insuperable difficulties in MILAN where, in particular, there is much suffering among the poor.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 30.8.44).

XXIV. Finance.

The shortage of paper currency in north Italy is reported to have become a real problem by the beginning of August. Notes have practically disappeared, and items as small as 100 lire are being paid for by cheque. Among the reasons given for this shortage is the conjecture that the press has been destroyed by bombs. It is thought likely, however, that paper currency is being hoarded in hope of a favourable valorisation when the Allied forces arrive
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence summary 28.8.44).

During the last year of the Fascist Regime, the importation of war material from Switzerland was very intense. As a precautionary measure Switzerland requested that gold be deposited in the Banca di Credito Svizzera (Berne) as a guarantee. At the moment there is a little less than a billion lire left to Italy's credit there.

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Other gold deposits exist in Argentine and Japan. The gold deposit in Japan was transferred there from Brazil when Brazil declared war. Japan has been asked by Italy to return this gold, but she has refused.

During the Italian occupation of Southern France, French gold was acquired through the Italian Commercial Attache, amounting to several millions. This gold was not consigned to the Italian Treasury, and its whereabouts are unknown to Italian authorities in liberated Italy.
(Confidential Source 27.8.44).

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German controlled Italy does not have facilities to print more than 100,000 money bills a day. Assuming that all bills printed under the Germans are 1000 lire notes, the Germans cannot put on the Italian market over 3 billion lire each month. The only printing shop in Northern Italy which has the facilities to print Italian paper currency is in MASLIANICO, province of COMO. (P.W.B. Rome 25.8.44).

XXV. Air Raid Damage.

Allied aircraft still repeatedly bomb the MILAN marshalling yards with incredible precision, flying very low to attack road and railway bridges. Nobody thinks of replacing destroyed property as prices are astronomical. The municipal authorities grant compensation at an average rate of 20,000 lire to those who have lost all their household goods through bombing, but today it costs 80,000 lire to purchase furniture for a bedroom and nearly 500,000 lire to furnish a medium sized three roomed flat. Thus the compensation only covers the purchase of one solid table.
(News Digest 4.9.44).

MILAN Recent anglo-american air raids have caused ruinous destruction to Via (Aurelio Saffi) and the railway line running alongside. The bombing of VENTIMIGLIA on August 4th caused grave damage to the BEVERA railway station. The remaining two trains serving the Riviera from the west use steam engines, while those from the east have been completely abandoned. Road traffic is slow and very difficult owing to the serious interruptions. Transport between GENOA and SPEZIA is almost exclusively confined to rafts with an engine. After the destruction of the PO bridges transport between GENOA and the hinterland became extremely precarious.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 23.8.44).

IMOLA (BOLOGNA) The outskirts of the town and targets such as bridges and stations have been constantly bombed throughout May, June, and July.
(Civil Censorship Intercept 22.7.44)

LABOUR

XXVI. Appeal to workers to resist deportation.

The Clandestine Socialist paper "Avanti" recently published a long and impassioned appeal to workers to resist deportation with all their strength, to"unite round the factory executives and when the noose is tightly drawn, rebel and again rebel. Some of you," it says " will fall, but you will fall honourably as in battle. The Nazi thugs will not dare to murder you en masse until you are on German soil and your decision will save thousands of your brothers whom they

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(Libera Stampa Lugano 24.8.44).

XXVII. Forced Labour.

The deportations to Germany of all able-bodied men and women, except mothers of small children continued throughout the second week in August. The trains now have a military escort, so that the partisans have not been able to continue their rescues.
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 28.8.44).

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XXVIII. Krupp works advertise for workers.

The Krupp works are now advertising in the Italian press for mechanics, unskilled workers, dynamiters, masons and women labourers for lighter work, who are promised the lump sum of 5,000 lire, as well as the usual privileged conditions.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 24.8.44).

XXIX, Removal of Machinery by Germans.

GENOA The workers are particularly embittered by the removal to Germany of such machinery as the Germans do not destroy. The UNIONE ITALIANA TRAMVIE ELETTRICHE has been ordered to send a dozen of their latest type of trams to Germany.
(P.I.B. Intelligence Summary 28.8.44).

PRESS

XXX. Clandestine Press.

The clandestine press in northern Italy is continually increasing. The northern clandestine edition of "Avanti" has trebled its circulation, now standing at 15,000, while the Socialist Party has six new papers - "L'Operaio, La Terra, Rivoluzione Socialista, La Campagna Il Partigiano and Edificazione Socialista".
(P.I.B. Weekly Intelligence Summary 28.8.44).

In several northern cities the G.P celebrated the liberation of PARIS. Leaflets were distributed hailing the liberation of the French capital. All the clandestine papers in LOMBARDY, PIEDMONT, LIGURIA and VENICE expressed the joy of the Italian people.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 24.8.44).

Anti-Fascist newspapers which circulate in the VENETO are the Socialist paper "Fratelli d'Italia" and the Communist paper "La Riscossa". There is a third published by students, of which the informant could not remember the name. These papers are printed in VENICE and PADUA, and then distributed and circulated throughout the province.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

THE CHURCH

XXXI. Cardinal Answers Fascist Attacks on Pope.

Fascists, with the support of the Germans, have launched

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THE CHURCH

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Fascists, with the support of the Germans, have launched a clever large-scale attack on the Pope and the Catholic Church with leaflets, books, manifestos, speeches and newspaper articles. In a recent address from the pulpit of MILAN Cathedral, Cardinal SCHUSTER answered this attack. The Cardinal recalled in strong terms that Pius XII had sent whole columns of food and medicine to southern Italy, Rome and Latium; "Pius XII's personal relations abroad - especially with President Roosevelt, are used to Italy's advantage"

Cardinal SCHUSTER's not ambiguous opposition to the Fascist campaign caused some incidents. It is also affirmed that the occupation authorities, irritated by his attitude warned him not to go further in

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this direction if he wished to avoid measures being taken against him Repubblica Fascista's editorial attacks the Cardinal, accusing him of "dividing minds" and adopting an undignified attitude. Thus relations between the Fascists and Catholics are again very tense, and open complications may ensue.
(Der Bund Berne 28.8.44).

XXXII. Catholic Fascist Newspaper.

There is a Catholic Fascist newspaper published at CREMONA called Crociata Ittalica, which gives whole-hearted support to the Germans. The editor is DON CALCAGNO and he has a correspondent and agent in VENICE called DON ZAMBELLI. Both these priests are on the Committee of Liberation's black list and both have been suspended by the POPE.
(P.W.B. Advanced).

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8 - SEP 1944

SECN.	INITIALS.	DATE.
Col. Mc[illegible]HY		
Maj. MAGNUS		
Maj. DRAGE		
Capt. SALVADORI		
Col. FAVA		
C. C.		

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

6th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 23.

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DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(B) and 5(D) or (E)
BY NARS, Date 3/3/75

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

6th September, 44.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 23.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Dispositions.

In the Adriatic sector the main partisan units have been over-run by us, including the former PESARO Brigade. According to a reliable source the only units left behind were the so-called Patriotic Action Groups (GAP). These are small bands of varying sizes, which are formed, usually by the Communist Party, for isolated sabotage actions, propaganda etc. in large towns or in country unsuited for guerilla operations. They must be distinguished from the Garibaldi Brigades which are combattent guerilla units in the mountains. In PESARO there are stated to be 150 GAP members and two months ago there were also four small units of 30 men each which roamed around the country-side and took turns with the 10 carbines available. Source believed that an attampt would be made to constitute a brigade from these elements, and this has probably occurred, since a communication has recently been received, complete with official stamp, from a unit described as the BRUNO LUGLI Garibaldi Brigade which was operating in the MT. DELLE FORCHE area. Strength and armament are not known.

In the eastern Appenines (CAGLI-URBINO-SAN SEPOLCRO area) partisans are also for the most part on our side of the line. This was formerly the area of the 5 GARIBALDI Brigade and there are no indications that any considerable units have been formed to replace it. There is however a report of a small and not very effective band at MONTAGNA, north of SAN SEPOLCRO, and there are probably still partisans in the ALPE DELLA LUNA and the MERCATTELLO areas, both of which have previously been reported as partisan areas. On a captured German map the road SAN SEPOLCRO-PENNABILI and onwards is shown as

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except for items side-lined.

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There is still no information as regards the fate of bands on either side of the Gothic Line in the VERGHERETO area and in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO further West except that the "STELLA ROSSA" band, formerly on MT. FALTERONA dissolved. A new small band, however, is reported west of SAN MARINO in the MONTRIOLO area.

N. PONTASSIEVE -GALLIGA Here there is a band of 30 under a British Captain.

NE PISTOIA -MIGLIANA -end of July Members of a partisan band led by an Italian Army Captain were met here. All wear armbands and white cloths on their heads and carry white sticks. Their only arms are small arms. They have recaptured some livestock seized by the Germans

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and issued some meat to the locals. Source knew of no other exploits of this band, but they claim to control the road COIANO-PIEDIMONTE-MIGLIANO. No reprisals or punitive expeditions had taken place against them.

MT PISENZO. In the hills around S. PELLEGRINO are said to be many partisans, many of them deserters from the Italian labour gangs employed on the Gothic Line.

MT PISANO. Nr. PRATO. There is a partisan HQ at CAMPODIZOLO or here. Many of thepartisans work in the SMI arms factory here, which is under German control: some of the produce finds its way to the patriot bands.

ALPE TRE POTENZE. Partisan HQ under Lieut "PIPO" here. Fairly well armed with automatic weapons and radios. - July.

N. PISTOIA & FANANO area - July. The Commander of this band goes by the name of ETTORE, and has his HQ somewhere in the area of M. CIMONE.

The active strength of bands in this area is about 500, but many more could be put into action if they had arms. They are organised into groups of 35. They are armed with 12 Brens, many Stens, rifles, pistols etc. PIPO's band is the best armed, but more ammunition is required and they are expecting radios. They have had some clashes with the Germans, notably at OSPITALE, conducted by PIPO, but they are not very active for fear of reprisals, and need operation orders. The bands find it necessary to change the location of their HQ frequently. This band had received several "drops" of arms in the MONTEFIORINO area, and this area had been almost under partisan control. However, at the end of July, the arrival of a large number of Germans, who burnt three villages obliged the partisans to move further south.

The following bands come under the N. PISTOIA Committee of Liberation:

1. Band of 300 needing arms on the mountains North of CORREGLIA
2. Band of 200, of whom 30 are armed, commanded by informant at N.W. of DANNA DELLA CROCE.
3. Band commanded by Allied ex PW officer, including some Mongols, 2km north of last mentioned band.

North of Gothic Line
SPILAMBERTO

OSPITALETTO - August. Partisans operating from MONTEFIORINO were seen here. The HQ of 2(?) of GINO BOZZO GARIBALDI Brigade is at M. FIORINO. The OC at OSPITALETTO is one Ten. LELLI. The partisans occupied SESTOLA, but a punitive expedition drove them out on 3/4

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M. PISANO - FANANO area - July. The Commander of this band goes by the name of ETTORE, and has his HQ somewhere in the area of M. CIMONE

The active strength of bands in this area is about 500, but many more could be put into action if they had arms. They are organised into groups of 25. They are armed with 12 Brens, many Stens, rifles, pistols etc. PIPO's band is the best armed, but more ammunition is required and they are expecting radios. They have had some clashes with the Germans, notably at OSPITALE, conducted by PIPO, but they are not very active for fear of reprisals, and need operation orders. The bands find it necessary to change the location of their HQ frequently. This band had received several "drops" of arms in the MONTEFIORINO area, and this area had been almost under partisan control. However, at the end of July, the arrival of a large number of Germans, who burnt three villages obliged the partisans to move further south.

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3. Band commanded by Allied ex PW officer, including some Mongols, 2km north of last mentioned band.

ACROSS the Gothic Line
August

OSPITALETTO - August. Partisans operating from MONTEFIORINO were seen here. The HQ of 2(?) of GINO BOZZO GARIBALDI Brigade is at M. FIORINO. The OC at OSPITALETTO is one Ten. LELLI. The partisans occupied SESTOLA but a punitive expedition drove them out on 3/4 July. The brigade is up to 1,000 strong with small arms only. They went orders badly. They were on good terms with the population.

VERNAZZANO - August. It is stated that partisans in this area were successful in blowing the two bridges here. This means that they have secured their western flank. Their zone of influence now is bounded on the north by the R. SECCHIA from its source in the ALPE DI SUCCISO to the area of its confluence with the DRAGONE River: on the east very roughly by the road MONTEFIORINO - ALPE S PELLEGRINO In this area there are at least 8000 partisans. Their HQ is at MONTEFIORINO, which town, together with several others, they control completely. They have radio, but no PW. This they urgently require. They control two power stations which distribute light to their own area only.

S. BOLOGNA - CASTIGLIONE-VERNO - 16th June. The patriots are very active in the area of CASTIGLIONE and VERNIO. On 10th June partisans

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asked all men in this area of the 1926 class to join them, which met with great success.

S. BOLOGNA Nr. VADO patriots assaulted the Fascist Military Camp and killedthe chief of them. SENIORE BERNINI of the 67th Legion of BOLOGNA.

S.W. PARMA At FORNOVE near PARMA patriots are very active. It is thought that they were commanded by COL. SALVATORE of the 6th REGT. BERSAGLIERI.

BOLOGNA Up till June there had been little overt partisan activity in the city of Bologna itself. An informant heard that there were many in the surrounding countryside. Their activities consisted of ambusning solitary German trucks and small bodies of soldiers as well as hiding crops etc. from German search parties.

NW. BOLOGNA -ANZOLA Mid June. At ANZOLA groups of partisans have been very active. In June groups of these partisans came down from the mountains into the village and took away Lt. MGs from an SS troup. There was ineffective German and Fascist reaction.

NW. BOLOGNA- LOIANO May/June. In the hills of LOIANO well organised groups of partisans are commanded by Italian Air Force officers. These partisans have been in contact with the Committee of Liberation of FLORENCE and BOLOGNA and were much assisted by the peasants.

TRIESTE Area.

NE TRIESTE -VILLA OPICINA A partisan brigade known as the BRIGATA TONCI is reported to be very active in the area of VILLA OPICINA. They are led by a Slav officer and number about 1,200. Originally Nationalists, they became Communists with the success of TITO's movement. A cinema at VILLA OPICINA was blown up during a show for German soldiers. The number of killed and injured is unknown. (8th Army Special Interrogation Report to 21.8.44).

Recent Partisan Activities.

Northern Appenines.

The Nazi Fascists have not been successful in the attempt to break the resistence of the Garibaldi brigades in the northern Appennines to make the rear of the Gothic line secure. The results have been negative of the punitive raids on a big scale in the provinces of PARMA and the VALLE LATERALI DELL'OSSOLA. On July 28th the patriots occupied MONTE CUANA and MONTE BRAMPA in the zone of CARPINETI, between the higher valleys of CROSTOLO and SECCHIA.

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(P.W.B. Rome 30.8.44).

GAVI, OVADA and CAMPO LIGURE There are 1500 patriots in this region, but they are almost totally lacking in arms.
(Confidential source 17.8.44).

LIGURIA Large areas in Liguria are controlled by the patriots. A Blackshirt Division, sent to the Riviera from Germany to maintain order, has been forced to retreat to large towns such as GENOA, SPEZIA and SAVONA.

According to the paper Repubblica Fascists, the hard-pressed German troops in NOVARA province have been forced to remove all the bushes and hedges along the motor roads in order to prevent the partisans from using them as cover for their attacks.
(Aftonbladet 23.8.44).

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FERRARA ROMAGNA (CERVIA and FORLI) S.MARINO URBINO In the above areas partisans are not numerous and their organisation is poor. The most important band is one led by CORBARA operating inROMAGNA near FORLI. It succeeded in advancing to FAENZA.
(Lt. Z. P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

SPEZIA and GENOA During the last 24 hours (21.8.44) thousands of workers from SAVONA, LA SPEZIA and GENOA have joined the partisans. Patriots operating in the VALTELLINA near BORMIO surrounded 100 Czechoslovak soldiers, who joined the maquis without a shot being fired.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 21.8.44).

ALPINE PASSES Although relatively neglecting the maquis in the Piedmontese and Lombard mountains the Italo-German Commands are making a considerable effort to retain control over the chief Alpine passes of MONT CENIS, the LITTLE ST BERNARD, the STELVIO and the BRENNER. MONT CENIS has been in the hands of the Germans since April. The partisans control the LITTLE ST BERNARD, but the Fascists are trying to extend their control to the AOSTA VALLEY, where, during May, they established colonies of refugees from central Italy. The Fascists never made much effort to dislodge the partisans from VALSESIA, but as soon as the latter appeared in the OSSOLA VALLEY, the Germans and the Fascists sent up to 8,000 motorised and armoured troops there. Mopping-up operations have taken place in the VALTELLINA up to the STELVIO pass, from where the maquis could not be expelled.
(Tribune de Geneve 19.8.44).

VALTIDONE and BELLUNO Partisans operating in the VALTIDONE in EMILIA and in the Province of BELLUNO are inexorably combating the activity of false partisans. Fascist spies and enemy Carabinieri were executed at FELTRE. A spy belonging to the infamous MUTI squad, which had been captured at EDOLO, was immediately executed. Patriots, in reprisal for the execution of two of their members by the GNR in BRESCIA and in VALTROMPIA attacked the GNR barracks and disarmed the Militia, executing five on the same spot where they had shot the patriots. Patriots operating in SESTO CALENDE in VARESE blew up high tension pylons. A battalion in BELLUNO blew up a bridge between LONGARONE and CASTELLO LAVAZZO, seized a station and destroyed a train carrying goods. In FELTRE many German trucks were destroyed, while a railway bridge in PIAN D'ARICCIA was blown up.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 19.8.44).

The control kept by the Italian patriots on the strategical parts of the Alps has cost the Germans serious losses. The actions of the patriots have become so serious that they have been the subject of a discussion in a council of war held by the enemy in BERGAMO. The Military Commander (German) for LOMBARDY, General Diamente, has

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a considerable effort to retain control over the chief Alpine passes of MONT CENIS, the LITTLE ST BERNARD, the STELVIO and the BRENNER. MONT CENIS has been in the hands of the Germans since April. The partisans control the LITTLE ST BERNARD, but the Fascists are trying to extend their control to the AOSTA VALLEY, where, during May, they established colonies of refugees from central Italy. The Fascists never made much effort to dislodge the partisans from VALSESIA, but as soon as the latter appeared in the OSSOLA VALLEY, the Germans and the Fascists sent up to 8,000 motorised and armoured troops there. Mopping-up operations have taken place in the VALTELLINA up to the STELVIO pass, from where the maquis could not be expelled.
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The control kept by the Italian patriots on the strategical parts of the Alps has cost the Germans serious losses. The actions of the patriots have become so serious that they have been the subject of a discussion in a council of war held by the enemy in BERGAMO. The Military Commander (German) for LOMBARDY, General Diamente, has advised that no other classes should be called up for the army because it would only cause another flow of young men into the ranks of the patriots instead of into the barracks of the Nazi Fascists.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.8.44).

S. UBALDO A battle took place at the S. UBALDO Pass after a strong enemy attack. The Germans were repulsed after having 30 killed and 50 wounded. The losses of the patriots were 12 men.
(P.W.B. Rome 28.8.44).

IVREA Patriots of the VAL D'AOSTA have blown up a locomotive laden with dynamite in a tunnel near IVREA, causing its complete destruction and interrupting enemy traffic.

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VOGHERA In the VAL STAFFORA, near VOGHERA, a mixed battalion of Nazi Fascists were put to flight after a violent encounter, leaving 200 dead and wounded on the ground. In the zone of BELLUNO the Germans have repeatedly been attacked by the courageous JULIA and BERETTA brigades, losing on the whole about 500 men. A camp of the Fascist Republican Guard was attacked and dispersed at MONPLANO near BRESCIA, by a daring night attack.
(P.W.B. Rome 26.8.44).

PIACENTINO Mopping-up operations in the PIACENTINO appear at present to be suspended, though it is known that the Germans desire, at all costs, to keep the provincial road PIACENZA-BOBBIO-GENOA open. A German division is therefore being concentrated in PIACENZA. A clash with the first units, coming from PERINO to BOBBIO is imminent. Opposing these units is the "Giustizia e Liberta" Brigade, commanded by the famous "Fausto" whose effectives number nearly 5,000.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 22.8.44)

FAVALE DI MALVARO In fighting that took place on 12th and 13th August north of Favale di Malvaro the Nazis and Fascists lost a verified total of 150 men and also heavy arms at the hands of the Third Garibaldi Brigade. Losses of the Brigade were comparatively light.
(Confidential Source 17.8.44).

SWISS FRONTIER Seventeen Germans were recently stripped and booted over the Swiss frontier by partisans. Together with eight Fascists, they formed a patrol attached to a group of 300 men engaged in mopping-up operations, when they fell into an ambush. The partisans killed one Germans and three Fascists with their first burst of fire, after which a German captain, previously captured by the partisans, shouted, ordering the soldiers to lay down their arms, as they were completely surrounded. The Germans and Fascists obeyed, whereon the patriots informed the German Command that the mopping-up must be suspended if the prisoners' lives were to be saved. This took place. The partisans, who numbered 11 operating in the frontier zone thought that the action described above was the best way of disembarrasing themselves of the prisoners, though the Fascist militiamen were kept as hostages.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 22.8.44).

PADOVA By 10th July 1944 5000 armed men were operating in this zone. They only received their first supplies from the Allies at the beginning of March. The movement was not, however, very enthusiastically supported. Centres of resistance were at ZOLON DI VO, MONTAGNA, CAMPOSANPIERO, GALSIGNANO TREPONTI, PRAGLIA. Many acts of sabotage were carried out. The railway lines PADOVA-VICENZA, PADOVA-CAMPO S. PIERO,-BELLUNO were interrupted, also the viaduct VICENZA-BOLO.

The principal localities for parachute drops were CAVARZERI, PATRIARCATI (Zona [illegible]ERA-BOVOLENTA) ZOLON DI VO, MONTAGNA (Prati Region).

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The principal localities for parachute drops were CAVARZERI, PATRIARCATI (Zona [illegible]ERA-BOVOLENTA) ZOLON DI VO, MONTAGNA (Prati Region).
Almost all the students of the University and the Professors took part in the patriot movement in PADOVA. Their activities were such that the Republican authorities gave orders that no professor or student could approach the University unless accompanied by a German or member of one of the Black Brigades
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

The OSOPPO Brigade. - (Operating in N.E.Italy: exact location not known)

During the last two months of its now long and intense activity the "Osoppo" Brigade has killed about 500 Germans, interrupted important railway lines in 33 different places, blown up 8 railway bridges, derailed several trains, destroyed 12 road bridges, captured, destroyed or damaged many convoys of vehicles belonging to the invader.
(P.W.B. Rome 31.8.44).

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FASCIST FORCES

II. Total Effectives of Fascist Forces, ... Dispositions

Under the German High Command - ... 41,000 men
Under Marshal Graziani - 26,000 men
" the HQ of the Republican Army. 43,000 "

Forces employed in Italy

The MONTEROSA Division 16,000 men and 600 officers, of whom 450 are already employed in LIGURIA.

The S. MARCO Division (3a) 4,000 men and 170 officers, employed in LIGURIA

The ITALIA Division (4a) 10,000 men and 500 officers, of whim 200 are still at HEUBERG (GERMANY); assembly zone NOVARA -VERCELLI.

The LITTORIO Division. 13,000 men and 460 officers, of whom 160 are still at SENNELAGER (GERMANY)

Republican Forces employed outside the country.

France: 60,000 men
Albania: 1,000 "
Greece: 50,000 "
Isle of Egeo: 6,000 men
Russia: 3,000 "

(Italian Official Source25.8.44).

VERONA In June the old PASUBIO Division which used to be stationed at VERONA, was being reconstituted there.
(P.W.B. Advanded C.U. 19.8.44).

PADOVA The only Fascist Forces in the city were a battalion of the MUTI who (with the exception of some members who were in league with the Committee of Liberation) were responsible for all the brutalities carried out in the city and for setting up a torture chamber for political prisoners.

The Carabinieri on the whole, behaved in a friendly fashion to the resistance movement. Only some members of the officers and NCOs remained faithful to the Army, among them COL SALVATORE PACETTI, who became commander of the R.N.R. there.

In the Questura there were very few anti-fascists. A notorious persecutor of patriots was Questore NINO PALMIERI, another was the Police Commissar Dott. BARILA, and the Brigadiere of the Political Squad BINOTTO.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

General Staff of the Republican Fascist Forces

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The ITALIA Division (4a) 10,000 men and 500 officers, of whom 200 are still at HEIDBERG (GERMANY); assembly zone NOVARA -VERCELLI.

The LITTORIO Division. 13,000 men and 460 officers, of whom 160 are still at SENNELAGER (GERMANY)

Republican Forces employed outside the country.

France:	60,000 men
Albania:	1,000 "
Greece:	50,000 "
Isle of Egeo:	6,000 men
Russia:	3,000 "

(Italian Official Source25.8.44).

VERONA In June the old PASUBIO Division which used to be stationed at VERONA, was being reconstituted there.
(P.W.B. Advanded C.J. 19.8.44).

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(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

General Staff of the Republican Fascist Forces.

The Secretariat of the Chief of Staff, Mobilisation Departments and the Recruiting Office have been moved from BERGAMO to FERRARI near BRESCIA.

General Staff Signal Battalion was formed about mid-December from civilian personnel, who were later militarised. Location is BERGAMO.

ETTORE MUTI Battalion It consists of about 15,000 volunteers. The HQ is situated in MILAN in a building bounded by Via SAN PROSPERO, Via DANTE and Via BROLETTO.

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28 OTTOBRE "M" Battalion consisting of about 1200 men, located at MASSAROTTI Barracks at CREMONA. Functions are police duties and fire-watching.

9th BERSAGLIERI Battalion located in the LAMARMORA barracks in CREMONA; consists of about 900 men, whose morale is very low.

Republican SS Company HQ in MASSAROTTI barracks in CREMONA; has three detachments quartered in various parts of the town.

Two battalions of the Italian African Police are quartered in the MANFREDINI barracks in CREMONA. The men go about the town unarmed. Most of them are former Fascist Squadristi and their morale is high. There are two other unspecified units in CREMONA.

Training Schools. The Post OCTU School and Infantry Academy were transferred to ALESSANDRIA during last winter. About half of the officers on the permanent staff of these schools have joined the Republican Army; of the others some have been deported to Germany and the rest who tried to escape deportation have gone into hiding. The Pioneer Training School in the MONTANARA barracks at MANTUA started functioning on April 1st 1944 and is attended by both Germans and Italians. There is also a Training School for Wireless Operators at ESTE and a Glider Pilot Training School on the OSSALENGO airfield.
(P.W.B. Adv. A.A.I.)

II. The San Marco Division.

It is known that the SAN MARCO Division is at present employed on coastal defence work in the SAVONA area west of GENOA. Until the middle of March 1944 the Division consisted of about 3500 ex PW from camps in Germany. After the arrival of numbers of Naval Reservists, recruits and volunteers, the Division was classified as Marine Inf. Division and given the name of SAN MARCO. Despite certain privileges they enjoy, the Germans appear to be worried about the morale of the Division, and they do everything they can to raise it. Specially selected German officers and NCOs who pretend to have complete faith in victory give many propaganda lectures, but it is said that the result of this propaganda is NIL. The men are not allowed to possess ammunition, and when Mussolini inspected the division he was escorted by numerous SS officers holding MGs at the ready. The men cannot express their sentiments freely and even the officers are daily given a one hrs pep talk by a senior German officer. Severe measures are taken against deserters and every day unit commanders have to render a return in writing that on the walls of their men's quarters there are no subversive inscriptions.
(P.W.B. Adv. A.A.I.)

3019

III. SS. Bn. S. Grato.

At 9th June 44 the Battalion was about a thousand men strong and was quartered

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(P.W.B. Adv. A.A.I.)

2869

III. SS. Bn. S. Grato.

At 9th June 44 the Battalion was about a thousand men strong and was quartered in the new seminary about 100 m. ssw of S. GRATO church. The men are drawn from all age-groups, mainly from those of 1920-25. They have seven 47/32 machine guns. Their equipment is Italian, in fairly good condition. In May 44 the gorget patches were replaced by rhomboidal red facings, with red shoulder-straps. Badges of rank are the same as in the German army. On their caps they wear the skull of the German SS and on their left arms the Fascist eagle and "littorio". The officers and some of the NCOs carry Beretta pistols Cal. 9. ORs have carbines. Morale is low, as nearly all the men are anti-Nazis. Some of them told source that they would desert to the Allies if they were sent to the front.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

IV. Nazi-Fascist Police in Milan.

An interesting statement has been received on the organisation of the Nazi-Fascist police in MILAN, on its methods and the identity of executioners and spies who are at the head. Source was imprisoned in the political prisons of MILAN for

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more than three months, luckily under a false name, before crossing the lines.

The Commander of the SS in LOMBARDY is Captain SAVECKE (GERMAN) and has his headquarters in MILAN at the Hotel Regina.

The following are under him:

1. The German SS in rather scanty numbers, and they could do little if Fascist Collaboration were missing.

2. The so-called UGO group, headed by a Doctor UGO ALBERTI; is composed of policemen and graduates of the police force already in the OVRA Service.

3. The special office (U.S.) ex. U.P.I. (Ufficio Polizia Italiana) from the Republican National Guard, and in theory autonomous, but in reality absolutely controlled by the SS.

Reports and accusations are presented for the consideration of German functionaries by Italian spies. These functionaries give a judgment against which there is no appeal, and the person sentenced has no right of defence. The concentration camp where Italians who have escaped being shot are sent is at FOSSOLI, in the province of MODENA; they are afterwards deported from there to Germany. As regards the Germans and the UGO group, their methods are well-known but they do not generally go farther than the whip and the truncheon. Those, however, who are known for their bestial cruelty are the Fascists of the U.S., headed by three officers Lieut MILLI, Lieut. COLOMBO, Lieut BRACCO. There is not a medieval torture which they have not used on the unfortunate Italians who have fallen into their hands. (P.W.B. Rome 28.8.44).

GERMANS

V. Disposition.

FERRARA There is no German command in the town. All the offices have been transferred to the villas situated in the immediate vicinity, and there are few German troops stationed there. All the fortifications towards the sea along the Adriatic have been suspended since the occupation of ANCONA seemed imminent two months ago. At GAMBETTOLA there is a big fuel dump. SANTARCANGELO and its surroundings swarm with Germans. All the bridges between RAVENNA and RIMINI have been bored for mines. There are also many Germans in the zone of VERRUCHIO and TERCINO. There are none in the Republic of S. MARINO, of which the neutrality has recently been confirmed by Kesselring. Beyond the Republic the country on the way to CARPEGNA is full of German troops. In the zone of SASSO CERVARO there are 2,000 militia of the Battaglione "M". Source was told that in CARPEGNA the Germans have worked hard preparing fortifications, particularly towards BADIA TEBALDA, which has been completely evacuated by the civilian population. There are Germans in the neighbourhood of URBANIA, but in smaller numbers (P.W.B. Rome Ten. di V. 25.8.44).

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(P.W.B. Rome Ten. di V. 25.8.44).

VI Morale.

Lt. Z. spoke with one German near FARFA who said "I should have been pleased if that bomb had hit Hitler". He noticed a strong anti-nazi feeling among all the German troops he met.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

In the LUCCA and PISTOIA zones the Germans have already begun retreating, and have obliged the peasants to cut all the olive trees and have been requisitioning every kind of foodstuff. Farmers of the district around LUCCA assured source that they had been without bread for days. Very severe orders forbid the Italians to give hospitality to Germans, but this does not prevent almost every German soldier

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from having his civilian suit ready.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

The diary of a Viennese soldier in the Germany, recently captured, shows how little sympathy he and his countrymen have with the Nazis. The diary starts -

"When I came back from my leave into hospital and was released from there, I thought: "Well you've got to go back to the front as cannon-fodder again. Oh, no my dear Hitler; Austrians arn't so stupid! We don't need to fight for our freedom, for we shan't get it as long as Germany't still alive. For us it's : Down with the Nazis, for they will never be satisfied as long as they live"..... I'm still only a young chap, but this much I know; until Germany is wiped off the map there will be no peace in the world, for these people want to conquer the whole world".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 31.8.44).

VII. Atrocities.

FORNO DI MASSA
The Germans massacred 60 persons at FORNO DI MASSA because Partisans had been there.

PESARO The Germans burnt some people in their houses as a reprisal for the killing of two Germans

FOSSOMBRONE A passer-by was compelled to hang a fellow-countryman with his own hands in order to avoid being hanged himself. The victim's crime was not known to him.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. Z 20.8.44).

PADOVA There were as many atrocities here as in other provinces, among them one at BAGNOLI, where a whole family of 8 people were killed for having harboured two English parachutists. They were burnt in their home by the Germans with flame-throwers The Fascists in this region however behaved even more cruelly than the Germans.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44)

SESTO FIORENTINO 10 April. A search for partisans was made, and although none was found, six people were dragged from their beds and killed in cold blood.

VAGLIA. Five people were killed here for the same reason.

CASTELNUOVO DEI SABBIONI 4th July. According to the anti-fascist clandestine press the Germans massacred 70 persons here on the above date.

PONTASSIEVA Thirteen persons killed here on the 20th June in reprisal for the killing of one German soldier. Among them was a child of 4.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

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ALLIED PROPAGANDA

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VIII. "Frontpost"

"Frontpost" is well circulated among German soldiers. A P.W. interrogated was very much impressed by the factual tone.
(P.W.B. Advanced 18.8.44).

POLITICS

IX. Administration in CREMONA

The political and administrative organisation of the province of CREMONA centres round ROBERTO FARINACCI. With him he has Republican and military personalities who work in an atmosphere of perfect harmony with the Germans.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

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X. Parties in Trento and Bolzano.

In the cities the strongest parties are the Communist and Socialist. In the country the priests have enormous influence according to the local tradition. There is a strong desire for local autonomy in the TRENTO.
(P.W.B. Advanced 18.8.44).

XI. Feeling in FERRARA.

The spirit of the population is anti-German, but there is a strong Fascist nucleus in the province, supported by the middle classes.
(Lt. E. P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

XII. Treatment of Jews.

A search was carried out among the Jewis prisoners of the S. VITTORE prison in MILAN during the afternoon of July 31st. The inspection, which included women, was exacting and ruthless. A Polish Jew who concealed a sum of money, was kicked to death, after being subjected to blows and 80 lashes. The head of the Jewish group was shut in an underground punishment cell after the search, being left five days without food and three days without water.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 21.8.44).

ECONOMICS.

XIII. Food Situation.

FERRARA Cattle requisitions carried out by the Germans are now causing a certain lack of milk, meat and cheese. Prices are still moderate:

Eggs 8 lire each, butter 300 lire a kg, Meat 160 lire per kg.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. Z. 20.8.44).

VERONA June Life is very dear and the population has to resort to the Black Market to live.

Bread is 4 lire the etto, and a pair of shoes cost 2,500 lire.
(P.W.B. Advanced C.U. 19.8.44).

PADOVA In July butter on the black market was 350 lire the kilo, oil was 500 lire the litre. Milk could only be obtained by bartering other goods for it. Sugar, pasta and rice were distributed every three months on a ration of - sugar 1.5 kg, pasta and rice 3 kg. The bread ration, of the worst quality and without salt, was 200 grams per day. Jam was rarely distributed.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

TURIN During the recent period a deterioration in the quality of bread has been

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TURIN During the recent period a deterioration in the quality of bread has been noted. This is due mainly to the need for using large quantities of rye, which has been mixed with the grain in the proportion of 40 parts rye to 60 parts grain. Added to this there have been transport difficulties and some bakers have received consignments of pure rye which they have used up. Another cause of the deterioration can be ascribed to the fact that some bakers have had to use natural yeast instead of balm and the bread could not be worked with the necessary scrupulousness".
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 9.8.44).

XIV. Transport.

The tram services of the big towns, although reduced are mainly working.
(P.W.B. Rome 18.8.44).

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FERRARA Ferrara station is completely destroyed. The railways in the zone are in the following condition:

Venice line. not working at all because of the interruption of the PONTELAGOSCURO bridge. Between the station of Ferrara and that of Pontelagoscuro there are hundreds of waggons that cannot be moved either in one direction or the other. Source had heard that TODT workers were reconstructing three of the bridges in the zone of FRANCOLINI (FERRARA). At the moment the columns cross the PO at night by means of pontoon bridges, which are taken away in the day time and placed on the banks of the river. The vehicles which have to be taken across by day are moved on large boats.

Rimini line. This is interrupted in several places (a month ago at five points) and previous to the last attack was only taking military traffic.

Modena line. Begins two stations beyond Ferrara, and source did not know how far it went.

Bologna line. Source did not know at what point it commenced, but he did know that all the traffic of the Romagna for Lombardy went on the MANTUA line.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.8.44).

CHIVASSO The railway bridge on the river PO south east of CHIVASSO is being used. Traffic passes over it.

The MILAN-TURIN line is in full function. It is thought that the interruption between CHIVASSO and BRANDIZZO (south-east of CHIVASSO) has been mended.

On the MILAN-USMATE-BERGAMO line the railway bridge on the ADDA at PADERNO ROBLATE is interrupted. The traffic is deviated from USMATE on the line for LECCO and at CALOLZIOCORTE (7 km south south east of LECCO) on to the BERGAMO branch.

On the BERGAMO-ROVATO-BRESCIA lines the railway bridge has been reopened.

The MILAN-TREVIGLIO-BRESCIA-VERONA line has been re-opened. On the ROVATO-VERONA (VENICE) line only military convoys are allowed.

The railway bridge on the MINCIO at PESHIERA DEL GARDA, many times attacked by the Allied airforce without success is in full working order.
(Italian Official Source 20.8.44).

XV. Industry.

The output of factories in northern Italy has only been reduced by about 5% as a result of air raids (up to June 44). The textile industries, sugar refineries, and shoe factories have hardly been affected at all. Most industrialists in the north are keeping their production as low as possible and conserving their stocks.

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MILAN The FALK steelworks at SESTO S. GIOVANNI, employing more than a thousand workers, have suffered no bomb damage up to June 44.

The MARELLI factory at the southern extremity of SESTO S. GIOVANNI has never been hit. It employs about a thousand workers (June 44).

The TECNOMASIO ITALIANO BROWN -BOVERI works have not been hit in any raid (up to June 44) They at present employ about a thousand workers.

The INNOCENTI factories in the eastern suburbs of MILAN had not been hit up to June 44. They employ from 1,500 to 2,000 workers.

CREMONA

The ARMAGUERRA factory produces ORIANI MG, BERETTA MP and various types of ammunition. It employs about 1,500 workers, working three eight-hour shifts.

The OFFICINA MECCANICA ALDIGHIERI produces engines and chassis for trucks. It employs about 500 workers in three shifts of eight hours each.

The OFFICINE MECCANICHE FERRABOLI produce tractors and agricultural machinery, employing about 200 workers in one nine-hour shift.

The OFFICINA SALVATORE DOTTI is working exclusively for the Germans. It produces methane gas. Source could give no details concerning number of workers and output.

The OFFICINA DOTT. MARIO STORTI produces varnishes, methylated spirit, tincture of iodine and other pharmaceutical products. Most of its output goes to the Germans.

CASTEL MAGGIORE

The firm of BUINI and GRANDI employs about a thousand workers and produces electrical equipment.

CESENA

The Cesena Sulphur refinery, a subsidiary of the MONTECATINI concern, lies immediately north of the railway station, with which it is connected by a siding. Since early January the refinery has been practically unproductive, owing to the lack of raw material caused by the bombing of RIMINI station and by the shortage of MT. (May 44).
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

XVI. Finance.

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(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

XVI. Finance.

Republican and Nazi officials are anxious to get hold of gold and as much as 12,000 lire has been paid for a gold sovereign. The object of this is to accumulate funds against the evil day when flight to Switzerland will be imperative.

BRESCIA. June 44. Owing to the inflation people have lost confidence in paper money and are endeavouring to buy goods of all kinds. For some time past, depositors have not been allowed to withdraw more than 30% of their accounts in cash, and to do even this a permit from the Provincial authorities is necessary.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

XVII. Agriculture.

MILAN. June - Chemical fertilizers were practically unobtainable and could be bought on the black market only in very small quantities at very high prices.

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Agricultural machinery in the factories and warehouses of Milan had been requisitioned and taken away to Germany, but source believed that machinery belonging to the farmers has not been requisitioned.
(C.S.D.I.C. report).

XVIII. Social Conditions and Public Health.

MILAN Citizens who have been bombed out receive assistance from the authorities. Last January source received 10,000 lire as a first payment for the value of a house of his which had been destroyed. In the early days those who had been bombed out were accommodated in the elementary schools, but this is no longer possible (May 44) and they are now evacuated to BONIROLA, ABBIATEGRASSO, VIGEVANO, BUSTO ARSIZIO, VARESE, COMO, GALLARATE etc.

Health conditions are still good (May 44), and most kinds of medical supplies can be obtained. Both the old and the new OSPEDALE MAGGIORE, as well as the military hospital is still functioning.
(C.S.D.I.C. report).

XIX. Air Raid Damage.

FERRARA Damage has been pretty extensive, especially to industry and communications The railway hardly works at all any more. Mail service is almost everywhere carried out by courriers on foot. A letter takes an average of 15 days even for short distances.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. Z. 20.8.44).

VERONA In the Allied raid on 7th July the central station was hit, the industrial quarter and the railway damaged. The civilian hospital was also hit, causing 50 casualties. Another raid on the same districts was made on the 8th July, and railway traffic was brought to a standstill.
(P.W.B. Advanced C.U. 19.8.44).

PADOVA There have been eight raids up to 10th July. A good many non-military objectives have been hit, with corresponding effect on civilian morale.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

LABOUR.

XX. Corruption in the TODT Organisation.

A Polish PW, formerly of the Todt organisation, recently interrogated, confirmed that the organisation is corrupt from top to bottom. Senior officials are interested only in lining their own pockets and assist each other in misusing the high priority which the organisation enjoys and in falsifying accounts.

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

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2826

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The favourite means of falsification is that of time sheets and ration strengths In order to get the required number of bodies, the O.T. is willing to take anyone and as a consequence it attracts a great many undesirable elements (from a German point of view) Having got the desired numbers, slacking and absenteeism on the part of the worker is welcomed rather than checked, because of the gains which accrue to individuals.

In Italy only about one-third of the personnel on the firm's payroll were at work. The remaining two thirds had only joined to get the necessary O.T. pass. Rations and clothing were, however, always drawn for the full number and the surplus could then be disposed of to the civilian population for private gain. In spite of this absenteeism, total working hours were always ballooned up in order to draw increased pay.

ANTON DI SPERANDIO, for example, would make out a false receipt from Italian labourers - ostensibly hired for special work- and would so pocket ten thousand lire, less the rake-off claimed by the Lagerfuehrer who obtained the necessary signatures. Thanks to language difficulties, bookkeeping was a farce anyway.

SECRET

0258
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 178506/62

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With corruption abroad, it was too much to expect good work, and the Italian technicians had a happy knack of building defences incorrectly and not in the intended places, by way of revenge or as an attempt at sabotage. Several were threatened with prison because of this.

The Italian workers had their own form of revenge, for as soon as conditions became hard they deserted to the partisans. The Germans supplied a guard of ten German and ten Italian soldiers under a German Cpl over the PRATO ALEONIC camp where source was working, but before long the NCO concluded a non-agression pact with the partisans. The understanding was that he should not be molested and that he would help to get the outstanding balance of wages for some of the workers who had been cheated of it for a long time. He succeeded in getting it on the same day of asking (13 June 44) because he pointed out that otherwise the men would desert. The Italians concerned lasted out only 24 hours for a rumour came round that the firm was to retire and build fortifications in the ALPS and they deserted en bloc.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report 10.8.44).

XXI. Fascist Syndicates.

The Fascist Syndicate is a mere myth and works only as a police imposition. The working classes are controlled from the clandestine front, which organises strikes on a large scale, among which was a recent one in TURIN (in the second half of July). A fact worthy of note is that the industrialists are bound up with the C.N.L. to which they look for future government. The C.N.L. supplies a subsidy of 2000 lire per month to the families of partisans or deported workers.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXII. Fascists in Ferrara.

Dott NINI ZANARDI - Via Romei (Todt)
Ing. MARI (one of the founders of the F.R.)
OLAO GAGGIOLI - Console Generale M.V.S.N. ex-member of the Fascist Grand Council.
GIULIO and ARRIGO RIVANI - Via Palestro - collaborators with the Germans.
Ing. ZACCARINI - collaborator of the Todt.
TONINELLI
Rag. CARPI - Vice Fiduciario of the G.R.
The brothers BONETTI, Spies of the O.V.R.A., torturers.

The Prefect is VEZZALINI, and is assisted by the Chief of the Fascist Gestapo in Ferrara (name unknown) who is a real criminal.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

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(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

XXIII. Founders of the Fascio of Padova.

Capt. DUMAS SOGLI, Squadrist - now a member of the German SS.
DIEGO - squadrist - guilty of the death of a boy in Padova, stupid type.

Prof. CARLO ANTI, late Rector of the University.

ALLEGRO ALFREDO - squadrist, ex-commander of the Muti, ex-director of the UDA
ALLEGRO NELLO - squadrist, Political Commissar of Camposanpiero, wears the uniform of a Lieutenant.
ALLEGRO TONINO - squadrist, spy
CALAFATTI ENZIO, of the German SS - blond with a moustache

SECRET

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CROPPI CIRSTE - officer in the GNR of Padova.
RINALDI - spy, employee at the town hall of Padova.

SACCHETTO ALBERTO
SIMEONI ATTILIO
CARENZA SAVERIO — Fascists of long standing who have used their political position to reach the highest posts in the educational world.

VIVARELLI — President of the Special Tribunal of BOLOGNA, now Federal Commissioner of PADOVA

CAPT. DINO FRISCO - Squadrist.

(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

XXIV. Fascist Chiefs in Veneto.

BASSANO DEL GRAPPA.

Dr. ZIMBERLE

Prof. VELO

DE FACCI

BERTIZZOLO

(P.W.B. Advanced 18.8.44).

XXV. Carita's Assistants in Florence.

BIAGGINI
CHIAROTTI — Members of Carita's SS
Also a railwaymen named CASINI (torturer).

(P.W.B. Advanced)

XXVI. Genova collaborator

A certain BASILE is the principal collaborator with the Germans in GENOVA now.
(P.W.B. [illegible] 30.8.44).

XXVII. Military Personalities.

Brig. JALLA O.C. Regional Military HQ ALESSANDRIA (Monch 44)

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

CAPT. DINO PRISCO - Squadrist.

(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

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(P.W.B. dated 30.8.44).

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Brig. JALLA O.C. Regional Militia HQ ALESSANDRIA (March 44)
Gen. MOSCA Insp. Gen. of GNR MILAN (May 44)
Gen CASTRIOTA " " " TURIN "
Col. MISSIALE CO GNR Legion TURIN (May 44)

(C.S.D.I.C.)

8825

XXVIII. Well known Fascists at Bologna.

GIUSEPPE AMBROSI, Proprietor of the "Nuova Italia" who asked German authorities to be allowed to be present when 10 Italian patriots were shot.

CAPT AIELLO
CAPT LEMBO of the Political Police.

PROF. COPPOLA, Director of the University, who would not allow non-Fascist students to be admitted to examinations.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 21.8.44).

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0262
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

NCS 1/4/24
Date 5/3/75

~~SECRET~~
"D" Section Italy (Sec).

6th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 23.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Bands near the Gothic Line.

Reports are now arriving of the location and strength of the Patriot Bands operating near the Gothic line. The PESARO Brigade and the 6th GARIBALDI Brigade in the URBINO district have now been absorbed and overrun for the most part by the Allied advance. Small bands are now reported north of PESARO in MONTAGNA (North of S. SEPOLCRO), in the VERGHERETO and the ALPE DI S. BENEDETTO, MONTRIOLO (West of S. MARINO), PONTASSIEVE (under a British officer), the ALPE TRE POTENZE and several around PIST IA. MONTEFIORINO is the HQ of the 2nd(?) or GINO BOZZI Garibaldi Brigade, which appears to be numerous and well organised.

Activities in the North

Reports from the APPENINES indicate that the bands in the neighbourhood of PARMA and BOLOGNA have been active, In LIGURIA the patriots control large areas, and a Blackshirt Division has been forced to keep concentrated in the cities of GENOVA, SPEZIA and SAVONA.

The Repubblica Fascista states that in NOVARA Province the Germans have cut down all bushes and hedges along motor roads to deprive partisans of cover for their ambuscades. The Alpine valleys continue to be scene of much skirmishing and mopping-up operations. The Germans appear very anxious to keep control over the chief passes ie. M. CENIS, LITTLE S. BERNARD, the STELVIO and the BRENNER. They have not yet been able to dislodge the patriots from the LITTLE S. BERNARD.

FASCIST FORCES

It is officially announced that Fascist armed forces in Italy number

41,000 men under the German High Command
26,000 " " Marshal Graziani
23,000 " " H.Q. of the Republican Army.

10263
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41,000	men	under the	German High Command
26,000	"	"	Marshal Graziani
43,000	"	"	H.Q. of the Republican Army.

3824

Employed outside Italy

60,000	in	France
1,000	"	Albania
50,000	"	Greece
6,000	"	Aegean Islands
3,000	"	Russia

Large units now in Italy are - MONTEROSA (Alpine) Division, S. MARCO Division, ITALIA Division, LITTORIO Division,

Morale

The Germans appear uneasy over the morale of the S. MARCO Division, and have arranged many propaganda lectures for the unit. The result is not very happy.

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0264
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

0265

SECRET SUMMARY 2. 6th September, 1944.

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The men are not allowed to possess ammunition. When Mussolini inspected the Division he was escorted by numerous S.S. officers with tommy-guns. Every day the officers have to report in writing that their units have not written subversive inscriptions on the walls.

Nazi-Fascist police in Milan

A victim reports the bestial cruelty of the Nazi-Fascist police towards political prisoners. While the German S.S. and the Italian UGO group (O.V.R.A. police headed by Dr. UGO ALBERTI) confine themselves to whips and truncheons, the Fascists of the Ufficio Speciale, headed by Lieutenant MILOI COLOMBO and BRACCO indulge in every form of medieval torture.

GERMANS

Morale.

One source reports that a German soldier told him he would have been happy had that bomb killed Hitler. All the German soldiers he had met expressed strong anti-Nazi feelings. Another report states that though severe orders prohibit Italians from giving hospitality to German soldiers, this does not prevent almost every German soldier from having a civilian suit.

Atrocities.

More massacres and atrocities are reported from FERNO DI MASSA, PESARO - people burnt in their houses, FOSSOMBRONE - a passer-by compelled to hang a fellow countryman with his own hands under pain of death, BAGNOLI (PADOVA province) - eight people killed with flame-throwers, SESTO FIORENTINO, VAGLIA, CASTELNUOVO DEI SABBIONI and PONTASSIEVE.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

It is reported that "Frontpost" has a good circulation among German troops.

ECONOMICS

The Food Situation

PADUA German requisitioning of cattle is causing a shortage of milk, meat and cheese. Prices are still fairly moderate.

VERONA Life is very dear, and the Black Market is essential
PADUA High prices in the Black Market for butter and oil were reported in July.
TURIN The quality of bread has much deteriorated.

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

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TURIN. The quality of bread has much deteriorated.

Transport.

All reports indicate much interruption of traffic caused by the bombing of bridges, but the Germans are working indefatigably to restore communications.

Industries.

Output in northern Italy has only been reduced by about 5% as a result of air-raids (up to June 4th). Textiles, sugar refineries and shoe factories are hardly affected, but most industrialists are keeping production as low as possible to conserve stocks. These are considerable, as export has ceased and internal distribution is hampered by transport difficulties.

SECRET

0266
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

SECRET SUMMARY 3. 6th September, 1944.

Finance

Republican and Nazi officials are anxiously collecting gold. A gold sovereign has fetched 12,000 lire. Their object is to accumulate funds for their eventual flight. The inflation of currency has led to loss of confidence and to the buying of all kinds of goods.

Air Raid Damage

FERRARA, VERONA and PADOVA have all been extensively damaged. The stations have been wrecked, but as many non-military objectives have been hit, and there have been many complaints.

LABOUR

Owing to the complete corruption reigning in the TODT organisation in Italy, only about one third of the personnel on the pay-rolls is at work. Falsification of pay-sheets and ration strengths is the order of the day. Italian engineers sabotage their work, and the workers, if employed, desert to the partisans

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0267
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0269

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

~~SECRET~~

"D" Section Italy (Occ)

8 - SEP 1944

30th August, 1944.

18A

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
NLS 1/4/74
BY J — NARS, Date 5/13/75

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY-NO 22.

SEEN.	INITIALS.	DATE.
Col. McCARTHY		
Maj. MAGNUS		
Maj. DRAGE		
Capt. SALVADORI		
Capt. SAVA		
C. C.		

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans

Considerable information has reached us ~~regarding~~ the formation and distribution of partisan brigades in N. Italy. It is reported that the movement is not so strong in LOMBARDY. This is not surprising in view of the fact that the low-lying country does not afford good cover for guerrillas. On the other hand, strikes and sabotage have been more successful in that region than in PIEDMONT.

Civil war appears to be raging in N. Italy. The offensive taken by Black Brigades, Fascist Divisions and German SS formations is encountering an obstinate resistance, and the partisans have inflicted heavy losses even on German forces. The Fascists have now officially adopted the German system of reprisals against hostages, though they content themselves with a more modest quota of victims. For example, the Prefect of NOVARA on 18th July decreed that for every Fascist killed three hostages would be shot, and for every Fascist kidnapped, five hostages would be taken.

Assassinations

Mussolini's ex-private secretary OSVALDO SEBASTIANI, was captured by partisans at PASSIRANO (PRESCIA Prov.) and executed.

Co-operation with Yugoslavs.

The Italian Committee of Liberation and the Yugoslav Committee have agreed to publish a joint newspaper for mixed partisan forces.

Allied Recognition.

The Allied Control Commission paid a tribute to the efforts of the partisans in Tuscany and to the work of the Italian Navy. General Sir Oliver Leese also praised the work of the Italian Corps of Liberation.

9822

FASCIST FORCES

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2882

FASCIST FORCES

According to a decree of the Duce, the G.N.R. will cease to function as police after 31st December and will become part of the fighting arm of the Republican Army.

RICCI resigned the command of the G.N.R. and Mussolini has taken over the temporary command

Desertions. The recently arrived Monte Rosa Alpine Division has lost large numbers of its men by desertion.

Propaganda Companies. The Italian Divisions trained in Germany have followed the German example and installed propaganda Companies in their midst.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

SECRET
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SUMMARY 2.

Guardia di Finanze. These were to be disbanded on August 15th and were to join the G.N.R. or go to Germany. 2,000 Customs Officers who refused to join the Militia were deported. En route, however, half of them escaped.

Black Brigades. These claim successes in their fight with the partisans but their victories seem according to their own account, to have been won over isolated individuals or small groups.

GERMANS

Kesselring has imposed martial law on BOLOGNA, FERRARA, FORLI, MODENA, PARMA, PIACENZA, RAVENNA and REGGIO EMILIA, and threatens to repress sabotage with the greatest severity. Other security measures are the blowing up of certain bridges in the TICINO valley, the evacuation of villages on the Swiss frontier and the prohibition of electric current in a zone 120-130 kilometres from the front.

Atrocities Intercepted Italian letters mention many horrible incidents which may possibly be exagerated, e.g. (OVINDOLI (AQUILA) 2 Indian P.Ws. burnt alive; FLORENCE, children's hands cut off; S. MINIATO, people locked in a Church and blown up with mines.

POLITICS

It is reported from the North that the Action Party is very strong in LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT, but that the Communists complain that they are too keen on politics and do not co-operate with the extreme Left in the fight against Nazis and Fascists.

Fascist Ministries. Ministries which hitherto have been quartered between VENICE and BRESCIA are to be moved further West towards BERGAMO, MILAN and COMO. The COMO region, it is said, will be considered the chief centre of Fascist Government.

ECONOMICS

Food Situation The food situation in the big cities is becoming acute. MILAN is without milk, TURIN complains of the bad quality of the bread.

Finance From August 15 Bank Rates are to be generally reduced. There is a great shortage of coins and low-priced currency in Italy. Street car companies, shops etc, issue their own tokens. In TRIESTE newspaper boys have issued a token currency of their own.

LABOUR

The Junkers aircraft factories advertise further facilities in the

0271
declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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It is reported from the North that the Action Party is very strong in LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT, but that the Communists complain that they are too keen on politics and do not co-operate with the extreme Left in the fight against Nazis and Fascists.

Fascist Ministries. Ministries which hitherto have been quartered between VENICE and BRESCIA are to be moved further West towards BERGAMO, MILAN and COMO. The COMO region, it is said, will be considered the chief centre of Fascist Government.

ECONOMICS

Food Situation The food situation in the big cities is becoming acute. MILAN is without milk, TURIN complains of the bad quality of the bread.

Finance From August 15 Bank Rates are to be generally redueed. There is a great shortage of coins and low-priced currency in Italy. Street car companies, shops etc, issue their own tokens. In TRIESTE newspaper boys have issued a token currency of their own.

LABOUR

The Junkers aircraft factories advertise further facilities in the Fascist press for workers going to Germany. Raids to obtain impressed workers still continue. It is reported from the VALTELLINA and VAL SESIA that the latest enormity is to seize worshippers as they leave Churches after Sunday services. Priests who protested were arrested.

Strikes. New strikes are said to have begun again in MILAN. BRESCIA workers also struck from July 24th to July 29th.

THE CHURCH

The "Crociata Italica" (Fascist clerical paper) protests that in some MILAN churches the faithful pray to be delivered from the sword of the German, and also asks the Fascist authorities to prevent the Bishop's of LOMBARDY from suspending priests who work for the "Crociata Italica".

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"D" Section ITALY (Occ).

30th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 22.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ). 30th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -No 22

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

The "Carlo Rosselli" Brigades. The following brigades of patriots have been organised by the Action Party in Tuscany:-

Rosselli Brigade No 1.(about 650 men) operating in the area BAGNI DI LUCCA, VAL DI LIMA (eastwards), ALPE TRE POTENZE since December 43. It sustained many encounters with enemy troops coming from LUCCA and PISTOIA. The Brigade HQ has been in contact with 5 Army agents and received many supplies by parachute. About July 14 when German units were occupying the Gothic Line positions in the area, it was forced to dissolve through mopping up operations. Some elements moved towards PRATO and PISTOIA. A very efficient unit under the command of a certain Ducceschi intended to reach LIVORNO and put itself at the disposal of the Allied Armies. No further news has since been heard of it.

Rosselli Brigade No 2.operating in the MUGELLO region; armed with Italian weapons (light MG, and also some Mausers and Parabellum) No exact news has recently been heard of it, but it seems that it sustained a considerable fighting period with German units.

Rosselli Brigade No 3. with three companies of about 100 men each. Operated previously in the area of MONTESPERTOLI, where 100 men have been left under the command of Capt. DEL MONACO (battle name BERTINI) 100 men (including a very efficient squad commanded by a certain BERTO) in the FLORENCE area, under the command of Capt VIVARELLI (HQ at MONTICELLI). Another 120 men are spread along the Northern perimiter of FLORENCE in the area of PONTE ALLE MOSSE: well armed with 1t. M.G. they moved there a few days ago from the area SCANDICCI BELLOSGUARDO (9.8.44).

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Rosselli Brigade No 4. being constituted under the command of Major NARDI, who already has 155 men. HQ at le due Strade. Possibly this unit will include the reorganised men of Cap. Vivarelli coming from Rosselli Brigade No 3.

Rosselli Brigade No 5. About 1000 men distributed in the 4 areas of FLORENCE (OLTRARNO is one of these areas). They are included in a stronger force of about 3,000 men (most of them Communists -200-300 of other parties), armed and with amunition for two hrs.

The Action Party also has an autonomous unit of about 150 men at CAGGIO MONTANO operating behind the Gothic Line. Because of its location it will probably fall under the jurisdiction of the Partisan

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Military HQ of EMILIA.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 9.8.44).

Allied Instructions to Partisans.

Instructions are being issued to partisans by the Allied radio and by the "Italia Combatte" programme, particularly to those who fought in FLORENCE, urging them to continue their fight towards the north and to look out for certain divisional signs of the Germans. The enemy will be forced to use the roads and will be hampered by patriot activity from the hills on either side. Out of the whole of Italy the Appennines will probably afford the best situation for patriot revenge on the enemy.

Warnings have also been given to the patriots of MILAN and TURIN not to let their enthusiam at the success of the patriots in PARIS run away with them, but to await instructions from the Allied Command. (P.W.B. Rome 25.8.44).

Partisan organisations in the north

The Garibaldi Brigades, 3 to 4000 strong, operate under the control of the C.D.L. and are intended to be apolitical; it seems, however that they are all of Communist tendencies, and are in close touch with the Communist party.

TUSCANY Mountains of CARRARESE: One Garibaldi Brigade has just been formed. In the same locality operates a small but active group commanded by a British Captain.

Three months ago there were three Garibaldi Brigades in the mountains south of the road FORLI* FAENZA. One brigade only exists now owing to severe German reprisals.

In the provinces of FORLI and RAVENNA the G.A.P. are so numerous that they have formed two G.A.P. Brigades.

BOLOGNA Prov. of BOLOGNA: 1 G.A.P. Brigade with its H.Q. in VADO South of MODENA and
REGGIO EMILIA - Garibaldi Brigade very strong and [illegible] HQ in ABECONE.

EMILIA Prov. of PARMA: 1 Garibaldi Brigade "BICCELLI" not very efficient.

LOMBARDY Prov. of PIACENZA: 1 strong military organisation.

The partisan movement has been rather weak. The great majority of partisans

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The partisan movement has been rather weak. The great majority of partisan groups is controlled by the Party of Action. Great activity is deployed by the Communist Party among the workers and the organisation of strikes and sabotage has been more successful in LOMBARDY than in PIEDMONT.

PIEDMONT There are seven Garibaldi Brigades in Piedmont.

VAL DI LANZA	3
VAL DI SUSA	2
BIELLESE	1
NOVARESE	1

Two new brigades are being formed in the Province of TURIN. In addition to these formations there are several groups of the Party of Action and monarchist bands commanded by regular officers.

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VENETO Mountains of SCHIO VAL D'AGNO: 1 Garibaldi Brigade "FRATELLI BANDIERA"
Province of VITTORIO VENETO : 1 Garibaldi Brigade "NINO NANETTI"

FRIULI 1 Garibaldi Brigade.

TRIESTE 1 Garibaldi Brigade who works in close liaison with the Jugoslavs.

TRENTINO In the Trentino the German influence is very strong and therefore it is extremely difficult to organise resistance. An Austrian Catholic Party exists in TRENTO and contacted some time ago the Communist Party. Several meetings took place, but a base of agreement could not be reached because of the strong nationalist feeling of the Austrian Catholics (P.W.B. 8th Army 12.8.44).

Appeal by "Green Flames".

The "Green Flames" (Fiamme Verdi) have issued a patriotic appeal to the partisans and others containing the following paragraphs:

"Men of the valleys - we count on your collaboration, we are sure that you are all our friends. We nevertheless give you the following counsel and directions: The "Green Flames" are part of the regular army of the Italian Government. Each member, before he joins, takes an oath not to do anything against liberty or justice, nothing that will be contrary to moral and religious laws or military honour. Whoever breaks this oath is punished according to martial law. Those who, using threats and violence, commit crimes of various kinds in the mountain districts are not partisans; they are true brigands and robbers

The "Green Flames" will defend you against such people, they will fire and justice will be done. Do not let yourselves be deceived by the astuteness of the Republicans, who come to you pretending to be partisans, ragged and famished, making insolent declarations against Fascism. Be on your guard! Many have fallen into this trap. Make a note of all the wrongs you endure for having given aid to the King and the partisans; if possible have the statement witnessed and signed by persons of repute. Make a note of anyone who secretly works against the "Green Flames", who reaps unjust profits, who gives unnecessary help to the Germans or the Fascists. When liberty is restored Justice will be done. Collect small stocks of food and put them in a safe place. They will be useful to you in the critical moments that may come during the German retreat. Do not hide these stores near your houses, because there they would be easily detected. Anyone who helps the Germans or the Republicans will also be considered a traitor. If you are forced to collaborate, find some means of doing damage.

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Patriots Incite "Wehrmacht" to Mutiny.

An appeal has been issued by the partisans which has been widely distributed among German troops in Italy: It is addressed "To the officers, N.C.Os and men of the German Armed Forces:" and begs them to "listen to the words of truth addressed to you by the Italian patriots in your own interests and in those of your country and your families". It continues "Hitler's mad adventures are leading Germany to utter disaster. You are losing the war because your cause is unjust.... Events are changing from one moment to another. The Soviet Armies, in their victorious advance of liberation, are nearing the German frontier; the invasion of Europe by the armies of Britain and the U.S.A. has been victorious / begun: In Italy, the soldiers of General Alexander, bravely supported by Italian patriots who now

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form an army, are victoriously advancing up the peninsula driving the German troops, whose fate is irremediably sealed, towards the north. .... The fate of Nazism has been sealed. There are plain and striking signs that the end is near. There are, in the first place, the events of July 20th. Hitler escaped death by a mere chance. .... It is a case of organised revolt... Terror reigns in Germany.. The Nazi leaders are only able to govern by proclaiming a state of siege. The SS has begun to attack the Wehrmacht..... Give up the useless fight. Hand over your arms to the Italian patriots, or turn them with decision against the SS and the Gestapo, the true enemies of the German people..... Our cause is the same as yours... liberation Death to Nazism! Long live Liberty! Long live peace! National Liberation Committee of northern Italy".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 19.8.44).

Partisan activities in general.

LIGURIA Will the Allies land also in LIGURIA? The entry into PIEDMONT from the sea is open owing to present partisan activities there. From IMPERIA the Germans attempted mopping-up operations in the direction of the partisan-occupied coast. The partisans, however, repelled the Germans at DIANO CASTELLO, capturing a considerable amount of war material, as well as at the part of DIANO MARINA and several other localities. A German and Fascist motorised column consisting of 1000 was ambushed at PIEVE DI TECO, and 100 men were lost. In the NERVIA Valley, Germans and Fascists pillaged and burned villages, but were finally chased away. Partisans captured the GNR barracks at CASTIGLIONE, CHIAVARI and BARGONE, including an arms depot, and large food stocks ready to be sent to Germany. At BORDIGHERA, partisans captured a wheat truck ready to leave for FRANCE. At BARGAGLI they captured three German NCOs and liberated a group of 60 men who were about to be sent to Germany. At PIANDEPRE they overpowered the garrison.
(Tribune de Geneve 15.8.44).

PIACENZA. In an encounter near FARINI D'OLMO in the Province of PIACENZA, the patriots have killed 22 German soldiers and taken much booty in the way of arms and ammunition. There have been patrol actions on the Via Emilia, especially in the district of FIRENZUOLA. Near CIRIE, in the Province of TURIN patriots have interrupted an electric cable which served the war industries used by the Germans. The railway TURIN-MODANE has been damaged for a long distance near GOLLEGNO. Sabotage has also been committed near TORTONA against the lines of communication and some highway bridges have been damaged. Other attacks against the enemy lines of communication have been made at NERVIE in PIEDMONTE. Important factories which were working for the Germans have been rendered useless after the damage inflicted by theG.A.P. to the electric installations, also at SESTRI LEVANTE and TRIGOSO..

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(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

CHERELE An enemy convoy was drawn into an ambush near CHERELE. During the encounter which lasted two hours, the Germans lost 7 big motor vehicles. A Nazi Major was killed. The patriots also made 59 prisoners, 14 of which belonged to the TODT organisation.
ASIAGO Enemy troops fell into an ambush near Asiago, losing, between dead and wounded 59 men, many arms and a great quantity of ammunition. Only one patriot was killed and five were wounded
(P.W.B. Rome 24.8.44).

FOSSANO Thirty men from the Garibaldi Brigade carried off from Fossano powder factory 15 quintals of explosives, and subsequently used it to blow up the prison gates and liberate 75 political

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TURIN Life in TURIN depends on the partisans, as even Stampa is forced to admit. The newspaper complains that the city's entire electricity supply is controlled by patriots who have seized all the power plants and are able to deliver or cut off power as they like. Thus the large factories in Turin working for the Wehrmacht have stopped work. Stampa further accuses partisans of hindering Piedmontese farmers from delivering cattle and cereals and admits that the Germans are unable to take anything because of the partisans who control the countryside around the city.
(Arbeiter Zeitung, Basle 18.8.44).

MILAN In spite of advanced curfew hours in MILAN, owing to recent disturbances, two members of the Black Brigades have been shot by cyclists, who escaped. Other cyclists seriously wounded a marine. According to Fascist reports a pitched battle south of PAVIA cost the partisans 15 dead. German SS detachments arrived for the first time in VALSOLDA and the frontier region north of LAKE LUGANO, where the maquis has been established for a long time. Numerous arrests have been made and several executions are reported.
(Tribune de Geneve 12.8.44).

PISTOIA Behind the German ranks in the neighbourhood of PISTOIA, big patriot units, with the help of the Allied aviation, have given open battle to the enemy, inflicting notable losses of both men and means. The activity of the patriots has upset all the German communications and the supplies from the north to the front lines.
(P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44).

BRESCIA Mussolini's ex-private secretary OSVALDO SEBASTIANI, who became the President of the Corte dei Conti Republicani, has been captured by the patriots at PASSIRANO; in the province of BRESCIA. After a brief trial he was executed.
(P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44.)

RAVENNA, FORLI and BOLOGNA The patriots who were operating in the RAVENNA zone, FORLI and BOLOGNA, in a month of activity have inflicted serious damage on the enemy. They have blown up 5 bridges, interrupted 16 railway lines, destroyed 4 armoured cars, and 43 other motor vehicles, damaged 60 other motor vehicles, burnt two trains loaded with paraffin, destroyed an electric station and damaged seven others, killed 212 German soldiers and 10 Fascist militia, disarmed 165 Fascists, captured 15 machine guns, 279 rifles, 16 quintals of ammunition, 53 revolvers and hand grenades.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.8.44).

Italo-Yugoslav Co-operation. A new agreement has been reached between the Italian Committee of National Liberation and the

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(P.W.B. Rome 21.8.44).

Italo-Yugoslav Co-operation. A new agreement has been reached between the Italian Committee of National Liberation and the Yugoslav Liberation Committee, which provides for the publication of a joint newspaper for mixed brigades etc. On the frontier zone a single Committee has been formed from Italian and Yugoslav partisans.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 13.8.44).

Reprisals.

LAKE MAGGIORE According to well-informed sources at FONDOTOCE on Lake Maggiore ten days ago the GNR shot 42 people, including one woman, accused of having sheltered partisans. The bodies were buried in a field. For the same reason a whole family was condemned to death at the end of July. The control along the 3 km frontier strip has been tightened: all persons found beyond a fixed line are now shot without trial.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 9.8.44).

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No pardon is given to partisans taken prisoner by the German army. They are shot without exception, and even hostages in a concentration camp must often expiate their sympathy with the partisans in the same way. Owing to the shortage of men, the German Army's punitive expeditions to the mountain valleys are now rather unsuccessful. As soon as a punitive expedition has left the area, partisans re-occupy the position.
(News Digest 15.8.44).

The Fascist campaign against the partisans has now been launched in the SOLDA and CAVARGNA valleys between the eastern arm of LAKE LUGANO and the Swiss TICINO and GRISON frontiers. German SS are being employed. Several villages are already occupied , and numerous executions have been carried out. Partisans have withdrawn to the higher valleys. Further south Fascists try to prevent partisans approaching the Swiss frontier by felling the woods along the border. This measure is still in its initial stage.
(Gazette de Lausanne 15.8.44).

NOVARA A decree was issued on July 18th by BARBERA, Prefect of Novara under the heading "Reprisals for acts of brigandage". The following instructions were given - for "the maintenance of public order".

1. Firstly for every Republican Fascist or member of the Armed Forces of the Republic killed by the bandits, three members, chosen from the lists already compiled, of families of deserters, defaulters or maquis elements in the region in which the crime occurred will be immediately executed.

2. Secondly for every Republican Fascist or member of the Armed Forces of the Republic abducted by partisans, five of the aforesaid relatives will be seized as hostages.

3. Thirdly, for every act of plunder, sabotage of destruction perpetrated to the detriment of the Fascists or members of the Armed Republican Forces, the property and goods of the above-mentioned will be confiscated.

4. Fourthly, for every act proved under any of these categories the population of the Commune or region where the crime was committed will, failing information being received or assistance given within 24 hours, leading to the aprehension of the culprits, be liable to a fine, varying from 100,000 lire to one million lire, according to the gravity of the offence.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 14.8.44).

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

(News Digest 15.8.44).

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(Libera Stampa, Lugano 14.8.44).

II. Sabotage.

Transocean, reporting from VENICE on 13.8.44, declares "Police investigation of the bomb outrage at the Palazzo Giustiniani, HQ of of the GNR, led to the discovery of a central organisation which directed several groups of partisans and saboteurs. Among those arrested are members of Venice society. The number of people killed in the outrage has now risen to 13.

Nothwithstanding the rec nt mopping up operations carried out by Fascists, partisan bands gather throughout the VALTELLINA, one of their tasks being the hindering of the destruction of the dykes, and electrical power houses serving MILAN and the vast surrounding region.
(Popolo e Liberta 17.8.44).

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

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III. Allied Recognition of Partisans.

At the first meeting in Rome, the Allied Commission of Control has given ample recognition to the war contribution of the patriots and the Italian Navy against the common enemy.

Colonel Shipp has declared that, particularly in the battle for the liberation of Florence, the Tuscan patriots have given proof of great courage and have proved themselves of great help to the Allies. Rear Admiral Morgan expressed high praise for the proofs furnished by all the Italian Navy since her participation in the war at the side of the United Nations. He also said that he had proposed an officer of the Italian Navy for one of the highest British awards of valour.
(P.W.B. Rome 23.8.44).

At the side of the Polish troops and under the command of the 8th Army the C.I.L. has taken part in numerous actions on the Adriatic sector. From the hard and victorious battle for the liberation of the Filottrano, to the forcing of the river Musone, from the part taken in the battle for Ancona to the occupation of Jesi.

The fight for FILOTTRANO, in which the NEMBO took part, was the most violent of the last operations of the C.I.L, which gained on this occasion fresh praise from General Sir Oliver Leese. He sent the following message to General UTILI. "My very best congratulations to you and your troops for the success of the conquest of FILOTTRANO after hard fighting -"
(P.W.B. Rome 24.8.44).

FASCIST FORCES

IV. Organisation.

G.N.R. The Gazetta Ufficiale publishes the following Decree of the Duce:

Article 1. The GNR becomes part of the first fighting arm of the National Republican Army. Its present police tasks will cease from December 31st 1944.
(Italian Home Service 14.8.44).

For reasons that are strictly personal General RICCI has asked to be relieved of the Command of the GNR and his request has been granted. The Duce has expressed his gratitude to him for his work during the first phase of the organisation of this armed formation, and has confirmed him in his office as president of the ONB. From today (20.8.44) the Duce himself has temporarily taken over command of the guard and has issued instructions to officers of the GNR which, in accordance with the law, ranks as the first fighting service of the National Republican Army.

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(Italian Home Service 20.8.44).

V. Recruitment.

As from September 1st, voluntary enrolment in the Air Force AA will be re-opened. All Italian citizens between the ages of 17 and 50 are eligible for enrolment.
(Italian Home Service 20.8.44).

The recruiting centre for the second instructional course of the Women's Auxiliary Service for the 10th MAS Flotilla will open in VENICE between August 20th and 30th. All women between 16 and 35 will thus be able, if suitable and physically fit, to join the glorious 10th Flotilla. (Italian Home Service 19.8.44).

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A special recruiting campaign for the 9th Assault Detachment has been inaugurated. Recruits, who must belong to the 1927-1909 classes inclusive, are to report to the recruiting centre for Bersaglieri volunteers in SAVONA.
(Sera Milan 7.8.44)

A large number of the 8,000 soldiers belonging to the "Monte Rosa" Division vanished in transit from the BRENNER to MILAN.
(Tribune de Geneve 11.8.44).

The Italian Armed Forces have followed the German example by establishing Propaganda Companies, whose members, both officers and men, report for the Italian press and radio and take photographs and films. Their first reports, just published in the newspapers, describe the journey of Italian divisions to the front. Italian war reporters were formerly employed by publishing houses on a private salary basis. Most of them wore Party uniforms and did their journalistic work without actually taking part in operations.
(Transocean 13.8.44).

It is announced that the "Corpo di Guardia di Finanza" will be disbanded on August 15th. Officers and men will be given the choice of enlisting in the GNR or of being deported to Germany.
(Popolo e Liberta 11.8.44).

Deportation of Disobedient Officers According to a reliable source, 2000 Italian Customns Officers who refused to obey the recently issued order either to join the Militia or enrol for labour service were deported to Germany. Half their number, however, succeeded in escaping and joined the partisans.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 16.8.44).

VI. Black Brigades in Action.

All the Directors of the Federations take turns in commanding the Black Brigades. Amongst the numerous brigades which went into action during the last few days, are the 31st Brigade of GENOA and the 7th Brigade of VERCELLI.

On the 9th of August, the 1st Black Brigade "Ricciarelli" captured several partisan bandits, among whom was the son of General PAGLIERI. The bandits were shot. One company of the same brigade captured three rebels on August 21st.

The 7th Vercelli Brigade captured a group of deserters, who did not answer the call to arms. It then carried out a mopping-up

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The 7th Vercelli Brigade captured a group of deserters, who did not answer the call to arms. It then carried out a mopping-up operation, organising reprisals against the murderers of a Fascist.

The 6th Novara Brigade, on the 11th of August, engaged rebel forces near BRIANA. In the course of the fighting, three rebels were killed and others wounded. No losses were sustained by the Black Brigade.

A member of the 18th PADUA Black Brigade, on the 17th of August attacked a truck carrying ten armed bandits. The outlaws fled, but two were captured by the Fascists, together with the truck. On the 18th August, a patrol encountered the well-known rebel GALVANI. When ordered to stop, Galvani fled. The patrol opened fire, wounding Galvani, who later died in hospital.

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On the 18th of August, members of the 22nd VICENZA Black Brigade carried out mopping-up operations in the village of NALO. The village was at first encircled with the cooperation of the National Republican Guard. Then began the mopping-up operations in the village houses. Fifteen men were arrested to account for themselves, and eight hostages were taken. On the 9th of August the 22nd RAVENNA Black Brigade shot five anti-Fascists, responsible for the murder of the Fascist GUSTAVO SOLDOLI.
(P.W.B. Radio Monitoring 21.8.44).

GERMANS

VII. Security Measures.

Martial law has been imposed on the following towns: BOLOGNA, FERRARA, FORLI, MODENA, PARMA, PIACENZA, RAVENNA, and REGGIO DI EMILIA. Kesselring announces that all acts of sabotage will be repressed with the greatest severity. Families of men who have passed over to the resistance movement will be executed.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 18.8.44).

"Squilla Italica" reports that in the Italian TICINO valley the Germans have blown up bridges in order to control the region. Only some bridges were spared.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

After the bombardment of SPEZIA the Germans during the Spring and early Summer of this year removed large quantities of material from the naval dockyards at SPEZIA to various places in the CARRARA area for safe keeping; this material consisted chiefly of copper, nickel, tin, rubber and electric cables. Since then all these materials have been sent away by train to Germany.
(8th Army Report 3.8.44).

The village of MASLIANICO, three km north of PONTE CHIASSO, was evacuated on the afternoon of August 17th on the order of the Wehrmacht. The village is one km from the Swiss village of VACALLO. From Swiss territory a large number of the inhabitants could be observed leaving with suitcases. This exodus caused great distress in the region. The evacuees will be deported to Germany, a measure taken in accordance with the decision made for the occupation of the three km frontier strip by the German and Fascist Armed Forces.
(Gazette de Lausanne 18.8.44).

TheGerman authorities have forbidden the use of electric current by the civil population in the operation zone, in a strip of about 120-130 km from the front.
(Italian Official Source 21.8.44)

VIII. Behaviour.

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VIII. Behaviour.

The Nazis and Fascists use the following system in order to discover whether the inhabitants of a district are in favour of the patriots or not. Republicans disguised as patriots are sent to the villages, pretending to seek food for the partisans. As soon as these spies have left, with the gifts the villages are invaded. Men and women are killed and everything is put to the fire and the sword. Recently, as reprisals for assistance given to the partisans, 80 persons were shot in FIRENZE.
(News Digest 21.8.44).

"Not only do they plunder the peasants' cottages, stealing or burning or smashing whatever they find, but moreover they kill all the men they find. Yesterday for example they killed near here (Volpaia) fully 150 people and burned them after killing them.

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Among these were three priests, engineers, old men and children.
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 24.8.44).

"Squilla Italica" reports that the German Command in northern Italy has ordered the requisition of bicycles, radios and sewing machines.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

IX.
Germans V. Mussolini's Industrialist Arrested.

The German authorities are reported to have arrested in BRESCIA, BERGAMO, an important industrialist and owner of machine-gun factory working for the German army, and also his son. The main charge against them was that they had delivered 1,000 rifles to the Republican army on Mussolini's personal order. The son, who is an eminent engineer, was deported to Germany.
(Gazette de Lausanne 18.8.44).

X. Propaganda.

An appendix to a communique of the O.K.W. of the 19th June 1944, captured in Italy shows what German troops in Italy are told by their officers concerning the use of V-1. It begins:

"As we learn from London through neutral reports, the English Prime Minister has appointed a special commission, composed of technicians, engineers and chemists, whose task it will be to find ways and means effectively to counter the new German explosive-weapons.

In the meantime, the attack on the English capital, after three times 24 hours, continues without a pause. According to reports from a Swedish newspaper, work in the large factories in the London area is at a complete standstill"..... "Robot, the mechanical man, is what Reuter calls the weapon whose effects the English island, to start with, is now beginning to feel and the employment of which caused Parliament to be convened at once.".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 24.8.44).

XI. Atrocities.

CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI Following the killing of two Nazi soldiers the Nazis erected 17 gallows in [illegible], seven in ORSARIA, both hamlets near CIVIDALE DEL FRIULE, hanging 24 political prisoners from the region whom they had imprisoned that they were going to work in Germany. The population was forced to watch the execution spectacle.
(Libera Stampa 12.8.44).

OVINDOLI (AQUILA) The German troops burnt alive two Indian prisoners who had escaped. In spite of petitions by the parson and the mayor the German Command did not even allow their identities to be ascert[illegible]

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XI. Atrocities.

CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI Following the killing of two Nazi soldiers the Nazis erected 12 gallows in PREPOTTO, seven in ORSARIA, both hamlets near CIVIDALE DEL FRIULE, hanging 24 political prisoners from the region whom they had imprisoned that they were going to work in Germany. The population was forced to watch the execution spectacle.
(Libera Stampa 12.8.44).

OVINDOLI (AQUILA) The German troops burnt alive two Indian prisoners who had escaped. In spite of petitions by the parson and the mayor the German Command did not even allow their identities to be ascertained.
(Civil Censorship Summary 3.8.44).

GUARDISTALLO (LIVORNO) The Germans shot 71 innocent people in cold blood before they left.
(Civil Censorship Summary 17.8.44).

FLORENCE "Many poor little children had their tiny little hands cut off by the retreating Nazis. This is no exageration but a cruel truth, not to mention other heart-breaking crimes".
(Civil Censorship Summary 17.8.44).

CIS.LAI, LARI,PISA. At S. MINATO they availed themselves of the Bishop's authority, and had all the population gathered in the Chiesa Maggiore; when it was full of innocent people they locked the doors and

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set the mines to work. The result was : 60 dead and 300 wounded!"
(Civil Censorship Extract. 16.8.44).

POLITICS

XII. Friction between anti-Fascist parties in north

Constant friction appears to exist between the two most important parties in northern Italy; Communist and Azione. The Partito d'Azione is very strong in LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT; it has the support of several regular officers, who are very much disliked by the Communists. It is said that while the main task of the Communists is to fight the Germans and Fascists the Partito d'Azione does not cooperate and is more keen to deal with politics, thus hampering the resistance movement.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 12.8.44).

XIII. Special Commissioners for threatened zones.

The Duce, in view of the growing difficulties of liaison between central and provincial offices, and in consideration of the particular nature of certain territories of the Social Republic that have become zones of operations or are in the immediate rear of the front, has set up two Special Commissions, one for EMILIA and ROMAGNA, and the other for LIGURIA. The Commissioners are entrusted with all tasks of government connected with measures which must be taken immediately for the sake of the populations. They are: Dr. Arturo ROSSI for EMILIA and ROMAGNA and Dr. LUIGI SANGERMANO for LIGURIA.
(Italian Home Service 15.8.44).

XIV. Parini re-enters the Foreign Office.

The Head of MILAN Province, Dr. PIERO PARINI, has asked to be relieved of his office and to reassume his grade and relative functions in the Foreign Office. His wish has been complied with and Dr. Mario BASSI, at present Head of VARESE Province, has been appointed Head of the Province of MILAN in his stead.
(Italian Home Service 18.8.44).

XV. Evacuation of Government Offices.

The Fascist Ministries and Government offices which have hitherto been quartered in the cities and spas of northern Italy between VENICE and BRESCIA will now be moved further to the west. Some of these offices will be moved to BERGAMO and localities in the provinces of MILAN and COMO. Several offices of the Ministry of War Economy will in future be situated in MILAN. Offices specially interested in maintaining contact with the German Embassy, particularly the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will at present hardly leave the Lake GARDA region. Those diplomatic representatives with the Fascist Government, however, who have been conducting their affairs from

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 19.8.44).

XVI. Deportation of Jews to Germany.

It is reported that arrests and deportations of Jews are still continuing, and they are trying vainly to evade these measures. The apprehended persons, regardless of age or sex, are sent to Germany and from there to an unknown destination. During the past few days 600 Jews left FOSSOLI concentration Camp. (Agence Tel. Suisse 12.8.44)

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XVII. Appointments.

AOSTA. Mario CAVALERO has been appointed Prefect Commissioner of Aosta. The post of "Podesta" is thereby cancelled.
(P.W.B. Radio Monitoring 27.8.44).

ROVIGO The former prefect of AREZZO, Dr. Melchiorre MELCHIORRI, has entered upon his duties as prefect of Rovigo.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 31.7.44).

ALESSANDRIA, REGGIO EMILIA, TREVISO. The Party Secretary has appointed the following Federal Commissioners: Pietro SAU to Alessandria, Mario VIZZI to Reggio Emilia; Francesco BAYER to Treviso.
(Italian Home Service 16.8.44).

CUNEO The Secretary of the Fascist Republican Party today appointed Comrade Secondo RONZA. Federal Commissioner for Cuneo.
(Italian Home Service 17.8.44)

PADUA At a Government building in PADUA, the Prefect PRIMO FUMEI, appointed to the Foreign Ministry, installed his successor FEDERICO MENNA, former Prefect of Rovigo in office.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 5.8.44).

NOVARA. Enrico VEZZALINI has been nominated Head of the Province of Novara in place of GASPARE BARBERA who has been called to other duties.
(Corriere della Sera Milan 9.8.44).

TURIN Ingeniere Lorenzo TEALDY and Squadrista Carlo POLLONE, lawyer have been nominated Vice-Federal Commissioners for TURIN.
(Italian Home Service 12.8.44).

ECONOMICS

XVIII. Food Situation.

Italian early potato supplies are abundant, and the demand is not particularly great. The price is about 12 lire a kg. As the time approaches when the winter crop will be lifted the situation in the potato market becomes less stable. While the Government did not fix a maximum price for early potatoes, growers of winter potatoes are prohibited from charging over 140 lire per quintal. As growers are able to obtain 300 lire or more, it is doubtful how the Government will enforce the above price. Prospects for the crop are good, but dry weather is now necessary.
(Merkbericht des Reichsnährstandes 3.8.44).

Milan Milk Shortage

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ECONOMICS

XVIII. Food Situation.

Italian early potato supplies are abundant, and the demand is not particularly great. The price is about 12 lire a kg. As the time approaches when the winter crop will be lifted the situation in the potato market becomes less stable. While the Government did not fix a maximum price for early potatoes, growers of winter potatoes are prohibited from charging over 140 lire per quintal. As growers are able to obtain 300 lire or more, it is doubtful how the Government will enforce the above price. Prospects for the crop are good, but dry weather is now necessary.
(Merkbericht des Reichsbahnbeauftragten 3.8.44).

Milan Milk Shortage. The food situation, especially as regards essentials is becoming particularly acute in the big urban centres. In MILAN, there is a scarcity of milk. Pomeriggio discusses the alarming situation.
(Dovere Bellinzona, 14.8.44).
Sera complains that while many parents are unable to obtain milk for their children, cafes and bars sell ice cream at black market prices.

TURIN Stampa points out that lately the quality of bread has greatly deteriorated and explains that large quantities of rye flour are used; the newspaper also complains that many bakers sift flour and sell white bread on the black market.
(15.8.44)

A decree in course of preparation permits, in addition to the production, the free sale of salt produced by private individuals

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with plants having a producing capacity not exceeding ten quintals per month.
(Italian Home Service 118.44).

XIX. Finance.

It is officially announced that from August 15th Bank Interests will be generally reduced. The interest rate of the Banca d'Italia as well as the discount rate, has been 4.5% since May 1936, while private credit concerns, including publicly owned banks charged 7.5% for loans.
(DNB 14.8.44)

In FIUME the police put an end to a flourishing illicit traffic in gold coins, arresting a dozen persons and confiscating coins amounting to 1,000,000 lire.
(Europa Press 10.8.44)

TRIESTE The first newspaper boys to issue their own money are doing a thriving business in this town. But they are not the only ones. The great shortage of small change in Italy has induced many businesses to issue their own additional currency. Street car companies have issued little bits of tin stamped with the value and the name of the company. Some shops have adopted bits of cardboard which they will accept in payment for future purchases. New and old postage stamps are also being used, but these have proved of little use owing to their stickiness when moist. Newspaper boys hand out their own money in exchange for legal currency and are willing to take it back again in payment for the next day's newspaper.
(Transocean 19.8.44).

XX. Air Raid Damage.

VENICE Thousands and thousands of Italian fugitives from Allied bombs are camping on the numerous small islands in the lagoons north and south of VENICE. It is as if history is repeating itself. Venice was built by people who escaped to the impassable lagoons from the horrors of the war. Living conditions are extremely primitive on the islands. The supply question is most difficult, but the fugitives are glad to have found this refuge, primitive as it is.
(Transocean 19.8.44).

RIMINI Rimini has been bombed and the front line towards the sea has been evacuated. At RICCIONE, air-raid alerts are being sounded pretty often; part of the town must be evacuated.
(Censorship Intercept 9.11.43).

RASSINA Bad news from Rassina - The cement factory was blown up owing to war reasons. The town has suffered heavy damage (28.7.44)
(Civil Censorship Intercept)

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FIGLINE As I write, the factories are being blown up. 26.7.44
(Civil Censorship Intercept 16.8.44).

LABOUR

XXI. Forced Labour.

The Junkers aircraft factories publish advertisements in the Fascist press announcing further facilities for workers going to Germany, besides the previously stated 5,000 lire bonus and family allowances, namely: the possibility of workers' families being able to accompany workers to Germany, declaring that such an opportunity would hardly be available in the future.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 11.8.44).

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In order to procure men and women for Germany, razzias are carried out on Sundays after Mass. These razzias were started in the villages. Trucks arrived in front of the churches when the faithful were about to come out. All able-bodied men up to 60 years old and the strongest women were arrested and loaded on to the trucks. Razzias are reported from the VALTELLINA and from VAL SESSINA. Several priests who attempted to interfere, were arrested.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 11.8.44).

XXII. Conditions of work in Germany.

The following letter was written from a woman worker in Germany to her mother in Italy: "I have been feverish for the last fortnight, but they make me work 12 hours a day all the same. I am earning 12 to 14 RM a day, but my food costs me six RM a day and then they only give me enough bread and jam for a child. Don't have any illusions about my sending you money and don't expect any. I could earn more, but my self-respect matters to me. You have no idea of the work I have to do. I can't describe it. My hands are unrecognisable.... If you know any people leaving for Germany, tell them to throw themselves under the train rather than come here. I am only allowed to write once a month and I have got to say I am well. I have been taken in by the Germans. I thought that, going as a volunteer, I should be given better, more humane, more civilised treatment, according to the promises they made me before I left. At the age of 18 I have unwittingly found death at the hands of barbarians".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 14.8.44).

XXIII. Strikes.

MILAN It is reported that the MILAN situation is most critical Further hostages were shot after fresh sabotage. New strikes have broken out and the Germans have intensified the deportation of workers to Germany.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 15.8.44).

BRESCIA Brescia workers were on strike from July 24th to July 29th. The strike is reported to be in protest against insufficient salaries, but was really in order to sabotage production.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

CHURCH

XXIV. Pro-Allied Clergy Attacked

Crociata Italica draws the attention of the Fascist authorities

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CHURCH

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Crociata Italica draws the attention of the Fascist authorities to the fact that in some churches in the MILAN archdiocese at every decade of the Rosary after the doxology, the following ejaculation is always uttered "Deliver us Lord from the sword of the German". The newspaper adds that it does not know how many days' indulgences are attached to such an ejaculation, but that "some quarantines would not be too much either for the priests, who formulated it, or the faithful who repeat it".

The same newspaper requests the Fascist authorities to intervene against the decision of the LOMBARDY Episcopates, by which priests cooperating with the newspaper Crociata Italica are threatened with suspension.
(Dovera Bellinzona 11.8.44).

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XXV. Fascists of Ferrara.

Head of the Province VEZZALINI, responsible for the killing of 11 citizens (hostages) following the execution of Federale GHISELLINI by the patriots in November 43.

Ing. Girolamo SAVONUZZI
Avv. P[illegible]ZI
Avv. ZANATTA
Avv. TEGLI
Sost. Proc. del Re Pasquale COLAGRANDE
Rag. TORBOLI
HANAU - father and son

ROSSI
MIRANDOLA, young son of the best tailor in the city
MELCHIORRI, a florist who has a shop in Corso Roma
ALBERTO VERDI, Mayor of Ferrara
Console GIULIO DIVISO, head of the O.V.R.A. (local branch)
Avv. Count RONCHI
Signora CASAI TUMIATI (O.V.R.A.)
DEL FANTE (O.V.R.A.)
The brothers LUBERGNANI.

(G.B. P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44).

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propaganda except for items side-lined.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & E.G. SECTION
PARTICIPS BRANCH

TO	Attachment	INFO.-	ACTION
✓	Col. Mc CARTHY	CMcC	
✓	Major. MANNUS	P.M.	
✓	Major. DRAGE	D	
✓	Capt. MARY BORI		
	Chief CIVIL		
	LIAISON SECTION.		
	Col. KUVA		
	Dr. TEVI		
	Mr VILI.		
	REMARKS.		

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BY [illegible] NARS, Date 3/3/75

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ)

16th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 20

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans The recent advance towards the Arno and consequent over-running of regions largely occupied by partisans, has given us a clearer view of the strength, ubiquity and determination of the patriot movement.

In Florence partisans played an important part in the operations and Allied officers present have paid tribute to their courage and discipline, and recognised the heroic character of their leeder "Potente" who was killed in the city he had helped to liberate.

From all over Italy come reports of bands of patriots raiding and operating. German punitive expeditions and assaults by Fascist militia seem to have no other result than the burning of villages and the massacre of innocent people in return for heavy losses.

The whole partisan movement is so wide-spread that it almost takes on the aspect of a general rising. A German source admits heavy losses among troops employed against partisans.

FASCIST FORCES

Eight Fascist Divisions appear to have been formed - 2 Alpine Divisions under Graziani are reported to have started operations against the patriots in the mountains west of M. Maggiore.

Desertions. Up to July 15th the utmost chaos prevailed among the Army and police owing to continual desertion.

GERMANS

Swiss sources report that Germans are fortifying two lines of

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GERMANS

Swiss sources report that Germans are fortifying two lines of defence in N. Italy, one is the Padova-Sette Comuni plateau line and the other, a little further back, runs from M. Grappa to the mouth of the Piave. It is also thought that the arrival in Italy of Italian Divisions is meant to relieve German troops, who are badly needed in France and Russia.

Behaviour As usual the German retreat is signalised by savage atrocities and massacres of civilians. A bad case occurred at Guardistallo. Other reports come from Cerbaiola and Corniona, Colle Val D'Elsa, Gubbio , San Casciano, Farnese, Anna, Lanciano and S. Savino.

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SUMMARY 2.

ECONOMICS

Industries. From the north come reports of great falling off of production due to lack of materials, air raid damage, removal of machinery by the Germans and sabotage.

Air Raid Damage. Intercepted letters from May to July report extensive damage in Rimini, Ferrara, Milan, Genova, Pesaro, Bologna and Viareggio.

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16th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 20

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VIII. Evacuation of Civilians and anti-partisan measures " 9.
IX. Behaviour .. .. " 10.
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POLITICS

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"D" Section Italy (Occ). 16th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 20.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Partisan formations ~~appear to~~ have played a large part in the final liberation of the city of FLORENCE. All these formations depended on the Tuscan Committee of National Liberation (C.T.L.N. of Florence) which was connected with the C.L.N. of MILAN. Under it worked a military Junta responsible for organising GARIBALDI Brigades throughout TUSCANY. Garibaldi Brigades, being active guerilla units, did not function in the city itself. However, for such purposes as liquidation of Fascists, propaganda etc. the town was divided by the Committee into four zones, each under an inspector. The area South of the ARNO was Zone 4, under a professor called DAMI. Each zone controlled a Patriotic Action Group (Gruppos Azione Patriotica or GAP).

The partisans were composed of elements of every party and also of apolitical elements. They elected their own military leaders and their own political commissioners. Their choice fell on individuals notable for courage and organising capacity. The C.T.L.N. only sent information and general directives to the Command HQ of the Division. The Division which operated in the Florence area was called the ARNO Division (not to be confused with the A.R.N.O Division which was in the IMPRUNETA area). It numbered about 2000 men operating in the zone PRATOMAGNO-MONTEGIOVE-MONET MORELLO-MONTE SCALARI.

Commando Divisione d'Assalto
Garibaldi "ARNO".

22nd Bde "Lanciotto" Pratamagno	22nd Bis Bde" "Sinigaglia". M. Scalari.	10th Bde "Caiani" Pratomagno	"Fanciullacci" Bde M. Morello.

The Division was divided into Brigades as above. It was formed at the beginning of June 1944.

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When our troops arrived in the southern part of FLORENCE some 400 partisans of 22 Garibaldi Brigade (ie. the "Lanciotto" Brigade) together with the Brigade Commander Lieut Adige BARDUCCI, alias POTENTE, were found there. The bulk of this unit had been compelled to retire from the PRATOMAGNO area owing to the severity of German reprisals. The Brigade drifted into the town as the allied troops approached and POTENTE, with two companies, established himself in a villa overlooking the BOBOLI Gardens. Other partisan elements, already in the city brought their numbers up to 6/800. It was decided to employ them in clearing up the snipers which the Germans and Fascists had left in the town. By Agreement with the commander

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the partisans handed in their arms, which were stored in an armoury under partisan guard and issued as required. Unfortunately POTENTE was recently killed on a sniper hunt; he will shortly be given a public funeral.

In the hills north and east of FLORENCE the CAIANI and FANCIULACCI Brigades are reported to be still operating. The CAIANI (10 Garibaldi Brigade) Brigade of four companies operates in the FIESOLE-SETTIGNANO area. It is said to be well armed with automatic weapons, but short of ammunition. Its leader is "BRUNETTO". In the MT. MORELLO area the FANCIULACCI Brigade of three companies under "OTTONE" is operating. The brigade suffered heavy casulaties when attacked by the Germans about 20 July, and its present strength is probably not more than 300. It is also known as 8 Garibaldi Brigade. The SENIGALLIA Brigade, which formerly operated in the SAN GIOVANNI VAL D'ARNO area, has been over-run by our troops and the former commender DANIELE DOLFI, or "GICBE" is now political commissar of the LANCIOTTO Brigade.

FLORENCE has given an opportunity of seeing from close quarters a Garibaldi Brigade in action. The British officer responsible for organising the partisan patrols reports that he was very impressed by their keenness and discipline. Though his men wore gay red scarves and the red star on a white and green background POTENTE himself maintained that his band was non-political and these were not the Communist emblems , but merely the local national signs of the partisans in his area. He himself was a former clerk in the Ministry of Finance branch at COMO and served in SICILY as a lieutenant in an Italian paradhutist regiment.

POTENTE's statements, even if possibly not entirely accurate, at least show the lengths to which he was prepared to go to make it possible for men of other political opinions to serve under him. It is probably also the case in other effective partisan bands that politics are not allowed to play a considerable part while the unit is still fighting. The LANCIOTTO Brigade was quite prepared to accept as Chief of Staff a parachutist Italian colonel, a regular staff officer whose experience had been gained as Chief of Staff of the Fifth Italian Army. The Colonel himself was quite happy to serve under a former minor civil servant, and in the partisan headquarters military salutes appear to be interchangeable with clenched fists.
(8th Army Summary No 23 and P.W.B. Rome).

News of Partisans north and south of Gothic Line.

North of FLORENCE little fresh information about partisan

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News of Partisans north and south of Gothic Line.

North of FLORENCE little fresh information about partisan activity has been received. A well-armed band of some 100 men, including British and Russian ex-PW and German deserters, is reported in the RAZZOLO area. // Further east along the GOTHIC LINE there is still no information about the powerful bands which formerly operated in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO on either side of the FLORENCE-FORLI road, except that the leader LIBERO is believed to have been killed. // The fate of partisans to the South West in the VERGE RETO area is also obscure at the moment. // In the PRATOMAGNO and ALPE DI CATENAIA the withdrawal of the bulk of the LANCIOTTO Brigade and the disbandment of the PIO BORRI Brigade (23 Garibaldi Brigade) has left only isolated groups of partisans.

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propaganda except for items [illegible]

LOMBARDY The Communist Partisan movement in LOMBARDY found serious difficulties on account of the great diffusion of the Partito d'Azione which appeared to want to control the movement itself. A month and a halfago there only existed detachments and discussions were proceeding to constitute a common Military Command in order to be able to form proper Garibaldi Brigades.

PIEDMONT In Piedmont there already exist 7 Garibaldi brigades ie.

1 Division in the VAL DI LANZO of 3 brigades.
2 Brigades in the zone of BIELLA
1 " " " NOVARA
2 " in construction in the Province of TURIN

The partisan movement of the Partito d'Azione is strong in PIEDMONT.

VENETO The following brigades have been organised in VENETO.

1 Brigade known as the "Fratelli Bandiera" at SCIO and VALDAGNO.
1 Brigade known as the "Nino Nanetti" at VITTORIO VENETO.

Besides these there also exist

1 Partisan Brigade in the FRIULI
1 Brigade known as the "Trieste" operating in ISTRIA, but composed of officers and men of different provinces.
(P.W.B. 8th Army).(10.8.44).

Up to now there appears to have been little penetration of Communism in the ALTO ADIGE. Groups are found as far as RIVERETO and no further. There is some contact between Italian and Austrian Catholics in the BOLZANO for common work of anti-Nazi propaganda.
(P W.B. 8th Army).

The following report of partisan activities in the PIACENZA Province is given in the Fascist official report.

"It is confirmed that for some time past bands of partisans have been moving towards the province of Piacenza or in the frontier districts from Tuscany and Liguria. They can be divided into three categories -Badoglian, activist bands (bande d'azione) and Communist bands. While at one time groups of rebels were operating on the frontiers of the province, recently they have stationed their command HQs in the following localities; MORFASSO as the HQ of the Communist bands; GRUPPO DI PIOZZANO, BETTOLA and (NALE?) as those [illegible] and BOBBIANO DI TRAVO as

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In the neighbourhood of FARINA D'OLMO the following bands are operating "Red Star" 120 men, "Istriano", 100 men, "Montelaura" 200 men, "Captain Gaspare", 200 men, "Captain Selva" 200 men. Thus in a radius of a few km 820 armed men are stationed. Discipline in the bands is strong; they are generally composed of defaulters of the 19[illegible] 1921, 1924, 1925 and 1926 conscript classes.

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S. OF LUCCA A large body of Russians on horse-back enquired at SAN FREDIANO. A SETTIMO for information about partisans on the VERRUCA. They were in the area more than 8 hrs and then rode towards the Pisan hills. (10 or 13 July)

N OF LUCCA There is intense partisan activity in the SERCHIO valley NW of BAGNI DI LUCCA and the LIMA valley to the NE as far as ABETONE There are SS garrisons in GARFAGNANA (UPPER SERCHIO valley) (June)

NW of PISA- In May it was reported that partisans are active in this area. A young and energetic Air Force officer, LT. LOMBARDI is in command.

SW FIRENZUOLA, MONTECARELLI Many TODT workers have escaped from MONTECARELLI, which has been occupied by pertisans. In spite of German control, partisans hadpreviously succeeded in capturing many of the TODT workers' tools. Resistance units of the area had thus obtained trucks and weapons. (13 June).

N.E. TREVISO An informant had heard that there were partisans active in the hills W of AVIANO, who had raided several German columns. Despite German attempts to round them up, they were still operating successfully in May.

SW. PARMA -FORNOVO (June) A large band of partisans who wear German or Republican uniforms are operating in the hills to the south of this town. From all accounts they are well armed and well disciplined.

NW. of BRESCIA The Fascist Republican authorities have put a price on the head of a BRESCIA industrialist BERETTA, owner of the steel works here, alleged to have supplied weapons to the partisans of the area. GARDONE VAL TROMPIA.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

MARRADI In the Marradi area there was and probably still is a band belonging to the 10th "Firenze" Brigade, composed of 80 men, commanded by a Sardinian specialist in sabotage whose name was "Angelo". He had been dropped by parachute from an English plane at the end of April. In the MARRADI-BRISIGHELLA area, in the direction of FAENZA, besides this band there were other bands operating, but it is not known whether they belonged to the "Firenze" Brigade or to the "Bologna" Brigade, as they acted along the border of the two provinces. In the period from May to the end of July the 10th Firenze Brigade had had 10 clashes with the Germans, in which they had lost 8 dead and 10 wounded, whilst it is believed that the Germans lost 200 dead and about 60 wounded.
(Lt. WC. P.W.B. Rome).

[illegible] and RIMINI

About 3 months ago "Garibaldi" Brigades were organised in the ROMAGNA [illegible]

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About 3 months ago "Garibaldi" Brigades were organised in the ROMAGNA. After a severe round-up for men these brigades were disbanded, and another two were reorganised in the zone between FORLI and the MARCHE. There exist also brigades of G.A.P., one at FORLI and one at RAVENNA, with a strength of about 120 to 150 members. There is one brigade GAP at BOLOGNA and one at REGGIO EMILIA. There is also a partisan detachment at VADO, a Garibaldi Brigade on the MODENESE APENNINES. In the zone of PARMA there has been a Garibaldi Brigade "PICELLI" organised. At PIACENZA the partisan movement organised by officers was very strong.

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"Every band is exceedingly well-armed; for example the "Captain Gaspare" band has eight heavy machine guns and 80 ordinary machine guns and the "Istriano" eight automatic sub-machine guns and 62 ordinary machine-guns.

Our armament is simply negligeable as compared with this abundance of automatic weapons, and this has a great influence on the morale of our soldiers.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 27.7.44).

Activities of Various Bands.

After hard fighting the patriots succeeded in throwing the Nazi Fascist troops out of the VALLE DEL LYS, inflicting severe losses on them.

PEROSA, near PINEROLO has been occupied by the Patriots.

German attacks on nuclei of resistance as SESTRIERES have been repulsed, notwithstanding the numerical superiority of the enemy.

The patriots have taken under their control the valleys of GRANA, STURA and GESSO. The roads leading to them are blocked to prevent the enemy from sending supplies and returning to the attack.

There have been violent encounters in the Modenese Appanined. The Germans have plundered and burnt 14 villages as reprisals. Following sabotage against the stations and plant of the electricity in the north of Italy, only 50% of the electric energy can now be used by the enemy.

Groups of Italian patriots which are fighting in the LIGURIAN ALPS and in particular along the coast line SPEZIA-GENOA have attacked barracks at CHIAVARI, capturing big dumps of arms, munitions and food. Following this the patriots have advanced as far as BORGOTARO, from where they have chased the local garrison and captured all the harvest which was distributed amongst the people and the rest destined for the necessities of the patriots.

A patriot brigade attacked a party of Fascists near MODENA, north of the Appenines, killing 100 Militia and wounding 60. Immediately afterwards the patriots occupied MONTEFIORINO, half way between MODENA and LA SPEZIA.

500 Fascist Militia that advanced on VARZI and BRALLO, to commit acts of reprisals against the civil population, were met and routed by patriots. The Fascists left 70 dead and as many wounded on the spot, together with some vehicles and a notable number of

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500 Fascist Militia that advanced on VARZI and BRALLO, to commit acts of reprisals against the civil population, were met and routed by patriots. The Fascists left 70 dead and as many wounded on the spot together with some vehicles and a notable number of heavy and light arms. German motorised units coming from VOGHERA are now moving to help the defeated and dispersed Fascists.

In the VALLE DEL NURE a strong enemy attack against a nucleus of patriots has been repulsed with the efficacious help of the Allied Air Forces. A considerable contingent of German troops is preparing to renew the attacks against the patriots in the zone of the ABETONE. The Germans have already had considerable losses in this locality. Apart from the number of dead and wounded, which is not yet ascertained, the Germans have left 250 prisoners in the hands of the patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome 3.8.44).

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In the Tuscan-Emilian Appenines a Romagnolan Brigade of patriots has developed a series of efficacious operations which finished, amongst other things, in the temporary occupation of SANT'AGATA, FELTRE, and of FREGHETTO. Many political secretaries of the zone were executed.

The patriots have interrupted the SEMPIONE line at MEINALINA, at CORTINA and at DOBBIACO, the line from CADORE to CASTELLAVAZZO, the UDINE-TREVISO line at CASARZA.
(P.W.B. Rome).

At RIVA in the TRENTINO the German police have discovered a subversive organisation working against Germany. It had taken the name CESARE BATTISTI.
(Squilla Italica Basle 29.7.44).

The Gazetta del Popolo Turin reports from VERCELLI. G.N.R. assault Battalion units, collaborating with the German police and supported by the "Leonessa" Tank unit and Italian SS and artillery, pressed an attack against bandits in the mountainous regions of VERCELLI and NOVARA. Many captured in thepossession of arms were executed and others, famished, demoralised and in rags surrendered without fighting. Many prisoners were allowed to serve their country in labour camps. The struggle was pursued unremittingly. The Commander of this particular unit imposed a fine of 50,000 lire on the industrialists and tradesmen in the region for their mildness towards bandits, which sum will be handed over to the families which had lost relations killed by outlaws.
(27.7.44).

The policy of reprisals has now entered a new phase in Fascist Italy. Today hostages are taken from among offenders arrested long before the crime for which they are punished occurred, and they are executed at the scene of thesubsequent crime. In GENOA, five "Terrorists" were shot as a reprisal for the recent murder of General PARODI, the local Federal Commissioner.
(Tribune de Geneve 1.8.44).

Recently Razzias in northern Italy were extended to the trains as the Fascist police have begun to stop and search local trains in the middle of the country. In an article entitled "Wild West in MILAN" Republica Fascista deals with the nightly shooting in Milan streets, which has now become the rule. The Milanese, awakened by the noise of wild revolver, rifle and machine-gun fire and bursting hand grenades, receive the impression of pitched battles being fought in front of their houses. The following morning they learn that it was the Fascist patrols' usual nightly shooting at shadows and ghosts, in which, however, it is seldom that anyone is even slightly wounded. Fascists are being urged to cease wasting ammunition.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 2.8.44).

A correspondent in a letter from GENOA writes "GENOA is like

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 2.8.44).

A correspondent in a letter from GENOA writes "GENOVA is like hell; a never ending fight is raging between nazi-Fascists, besides Anglo-American planes are continually bombing the town".
(Censorship intercept. 3.7.44).

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In VENICE 20 nazi fascists were killed and 50 wounded in the collapse of the Giustinian palace caused by the patriots.

A German P.W. from 162 Inf. Div. stated that while his regiment (236 Tank Destroyer Coy) was employed against partisans in NE Italy the Regiment suffered considerable losses through killed and deserted. 3rd Battalion had 80 dead in 4 months, 45 being killed in one engagement. Heavy losses were also suffered during fighting in Dentral Italy in June. At the time of his capture (2nd July) the fighting strength of his regiment had shrunk to 500 men. (P.W.B. Advance A.A.I.), (5.8.44).

Dangerous activity by partisans is reported in the vicinity of MODENA by a PW officer of 4 Para. Div. where many vehicles had been attacked during the night. Special orders were issued demanding that not less than three vehicles travel at a time. Partisans use German and Austrian deserters, order them to stop vehicles demanding a lift. When the vehicle is stopped the partisans attack it. In many cases German deserters or stragglers were being asked by Italian farmers to lay down their arms and change uniform for civilian clothing. If they decided to do so representatives of the partisans would visit them and ask them to join their groups. (P.W.B. Advance A.A.I. 5.8.44).

Partisans report enemy positions. There are an increasing number of reports of partisans who report enemy positions to our patrols. For example :

5th Army report dated 27.7.44 mentions partisans in 2 corps sector reporting a line of MG positions. Other partisans reported emplacements of 2 large guns, having been told by the gun crews that they were to fire on LEGHORN.

5th Army report dated 1st August. Further partisans reported location of pill boxes with tunnel connecting the two andposition of road-block. Other partisans reported 4 men German patrols cutting wires at .... and waiting to ambush our wire party. (P.W.B. Advance A.A.I.).

II. Sabotage.

NOVARA In a daring raid patriots destroyed the airoplane factory and the deposit of propellors at ARMENO in the Province of Novara.

CARPI Other patriots attacked a train full of German troops near Carpi, inflicting severe losses on the enemy.

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At the beginning of July the German authorities made a disagreeable discovery. The trains coming from the north of Italy with cattle, had neither escort nor fodder. The lack of escort facilitated the stealing of the horses and mules along the way; the lack of fodder provoked the death of those which remained. Afterwards it was found that this was the result of clever acts of sabotage carried out by the deliverers of the beasts and the railway staff. The German attempts to remedy this were useless, and so the enemy finds it ever more difficult to take the animals away from the Italian agriculturists to Germany. Rather than allow the animals to arrive in Germany the Italians prefer that they should die on the way. (P.W.B. Rome 28.7.44).

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FASCIST FORCES.

III. Organisation

There now appear to exist eight Fascist Divisions: the Monteviso and Monte Rosa Alpine Divisions, the San Marco, Marine Divisions, the Italia Littoria and Mussolini Motorised Infantry Divisions and the Vesuvia and Etna AA Divisions. The two Alpine Divisions, under Graziani's command are reported to have recently started operations against the "Maquis" in the mountains west of Lake Maggiore. Others are reported to have been sent to the Tuscany front. Some, however, have not yet crossed the Brenner.

The Corriere della Sera, Milan reports that two companies of the "Muti" Legion left on July 27th for operational zones. They were the Ferrara company and the motorised company "Baragiotto" with full fighting equipment.
(Gazette de Lausanne 2.8.44).

IV. Desertions from Army and Police in Tuscany.

The clandestine paper "Ribelle" published the following extracts from a report on the situation in the Military Commands in Tuscany, received on July 15th from a reliable source.

"Province of AREZZO", Provincial Command. Almost all the personnel employed ran away some days ago, some to their own homes, some to increase the rebel ranks. The members of the command have received orders to fall back on BOLOGNA.

Province of Florence 201st Regional Command 60 members of the "Security Company" who were under the orders of the Regional Command have deserted to the Maquis. It was found necessary to keep the remainder of the troop in barracks in order to avoid further desertions.

Province of Pistoia. The position is practically the same as in Florence and Arezzo. Powerful bands of rebels are established in the mountains overlooking Pistoia.

Province of Lucca. Many bridges, already mined by the Germans, have been blown up by the rebels at night, no watch having been kept on them by the Germans.

Province of Apuania. The same as for Lucca.

In conclusion the utmost confusion and chaos prevails in the Military commands throughout Tuscany. The Regional recruiting for the army has shown that the system is unsuitable in all respects.

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(Squilla Italica Basle 29.7.44).

V. No leave to places south of Bologna and Spezia.

An intercepted letter reads "... and if they refuse to send me where I asked to go I will go to any Convalescence camp they choose for me, and I will then know what road to take. However, leaves are not granted to points beyond BOLOGNA and SPEZIA, but you will realise that all I need will be to get one day away from here for me".
(Censorship intercept 25.7.44).

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VI. Duce's letter to Graziani

The following is an extract from a letter sent by Mussolini to Graziani after he had announced his resignation "Dear Graziani, The struggle against the bandits must be organised in such a way as to make a strong impression on the population and fill our united supporters with enthusiasm. The organisation must involve the effort of the whole Social Republic against this "Vendee insurrection" and extend to all provinces, radically cleaning them up". This letter is regarded as evidence that Graziani opposed the utilisation of the Fascist Army against partisans.
(Gazette de Lausanne 1.8.44).

GERMANS

VII. Dispositions.

It has been reported that the Wehrmacht is rapidly fortifying two defence lines in northern Italy, one running between PADUA and the SETTE COMUNI PLATEAU, well known from the last war, and the second slightly further back between MONTE GRAPPA and the mouth of the PIAVE river, the line held by the Austrians in the Spring of 1918. Both lines are destined to defend the routes to Yugoslavia. Having abandoned the construction of fortifications on the plain of the PO the Germans confine themselves to preparing positions on the southern Alpine slopes.
(Gazette de Lausanne 2.8.44).

It is reported that the withdrawal of German troops from Italy, conforming with the agreement reached at the Hitler-Mussolini meetings, has already started. During the last few days "the Hermann Goring Division re-crossed the Po to the Veneto, while five Italian Divisions which have returned from Germany have been sent to the firing line. It is affirmed by well-informed circles that the Germans, once they have abandoned LIGURIA, PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY, which, it is predicted, will be soon, will resist for some time along a line crossing the regions of MANTUA and VERONA, in order to assure the retreat of the majority of their forces over the BRENNER, after which the VENETO will be evacuated. Destructions in TRIESTE confirm this hypothesis.
(Popolo e Liberta 31.7.44).

VIII. Evacuation of Civilians and anti-partisan measures.

A civilian reported notices posted by Germans in NODE and

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GERMANS

VII. Dispositions.

It has been reported that the Wehrmacht is rapidly fortifying two defence lines in northern Italy, one running between PADUA and the SETTE COMUNI PLATEAU, well known from the last war, and the second slightly further back between MONTE GRAPPA and the mouth of the PIAVE river, the line held by the Austrians in the Spring of 1918. Both lines are destined to defend the routes to Yugoslavia. Having abandoned the construction of fortifications on the plain of the PO the Germans confine themselves to preparing positions on the southern Alpine slopes.
(Gazette de Lausanne 2.8.44).

It is reported that the withdrawal of German troops from Italy, conforming with the agreement reached at the Hitler-Mussolini meetings, has already started. During the last few days "the Hermann Goring Division re-crossed the Po to the Veneto, while five Italian Divisions which have returned from Germany have been sent to the firing line. It is affirmed by well-informed circles that the Germans, once they have abandoned LIGURIA, PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY, which, it is predicted, will be soon, will resist for some time along a line crossing the regions of MANTUA and VERONA, in order to assure the retreat of the majority of their forces over the BRENNER, after which the VENETO will be evacuated. Destructions in TRIESTE confirm this hypothesis.
(Popolo e Liberta 31.7.44).

VIII. Evacuation of Civilians and anti-partisan measures.

A civilian reported notices posted by Germans in NOCE and CUCIGLIANA, saying in part:

"Because there have been actions against German soldiers and cutting of the telephone wires all towns on M. PISANO between ASCIANO and BUTI north of the ARNO River must be evacuated of all men between the ages of 16 and 50; otherwise, they must present themselves to the first German CP to be enrolled for work in LUCCA Province, where they will receive pay and food. All men between the ages of 16 and 50 found in this area, after 2nd August 1944 may be considered as partisans. Italians, for the benefit of your Fatherland, obey this order or be considered traitors of your country".

By order of the German Command.

(P.W.B. Advance HQ AAI 10.8.44).

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An order found in the SUBBIANO area in mid-July, after stating that all persons found in possession of arms or hiding partisans etc. would be shot, continues:

"Any village where it can be proved that there are bandits, or where attacks against German or Italian soldiers have been made, or where acts of sabotage intended to damage or destroy warlike stores have taken place, WILL BE BURNT TO THE GROUND. Moreover, male inhabitants of the village over 18 years of age WILL ALL BE SHOT. Women and girls will be interned in labour camps.

ITALIANS.

The well-being of your country and the fate of your families are now in your hands. The German Armed Forces will carry out the above orders justly, but without mercy, and with all the severity and the consequences of the case.

THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE
GERMAN ARMED FORCES.

(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

IX. Behaviour.

An extract from the diary of a German deserter reads as follows, showing that the Germans themselves are sometimes shocked at the behaviour of their fellows:

"Yesterday we met in a small pub, as so often, a drunken "LANDSEER" who in spite of repeated warnings would not give up trying to steal several bottles of wine from the very hospitable landlord. We were able in the end to frustrate his intentions, but what a slight such conduct throws on the mentality of the German soldier. I think we must ascribe a major part in the earning of this title to ourselves, for unfortunately such types are only too well represented with us". (P.W.B. German Intelligence Report 29.7.44).

X. Atrocities.

A terrible atrocity was committed by German troops at the end of June as they retreated through GUARDISTALLO, a village some 6 miles east of CECINA.

In mid-June the Germans, knowing that partisans were operating in the Guardistallo district, came to an agreement with the priest and the communal-secretary of the village whereby they should discourage the villagers from hostile acts against German troops.

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On June 29th, however, a band of Garibaldi Brigade partisans, from another district, clashed with a column of German artillery, which was taking up positions on the Guardistallo-Cecina road. After a pitched battle, in which several Germans were killed the partisans withdrew. The Germans, as a reprisal, began by shooting out of hand three inhabitants from an adjecent farm, in addition to a woman refugee who was living there. In another farm they killed a woman and her daughter (who was in bed), and near the same place a man and his wife who were refugees. Eight of the partisans, who had been taken prisoner, were made to dig a large pit at the edge of a thicket

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near a farm; they were then machine-gunned and thrown into the pit, together with a dog which had also been machine-gunned.
(P.W.B. 5th Army).(6.8.44).

CERBAIOLA and CORNIONA. 25 civilians massacred as reprisals for resistance. (P.W.B. Rome 5.8.44).

COLLE VAL D'ELSA Some villages near Colle Val d'Elsa were raised to the ground.
(Censorship Intercept 24.7.44).

GUBBIO A German officer was killed, so 40 persons were taken from their houses and shot.
(Censorship Intercept 2.8.44).

SAN CASCIANO.

Another name to add to the long list of priests, victims of the blind, bloody nazi fascist barbarity is that of Fra Narciso, of the Capucine order who lived in a monastery near SAN CASCIANO, which has been recently liberated by the allies. Brother Narciso was killed without any reason whatsoever whilst he was watching quietly, without any particular intention in view, some Germans putting mines in the road. All at once a German soldier shot at him. Fra Narciso in dismay asked why they had shot at him, but the German soldier was not yet satisfied and discharged another two shots at him until he saw his victim motionless and covered with blood on the ground.
(P.W.B. Rome 4.8.44).

Another priest was the witness of an incident of ferocity at CEDOGOLO in VAL CAMONICA. Arriving in BRENO, whence many people had fled to escape the reprisals which the Germans were carrying out at Cedegolo, the priest heard that there was a young man in his death agony in the hospital and asking for the Last Sacrament. He asked to be allowed to go and administer it. The Militia consented, but accompanied him to the bedside of the boy. On arrival there, suspecting that the boy was a partisan and had been wounded in the recent clash, they prevented the administration of the sacrament and massacred the youth in his bed under the eyes of the priest.
(P.W.B. Rome. 4.8.44).

CARNESE Two British P.Ws were given away to the Germans by some spy, captured, put in jail and shot three days later by machine gune fire

ANNA As a reprisal for the killing of some Germans twenty persons were put into a house and shot, among them women and children and then the house was burnt.
(Censorship Intercept 3.7.44).

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(Censorship Intercept 3.7.44).

LANCIANO The Germans rounded up all the young men here and shot them. One young man who was found in possession of arms had his eyes put out, his arms bound and was then shot.
(Censorship Intercept 3.7.44).

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S. SAVINO. Prov. Arezzo

At a villa in S. SAVINO Germans set up an "Inquisition Room" to try and obtain information about partisans in the district The owner of the villa was accused of being the leader of the local partisan movement, was tortured, but managed to escape. His family were also tortured and his son later found killed and horribly mutilated.
(F.S.S. 13.8.44).

XI. Treatment of Jews.

The following letter indicates that in spite of other preoccupations the Germans are still occupied in trying to carry out in Italy their campaign against the Jews.

"I request details of the number of Jews arrested by the Italian officials in accordance with the order of 30.11.43, divided according to men, women and children, and at the same time information as to whether these Jews can be taken over by the Security Police and the Security Service.

If not, I should like the reasons given which prevent this.

SS Sturmbannfuehrer.

(P.W.B. German Intelligence) (12.8.44).

XII. Propaganda.

The strongest theme of the German Propaganda is that the Allies bring with them hunger and devastation.
(P.W.B. 5th Army report 6.8.44).

The following is the text of a leaflet issued by the Germans as propaganda to their own troops.

LEAFLET FOR ALL SOLDIERS OF THE COMMAND-ZONE OF THE GERMAN MARINE-COMMANDOS IN ITALY.

Soldiers and members of my command-zone.

The fifth year of total war confronts us with new and difficult assignments. We can and shall master them if we concentrate our physical and material energies combined with a fanatical will-power to victory. Our enemies know that they cannot match or surpass us.

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You must obey the following six commandments:

1. Do not listen to any enemy broadcast even if there isn't anybody round to watch you. Subdue your curiosity and desire for sensational news. Remember that the enemy has only one objective in mind, to make you falter and to weaken your resistance. It is also forbidden to listen to musical programs of the enemy. Penitentiary punishment will not only be given to subversive elements, but to anybody disobeying this order.

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2. Don't spread rumours. The majority of unfavourable news originates from enemy agitation. Spreading of rumours will be punished by penal servitude even if the instigator did not hear the broadcast himself. Personal comments also are forbidden.

3. According to the will of the Fuehrer, the Party and the Wehrmacht must lead the German people to victory. Resent therefore the attempt of dissidents to split the Wehrmacht and the NSDAP. You not only have the right, but it is your duty to silence immediately those who try to make mischief or originate discord. Make them ashamed by your example. Remember that total warfare asks for everybody's help and therefore accomplishments cannot be perfect always. Good will has to make up for certain lapses.

4. Never discuss military matters in railroads, streetcars, or restaurants. The enemy listens. In total war the enemy is interested in everything: armament, supply, food, morale, discipline, and the relationship between leaders and subordinates. Don't discuss military topics even in your own family circle. Be extremely cautious when talking to other soldiers. Keep in mind the Fuehrer's order that nobody should receive more information than is necessary in order to carry out his mission.

5. Don't burden the folks at home with your own worries. They suffer sufficiently. It is neitner manly nor chivalrous to tell unfavourable news to the weak ones; instead, console them when writing home.

6. Observe yourself and your comrades to note whether or not the impression you make is correct. Remember at all times that you are the model for many others and that you are responsible-together with them- for the final victory of our people.

MEENDSEN-BOHLKEN
Admiral.

(Confidential source 28.7.44).

XIII. Morale.

E of S. MARCELLO -COLLINA German soldiers here complained of lack of weapons and were much discouraged by the fact that the positions they had built were still empty.

Some informants who are Senior Officers in the Italian Navy, state that special Staff Officers were sent from Germany to spread reports among units of the German Navy at VENICE about the efficacy of secret weapons.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report to 8.8.44).

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XIV. Pavolini's last instructions in Florence.

One informant stated that PAVOLINI was known, before leaving Florence, to have organised 400 men with orders to shoot or enter on a Black List, all those who collaborated with the Allies. He also left behind him one of his secretaries PUCCIO PUCCI, believed to be living at the Savoy Hotel. Another Fascist reported to have been left behind is the Marchese SANTIANI, via Italo Balbo 9.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 8.8.44).

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XV. Location of Ministries in Northern Italy.

"The Board of Education is at PADOVA and the War-Department has moved to several small villages on MONTE GRAPPA. I asked a soldier for the name of one of them, and he told me that the "Direzione Generale" for officers is located at PATERNO, on the MONTE GRAPPA.
(Censorship Intercept 13.7.44).

The Republican Fascist Ministry of Justice is located at CREMONA, Corso Garibaldi 25.
(Censorship Intercept 25.7.44).

ECONOMICS.

XVI. Food Situation.

Conditions in the PISA district during June and July.

Economic conditions were not too bad. Here are the typical Black Market prices:

Bread	Lire	25 to 50	the kilo
Beans	"	40-60	" "
Pasta	"	30	" "
Rice	"	30	" "
Wine	"	50	" litre
Clive oil	"	1200	the litre.

Meat became very plentiful in the last few weeks as the peasants were slaughtering their stock clandestinely (to avoid German requisitioning) and selling it privately.
(P.W. B. 5th Army Report 6.8.44).

Regime Fascist CREMONA 29.7.44 reports: From the month of February until June fines of over 224,000,000 lire have been imposed by the Provincial Price Commissions for breaches of food regulations.
(4.8.44).

Life in PADUA The children perhaps would not exist without dreaming of dishes of "pasti" meat, etc. We are not afraid of the alerts and the bombardments: it was this that was lacking: Nerves are very solid and I have no desire to be evacuated".
(Censorship Intercept 3.5.44).

XVII. Transport.

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XVII. Transport.

Lack of Car Tyres in northern Italy.

A circular letter of the O.M. (a motorcar factory in Brescia) reads as follows:

"Owing to lack of standard measure tyres, many vehicles must adopt wheels of different size from the normal one:"
(Censorship Intercept 31.7.44).

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XVIIf. Industry

MILAN The "Compagnia Generale di Elettricita" factory in MILAN Via Borgognone 34, constructs engines for electric locomotives It employed about 5,000 workers, but production has been hindered by lack of material and the attitude of the workers and most of the Italian managers. There is a German control commission.

APUANIA The Factory of the same society in APUANIA has been dismantled. The machinery has been partly taken to pieces and hidden, partly removed by the Germans.

MILAN The Pirelli firm in MILAN was working on a small scale owing to damage by bombing and shortage of material (May)

PONTE S. PIETRO and TRESEZZO The Caproni aircraft works at PONTE S. PIETRO and TRESEZZO employ about 6,000 workers. Junkers aircraft are repaired there

SW. BERGAMO-DALMINE Torpedoes, shells and bombs are produced in factories here (Mid May)

NOVARA The refining plant of the ANIC factory of LEGHORN had been removed to NOVARA, where there is another ANIC factory (July).

An informant who was a technical worker of PIAGGIO firm in PONTEDERA said that Piaggo factories had left Pontedera in May and were distributed among the following localities:

TRINITA (close to railway station) manufacture of parts for the wings of FW 190.

BIELLA HQ manufacture of parts for german aircraft engines.

CEV. Large storage depots

ALBA (SW ASTI): MONDOVI
FINALE LIGURE (SW SAVONA)

The managing Director was Eng. COLOMBELLI, from PONTEDERA, who co-operates with the Germans. About 1,000 workers had been compulsorily transferred from PONTEDERA; many others were engaged in the new area. (8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

XIX. Public Health.

"... There is a severe epidemic of typhoid, scabies and other infectious

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XIX. Public Health.

"... There is a severe epidemic of typhoid, scabies and other infectious diseases.... We are just stunned and don't understand anything, not even a purge can be found and falling ill one must per force die".
(CHIETI 4.8.44).
(Censorship Intercept 5.8.44).

XX. [illegible] Damage.

BOLOGNA

Although Bologna is to a large extent destroyed, the DUCATI factories there for producing radio sets for the German Air Force have not been bombed.

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RIMINI Trains for the south for civilians go as far as RIMINI, where the Officine Mecanniche Reggiane" mechanical works have been entirely destroyed by heavy bombing.

PRATO, SESTO and CASTEL FIORENTINO stations, as well as the locomotives there, a total of 140, have been destroyed.

ROVIGO is intact, but FERRARA is greatly damaged by bombing. The district around PADUA has been hit and MESTRE even more so LAMBRATE, near MILAN has been badly hit.

In a letter dated 17.7.44 a correspondent writes "Air raid alarms are more and more exasperating, but there were few bombardments on MILAN, which particularly aimed at the railroad. In EMILIA, on the contrary, which represents the back area, life is rather hard on account of the continuous air attacks. The towns are being destroyed systematically and reduced to deserts. We cannot understand how such terroristic raids, as the recent one over BRESCIA, are possible; the city was heavily hit, chiefly in the centre. PIACENZA, CREMONA, MANTOVA and mainly BOLOGNA were repeatedly bombed".
(Censorship Intercept 3.8.44).

Another writer states "If you could see what LA SPEZIA is reduced to, you would no longer recognise it. The beautiful avenue LUNGOMARE, via Piave, viale Garibaldi... are only a heap of rubbish.
(Censorship Intercept 1.8.44).

GENOA May 19th. On Friday 19th, we had another terroristic air raid. Many churches and houses were hit. The Pittalunga Cinema was half demolished... it seems that the whole section around the Cinema was the particular target. Buildings in Via Casaregia were damaged too, as well as the Church of S. Zita just in the middle of the Corso Buenos Aires, many blocks in Via Tranto, the "Carabinieri" Barracks in Via Trieste, the Fiat premises, the Upim stores in Via XX Settembre, the firemen's Barracks, and many other places all over the town. It was really terrific".
(Censorship Intercept 22.7.44).

PESARO " Here the bombardments have greatly damaged the City, especially TREBBIO and PANTANO. The 2nd Artillery Barracks were hit, the soldiers have gone; in the city nothing is left; if you could only see the disaster and desolation!".
(Censorship Intercept 22.7.44).

BOLOGNA "Just imagine in BOLOGNA, owing to the repeated attacks, the sewers were damaged and the other pipes overflowed.".
(Censorship Intercept 25.7.44).

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VIAREGGIO Viareggio is bombed every day ... Some days ago a very heavy raid smashed the dockyard, the Varignano, via S. Francesco, via Ravia, the townhall, the pivot bridge, the old Fascist Headquarters, the Commissariat, the Unica stores etc."
(Censorship Intercept 21.7.44).

RIMINI ".... Rimini does not exist any more. Even the workshops have disappeared. This is the 20th bombardment she has gone through we call her the "great wounded". The hospital, the Suffragio Church, Castellaccio, the building of poor Mr. Trozzolini, all razed to the ground. So many places don't exist any more...
(Censorship Intercept 2.8.44).

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PRESS

XXI. Clandestine Papers.

MILAN A number of clandestine Italian newspapers appear in MILAN, but not in BOLOGNA, although newspapers printed elsewhere are circulated there. "La Nuova Italia", and "La Liberta" are among the underground newspapers in MILAN.

The FRONTE DELLA GIOVENTU, a youth organisation depending on the Comitato di Liberazione, has published an underground sheet called the RISCOSSA since May 1st 1944. Only about 8 numbers of this sheet were produced under extreme difficult conditions. One secret publishing centre was Villa delle Rose.
(P.W.B. 5th Army 26.7.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXII. Dangerous Fascists north of the Front.

RAVENNA The prefect of the Province of RAVENNA is BOGAZZI, Franco. MONTANARI is the Fascist Federale.

AREZZO. MELCHIORE MELCHIORI, Prefect of the Province of Arezzo since April is alleged to have escaped with 18 million lire belonging to the Bank of Italy.

Capo Manipolo VEGOLI and a certain ABBATECOLA are alleged to have carried out several murders in Arezzo.

ROVIGO Informant drove about 65 prominent Fascists by truck from CAMPIGLIA to ROVIGO. At Rovigo, which seems to be a concentration point for Fascists, at least of TUSCANY, the evacuees were received by the chief of the province, MENNA, Federico, his assistant GNESI of S. GIULIANO TERME, one of the worst Fascists of PISA Province, and a professor from VOLTERRA (Name unknown). Their reception was very cold and the exiles were sent to three little villages (one was POPOZZE), each about 10 km from ROVIGO.

E of PISA - CALCI Another driver brought Fascists from VOLTERRA to CALCI and then nr ROVIGO. The passengers were cheerful and insolent. They included Capt DELLE MURE of VOLTERRA. The organisers of the expedition were a certain Capt RUSSO(?) and a veterinary surgeon of CAMPIGLIA (latter in civilian clothes)

PISTOIA Capt ENZO ORIOLO, son-in-law of the well-known writer GIOVACCHINO, is an enthusiastic member of the Republican Army, and was serving nr PISTOIA as ADC to a German General.

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PISA CO of the Carabinieri in PISA, Lt. Col. CUNEO, was strongly pro-German. One of his officers, however, Capt AZENA, seems to have been most helpful to patriots recently.

VOLTERRA. Republican officers in command of mopping-up operations aroun. VOLTERRA were DE RENZIS, LT TREZZI, Maresciallo APPIOTTI.

LUCCA In January last the Military Provincial HQ of LUCCA was commanded by Col Cesare CHIARI, and the Discipline and Personnel Bureau by Lt. Co. Mario ARCAMONE.

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VOLTERRA. Dangerous Fascists escaped from Volterra are

Cons. OLIVIERI
Maj. MARCHETTI (Militia)
PAGLIANTI

and from POMARANCE-

BACCI (Mayor)
2/Lt. FONDI (Militia).

(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

XXIII. Dangerous elements in the Fascist Republican Army.

Capt RENATO BILLI and Capt MASTRANGO - two officers of the so-called Fascist army. Both have served their German masters very zealously.

MARINO ROTELLI, paid spy of the Germans and member of the O.V.R.A. He had many captures, tortures and executions of patriots on his conscience.

Maresciallo GINO OLIVIERI, who increased his salary by aid to the Nazis.

BRUNETTO ROSSI offered to go voluntarily on the so called punitive expeditions against the patriots. Has numerous murders on his conscience, thought out and committed in cold blood, of which he boasts to his companions.

GINO TURCHI, squadrist, sciarpa littorio, agent of the O.V.R.A, paid for his cruelty.

FROSINI, sadistic executioner, squadrist of 1921.

MARIO SOLDI, sergeant of the "Death Battalion".

ARTURO ALMI who apart from the usual executions, asked for and obtained permission to take part in a Fascist execution platoon which assassinated 19 patriots in the locality of MONTE MAGGIO.

XXIV. Active Collaborators in anti-partisan operations.

OC. SS. in North Italy - Gen. ASTER
OC. SS. for LOMBARDY, PIEDMONT and LIGURIA -COL RANK
DR. SALERNO: Head of TURIN Province.

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GIUSEPPE SOLERO PRF Commissar.
CONSOLE RY MILITIA - GIOVANNI PERINI
1 Siniore Ry - ALESSANDRO CAZZANI
Centurione GIOVANNI PERINI
Maresciallo ALBINOLO
Centurione GIOVANNI PONZETTI
Capo Manipolo - PIETRO GIOLITO
CISTERNINO AMILCARE - Head of FFSS.

(Confidential Source 12.7.44).

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SECTION	INITIALS	DATE
Comm Int		
Mil Int		
Mod Int		
Sec		
Col Int		
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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

23rd August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 21.

SUMMARY

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 5(D) or (E)
JCS 1/4/74
BY NARS, Date 5/3/75

RESISTANCE

Partisans Information is beginning to reach us about the organisation and activities of patriot bands in the Appennine zone north of the Arno. A "Corps" of about 6000 men with H.Q at MONTEFIORINO controls an area between MODENA and MASSA-CARRARA. This corps is in touch with bands in the GARFAGNANA, organised by a British officer, and on the other flank with the bands in the PARMA district. The first two groups are well armed as they have received many weapons and much ammunition from the Allies.

In northern Italy a veritable civil war is raging between partisans and "Black Brigades", supported by German punitive expeditions. It seems that in spite of losses, and savage German reprisals on defenceless villages, the Patriots on the whole appear to be holding their own and inflicitng heavy casualties. Close contact seems to have been established with the French Maquis.

Sabotage Reports up to the end of July indicate that sabotage is widespread. Briges and trains appear to be the chief objectives.

Assassinations The removal of Fascists is proceeding steadily. The principal victims this week are GIOVANNI TULLO, former Mayor of TALMASSON, and the industrialist PEGHETTI of MILANO.

FASCIST FORCES

The S.MARCO Division was last reported in ALESSANDRIA, and elements of the BERSAGLIERE "ITALI" Division were observed in PAVIA It is said that towards the end of June two Italian Divisions coming from Germany killed their officers and dispersed, a great part joining the patriots. It is not yet known to which of the new Italian divisions this report refers, but one is believed to be operating in PIEDMONT on the side of the patriots, and the other in the VAL CAMONICA, VAL TROMPIA and SABBIA valley.

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Desertions Up to 24th July desertions from the Fascist army and police to the patriots are estimated at 1,245 officers and N.C.Os and 3768 other ranks.

A Milanese source reports that Fascist soldiers recently arrived in MILAN thought they were destined for the ANZIO front. When they heard that the front was now at FLORENCE, about 25% deserted.

GERMANS

Behaviour From the north it is reported that the behaviour of the occupying troops, hitherto correct, is becoming more undisciplined. In COMO officers are said to be letting themselves go in the matter of food and drink.

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SUMMARY 2.

Atrocities The sorry tale of reprisals continues. The latest incidents come from CUMANIA, VAL SESIA, CRISPINI, TRIESTE (where in April 100 hostages were shot and 51 hanged for 2 bomb incidents), CALUSO (AOSTA Province) CASTELNUOVO DEI SABBIONI, MELETO, S.MARTINO (VALDARNO). In the M. SCIARI area two wounded partisans had their eyes put out and were finished off with knives.

In AREZZO province from 17th June to 3rd July 224 persons were massacred in various localities.

At TANCIA near M. S. GIOVANNI, it is said that even children of two years of age were killed, being stood on chairs as they were not tall enough for the height of the Machine Gun fire.

POLITICS

A press polemic is raging between GIOVANNI AREZIOSI, High Commissioner for racial questions in the Corriere della Sera and FARINACCI, in Regima Fascista. PAVOLINI was forced to intervene.

PAVOLINI, the Secretary of the Party, was himself wounded recently in a clash with the partisans.

Political tendencies. The VALDARNO The prevailing tendency in the industrial zone is Communist. The peasants are indifferent.

TRIESTE While the whole city is violently anti-German, the active propaganda is carried on by Slav refugees and is Communist. Trieste has been annexed by the Germans and the Fascist Party has no voice there. In fact, on 20th September the notorious squadrista SALERNO, appointed Prefect of Trieste, was expelled by the German SS in 12 hours.

ECONOMICS

Food Situation The situation in N. Italy is deteriorating rapidly, as the peasants, for fear of the Germans removing their grain, are refusing to thresh their wheat.. The situation in TRIESTE is very bad, as the city is entirely dependent on the hinterland and the Germans systematically export all they can to Germany or to German troops in Italy.

Fuel and Power. Electric power in TURIN has again been reduced.

Transport The situation is quite chaotic. Petrol stocks are almost exhausted owing to air raids and tyre shortage is likely to cause the

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Fuel and Power. Electric power in TURIN has again been reduced.

Transport The situation is quite chaotic. Petrol stocks are almost exhausted owing to air raids and tyre shortage is likely to cause the cessation of motor transport. The railway system has almost entirely broken down.

Finance Inflation grows daily. The Gazzetta del Popolo estimates th public Debt at 600 milliard lire. Certain MILAN banks are refusing to pay cheques issued in VENETO and LIGURIA

Industry. More factories are reported to have had their machinery removed to Germany.

LABOUR

Himmler and Mussolini have recently agreed to put all Italians interned in Germany at Himmler's and Goebel 's disposal for forced labour. Although many Italians are seized for labour in Germany, most succeed in escaping en route and few reach their destination.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

23rd August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 21.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ). 23rd August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 21.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Further information has recently been received on partisan bands in the neighbourhood of the Gothic line from two Italian naval officers who crossed the line shortly before July 31st.

The most important and best organised band has its HQ at MONTEFIORINO and is organised as a "Corps" covering the area SAN MARTINO-PIAN DEL GOTTI-PASSO DELLE RADICI-PASSO DELLE FORBICI-MONTE GIOVARELLO-MONTE SCALOREDOLO-high ground between CEREDOLO and MONTE SANTA GIULIA.

Patrols from the "Corps" cover the surrounding areas reaching by day and by night, the latter in particular, to a distance of 25-30 Kms from the above line. Other bands occupy the area of SESTOLA and FANANO in the MODENA area. The patrols operating in the area of REGGIO are in contact with the bands in the PARMA area. The "Corps" has a strength of about 6,500 men, of which 1,000 are at present without arms.

These bands were confining their attention to the garrison of the above mentioned areas and to raids on the GIARDINI DEL CERRETO road, attacking the Germans on the march. There were also occasional raids on the EMILIA road

Results obtained through the destruction of bridges included the interruption of transport on the GIARDINI road and of motor convoys for about one week on the CERRETO road. During June about 15 bridges were destroyed on the secondary and main roads. The German telephone line between MODENA and BOLOGNA has been cut.

The electric power stations at LIGONCHIO, FARNETA, PIETRAVOLTA, GAZZANA and STARTARA were in the hands of the partisans who limited productivity to the needs of the civilian population.

Around PISTOIA bands of partisans were forming, already equipped

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Around BISENZIO bands of partisans were forming, already equipped with enough explosive to blow up the road parallel to BISENZIO and to the main railway line (direttissima) FLORENCE-BOLOGNA (a road carrying a great deal of German military traffic). The carrying out of such an operation would be made possible by dropping arms in the area sufficient to enable the partisans to block the road, which is closely guarded, for the time necessary to destroy it.

The two Italian officers interrogated gave the following list of partisan bands whom they had encountered on their route:

APELLA (TAVERNELLE) about 50 men armed with Tommy guns, Italian

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hand grenades, pistols, 2 L.M.Gs and 1 Hvy M.G. They had sent away many volunteers through not having arms for them.

RIGOSO About 150 men, fairly well armed. As was generally the case this band could have increased its personnel if it had the means of of arming them. It lacked also medical supplies and money.

MONTE TONDO DI GARFAGNANA A band commanded by a British Major J from the Commandos, dropped by parachute together with a British W/T operator and five Italian Officer Specialists. It is amongst the best organised and equipped as regards arms and means of communications. It was not yet in contact with the more distant band in the same zone. Sources established contact for it with the "Corps" at MONTEFIORINO. So far it has only about 85 men.

CAPANNE (GARFAGNA) A band of about 50 men, adequately armed. In touch with Major J for receiving parachute supplies.

CORTE A band of about 30 men armed with British automatic weapons. In touch with Major J.

Area surrounding CIVAGO Bands in this area are under command of the "Corps" at MONTEFIORINO.

OSPITALE (beyond the GIARDINI road and out of the area of the "Corps" at MONTEFIORINO.) A point of contact between the mobile forces of the "Corps" and the roving bands depending on partisan commends in TUSCANY Generally these were about 30 strong. The bands in TUSCANY generally had a better armament than those in the area of MODENA or LIGURIA, having receive d supplies more regularly by parachute; while their means of obtaining food were worse.

ALPE TRE POTENZE A well-armed band (about 250 men) with many Russians and some English who had escaped from prison camps, together with two wireless operators.

MANDROMINI A band of about 40 men, adequately armed. With them was an Italian woreless operator, without radio, lost during descent.

PORTAFRANCE (Near ORSIGNA) A well-armed band of about 30 men. In contact with MANDROMINI and the bands of TUSCANY.

DONNA MORTA (Near ORSIGNA) Well armed band of about 30. In contact with MANDROMINI and bands in TUSCANY.

ORSIGNA Occupied by the "Buozzi Brigade" under the MONTEFIORINI "Corps" H.Q., who were carrying out raids about 15 July 44 on the PORRETTANA road and in the area of PRACCHIA.

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MACEGLIA Well armed band of about 35 in contact with MANDROMINI and ALPE TRE POTENZE.

Supplies for these bands by parachute were generally received fairly regularly even though often, after being warned by radio and with good weather conditions, nothing is dropped. In one area peasants nearby reproduced the flares and received the supplies instead. Source recommended frequent changes of layout flares to avoid this. Radio sets were frequently received disassembled without technical personnel or instructions.
(G.2 Advanced Intelligence 13.8.44).

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Another source gave information about the partisan bands in the CARRARA area.

In the zone MASSAROSA-CARRARA and APUAN Alps immediately behind there is a well organised band which is well armed and kept supplied by regular parachute drops; it consists of about 50 men who all come from the district. It was formed in May, and the leader of the band is W/O Domenico AZZARI, aged 23/24 an ex ardite who has plentiful supplies of money, but who is probably rather an adventurer. The band was considered by source to have a strong communist tendency.

In the MONTE SOGNO-TAMBARA-PISANINO zone there is a band of about 300 mixed refugees. They are reported to have occupied the town of FORNO on the day of the allied landing in France. After this attack two Pls of the MAS Flotilla from SPEZIA and seme Germans in three trucks came to FORNO and assassinated 62 men and women in the village, who were taken at random from their houses as a reprisal for the action of the band. Among the victims were the Maresciallo and the Appuntato of the Carabinieri.
(P.W.B. Advanced 8.8.44).

TRIESTE

The patriots are active in the whole province, and organisation is very good. TRIESTE is the centre of organisation for UDINE, GORIZIA, CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI, MONFALCONE. There is strict collaboration too with partisan forces of MONTE GRAPPA and with the DIVISIONE ALPINA JULIA.
(P.W.B. Rome U.M.)

BREUIL

A French civilian source who crossed the lines on July 22nd stated that the highway connecting BREUIL with CHATILLON is entirely under the control of Italian partisans. Large contingents of partisans who are operating under the command of an Italian army captain, are concentrated in this region. They largely outnumber German garrisons in this sector. Despite a lack of weapons, equipment and ammunition the partisans supposedly have the situation well in hand, due (1) to their numerical superiority, and (2) to the fact that most WEHRMACHT troops garrisoned in this region are CZECHS, who, to a certain extent, co-operate with the partisans. The German garrison of BERUIL is a detachment of 10 men only, who maintain a daily courier service with their unit at CHATILLON. The partisans, it is claimed, have made an agreement with the Germans in this sector, which permits them to control the courier service on highway BREUIL-CHATILLON. According to this agreement no armed German or Fascist military personnel is allowed to travel on this

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(G2 Fifth Army Report No 698. 26.7.44).
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The "Gruppi Gappi" and"Squadre d'Azione".

Partisan activity in the city of FLORENCE was carried on by the "Gruppi Gappi" and the "Squadre d'Azione". The former were small detachments of trained men, including Carabinieri, who did the more dangerous work of dispatching Fascists or carrying out sabotage. These groups had been responsible for the deaths of GENTILE, COL. INGARANO, COL. GOBBI, and a colonel in charge of the Istituto Geografico all notorious Fascists and collaborationists with the Germans. On instructions from "Italia Combatte" from Rome they had also killed VOLPINI, who had fled north to Florence after the fall of Rome. Volpini was held responsible for the deaths of ten English people. The "Squadre d'Azione" were groups of young men whose principal task was to help the civilian population by personal service, maintain morale, transport Allied news and information, and act as informants.

The Committee of Liberation considered that the main value of partisan activity in the town had been to deny to the Germans the services of the Republican Fascists. The Fascists were the instruments through whom the Germans exercised control over the civilian population. By shadowing them, and rendering their actions void, or if necessary by dispatching them for good and all, the Germans were deprived of these tools. Partisan activity was not so much directed against the Germans (because of the discrepancy of arms, which made this impossible) as against the Fascist traitors.

The hold-up of the Allies on the CASSINO front greatly reduced partisan activity. The long wait sent people into hiding. Many would have risked taking part in active anti-German operations even with the very limited means at their disposal had the Allied advance been more rapid or at least continuous.
(P.W.B. advanced)

German Precautionary Measures against partisans. In May partisan activity in the area of BERGAMO and north of MILAN was on the increase. A PW was told in May by an Italian engineer of the (destroyed) MACCHI works at VARSI that a number of German troops had been killed by snipers. It was known to PW that certain roads in the above mentioned areas were declared out of bounds to German troops.

In BRESCIA itself a revolt in the town was thought possible and 256 AA Bty worked out firing charts, showing about 100 keypoints in this location, on which fire would be directed in case of an open outbreak.
(GSDIC 8th Army Report 1.8.44).

Anti-Fascist Activities in MILAN An Allied source who escaped from German-occupied Italy after being in MILAN and other districts, repo[illegible] that anti-Fascist activity often took the form of Caricatures of

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Anti-Fascist Activities in MILAN An Allied source who escaped from German-occupied Italy after being in MILAN and other districts, reports that anti-Fascist activity often took the form of Caricatures of Fascist slogans against Allied air-raids. Three examples of this type of propaganda were:

1. Writing upon bombed-out German Headquarters "10 German officers killed in this Kindergarten".

2. After a raid at LAMBRATE, a burnt trainload of aircraft engines was inscribed "English cowards! our war effort is ruined".

3. In the same place, half-destroyed truck-loads of paper for newspapers were inscribed "toilet-paper for Farinacci" and other kindred remarks.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 26.6.44).

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Various partisan activities.

EMILIA The latest National Resistance Communique announces a big battle which is taking place in EMILIA between 6,000 partisans and German forces, superior in number and material. In spite of their inferiority the partisans inflicted considerable losses on the enemy and captured three artillery batteries. After several days' fighting the partisan brigades received orders to withdraw in small groups, taking their captured booty with them. Several bloody clashes with the enemy are reported from the ABETONE district. The insurrectional movement in the LA SPEZIA zone is spreading. In the province of PADUA partisans attacked the 18th Blackshirt Brigade, from which a number of desertions are reported, in spite of German control. COMO partisans challenged the Second Blackshirt Division.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 10.8.44).

MILAN On the morning of August 8th a time bomb exploded on a German army truck in MILAN. Five people, including a woman, were killed and four others died of injuries. Thirteen were wounded by splinters. The Milan Commander of the German Security Police stated in the press that the attack had been carried out by members of the GAP organisation (Gruppi Azione Partigiani), which was composed of ordinary and political criminals. On August 10th in Milan a Fascist Captain was killed and some soldiers were severly wounded. As a reprisal for these two attacks 26 previously arrested GAP members were sentenced to death. Fifteen were shot on August 10. The same fate will be ordered for the others if sabotage reocurs. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 11. 8.44).

VAL DI TARO In the Val Di Taro the operations continue on a vast scale between groups of patriots and Nazi Fascist troops. The Germans have more than 500 men, a considerable amount of war material, means of transport and food reserves. A Nazi Fascist Battalion has been attacked and dispersed in the high valley of the STAFFORA. The enemy has left 200 dead and many wounded.
(P.W.B. Rome 10.8.44).

BEDONIA About 1000 partisans in the BEDONIA region repulsed an energetic mopping/up operation, causing notable losses to the Germans, capturing 88 guns and many machine-guns. Patriots of the Garibaldi Brigade from the provinces of MODENA and REGGIO disarmed garrisons occupying BRASSINORO, TOANO, VILLA MINOZZO, LIGONCHIO, BUSANO, COLLAGNA, RAMISETO and CEREDOLO. The Fascist replied by attempting strong mopping-up operations, supported by tanks and mortars, but were repulsed, losing 90 killed and wounded. The same Garibaldi Brigade also clashed near VILLA with 200 Germans and 300 Fascists who suffered 100 dead and 40 wounded after two days' fighting. The Brigade occupied the MONTEPIORINO locality, arresting 60 Fascists.

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(Stampa Turin 5.8.44).

MEINA Piedmont partisans have carried out a daring coup de main against the SIMPLON line, interrupting the same in the MEINA region.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 4.8.44).

MILAN Squads from groups of the Azione Patriottica are energetically operating right inside Milan, attacking a German motor column on July 11th in the station square. A big German truck was completely destroyed and several Germans were killed and many wounded.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 4.8.44).

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PIEDMONT The Italian clandestine newspaper "Il Partigiano Alpino" reports numerous actions carried out by partisans in northern Italy. In PIEDMONT, partisan troops occupied the villages of PONZONE, VALLE MOSSO and (?SESSERA) and, still holding them, are forcing the textile factories in the region to increase workers' salaries. A German detachment was attacked at STAFFARDA and suffered 20 dead and 15 wounded.
(Gazette de Lausanne 9.8.44).

PARMA It is announced from PARMA that 400 German SS stationed in PALANZANO were engaged in mopping-up operations against partisans operating in the Parmesan Apennines.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 8.8.44).

UDINE The Questor of UDINE, together with the principal municipal officials, were arrested by the SS and deported to Germany for not collaborating sufficiently with the occupation authorities. The Gold Medallist and Fascist BARBA, former deputy Mayor of UDINE was imprisoned in the local goal for refusing to collaborate with the Fascist authorities. A call-up in Udine of the 1912-1926 classes was ordered by the occupation authorities, but resulted in a farce, as the only person presenting himself was a hunchback.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 9.8.44).

German motor columns were attacked by the patriots near ARTA in the Province of Udine. Three German soldiers were killed, three wounded, many vehicles damaged and destroyed. The same group afterwards attacked another enemy convoy of supplies near ESEMON, near CADORE, capturing five motorised courrier, killing three German soldiers and taking others prisoners.

PASSO DI SAN UBALDO On 20th July a patriot group holding the PASSO DI SAN UBALDO was attacked in force by German soldiers. The Germans were repulsed with 30 dead and 50 wounded while 12 patriots were killed.
(Confidential Source 14.8.44).

ARONA Having heard that a German SS Battalion some distance from TURIN had to transfer to LAKE MAGGIORE, some patriots who work near ARONA blew up a viaduct on the way. The result was that the train which carried the German soldiers fell down the ravine with nearly all the waggons. The enemy losses were 30 dead and 200 wounded. For reprisal the German command sent two battalions of SS into the provinces of BOLZANO and TRENTO, which ravaged the countryside for more than ten days.
(P.W.B. Rome 8.8.44).

II. Sabotage.

VERONA On the night of July 24th, following an agreement made bet[illegible]

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(P.W.B. Rome 8.8.44).

II. Sabotage.

VERONA On the night of July 24th, following an agreement made betw the heads of the patriots and the allies, the first act of sabotage on a grand scale was put into action, in the zone of VERONA. Not less than 43 attacks were made in order to interrupt or delay the enemy military communications on the following railway lines:

VICENZA to VERONA, PADOVA, CITADELLA, SCHIO and RECOARO
CASTELFRANCO to TREVISO, CITTADELLA, BASSANO, MONTEBELLUNO
CAMPOSANPIERO and TRENTO
CITTADELLA to CAMPOSANPIERO, BASSANO, GRISIGNANO and
OSTIGLIA

The damage done to these lines caused interruptions of various lengths of time, from a minimum of 8 to a maximum of 40 hours, completely blocking the communications for 10 days.

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The important powder factory of ROSSANO VENETO was blown up by a group of patriots.

During a plucky attack against the station of VICENZA two locomotives and a high tension line were destroyed. The patriots also damaged railway bridges at CITTADELLA.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

UDINE at FORGARIA a train full of ammuniction was blown up. At VEZONE a certain piece of the railway has been interrupted and at BORDANO the electric plant has been completely destroyed.
(P.W.B. Rome 12.8.44).

III. Assassinations.

Seven members of the "Black Brigade" composed of Blackshirts were killed by guerrillas at MONCALIERI while they were guarding the body of the town's Federal Commissioner who was killed a few days ago.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 2.8.44).

The former Mayor of TALMASSON, GIOVANNI TULLO, was shot in the street while walking with friends. Two unknown men on bicycles managed to escape.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 26.7.44).

In MILAN two patriots have executed in his home the Fascist industrialist airman PEGHETTI, collaborator with the Germans.
(P.W.B. Rome 17.8.44).

FASCIST FORCES

IV. Disposition.

According to reliable sources elements of the S. MARCO Division have arrived recently in the zone of ALESSANDRIA. As is known from previous reports, it seems that this G.U., commanded by General PRINCIVALLE, is composed of very young elements from concentration camps in Germany and would have a strength of about 12,000 men. The division finished its training in the camp of GRAFENWOHR.

Elements of the Bersaglieri division "Italia" have arrived in PAVIA. The division possesses the normal armament of a German infantry division. As was already known, this G.U. is commanded by Gen. CARLONI and finished its training in the HEUBERG camp.
(Italian Official Source 8.8.44).

There is a training camp at ALESSANDRIA for junior infantry officers. The Commander of the school was Major ZURLETTI, helped by

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There is a training camp at ALESSANDRIA for junior infantry officers. The Commander of the school was Major ZURLETTI, helped by Captains RIGHI, TRISTANO, BASILE, AGNESE, LANDRISCINA and Lt. IVALDI.

TURIN The Provincial Command was headed by Colonel MARZOCCHI (according to previous reports the provincial commander was General VALLETTI BORGNINI), assisted by Lt. Colonels LORI and BOERIS and Capt. VETERE.
(Italian Official Source 8.8.44).

VARESE The measures which the Republican authorities have been obliged to take in VARESE Province prove the fact that the Fascists do not feel sure of the Province, where the activity of the patriots is particularly strong, and where the population also openly show their hostility. In MARZIO on the VARESE-LUINO railway, barracks have been prepared for 1000 Italian SS, charged with the maintenance of order in the region. In GAVIRATE, 150 parachutists of the "Nimbo" Legion have

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arrived from LAZIO, where they say they fought against the Allies. Their morale is very low and they are unable to hide their dissatisfaction.

The morale of the PAI (Italian African Police) living in BUSTO ARSIZIO, is no better. Everywhere there is fear of being sent to German camps for a period of training. The same fear exists among the survivors of the "San Marco" Battalion, who were sent from the Cassino front to rest at VENTIMIGLIA. The Battalion, which originally contained 1000 men, has been reduced to 250. Some were killed and others deserted.
(Popolo e Liberta 7.8.44)

TRIESTE The only Fascist forces there are elements belonging to the SS, who do not number more than 50, and have been well chosen for their spy work and collaboration with the Germans.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

RIVOLI In the zone of RIVOLI TORINESE there was an SS Command headed by a Colonel; it occupied a villa opposite to a seminary which was being built near the church of S. Grato. In the seminary was billeted about a thousand SS who belonged mostly to the 1920 and 1925 classes. The individual armament consisted of a rifle model 38. Morale was very low, and many showed a wish to desert as soon as they were sent into the zone of operations.
(Italian Official Source 13.8.44).

MARRADI At BRISIGHELLA there is an Italian garrison of the Republican Military Board of Health, composed of 100 men.

At MARRADI and in the neighbourhood there are only Fascist Militiamen who always appear together with the Germans, as they would not dare to do anything alone. At MARRADI, BRISIGHELLA and district no carabinieri has been seen recently. At TRADOSSIO there are only a few Fascist Militia. At SELVAPIANA as well as at BADIA PRATAGLIA there are many Fascists. In the MANDRIOLO Passes there are about 20 carabinieri, paid by the Germans, who are in very low spirits, knowing what their end will be.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. C.)

GNR. General RICCI, Commander of the GNR, reviewed a Blackshirt detachment on August 7th, near VENICE. These Militiamen will leave for Germany, where they will be trained for ARP service.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.8.44).

V. Desertions.

MILAN An industrialist who met Italian soldiers arrived at Milan from Germany noted that they had

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MILAN An industrialist who met Italian soldiers arrived at Milan from Germany noted that they had expected to be going to the Arctic front and were startled to hear that the front was now at FLORENCE. The effect was that about 25% deserted.
(P.I.D. Intelligence Summary 7.8.44).

ALESSANDRIA It is reported that about mid-June the entire force of Carabinieri of ALESSANDRIA deserted.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 17.8.44).

Two Fascist Divisions, after being trained and fitted out by the Germans, were sent to Italy about the end of June. As soon as the train which carried them had passed the frontier the soldiers of the two divisions stopped the convoy and killed the officers. A great

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part of the soldiers joined up with the patriots. It is reported that one of these divisions now works in PIEDMONT and the other in LOMBARDY, where they help with the control of the CAMONICA, TROMPIA and SABBIA valleys.

Desertions from the Fascist army have continued during the last weeks. Up to the 24th July the following number of soldiers have surrendered - In LOMBARDY 245 officers and non-coms, and 986 ORs.- in PIEDMONT 330 officers and non-coms: and 765 ORs. - in LIGURIA 131 officers and non-coms: and 544 ORs. The total is 706 officers and non-coms: and 2695 ORs. Adding to this number elements from the police, militia, air force and navy one arrives at the total of 1245 officers and non-coms: and 3768 troopers.
(P.W.B. Rome 16.8.44).

VI. Evasion of oath of allegiance by Reserve Officers.

Several thousand reserve officers of all service classes living in MILAN, have received written orders from the military KOMMANDANTUR to take the oath of allegiance to Mussolini and the Republic. The oath has been under discussion for some time. The Fascist press reports that many of these notices were returned because persons had departed leaving no address.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 10.8.44).

VII. Fascist forces in action against partisans.

A regular civil war is reported to be raging in the Italian northern Provinces since two Fascist divisions arrived from training centres in Germany, where recently Mussolini inspected them. The decision to use Fascist troops against partisans was taken at the last meeting with Hitler and Mussolini. Italian partisan HQ reports that numerous deserters from Mussolini's divisions have arrived at their lines, where they are now fighting against their former comrades.
(Svenska Dagbladet. 5.8.44).

VIII. Collapse of Fascist Navy.

The Fascist Navy is practically non-existent. In SPEZIA there are only a few MAS and anti-submarine craft. The construction of two cruisers has been suspended. Almost all the sailors compulsorily enlisted in the Fascist Navy have fled, some to the maquis and some to Switzerland.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 2.8.44).

IX. Atrocities.

In GENOA in the middle of July about 70 political prisoners were taken from the MARASSI gaol to the hills near the town. The

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(Libera Stampa Lugano 1.8.44).

GERMANS

X. Disposition.

MARRADI There are more than 2000 German infantry near MARRADI between BRISIGHELLA and BORGO S. LORENZO. Near Marradi there are also two anti-aircraft posts with 5/6 guns.

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At TRADOSSIO there are many Germans, also at GALEATA and at S. SOFIA various German Commands and anti-aircraft posts
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. C.)

TRIESTE The city is garrisoned by a small force, about 1000 and about 1000 SS, with about 10 tanks.
(P.W.B. Rome. U.K. to end of June).

PWs from the Inf. Lehr Regt. say that their CO has indicated that the line of the ARNO will not be defended "to the last man". A recent bulletin signed by HITLER has been distributed to German soldiers telling them that the defensive phase of the war will be over in six weeks and that from then on the German Army will once more take the offensive. PWs. agreed that morale in the regiment was high and that it was considerably bolstered by this proclamation from Hitler.
(5th Army G.2 Report 11.8.44).

XI. Behaviour.

It is reported from COMO that German behaviour has become less correct and more aggressive. Officers now drink, sing and overeat with rather forced gaiety. Fresh fruits, such as cherries, are all seized by the Germans who sell things they receive from Germany, especially in exchange for civilian clothes. They often consume large amounts in restaurants, and then refuse to pay more than a fraction of the bill.
(P.I.D. 10.7.44).

After strenuous efforts the German Waffen-SS has carried out a successful mopping-up operation in the PARMA APENNINES between the UPPER PARMA Valley and the ENZA valley, sacking and burning down all the villages in the region, including RUSINO and MORAGNANO. The following is the method of procedure: The first group deported all the able-bodied men; the second group removed furniture and linen; a third removed all the cattle, and the last group burned the houses. In one village eight people were hung by the feet.
(Gazette de Lausanne 7.8.44).

Three deserters captured by the allies stated that they turned themselves in rather than obey the following orders given on withdrawal of their unit over the ARNO;

1. Poison all wells.
2. Kill or steal all cattle.
3. Shangai all males between ages 18 and 45 for work in GERMANY.

(XIII Corps Intelligence Summary 11.8.44).

Italian prisoners are interrogated at three consequetive times and in three different places. During the interrogation the Germans induce the prisoners to talk with coercive measures as well as threats

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The concentration camp for Italian prisoners is at BOLOGNA.
(Italian Official Source)(13.8.44).

About one thousand Italian workers and a score of Germans soldiers were killed during an Allied bombardment of DALMINE steelworks which are producing for Germany. Large numbers of casualties were caused owing to the fact that the Germans did not allow workers to leave the factory during an air raid in order not to lessen production. Even when it became clear that planes were directly attacking plant German

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guards prevented the arms workers from the leaving the factory. (P.I.D. 17.7.44).

With reference to the German propaganda drive in German-occupied Italy during May 1944, the following secret document from the Chief of the SD in Italy exposes the falsehood of promises that partisans who gave themselves up and surrendered their arms would not be punished.

1) The DUCE has issued a decree which gives assurance that all partisans or fugitives will not be punished if they present themselves within the 24 hours of the day 25.5.44 at an Italian or German Police Command or at an Italian or German Military Command and deliver up their arms.

2) In the chief cities of the Province, attached to the police posts, collection centres will be instituted for those reporting and for the arms they turn in. The Police stations should place themselves in contact with the Military Commanders and the Prefects in order to establish in each Province a camp, in which those reporting can be houses until their transport to Germany..... The transport to Germany of those who report will be undertaken by the Chief of military administration - Chief Labour Division and by those responsible in each sector.....
(P.W.B. German Intelligenee).

XII. Morale.

According to a reliable observer in north LOMBARDY all members of the German army continue to give the military salute, to the exclusion of the Nazi salute now ordered by Hitler.

Two middle-aged Field Security Policemen and a young Luftwaffe soldier, all Bavarians, were conversing in German in a north Italian public vehicle and supposed that no one could understand them. Discussing how long the war would continue one of the F.S.Ps. said "If only what was attempted last Thursday were to succeed, it would all be over". The other observed that "If we still try to win, it will take a year to lose, but naturally it should be finished in two months". The young airmana as lacking in enthusiasm as his elders, observed of the new weapons that "The others will know the answer always, and then everything will be destroyed".
(P.I.D. 7.8.44).

During July the Germans ordered the fields in lower FRIULI to be ploughed as they fear the possibility of a landing of Allied airborne troops.

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(Libera Stamps, Lugano 9.8.44).

The Germans are much afraid of the partisans. For example on the 12th July two partisan companies crossed the CONSUME. They were seen by the German patrols, who fled immediately.

On July 26th source spoke with a German Lieutenant who said that it was too bad that Hitler was still alive, as the war would have to go on. Nevertheless in spite of their low morale the German soldiers still fight well.
(P.W.B. Rome, P.A., P.V. and S.M.).

A P.W. who deserted to the Allies on August 15th said that on his last leave in BERLIN in January 44 he found people generally depressed, and hoping that war would soon be over one way or the other. But he found the morale generally better in Berlin than on the front in

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Italy, particularly since the Allied offensive began in May. (P.W.B. Advanced 16.8.44).

Many prisoners have arrived from Germany, some of whom were near PEPPINO, and we hope to see him arrive from one day to the other, unless he has remained in GORIZIA or BRESCIA awaiting events, that is to say the collapse of Germany. These prisoners, among whom a friend of Peppino, have been released through lack of food... (Censorship intercept 7.8.44).

XIII. Atrocities.

CUMANA As a reprisal for a partisan attack all the men between 14 and 70 were taken and 68 were condemned to death. As the Fascists refused to execute the sentence a German officer killed the prisoners in cold blood one by one with a shot through the neck. (P.W.B. Rome 7.8.44).

VAL SESIA Yesterday, in order to show that they intend to carry out their threat of shooting 25 persons for each one shot by us, they themselves carried out the shooting, and then massacred 28 citizens as hostages. They took men, women and children at random and killed them where they found them; even one sick person was assassinated in his bed.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 20.7.44).

CRISPINO 16 persons were killed at Crispino (reprisal for action by 4th Garibaldi brigade). As usual the victims were obliged to dig their own graves and then they were killed with M.G. fire. Amongst this number was the parish priest of Crispino who had always been considered by the population as Fascist, but his Nazi Republican ideas didn't save him.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. C.).

TRIESTE On 15th April 10 Germans were killed in a cinema. 100 hostages were taken and immediately shot. After a fortnight another attempt was made in a house at Via Grega 15, ex Italian officers' club, transformed after September into a German non-com. club. A time bomb was taken in at one oclock in the morning by a man disguised in German uniform. It went off at 13.30 causing the death of 5 German soldiers. At 17.00 hrs on the same day 51 Italians were hanged in the same house and were then exposed at the windows, where they remained for two days. Terrible atrocities were also committed against the Jews.
(P.W.B. Rome U.L. to end of June).

CALUSO - province of AOSTA A contingent of German SS and Italians took 14 political prisoners from the new prisons of TURIN, massacred them and threw them into a ditch.
In the CONTRADE S. PANCRAZIO, in the same municipality the Germans took every inhabitant from the houses and killed them with revolver

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(P.W.B. Rome 16.8.44).

VALDARNO When the miners of the VALDARNO zone refused to accompany the Germansback to Germany the Hermann Goering Division, on the 7th July attacked the villages of CASTELNUOVO DEI SABBIONI, MELETO, SAN MARTINO. They took 40 hostages, made them burn houses and crops. Then they shot more than 200 civilians, among whom were women and children. To end up they destroyed the corpses, turning flame throwers on the dead and wounded. On June 20th in the MONTE SCARAI an old peasant of over 70 years of age, and a boy of 13 were captured by the Germans. They were accused of having helped the partisans and were hanged, together with 17 of the latter

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who had been taken on July 20th. In the MONTE SACLARI also two wounded partisans captured in a house had their eyes put out and were finished off by the Germans with knife thrusts. On July 19th in MONTE MUGNAIO eight civilians were killed and a boy of 14 was castrated. (P.A., P.V. and S.M. P.W.B. Rome).

AREZZO In 15 days alone from 17th June to 3rd July 224 persons were massacred in various localities. Among the victims was the parish priest of CHIANA, killed by the Germans whilst giving absolution to 45 hostages.

CONTIGLIANO COLLE BACCARO At TANCIA in the vicinity of MONTE SAN GIOVANNI they even killed children aged 2, and as they did not reach the height of machine gun fire they were stood on chairs. (Censorship Intercept. 3.8.44).

MARCELLINA 9 men disfigured and murdered.

SCAURI I can only tell you that they put the people in line and urged them to double time and brutally whipped one poor blind woman unable to hurry, who was shot, together with her brother who came to her defence.

VIGNANELLO For one dead German they killed 35 inhabitants, just taking anyone from the streets.

GIOVANNI VAL D'ARNO For the death of one German and wounding another they turned the guns on the town; then they went through the houses and took all the men they found; they took 62 and shot 40. The other 22, after being forced to dig the graves of the 40 were held as hostages, in order to keep the population under control.

OFFAGNA 7 people were killed point blank by the German soldiers; the killed people were all of the same family and among them there was a little girl two years old.
(Civil Censorship intercepts).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XIV. Reception at Trieste.

Propaganda was very efficacious. The most listened to programmes are those from London at 22.30 and 23 on short waves - 31 and 49 metres. Every slav and Italian family listens to these two transmissions. Medium wave transmissions are very disturbed.
(P.W.B. Rome U. M. to end of June).

POLITICS.

XV. Another rift in Fascist Party

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(P.W.B. Rome U. M. to end of June).

POLITICS.

XV. Another rift in Fascist Party

New press polemics have started between two Fascist leaders. The High Commissioner for Racial Questions, GIOVANNI PREZIOSI, attacked FARINACCI, accusing him/Corriere della Sera of being a liar. Farinacci replied with violence in Regime Fascista which provoked a new polemic between the two, who were formerly known for their friendship. PAVOLINI intervened, uring the adversaries to devote their energies to "grave problems" of the present hour.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 8.8.44).

XVI. Pavolini wounded in action against the Partisans.

The Secretary of the Party, Minister PAVOLINI was wounded in a fight against bandits in the mountains of PIEDMONT.

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As commander of the newly founded Blackshirt divisions the Minister and his staff visited the area of operations and participated in an action which was just being carried out. The Minister, who personally led a patrol party, was wounded, together with a few comrades of the 10th Italian MTB Flotilla, among them the Federal Secretary of BRESCIA and the Federal Vice-Secretary of TURIN.

Immobilised by his injury PAVOLINI had to remain lying for four hours under fire, until he could be rescued by a German patrol party. His state of health does not give any cause for anxiety.
(T.P. 12.8.44)

XVII. Political tendencies in Trieste and Valdarno.

The prevailing tendency in the industrial zone of VALDARNO is Communist. The peasants are non-political. The Clergy do much propaganda in the villages.
(P.A., P.V., and S.M. P.W.B. Rome).

TRIESTE is the centre of the LITORALE ADRIATICO and since the 10th September has been entirely under German control. Besides the province of TRIESTE proper there are also included UDINE, GORIZIA, FIUME, POLA. Trieste is the headquarters of the High Commissioner, DOTT. RAINER (no judgment made by the civil tribunals is valid unless countersigned by him). Only the Communist party exists, but the population is united in its hatred of the Germans. There are many slav refugees there and the anti-Fascist and anti-German propaganda is carried on entirely by them, although the people of the city are Italian in outlook.

The Fascist Party has no power and no authority there. On the 20th September the Fascist Party sent there as Prefect the notorious Squadrist SALERNO, but the SS gave him 12 hours to get out of the city on pain of being sent to Germany.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome).

XVIII. Concentration Camp Atrocities.

It is reported that 73 prisoners, all political suspects, were massacred in the concentration camp at FOSSOLI. Among the victims were men from every party, officers, professional men, old and young people, guilty only of being the children of other persons who had been assassinated. The reports have caused the widest consternation in cities in LOMBARDY, especially in MILAN, where the majority of the victims belonged.

XIX. New Appointments.

Lt. Col. NICOLA BRUNI, who fought valiantly on various fronts [illegible] Chief of Police in UDINE.

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XIX. New Appointments.

Lt. Col. NICOLA BRUNI, who fought valiantly on various fronts has been nominated Chief of Police in UDINE.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 28-7.44).

CLAUDIO FOGOLIN has been appointed Prefect of SAN VITO AL TAGLIAMENTO.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 28.7.44).

ECONOMICS.

XX. Food Situation.

COMO A young Italian from COMO reports that ordinary people there are now so tired and starved that they wonder if they can hold out. Everything is still available on the Black market, but at fantastic

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prices. Shops selling textile goods in COMO have been ordered to remain open with full staff, though they are forbidden to sell. (P.I.D. 10.7.44).

In LOMBARDY food prices are rising at an increasing pace, sugar fetching 150 lire per kg and soap 170 lire per kg. (Libera Stampa Lugano 4.8.44).

TRIESTE. For four months the city has been very hungry, particularly because it is so dependent o n the Italian hinterland. What food is to be found is extremely expensive. Fat and meat are practically non-existent. Oil costs 1,200 lire a litre, butter 1000 lire a kilo. The German controlling power, which at first appeared to afford some protection is now completely disinterested. Fish is seized and is sent off every day to Germany or to German messes in Italy. The people of Trieste occasionally - about every fortnight- get some at a ration of about ½ a kilo per family. Trieste is one of the cities of Italy which is suffering most. (U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

VENETO According to a report of mid-July the grain throughout the VENETO was harvested, but still in the fields; the Germans were having the greatest difficulty in getting it threshed. (P.I.D. 7.8.44)

LOMBARDY According to a reliable source seen in late June the Italian local authorities in LOMBARDY have been doing everything possible to hasten the harvesting in order to distribute grain to individuals, and save it from German requisitioning and destruction due to fighting. Some people have gone into the country to hargest on their own; partisans have burnt some crops. (P.I.D. Italian Region 17.8.44).

An urgent appeal to the peasants, published in Repubblica Fascista, indirectly confirmed the unsatisfactory delivery of the present wheat crop. The Fascist newspaper tries to convince the peasants that by their attitude "they weaken the national resistance power at one of its most delicate and important points, thus helping the enemy". Behind the enemy, however, lurks Bolshevism which, if the enemy were victorious, would dispossess the peasants of all their land. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 7.8.44)

In agreement with the local German Command, the MILAN Provincial Farmers' Union will distribute 3,000 pairs of shoes of three types and 4,500 pairs of light walking shoes to farmers who have shown themselves to be the worthiest contributors to the pooling centres. Four thousand supplementary tobacco retions will be distributed per two quintals of the product contributed. Another 6,600 tobacco rations will be distributed to those farmers who have [illegible] of the wheat crop and

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practically non-existent. Oil costs 1,200 lire a litre, butter 1000 lire a kilo. The German controlling power, which at first appeared to afford some protection is now compltely disinterested. Fish is seized and is sent off every day to Germany or to German messes in Italy. The people of Trieste occasionally - about every fortnight- get some at a ration of about ½ a kilo per family. Trieste is one of the cities of Italy which is suffering most.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

VENETO According to a report of mid-July the grain throughout the VENETO was harvested, but still in the fields; the Germans were having the greatest difficulty in getting it threshed.
(P.I.D. 7.8.44)

LOMBARDY According to a reliable source seen in late June the Italian local authorities in LOMBARDY have been doing everything possible to hasten the harvesting in order to distribute grain to individuals, and save it from German requisitioning and destruction due to fighting. Some people have gone into the country to hargest on their own; partisans have burnt some crops.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 17.8.44).

An urgent appeal to the peasants, published in Repubblica Fascista, indirectly confirmed the unsatisfactory delivery of the present wheat crop. The Fascist newspaper tries to convince the peasants that by their attitude "they weaken the national resistance power at one of its most delicate and important points, thus helping the enemy!" Behind the enemy, however, lurks Bolshevism which, if the enemy were victorious, would dispossess the peasants of all their land.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 7.8.44)

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(Sera Milan 2.8.44).

The German Command has offered 2,000 tobacco ration cards which will be given as prizes to farmers delivering the greatest amount of produce to the State depots.
(Provincia di COMO 4.8.44).

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XXI. Fuel and Power.

TURIN Electric power is again rationed in TURIN. In the upper parts of the town power will be supplied from 08.00 until noon, and in the lower parts from 14.00 to 18.00. Owing to lack of coal, gas distribution has ceased entirely.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 29.7.44).

XXII. Transport.

TRIESTE is cut off by partisan action as regards rail communications either with LUBLANA or FIUME of POLA. The line TRIESTE-VENICE is continually attacked from MONFALCONE to the junction of OPCINA.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

According to reliable Milanese sources it was impossible for a private individual to get permission to travel from BOLOGNA to FLORENCE. A manufacturer from PIACENZA had both his automobile and his chauffeur seized by Germans last week while journeying thence to MILAN. Except where prevented from doing so by the Germans, the Fascist authorities have mostly deserted the villages and small towns of Tuscany. The refugees arriving in MILAN, for whom money is being collected, are mostly small Fascist officials of this kind.
(P.I.D. 10.7.44).

The traffic situation in the area of the military command 1019 continues to remain extremely strained. The shortage of petrol and tyres has particularly serious consequences. According to the report of the local command of PESARO the fuel reserves in that province have been completely exhausted, since emergency measures following the continual enemy air attacks speedily used up stocks of petrol. The entire situation is so bad that, failing new distributions, vehicles still on the roads will be laid up at the latest in t two months because their tyres will be compltely useless. Assistance in this matter is urgently required because otherwise owing to the complete failure of railway connections the supply of military centres with war-essential goods and that of the population with the necessities of life will become impossible.....
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 10.8.44).

XXIII. Finance.

Inflation grows daily in Italy. The war contribution imposed by the occupying Power in northern Italy has recently been raised from six to ten milliard lire per month. According to the Gazzette del Popolo, the State's obligations towards the Bank of Italy have probably raised the public debt to some 600 milliards whereas the loss of territory, and consequently of receipts, represent a gap which the Treasury will find hard to fill. Metal coins have disappeared. Hoarding has assumed vast proportions, and prices have risen astronomically.

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(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

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(Journal de Geneve 8.8.44).

The Corriere della Sera Milan 4.8.44 writes "It has been brought to our notice that certain important MILAN banks are provoking serious disturbances in the industrial and financial domain by arbitrarily rejecting all cheques issued in the VENETO and LIGURIA, and particularly at GENOA. It seems to us that this is a deliberate move to disorganise and sabotage in view of the fact that failure to accept the currency chiefly on circulation has, as its logical reaction, the immediate suspension of relations with all the areas affected by this timid ostracism imposed by our banks.

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XXIV. Industry.

The CMASA aircraft factory at MARINA DI PISA, which employed almost 800 workers, ceased work about mid-April. In May the Germans moved all the machinery to BORNAGO, nr NOVARA, with 2-3 engineers (names of two are ODDONE and ANGIUS) and 300-400 specialist workers, who were not heard of again. The remainder of the workers were paid 75% of their wages for 3 months. In June the CMASA. factory had not yet resumed production at BORNAGO. The installations there belong to FIAT, of which CMASA is a subsidiary, and were at the time occupied by the "Aeronautica d'Italia" aircraft factory evacuated from FLORENCE. The FIAT personnel were very successfully "going slow".

The Ammunition factory of FORNACE DI BARGA is now closed. The machinery has been transferred to Germany and the employees engaged by TODT (beginning of June).
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary).

XXV. Air Raid Damage.

MACERATA Following increased enemy air attacks war weariness among the people continually increases. The population is greatly worried, leave their occupations and fly at the first alarm, or retreat to the country with their most essential belongings. The behaviour of by far the greater part of the population during air attacks is bewildered and undisciplined. (P.W.B. German Intelligence 10.8.44).

MILAN The latest air raid on MILAN was most effective. The goods yards at LAMBRATE station were ruined and trains are now forced to halt 20 km away. The INNOCENTI factory at Lambrate also received a direct hit.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 2.8.44).

BRESCIA The bombing of BRESCIA in mid-July involved buildings housing the ministries of Finance and of the Interior and the Headquarters of the National Republican Guard (Palazzo di Broletto), all near the Cathedral. These buildings had been destroyed, while only one bomb hit the Cathedral. The result was to create fairly complete administrative chaos in and around Brescia and to increase popular admiration for the accuracy of the Allied bombing.

It is interesting to compare the account of the BRESCIA raid transmitted by TRANSOCEAN to the Far East on 14.7.44:-

"BRESCIA was attacked twice within the past 24 hours by Anglo-American airmen. Considerable damage was done to residential quarters. Several hospitals were destroyed. The Cathedral, dating back to the seventeenth century, was on fire on Friday morning (14.7.44).

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MILAN Works: It was reported in late July that those MILAN factories [illegible] supplying German war industry were still at work, an overseer at PIRELLI's observed that on 27.7.44 only half an hour's work was done there all day owing to the increased number of alerts. The workmen pilfer badly when the alerts are sounded.
(P.I.D. 7.8.44).

PARMA "Old PARMA was not damaged, but the other part, especially the centre is flat; via Mazzini, the piazza, via Dante, Pilotta, Cavour, Farini and adjacent streets, as far as the entrance to the city, have all been hit.
(Censorship Intercept 21.8.44).

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TRIESTE suffered an air raid towards the end of March. No military objective was hit. All the latter are spread round about the station of Campo Marzio (railway to Pola) as far as the naval wharfs Apart from the "idrascolo" there are no military objectives near the Piazza Unita . This air raid caused about 1200 dead and 1000 wounded. The second raid, which took place at night from 0.30 to 1.30 was very accurate and completely destroyed the great refinery at AQUILA. The losses among the civilian population were very few - 22 dead and 50 wounded. Three other small raids on the docks at MONFALCONE were more in the nature of nuisance raids; a small boat was sunk and a submarine under construction was destroyed. The airoplane factory was badly damaged.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

PIACENZA. The railway bridge in PIACENZA, together with the bridge across the Enza on the Via Emilia, were both destroyed during an allied air raid.
(Gazzetta Ticinese, Lugano 7.8.44).

LABOUR

XXVI. Forced Labour.

By a recent agreement between Hitler and Mussolini all Italians, military or civil, interned in Germany, have been put at Himmler's and Goebels' disposition for forced labour.
(P.W.B. Rome 9.8.44).

MILAN On July 2nd early workmen's trains into Milan from the north west were stopped at NOVATE MILANESE and all males were taken off by the Germans. When this was noised abroad people left the train at SARANNO and disappeared into the fields. Only a few girls finished the journey.
(P.I.D. 7.8.44).

VERCELLI Out of the first half of the July group of 220 men from a harvest centre in VERCELLI en route for a German camp, only 80 have arrived at their destination.
(Popolo e Liberta 7.8.44).

PRESS

XXVII. Clandestine Press.

A source from MILAN expressed a great admiration for the Clandestine Press. He regarded it as the most efficacious propaganda, and told the story that the German officer commanding in MILAN is, to his annoyance, generously supplied by anti-Fascists with their papers.
(P.I.D. 26-6.44).

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(... P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

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(P.I.D. 26.6.44).

PERSONALITIES

XXVIII. Dangerous elements at Trieste.

Prefect COCEANI - ex Fascist consigliere - collaborator
Avv. PAGNINI - Mayor of Trieste
FUMAI - Head of the squadrace - spy - ex-dancer, kept by prostitutes.
Dott. REINER (Austrian) High Commissioner - Nazi.
(P.W.B. Rome U.M. to end of June).

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XXIX. Fascists of Treviso.

Lawyers

CHIRELLI IGNAZIO (Consigliere Nazionale)
BENETTI (ex Federale)
FARAONE LUIGI (ex Segretario Provinciale ex Mayor)
MONICO
NIZZOLI

Engineers

ANTONIUTTI

Doctors

ANTONIUTTI
BOCCAZZI CINO (It appears that he is now with the Information Branch of the Comando Supremo)
CRANIO

Professors

BAZZO
BOCCASSI ISOTTO (Inspector of Schools)(retired)
Signorina PENE (Inspector of provincial schools)

Various Personalities.

Cav. ZOPPELLI (owns an anonimous printing house)
Dott. MASOTTI
Comm. Dott. MARASCIULLO (Vice Questore)
Dott. BERTOLI (Vice President of the Canale della Vittoria)
CAVEDAL (of the Comando G.I.L)
Rag. SEGANTINI
Rag. FURLANETTO
Dott. DEL GRECO (Vice Federale, Console della Milizia)
Rag. SAIBENE (Vice Federale)

Squadrists

FRASCOGNA (Factotum G.I.L.)
BELLIO (Usciere at the Civilian Hospital)
FUGALLI PAOLO (Employee of the Sindaciti)

Young Men belonging to the Squadre Giov. d'Azione.

FANNI (belongs to the Federazione fascista)
ARDITO (Volunteer with the Germans)

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ANTONIUTTI

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FANNI (belongs to the Federazione fascista)
ARDITO (Volunteer with the Germans)
AZZOLA (" " ")
SCHIAVON FERDINANDO (Student)
SCHIAVON EMILIO (Student)
The brothers ANTONIUTTI (Students)
DE VIDE (Student)
NICOLETTI (Student). (P.W.B. Bari 28.7.44).

XXX. Fascists north of the Arno

Piero PIEROTTI of SAN LORENZO A PAGNATICO A well known Fascist Propagandist. At SAN CASCIANO and at SAN GEORGIO himself threw bombs at the local population who were asking for food.

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Vice Brigadiere of the G.N.R. MOSCHINI of SAN FREDIANO A SETTIMO
Constantly arrested patriots. Assisted Germans in manhunts in VOLTERRANO and in LUCCHESIA.

Tanente BENNENI of PISA
Commands an execution squad composed of fascists of the 80th Legion.

The following fascists fled the city of CRESPINA.

RAUDOLF LEOPOLDO Sec. Politico. Fascist Republican Party. Squadrist. Collaborated with German SS.

PETTINELLI ORAZIO, Squadrist. Fascist Republican Party

The following Fascists fled COLLE SALVETTI:

LEPORI UGO Republican Fascist. Squadrist. Marshal in Rep. Guard and in MVSN.SS. collaborator May be in VERSO MANTOVA

VIRGILI, Carlo fu Olinti Aged 42, Fanatical Republican Fascist.

(P.W.B. 5th Army 11.8.44).

XXXI. Officer collaborator at Viterbo.

"I was left with a few men and a 2nd Lt., an ardent squadrist, and I had a machine gun with me. A few days later, 2nd Lt. FIORINI went to VITERBO in order to call the Germans".
(Censorship Intercept 19.7.44).

XXXII. Personalities at Montecatini.

"Concerning the political situation, she says that as from last October, the PRINCE was the Prefect Commissioner and since May 1st Mayor. The Secretary of the New Republican Fascist Government is Avv. MARIANI. At MASSA? where dott. PANENTI was the Commissioner, the position has been taken over by GOSTINO INNOCENTI since October.
(Censorship Intercept 6.7.44).

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The following fascists fled the city of CHIUSI:

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PETTINELLI ORAZIO, Squadrist. Fascist Republican Party

The following Fascists fled COLLE SALVETTI:

LEPORI UGO Republican Fascist. Squadrist. Marshal in Rep. Guard and in MVSN.SS. collaborator May be in VERSO MANTOVA

VIRGILI, Carlo fu Olinti Aged 42, Fanatical Republican Fascist.

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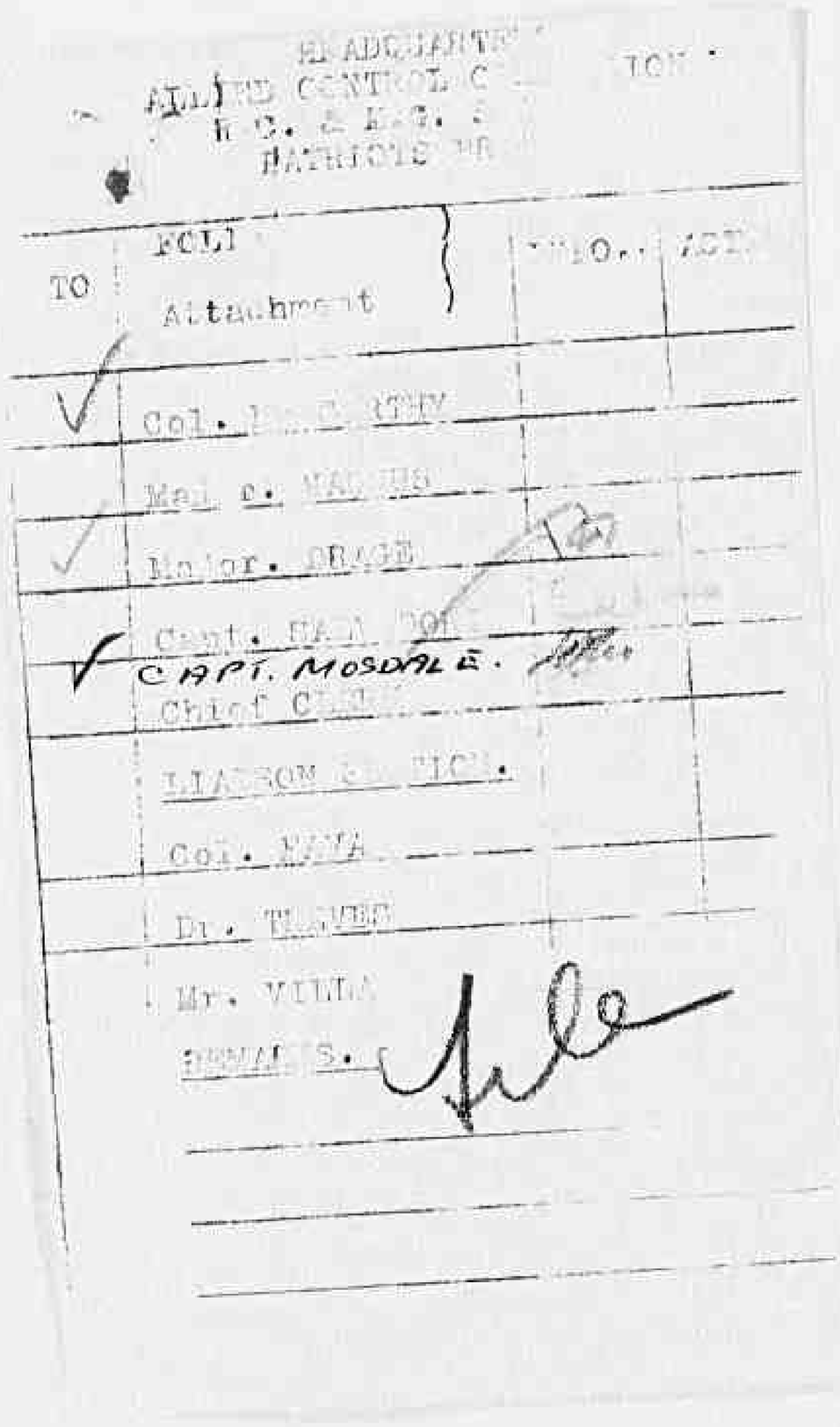

HEADQUARTERS
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	Chief C[illegible]		
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	Col. [illegible]		
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	Mr. VILLA		
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"D" Section Italy (Occ). 9th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 19.

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) or (2)
DECLASSIFIED
BY 165 1974
NARS, Date

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisan Bands On the immediate front of the Allied Armies news of Partisan activity has been rather meagre. There are two reasons for this - (1) The powerful and active bands in the ANCONA-MACERATA-CAGLI-URBINO area have now been absorbed by the Allied advance and (2) The bands in the Florence zone find themselves in the midst of the German army and the population is subjected to the most savage reprisals for any guerilla activity in the neighbourhood.

It is to be expected that a further Allied advance will have the effect of bringing these groups into action against German rear-guards.

In the various Alpine valleys radiating round Turin, bands totalling some 13,000 men were reported up to the end of June, and the following areas were known to be under their control at that date: LANZO, LANGHE, UPPER PINEROLO valley, VAL SESIA and some of the OSSOLO valleys. Of the bands along the Gothic line in the vicinity of Florence, there are a few weak groups still south of the line. A band of 250 is reported in the ALPE DELLA LUNA, and the TANI battalion of the PIO BORRI Brigade in the ALPE DI CATENAIA. In the PRATOMAGNO the "Sandro" Battalion (late Bruno) is much disorganised after it had been disarmed by the Communist "Lanciotto" Brigade. This latter has moved back to N.E. of Florence on MONTE GIOVE.

Another band under a Russian Lt. Colonel has left M. MORELLO and moved east of Florence. They left behind them another band of about 400 Carabinieri.

The only news of bands behind the Gothic line is a report that the 6th Garibaldi Brigade is near VILLAMINOZZO, S.E. of MODENA.

The Black Brigades. Fascist radio has claimed successes for their new Fascist Party patrols in PAVIA, MANTOVA, VERCELLI, NOVARA, VARESE. There can be little doubt that a strong Fascist offensive is on the way and that Patriot forces will be hard put to it for the next few weeks.

FASCIST FORCES

0395
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MARS, Date... (E)

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FASCIST FORCES

Rumours of GRAZIANI's resignation are now denied and Transocean declares he will take command of the new German-trained Italian divisions and probably also of the Black Brigades.

Fascist Divisions. The "Monte Rosa" Alpine Division is reported now in ALESSANDRIA, and believed to be en route for TURIN. The "21st April" Group is also in Turin. It is expected that the new Fascist Divisions will join in the offensive against the partisans.

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SUMMARY 2.

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Morale. Letters written by Fascist soldiers reveal the harassing nature of their service in connection with the guerrillas.

GERMANS

Increased Severity of Reprisals. The highest testimony to the efficacy of the partisans has been the great increase in the severity of the reprisals inflicted. The Germans are said to have announced that they will shoot 100 civilians for every German killed. In some areas their savagery seems to have attained its purpose, as the local population has become quite hostile to the partisans.

Behaviour Even Germans themselves admit they cause senseless and wanton destruction. From every side come reports of cities plundered, villages burnt down, and mass murders of civilians.

Propaganda. This seems to be concentrating entirely on the V.1. flying bomb.

POLITICS

A reliable account of the political tendencies in recently liberated areas comes from LIVORNO. The mass of the population is politically apathetic after 20 years of Fascism. At the present moment many are attracted to Communism. The Christian Social, and Democratic Parties are said not to have much influence, though the Clergy has gained great popularity for its resistance to Fascism and assistance to P.Ws. and Patriots. The prestige of the monarchy is very low.

Transfer of Fascists to Germany It is reported that all Fascist functionaries and their families must transfer themselves to Germany For the moment they are staying in N. Italy, but must be prepared to be evacuated at a moment's notice.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation. From MILAN it is reported that prices in the Black Market have reached new heights and are still rising.

Transport. From VALENZA comes news of the inconvenience and loss of time caused by damage to one of the Po railway bridges.

Fuel and Power. In TURIN further restrictions in the use of electricity are reported.

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efficacy of the partisans has [illegible]
of the reprisals inflicted. The Germans are said to have [illegible]
that they will shoot 100 civilians for every German killed. In some areas their savagery seems to have attained its purpose, as the local population has become quite hostile to the partisans.

Behaviour Even Germans themselves admit they cause senseless and wanton destruction. From every side come reports of cities plundered, villages burnt down, and mass murders of civilians.

Propaganda. This seems to be concentrating entirely on the V.1. flying bomb.

POLITICS

A reliable account of the political tendencies in recently liberated areas comes from LIVORNO. The mass of the population is politically apathetic after 20 years of Fascism. At the present moment many are attracted to Communism. The Christian Social, and Democratic Parties are said not to have much influence, though the Clergy has gained great popularity for its resistance to Fascism and assistance to P.Ws. and Patriots. The prestige of the monarchy is very low.

Transfer of Fascists to Germany It is reported that all Fascist functionaries and their families must transfer themselves to Germany For the moment they are staying in N. Italy, but must be prepared to be evacuated at a moment's notice.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation. From MILAN it is reported that prices in the Black Market have reached new heights and are still rising.

Transport. From VALENZA comes news of the inconvenience and loss of time caused by damage to one of the Po railway bridges.

Fuel and Power. In TURIN further restrictions in the use of electricity are reported.

Exports. New regulations prevent all free exportation. All contracts must be submitted to the central authority set up to control exports. The exportation of a large number of articles has been forbidden unless they cannot find a sale in Italy. Other goods can be manufactured only for exportation.

Air Raid Damage. The MACCHI airoplane factory in VARESE has suspended all work owing to serious damage.

LABOUR

At the end of June a leaflet to encourage workers on strike was circulated jointly by the Socialists and Communists.

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G(R) Section Italy (Occ).

9th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorsnip Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -NO 19

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"D" Section Italy (Occ)

9th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 19.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Up to the 30th June 1944 partisan strength in northern Italy was estimated as follows:-

In the VAL D'OSSOLA and the VAL SESIA	3,000
In the CUNEO Province:	5,000
In the VAL D'AOSTA	1,500
In the VAL DI SUSA:	1,500
In the VAL D'ENSA	900
In the LANZO and CANAVESE valleys:	900

The following areas were known to be under partisan control at that date:

LANZO
LANGHE
The upper PINEROLO valley

VAL SESIA
Some OSSOLA valleys

There are some 20 groups in the region north of latitude 45 30 and between [illegible] the strongest of which controls the region from [illegible]

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Some OSSOLA valleys

There are some 20 groups in the region north of latitude 45 30 and between Lake ORTA and MONT BLANC, the strongest of which controls the region from LAKE ORTA to MONTE ROSA and from BIELLA to COLLEGNO. Only 1,000 men are armed, but given supplies there is a potential membership of over 10,000.

It is everywhere reported that the Partisan members would be greatly increased if more supplies were made available. This is particularly true in the TURIN area, where the enemy is expected to begin mopping-up operations, partly with the purpose of securing the harvest for the Reich.

The Bohemians and Ukrainians who have been incorporated into the Wehrmacht and stationed in PIEDMONT and LIGURIA show a marked desire to work with the patriots (Confidential source).

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On the immediate army front partisans are not at present very active. In the Adriatic sector the powerful bands operating in the MACERATA -ANCONA area have now been overrun. Further west, the CAGLI-URBINO SAN SEPOLCRO area was formerly a centre of partisan activity directed from CAGLI. The main bands were 5 Garibaldi Brigade (theoretically communist) in the Mt. NERONE area and its liberal counterpart 1 PROLETARIAN shock brigade at PIETRALUNGA. Both units are now south of the line. The Proletarians were over-run when we entered PIETRALUNGA in the first half of July. On the following day the Garibaldini received a message to come down from the mountains to help our troops at PIETRALUNGA, who were being counter-attacked. After some discussion and under the impression that they would be allowed to continue fighting with us as ordinary infantry, they tardily obeyed and arrived at PIETRALUNGA to find we had evacuated. They held the village for a time and then retired to the surrounding hills, where they found themselves in no-man's land and had eventually to be disarmed. Partisan elements further north were subsequently contacted, but proved uncooperative, alleging dissatisfaction at the disarming and treatment of 5 Garibaldi Brigade (echoes of this dissatisfaction have even spread as far south as Rome where it has appeared in editorial columns of the Roman press.) There are thus virtually no partisans in an area suited to their activities and very lightly held by the Germans.

In the area from SAN SEPOLCRO to south of FLORENCE partisans have been kept in check by savage German reprisals. The cumulative effect of this systematic destruction, combined with indiscriminate shooting and hanging of civilian hostages or organised massacres such as those perpetrated at S. POLO and CIVITELLA, has been to cause a rift between the civilian population and the partisans which in some areas has approached actual enmity. Such bands as remain south of the Gothic Line are of little account. In the ALPE DELLA LUNA there are reported to be some 250 men and in the ALPE DI CATENAIA elements from the TANI Bn of the PIO BORI Brigade may still remain. The only unit left on the PRATOMAGANO is the "SANDRO" Batn of the same "brigade" which is, however, very disorganised after having been more or less disarmed by the more powerful communist LANCIOTTO Brigade before the latter left for the FLORENCE area. Finally, on either side of the INCISA-FLORENCE road there are rather ineffective partisan elements in the Pt. VOMO DI SASSO and MT. MOGGIO areas.

Further back along the Gothic line and in the hills round FLORENCE partisans have been very active in the past. No recent information has been received of the strong bands which ex[illegible]ted some time ago in the area of Mt. FUMAIOIO and it is possible that they have gone to ground as German forces concentrate on the Gothic line. The same may be true of the Garibaldi Brigade commanded by a certain LIBERO in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO further west.

To the north ~~west~~ east of FLORENCE a strong body of partisans has collected round Mt. GIOVI. They have recently been joined by the LANCIOTTO Bri gade from the PRATOMAGNO, which is now south of BORGO SAN LORENZO. According to one report the band based on MT. MORELLO, north of FLORENCE, which is commanded by a Lt. Col. BOKRUSKI a Russian ex member of the International Brigade in SPAIN, has now moved East of the town to the area north of the FLORENCE-PONTASSIEVE road, where a band of some 250 men was previously reported. It is not known whether they have been followed by their ideologically not very sympathetic neighbours on MONTE MORELLO, a band of some 400 Carabinieri, complete with officers, which was reported on the properties of GEN INFANTE, former M.A. Mondon and Washington, and a prominent personality of

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Little information is available on bands behind the Gothic Line except for a recent report from a reliable source that 6 Garibaldi Brigade is in the area of VILLAMINOZZO, south east of MODENA.

The fate of bands along the Gothic Line depends on the extent to which the Germans continue their policy of reprisals, to which there are indications that they

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have now added the weapon of infiltration of partisan bands by agents (a member of the Brandenburg Regiment has been reported to be engaged on this work) and of disruption by a "Department of Crypto-Propaganda". This institution is said to publish leaflets ostensibly emanating from a partisan band and designed to set the bands against each other by claiming for one band the credit for achievements which belong to another.

An informant was told by a certain Captain T in TURIN that the LANZO VALLEY is largely controlled by a partisan band composed mainly of men from the former Italian 5th Army. They are well organised, and equipped and their relations with the civilian population are good. The commander is said to be Gen. VERCELLING, former GOC of the 4th Army. Activity has taken the form of active resistance to German punitive expeditions, which as a rule are now the only German types to be seen in the area. This active resistance includes instigating strikes in TURIN, purging the local Fascists and occupying such towns as CORIO and BARANGERO.

CUROGNE. At Cuorgne in the Province of AOSTA there is a band of Partisans under the leadership of Capt NinoQUERIO, which is thought to be about 400 strong. It has successfully repulsed Fascist punitive expeditions, as for example on December 8th when 78 Fascists were killed. It is under an unspecified central command, which supplies arms, funds and orders. The informant had heard of other bands at RONCACANAVESE and BARDONECCHIA, the latter being said to number about 1000 ex-soldiers. The civil population and the Carabinieri were very cooperative the latter even giving passes to the partisans to be out after curfew in order to collect rations.

VALSESIA There are very active bands of partisans in the Val SESIA area, led by a certain MOSCATELLI. The strength is between 3000 and 3,500, plus 150 to 200 British and American prisoners of war. The headquarters were formerly at RIMELLA, but are now at RIMASCO. It is stated that at one time these bands took BIELLA, and held it for several days.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary No. 22 to 23th July).

BORGO SAN LORENZO The "Potente", Longiette and "Molle" groups are operating in the area of BORGO SAN LORENZO. They belong to the First Brigade Garibaldi strength is about 1500 men. They are under the control of the Committee of Liberation of Borgo San Lorenzo, which is in liaison with the Committee of FLORENCE. The informants belonged to the "Molle" group, which is smaller than the other, having a strength of about 150 men. It has been recently formed. The groups were very active in the past months. A village (VICCHIO) was occupied in February for one day and during a mopping up of Hermann Goering Division they fought for 36 hours. Another mopping-up was organised by Germans with Italian troops of the "San Marco" and "Muti" Battalions, without any results. The partisans cannot act now because of German reprisals. They are waiting for the Allied attack on Florence in order to harry the Germans from the other side. It is not difficult for the partisans to find supporters because the peasants are friendly to them, but they are in need of weapons, having only five or six Sten, an Italian LMG, some German and Italian rifles and revolvers.
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(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary No 22 to 28th July).

VOGOGNA The Fascist press reports that strong bands of partisans stopped a train on the Milan-Domodossola line near VOGOGNA, and demanded the soldiers guarding the line to surrender. A short clash occurred, during which the partisans fled leaving two dead. The Fascists lost two wounded.

TURIN Turin newspapers publish the following communique issued by the German Command "On Friday morning in Turin, an outlaw attacked a German officer with a

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knuckleduster and wounded him in the face. Onlookers did not stir and did not try to prevent the attack, either through fear of, orsympathy for, the partisans. The population is urgently requested to participate to the utmost in the destruction of, and the hunt for, partisans, in order to avoid severe reprisals. Owing to the attitude of the population, the curfew is fixed at 20.30 hrs, from today (24.7.44) (Neue Zurcher Zeitung.)

Mopping-up Operations. - Use of Black Brigades.

Three bandits were killed during mopping-up operations carried out by an Action Squad of the Blackshirt "Augusto Cristina" Brigade in Verbania. A fourth bandit, captured wearing the uniform of a Lt. Colonel of the Republican Air Force, is now in prison in NOVARA.
(Stampa Turin 17.7.44).

PADUA As a consequence of the activity of partisan groups, who commit all sorts of crimes against peaceful citizens, peasants and workers, the Command of the 18th Black Brigade has begun large-scale operations against these bandits, which will continue until the total mopping up of the bandits and the re-establishment of public order.

The first results of these operations are the following: In the SANTOCAMPARIO sector, the rebels have been attacked and dispersed. Their meeting places have been destroyed. In CONSELVO, groups of rebels have been captured. Arms, ammunition, food and enemy explosives have been seized.

In the MONTENA sector, Fascist groups, in co-operation with the National Republican Guard and a German unit, have attacked an important partisan unit, strongly armed. The fighting which took place in the area occupied by the rebels lasted many hours, and ended with the total destruction of the band. Ten rebels have been killed. The others dispersed, escaped towards the Cremona and Rovigo Provinces.

PAVIA In ORTI, thirty-six volunteers of the 14th Black Brigade, under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel BIANCHI, have carried out mopping-up operations against rebel groups. This operation, carried out in collaboration with the Germans, has brought about excellent results. Ten militiamen of the N.R.G. were killed; six others were seriously wounded. It is estimated that the rebels sustained much heavier losses. Colonel OLIVER(?) Commander of Pavia expressed his satisfaction at the results achieved.
(P.W.B. Monitoring - Axis Radio 6.8.44).

MANTUA and VERCELLI The Fascist press reports that Fascist Guard patrols supported by Italian S.S. German troops terminated mopping up operations in the MANTUA and VERCELLI regions and are estimated to have killed 110, and arrested some 200 partisans. The latter will be tried by the Tribunal. Italo-German

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(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 27.7.44).

VAL SESIA New prisoners are now being executed by the thousand. Mopping-up operations have been carried out in the Val Sesia, where an independent Republic had been proclaimed, and in many other vallys of PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY. In the Province of NOVARA, after only one expedition 350 prisoners were executed. After the recovery of VARESE, which had been occupied by partisans, 210 prisoners were shot. Expeditions are now being undertaken in the APENNINES, south of PARMA and PIACENZA. At BETTOLA, whence certain Ligurian harbours can be reached such as RAPALLO and CESTRI, the partisans are reported to have lost an important battle, and 60 of their men were executed. Repression is becoming collective. At

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BUGLIO, in the VALTELLINA, 500 men attacked the partisans by surprise. The inhabitants of the village fled with the patriots, and they had good reason. The Fascists set fire to the village of 1,400 inhabitants, completely destroying it. The same measures have been taken in Tuscany.
(News Digest 24.7.44).

Hanging of Hostages.

The hanging of hostages instead of shooting has created an unfavourable impression on Italians, as it recalls the martyrdom suffered by numerous Italian patriots during the Austrian domination. In TURIN, on July 23rd, two further hostages were hanged following sabotage, the nature of which was not specified, at the railway station.
(Gazette de Lausanne 27.7.44).

Rumours of Trouble in MILAN.

Reinforcements of the GNR have arrived in MILAN, consisting of picked troops parachutists, and motorised battalions. These troops are intended for use against the threat of a general revolt, which is increasing in the city.

II. Sabotage.

Towards the end of June a large patrol of patriots entered the experimental section of the ALFA-ROMEO works, which had been evacuated to ARMENO on LAKE ORTA, and was working to full capacity for the Germans and destroyed delicate machinery which will not be easily replaceable.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 20.7.44).

III. Assassinations.

BRESCIA On the 5th July at about 5 oclock, while he was travelling towards BORGO SAN GIACOMO, the Republican Fascist Lt. LIBERO AICARDI, was captured by an armed band. As Aicardi stated that he had always worn the Fascist badge, he was compelled to get into the bandits' car, and was taken to COLLE SAN BERNARDO.
(P.W.B. Monitoring Axis Radio 6.8.44).

BIELLA On July 7th the Mayor GIUSEPPE BERTOTTO and the Secretary of the Commune GIROLAMO BENEDETTI, who was also the veterinary surgeon of Vegliomosso were kidnapped from outside their homes, and were recently found shot dead, their corpses showing signs of ill-treatment prior to death.
(Regime Fascista 7.7.44).

GENOA The 80 year old Fascist CARLO [illegible] was killed in his villa near RECCO on July 7th. (Corriere della Sera Milan 8.7.44).

MILAN At Castel Nuovo, Milan the Fascist Secretary was shot by an unknown person. (Corriere della Sera Milan 24.7.44).

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The hanging of hostages instead of shooting has created an unfavourable impression on Italians, as it recalls the martyrdom suffered by numerous Italian patriots during the Austrian domination. In TURIN, on July 23rd, two further hostages were hanged following sabotage, the nature of which was not specified, at the railway station.
(Gazette de Lausanne 27.7.44).

Rumours of Trouble in MILAN.

Reinforcements of the GNR have arrived in MILAN, consisting of picked troops parachutists, and motorised battalions. These troops are intended for use against the threat of a general revolt, which is increasing in the city.

II. Sabotage.

Towards the end of June a large patrol of patriots entered the experimental section of the ALFA-ROMEO works, which had been evacuated to ARMENO on LAKE ORTA, and was working to full capacity for the Germans and destroyed delicate machinery which will not be easily replaceable.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 20.7.44).

III. Assassinations.

BRESCIA On the 5th July at about 5 oclock, while he was travelling towards BORGO SAN GIACOMO, the Republican Fascist Lt. LIBERO AICARDI, was captured by an armed band. As Aicardi stated that he had always worn the Fascist badge, he was compelled to get into the bandits car, and was taken to COLLE SAN BERNARDO.
(P.W.B. Monitoring Axis Radio 6.8.44).

BIELLA On July 7th the Mayor GIUSEPPE BERTOTTO and the Secretary of the Commune GIROLAMO BENEDETTI, who was also the veterinary surgeon of Vegliomosso were kidnapped from outside their homes, and were recently found shot dead, their corpses showing signs of ill-treatment prior to death.
(Regime Fascista 7.7.44).

GENOA The 80 year old Fascist CARLO [illegible] was killed in his villa near RECCO on July 7th. (Corriere della Sera Milan 8.7.44).

MILAN At Castel Nuovo, Milan the Fascist Secretary was shot by an unknown person. (Journal de Genève Suisse 24.7.44).

LECCE Two partisans assassinated a German customs officer on July 2nd at GAGIO, near LECCE. The murderers fled with their families. Although the inhabitants knew what had occurred nobody denounced the perpetrators. As soon as the Germans learnt their names, however, they fired the houses and compelled all the inhabitants to do forced labour for not denouncing the murderers.
(Provincia di Como.)

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FASCIST FORCES

IV. Reorganisation of the Army - Italian troops on front.

An announcement that new Italian formations are being employed at the front is expected daily. Current Italo-German discussions are believed to be dealing with this matter, and the Fascist press in general is preparing its readers for the future tasks of the Italian troops. A report from Mussolini's H.Q. published in the evening edition of the Corriere della Sera, states that an extensive regrouping of Italian troops is now taking place as the prelude to large-scale employment of the newly formed Italian units. The report adds that all Italian volunteer formations which have been employed at the front in Italy have been withdrawn, to return to the fighting line later regrouped with the new units. It is also stated that Italian troops will be employed at the front as well as in fighting against partisans. Italian troops have been formed partly as battalions and partly as divisions. Volunteers who reported for front line service in Italy after the armistice have been formed into battalions, while troops trained in Germany have been formed into divisions.

Italian airmen have not been withdrawn from the front. In July they repeatedly scored successes as fighters and torpedo-pilots against superior U.S. bomber formations and strongly protected convoys

Italian troops outside Italy continue to be employed in different tasks. In Germany and France, special Italian smokescreen commandos are operating. In Budapest, Italians are employed in air defence and in Montenegro, Greece and on the Aegean Islands, German and Italian units are closely cooperating.
(Transocean 20.7.44).

Seidlitz reports from Venice "The mobilisation of the Fascist Party runs parallel to the employment of the Italian divisions trained in Germany. The far-reaching internal political measures to be expected after the Duce's trip to Germany are thereby not exhausted. These internal problems have been in the foreground of the Italian press since the Duec's return from his talk with Adolf Hitler.

The total mobilisation of the Fascist Party, whose male members between 18 and 60 will be incorporated in Black shirt Brigades, will result, the authorities hope, in purging of the hinterland of bandits who of late have become more active. The Blackshirt brigades will in practice be police in the rear of the Italian divisions fighting at the front.
(Transocean 28.7.44).

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(Transocean 28.7.44).

V. Graziani to command Black Brigades.

According to news from a wireless source , General GRAZIANI has assumed the command of the Army, composed of German and Republican forces and working under the dependency of Field Marshal Kesselring. This measure on the part of the German Command can be interpreted as a consequence of the return into Italy of the Republican forces trained in Germany.
(Italian official source).

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Foreign reports alleging that Marshall Rodolfo GRAZIANI has resigned are refuted by competent Italian quarters - reports Seidlitz from Venice - In fact, the Marshal is now more than ever the centre of Italian military reconstruction. His functions are not merely those of a Minister of War. For some time it has been an open secret that Graziani would assume command of the newly-trained Italian divisions. Now Regime Fascista announces the fact. It writes: " Graziani will assume command of all the Armed Forces. He will also lead the fighting against the rebels." This formula indicates that the new "Black Brigades" are also under Graziani's command. (Transocean 29.7.44).

VI. The 1st Battalion "Raggruppamento 21 Aprile".

This unit was formed from Fascist volunteers during the latter part of December. Under the personal direction of Gen. GAMBERA the unit was organised in TRIESTE and in January moved in the vicinity of TORINO where it has since been employed in police duties and combat against the partisans. The RAGGRUPPAMENTO 21 APRILE are 2 battalions fully equipped and trained for combat duty and may possibly be employed along the defenses of the GOTHIC line. Desertions have been very few since the personnel are volunteers who still firmly believe in defending Italy against the "Allied agressor".

The Reggruppamento consists of two infantry battalions with approximately 450 men in each. The battalion has 4 companies plus a headquarters detachment. The 4th company is designated as the heavy company.

Weapons	1st. Co.	12 LMGs, model BREDA .30. Rifles Model .91
	2nd Co.	(same as 1st co)
	3rd Co.	9 mortars, 45mm and rifles model .91
	4th co.	6 HMGs, model .37 plus 2 AT guns model 47/32

Personalities. C.O. RAGGRUPPAMENTO 21 APRILE - Gen GAMBERA
1st Bn. 1st Co. C.O. Capt SPERANDIA
" " 1st Lt. FERRARI
1st Lt. CHILASTRI.

(G.2. 10.7.44).

VII. The Monte Rosa Division

The Italian division "Monte Rosa" has been transferred from Germany to the north of Italy. It is at the moment at ALESSANDRIA and destined for TURIN. The enemy, in its despair, hopes to use this division against the patriots in the north of Italy, where the

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The Nazis think that the morale of this division is rather good, as the soldiers and the officers have been kept in complete ignorance of the present situation in Italy. The division knows almost nothing of what has happened in June and July. They think blindly that the line of resistance is still across the middle of Italy. They do not even know of the defeat and retreat of the Kesselring army, the liberation of all central Italy, of Rome, Perugia, Arezzo, Siena, Livorno Ancona etc. They do not know that the capital of Tuscany is about to be snatched from the nazi-fascist oppression.

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How could they know these things? The "MONTE ROSA" division has been until now in Germany, obliged to remain there, not as an allied troop, but as a blind instrument, destined to be used only when needed for the exigencies of war by the Germans. The enemy thinks in this way to deceive the soldiers and officers of the "Monte Rosa" division, pushing them into a fratricide war against their own compatriots.
(P.W.B. Rome).

VIII. Fear of Partisans.

An Italian soldier writes in June "I do not feel quite well - on account of the rebels' increasing activity. Believe me, this province is pretty infected (Grosseto). You know I am a "squadrista", "marcia su Roma", and these merits of mine mean crimes to them, and might lead me to the end you imagine. May God help us! If there should be any place for me in TURIN, try to let me know. I am ready to leave even my family."

Another writes "I am on guard this evening and foresee a bad night; we must be on the alert, because the rebels are near us and we may expect an attack any minute".
(Censorship extracts. 24.7.44 and 19.7.44).

IX. Mopping up by the "Legione Guerrigliatori".

An Italian soldier writes saying he belongs to the "Legione Guerrigliatori" at RASSINA and takes part in operations for the capture of patriots hiding in the mountains. "We are always taking trips into the mountains, hunting for deserters, often walking entire nights and days and only after a week or two, we return to the barracks and can rest. Now I am resting as I have just returned from one of these pleasure-trips".
(Censorship intercept" 18.7.44).

X. Italian soldiers sent to Germany in German uniforms.

"We have for five days today "writes one soldier " had the honour of wearing the uniform of our German camerades who are treating us not only like friends, but like brothers. We shall leave within a few days for a training period in GERMANY by the side of our German comrades".
(Censorship intercept 31.7.44).

XI. Temporary officer's complaints.

"The official order about temporary officers arrived this morning. We are going to be sent away because other officers, those who (in the Government's opinion) have done much more than we did, will take our

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(Censorsnip intercept 28.7.44).

XII. Fascist Forces side with partisans.

Occasionally events occur which show that even the small Fascist forces which still serve the occupying power are no longer reliable. Many fascists, dreading the future, betray their friends of yesterday

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and help the partisans. At BOBBIO, for instance, not far from BOLOGNA, the Luftwaffe had an important aircraft observation post. Thanks to help from some Fascists, the partisans were ablt to take the post by surprise, capturing 76 rifles, 370 hand grenades, 15,000 cartridges and the barrack funds amounting to 13,000 lire (News Digest 24.7.44).

GERMANS

XIII. Dispositions - rumours.

There are rumoured to be three fresh divisions arriving to hold the line of the river FOGLIA at PESARO.
(8th Army Special Intelligence Summary -early June).

XIV. Increased severity of reprisals.

Perhaps the most important development in the past few weeks has been the increased severity of German reprisals, of which the massacre at CIVITELLA, is only an example. British sources confirm that for any German killed the Germans are threatening to shoot up to 100 civilians, and are carrying their threats at least partly into effect. There is no doubt that this indiscriminate butchery has been to a large extent effective in the area north of AREZZO, and after exceptionally savage incidents, as at SUBBIANO, it is reported to have resulted in open hostility on the part of the peasants towards the partisans, as a result of whose activity they have seen their homes burnt and their relations shot.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary).

On 22nd July the Italian Home Service stated that Field Marshall Kesselring had just issued the following orders to his troops:-

1. To take action in the most energetic manner against armed rebel bands, saboteurs and criminals whose activities in any way affect the conduct of the war and disturb public order.

2. To establish a percentage of hostages in localities where the existence of armed bands can be proved, and to shoot these hostages every time there is an act of sabotage, in the said localities.

3. To carry out acts of retaliation, even to the point of burning down civilian houses, in those areas where attacks have been made against German military detachments.

4. To hang in public squares all persons guilty of homicide and

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3. To carry out acts of retaliation, even to the point of burning down civilian houses, in those areas where attacks have been made against German military detachments.

4. To hang in public squares all persons guilty of homicide and all leaders of armed bands.

5. To hold responsible the inhabitants of those places where telephone or telegraph communications have been broken, or where there have been acts of sabotage aimed at interrupting road traffic by spreading glass splinters, nails etc, damaging bridges or in any way obstructing roads.

This is brought to the notice of all citizens, who must contribute so that criminal acts against the nation can no longer be committed by elements in enemy pay.
(News Digest 24.7.44).

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XV. Appeal for"Security Companies.".

The German Military Command in BERGAMO published in the press an appeal addressed to the male population exhorting them to join "Security Companies" now being formed. The appeal states that the enemy stands before the door, and the fatherland is threatened. Inside the country paid agitators and rebels in mountain districts are active. Everything looks as though the fatherland will fall into a whirlpool of inescribable misfortune. On the southern front the brunt of the battle is born by German troops; it would be unfair to burden them also with the task of looking after internal security. The invitation to join the Security Companies applies especially to the 1918 and 1921 classes. Every Italian, regardless of his Party, may join the Companies. He will only be used in Italy for internal security services and will receive the same treatment as German soldiers. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 27.7.44).

XVI. Morale.

Extracts from a captured German diary show the low state of morale which ignorance of the general situation gives rise to in the German soldier. Excerpts in early June indicate their surprise when ordered to retreat.

4 June. From retreating troops we heard that ROME had been evacuated, the Tommies are only two km away from it. So we're too late.

5. June. The inhabitants of Rome greeted the Tommies with flowers and shot at us. One infantry battalion deserted! One can hardly believe it. Fighter-bombers, fighter bombers and more fighter bombers!

6. June. Retreating columns only can be seen. The invasion has apparently begun. Landings in CALAIS, LE HAVRE and on the German border. Now we know why we're so weak here. The main issue is in the West...

29 June. At 1800 I destroy my rifle and -- with explosive and am caught at it by the Tommies. No opportunity to get away. Italians try to do away with me, but the Tommies stop them. The Tommies make a very good impression. Decent, clean and correct. (P.W.B. German Intelligence 1 8.44).

The food situation of the troops appears in most cases to be poor. One excerpt from a diary states:

"The food is still as bad as one can imagine (June 10). The sergeant major and the other NCOs constantly eat meat, they have cakes baked for them and enjoy all sorts of special issues, whilst the private soldier must make do with the fare put before him.

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"The food is still as bad as one can imagine (June 10). The sergeant major and the other NCOs constantly eat meat, they have cakes baked for them and enjoy all sorts of special issues, whilst the private soldier must make do with the fare put before him. Many of them simply go and plunder and you can see lots of them spending the whole day over the cooking range.".

Again "The food is worse than when we had rations Class II. Corruption is flourishing in every nook and cranny. Even out of the little bit which reaches the company the sergeants and so on get their extra chow besides the normal fare. And it is all the same all

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the way along the route which our rations take from regiment to battalion, supply service, company. Everywhere there are so many who take their little bit. When the food finally arrives here, its half spoiled if it has spent several days in the Quartermaster's store as for example, the bread or the margarine, from which half the company was recently ill...

..." then the first reconnaissance car of South Africans came clattering along the road and I packed my kit on it. They immediately offered me something to eat, cheese and white bread spread thickly with butter the like of which I have seldom enjoyed during the war. One of them gave me his last bar of chocolate. I was particularly glad to be able once more to taste some real tea. By way of comparison I was able to offer the Tommies some of our German army coffee.

Their entire equipment and supplies etc. exceeded my expectations If you make comparisons with our situation, the result is devastating for us. My only wish is that all our dour fanatics might "come over" just for a day".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence).

The following information is derived from the owner of a villa west of PERUGIA where General EIDRICHT had his HQ from the 9th to the 20th June.

"The behaviour of the officers towards the owner was perfect until their departure, when a motor car and a water colour were stolen. In general the officers were very distressed by the odds against which they were fighting. "one tank against a hundred". They said that the services had broken down so far that the division had been ordered to live on what they could find on the country side. The only enthusiasm was raised by the news of the flying bombs, and the informant was proudly shown the special bulletin announcing their employment. The officers believed that another secret weapon had been used on the Russian front.".
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 23.6.44).

XVII. Relations with Italians.

LIVORNO. "For about an hour we wandered round among ruins rather than inhabited houses, and always with our heavy rucksacks on our backs. We vainly attempted several times to ask for the Army hostel, but the Italians are in the mass a distrustful, cowardly people. As soon as we knocked on the door and announced ourselves as German soldiers, doors were simply not opened on principle, and after a time we would hear the opening of a window on the first floor, only to be told that we must go further in the opposite direction. In the end we gave it up in a fury."
(German Intelligence Report 29.7.44 P.W.B.).

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(German Intelligence Report 29.7.44 P.W.B.).

XVIII. Behaviour.

Extracts from another German diary run as follows:-

"As everywhere else, our soldiers here have behaved like savages. Many rooms are in disorder; antlers have been knocked off and boar's heads lie between books torn and trampled to bits.

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All around lie utensils kicked to pieces and articles of clothing torn out of cupboards --- and to think that I have to fight alongside such people!"
(P.W.B. German Intelligence)

June 26th.- originally our regimental staff ran amok here - you cannot really call it anything else; everywhere you go you get the same picture of melancholy desolation; even here our soldiers have not restrained their lust for destruction and loot. I prefer not to go into the matter too closely, for it grieves one to see the wanton destruction here....
(P,W.B. German Intelligence).

XIX. Atrocities.

LA CHIASSA 18th July. The wnole village of La Chiasse was burnt by the Germans.

BIBBIENA The Germans burnt the following villeges in the area of Bibbiena as reprisals for partisan attacks - TALLA, SALUTIC, ORTIGNANO, RAGGIOLO, VILLA, CHIUSI DELLA VERNA, PONTENANO, DAGNENA. The last named village was completely destroyed. (8th Army).

SIENA was plundered throughout by the Germans. (Censorship Intercept)

VICOVARO The German brigands before they left plundered and sacked all the houses in the village including my own, and killed 28 people, women, children and old people in the most atrocious way".
(Censorship Intercept 27.7.44).

PALOMBARA SABINA "Those brutal cowards who fled away, achieved real slaughter; they killed 35 persons, the best ones in the village.
(Censorship Intercept 26.7.44).

MONTEPULCIANO(SIENA) "Vile, murderous Germans, who, losing the war, vented their rage; like the criminals and barbarians they are and always have been. They tore out the eyes and tongue of a poor woman, leaving her like that. They cut off the breasts of another. Horrors, unbelievable horrors.".
(Censorship Intercept)

PERTICANO Plundering and burning.

CONTIGLIANO On the 12th June when the German columns had all passed, sections of sappers destroyed everything, burning some of their own wooden houses, which in turn set fire to the houses of civil-

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same picture of melancholy desolation; even here our soldiers have not restrained their lust for destruction and loot. I prefer not to go into the matter too closely, for it grieves one to see the wanton destruction here....
(P,W.B. German Intelligence).

XIX. Atrocities.

LA CHIASSA 18th July. The whole village of La Chiasse was burnt by the Germans.

BIBBIENA The Germans burnt the following villages in the area of Bibbiena as reprisals for partisan attacks - TALLA, SALUTIC, ORTIGNANO, RAGGIOLO, VILLA, CHIUSI DELLA VERNA, PONTENANO, DAGNENA. The last named village was completely destroyed. (8th Army).

SIENA was plundered throughout by the Germans. (Censorship Intercept)

VICOVARO The German brigands before they left plundered and sacked all the houses in the village including my own, and killed 28 people, women, children and old people in the most atrocious way".
(Censorship Intercept 27.7.44).

PALOMBARA SABINA "Those brutal cowards who fled away, achieved real slaughter; they killed 35 persons, the best ones in the village.
(Censorship Intercept 26.7.44).

MONTEPULCIANO(SIENA) "Vile, murderous Germans, who, losing the war, vented their rage; like the criminals and barberians they are and always have been. They tore out the eyes and tongue of a poor woman, leaving her like that. They cut off the breasts of another. Horrors, unbelievable horrors.".
(Censorship Intercept)

PERTICANO Plundering and burning.

CONTIGLIANO On the 12th June when the German columns had all passed, sections of sappers destroyed everything, burning some of their own wooden houses, which in turn set fire to the houses of civilians. They set fire to a hamlet and then threw into it four men injured by them.".
(Censorship Intercept).

XX. German Propaganda.

Leaflets written in English and issued by the German Military Command Office, were captured at AREZZO on the 17th July. The following is a typical example:-

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HOW THE ALLIES ARE GOING TO WIN THE WAR

What good are all your planes, warships and taks against that new German weapon.

V. NUMBER I.

Are you still convinced that you are winning?

Your armchair strategists have always claimed that the new dreadful weapon is an invention of German "propaganda". But out of a clear sky it struck.

Since June 16th, London and southern England are being continuously blasted day and night by those mysterious flying meteors.

The entire British press was immediately muzzled by rigid censorship. What a nice job your politicians do have now in hiding the truth about the disastrous effect of

V. NUMBER I.

But YOU will learn the truth just the same. You will also find out that Germany has just begun to play one of her trump cards.

HOW ABOUT V NUMBER 2 TO V NUMBER X?

POLITICS

XXI. Politics in recently liberated areas.

The President of the Committee of Liberation in LIVORNO recently expressed what appeared to be an unbiased view of the political and economic state of the city. This description might readily be applied to a number of the recently liberated areas. The mass of the people, he stated, after 20 years of Fascist domination, were politically apathetic. Many at the moment were attracted by communism. This tendency, he felt, needed to be counterbalanced by the propagation of an intelligent form of socialism, not that he was a socialist, but that/a swing to the left is inevitable, it is important that it should take a rational form. The present Communist Sindaco was a capable and sincere man, and it was therefore to be hoped that an accomodation between the parties of the left will take place. The Christian parties (Christian Socialists and Christian Democrats) do not have much influence, though the clergy, by and large, are extremely popular on account of all they have done in recent months for the population. The prestige of the monarchy was at a low ebb, mainly on account of the "sterility" of the House of Savoy.

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XXII. New Species of Deportation.

The Germans have begun a new kind of deportation to Germany. This time is is not a question of Italian workers or soldiers changed into reluctant slaves of the Nazi war, but of Fascist Gerarchs and functionaries. In fact, by orders given from the German High Command in Italy, all fascist functionaries must transfer themselves quickly from north Italy to Germany. Not only themselves, but also the families of these functionaries must go. These families have had order to stay temporarily near the Italian German frontier in order

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that they can be evacuated into Germany at a moment's notice. Many families of the members of the pseudo Republican government are already in Germany and have been there a month. First of all those of PAVOLINI, GRAZIANI, BUFFARINI and MEZZASOMA, who were evidently very preoccupied in chosing a settlement worthy of the personality and renown of the respective heads of the families.
(P.W.B. Rome 2.8.44).

XXIII. Pavolini in Milan.

The Secretary of the Party presided over a meeting of the commanders of some of the "Black Brigades" from LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT, held at the Casa del Fascio, MILAN. He received many Fascists from invaded Italy and from Milan. He also visited the HQ of the Muti Legion.
(Italian Home Service 21.7.44).

XXIV. Refutation of Reports about Mussolini.

Seidlitz reporting from Venice refutes foreign reports that Mussolini has remained in Germany, declaring that a week ago he returned to the seat of the Italian Government in northern Italy.
(Transocean 29.7.44).

XXV. Fascist Treatment of Political Prisoners and Convicts.

The cruel treatment of political internees in Fascist prisons can be explained by the fact that the secret police uses prisoners for obtaining denunciations and tries thereby to discover the various "Committees of National Liberation" whose activity remains powerful and which remain elusive. This last fact goes to the credit and honour of those Italians who, despite tortures, have betrayed nothing. As far as is known only two committees have been caught, one in MODENA and another in TURIN, which latter case led to the trial of General PEROTTI and his collaborators, which began in April.

The Fascists committed the imprudence of liberating all the ordinary criminals and recruiting them en masse for the police force and the Republican Guard, and as youths, aged between 15 and 18, are now interspersed among them. This creates a most unfortunate situation, and the Fascist newspapers are full of the exploits of bogus policemen who shamelessly rob civilians. In reality they are real policemen who often cannot be caught, but who are naturally severely punished when arrested. This is one of the most terrible evils of this regime, reborn by the will of the occupying power, who all too often is obliged to seek its most faithful servants in the underworld.
(Feuille d'Avis Neuchatel 19,7,44).

XXVI. Orders concerning material dropped by enemy aircraft.

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(Feuille d'Avis Neuchatel 29,7,44).

XXVI. Orders concerning material dropped by enemy aircraft.

"The Head of the Province of COMO, in view of the fact that ... [illegible] materials might be dropped by parachute from enemy aircraft, and as it is considered necessary on the ground of requirements of a military nature, and for reasons of public security in such an eventuality, to prevent such materials from being handled by civilians - orders that it is absolutely forbidden to all citizens not only to remove but also to touch materials of any kind whatsoever, dropped by, or falling from enemy aircraft. Anyone who finds them

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must at once notify the nearest Italian or German military command or police post. Persons who infringe this order, provided their offence does not constitute a more serious crime, are punishable by detention up to three months and a fine up to 2,000 lire. Those who furnish indications leading to the recovery of the above-mentioned materials will receive as a reward a sum of money proportionate to the importance of the materials in question".
(Provincia di Como 18.7.44).

XXVII. Fascist Propaganda.

Repubblica Fascista, Milan 12.7.44 contains a loose pamphlet showing a poster nailed to the wall on which is written "Who sells himself to the enemy? The Saboteur. Who deprives his own comrades of work? The Saboteur. Who casts innocent families into misery? The Saboteur. Who makes the peaceful population pay for the consequences of his own crimes? The Saboteur.".

In Milan Fascists spread propaganda leaflets on July 25th representing the symbolic figure of Italy resting her hands on Mussolini's Fasci as if to protect the. Over the picture is written in red: "July 25th", and underneath "Fatherland's dishonour". The leaflets also contain cartoons showing Victor Emmanuel and Badoglio vainly trying to demolish Lictors and Fasci. The Fascist press devotes enthusiastic articles to these leaflets, emphasising the symbolic significance of this "work of art and policy".
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 26.7.44).

ECONOMICS

XXVIII. Food Situation.

The following were the prices of foodstuffs etc. in GENOA at the end of June:-

Olive oil	Lire 1000 per litre
Flour	Lire 50 per kilo
Beans	" 30 " "
Cigarettes ("Af' ca")	lire 80 per pkt of 20.
Wine	Lire 80 per litre.

No Curtailment of Grain Quota for Pools. The Prefecture announces "Certain farmers have been faced with various difficulties (theft etc) in connection with the handing over of the prescribed amount of grain to the pools. No curtailment of this amount can be conceded. Any producers guilty of irregularities or abuses will receive the appropriate exemplary punishment. The grain belongs not only to the producers, but also to the whole body of non-producers, composed almost entirely of the workers and their families".
(Corriere della Sera Milan 17.7.44).

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(Corriere della Sera Milan 17.7.44).

Black Market Prices In Milan. The prices in the black market in MILAN Have reached new heights and are continually rising. Meat costs 250 lire per kg, butter 450 lire per kg, cooking salt 100 lire per kg, eggs 120 lire per dozen and oil is unobtainable. Owing to the increasingly precarious transport problem stocks of fruit and vegetables in LIGURIA went bad.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 217.44).

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Twenty nine bakeries have been closed in MILAN for selling white bread. As the report does not say that they will be replaced by other bakeries, their clients will be doubtless obliged to resort to communal kitchens.
(Gazette de Lausanne 27.7.44).

XXIX. Transport.

Railways. The railway bridge on the PO at VALENZA (MORTARA-ALESSANDRIA line) has been struck by two bombs. The railway traffic continues normally; the lines have been moved where the bridge is damaged, to the highway bridge which is coupled to the railway bridge and was also hit) allowing in this way, with manoeuvres, the transit of half a train at a time. In the province of PAVIA the Germans have requisitioned about 300 head of cattle, which they have taken to VALENZA, probably to use them for the carts used to clear away the rubbish and for the transport of repairing material.

In the bombardment of 23rd June on the railway viaduct of VILLAFRANCA D'ASTI (18 km west of ASTI) two arches were destroyed and the road underneath was interrupted for some time by the heaped up ruins. The railway was also damaged near the viaduct of Villa Nova d'Asti (north west of Villafranca d'Asti).

Restrictions on bicycles in TURIN The Prefecture announces "In view of the repeated criminal attempts on the part of bicyclists, from today (July 22nd) until further notice, all bicycle traffic is suspended within the toll gates of the city of Turin, even for persons previously in possession of permits. Exceptions will be made only for members of the Armed forces and the police, when in uniform. Trade cycles will be allowed, with the exception of bicycles with trailers. Infringements of this regulation will be punished by the usual penalties, and in addition, the immediate confiscation of the bicycle".
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 22.7.44).

Registration of car parts in Adriatic zone. To insure the transport necessary for warfare and for supplying the population with essential goods, the High Commissioner of the Adriatic Coastal zone has issued the following decree regarding the registration of motor cars: "All motor cars and trailers, spare parts, tubes and tyres available in the Adriatic Coastal Zone on June 1st, 1944, or owned by people residing within that zone on that date, must be reported to the Prefect by the owners or holders by July 25th at the latest. The sale, utilisation, or other means of disposalof the aforesaid articles will in future only be allowed with the permission of the Prefect, and illegal transactions are declared void. Articles not reported, or illegally disposed of, will be confiscated.

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(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 12.7.44).

XXX. Fuel and Power.

Electricity Restrictions. Further restrictions in the use of electricity in TURIN are reported "In view of the present situation, which makes the normal production and distribution of electric power precarious because many transport lines are frequently interrupted

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and some plants are out of action, it has been necessary in the first place to obtain the greatest use of the power available, and subsequently, when the situation deteriorated, a reduction in the total consumption of power".
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 22.7.44).

XXXI. New Regulations for Exports.

The Ministries responsible for Italian Foreign trade issued new instructions regarding Italian exports by which the period of free exportation is closed. In future all export contracts must be submitted to the central authorities controlling exports, and the exportation of a great number of articles will only be allowed if their sale on the home market encounters difficulties. Other goods may only be manufactured for exportation. Some important branches of the Italian export business have been subjected to considerable production restrictions during the last few days. Three months ago the utilisation of metals in manufacturing toys has been stopped entirely. The manufacture of musical instruments by Italian retailers is prohibited and the present production is nearly all destined for exportation.
(Europe Kabel 7.7.44).

XXXII. Air Raid Damage.

Aircraft Factory Damaged. The "MACCHI" aeronautical factory near MASNAGO has suspended all war work owing to serious damage caused by air raids. The few workers remaining have, by irregularity, reduced the production programme to one of secondary importance.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 21.7.44).

LABOUR.

XXXIII. A Socialist-Communist Joint Leaflet in Turin.

The following is the text of a leaflet circulated, during the last week of June among strikers in TURIN:

"Workers of Turin. You have risen of your own will against the new pillaging of the Nazi-Fascist rule, which wants to rob you of machines which you feel to be your own because they are wet with the sweat of your brows.

Workers! You are thus not merely defending your own right, but you very properly want to stop the machines, when moved, from serving to prolong the last hours of the Nazi-Fascist wild beast, now at its very last gasp.

Workers of Turin! Nazi-Fascism has replied to your protest with further brutal reprisals intending to starve you and your families.

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Workers of Turin! Nazi-Fascism has replied to your protest with further brutal reprisals intending to starve you and your families.

The Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity and the Turin Federation of the Italian Communist Party, representing the working classes, bound by a past of united action, are resolved to help and defend you in the present struggle which you are waging with such pride and courage against Nazi Fascism so as to stop their new act of brigandage.

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Long live working class solidarity
Death to the Nazis.
Death to the Fascists.

The Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity.
The Turin Federation of the Communist Party.

(P.I.D. Italian Region 11.7.44).

PRESS.

XXXIV. Increase in Clandestine Press.

Libera Stampa Lugano 26.7.44 publishes the following extract from the clandestine newspaper "Avanti" no 36. July 10th. "New newspapers have come to join "Avanti" in the battle, and to fight on the right side. Edited by the Italian Socialist Party, under difficulties and with sacrifices which it is easy to imagine, there are "Rivoluzione Socialista and Giornale della Federazione Giovanile, "La Terra"is the newspaper of the agricultural workers, "La Citta Nuova" that of the professions, technical workers and clerks, "Operaio" that of the the proletariat and industrial workers, and "Il Partigiano" that of the Matteotti Brigade".

CHURCH

XXXV. Continuation of attacks on the Church.

Regime Fascista, Cremona, 25.7.44 continuing its attacks against the Church, claims that the Vatican is responsible for the terrible bombing of Italy, and adds "Vatican circles told Cardinal Spellman that if Italy submitted to terrorist bombing, it would collapse".

Cardinal of Venice Condemns. The Patriarch of Venice, Cardinal Adeodate Piazza, in a pastoral letter sharply condemns an attempt against the HQ of the GNR at Venice, which has so far resulted in ten deaths and 40 injured "It is necessary for blind passion to be replaced in Italian hearts by the condemnation of such crimes".he says

PERSONALITIES.

XXXVI. Fascists of Udine and Provincia.

PISENTI avv. on. PIERO, 1st Prefect (Fascist) of Udine
Deputy of the First Fascist Legislature and Consigliere

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PERSONALITIES.

XXXVI. Fascists of Udine and Provincia.

PISENTI avv. on. PIERO	1st Prefect (Fascist) of Udine Deputy of the First Fascist Legislature and Consigliere Nazionale of the Camera dei Fasci e delle Corporazioni.
PAGANI dott. RAFFAELLO	Ex. Preside della Provincia.
ZOCCOLARI	Member of the Direttorio di Udine employee of the Ditta Luigi Spezzotti

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SAMBO ALFREDO	Federal Inspector. Employee of Dazio in the commune of Pasian di Prato - thug.
GORASSINI RENZO	Native of Pasian di Prato, living at Udine.
CUTTINI	Ex mayor of Pasian di Prato
BARNABA PIER ARRIGO	Ex Fascist Deputy Mayor of Udine until the Armistice.
CAINE	Seniore of the Milizia
GAMBERINI	Cavaliere. Spy. Employed by the Consiglio dell'Economia
~~MARINO dott.~~ ALBERTO	Vice Commissar of the Squadra Politica della Questura of Udine. Ferocious persecutor of anti-fascists. After the fall of Fascism he gathered together numbers of fascists for the reconstitution of the party.
LINDA	Violent squadrist, trader, member of the Direttorio, Federale of Udine. Spy by profession.
DELLA MAESTRA cav. ASSUERO	Udine, Piazza Umberto 1. Ex political secretary of BASILIANO (UDINE). Political informer of the Questura.
MODOTTI cav.uff. GIOVANNI	Retired inspector of schools. Ex Mayor and Political Secretary of Basiliano. Ferocious fascist. Real despot for many years in his commune.
RAINIS MANLIO	Founder of Fascism in Basiliano. Thug, organiser of punitive expeditions
DEL GUIDICE ROMANO	Squadrist - Thug - Major in the Militia at TIVOLI.
PICCO RICCARDO	Ferocious squadrist and spy.
POLESELLO	State doctor of Basiliano, ex vice secretary of Basiliano. Spy
[illegible]	Elementary schoolmaster of Udine

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MODOTTI cav.uff. GIOVANNI	Retired inspector of schools. Ex Mayor and Political Secretary of Basiliano. Ferocious fascist. Real despot for many years in his commune.
RAINIS MANLIO	Founder of Fascism in Basiliano. Thug, organiser of punitive expeditions
DEL GUIDICE ROMANO	Squadrist - Thug - Major in the Militia at TIVOLI.
PICCO RICCARDO	Ferocious squadrist and spy.
POLESELLO	State doctor of Basiliano, ex vice secretary of Basiliano. Spy
[illegible]	Elementary schoolmaster of Udine Ex Major in the Alpini. Fanatical Fascist.
[illegible]	On ef the most violent and ferocious thugs of the province of Udine. Journalist of the "Gazzettino" of Venezia.
MIGLIORINI	Segretario Ragioniere of the Province of Udine.

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BONORA GIOVANNI	Casa delle Uniforme Fascistd, Udine, Via Cavour.
ROLATTI Comm. GINO	Squadrist, Ex Consigliere Nazionale Agent of the "Montecatini".
TAVANO avv. ARTURO	Native of Lestizza (Udine) Ex Mayor of Lestizza and Commissar of Campo-formido
PANTALONE	Head doctor of the Psychiatric Hospital of Udine.
MARCHETTI	Son of the trader Romeo. Fascist spy
FORTUNATI	Ragioniere of the Banca del Friuli. Fanatical Fascist. Teacher of young Fascists.
SPIVAK GINO	Fascist spy
SZILAGIJ FRANZ	Ladies Hairdresser, via Paolo Sarpi, Udine. Of Hungarian origin. A noted fascist and spy of the Ovra.
MASSARUTTO rag. GIOVANNI.	Squadrist. Notorious Fascist secret agent. Friend of the ex secretary of the fascist party of Serena.
MONTERISI	Cavaliere. Trader in coffee.
MURATTI BOBBO	
RUSSO LUIGI	Ex prefect of Chieti, ex. Capo di S.M. della Milizia, ex Secretary of the Presidenza di Mussolini.
RUSSO	Brother of the above.
ZECCA	Squadrist and dangerous spy
PISCHIUTTA	Doctor of Commercial Sciences, but a professional fascist and brother of a fascist martyr (Pio Pischiutta) Violent by nature.
SANDRINO	Municipal functionary.

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PANTALONE	Head doctor of the Psychiatric Hospital of Udine.
MARCHETTI	Son of the trader Romeo. Fascist spy
FORTUNATI	Ragioniere of the Banca del Friuli. Fanatical Fascist. Teacher of young Fascists.
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SANDRINO	Municipal functionary.
LIZZI	Cavaliere. - Martignacco (Udine)
SABBADINI geom LIVIO?	Codroipo
SGOBARO (geometra)	Basiliano - ex Fascist mayor.
DE CECCO geom ELIO	Basiliano.

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LEONE dott. FRANCESCO	Veterinary surgeon - from Basiliano. a stupid fanatic - in the confidence of the Questure
ZANINOTTO MICHELE	Basiliano
CIRIO	Employee of the Litografia CHIESA of Udine - madly pro-German
ALLATERE avvocato	(not to be confused with avv. Antonio Allatere).
MATTIOLI GALLO	squadrist, gangster, racketeer.
MATTIOLI	Brother of the above
PLACEREANI	Doctor of law. Secretary of the Workers' Union. Embezzeller.
PREINDL	Doctor of Udine. Ex Federal Secretary - violent- profiteer
ALVERA	President of the Liceo Ginnasio of Udine. At the school he used a hidden microphone to check on the beliefs of his professors.
ACCORDINI	Medico di reparto
DE ZORZI	Accountant. ex employee of the Banca Cattolica del Veneto. Centurione della Milizia - one time capo of the guardie di citta of Udine. - violent - embezzeler
ROTELLA	Lawyer - squadrista
RECCARDINI	Ex bankrupt - squadrist, a fascist of 20 years standing.
VERITTI	Lawyer - director of the fascist paper "Il Popolo del Friuli".
CHIESA PARIDE and brother	Owners of an anonimous firm of printers. Violent squadrists

(P.W.B. Bari 19.7.44).

XXXVII. Various dangerous elements

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	Antonio Allatere).
MATTIOLI GALLO	squadrist, gangster, racketeer.
MATTIOLI	Brother of the above
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(P.W.B. Bari 19.7.44).

XXXVII. Various dangerous elements.

2/Lt. FULGENZI AUGENIO of FABRIANO, S.W. of IESI DOMO, together with a German captain formed a tribunal for the interrogation of suspected partisans.

BIONDI, FALINI, BARINDELLI and INNOCENTI, all of RASSINA, worked with the Germans and hanged four partisans at CASTEL FOLOGNANO. (8th Army Intelligence summary no 22).

LT. SCOTTI (Neapolitan) who commanded No 2 company of TAGLIAMENTO battalion of the Republican Guard is believed to have escaped to

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FLORENCE. His unit was engaged in operations against patricts in the CITTA DI CASTELLO area and included two Lieutenants FARO of SALERNO and sgt. GAMBACORTA; the latter commended the firing squad responsible for shooting partisans.
(8th Army Intelligence Summary No 22).

GENOA

CARLO EMMANUELE BASILE is Prefect of the Province of GENOA. He was formerly Fascist Federale of TURIN and NOVARA. His headquarters are in the PALAZZO Hotel (formerly Bristol) in Via XX Settembre.

FLORENCE

Two lawyers called MACCA and PICCHI, are President and Prosecutor respectively of an extraordinary Tribunal set up by the Republicans in Florence to judge political offences.

The Commander of the Fascist Republicans in the barracks which are near S. MICHELE EXTRA is a Consul of Militia named MARCHIORI

A certain ORLANDI Carlo of GENOA was always with the German troops in this area. He is described as a sailor and a cruel Fascist.
(8th Army Intelligence Summary No 22).

FLORENCE

South of Florence at PALAZZOLO the following Republican Officers are serving in 113 Engineer battalion.

Commender	Major FACCIABENE
Adjutant	LT. DE MICHELI
Oc. 3 coy	Capt FRANCESCHETTI
OC. 4 coy	Capt. MARINO
Other officers	LTS. IMPARATO, DAL MEDICO, PATTI
	2/Lts. GUCCIONI, DE SIMONE ,
	MALORNI DI CORRADO, INDACO.

(8th Army Intelligence Summery July 21st).

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SECRET

9th August, 1944.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 19.

APPENDIX

Italian Partisans in Action.-16.6.44 - 20.7.44

A British Captain, with other British soldiers, was dropped by parachute in the middle of June and landed in the plain NW of AREZZO. He was quickly captured by the Germans and equally quickly escaped from them. At the suggestion of two young men he joined a partisan band operating in the vicinity, where he was soon afterwards joined by two more of the parachutists. The area where they worked was the southern sector of the PRATOMAGNO massif between FLORENCE and AREZZO.

The band was an independent unit called by tne name of its commander, Lieut RAOUL, and based on two farms on M. ROVERAIA.

Strength. 60 Italians, 2 Germans, some French and Russians, 2 S. Africans, 2 British parachutists, 1 British parachutist officer (informant); later joined by 1 British officer and 2 O.R.s.

Weapons. 1 Sten.
Italian and German rifles and revolvers.
Ammn. in abundance.
German explosives.
This was increased by a parachute drop of
8 Brens) in the plain N of
45 Stens) LATERINA; took 3 days
100 lb. of explosive.) to collect and had very
Booby traps) stimulating effect on
Battle-dress and boots.) morale.

Transport Donkeys and mules. (A donkey costs as much as 21000 lire).

Food. 2 hot meals a day. Peasants being friendly, food was never scarce. Payment was always made except to known fascists or the unsympathetic.

ACTIVITY AND METHOD OF ACTION:

1. For 4 months Raoul's band had been attacking German transport on the road CASTIGLION FIBOCCHI-S. GIUSTINO. Their method was as follows:-

20 men station themselves at the road-side under cover of

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1. For 4 months Raoul's band had been attacking German transport on the road CASTIGLION FIBOCCHI-S. GIUSTINO. Their method was as follows:-

20 men station themselves at the road-side under cover of darkness. After first light, a grenade is thrown at the first isolated vehicle to pass, and fire is directed at the driver's cab. When the truck stops, they close in, kill any survivors, and remove the contents. In this way, and by occasional attacks on Italian Listening Posts (which never resisted) and on German AA sites, Raoul had succeeded in arming his whole band. No attempt, however, was made to destroy the truck's engine or remove the wheels. In this period they had had only one casualty, when the truck attacked proved

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APPENDIX 2.

not to be isolated, being followed by another armed with MG and riflemen riding on the mudguards.

2. After the arrival of the Englishmen and the finding of the parachute supplies it was decided to begin laying mines on the roads. The method devised by informant was as follows:-

6 lb of plastic were laid in the middle of the road on a moonless night at 2230 hrs after a careful recce of the position. This was attached by Cortex to a release spring-switch on the road-side, the spring being kept depressed by means of a heavy stone which was itself attached to a trip-wire stretched across the road to a tree at a height such that it would be missed by a pedestrian, a cyclist or a small car.

The work took 20 minutes, including interruptions due to passing traffic, and was completely successful.

This method was sometimes varied in that 10 lb of 808 were used instead of Plastic, and string was used instead of wire which caused delay by getting entangled.

On another occasion 10 lb of Plastic were used instead of 6 lb and time-pencils (1½) were attached to neighbouring telegraph-poles. Both were very successful.

On the last occasion, the vicinity of a German camp and German patrols made a pressure-switch desirable instead of a trip-wire. The result was equally satisfactory.

When it was a question of destroying a bridge, lack of explosive suggested the cratering of the road over the bridge with 25 lb. of 808 and getting the villagers to continue with digging.

THE LEADER. Lieut. RAOUL enjoyed the confidence and respect of his men without being able or without wishing to enforce discipline. Lacking in judgment rather than courage, he was sometimes with difficulty dissuaded from foolhardy moves that would have cost severe casualties and achieved nothing. He was jealous of his position as Commander and proud of his quality of partisan. This made him slightly difficult as a colleague and caused friction with other bands. Once a fortnight he would mysteriously disappear, and return with 50,000 lire, possibly received from the Florence Committee of Liberation. The last informant heard of Raoul, shortly before rejoining the allies, was that he had attacked the Germans at PIEVE and, having been wounded in the ensuing mopping-up operations against ROVERAIA and PONTENANO, had ordered the band to bury its arms and disperse.

THE MEN. The only useful members of the band, in informant's opinion,

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THE MEN. The only useful members of the band, in informant's opinion, were four of the Italians, 2 Frenchmen from the Foreign Legion, 2 Russians, and the British. The rest were so much worse than useless, that it was risky to have their company in an operation. Most of them were from the 1926 class, which had been called but had largely disbanded itself after receiving its arms. Informant had the impression that they had been attracted to the Partisans by the good meals. There was no sapper among them. The two Germans (one an Austrian) had been captured and enrolled in the band. They worked in the

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APPENDIX 3.

kitchen and were well liked; but after the shooting of three German prisoners later on, they took fright and made off.

DISCIPLINE AND TACTICAL SKILL

Military discipline as we know it was absent. The leader had to contend with much "back-chat" in making known his plans. The rudiments of tactics were neglected to the point of endangering the whole band. Thus when the Band had begun its move to a new area near CIVITELLA south of the plain, the four parties lost contact and much calling and shouting ensued. Time was lost and the move had to be abandoned. It was later learnt that the Germans in the plain had been warned by the noise and were waiting for them. Before fire was opened to take "cover from view" was to expose oneself to the taunt of cowardice; once fire was opened after an exploit it was "sauve qui peut". Though Raoul himself was never among the stampeders, he was sometimes unable to see that a proposal was tactically impossible. Nor was the notion of military security any better developed; in an area known to be subject to German combing, they would boast of their exploits to the local population.

POLITICAL COLOUR

The Band considered itself Communist, but had only the primitive conception of Communism that consists of the spoliation of the rich. They wore the Italian colours on the collar-patch and the Red Star on their caps. Their poor discipline may have been the deliberate application of a misconceived idea of Democracy.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER BANDS.

Other bands in the area were:-

(1) BRUNO'S BAND: TALLA 30 men
(2) BOBBY's Band: ANCIOLINA 30 men.

These two bands were about 8 miles apart, were composed, like Raoul's of men from the 1926 class, and had been completely inactive. The arrival of the equipment by parachute and its finding by Raoul's band roused them to action, and they asked for a share of the arms. Raoul lent Bobby a Bren gun and a Frenchman to fire it, the target to be a truck on the road. Bobby's patrol of 10 men, however, got drunk in the village, were attacked by Germans on the way back, and made their escape under the covering fire of the Frenchman with the Bren gun. It was not part of the plan that this fire-account for 15

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This desire on the part of one band to disarm another was not an isolated case. Informant had gone to TALLA in response to a message from BRUNO requesting arms, and also in order to see about a wireless set said to be in Bruno's possession (which turned out to be an unserviceable German one). Bruno had occupied TALLA after the departure of the Germans and had posted flamboyant notices signed by himself as "Commendante". He was now in hospital, having been wounded by a bomb dropped by a German plane to which he was signalling in the belief that it was British. While lunching with some of Bruno's men informant and his companion were surprised to see the room invaded by

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APPENDIX 4.

armed men, who ordered them to hand over their weapons. When the shouting had died down, it appeared that the men were a patrol commanded by a Canadian officer sent from UOMO DI SASSO (E OF REGELLO) by the 22 Garibaldi Brigade to disarm a band of men whose prolonged inactivity encouraged the suspicion that they were really fascists masquerading as partisans. Bruno's men were content to be disarmed and to go off with the men of the Garibaldi Brigade. The Canadian officer preferred to attach himself to informant's band and returned with them. He stated that the 22 Garibaldi Brigade was 1000 men strong and had been inactive for a month.

RELATIONS WITH BRITISH PERSONNEL.

The knowledge that the Allies were interested in them was a great stimulus to the Partisans. The union of British Captain and Parachutist in informant won him a prestige that even his ignorance of the language could not impair. He was allowed a free hand by Raoul, who was ready to follow his example and even sometimes his advice. The exact mutual relationship between Partisan Band Leader and attached British officer is however a delicate one. Informant strongly disapproved of the preparations to attack and disarm Bobby's band. This, combined with minor irritants such as flies, dysentery and the partisan's eating habits, finally convinced informant that he would achieve more by breaking loose from Raoul and operating with his own band. Raoul had no objection, allowed him to select the two parachutists, the two other British soldiers, the other British officer, one S. African, three Italians, two Frenchmen and a donkey or two, and provided him with 10,000 lire With this band informant moved 5 miles SE to GELLO and began operations on his own.

LESSONS

From his experience with the partisan band, informant considers that the following lessons may be drawn:-

(1). Small bands of not more than 50 men are much more effective than large ones. In any one area there should be several small bands located according to the road system. One reason is that the Germans tend to ignore small bands; another is that a small band can more easily get away from the scene of its exploit without leaving a trace. Existing large bands should therefore decentralise and split up into autonomous units.

(2) A radio receiving and transmitting set is indispensable both for the reception of allied orders and for keeping in touch with the course of events. Initiative is blunted by ignorance of what is happening elsewhere; and as Partisan activity changes

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(2) A radio receiving and transmitting set is indispensable both for the reception of allied orders and for keeping in touch with the course of events. Initiative is blunted by ignorance of what is happening elsewhere; and as Partisan activity changes in character according as the Allied line approaches, they must know exactly how far away the Allies are

(3) Partisans should be warned not to embark on operations of too ambitious a scale. Small-scale attacks, if continued over a long period and at varying points, inflict just as much damage on the enemy in the end, are far more wearing to his nerves and cost the Partisans fewer casualties. Moreover being frequently repeated, they are made with ever increasing skill.

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APPENDIX 5.

(4) Partisans should be told to use their eyes and make mental note of everything of military importance, against the day when they can report it to an allied HQ. When the Allied line is close to their area, the Band should not wait until they are actually liberated, but should send an emissary across at once to give the information while it is still of value and capable of being exploited. Mortar and gun positions and O.Ps are targets on which early information is especially desirable.

(5) The only way to prevent reprisals against civilians is to have the villages in the partisan area evacuated. As German savagery succeeds in its purpose of creating an atmosphere hostile to partisand, it is necessary to warn civilians that the Allies have means of finding out who has betrayed any partisan to the enemy.

Source - 8th Army Special Interrogation Report 22.7.44.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Ccc.) 2nd August 1944

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No.12 APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No.18.

SUMMARY

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) or (E)
JCS 1/4/74
NARS, Date 3/3/75

RESISTANCE

Popular Tribunals. The Partisans, encouraged by Radio Libertà Milan, are now said to be forming Tribunals to judge Fascist war criminals.

Patriots assist the Allied. In the Arno valley, patriot assistance has been effective. The Allies have been furnished with guides, boats have been provided on the various canals, improvised bridges have been made, and mines reported.

The V.A.I. The Volontari Armati Italiani appears to be an organisation of army and navy officers and men acting under the orders of the Italian General Staff. The complaint is made that many of these bands indulge too much in politics and are reluctant to cooperate with others of a different political opinion.

Partisan Activities in Occupied Italy. On the immediate front, north of Florence, partisans interrupted the work of fortification for a week. In Mantua Province, ten militi were killed and three wounded in a night attack on their billets.

The Casentino is still the theatre of repeated encounters.

In the provinces of Novara, Aosta and Cuneo, several traffic centres are under the control of the patriots, who issue permits to people desirous of passing through.

The Val Camonica has also been the scene of much activity. The Ligurian Brigade has carried out almost a military operation, raiding from the Chiavari region into the Parma Appenines. The Militia barracks at Bedonia was attacked and the garrison disarmed. Borgotaro was then occupied and handed over to another partisan group. Finally they blocked a railway tunnel and blew up a bridge and returned to their base.

In Emilia, in the Cerreto area, 1,500 Fascist militi and 300 Italian S.S. were repulsed in an attempt to mop up the district.

Near Imperia, some German garrisons are reported captured after lively fighting.

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JCS 7/4/44
3/3/25

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Partisan Activities in Occupied Italy. On the immediate front, north of Florence, partisans interrupted the work of fortification for a week. In Mantua Province, ten militi were killed and three wounded in a night attack on their billets.

The Casentino is still the theatre of repeated encounters.

In the provinces of Novara, Aosta and Cuneo, several traffic centres are under the control of the patriots, who issue permits to people desirous of passing through.

The Val Camonica has also been the scene of much activity. The Ligurian Brigade has carried out almost a military operation, raiding from the Chiavari region into the Parma Appenines. The Militia barracks at Bedonia was attacked and the garrison disarmed. Borgotaro was then occupied and handed over to another partisan group. Finally they blocked a railway tunnel and blew up a bridge and returned to their base.

In Emilia, in the Cerreto area, 1,500 Fascist militi and 300 Italian S.S. were repulsed in an attempt to mop up the district.

Near Imperia, some German garrisons are reported captured after lively fighting.

Committees of Liberation. A tribute is paid to the work of these Committees both in the organisation of resistance and in reconstruction when the Allied Armies liberate the various districts.

Patriot heroes. Two young partisans driving a truck to get supplies for the 5th Garibaldi (Pesaro) Brigade were attacked by 20 S.S. men. After a five-hour battle, they were captured for lack of ammunition. In Urbino, they refused to join the Republican army and after being tortured for five days, were publicly executed.

Tenente Aldo Bogogni, of the Shock Brigade of Pietralunga, in an attack on a German transport column, was severely wounded but blew up a truck with a hand grenade, killing several Germans, and was mortally wounded by the explosion.

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SECRET

SUMMARY 2

FASCIST FORCES

Radio Tevere announces the arrival in Italy of the first detachments of a division trained in Germany.

The Black Brigades. All Fascists not actually enrolled in the fighting services are to be formed into so-called "Black Brigades". It is hoped that this will strngthen the Republican Fascist Party.

Morale. A letter from a Fascist soldier written in May complains of poor rations, for which he had to pay, of the general confusion, and of the widespread "Bolshevism", even in the Fascist ranks.

The Navy. Volunteers are still being called for the 10th MAS Flotilla.

Behaviour of "Muti" Squads. The legionaries of the "Muti" and "Sorlini" squads are universally denounced as being mere bandits who rob, rape and pillage.

Unfit men to labour in Germany. In Parma, the German Commandant summoned all the medical staff of the military districts of Parma, Reggio Emilia, Modena, and Piacenza, and announced that all young men of the 1920-1926 class who are unfit must go to Germany.

GERMANS

Frontier Security Zone. The Fascist Ministry of the Interior has decreed the creation of a forbidden zone 3 kilometres wide along the Swiss-Italian frontier. This should have been evacuated by 1st July but the process is not yet completed.

German defences. The Fascist press is apparently preparing the public to face a "Scorched earth" policy on the Germans' part.

Reports from Switzerland say that the Germans are feverishly fortifying the Lombard Plain at the foot of the Alps and that Milan will be organised for defence.

Use of gas. Italian army sources report that Germans have been testing anti-gas appliances near Verona.

Behaviour. In the Aquila zone the Germans have destroyed the countryside so thoroughly that they themselves are living on very short commons.

Morale. The Germans are said to be more afraid of the Partisans than of the Allies.

Morale is reported as having improved with the news of the rocket-bomb bombardment of England.

Atrocities. These are reported from Foiano, San Gemini, San Paolo.

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Florence. Swiss sources declare that Florence contains not more than 200 German officers and men and that no others are permitted to enter.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

The Allied Rome Radio is reported as being heard well in Florence. The "Italia Combatte" programme is popular and it's denunciations of spies are quickly circulated.

Up to 17th June, the EIAR radio station and studios in Florence were in perfect order and working. There is a military radio station in the barracks in Via della Scala.

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~~SECRET~~ SUMMARY 3

POLITICS

According to Fascist press reports Graziani resigned because Kesselring ordered Republican Army units to be subordinated to German commanders.

The Fascist Government has extended the death penalty to saboteurs, publishers and distributors of anti-Fascist articles and leaflets, and strike leaders. Strikers are threatened with a maximum of twenty years' imprisonment.

Montepulciano. The Christian Socialist is reported to be really well organised in this district. There is also a strong Communist tendency. Wealthy individuals back the Liberal Democrats but have no large following.

ECONOMICS

From July 1st railway workers will be granted the same food rations as heavy industry workers.

Food situation in the North. The harvests are reported as excellent but fears are felt that the Germans will destroy or carry off much of the crops.

Transport. The destruction of the Po bridges and the systematic bombing of bridges seems to be causing complete interruption of the Italian railway system.

Finance. A Swedish paper reports that the lira fell sharply when Rome was occupied by the Allies. 100 lire, previously worth 70 Swiss centimes are now quoted at 35.

The Fascist Government is reported as having raised its war contribution from 6 to 10 milliard lire monthly.

LABOUR

All reports speak of continual raids to round up workers for Germany.

THE CHURCH

The Clergy, always very influential in Arezzo, gave much help to the resistance movement.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

2nd August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit 12
APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 18.

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2nd August, 1944.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 18.

This report does not in any way r epresent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

The leaders of the anti-fascist party organisations have formed Popular Tribunals which intend to bring to justice all the Fascist chiefs and war criminals responsible for the crimes committed against Italy. There have been death sentences pronounced also in absentia. The Free Radio Station of Milan has urged the Italian patriots to act thus. Whoever is innocent need have no fear of appearing before the Tribunal for judgment. Every person accused has the right to defend himself during the trial. The fact that the Popular Tribunals hold their meetings openly should also be emphasised. Those who are condemned as guilty will be punished. For those who for twenty years have committed crimes there will be no escape or pity. They will not escape justice even though, for the moment they have fled to Germany or neutral countries. Some day, in one way or another they will be found and punished. The decision of the Moscow Conference concerning war criminals will be rigidly applied.
(P.W.B. Rome).

Patriots help Allied Advance. Italian patriots have given valuable help to the Allies in the Arno valley. They have acted as guides to allied patrols of the Fifth Army which have been exploring the valley since July 21st. The American patrols found numerous craft on the various canals, got ready by the partisans, who were also able to throw improvised bridges quickly across these canals. They also gave very useful information about the location of mines laid by the Germans to impede the Allied advance and of demolitions made by the enemy for the same purpose.
(P.W.B. Rome).

Italian officers, a Colonel, and two Captains who were all members

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(P.W.B. Rome).

The V.A.I. Three Italian officers, a Colonel, and two Captains passed through a British interrogations centre who were all members of the V.A.I. (Volontare Armate Italiane). This has as its chief an Ammiraglio DE CUNIS who had his H.Q. until recently in MILAN and it is stated that he is in some way connected with General MESSE. His function and that of his organisation appears to have been the coordination of the many patriot bands throughout northern Italy, but not, it is thought, VENEZIA GIULIA province. As he appears to have come under suspicion in MILAN he transferred to GENOVA during April. There he was arrested by the S.S., but is thought to have

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been released on perole. The names of a number of other officers connected with this organisation, including the three mentioned above, became known, and consequently they decided to leave northern Italy.

The trouble with these bands appears to have been that instead of being entirely national in character and work they are unable to keep away from the political aspect. It is reported that frequently one band refuses to cooperate with another as each is of a different political shade of opinion, whilst even within the band itself there is sometimes dissension on political grounds.

One of the methods employed by the Germans and Fascists to betray these patriot bands is the introduction of spies into their midst.
((P.W.B. 8th Army).

Various Patriot Activities.

The Allied advance has encouraged the patriots to intensify their attacks on German supply lines and on their fortifications on the Goth line. Along one important piece of this line north of FLORENCE the continuous interruption of work by patriots has caused the Germans to suspend their fortification activities for a whole week.
(P.W.B. Rome).

MANTUA In SAN GIACOMO DELLE SEGNATE in the Province of Mantua where 13 Militiamen from Ancona has been evacuated, partisans entered their billets during the night, killing 10 and wounding three with a tommy gun. Returning quietly on bicycles, they surrounded the Fascist post and shot 3 Militiamen at close range who tried to arrest them.
(Gazette de Lausanne 13.7.44).

German Division Ambushed by patriots. An enemy document which has fallen into the hands of allied troops has revealed that the 19th Air Division, brought to Italy from Belgium, has fallen into a patriot ambush. The German division, therefore, has been obliged to accept battle even before arriving in the fighting line.

CASENTINO Repeated clashes have taken place between patriots and Germans in the Casentino mountains. In the village of VALLUCCIOLE, in the Province of Florence a German soldier was recently assassinated.

MONTICCHIO. In Monticchio, near Montepulciano, 200 Fascist Militia recently attacked the group of patriots named "Walter". Although inferior in numbers the patriots had a complete success, putting 12 Fascists out of action and occupying the village for 24 hours.

NOVARA, AOSTA, CUNEO The patriots control several traffic centres in the provinces of Novara, Aosta and Cuneo, where they control public offices and nominate whom they like to fill them. To pass through

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(P.W.B. Rome).

Nazi Fascist elements were disarmed at the APRICA Pass (20 Km east of SONDRIO) by the patriots, who also took a great deal of booty. At CIVIDATE (VAL CANONICA south BRENO) the patriots recently blew up an important electricity centre and at BRENO have liberated 14 political prisoners and afterwards blew up the prison itself. At EDOLO, MALORNO (south EDOLO) and ARROGNE (south west of Breno) clashes between big patrols of Germans and Militia of the G.N.R. and the patriots, which

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went in favour of the latter, who killed several Germans and Fascists and disarmed the garrison. Following these events large German forces were sent into VAL COLONICA. Always impeded by the frequent obstructions in the road, railways and telegraph service, the Germans and Fascists became enraged against the population, burning among others the village of CEVO (south EDOLO) and massacring women and children.
(Italian Official Source).

Mopping-up operations in PARMA district. The partisans on their side are acting with vigour and courage. During the past few days (18.7.44) the Ligurian Brigade has pushed along the CHIAVARI-VALLATA TARO road into the Appenines of the Parma district. When the Brigade reached BEDONIA, it resolutely attacked the Fascist Militia barracks, first with heavy fire from automatic weapons, and then equally violently with bombs, causing much destruction and the collapse of the side walls. The Militiamen then gave themselves up and handed over their arms and the contents of the barracks to the patriots. When the prisoners were assembled the Commander of the Brigade, instead of ordering them to be shot, as would have been the case with the Fascists or Germans, spoke to them of the ideals which inspire the Brigade and then set them free.

The Brigade then advanced to BORGOTARO, where it boldly occupied the key points - the station, the electric power house, the telephone exchange and cross roads. At the approach of the partisans the Fascists fled hastily in disorder, without waiting to be attacked. On their arrival the partisans found even the barracks empty. They carried off stores, partly for the use of the Brigade and partly for the population, who welcomed the patriots with lively enthusiasm.

The Liguria Brigade then returned to base, after another detachment of partisans had arrived at BOGOTARO to occupy the town in its place and after having blocked the railway tunnel at BORGALLO and blown up a bridge at OSTIA.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 18.7.44).

The Emilian Provinces continue to give the partisan struggle the most valuable contribution of courage and bloodshed. On June 8th 1500 Fascist Militiamen and 300 Italian SS attempted mopping-up operations in the neighbourhood of the CERRETO road, which had been interrupted at several points by the partisans blowing up bridges. The action was unsuccessful: as a reprisal the Fascists, some of whom had been wounded and taken prisoner, removed 70 civilians, burning and destroying in the POLANO district, and carrying off all the cattle from the hamlet of MINOZZO.

The patriots occupied CASTELLARANO, CIANO D'ENZA, and CARPINETI. It is reported the Germans posted a notice in Italian and German reading "The road to CASINA is forbidden for single motor traffic. Danger from bands. The COLLAGNA road is unusable."

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FERRIERE, FARINI D'OLMO, CASTELNUOVO and LUGAGNANO have been occupied by the partisans, who set up their administration. During a German counter attack, supported by aircraft, the partisans lost 11 killed and prisoners, but the German and Fascist losses were much higher.

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Italo-Yugoslav frontier. The power of the "maquis" on the Italo-Yugoslav frontier is revealed by Axis Command's demand for a truce with partisans in unspecified regions of VENEZIA GIULIA. A truce was called between the GORIZIA and FIUME districts on the morning of July 5th The fact was reported in a communique of the Axis Command, and details of the truce were sent to the posts concerned by means of a circular dated July 4th.
(Feuille d'Avis Neuchatel 17.7.44).

IMPERIA. Near Imperia, after lively fighting, some German garrisons have/captured, together with arms and munitions.
(P.W.B. Rome 23.7.44).

Liberation Committees.

When you enter one of the small towns of UMBRIA or TUSCANY which have been recently liberated by the Allies and ask what authority there is, they will tell you that the Podesta has gone, and that the big noises put in power by Fascists have run away several weeks before the arrival of the American troops and that now there is only the Committee of Liberation. If you ask who directed the clandestine warfare during the German occupation you will hear again - the Committee of Liberation. If you ask who were the leaders of the best organised and most efficient partisan bands they will answer - the Committee of Liberation. If you enquire who, after the liberation of the town, placed themselves at the disposal of the AMG to meet the most urgent needs of the population, to mend the destroyed mills, acquaducts, electric plant etc. the reply is always the same - the Committee of Liberation.

At first sight of this Committee of Liberation which has fought and worked during these hard months, it seems nothing extraordinary. Nearly always you will find that there is a young priest who represents the Christian Democrats, and an old Socialist or Republican Democrat who for 22 years of Fascist Regime has had periodical beatings, prison, exile, violence and insults, and yet has never given way or lost his faith in a better future; a distinguished, quiet gentleman represents the Liberals, and calm and quiet though he is has no doubt known how to direct a clandestine press or to keep a band of partisans supplied. Then perhaps a bellicose communist, with a young intellectual of the "Partito d'Azione", who are the "enfants terribles" of the company, make up the remainder. Often the members of the Committees of Liberation are not the most well known members of the community, as the latter have been obliged to hide themselves in order not to suffer Fascist persecutions or else they have fallen under the first strokes of the reactionary regime.

A day will come when the work of these Committees of Liberation is properly recognised by all Italians. At the moment they continue to work in the towns desolated by the war, in an effort to restore

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A day will come when the work of these Committees of Liberation is properly recognised by all Italians. At the moment they continue to work in the towns desolated by the war, in an effort to restore order. The air raid damage is cleared up, the shops reopen, the first public services are opened, and the first contacts with AMG are established.
(P.W.B. 8th Army)

Patriot Heroes.

On the 19th of March 1944 DENI GIANETTE of FANO and SALVALAI of URBINE, two young partisans, attached to the 5th Brigata Garibaldi "Pesaro", were sent to Urbino with a truck to get food supplies for their band.

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On their way they were attacked by 20 Italian and German S S. They left their truck on the road and retired to the hills of MONTE SOFIO (?). For five hours they repulsed all attacks with their "Mitra" When they ran out of ammunition, they were captured and brought to UBRINO. The Fascist authorities decided that they should be pardoned if they consented to join the Republican army, They refused. For five days they were tortured, then brought to Masse Lombarda and publicly executed.

TEN ALDO BOLOGNI of the Brigate d'Urto "Pietralunga".

In May a German transport column, consisting of two petrol wagons and three trucks loaded with S.S. troops was attacked by a partisan band, led by Ten. Aldo Bologni near MONTONI.

The battle lasted one hour, during which several casualties were inflicted on the enemy. Ten. Bologni, whilst attacking a truck was shot in the back by a wounded German. He was severely wounded and unable to carry on the fight, but he threw a hand-grenade at the truck, causing a terrific explosion, which killed several Germans and cost him his own life. He died later, praying for a new Italy, and inciting the partisans to carry on until they attained complete victory

His younger brother, 14 years old, joined the brigate d'Urto to avenge his brother's death. He volunteered for the most dangerous actions, and the leader, Capt. Pierangeli, often had to use force to keep him out of dangerous expeditions.

On the 8th July young Bologni was among the partisans who fought side by side with the Indian troops in Pietralunga. (P.W.B. 8th Army 15.7.44).

Partisan Bands of SIENA and GROSSETTO.

On Sept. 8th Colonel CROCE, Commander of the 3rd Bersaglieri Regt. resisted for three days in the defence of VOLTERRA, where his regiment happened to be at that moment. After three days he received orders from his command to retreat to Siena, where he arrived with his regiment complete with men, arms and munitions and installed them in the barracks of the Bersaglieri. But dislodged by the Germans, the Bersaglieri had to yield on September 20th. The 3rd Bersaglieri was disbanded and Colonel Croce, with almost all his officers went into the "Macchia" with their arms. Other officers joined him. Colonel Croce, with their help began the formation and organisation of the various bands which eventually developed in the provinces of SIENA and GROSSETTO.

Band Under the Command of Major Quirici. It was formed almost at once after the Armistice with Major Quirici at the head and other officers. Its district of operation comprised the woods which go from MASSA MARITTIMA to SUVERETO and MONTEROTONDO, forming a triangle. The band attained by the end of June to about 500 members, and were

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From the 22nd to the 27th June the Quirici band inflicted losses on the

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enemy and captured three machine guns, hand grenades, various other material, and destroyed a transmitting station. A German battery of several men was also destroyed. The same day they made two S.S. men prisoners and killed five.

Banda di Rulli and Benigno. Immediately after September 8th these two men of FOLLONICA formed a band of about 15 men. The leaders were captured once and sent to Florence, but managed to escape and rejoin the band, where they increased its numbers to about 200 and worked in the zone between SCARLINO and the ACCESA lake. This band occupied the Massa Maritima about ten days before the liberation, blowing up bridges that led to Massa Maritima and resisting violent attacks by the Germans. They were obliged to abandon their positions however owing to threats of reprisals on the civilian population by the Germans, who would have gunned the town. On June 22nd, before making contact with the Americans the Germans had to attack the partisans, who obstructed their passage.

Banda of Tirli. Commanded by Lt. Rotelli Follonica. It operated in the zone of CASTIGLIONE DELLA PESCAIA, TIRLI, FOLLONICA, and camped in the Tirli woods. It had 500 men, and in the beginning worked with arms captured from the Germans. Later it was well supplied by parachute by the Allies. At the beginning of June they received so many that they were able to supply other bands, and they were well fitted with American clothes and shoes. This band assumed principally the task of sabotage on the road which leads from Castiglione della Pescia to Follonica. They had ten or more battles with Germans on this road.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.7.44).

II. Sabotage.

MILAN

The Fascist newspapers announce that if acts of sabotage continue in MILAN Province a systematic execution of persons now under arrest will ensue.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 17.7.44).

VENICE In Venice the former luxury hotel Bonvecchiati was destroyed by fire on July 13th. The building served the LUCE Institute, which works for the Fascist Government, as a film depot. It was also the Fascist copyright offices. The fire is believed to be due to sabotage.

MILAN A Fascist paper reports that MILAN railway station was sabotaged on July 11th and 12th when three persons were killed and several wounded. In retaliation three hostages were executed. The three men shot were chosen from five railwaymen arrested as hostages on June 24th.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 17.7.44 and Neue Zurcher Zeitung

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(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 17.7.44 and Neue Zurcher Zeitung 17.7.44).

DOMODOSSOLA Italian partisans have torn up the rails in the tunnel between LESA and ARONA on the Domodossola -Arona line for over 12 m A train was derailed, obstructing the track . Traffic is interrupted.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 18.7.44).

III. Attempted Assassination

When CUCCO, the Fascist Under-Secretary of State for Propaganda made a speech in a MILAN club, partisans threw a bomb

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which hit nobody. Immediately street fighting ensued near a building where the Fascists gathered. No victims were reported on either side.

FASCIST FORCES.

IV. Disposition

The first detachments of a division which has just finished its training in Germany have arrived in Republican Italy. (Radio Tevere 25.7.44).

V. The Black Brigades.

PIZZIRANI, Vice-Secretary of the Fascist Party, presided over a meeting of the Federal Commissioners in COMO. They discussed the strengthening of the Party and decided on the creation of the "black brigades", in which all Fascists "who are not yet serving the motherland under arms" will be enrolled. The Como black brigade will be called the brigade Cesare Rodini.

The Secretary of the Party said at the microphone on 25.7.44.

"More than a month has passed - it was exactly on the 21st June - since a notice so far maintained secret was issued giving special instructions. This circular letter said "On July 1st the party will abandon its present political-military structure to become an exclusively military organisation. Since the 1st July all the members of the Republican Fascist Party between eighteen and sixty years of age who are not incorporated in the Republican armed services constitute an organisation composed of fighting squads. All the bodies presiding over or directing activities which are not strictly party ones are transferred to the new organisation. The Secretary of the Party will take care of the transformation of the present governing body of the Party in staff headquarters of the auxiliary corps of the Blackshirt fighting squads. Provincial federations will become brigades of the Blackshirt auxiliary corps.

Owing to the peculiar nature of the organisation and its aims the command will be given to the chief of the province. There will be no ranks, but only commanding functions. The corps will be submitted to military discipline, and come under the jurisdiction of the military war code.
(Republican Fascist Radio 25.7.44 P.W.B. Monitoring).

VI. Morale.

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VI. Morale.

In the Massa Marittima district the Republican soldiers were all watched over carefully by the German S.S. who did not trust them too much; all the same there were many Fascist soldiers who were still convinced of the power of Germans and believed in a German victory and agitated fanatically against the patricts. During the last days, however, before the liberation, they began to understand the truth, and were very low spirited; they were passed over to the partisans, who kept them under observation, waiting for a decision as to what was to be done with them.
(P.W.B. Rome).

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SPELLO A young soldier writes from Spello in May last.

'Here things don't go right, everyone tries to grab everything for himself, while they give us little or nothing to eat. In the morning, coffee without sugar; at dinner soup without seasoning, then greens without seasoning and the same at night. And they make us pay 20 lire for it.

In this town they are almost all Bolshevists and even in the Militia itself".

(Ufficio di Censura 18.7.44).

VII. Navy

Reliable sources state that in the sheds on the wharves of BAGLIETTO DI VARAZZE are still to be found 24 "mas" in good condition.
(Italian Official Source).

Naval Volunteers still wanted.

The Under-Secretary for the Navy announced that voluntary enrolment for the Tenth MAS Flotilla and the 10th Division is still open. All Italians who feel it their duty still to take up arms to defend the soil of the fatherland, trampled under the feet of mercenary enemy hordes, can enrol under the unconquered banner of the 10th Division by applying to the recruiting centres established in the large towns of Republican Italy.
(Italian Home Service 18.6.44).

VIII. Atrocities.

The misdeeds of the "Muti" and "Sorlini" squads continue. Robberies, pillage, brutalities, assaulting and killing defenceless people. On June 15th in ALTA VALTROMPIA four bodies were found They were those of four volunteers who had joined the Fascist squads of combers and who had been shot for having assaulted a young woman and robbed several civilians.

IX. Unfit Men for Labour in Germany

PARMA On June 14th the German Colonel summoned to Parma all representatives of the medical staff of the military districts attached to the offices for recruiting workers for Germany; the districts concerned are PARMA, REGGIO EMILIA, MODENA and PIACENZA. It was provided that all young men of the 1920-26 classes who had been declared unfit must be deported to Germany.

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GERMANS

X. Disposition.

Frontier Security Zone. In the Fascist Official Gazette the Fascist Minister of the Interior confirmed by decree the creation of a Forbidden zone three km wide along the Italo-Swiss frontier. The evacuation of this zone should have been completed.

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July 1st, but so far it has only been partly carried out. For the Communes of ISELLA, OLGIATE, PINO, PONTE TRESA, PORTO CERESIO, PONTE CHIASSO and LANZO d'INTELVI, Italian subjects may obtain residence permits through the head of the Frontier Police. Permission to enter the above-named Communes is only granted for business purposes or other adequate reasons. On principle Jews of all nationalities are excluded from obtaining permits. Swiss residents in Italy are expressly allowed to enter and stay in these Communes. On the lakes included in the forbidden zone ships, boats and barges are not allowed to navigate.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 17.7.44).

"Scorched Earth" Policy - Farinacci's warning. Kesselring's army is being reinforced with the youngest German recruits coming directly from Germany. This confirms the German Command's apparent decision to hold the Gothic Line at all costs and to prevent the Allies from entering the Po plain. The Germans intend to carry out a "scorched earth" policy in Italy, and the Fascist press is preparing public opinion for this. Farinacci writes: "The approach of war brings total ruin. Both the retreating and advancing armies are obliged to destroy everything which might be of use to their opponents.

According to reports received from Chiasso, the Germans are feverishly fortifying the Lombard plain, at the foot of the Alps, and the city of MILAN will be organised for serious defence. The use of the telephone is prohibited except with the express authorisation of the German Command. Telegraphing is also forbidden in the districts of SONDRIO and the upper VALTELLINA. "
(Tribune de Genevre 17.7.44).

Germans preparing to use gas? Reliable sources state that near SANGUINETTO (30 km S of VERONA) the Germans are carrying out exercises in gas chambers with anti-mustard gas apparatus. In the open they are experimenting with other weapons of a type not specified.
(Italian Official Source. 22.7.44).

XI. Behaviour.

The clandestine paper "Ribelle" printed at BRESCIA on June 30th under the heading "War in their own fashion". "Red Cross Trains carry wounded to Germany and come back laden with aircraft bombs.
(Squilla Italica 15.7.44).

AQUILA An informant said that the German garrison in this remote rural region destroyed everything they could which might supply vital necessities to the population or to any one else. Farm crops and orchards were laid waste and they cut down all the trees. They destroyed telephone and power lines. Towards the end the German

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AQUILA An informant said that the German garrison in this remote rural region destroyed everything they could which might supply vital necessities to the population or to any one else. Farm crops and orchards were laid waste and they cut down all the trees. They destroyed telephone and power lines. Towards the end the German soldiers themselves had practically nothing to eat; their diet consisted chiefly of some black buns with some edible dehydrated grasses.

According to source the Germans expressed more fear of the Italian patriots than of the Americans. After nightfall the German soldiers did not dare to venture outside for fear of being ambushed. Even sentries were in constant fear.

The Germans had a printing press at Aquila. Here lire on the Banca d'Italia were printed in great quantity. With this paper money

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the Germans roamed the countryside and bought up everything. Items which they themselves could not use were packed up and sent to Germany.

The Germans encourage the Black Market and its fabulous prices, since they have unlimited funds. Peasants of the region were the chief black marketeers; one shoe-maker and one policeman made over half a million between them. A common practice among Fascist officials was to collect food-stuffs from the peasants at small cost and sell them on the black market for 10-30 times what they paid.
(P.W.B. Naples).

German Command Explains Operations In Turin "During the last few days the German troops carried out important control and combing-out operations in TURIN. The Turin German Command officially announces that these operations are only carried out against criminal and subversive elements who have attempted to start disorders and terrorist upheavals The German Command asserts that the operations were not directed against the calm, disciplined and industrious population, which on many occasions has shown its maturity, and which thoroughly understands the necessity of such operations.
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 12.7.44).

XII. Morale.

One source stated that the morale of the Germans whom he contacted was always fairly high, and they were determined to fight to the last. A well-rooted propaganda, very clever, was made by the German officers which convinced the soldiers in spite of the continual defeats. They talked about mysterious weapons which would be brought out at the decisive moment, and to source they spoke particularly of gas. When interrogated they answer that Hitler knows quite well what to do to win. Soldiers and non-commissioned officers are so soaked with propaganda that many are really convinced in good faith, and say that they are retreating towards the north of Italy, not on account of military infericrity, but to destroy the Italian towns and starve the people for whom, according to them food would come from Germany. Germany would also send food to the other occupied countries.
(P.W.B. Rome)

Reports from recently liberated zones say that "The Germans are well armed and organised. Equipment is generally inferior to what it was. Although it may seem incredible the morale of the troops has risen since the news of English air-raids with new methods; out of every 10 German soldiers 9 are ready to swear that in two or three months the secret weapons will win the war for Germany.

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Normally the conduct of the Germans is harsh and arrogant, but not criminal; when they let themselves go, however, they become beasts.
(P.W.B. 8th Army).

XIII. Atrocities.

The following statement concerns an incident which occurred at FOIANO DELLA CHIANA , Province of AREZZO. It is a statement made by MARCHI, Giuseppe, of FOIANO DELLA CHIANA, regarding the death of his brother:-

"My brother, MARCHI, Cesare, who warned civilians when German soldiers were about to plunder houses, was in the main square of

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FOIANO on 2nd July 1944 at about 1000 hrs, when he was approached by a German officer and a soldier. The officer asked Marchi a number of questions about the goods of a trader named CINOTTI. Because Marchi refused to give him an answer, the officer ordered the soldier to shoot him. The soldier refused. The officer then took out his pistol and shot Marchi in cold blood. BARTOLI, Luigi was a witness of this act.".
(P.W.B. 8th Army).

SAN GEMINI On the 11th June 1944 a German sergeant, during the removal of some articles of clothing stored in a shop in the district, shot with a revolver a peasant Onofri Nello, who had come to the spot hearing that the Germans were giving something away free.

During the middle of June four peasants who had followed the Germans in their retreat, taking with them cattle which belonged to themselves, were shot on the return journey after having handed over the beasts - as a reprisal for the death of a German near MONTECASTRILLI.

The horrors of San Vittore Prison, Milan.

Details are given of the horrors perpetrated by Germans and Fascists in this prison since February 1944.

"In indescribable conditions, about 4000 political prisoners are massed together in the San Vittore prison, a building of antiquated construction and, in addition, seriously damaged in consequence of last year's air raids. Food was insufficiant to appease hunger, yet sufficient to prevent death from starvation. The interrogation was the most painful part of the via crucis reserved for the unfortunate individuals who entered the iron gates.

The victim is taken to a room and his hands, held high above his head, are fastened to a chain in the wall; beside him stand two assistant-gaolers, armed with heavy oxhide whips ready to obey orders of the inquisitor, who frequently personally intervenes to increase the number of blows.

The heads of San Vittore are NCO KOCH, Corporal KLEMM, both of the SS, and Captain BOSSI and Lt. MELLI of the department of special police.

The terrible monotony of the prison is sometimes interrupted by an event which causes the greatest emotion among the prisoners; the rumour suddenly spreads that "a convoy is about to depart for the concentration camps in Germany or Poland Everybody holds their breath during the roll call, which is in alphabetical order, then the prisoners are loaded on heavily escorted lorries, while in the

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The victim is taken to a room and his hands, held high above his head, are fastened to a chain in the wall; beside him stand two assistant-gaolers, armed with heavy oxhide whips ready to obey orders of the inquisitor, who frequently personally intervenes to increase the number of blows.

The heads of San Vittore are NCO KOCH, Corporal KLEMM, both of the SS, and Captain BOSSI and Lt. MELLI of the department of special police.

The terrible monotony of the prison is sometimes interrupted by an event which causes the greatest emotion among the prisoners; the rumour suddenly spreads that "a convoy is about to depart for the concentration camps in Germany or Poland Everybody holds their breath during the roll call, which is in alphabetical order, then the prisoners are loaded on heavily escorted lorries, while in the square outside cordons of guards hold back the distressed crowds of relatives who have rushed out to get news. Among these departing are whole families of Jews. The lorries drive quickly to the railway station, where the prisoners are loaded in cattle trucks which are carefully sealed, and in which they are made to remain for several days without food or water, and in indescribable hygienic conditions. Such is the San Vittore hell.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 10.7.44)

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GUBBIO On the 22nd June, following the killing of two Germans 40 hostages were shot at Gubbio. A large trench was dug for 150 civilian hostages, but at the last moment only 40 were chosen, who had been tried. The Germans retreated afterwards to the hills around Gubbio whence they made frequent terror raids on the district.
(

SAN PAOLO In San Paolo a small locality near AREZZO, 41 persons, 15 of them partisans, were executed on the 14th July, after having been tortured.

Padre BROGI, professore in the College Maristi in CASTIGLIONE FIORENTINO was caught in possession of a revolver. After being brutally beaten he was killed by the Germans.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 19.7.44).

MASSA MARITTIMA An informant recounts that on entering Massa Marittima she saw written up on the walls "Viva Norma" without understanding to what it referred. On enquiring she learnt from the partisans that it referred to a young woman, wife of one of the partisans, who had always helped them. She was suspected and discovered in her house with two Russians who had taken refuge with her. She was then violated, killed and quartered from the mouth to the stomach. This happened on the 21st July.

On the 23rd June, previous to this incident, the Germans decided that the partisans hampered their movements and therefore entered Massa Marittima and took 26 young men as hostages and stuck up the following notice:-

"The German armed forces, as a guarantee for their own security have taken 26 hostages, who will be freed if they do not meet with any action on the part of the partisans against our troops."

The leaders of the partisans, after considering the situation, decided to sacrifice the young men, notwithstanding the fact that amongst them were the sons and brothers of those who had to make the decision. They therefore began attacks on the Germans and acts of sabotage. Two days later two of the hostages managed to escape, and said that the other 24 had been taken to Florence. Nothing has since been heard of them.

On June 18th the Germans entered the mines of NICCICLETTA, with the intention of deporting all the workmen. Some of the men tried to escape; the Germans therefore, shot them on the spot, each one in his own house - seven of them, in front of their wives and children. Then they captured and deported 83 men.

About the 5th July German troops which were on the line of GUARDISTILLO were attacked by the partisans. The Germans seized all the people who happened in be in the neighbourhood in revenge.

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About the 5th July German troops which were on the line of GUARDISTILLO were attacked by the partisans. The Germans seized all the people who happened in be in the neighbourhood in revenge. They brought them all together and killed about 50 with machine guns or with the blow of a rifle but on the head. Attracted by the cries of the dying other people ran to the spot. The Germans captured them and added another 25 to the murdered, leaving on the ground in all 74 dead, horribly massacred, nearly all with their heads smashed in with rifle buts.

On the same day as this atrocity was committed in the village of VADA (CECINA) the Germans, in order to terrorise the population took and killed about 10 people in the main square, afterwards forcing

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the population to march past the corpses four by four. The murderers stood on guard with rifles to ensure that the procession was orderly.

XIII. De-Militarisation of Florence.

Early last December the Fuhrer declared Florence an open city.

In order to deprive the town of all military character the offices of the Wehrmacht and the Fascist Army were evacuated from the city, apart from those absolutely indispensable for the maintenance of order, such as command posts and military hospitals, in full conformity with international law.

According to reports from Italian sources there are not more than 200 officers and soldiers at present in Florence. All soldiers have been forbidden to enter the city or its outskirts, which are guarded by 700 gendarmes. Even Staff officers are not permitted to enter. Posters displayed in the town and in the outskirts warn that severe measures will be taken against those who disobey. The Germans have removed all military depots and repair shops.
(Gazette de Lausenne 14.7.44).

XIV. Reward for capture of Allied P.Ws.

A captured German poster runs as follows:-

A.REWARD

of 1800 Italian lire or 20 English pounds sterling, on choice, will be paid to any Italian who captures an English or American soldier escaped from a Prisoner of War camp and who hands him over to a German unit.

German Military Command.

(P.W.B. 8th Army).

XV. Air Raid Precautions

Proprietors and tenants of buildings immediately to the north of VERONA are obliged by the Germans to construct trenches and air raid shelters on either side of the road.
(Italian Official Source).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XVI. Reception in Florence. The most popular Allied broadcasts in Italian are the B.B.C. programmes. The transmissions were always

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ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XVI. Reception in Florence. The most popular Allied broadcasts in Italian are the B.B.C. programmes. The transmissions were always heard well; Radio Rome, under the Allied direction is heard well in FLORENCE. Italia Combatte is well liked and the denouncements of Fascists and German collaborators are soon passed round by word of mouth.

When sources left Florence on the 17th June the radio station and studios belonging to the E.I.A.R. were in perfect order and working. The only radio stations they knew of in Florence, apart from a military one, at the barracks in Via Della Scala, were the two belonging to the E.I.A.R. on the Via Bodgnese.

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At CaSTIGLION FIORENTINO there had been no electricity for some time and there were no battery sets except one one-valve one which the partisans used in the Monte FaVALTO area for listening to the instructions given in the Italia Combatte programme.
(P.W.B. 8th Army).

POLITICS

XVII. Explanation of Graziani's Resignation

The Fascist press reports that War Minister Graziani asked to be relieved of his post because of Field Marshal Kesselring's decision to subordinate the Republican Army units to German commanders.
(News Digest 21.7.44).

XVIII. Enforcement of war discipline. The Fascist government have just decreed the death sentence not only on all who aid and shelter escaped prisoners of war or members of hostile armies, but also on persons causing destruction, pillaging, publishing articles with allustrations aiming at creating unrest and causing difficulty to Fascist authorities, and on those who illegally publish or distribute leaflets. The leaders, ringleaders and instigators of strikes will also be sentenced to death, while the strikers themselves have been threatened with the maximum of 20 years imprisonment. Death sentences and numberous new sentences of hard labour or imprisonment for other "offences against war discipline" will be imposed by the Extraordinary Tribunal for the Defence of the State.
(Neue Zürcher Zeitung 17.7.44).

XIX. Farinacci approves "Lidice" operations.

In "Regime Fascista" Farinacci reveals that towns and villages are being destroyed in the Appenines in the same manner as Lidice. "Rural centres in this region which have sheltered the enemy have paid heavily. Obviously, if there is a question of defending the rear of the army engaged at the front, one cannot distinguish between degrees of culpability. Lukewarm and timid people have to suffer with the others." Farinacci concludes "We have a duty towards our German Allies to react with all our forces, without pity".
(Feuille d'Avis Neuchatel 17.7.44).

XX. Political situation in Montepulciano.

The Christian Socialist party is the only one really organised at present. It has many members. It has been active since the end of 1942, and has taken an active part in the organisation of the Committee of Liberation for the partisan struggle. The Communist tendency in this district is also strong. The Liberal Democrats are backed by men of great standing, but with little

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(P.W.B. 8th Army).

ECONOMICS.

XXI. Food Situation.

TRIESTE The Provincial Food Office in Trieste announces the cancellation of regulations regarding the consumption of a standard dish in restaurants. The Food Office also announces the

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following food rations for July: 1 kg of sugar, 500 gr. of fruit pulp; for the first fortnight of July: 1 kg of flour, 500 g of rice, 200 g of dripping.
(Dautsche Adria Zeitung 4.7.44).

Increased rations for railway workers. As from July 15executive railway personnel will be granted the same food rations as workers in the heaviest industries.
(La Sera Milan 10.7.44).

Food situation in north. Crops of most types are very favourably reported on this year. The wheat crop should be excellent, but fear is expressed as to what damage may be done by the Germans, either by wilful destruction or by carrying off the grain to Germany. For some distance behind the German lines peasants are refraining from cutting the corn until the arrival of the Allies, in case the Germans take it away.
(8th Army R.I.P.)

XXII. Transport.

Railways. Bridges on the Po at PIACENZA and at CREMONA have been broken, also to the south of PAVIA and to the north west of VOGHERA.
(Italian official source 13.7.44).

The directors of the Nord Milan railway are in difficulties because the stocks of coal are coming to an end. The Nord Milan, which serves a large region around VARESE and COMO, where there are tens of thousands of evacuees, is only partly electrified.
(Popolo e Liberta 12.7.44).

Until a months ago a few lorries loaded with coal appeared among the empty lorries sent from Germany in order to load them with food supplies. At present even coal is sent to Germany and soon numerous factories will have to close down for lack of coal.
(Popolo e Liberta 11.7.44).

PISA -GENOVA The railway viaducts at ZOAGLI, RECCO and SORI (Levant Riviere), owing to numerous air raids are completely broken down and it is impossible for the time being to repair them.

PARMA-LA SPEZIA Interrupted 14th July. At BORGO VAL DI TARA (Bridge on the Tara destroyed and a tunnel obstructed by a train which was blown up) At OSTIA PARMENSE (north of Borgo Val di Tara)- the bridge on the Tara destroyed. The aforesaid interruptions of communications were all caused by the patricts.

BOLOGNA-VERONA-TRENTO-BOLZANO-BRENNERO Interrupted 13th July.

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BOLOGNA-VERONA-TRENTO-BOLZANO-BRENNERO Interrupted 13th July. Between the bridge on the Adige at PARONA DI VAPOLICELLA and the crossing of S. MASSIMO (north west of Verona), between Ca di David (7 km south of Verona) and BUTTAPIETRA (south of CA DI DAVID)

Three thousand workers were immediately employed to repair these interruptions. The traffic between the Brenner for Bologna and Brescia recommenced on the morning of the 14th July.

On the 13th July/at the station of VERONA P NUOVO, the arrival and departure lines for Milan, Trento, Modena, Bologna and Rovigo were interrupted. The line between VERONA P NUOVA and the station of PARONA DI VALPOLICELLA was repaired. In the same attack of the 13th the railway yard of Verona was seriously hit (in the last three raids

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600 goods waggons and 20 passenger waggons were damaged.

At the station of VERONA P. VESCOVO the lines for VENICE were interrupted (in all 250 trucks were damaged and 100 Germans killed, whilst they were leaving the train).
(Italian official source).

XXIII. Air Raid Damage.

COMPIOBBI The Station, the railway bridge to the north east of the station - the oil refinery, the soap works, the brick works and many civilian houses have been hit since the beginning of the month of May.
(Italian official source 22.7.44).

PARMA At the beginning of May the railway junction of PARMA was hit. In the same raid gasometers in the vicinity of the station were hit and two workshops, one of which makes gabions for wire netting, filled with stones, to be used for river dams.
(Italian Official Source 13.7.44).

XXIV. Finance.

Military developments in Italy are reflected by the lira quotation which, after the Allied occupation of Rome, dropped from 70 to 35 Swiss centimes per 100 lire on the free market. It is further reported that the Fascist Government has raised its war contribution from six to ten milliard lire monthly.
(Svenska Dagbladet 18.7.44).

LABOUR

XXV. Forced Labour Transportations.

Milan students sent to Germany. About 100 medical students from the MILAN university have been arrested and sent to Germany.
(Gazette de Lausanne 12.7.44).

The round-up of able-bodied men continues in the whole of northern Italy. Workers were arrested on July 18th at factory exits in VARESE, and 2,500, after being grouped according to age and physical condition, were crowded into sealed cattle trucks and deported to Germany. Older and unfit workers were afterwards released. Similar razzias are reported to have taken place at the exits of MILAN cinemas.
(Tribune de Geneve 18.7.44).

Italian workers will not be alone on their way to exile in Germany. They will be accompanied by Italian peasants. The MILAN Fascist newspapers publish a warning to the peasants from the Head of the Province of Milan, saying "As insufficient deliveries of requisitioned wheat have been made, such offences will in future be punished by arrest and deportation to labour camps in Italy or

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(Gazette de Lausanne 19.7.44).

The Germans do not content themselves with deporting men, they also take goods. For a long time they have been gradually exporting innumerable factory installations to Germany, undoubtedly destined to replace those daily being destroyed by the Allied Air Force. Terrified by the idea of being obliged to follow their machines, the workers repeatedly go on strike. It is now reported that the Germans are removing reserves of goods.
(Feuille d'Avis 18.7.44).

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XXVI. Transfer of Todt workers.

It is reported that towards the end of March the Germans transferred to Poland the best technical workers of the Todt organisation, among them specialists in the construction of airodromes. The workers were to be used in that part of Poland between Warsaw and the German frontier, particularly near the latter.
(P.W.B. Rome).
22.7.44.

CHURCH

XXVII. Power of the Church in Arezzo.

The Bishop of Arezzo never left the town and his palace is undamaged; he was quite undisturbed at the sound of guns and explosions of shells which went on while he was being interviewed. The Bishop is old and saintly. There were very few convinced Fascists in the province; the Church was and is very powerful and did quite a lot to help the resistance movement. All meetings of the Committee of Liberation were held in the Bishop's house.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 19.7.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXVIII. Fascists of Arezzo.

RAO TORRES	Prefect of Arezzo.
MELCHIOR	New Prefect
VECOLI	Judge of Special Court.
Capt. ABBATECOLA	of the G.N.R.
Major. GENNAROLI	" " "

The last three are described by the bishop as war criminals and responsible for several executions and atrocities. All of them fled north in June.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 19.7.44).

XXIX. Dangerous elements of San Giovanni Valdarno.

The brothers NOFERI
BENI
NANNICINI

(P.W.B. 8th Army 19.7.44).

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(P.W.B. 8th Army 19.7.44).

XXX. Fascists who have left Florence.

Source stated that PAVOLINI came to FLORENCE on about 10th June and ordered all the leading Fascists and Fascist officials to leave at once for the north. Many on receiving these instructions immediately left - DANIELLI the Podesta, MANGANELLO, the Federal Secretary and Major CARITA, the Italian S.S. commander.
(P.W.B. 8th Army).

XXXI. Fascists in Flight.

As the Allies advance the Fascist take to flight. They flee ever more terrified, always towards the north. The following have fled from SIENA.

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ALESSANDRO RINALDI, head of the political office of the Republican militia which conducted the trials of patriots.

EDMONDO PAFFETTI — Active collaborator with the police, and spy.

ANTONIO NICCOLI — Console of the Militia

MARIO CAPPELLI — Volunteer in the squads organised by the Fascists against the patriots.

PEPE — Colonel of the 5th Bersaglieri, zealous pro-German, ferocious hunter of patriots.

FILIPPO FONTANI — Sottcufficiale of one of the so-called Death Battalions.

ADOLFO TIRININNANZI -denouncer of patriots and spy, easily recognisable because he has only one leg.

GIUBBI — dangerous squadrist, fled to Florence, now reported to be in MURLO.

ALDO ALDUCCI — dangerous squadrist.

DUILIO CIONI — squadrist in the pay of the squadre occupied in rounding up those eligible for call up.

GINO BIANCIARDI — same as the above.

RIMONE BIANCIARDI — and sister, Anna, servile collaborators with the Germans.

UMBERTO TICCI — criminal squadrist, persecutor of patriots who boasts of having put out the eyes of patriots whom he arrested.

RENATO CIABATTINI and son, who took part in raids against the patriots.

ALFREDO MORANDI — Squadrist

ARTURO ANSELMI

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[illegible] FAFFETTI	Active collaborator with the police, and spy.
ANTONIO NICCOLI	Console of the Militia
MARIO CAPPELLI	Volunteer in the squads organised by the Fascists against the patriots.
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UMBERTO TICCI	criminal squadrist, persecutor of patriots who boasts of having put out the eyes of patriots whom he arrested.
RENATO CIABATTINI	and son, who took part in raids against the patriots.
ALFREDO MORANDI	Squadrist
ARTURO ANSELMI	Squadrist, took part in raids - more criminal than the above because he has the murder of several patriots on his conscience.

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declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Ccc).

28th July, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 17.

SUMMARY

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. [illegible] or (E)
JCS 1/4/74
[illegible] 3/3/75

RESISTANCE

Partisans. A P.W.B. 8th Army report on partisan bands in the vicinity of SIENA notes that in general patriots fall into four categories -
(1) Organised military bands, led by regular officers and carrying out directives of the Italian General Staff and Allied organisations.
(2) Large bodies of young men who have fled to the Macchia to avoid forced service. These are largely ineffective and only oppose a passive resistance by withdrawing from participation in the Fascist Forces.
(3) Organised Communist Bands.
(4) Brigand bands who terrorise the countryside.

The above is confirmed by many other sources, including an Allied officer who estimates the assistance given by partisans in the Adriatic sector as follows.-

They were especially useful under our direct command. They furnished guides and occasionally harassed enemy lines of communication, destroyed vehicles and cut off small parties. The enemy, however, took violent means of repression, which deterred all except the most determined.

Of patriot bands now absorbed by the Allied Advance, good reports are to hand on an Umbrian brigade, which fought for three days alongside the Allies, on the Brigata d'Urto, near UMBERTIDE, the 5th Garibaldi Brigade of PIEGARO, and a small band near CORTONA.

Garibaldi Brigades. There are now 14 Garibaldi brigades reported in existence, divided into two divisions, which number several thousand men. They wear a special tricolour badge. The brigades usually collaborate together, and obey the orders of the Committees of National Liberation in [illegible] Province [illegible] very active brigade

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

SUMMARY

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 ... or (E) JCS 1/4/74 ... 3/3/75

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Garibaldi Brigades. There are now 14 Garibaldi brigades reported in existence, divided into two divisions, which number several thousand men. They wear a special tricolour badge. The brigades usually collaborate together, and obey the orders of the Committees of National Liberation in each Province. A very active brigade covers the zone east of FLORENCE to east of ARETO. It was last heard of the in the difficult country of the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO.

Partisan Activities as seen by the Nazi-Fascists.

On 12th July the German High Command communicated that in N. Italy contingents of German troops were in action against "The Bandits".

German P.Ws. admit the demoralising effect of partisan activity which was described as a "Plague" and "worse than in Russia".

Many Russians enrolled by force in German labour battalions have been enticed away by Italians and have joined partisan groups.

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SUMMARY 2.

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It is said that the Turkestan Division was sent back to Germany as a result of these desertions.

Two Mussolini deserters who joined the partisans declared that their treatment had been very good and that they thought the self-sacrifice of the patriots would go far to destroy French prejudices.

Activity in Occupied Italy.

TUSCANY The National Committee reported that on 5th July partisans had begun a general attack on German lines of communication in Tuscany.

VALTELLINA. A train between TIRANO and COLICO was held up and all Italian soldiers on board joined the patriots. In the VALTELLINA the activity of the partisans is causing much anxiety and many German troops have been moved into the valley with tanks and guns. 500 are reported to be stationed in TIRANO.

MONTE DEL GRAPPINO Thousands of partisans are reported in this area, where they have had several clashes with the Germans. The village of VALLUCIOLE was burnt as a reprisal and 200 out of 500 inhabitants shot down as they fled.

Assassinations.

The most notable cases this week are -

Mario Frigido, Communal Secretary of SANT ALBANO STURA and a German Commissioner of Gendarmerie in BAVENO (Province of NOVARA)

Costa, the Federal Commissioner of MILAN, was attacked and wounded.

FASCIST FORCES

The Call-up. The enrolment of paratroopers due to close on 30th June has been prolonged indefinitely.

Desertion In LIGURIA, PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY 400 soldiers, 100 officers, 500 cadets and 600 NCOs deserted in the last fortnight.

Organisation- S. Marco Marines. The S. Marco Marines have an uncertain number of battalions, each with a troop of artillery and a Recce squadron. Except for the Nembo and Barbarigo Battalions,

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Guardia Sicurezza - Trentino This body has been recruited from German elements in the Trentino for use against partisans in BOLZANO. At the time of the armistice German elements rioted in favour of Germany and obtained control of the Trentino.

GERMANS

Dispositions Further reports indicate that the Germans are preparing to evacuate Italy.

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SUMMARY3.

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Supply and Communications Difficulties. Captured documents bear witness to difficulties in supplies caused by indiscriminate confiscation of livestock, and to sabotage of telegraph and telephone lines.

Morale The Germans in MILAN are said to be uneasy about possible Allied parachute landings to help patriots in the north. Drills and rehearsals are carried out in this connection.

Behaviour German atrocities are reported from ISOLA MAGGIORE (Lake TRASIMENE), MONTEFOLLONICO, FALZANO, CIVITELLA (a very bad case of mass reprisals) and CORNIA.

Propaganda. In COMO the official German explanation of their retreat is that they only came into Italy temporarily out of friendship for Mussolini.

Many German posters have been found stressing the theme "Germany is Italy's real friend".

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

In MILAN, spite of rumours, the Germans have not taken away radio sets.

POLITICS.

The "Stampa" of TURIN of the 22nd June, which was confiscated for a very frank article by CONCETTO PETTINATO, is selling at 100 to 200 lire the copy. It strongly criticised the unreliable nature of the Republican Army, Fascist Republican Economy and the Nationalisation of Industry and called for a Committee of Public Safety in TURIN.

In MILAN, which is the birthplace of Fascism, the Fascists are reported to be arrogant, very zealous and to be trying to bolster up military action against the general revolt.

ECONOMICS

Food Situation MILAN Although the bread ration has been increased life is very dear.

Crop Prospects Owing to good weather, the harvest has been exceptionally good. Rice and maize yields are also expected to be good.

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Salt. There is a great scarcity of salt.

Transport. In MILAN railways, buses, and trams are working regularly, as also Post and Telegraph services, but only in N. Italy. There has been no post from FLORENCE for two months.

To cope with the transport chaos a new decree subjects road traffic to war requirements. All civilian cars must be registered by June 30th. A grave shortage of railway rolling-stock is reported.

Industry MILAN Practically all factories are working, but production is very small owing to shortage of raw materials and sabotage.

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SUMMARY 4.

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MONFALCONE The shipyards are closed.

Textile Industry This is being reorganised and all clothing cards declared invalid from June 30th.

LABOUR

A monster raid on the San Siro Stadium MILAN produced 1400 men for Labour in Germany. Other raids were made in cinemas.

Letters from Italian workers in Germany are full of complaints.

Strikes. The TURIN strikes forced Germans to send in S.S. detachments, which were meant for the front. Over 3000 workpeople were deported.

THE CHURCH

The Fascist Press campaign against Cardinal SCHUSTER of MILAN, Cardinal PIAZZA of VENICE and Archbishop GASSANI of CREMONA continues with unabated violence.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

26th July, 1944

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY :- NO 17.

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"D" Section Italy (Ccc). 26th July, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 17.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

An informant interviewed at LA FOCE, near CHIANCIANO, province of SIENA, described the partisan activities in the neighbourhood and classified the patriots in that area into four categories. These classifications can be applied to very many of the regions of north Italy where partisans have been active. They may be described as follows:-

(1) Those who acted in organised military bands, led by regular officers and receiving directives from the Italian Staff and allied organisations. There had been no very great number of them in the district, nor had they received effective support in the form of arms, ammunition and supplies, and consequently they had not been able to achieve much. They had, however, recently received some explosives which had been dropped to them by the Allies and with which they had managed to destroy some bridges.

(2) The bands of youths who called themselves patriots, but who were rather escaping from the Germans than effectively fighting them. These young men often hardly knew how to handle arms and would come to La Foce with wounds inflicted on each other through handling their weapons. Most of these boys joined the patriot bands so as to avoid conscription by the Germans. Their value has been mainly negative, in preventing the Germans from mobilising the local labour, or carrying off manpower to Germany. Together with the organised military bands they might have accomplished more in blowing up bridges prior to the German withdrawal, had they been given the equipment and proper directives.

(3) Organised Communist bands. These had not operated in

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(3) Organised Communist bands. These had not operated in this region, though they had been quite active in the area of MONTE AMIATA. The Germans had had considerable trouble with them, and consequently sent two decoys to discover their hide-out and the extent of their organisation. These decoys pretended to be Austrian deserters, seeking protection from the Germans. The plan was altogether successful, the Germans were able to surround the patriot HQ and capture a number of them. They used armoured cars and a tank for this operation.

(4) So called patriots who were brigands who terrorised their neighbourhood until they were themselves disposed of by some form of summary justice.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 5.7.44).

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Estimate of partisan assistance to Allies in Adriatic Sector.

An account of resistance movements recently encountered on the Adriatic sector has been given by a British officer attached to Italian troops. He says that to estimate the true value of their action a distinction must be made between partisans, or bands with some semblance of discipline and patriots, or the loose organisation of the well-inclined.

"Partisans " he says "may be said to have given us some measure of effective help. They were especially useful under our direct command (e.g. the Band of the Marche). In static conditions they furnished guides for our patrols and in the recent advance they furnished guides for our forward troops. They occasionally harassed enemy lines of communication, destroyed vehicles and cut off small parties. The enmy, however, took violent means of repression which kept passive all but the most determined. Their houses were burned, their families were taken as hostages and any prisoners captured were shot.".

The officer takes as an example the bands in the province of MACERATA and gives a resume of their activities and their successes.

1) Of a fluctuating strength of some 700 men they lost about 140 -60 by enemy action, 80 prisoners shot.

2) They claim to have destroyed some 200 enemy MT and 8 tanks.

3) By demolitions they denied the enemy the use of the TOLENTINO FOLIGNO lateral and sought to restrict his movements to main roads where he was subject to air attack.

4) They forced the enemy to employ a considerable force in the area (at times, according to their estimate a Div. in the area MACERATA -PESARO)

5) They caused the enemy losses in men, the extent of which is difficult to estimate.

6) By threats of reprisal they prevented the local population from complying with call-up for military or labour service.

7) In the withdrawal they were able to save some bridges and some electric light plants.

The chief difficulty partisan leaders met was to provide arms and to obtain communications. Sources of arms were:-

a) Local population and carabinieri, for rifles only
b) Enemy ammunition however was not always obtainable

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a) Local population and carabinieri, for rifles only
b) Enemy ammunition however was not always obtainable
c) Stens dropped by parachute
d) Explosives for demolitions, dropped by parachute.

To sum up the Italian partisan organisation, directed by ourselves and controlled in part by an Italian General inside enemy occupied territory, gave good results where it found adequate local support and efficient leaders.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 13.7.44).

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Patriots join up with 8th army

The patriots of a brigade working in UMBRIA on 8th July made contact between their forces and the first parties of the 8th army. Side by side with the Allied troops they fought for three days, inflicting severe losses on the enemy. In these actions thirteen patriots fell. The brave behaviour of the brigade has been praised by the Allied command.

This same brigade of patriots, during the six months of its activity put 300 Germans out of action, and blew up 18 bridges to impede the enemy's retreat. Altogether 37 patriots fell. (P.W.B. Rome).

The Garibaldi Brigades.

There are now reported to be 14 Garibaldi Assault Brigades, each with its own number. They are divided into two divisions, each containing seven Brigades. Both divisions number several thousand men who wear a special tricolour badge secretly made by Italian women, the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of Italian patriots. The Garibaldi Assault brigades usually act in close collaboration with each other and obey orders issued by the Committee of National Liberation in each province. Liaison between the committee and Brigades is maintained by "commissari". Commanders are, however, permitted to assume initiative of action whenever the occasion arises. (PID Italian Region 10.7.44).

A partisan leader has provided a list of patriot bands in the area NE of FLORENCE, and these probably belong to the local very active Garibaldi Brigade, under a leader who goes by the name of LIBERO, with a Lieutenant who styles himself MARZAN. The territory of this Garibaldi Brigade is believed to extend from east of FLORENCE to east of BAGNO. Though compelled a few months ago to lie low for a time owing to German mopping-up operations, the brigade is believed to be active again, and in the fastnesses of the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO (one of the most difficult areas in the Appenines) it has a secure base for harrassing Germans in the construction of the GOTHIC LINE defences, which cut right across its area.

Another informant gives some particulars of partisans in the PRATOMAGNO area NW of AREZZO. These probably constitute Four Garibaldi Brigade, which has been reported in this area, and may consist of some 5/600 well armed men, apart from "hangers on".

Some achievements of partisans in ISTRIA are also reported. Railways communications with POLA are stated to be more or less permanently interrupted, since partisans are in almost undisputed possession of the hinterland.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary No. 20 13.7.44).

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(P.W.B. Rome).

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UMBERTIDE Two separate partisan bands were found in this region.

1. Brigate d'Urto - leader Capt. P.
2. 8th Brigate Garibaldi - Pesaro - leader "Nicola".

The Brigata d'Urto which reached a maximum strength of 160 armed men and 280 workers covered the zone UMBERTIDE-GUBBIO-CITTA CASTELLO-APECCHIO. They worked under the orders of the Comitati of PERUGIA and FIORENCE, but it seems that all military decisions were taken by Capt. P. until May 16th, when three Americans were dropped by parachute with radio transmitters and arms and practically took over the command of the band. Their centre was PIETRALUNGA, they operated on German lines of communications.

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On the 10th April they helped the American consul of Monaco Crlaugh to cross the lines. 200 Allied prisoners were assisted.

The 5th Brigata Garibaldi "Pesaro" operated in the province of Pesaro, with the exception of VAL DI ...RECCHIA. The band was formed by the Comitato di Liberazione of PESARO. They had a Russian battalion composed of 160 Russians and Yugoslavs. They reached a maximum strength of 700. The band took orders from the C. d L. and, although the leader is a communist, all members were perfectly united.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 13.7.44).

Effect of Partisan Activities on German morale and behaviour.

The fight between the Italian patricts and the nazi-fascists in the north of Italy is by now transformed into open warfare; a war without quarter. On 12th July for the first time a communique given out from the German High Command in Berlin, hinted at such a war, declaring that contingents of German troops had entered into action in the north of Italy against armed groups which were naturally defined as "bandits" and "saboteurs". There was no need of this official testimony to convince the entire world of the wish to fight on the part of the best of the Italian people. But the quotation of the German bulletin, which must have been given with clenched teeth, stands for an involuntary recognition of the results arrived at by the Italian patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome).

German P.Ws when interrogated lay great emphasis on the efficiency and demoralising effect of patriot actions, which were called "a plague", "worse than in Russia" and were a constant threat to communications and to the progress of the retreat. One German group were attacked on a ridge and later at a road intersection and was forced to by-pass the road, making a detour of 15 km. radius. Withdrawals by small groups became impossible along the highways because of this menace and had to be carried out over the mountains. Single vehicles could not be permitted to take the road.

The men were more afraid of the partisans than of the enemy, because of the psychological effect of ambush tactics, and also because partisans were said not to take prisoners.

The whole 45 regiment was forced to withdraw 5 kms in the

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(P.W.B. 8th Army 13.7.44).

Effect of Partisan activities on German morale and behaviour.

The fight between the Italian patriots and the nazi-fascists in the north of Italy is by now transformed into open warfare; a war without quarter. On 12th July for the first time a communique given out from the German High Command in Berlin, hinted at such a war, declaring that contingents of German troops had entered into action in the north of Italy against armed groups which were naturally defined as "bandits" and "saboteurs". There was no need of this official testimony to convince the entire world of the wish to fight on the part of the best of the Italian people. But the quotation of the German bulletin, which must have been given with clenched teeth, stands for an involuntary recognition of the results arrived at by the Italian patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome).

German P.Ws when interrogated lay great emphasis on the efficiency and demoralising effect of patriot actions, which were called "a plague", "worse than in Russia" and were a constant threat to communications and to the progress of the retreat. One German group were attacked on a ridge and later at a road intersection and was forced to by-pass the road, making a detour of 15 km. radius. Withdrawals by small groups became impossible along the highways because of this menace and had to be carried out over the mountains. Single vehicles could not be permitted to take the road.

The men were more afraid of the partisans than of the enemy, because of the psychological effect of ambush tactics, and also because partisans were said not to take prisoners.

The whole 45 regiment was forced to withdraw 5 kms in the neighbourhood of RIPARBELLA, because there were reported to be 3,000 partisans in the region.

German troops were on edge, particularly during night convoys. When this particular P.Ws' unit travelled to PISA, this state of nerves caused the death of four soldiers. At an intersection, a military policemen directing the traffic signalled the road to the convoys by three red flashes. The machine-guns, always on the alert, mistook the flashes for partisan signals, and started firing. The military police fired back instantly and three soldiers and one policeman were killed and several wounded before the error was discovered.

One P.W. had only a hazy recollection of his eight days in action, to him just one nightmare of long marches and fighting against sleepiness. All he found to say about the Italian campaign as a whole was "WE NEVER KNOW WHAT'S AT OUR BACKS"

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A Russian who was an NCO in the Russian Army, was captured by the Germans at Kharkov and was sent to Italy in a Labour Battalion. He describes his experiences of the Italian partisans.

Some time in January an Italian approached him in a restaurant, and after seeing his papers, invited him and eight other Russians to join the patricts. He provided them with a list of persons whom they were to contact. When the group deserted, they were shipped smoothly from place to place, were given civilian clothes and papers and reached CASTOLLINA MARITIMA safely. All nine were experienced soldiers, some of them having had guerilla training in Russia. Under source's leadership they went into action immediately.

The patriots operated in small groups, never more than 10 men, and they never attacked large detachments of the enemy. They specialised in assaulting small German patrols of 3 to 4 men, killed them and took their weapons and ammunition. They would attack single vehicles. They also executed a number of well-known Fascists in rural districts. They had the support of the population, and organised it methodically; food was taken from farmers against identification, and exits were given for everything received.

They never surrendered to the enemy, as they knew it would mean hanging. Partisans became known to each other by a red scarf and a double-whistling signal.

Source also disseminated leaflets and a mimeographed newspaper to Russian labour troops in the vicinity of HISA, aided by another of the patriots. Many of these Russians joined the patriots and source believed that the entire Turkestan Division, with the exception of some labour battalions was sent back to Germany after these wholesale desertions. He expressed high praise for the Italian patriots, whose discipline and devotion surprised him in the first days.

Patriot relations with French deserters

Two 18-year old Alsatians deserted in June from a Regt. of the 16 SS Division to join the partisans. They fought with them for three weeks, waiting for the front to advance so that they could volunteer for the French army. They had some fears at first that the Italians might betray them, but they soon discovered, they said, that all their ideas about Italians were wrong. They related that the patriots would not allow them to go on sorties, because they were too young to risk their lives like that. They said that the self-sacrifice of the Italian patriots will go a long way to heal French susceptibilities.
(P.W.B. German Intelligence- Rome).

News of Various Bands.

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(P.W.B. German Intelligence- Rome).

News of Various Bands.

The National Committee's communique of the 9th July stated that in TUSCANY the partisans have begun a general attack on the Wehrmacht's lines of communication.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 10.7.44).

COLICO A train from TIRANO to COLICO was held up by the partisans and all the Italian soldiers aboard the train, including three senior officers, were taken up into the mountains. A partisan column with twenty-seven pack mules presently arrived in COLICO and requisitioned food. The local German and neo-Fascist garrison of about ninety did not dare to interfere.
(PID Italian Region 3.7.44).

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VALTELLINA The situation in Valtelline is becoming serious, since the partisans are interrupting railway lines, halting and searching trains, and taking Fascists and Germans prisoner. Whoever resists is killed, including, recently, a German Major and another officer.

German troops are stationed in large numbers in the valley, armed with tanks and guns. Five hundred are in TIRANO, where a hospital for German troops has been opened. Nevertheless in various clashes it is the Germans and Fascists who have suffered worst, losing 100 men in a recent encounter in APRICA. The Militia are easily frightened either fleeing or surrendering.
(Popolo e Liberta 10.7.44).

MONTE DEL CASENTINO Thousands of partisans were reported in Monte del Casentino, and there had been several fights with the Germans in that area. In the village of VALLUCIOLE one German soldier was killed by the partisans. The Germans started burning the village with flame throwers, and machine-gunned the population as they ran away. Out of a total population of 500, 200 became casualties. This was the most severe reprisal in this region, and others had been of minor importance.

A Patriot Hero

The zone of DERUTA, BETTONE, COLLEMANCIO and POMONTE, near PERUGIA was the haunt of a partisan band composed of young men of the Partito D'Azione, led by a seventeen year-old boy, AUGUSTO DEL BON TROMBONI.

Their activity caused the enemy to estimate their numbers as several hundred well-armed men, whereas in all they were 80, of whom only 30 had rifles, pistols and hand-grenades. About mid-March, to exterminate them, the Germans organised an operation on a grand scale with artillery and mortars and surrounded the entire zone. A Communist band of about 30 partisans, of which only 10 were armed, attached themselves to Del Bon Tromboni. The position occupied by the band commanded the entrance to the Bettone Wood and the partisans held it from 8 in the morning until 3 in the afternoon, against mortar, machine-gun and artillery fire.

At 3 in the afternoon the Communist band succeeded in finding a way of escape. Del Bon Tromboni, who was wounded in the leg, gave the order for all to retire the same way and carry off their wounded. A few volunteers were called on to cover the retreat. Another seventeen-year old boy ENRIC GRECCHI and five Sardinians offered themselves. These men held the Germans off for another two hours. A burst of machine-gun fire almost cut off the legs of one of the Sardinians. With a cry of "Viva L'Italia", he dropped to the ground,

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men in a recent encounter in Arezzo. The Germans are daily dislodging either fleeing or surrendering.
(Popolo e Liberta 10.7.44).

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The survivors retreated carrying Grecchi. He ordered them to leave him, but they refused. He then threatened them with his revolver until they put him down and left him. He continued firing on the Germans until his ammunition failed. He was then taken prisoner, but in admiration for his pluck, they gave him first aid and carried him off to hospital in PERUGIA.

In the meantime DEL BON TROMBONI was also captured owing to his leg wound. He knew Grecchi would be condemned to death and offered himself in his place, stating that he was responsible as chief of the band. It seemed at first that his offer was accepted because he was taken to the place of execution on 17th March. While he waited there

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Gracchi was carried there on a stretcher. He had been given blood transfusions owing to his weakness from wounds and loss of blood. The Germans tied him to a pole. He refused to have his eyes blindfolded, saying "You are cowards". He turned to Tromboni and in a faint voice said "Take my place and continue the fight". I am not sorry to die for Italy".

The Germans would not allow any cross on his greve. Friends placed one on it, and it was taken away. They replaced it. A caretaker was set to remove flowers, but they were continually replaced.

Augusto Del Bon Tromboni had a miraculous escape from execution and on 18th June headed the first company of volunteers that left Perugia. The company was named "MARIO GRECCHI". (P.W.B. 8th Army).

Cortona Partisans

In the town of CORTONA were found two clear instances of the divergence in the Italian patriot movement, between those who are ready to do something, even if it has to be on a small scale, and those who have used the name of partisan largely to cash in on the new order.

One band was said to number about 100 and was led by a man called SCOPINI, a sterling figure attired himself in white shorts, red shirt and black half-length jack-boots. This band was accused of being nothing better than robbers and looters. Scopini was also said to have fought for the Fascists in Spain. The band had indeed sheltered several Allied ex-P.W. both English and Russian, but apart from lurid accounts of German punitive expeditions, many generalities and much stressing of their sufferings, no accurate details of their activities could be obtained.

The second band, on the other hand, was smaller - consisting to start with of only 37 members, but kept a business-like "war diary" and operated in the hills to the NE of Cortona, through which runs the road to CITTA DI CASTELLO.

They recorded that they had:-

(1) Killed 10 German soldiers.
(2) Taken 11 PW, who were later handed over to the Allies
(3) Wrecked 7 German trucks of various kinds.
(4) Blown up two bridges on the Cortona-Citta di Castello road.

The Germans took a serious enough view of them to send a

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Augusto Del Bon Tromboni had a miraculous escape from execution and on 15th June headed the first company of volunteers that left Perugia. The company was named "MARIO GRECCHI". (P.W.B. 8th Army).

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The Germans took a serious enough view of them to send a punitive expedition, consisting of about 100-150 men and several armoured cars, against them on 27th June.

Since the arrival of the Allies they have continued to co-operate in that various members have come and given all the information they had of the area still held by the Germans in the hills to the east of Cortona.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 13.7.44).

II. Assassinations.

SANT'ALBANO STURA The Communal Secretary of Sant'Albano Stura, MARIO FRIGIDO, was kidnapped some days ago by bandits when he was coming from his office; he was found dead, having been machine-gunned near MONTANERA.
(Gazzetta del Popolo 4.7.44).

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BERGAMO The Republican Fascist BORTOLO SALVI, kidnapped on July 4th by a partisan group, in enemy pay in BERBENNO in the VAL BREMBANA, was found on July 5th, shot point blank. The Militiaman ANGELO MAVA was killed by assassins in enemy pay while on a mission to relieve his detachment.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 6.7.44).

MILAN The Federal Commissioner of Milan COSTA, and three other people were attacked while driving in a car. The car was overturned. Costa was wounded, but the others were not injured.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 10.7.44).

PAVIA Twenty partisans attacked the house of General RENZO MONTAGNA near Pavia. The General defended himself and routed the partisans after killing one, and wounding several others.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 10.7.44).

BAVENO. At Baveno in NOVARA Province, the Commissioner of the German gendarmerie has been killed.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 6.7.44).

III. Association of Italian Partisans.- Patriots

An Association of Italian Patriots - Partisans has been set up in ROME with headquarters in Piazza Esedra No 68. The Association, which is non-political, is joined by every Patriot and every Partisan unit as a fighting whole. A meeting of representatives of all parties and groups has already been held at the Association's headquarters to nominate the Committee.
(P.I.B. Italian Region).

FASCIST FORCES.

IV. The Call-up.

ISTRIA No Italians in Istria are called up for military service, as German authorities consider them dangerously unreliable.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 13.7.44).

No Exemptions for Certain Classes. The German Military Command announces that no exemptions will be granted to the 1918-21 classes and to the first half of the 1926 class.

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Enrolment of Paratroops Prolonged Indefinitely. The recent order for the enrolment of daring paratroops, due to expire on June 30th must be understood to have been prolonged indefinitely by order of the General Staff of the Air Force. The School for Air Force Parachutists will therefore continue to turn out paratroops on the basis of the new and up to date equipment.
(Italian Home Service 11.7.44).

V. Desertions.

In LIGURIA, PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY 400 soldiers, 100 officers, 500 cadets and 600 NCOs deserted during the last fortnight.
(My Dag 6.7.44).

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VI. The S. Marco Marines.

The S. MARCO MARINES have an uncertain number of battalions, each about 1000 strong, under command of a major. Each battalion has a troop of artillery and a Recce squadron. With the exception of the NEMBO and BARBERINI battalions they only receive full equipment when they are about to be sent to Germany. The scale provides for each man to be issued with an automatic rifle and a pistol. The Nembo and Barberini Battalions still contain volunteers and are thus considered reliable. The other battalions have, however, received drafts of conscripts and are probably quite the reverse. The Commander is said to be still PRINCE BORGHESE.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 13.7.44).

VII. Guardia Sicurezza in Bolzano..

The Guardia Sicurezza Trentina has been recruited by the Germans for use against the partisans in BOLZANO. It is mainly composed of German speaking elements from the TRENTINO, who are considered reliable. The German element showed its feelings at the time of the Armistice by pro-German riots, which allowed it to assume practical control of the area. Further demonstration of the general pro-German feeling was given in the Germanising of all street etc. names.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 13.7.44).

VIII. Atrocities.

At LITTORIO, SEZZE, CORI, as in all the minor centres of the Pontine district, the population have related to the Allies with curses the infamies which the men of the "SAN MARCO" and "BARBERIGO" battalions perpetrated; theft, abuses of authority, persecutions, assassinations, committed by men who should have been brothers and instead showed themselves to be butchers without mercy. They have now fled, in true Fascist style, towards the north before the Allied advance. They continue their activities there, to the detriment of the population that have the ill luck to give them hospitality.
(P.W.B. Rome).

GERMANS

IX. Disposition.

The German administrative authorities in Italy are preparing the complete evacuation of the country. German civilians have been ordered home from the north Italian towns. German officials are ceasing activity, important documents are either being burnt or sent to Germany, and irreplaceable machinery is likewise despatched on the same route. During the last few days long goods trains left for Germany. Everything points towards the fact that the German defence

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(Nya Dagligt Allehanda 2.7.44).

X. Supply Difficulties and Communications.

The following extracts from a captured German order reveal the strain on supply lines to the Italian front, and the extent to which the German army is living off the country.

"Cases of unauthorised confiscation of livestock are continually being reported. It is intolerable that the supply basis of troops employed here and who are for the most part supplied from this area should be impaired by units irresponsibly providing themselves with

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with superfluous stocks of meat and by having to feed the civilian population from army stocks. The result will be that the supply lines from the homeland will be still further called upon.

I therefore command that every soldier who is caught in unauthorised possession of livestock or at requisitioning livestock is to be arrested.

The alarm units, supply officers and local commandants are to instruct patrol leaders to pay particular attention to soldiers wandering alone about the countryside and to keep check on them.

Supply officers are to employ energetic NCOs so as to ensure the effective carrying out of patrol duties.

(signed) KRAFT
(Major).

(P.W.B. Rome German Intelligence).

The following undated German poster-proclamation, captured in RIETI provides evidence of damage by partisans to German communications:-

PROCLAMATION

All wire connections, and cables have been confiscated by the German army.

Any damage to these connections, as well as to communications constructed by German troops themselves will be punished by shooting

If those responsible cannot be apprehended, hostages will be immediately seized in the nearest locality in the event of communications being interrupted, and they will be shot if there is any repetition of the damage.

The German Supreme Commander.

XI. Morale.

Fear of Allied Parachute Landings. The Germans and Neo-Fascists in Milan are most worried about the possibility of parachute landings in connection with the patriot revolt. In this connection Germans have carried out rehearsals in Milan, in which all available troops, including armed clerical staff, stood to their appointed posts. A similar rehearsal was carried out in the prison of San Vittore. The Fascist headquarters in Milan have been barricaded. (P.I.D. Italian Region 3.7.44).

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Girls who have mixed with German soldiers in CUNEO describe the soldiers as in the first throes of defeatism. (P.I.D. Italian Region 3.7.44).

XII. Treatment of Italian Labour.

The following is a report on a camp at OSTIA, where over 300 Italian labourers were employed from April 20th 1944 under German orders:-

The life of the camp is very regular. The camp commandant, Lt. G. looks after his workers well and is appreciated by them. Messing is good, the rooms are very clean.

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The working spirit of the men is good.

The personal cleanliness of the men leaves much to be desired on account of the lack of drinking water. THERE IS NO DRINKING WATER AT ALL.

A very serious and frequent inconvenience is the maltreatment of the workers by the German supervisors. On Saturday a workman who had not understood a supervisor's order because it was given in German received from him a punch in the mouth which caused a laceration of the upper lip and the loss of a tooth. The justified remonstrances of the camp commandant to the German command produced no result.

FOR ABOUT A MONTH THE WORKMEN HAVE RECEIVED NO LEAVE, in spite of the promises of the German Command, and on Sunday about 50 workmen absented themselves because no leave was given as promised.

An urgent dispatch of soap, medicaments, and above all of water purifier is necessary.

Rome 17th May 1944.

(P.W.B. Rome German Intelligence).

XIII. Behaviour.

German Soldiers Loot and Kill.

A German PW 5 Coy 508 Army Signal Regt. interrogated at the end of July, said that looting in the AVEZZANO area had been on such a large scale that two death sentences had been passed.

A PW of the 2 coy. 3 Regt. 26 Panzer Grenadier Division, captured on 7th July thinks Germany may win the war yet, but hopes not. He is appalled by the prevailing brutality in the German army and fears that this spirit would know no limits in victory. He was shocked into this view during his training, in Northern Italy. His C.O. a Lt. Mueller, Iron Cross First Class at the age of 21, ordered his Coy to fire at two Italians who happened to be passing by, in order to "get used to the sight of a man dying" and to have practice in firing at live targets.

Captured German army orders reveal the extent to which looting and "requisitioning" is prevalent among German troops in Italy and the indifference of commanding officers to orders on the

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A very serious and frequent inconvenience is the maltreatment of the workers by the German supervisors. On Saturday a workman who had not understood a supervisor's order because it was given in German received from him a punch in the mouth which caused a laceration of the upper lip and the loss of a tooth. The justified remonstrances of the camp commandant to the German command produced no result.

FOR ABOUT A MONTH THE WORKMEN HAVE RECEIVED NO LEAVE, in spite of the promises of the German Command, and on Sunday about 50 workmen absented themselves because no leave was given as promised.

An urgent dispatch of soap, medicaments, and above all of water purifier is necessary.

Rome 17th May 1944.

(P.W.B. Rome German Intelligence).

XIII. Behaviour.

German Soldiers Loot and Kill.

A German PW 5 Coy 508 Army Signal Regt. interrogated at the end of July, said that looting in the AVEZZANO area had been on such a large scale that the death sentences had been passed.

A PW of the 2 coy. 5 Regt. 26 Panzer Grenadier Division, captured on 7th July thinks Germany may win the war yet, but hopes not. He is appalled by the prevailing brutality in the German Army and fears that this spirit would know no limits in victory. He was shocked into this view during his training, in Northern Italy. His C.O. a Lt. Mueller, Iron Cross First Class at the age of 21, ordered the Coy to fire at two Italians who happened to be passing by, in order to "get used to the sight of a man dying" and to have practice in firing at live targets.

Captured German Army orders reveal the extent to which looting and "requisitioning" is prevalent among German troops in Italy and the indifference of commanding officers to orders on the subject.
(P.W.B. Rome German Intelligence).

German Visit to Isola Maggiore (Trasimeno).

There are three islands on the Lake of TRASIMENO, and one of these, Isola Maggiore, was used by the Italians as a concentration camp for foreign Jews. Many were interned on the island after the declaration of war by Italy, and were put in the castle, which is the property of Marchese Guglielmi, vice President of the Italian Senate. The food was absolutely insufficient, but the inhabitants of the island, simple and poor folk, fishermen, supplemented their rations with generous gifts of fish, eggs, and other foods.

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This peaceful and lonely life continued until 13th June, when the island was visited by four Germans looking for food. They took away eggs, chickens and whatever they could find. They convinced the islanders that the German army was in very bad condition for food. One of the Germans said that he had not received food of any kind for more than a month. Other Germans returned the morning of the 14th June and requisitioned all the wireless sets. They searched all the houses for British parachutists. In one of the houses, the owner, called PACI, denied having a wireless set, but afterwards it was discovered that he had one hidden. This incident caused a quarrel during which Paci and his son were killed on the spot. Also the son-in-law, who was seriously wounded died shortly afterwards. The peaceful islanders lost all their patience. Before the Germans got away they left one dead and two wounded.
(P.W.B. Rome).

XIV. Atrocities.

MONTEFOLLINICO At Montefollonico where they were awaiting the arrival of the Allies, on the 26th June a young partisan found himself in the company of Germans and on the arrival of the first English was unable to hide his joy. He was immediately killed with innumerable blows of a knife and buried on the spot.

A peasant, father of five sons, was hanged on a fig tree after a dinner taken with three Germans and 15 partisans in his house about the beginning of June. As soon as the Germans realised during the dinner that they were in the company of partisans, two of them then went out and called for reinforcements. The partisans, having been warned, fled and the Germans killed the peasant; his body remained hanging from the tree for four days.
(P.W.B. Leri 10.7.44).

FALZANO 14 peasants aged between 16 and 60 were blown up in their farm by German S.S.

CIVITELLA and CORNIA

A group of partisans about 70 strong, commanded by Renzino Sacchielli, Sub. Lt. with Italian para. troops, killed 3 Germans on or about 18th June. The Germans got to know of the partisan movements, as some of the partisans paid frequent visits to the priest in CIVITELLA who helped them a great deal and was apparently strongly pro-British. On June 28th about 200 Germans were sent to clean up the zone of partisans, but the latter had good positions, were fairly well armed and succeeded in killing 10 Germans near CASTELLUZZO. After this the Germans let loose the most ferocious reprisals, especially against the villages of Civitella and Cornia ...

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On the feast of St. Peter's, June 29th, they entered the church during a service, stopped the service, killed the priest, pushed the women and children aside, and killed every man in the church. When Cpl. S returned to Civitella two days later he counted about 80 bodies in the Church, and some were still being brought in, that is of those who had been killed in and around the village. All the male population has been wiped out, as it is believed that very few succeeded in escaping. In a house just outside Cornia the Germans killed an entire family of five persons named Botelli and then set fire to the house. In another house they killed nine people and also set fire to the house.

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In another house in Cornia they killed one man and seven women, one of them the priest's mother. Most of the houses were either set on fire or blown up; actually in Cornia only 5 houses are still standing. All the cattle were rounded up and any man who tried to interfere was shot at sight.

XV. Propaganda.

The official German explanation of their retreat, as given out in COMO, is that the Germans only undertook the temporary occupation of Italy out of friendship for Mussolini.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 13.7.44).

Posters. The Germans put up many posters. One shows a woman in mourning with the title "Do not betray my son". Another depicts a German soldier holding out his hand and saying "Germany is your true friend". Another shows a Bersagliere embracing his mother who is saying "Son, rather dead than a traitor".
(P.W.B. Bari 10.7.44).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XVI Wireless reception in Milan.

Source had an "Irradio" wireless set with 5 valves, which he kept carefully hidden. The Germans in Milan have not taken away radio sets, in spite of repeated rumours to that effect. Source listened preferably on 31, 25, 49 metres at 6.30 in the morning and 10.30 at night. The propaganda and the reception from London was the best. Bari was well heard just after the armistice on medium waves, and later was heard no more. Some said that it could be heard on the short waves, but source had never heard it. The reception was very disturbed and could merely be heard at night. Naples was not heard either. Source listened to New York (Voice of America) Radio Algiers and Radio Moscow were also heard.
(P.W.B. Bari 10.7.44).

POLITICS.

XVII Feeling in Turin.

The Turin stamps of 22.6.44, having been confiscated because of CONCETTO PETTINATO'S article, was selling in COMO for between 100

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The Fascist Republican Army Unmasked.

1. Only single detachments of the Republican Army have yet fought with the Germans.

2. Whole divisions are said to be ready, but rumour has it that their leadership and morale "does not inspire full confidence".

3. It would be fatal if this army, prevented from defending its own country, had to fight outside it.

4. The Italian people should be told the truth in this matter, because they have no more blind faith left.

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The Fascist Republican Economy Exposed.

1. The National Alliance of Cooperatives, a praiseworthy attempt to meet food difficulties, is several months too late and only exists on paper.

2. The Nationalisation of industry, though decreed, is not operated by employers and the workers merely watch.

Public Order.

While what the Fascists call rebellion is to its participants desertion from training in Germany or serving Fascism, it is really determination not to fight, fostered by lack of discipline, breakdown in family life and clerical propaganda. Since the paper government in Milan cannot act in Piedmont, a Committee of Public safety should be set up in Turin.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 3.7.44).

XVIII.
Politics in Milan.

Source from Milan had little news of politics, because he said the parties act secretly. In factories and offices political life is everywhere very active, although underground.

Fascist Party - There are no more snowy parades, officials are not seen about in their black shirts. Only soldiers are to be seen. The civil mobilisation which was promised on the 26th July 1943 has not come about. Everywhere the Fascists are arrogent in Milan and smaller places and show great zeal in trying to catch people listening to Radio London. Graziani's military command has not published anything official since Communiques 1 and 2. In Milan, as in all northern Italy after the fall of Rome to the Allies three days of national mourning were declared. Posters announced it.
(P.I.D. Bari 10.7.44).

XIX.
Fascists Stiffening to Oppose Civil War.

According to "Stefani" a meeting of all the Blacksmirts in Lombardy was held in Milan on June 30th with a view to "further military strengthening against the internal enemy". Similar meetings were held in Venice, Bologna, Turin and Genoa. The Fascists must use every means in order to oppose the real civil war launched in the whole of northern Italy by the partisans.
(Basler Nachrichten 30.6.44).

XX New Appointments.

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XX New Appointments.

MILAN Lt. Col. of the G.N.R. ALBERTO BETTINI, has been appointed Questore of Milan in place of CAMILLO NICCOLINI, who is destined for another post.

VICENZA. Owing to the deterioration of the internal situation in Vicenza region, PAVOLINI decided, after a tour of inspection, to appoint a new Federal Commissioner and to dismiss a certain number of local officials.

ECONOMICS.

XXI Food Situation.

MILAN. Life is very dear. Bread has everywhere however been raised to a ration of 200 grms for all except workers who get 325 and labourers who receive 400. Butter is 150 grms per month at 40 lire

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per kilo (black market price 400 lire); oil is 1000 (almost unobtainable); cheese 150 lire per kilo, black pasta (three kilo per month) rice 20 per kilo (black market) white flour 40 lire per kilo (black market); wine 30 lire per litre.
(P.W.B. Bari 10.7.44).

Crop Prospects. Especially favourable weather conditions this year have resulted in a bumper wheat crop in Upper Italy. Even before the harvest is finished, it is plain that both in quantity and quality it will be far above the past 10 years' average. Excellent yields of rice and maize also may be expected.

Lack of salt for Bread favours Black Market. Bakers have received no allotment of salt since last April up to which time they had been receiving it against delivery of the allotment postcards. Therefore in order to sell salted bread they would have to purchase salt on the black market where, as it is well known, it is priced at 80 lire per kg. As one kg of bread requires 0.1 of a kg of salt, the result would be that a kg of bread, the controlled price of which is three lire, would cost the baker eight lire in salt alone. There are some bakers, it is true, who sell salted bread, charging of course an extra price.
(Sera Milan 1.7.44).

Restaurant meals in Milan.

A report of restaurant meals in Milan, purposing to show how adequate they are, only reveals the difficulty of the food situation in the city. Corriere della Sera (24.6.44) says:

"Even our reporter was eager to try a 20 lire meal in order to be able to write about it on a full stomach, or in other words, with full knowledge of what he was writing about. The public is right to ask so many questions, but as our reporter can guess what they are, he is providing both questions and answers.

"Is the food good? Yes, one gets a good meal, our reporter sat down to a meal that was attractively served, with a soup more appetising and better flavoured than one would perhaps get in a private house, on account of the shortage of fats. The next course was liver and lung, which though not copiously supplied with gravy, yet had sufficient, and was served with excellent new potatoes. A bunch of cherries and an agreeable wine completed the small banquet. Is it necessary to queue up? Yes, it is, but not really too long, 15 to 20 minutes, if one chooses one's time properly. Service is necessarily somewhat slow, but is performed with care and good will. But what is comforting is the atmosphere of content which pervades the place and the cheerful faces of people whose hunger is satisfied. At last, thanks to the authorities, a poor

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XXII Transport and Communications.

MILAN The railways and buses and trams function regularly. The same can be said for the post and telegraph services, but only for north Italy. No post has arrived from FLORENCE for two months, because the railway does not function even as far as BOLOGNA.

Electricity functions. Gas is only on for two hours in the day (one hour in the morning and one at night).

Road Traffic: a New Decree. Last year's military and political

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events having led to complete anarchy in the Italian transport system a Government Decree now subjects Italian road traffic to war requirements. The new regulations are mainly intended to secure transport for war materials and foodstuffs. Henceforth, the Republic's road traffic will be directed from a central "Ufficio Trasporti stradali" which is subordinated and attached to the Ministry of Transport. In order to gain control over all vehicles available all motor-cars belonging to civilians must be registered by June 30th 1944. The Price Control Commissioner has prepared the new transport tariff.
(Neues Wiener Tagblatt 27.6.44).

Grave shortage of Rolling-stock.

The increasingly noticeable shortage of trains and carriages in northern Italy is revealed by daily accidents reported in the press. On July 5th a train running at a moderate speed collided with a freight train in SARONNO. Several people were thrown off the foot-boards on to the rails. Three people were killed and three wounded. On the preceding day, on another Milan line, a train was so over-crowded that a carriage door gave way. A soldier fell out of the train and was severely injured. For several weeks the press has been writing that almost empty carriages are reserved for the Germans, whereas the Italians are obliged to crowd into a few carriages.
(Gazette de Lausanne 11.7.44).

XXIII. Industry.

MILAN Practically all the factories are working, though production is very small, e.g. the Fiat airplane works produced only one aircraft in three months. This is due to the shortage of raw materials, copper, brass and like metals (good steel is also very scarce) and to boycotting by the workers. Tanks made at Milan were sent to Genoa for armament, but were later sent back to Milan to have defects remedied. No new workers are engaged, unemployed who apply for jobs being sent to Germany. It is possible that machine tools and factory installations would go to the same destination were it not for transport difficulties.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 13.7.44).

CASTELLON Shipyards here are not working (18.6.44) Aircraft factory removed, perhaps to PORLEJCNa.

VITELLA (May) The group of NCBEL powder and dynamite factories in this area are thought to be still working.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 13.7.44).

The Axis Moves and the World Turns. It is reported that at a meeting in late June between representatives of Italian industry and a delegation of Hungarian textile industrialists, in the presence of German representative, a leading Italian industrialist said that Italians could not allow any further goods to leave Italy until

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(P.I.B. Italian Region 3.7.44).

Reorganisation of Textile Industry. In the reorganisation of Italian textile supplies all clothing cards have been declared invalid from June 30th in the territory of the Fascist Social Republic. Textile goods, clothing and shoes will, for the moment, be supplied exclusively against purchase permits issued by the competent provincial

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economic authorities, the former Chambers of Commerce, after examination of the necessity for the purchase. The distributing authorities are rewarding, by issuing premiums, the achievements of silk-worm breeders and growers of plants from which textiles can be made. It is intended to extend the premium system to all agricultural production.
(D.N.B. 6.7.44).

XXIV. Air Raid Damage.

In MILAN after the raids of 1943 there have been few. In March 1944, however, the station of Lambrate and airfield of Breda and airport of Bresso were hit.

From BOLOGNA to the front the villages along the strada nazionale are nearly all destroyed, and abandoned by the population who have fled to the hills. The roads are strewn with hundreds of destroyed German vehicles. As the Germans retreat they requisition private transport, and use it to convey material to the front, thus they have a certain amount of transport.
(P.N.B. Bari).

LABOUR

XXV Forced Labour.

The German authorities recently carried out a monster razzia at MILAN in the San Siro Stadium. After a sports meeting they separated the spectators, arresting 1400 men aged between 15 and 65 years. A certain number were deported to Germany, while the rest were retained as hostages. Other razzias have been carried out in Milan cinemas. This campaign is regarded as a measure to prevent revolt.
(Gazette de Lausanne 10.7.44).

Italian workers in Germany. A very general grievance of Italian workers in Germany is the almost complete lack of news from home. One man writing from Galicia says "Dear wife, you cannot imagine how worried I am about you. I was so glad to get news of you after six months, but now it is two months again since I had any".

It appears that allowances paid to dependents in Italy generally do not arrive, especially in the case of money orders.

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Leave for Italy was stopped in the middle of 1943 and is now only given on account of grave illness in the family, when a telegram and a medical certificate endorsed by a German command are required.

Various workers complain of lack of clothing and other necessities. They can obtain nothing because they have no clothing coupons, and even if they succeed in obtaining permits to buy clothing, it is not obtainable.

From Westphalia a worker sends a short letter to his wife explaining that he has no time to write more because he is hard at work day and night.
(P.W.B. Rome German Intelligence).

XXVI. Strikes.

TURIN. Following last week's strikes and the fighting in the streets, military reinforcements have arrived in Turin, notably two SS

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detachments, coming from Germany which had originally been destined for the front. The Piedmont Liberation Committee has launched an appeal to the workers, urging them to leave Turin in order to avoid the reprisals which have been announced, and to join the partisan bands.

Following the suspension and deportations the work has restarted. Nevertheless over 3000 workers were sent to Germany. The Managing Director of the FIAT works, VALLETTA, managed to escape arrest by flight.
(Svenska Dagbladed 11.7.44).

XXVII. Factory Committees.

The Factory Committees function and are freely elected by the workpeople. It is they who are concerned with problems of salaries, administration and such like. All their members are antifascists.

Salaries.

Eight hour day.

Workpeople from 4 to 10 lire per hour.
Heads of Departments. From 200 to 300 per month.

(P.W.B. Bari 10.7.44).

PRESS

XXVIII Clandestine Press.

During the Fascist occupation of PERUGIA the clandestine papers were circulated as typewritten sheets of five or six pages each.
(P.W.B. Rome).

XXIX. Official Paper in Milan.

The new official paper "La Repubblica Sociale" is published now in Milan. It is the most fanatic fascist paper. The "Popolo d'Italia" is no longer published. Source had not in person seen any clandestine papers in Milan.
(P.W.B. Bari 10.7.44).

CHURCH

XXX Fascist Campaign against the Church.

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The Factory Committees function and are freely elected by the workpeople. It is they who are concerned with problems of salaries, administration and such like. All their members are antifascists.

Salaries.

Eight hour day.

Workpeople from 4 to 10 lire per hour.
Heads of Departments. From 200 to 300 per month.

(P.J.B. Bari 10.7.44).

PRESS

XXVIII Clandestine Press.

During the Fascist occupation of PERUGIA the clandestine papers were circulated as typewritten sheets of five or six pages each.
(P.J.B. Rome).

XXIX. Official Paper in Milan.

The new official paper "La Repubblica Sociale" is published now in Milan. It is the most fanatic fascist paper. The "Popolo d'Italia" is no longer published. Source had not in person seen any clandestine papers in Milan.
(P.J.B. Bari 10.7.44).

CHURCH

XXX Fascist Campaign against the Church.

The campaign against the clergy and their head has recently reached unprecendented limits. Public opinion in general condemns both the campaign itself and its vulgar and irreverent attitude towards the Pope and high Church prelates, in particular Cardinal SCHUSTER of MILAN, Archbishop CASSANI of CREMONA, and Cardinal PIAZZA of VENICE.

The fact that articles against the clergy have "price of place even in the daily newspapers of the provincial capitals shows that the campaign is of a general nature, willed and directed by the higher spheres of Republican Fascism, and aims at a prearranged and very definite goal".

Anti-clerical posters put up in MILAN ascribe responsibility

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for Italy's present crisis, and for the lack of balance and confusion in many Italian minds at this critical moment when the feeling of patriotism should be lofty, noble, and unanimous, to that "majority of the clergy that has always be agnostic vis a vis the State from 1870 onwards" and has failed, or been unwilling to understand the spiritual significance of the 1929 Concordat. (Dovere 5.7.44).

Popolo e Liberta, commenting on the anti-clerical posters and the threats against Cardinal Schuster and the priests who dabble in politics (politicanti) considers that neither threats nor violence will be able to deter the Italian clergy who have already given so many martyrs and heroes to the cause of justice.

The Fascist press is most indignant that the Archbishop of SIENA is reported to have given his blessing to the French Commander as soon as he entered the town. Fascist Republicanism deplores Mgr. TOCCABELLI's "opportunist" gesture. (Gazette de Lausanne 7.7.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXXI Spies at BOLOGNA etc.

Zona di LUCCA Province of BOLOGNA (EMILIA)

Reg. TOMBARESI — Major in the Militia. Viale Dante, largo della Rotonda- ex president of the Associazione Mutilati of LUCCA. (with the funds of which he built himself a luxurious villa); collaborator with the Germans and with the agents of the Italian SS.

GENTILINI — Via XXIV Maggio. Director of the Ricovero Cerchiari per vecchi. Collaborator, together with Tombaresi with Germans and SS.

RASPADORI ANSELMO. Centurione of the Milizia. Via XXIV Maggio spy in German pay.

RAVANELLI CARLO — Via Tomaso Campenella. Acts in strict collaboration with the above.

BETTINI. — Lt. of the Milizia, has frequently commanded execution squads of persons denounced by himself.

BARONCINI. — Called by his superiors "The Intrepid". Of the same type as the above. Used by them to terrorise the families of partisans after the

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PERSONALITIES.

XXXI Spies at BOLOGNA etc.

Zona di L.C.A. Province of BOLOGNA (EMILIA)

Rag. TOMBARESI — Major in the Militia. Viale Dante, largo della Rotonda- ex president of the Associazione Mutilati of L.C.A.. (with the funds of which he built himself a luxurious villa), collaborator with the Germans and with the agents of the Italian SS.

GENTILINI — Via XXIV Maggio. Director of the Ricovero Cerchiari per vecchi. Collaborator, together with Tombaresi with Germans and SS.

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BARONCINI. — Called by his superiors "The Intrepid". Of the same type as the above. Used by them to terrorise the families of partisans after the latter have been arrested.

BUSCAROLI. — Prof. CORSO. Via Petrarca 4. Fascist, under the orders of the Germans; latterly director of the Fascist periodical "La Voce Repubblicana", a local publication.

GIORNELLI — Major in the Milizia. Viale Dante. The most shady individual in the whole neighbourhood. Spy. Makes use of his rank as Major to arrest everyone suspected by him.

RAVAIOLI. — Fascist. Via Pirazzoli 4. Serves the local Fascists as spy. Given the job of torturing political detainees.

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SIGNORA BRINI - Piazzale delle Bande Nere 3, spy in German pay

BRINI GUIDO - Son of the above, officer of the Milizia, helps his mother.

BRONCONI - Via Cavour 10. completely unscrupulous, engaged in torturing of political detainees, and like all the others persecutor of partisans.

BIVONA C.R.LO- Lawyer, Via Orsini 3. Commissario Prefettizio. collaborationist with Germans.

G.LASSI - Via Appia 24. Intimate of Bivona.

TIBALDI - Questore of Bologna. Joined the partisans of the neighbourhood, and then denounced all those he could to the Germans.

C.PITANO ALVISI-Assistant to Tibaldi

(Signorine B. P..B. Rome).

AREZZO.

Fascist Prefect	MELCHIORI)	
	)	fled north
Questore	FACHINI)	June 9th.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 12.7.44).

SULMONA ALBERTO FIORE - originally came from Sulmona. Specialised in seeking out and denouncing allied prisoners of war. Height 1 metre 80, black hair, black moustache, very long chin, brown eyes. Always wears black clothes of German make.

FOGGIA PIETRO ANTONIO GIUSEPPI. At the time soldier at Foggia, and afterwards warden of the concentration camp of Chieti. Barbarously killed an air force officer.

MONTEFALCONE APPENNINO. ARNALDO CIUFFARELLI. Segretary of the Republican fascio of Serra Viglione. Spy. Murderer of allied prisoners of war.

GALLIPO ZENEVIA FUCILARELLI and ANGELO VIRGILI.. Pretended to help prisoners of war in order to

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CAPITANO ALVISI-Assistant to Tibaldi

(Signorina B. P.W.B. Rome).

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GAGLIANO ZENEVIA FUCIARELLI and ANGELA VIRGILI.. Pretended to help prisoners of war in order to betray them to the Germans.

(P.W.B. Rome).

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

19th July, 1944.

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BY [illegible] NARS, Date 4/5/75

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 16.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans Two British officers (escaped P.Ws.) gave their impressions of Partisan activity in UMBRIA. They felt that much more could have been done had the partisans been better supplied with arms. The numbers of men who escape to the Macchia merely to avoid service with the Germans is a considerable hindrance to the real partisans, who have to protect and feed them, and a cause of much discontent among the peasantry whose stocks are requisitioned for the support of these fugitives.

Another reason for the lack of aggressive spirit among patriots is the German system of savage reprisals against innocent people for any form of anti-German activity

The dropping of arms, supplies etc, by plane has not proved very successful, and it is recommended that when special arms or explosives are dropped the instructions for their use should be printed in Italian.

There was no doubt that the partisan bands had been of an "immediate nuisance value" to the Allies and the Germans were very preoccupied about them.

Activities. MONTE FAVALTO A British Sergeant was the leader of a band of 25-30 men in the MONTE LIGNANO, MONTE CORNETA and MONTE FAVALTO area. The band confined itself to raiding Fascists and in mid-May moved to Monte Favalto, where it came under the orders of a British Lt. Col. who was in command of other groups in that area.

On 30th June Germans began to fall back from CORTONA, and on 1st July the partisans were encircled. On 2nd July a strong body of Germans attacked them, and after a fierce fight in which 15 or 16 patriots were "missing", the band dispersed.

S. EGIDIO A Communist band of about 60 individuals, 30 of whom were armed, comprised six or seven British soldiers, three of them from a wrecked plane and five Russians. Their chief exploit seems to have

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Garibaldi Assault Brigade of PIACENZA The Libera Stampa, clandestine Milanese newspaper reports that on May 17 the GNR barracks of VERNASCA were attacked, with hand grenades. On May 18th a 5 man patrol of GNR were disarmed and wounded at GROPARELLO. The same day 100 patriots all armed with Tommy guns raided MORFASSO. May 21st they killed a Milite and wounded two others in FERRIERE; they carried off 100 quintals of wheat and burnt the Tax and the Military call-up registers When on May 24th the Fascist authorities at PIACENZA ordered a general mobilisation against the patriots everybody excused themselves and sixteen even deserted to the partisans.

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SUMMARY 2.

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VARESE Describing the impotence of the Fascists in the face of the Partisans in N. Italy, Popolo e Liberta, reports that recently a lorry full of partisans entered the city slowly and halted in front of the barracks. The patriots distributed leaflets, called on the recruits to desert and after two hours departed singing patriotic hymns. The GNR and the few Germans in the place discreetly kept out of the way.

S. GIORGIO DI TRAVO Patriots seized rifles, grenades, a field wireless set etc. from an observation post.

PIANELLO Farms of prominent fascists were set on fire and 200 patriots attacked the GNR barracks.

PECORARO The GNR barracks were attacked.

TRAVO 40 Patriots burnt down the town hall.

CURRETO A bridge was blown up.

RETTO and VILLA LINOZZO In a violent clash 500 GNR were routed and lost 12 killed and 70 wounded.

LAGO DI VADO. Germans with artillery tried to free the VADO-SAVONA road. Two powerful attacks were unavailing as the road is still blocked.

PERUGIA. A GNR(Fascist police) report to the Fascist authorities in Perugia tabulates the number of cases of various forms of partisan activity from October 43 to June 7 1944.

Sabotage

An important large-scale work of sabotage seems to have been partially carried out at GRECO railway station, on the outskirts of MILAN. Details are not given, but the Germans have arrested 5 railwaymen as hostages.

Assassinations

Several cases are reported, but the victims are not very notable individuals.

FASCIST FORCES

Desertions

During the last few days desertions have been numerous among the Carabinieri and in particular two thirds of the recruits of the local Regiment have joined the partisans.

The "Ettore Muti" Legion in Rome

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The "Ettore Muti" Legion in Rome

The Legionaries are reported to have behaved atrociously towards Jews and patriots. ROBERTO ANDREI is particularly noticed for his brutality.

GERMANS

Movements

A number of reports from Switzerland indicate that the German army is preparing to withdraw from Italy, covered by rearguards.

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SUMMARY 3.

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Florence an Open City

The decision to treat Florence as an open city has had the effect of causing an influx of thousands of refugees and consequently a grave food situation.

Treatment of PWs and Internees.

Bitter complaint is made of the food conditions in the camp of MONTE FORNO.

POLITICS

Reports continue of the probable nomination of FARINACCI to the post of Prime Minister of the Fascist Republic, while Mussolini would remain as the nominal head. PAVOLINI, PISENTI and MEZZASOMA are mentioned as likely to be eliminated.

Other reports speak of the disintegration of the Fascist Party, the breakdown of the central Government, and a general collapse of the whole regime.

Appointments CERRUTI has replaced TAMBURINI as Chief of the Republican Police and CROBBA has been appointed Commissario of the Banca d'Italia

Propaganda. Fascist papers declare that the Allies intend to annex the island of ELBA for France.

The Jews In N. Italy more Jewish property has been confiscated

ECONOMICS

Industry Employers are accused of promoting inflation if they raise the wages of their workers and employees.

Nationalisation The programme should have come into effect on 30th June. Actually complete chaos has resulted. The employers do not carry out the programme and workers do not believe the Republic is capable of carrying it out.

Postal Services. Fascist papers openly admit the disorganisation of the services.

Finance The Allied advance has dissipated the fear of inflation and at the exchanges quotations have fallen.

Air Raid Damage. According to Fascist sources, TRIESTE was badly bombed and in PISA the 16th Century Cathedral was completely destroyed. VENICE is almost without drinking-water owing to raid damage to pipe lines.

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LABOUR

It is calculated that in the past weeks 200 workers per day have been taken for forced labour. On 8/9 June GNR "requisitioned" about 40 women from families lodged in the Berletta School in MILAN.

Strikes. The strike in Genoa on 10th June, made as a protest against the murder of 49 hostages, led to 4000 workers from the Ansaldo works being deported to Germany.

CHURCH

The Fascist press continue their ferocious campaign against the press.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section,
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

"D" Section Italy (Ccc). 19th July, 1944.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 16.

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19th July, 1944.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 16.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Two British officers, ex-prisoners of war, recently returned to Rome, gave their impressions of life with the partisans in the PERUGIA area. They were contacted by the Allies some months ago and offered a means of escape, but volunteered to remain there to help other ex- P.Ws. passing through the district.

The partisans were very numerous in this area, but only a small proportion were armed. They had not achieved much in the way of anti-German activity except for one clash in which they had been quite successful. The officers felt, however, that if they had been better armed and better led they would have been of great help to the Allied. Lack of good leadership was responsible for much delay and confusion. For example, on one occasion when a party of Allied soldiers were defending a nearby strong point in a village and were attacked by the enemy they requested the help of the patriots, who were up in the surrounding hills. The Allies were only about 50 strong and were facing about 200 Germans. Eventually, after much delay and indecision, the patriot bands descended (about 700 strong), only to find that the Allies had been obliged to abandon the position for lack of support. This eventuality might have been avoided and considerable co-operation achieved, say the ex-P.W.s, had the patriots been well organised and led. Unfortunately they are usually suspicious of regular Italian army officers and refuse to make use of their experience, even when they join the bands - as was the case in question. The particular band known to these officers was led by a Civil Engineer whereas there were two Italian army officers under his command, better qualified and experienced than he.

Sources say that the patriot bands are becoming so large that they have difficulty in obtaining supplies of food and are therefore [illegible] it from the surrounding districts. At first they [illegible] Fascists - now, however,

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Sources say that the patriot bands are becoming so large that they have difficulty in obtaining supplies of food and are therefore obliged to steal it from the surrounding districts. At first they only took supplies from persons known to be Fascists - now, however, circumstances have forced them, on account of their increasing numbers, to requisition from all and sundry - regardless of whether they are friendly or otherwise; thus they are becoming extremely unpopular in some districts with the country folk.

Nearly all the country people are anxious to join the patriot bands, as frequently life with them offers more security and better food etc, than in the villages. Thus many bands have become cumbersome in size and only a small proportion of them are real fighting elements. Often the members of the bands are local men who are therefore chary of attacking the Germans and Fascists, as they

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fear the reprisals which will be enacted on their families.

As regards the supply of arms, food, money etc. by the Allies the Ex-P.Ws. declared that in the district known to them this had not been very successful. Moreover, when arms were dropped they were frequently received without any instructions in Italian for their use attached. The officers recommended that where supplies of allied weapons were dropped clear instructions in Italian should be added. Wireless sets were a particularly urgent need. Two had been dropped in their district, but both had been broken in the descent. Thus the patriots were unable to keep in touch with Allied instructions. Great activity had been fostered, however, they said, by General Alexanders recent appeal to the partisans.

Sources said that there was no doubt from what they had seen that the partisan bands were of immense nuisance value to the Allies. Everywhere the Germans were obliged to take great precautions against them, but the officers felt that a great deal more could be achieved in the way of co-operation with Allied troops were smaller nuclei of the bands to be formed, well armed with all the weapons at their disposal, and well led by some responsible officer. (P.W.B. Rome).

Activities of patriots in MONTE FAVALTO area. Two young men who joined a patriot band in the MONTE LIGNANO, MONTE CORNETA and MONTE FAVALTO area told the story of the activities of the band just previous to the arrival of the Allies.

The band moved in the middle of May to the Monte FAVALTO area. It was commanded by a British Sergeant, whom they called "Donati". He had formed the band only 10 or 12 days before. It consisted of 25 to 30 fugitives, all young men fleeing from being conscripted by the R.F.G. or the Germans. Another British soldier Cpl. "Giorgio" was also in the band, together with two Russians, one of whom was subsequently killed in the fight the band had with the Germans on July 2nd.

Arms and ammunition Every member of the band had an Italian rifle and six clips of ammunition (about 30 rounds), 15 revolvers and automatics- consisting of Berrette and former Caribinieri revolvers with three or four magazines of ammunition. Before source joined the band the early members had stolen a M.G. of what he called Yugoslavian manufacture (Probably Russian) from a German military train while it was standing in the Station at FRASSINETO on the Arezzo-Cortona line, together with some ammunition for it. In addition the band had a number of German and Italian H.Gs.

Activities. The chief activity of the band was to raid houses belonging to Fascists for arms and food. They captured two fascists the

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wireless sets were a particularly urgent need. Two had been dropped in their district, but both had been broken in the descent. Thus the patriots were unable to keep in touch with Allied instructions. Great activity had been fostered, however, they said, by General Alexanders recent appeal to the partisans.

Sources said that there was no doubt from what they had seen that the partisan bands were of immense nuisance value to the Allies. Everywhere the Germans were obliged to take great precautions against them, but the officers felt that a great deal more could be achieved in the way of co-operation with Allied troops were smaller nuclei of the bands to be formed, well armed with all the weapons at their disposal, and well led by some responsible officer.
(P.W.B. Rome).

Activities of patriots in MONTE FAVALTO area. Two young men who joined a patriot band in the MONTE LIGNANO, MONTE CORNETA and MONTE FAVALTO area told the story of the activities of the band just previous to the arrival of the Allies.

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Activities. The chief activity of the band was to raid houses belonging to Fascists for arms and food. They captured two fascists who knew where they were living in the mountains, as they considered them spies. They handed them over to a band which was operating in the MONTE FAVALTO area under the reported leadership of a British Lt. Col. as this band was reported to have a concentration camp where they could keep prisoners. Time passed quickly with guards, patrols, procuring food and general camp duties. The contadini in the mountains used to give them what food they could spare. They used to sleep in tents which they camouflaged under the thickest undergrowth they could find. Source declared that they could not be seen from the air, and only from a close distance by those approaching on the ground. They moved their tents at frequent intervals in order not to be detected. They received their instructions from the Lt. Col. who was commanding the band in the MONTE FAVALTO area; they had no contact with any other bands.

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The Germans used to send small patrols into the mountains in order to steal the livestock and horses which the contadini from the plains had sent into the mountains for safety. The partisans used to help look after these animals.

On the evening of the 30th June the Germans began to fall back from CORTONA; they then began to arrive in the area where the band was in great strength; on the 1st July they were encircled by the Germans, and on the evening of the 2nd July the band was attacked by a strong force of Germans and a fierce fight ensued. The band had missing 15 or 16 of its members; source did not know how many of these were killed. After this fight the remainder of the band dispersed and gradually found its way singly to CASTIGLION FIORENTINO which was by then in the hands of the British troops; since then the members have been setting off for their homes, which are further south in Italy. Neither of the sources wanted to go on fighting with the patriots; they only wanted to get home as quickly as possible.

Patriot Band at S. EGIDIO.

Source escaped from FLORENCE in April and was directed to an area on the mountain above S. EGIDIO where there was a patriot band of Communists under the command of a person who went by the name of Aldo. Later when the band broke up source was given a typewritten certificate signed by Aldo in which it stated that he had served as a patriot with a Communist band. The certificate also had a hammer and sickle stamped on it.

When source joined the band at the end of April Aldo was in command; the latter and a number of the other members were red shirts, while others were red handkerchiefs; they called themselves Communists, though source added that many of them were Catholics. He certainly was not a Communist and knew nothing about Communism, though he wore a red handkerchief round his neck and stated that he was a Communist. The rest of the band appeared to be quite apolitical except Aldo who had nominated the band as a Communist one. It consisted of about 60 members who were divided into groups of about 30 men each. Only three or four came from the CORTONA area, the remainder being fugitives, together with six or seven British soldiers, three of whom were the crew of a crashed aircraft and five Russians.

They had sufficient arms to arm about half their men. The arms consisted of Italian and German rifles, Berretta automatics and Carabinieri revolvers, three Italian L.M.Gs and one H.M.G. which source called BITRA and which he claimed was of Yugoslavian manufacture. He said that they had sufficient ammunition for [illegible] weapons, and sufficient H.Gs.

The unarmed members of the band acted as messengers, scouts, medical orderlies etc. Source had been a medical orderly.

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The unarmed members of the band acted as messengers, scouts, medical orderlies etc. Source had been a medical orderly.

Activities. On St. Peter's day the band ambushed a German truck on the road leading to S. EGIDIO; they killed the two Germans (source claims that they were officers) in it with a burst of machine gun fire; they took one rifle and some ammunition from the truck. This was all they found except 60 packets of tobacco which were very welcome. They took one Fascist prisoner a few days before the area was liberated by the Allies; they kept him in their camp; later they took him to CORTONA where they handed him over to the allied authorities. The only loss the band had had was one [illegible] soldier who was shot by a German in a clash.
(P.W.B. Rome).

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Garibaldi Assault Brigade of Piacenza.

"From the gist of the news which we publish," says the Libera Stampa of Milan " it can be said that the patriots do not take any notice of the threats and sterile bribes of the Fascists. For example the Commander of the "Garibaldi Assault Brigade of PIACENZA, PAOLO CELVA, sent the following dispatch to the Commander of the GNR at MORFASSO for the information of the GNR of LUGAGNANO, VERNASCA and GROPARELLO "This Command sends you a last warning in order to prevent bloodshed and further ruin for the Italian people. In the case of an attack, you will always be given the chance to surrender. If you surrender your lives will be spared, and you will be allowed to retire. If you resist the attack will be carried out by all possible means and all prisoners will be shot as traitors. The attack on MORFASSO was only a preliminary thrust, but when it is repeated other more conclusive methods will be adopted. In order to prevent losses among the civilian population, give an immediate warning to the families living in localities near the barracks to move as soon as possible. We assume no responsibility for any casualties which may occur among women and children. Whenever reprisals are carried out against the families of patriots by either Fascists or Germans they will immediately be answered by similar measures against the families of Fascists and soldiers. Our aims and methods and yours are different and cannot be reconciled. We still wish and hope that the struggle, although bloody, will be restricted to men under arms. If this is not the case, the consequences will be terrible, not only for ourselves, but far more so for you and your allies and masters, the Germans".

It can be presumed that the recipients did not consider this far from welcome letter as an empty boast, for, while on May 17th the GNR barracks at VERNASCA were attacked with hand grenades, which had been removed, together with rifles, from the house of the Prefectoral Commissioner, on May 18th a patrol consisting of five men of the GNR were disarmed and wounded at GROPARELLO, and the same day 100 patriots, all armed with machine-guns, made a lightning raid on MORFASSO; on May 26th, three days after the above warning, the partisans occupied MORFASSO, GROPARELLO and FERRIERE. FERRIERE was also visited on May 21st by partisans, who killed a Militiaman and wounded two others, carrying off from the Consorzio Agrario 100 quintals of wheat, burning the taxation and call-up registers and obtaining fresh supplies of ammunition, hand grenades and arms from the equipment of the Militia. It was not until June 13th that the enemy made a fruitless attempt to retaliate near MORFASSO. The telephone lines remaining uncut owing to the isolation of the district, the Militia were able to request reinforcements from the GNR garrison at PIACENZA. They were told that the latter had only 15 Militiamen and they would have to fend for themselves.

On May 24th the Fascist authorities at PIACENZA ordered the general mobilisation of the Fascist Republican Party for mopping-up operations against the patriots. Few "Repubblichini" answered the summons and

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On May 24th the Fascist authorities at PIACENZA ordered the general mobilisation of the Fascist Republican Party for mopping-up operations against the patriots. Few "Repubblichini" answered the summons, and still fewer joined the unit destined for these operations. The meagre "Death Company" faded away almost entirely with its Commander, on various pretexts such as convenient visits to hospital or convalescent leave. Sixteen soldiers went over to the partisans. The GNR agents at the Questura put forward the most varied and unexpected reasons for remaining in PIACENZA on the safest jobs. Even the men of the UNPA, when ordered to go into action, found reasons why their presence was indispensable in the city on account of air raids. Of the few men whom it was possible to scrape together, some cut loose before their destination was reached. A member of the GNR who returned from the scene of action confessed "I and my companions were mad with terror.

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In MILAN where PARINI has the whip hand, draconian measures were adopted. The Fascists went about ostentatiously parading their powerful weapons and unscathed selves. The search for workers to send beyond the Alps was still further itensified. Men and women were recruited by force and without warning.
(Popolo e Liberta - News Digest 3.7.44).

Activities in Various Zones.

During June 30th patriots attacked an observation post at SAN GIORGIO DI TRAVO, carrying off 15 rifles, 100 ammunition clips, 20 hand grenades, a field wireless and telephone set and much equipment.

Dairy farms belonging to ARGENTI and GIACOMO DI GIACOMI, both zealous Fascists in the Commune of PIANELLO, were set on fire and some days later 200 patriots surrounded and attacked the GNR barracks, losing one dead.

The GNR barracks at PECORARA were attacked, a Vice-Capoquadra of the Militia was killed and the Militiamen were all disarmed. Forty patriots attacked the town hall at TRAVO, burning it down after having seized ration cards, stamps and arms. At the same time 100,000 lire were removed from a bank in exchange for a receipt.

At PONTE DEL 'OLIO a Militiaman and a Communal Guard, both former squadrists, were captured. A squad of patriots blew up a bridge on a road near CERRETO and the PONTE DELLA GATTA, on the REGGIO-MINANZA road. A violent clash occurred at BETTO and VILLA MINOZZO, resulting in a victory for the partisans, who put 600 Militiamen of the GNR to flight killing 12 and wounding about 70 A patrol at SAN ROCCO DI GUASTALLA overwhelmed an observation post, disarming the defenders.

Several clashes occurred at LAMA DI VADO, where the Germans attacked, strongly supported by artillery, in order to free the road from VADO to SAN BENEDETTO di VALSOMERO, which was threatened by a large band of patriots. After some initial successes, they were forced to retreat to their starting point, in order to await reinforcements. Later, they made another strong attack, but without appreciable results, for the road is still blocked. (News Digest 30.6.44 Liber Stampa)

NOVARA Forty Fascists commanded by several officers, attacked the hospital at GHEVIC in NOVARA province, where they heard partisans were being tended. Arriving at night, they killed everybody they found. Public indignation was enormous, the whole population leaving its work to attend the funerals in spite of the fact that the Fascists tried by every possible means to stop them and arrested 200 persons.

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The German Command immediately published a manifesto ordering the workers to resume work, otherwise five workers per factory would be shot in the main square of the town.
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Fascist Police Report on Partisan Activity in Perugia.

Fascist Police reports on "A resume in Tabular form of the "criminal" activity of Partisan Bands in the Province of PERUGIA from October 1943 to 7th June 1944.

	Number of Cases
Burning and sacking of municipal buildings.....	7.
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When I understood what would happen I ran away. They were 200 to our 17!".
(News Digest 26.6.44).

Fascist Weakness in Face of Patriot Activity

Before May 25th the Mussolini government announced in the press that severe mopping-up operations against the partisans would be begun on May 26th by the Fascist Forces and the Wehrmacht. Now, as is apparent from the daily press, partisan activity has become increasingly fierce and mopping-up operations are no longer mentioned. This is expressly confirmed by Stampa, which says that the partisans are becoming increasingly daring- a fact which cannot possibly be ignored any longer, even in view of the possibility of furnishing the enemy with propaganda. The situation in PIEDMONT "this centre of crime, desertion and disorder", is such that it is questionable whether the power of the law has not become a thing of the past, and whether, considering the absence of the Government, a "Provincial Welfare Committee" should not be established. Signs of rebellion, and outbreaks of resistance to military service are apparent everywhere. Some refuse on the grounds that they do not want to go to Germany for military training, and others refuse to serve under fascism. These are merely indications of the different forms of general war-weariness which has arisen for many reasons, and which also explains the desertion of many recruits after they have received their equipment, as well as numerous desertions from among the Carabinieri.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung. News Digest 26.6.44).

The patriot movements are regarded by the Republic authorities with anxiety, since they know well that they have the large majority of the population against them, and that they have not sufficient forces at their disposal to keep all the partisan activity in check, whose organisation is rapidly growing more powerful and efficient. Several partisan units have chaplains who are being sought by the Fascists because they are said to have helped Allied Prisoners of War, Jews and persons persecuted for their political opinions.

While the signs of weakness among Fascist troops become increasingly evident, the aggressiveness of the partisans becomes proportionately greater. Recently a lorry carrying partisans armed with sub-machine guns drove slowly through VARESE and halted in front of the barracks with two machine guns, while they distributed pamphlets among the soldiers who were all recruits enrolled by force, calling on them to desert and join the revolt. The GNR discreetly disappeared, the officers seeming to notice nothing, while the few Germans that were there preferred to keep out of the affair. The partisans remained in the city a couple of hours and were masters of the situation. They fraternised with the population and finally having terminated their propaganda mission, they left singing patriotic hymns. "We shall return [illegible]

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Popolo e Liberta -News Digest 3.7.44).

Activity in Milan and Genoa.

Fascist leaders recently received a "registered" letter inviting them to present themselves at a particular place to give an account of their actions before a tribunal of partisans. In case of non-compliance the proper steps would be taken. It was perhaps only a joke, but since one can never be too cautious, several Republican prefects were alarmed and preferred to cut loose leaving their provinces to look after themselves Some, on the other hand, were so exasperated that they took sharper repressive measures against the patriots.

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Wounding of Political and Administrative authorities	11.
Murder of German soldiers	26.
Murder of Italian soldiers or police	10
Murder of Civilians	13
Wounding of German Soldiers	12
Wounding of Italian soldiers or police	18
Wounding of Italian Civilians	1.
Kidnapping of Functionaries	6.
Attacks without any casualties	22
Menaces to authorities and private persons	17
Capture or destruction of cars and lorries	10
Freeing of detained persons	228
Requisitioning of food, clothing, livestock	122
Disarming of soldiers	54
Distribution of grain to people out of grain pools	3
Sabotage to telegraph and telephone offices	4
Sabotage to bridges	3.

About 80% of the above crimes were committed after the landing at Anzio.
(P.W.B. Rome).

Reported Fascist Reaction Movement.

A movement of Fascist reaction is reported to be spreading in the direction of northern Piedmont and is gaining ground in ISTRIA, registering some success. In PIEDMONT and BIELLA, partisans have been obliged to evacuate the region of OROPA. In GALLARATE, the Commissioner of the Fascio, on being attacked by partisans, successfully defended himself with hand grenades. Unidentified persons assassinated the Fascist DINO CALCRETTI, shotting him down in the street in full daylight. The assailants managed to escape on bicycles.
(News Digest 3.7.44 Gazette de Lausanne).

II. Sabotage.

It is reported that permanent guards, consisting of Fascists and SS men had to be posted in several industrial plants in MILAN owing to sabotage inflicted by strikers.
(News Digest 26.6.44).

News has been received of an important act of sabotage in the station at GRECO a suburb of MILAN. Details were too vague and unproved to report. New Corriere della Sera admits the fact without giving details The paper alleges that the authors of the sabotage were criminal elements too cowardly to risk a fight in the open. Acting on the orders of London and Moscow radios, they elaborated the plan which fortunately was discov-

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(News Digest 30.6.44 Neue Zurcher Zeitung).

III. Assassinations.

S. ROCCO DI TRETTO Last Tuesday (June 27th) an impious murder was committed at S. Rocco Di Tretto. The parish priest, Don Pietro FRANCHETTI, after having celebrated mass in the chapel dedicated to the fallen in the war, was about to leave, when he was assailed by bandits who overpowered him and killed him with 16 stabs in the back. As soon as

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the crime was discovered the authorities and the Bishop of VICENZA were advised. Investigations are now actively being made in order to identify the assassins.

MILAN The Italian press announces that 25 members of the GNR fell in the fighting around Milan. In Milan's central park an unknown person shot a Fascist official from TURIN, who was visiting on a special mission.

ZAVATTARELLO A Communist band killed six members of the GNR at Zavattorello. In PARMA a patrol of the GNR arrested and shot an unknown person carrying arms and ammunition.
(News Digest 26.6.44. Agence Telegraphique Suisse).

CNTAGNANO near GONARS The Commissioner of the Municipality of Gonars aged 52 was seriously wounded in an open field by a revolver shot fired at him from close range by unidentified assailants, who afterwards called on his wife, attempting in vain to extort from her 20,000 lire. A member of the police at(?CAIPRIS VISCONE) aged 54 was stopped by two unidentified persons and wounded by shots. His assailants escaped on bicycles.
(News Digest 28.6.44).

MILAN The funeral of Militiaman Bruno Pasarini took place in Milan. He was killed while on patrol.

FASCIST FORCES

IV. German Trained Troops Ready for action.

The Chief of the General Staff of the Fascist Army very recently addressed a message to Engineer battalions which during Kesselring's retreat were asked to go to northern Italy. He asked them to report to the 202nd Engineers' Command, declaring that Blackshirts, trained in Germany, will shortly enter battle, in order to chase the invader from the country. (News Digest 26.6.44 Agence Telegraphique Suisse).

V. Call-up Repeal.

Mussolini's H.Q. have repealed the call to arms for NCOs and soldiers of the Army and Air Force, and also for recruits for the Army and for labour service in Germany for the Provinces of LUCCA, PISTOIA, FLORENCE, FORLI, and also territories further south.
(News Digest 26.6.44).

VI. Air Force Call-up: Detainees [illegible]

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VI. Air Force Call-up: Detainees Accepted.

Men born in the years 1914, 1918, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, and 1925, now invalided out of the Air Force, or who are in the reserve and those belonging to the 1922, 1923, 1924 and 1925 classes, who are liable to come up for revision, are directed to report at the Conscription Council or Commissions in order that they may be brought before a medical board for examination and check. Excluded from the obligation to respond to this call-up are those invalided men who are definitely resident abroad, those who are affected by grave disabilities who will receive a communication explicitly stating that they need not report to the communal authorities, volunteers for the GNR and other Armed Forces of the State, recruited by the German military commands, these being limited to those transferred to the zone of operations; detainees who are considered fit for service will be at once incorporated in the Republican armed forces, whereas those who are considered fit only for labour service will be called up for that purpose.
(Corriere della Sera News Digest 3.7.44).
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VII. Carabinieri Join Partisans.

During the last few days numerous desertions have occurred among the ranks of the Carabinieri responsible for the maintenance of internal order who had been incorporated in the GNR by the Mussolini Government. In BERGAMO two thirds of the recruits in the local regiment joined the resistance movement.
(News Digest 28.6.44).

VIII. Brutality of "Ettore Muti" Legionaries.

Speaking of the activities of a certain legionary of the "Ettore Muti" battalion, who was well known for his brutality and valence, and collected round him men of similar type who emulated the achievements of the Nazis in Via Tasso, Il Tempo, Rome, says " But what strikes us most for its brutality and ferocity is the systematic way these criminals have killed Jews and patriot partisans. In their slaughter of Jews, these accursed wretches, who had sold themselves to the enemy discovered ways of amusing themselves and Andrei appears to have been most ingenious in his form of enjoyment, for he found means of showing off his own skill or marksmanship in the most macabre of these games.

The Jews were obliged to walk across a piece of ground which was broken up by many irregular depressions and hillocks; the victims had open umbrellas tied to their arms to serve as targets; in fact the skilful marksmen - who each had three shots at their disposal - used the open umbrella to pick out the victim and in great delight tried to transfix it at the right moment. The assassins called this macabre play "The dance of the Umbrellas".

The patriot partisans were killed as usual by machine-gun fire - the victims were tied together and massacred. Sometime the corpses of the partisans were burned, if anyone happened to notice them, but generally they were abandoned, and only through the charitable action of the population were they borne away and buried with due honours.
(News Digest 28.6.44)

GERMANS

IX. Disposition.

Signs of German Evacuation. There are clear indications that the Germans contemplate having to evacuate northern Italy (says Popolo e Liberta 30.6.44), at least the regions of LIGURIA, PIEDMONT, and LOMBARDY, and this is borne out by the fact that the High Command, which has its offices in MILAN, is transferring them to VENICE. Garrisons are being reduced to a minimum. S.S. units are most in evidence in the

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(News Digest 3.7.44).

Frontier Security Zone. Referring to the establishment of a security zone along the Swiss frontier Agence Telegraphique Suisse states "Refugees are to be evacuated from the above zone. PONTE CHIASSO is one of the exempted communes. It is not yet known what length the zone will have".
(News Digest 6.7.44).

The approach of Alexander's armies has caused great excitement throughout LOMBARDY, PIEDMONT, LIGURIA and VENETI.., not only among the partisans and the secret police organisations, but among all Italians. Daily the conviction grows that the Germans are on the eve of entirely evacuating the peninsula.

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Well informed Fascist circles are very depressed and openly say that Kesselring has been ordered to confine himself to rearguard fighting and to withdraw all his troops beyond the Alps. Some believe even that the Wehrmacht HQ ordered Kesselring to transfer some divisions as reinforcements for the French Mediterranean coast.

Business circles point out as signs of the coming evacuation that rail transports from Germany to Italy have been almost completly suppressed, whereas the despatch of industrial machines, and able-bodied men and women to the Reich has increased.

According to the clandestine paper "Resistenza" 90% of the Luftwaffe's effectives have been withdrawn from the fighting. All reports confirm the intensification of partisan activity and acts of sabotage.
(News Digest 4.7.44 Der Bund).

According to this same clandestine paper partisans have observed the arrival of German troops in VERONA coming from the fighting in central Italy, and continuing their way further north. It adds that as /the possible German defence along the Po line, the Wehrmacht has not completed the fortifications along this line which were started by the Fascist Government before the coup d'etat on July 25th 1943. The newspaper believes that the German forces have decided to begin the complete evacuation of Italy, limiting themselves meanwhile to defensive operations, which will be intensified at the PISA-RIMINI line. Financial circles appear to share this opinion, as 100 lira which four days ago were worth 40 Swiss centimes, are today worth 90.
(La Suisse. News Digest 30.6.44).

X. Florence an Open City.

Hitler's decision to regard Florence as an open city has been received with great satisfaction throughout Italy, even in anti-Fascist circles.

A Fascist speaker has asserted that the Wehrmacht has already taken all necessary measures to neutralise the capital. German auto-columns detour the city, which is surrounded by a demilitarisation belt. Since the railroads south of BOLOGNA have not functioned for months, they are no problem. All Wehrmacht forces have withdrawn from Florence as well as Fascist detachments. Order is maintained by secret police and a volunteer citizen's police force.

At the beginning of the war, when it could not be foreseen that all Tuscany would become a theatre of war, art treasures were removed from the city to the country. Now it has been decided to return the treasures to the city in order to avoid destruction by retreating or

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Tens of thousands of refugees from the battle area south of Florence have assembled in the city. Special shelters have been erected for them, but the lack of food is serious. The entire city is suffering from a terrible famine. Fascist circles, giving the above news add that neutral observers voluntarily certified that the Germans respected the neutralisation of Rome, which fact permits the hope that the Allies will recognise Florence as an open city. It is added that PAVOLINI'S activity with the German authorities has considerably influenced Hitler's decision. Pavolini, who belongs to an old Florentine family, had made frequent visits to the city lately in order to expedite its neutralisation.
(News Digest 6.7.44. Der Bund)

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XI. Morale.

Even inside the town of COMO the Fascists and Germans do not feel safe. Officers have to spend the night in the barracks which are barricaded, and sentinels, armed to the teeth, are protected by a system of mirrors through which they can watch from a distance approaches the strategic points. If, in the VALTELLINA area, owing to the activity of partisans, the German Command appears to be obliged already to envisage a retreat to the crest of the Alps, it obviously runs a great risk further to the west of having to allow its adversary to reach the Swiss frontier. This is particularly true of the whole region between the MENDRISIO district and the Great Saint Bernard. In MILAN loudspeakers, installed this week in the station, announce the cancellation of trains bound for DOMODOSSOLA and VAL SESIA.
(News Digest 23.6.44 Gazette de Lausanne).

The following sayings are reported to be circulating among German soldiers, according to P.W. interrogations:-

The slower we work, the sooner the war will be over
We waste human lives in order to save ammunition - the enemy wastes ammunition in order to save lives.
They recruit Grandfather; is this the promised retaliation?
(Confidential Source).

XII. Treatment of Prisoners of War and Internees.

Some time ago the Fascist newspapers published letters by members of units of the newly formed Italian army now in Germany, enthusiastically describing the "fraternal" treatment accorded to them by the German authorities. Such publications, however, have not diminished the anxiety created by the lack of information about the lot of Italian officers, N.C.Os and soldiers who refused to side with the Fascist government, who were regarded as prisoners of war and deported to Germany. It is now reported that these prisoners of war have been put into large concentration camps situated near important German cities, and railway centres which are attacked by the Allies almost daily.

The treatment of prisoners of war was recently reported to be completely inadequate, while the food lacked all nutritive value. Since September 1943, they have not received a single piece of soap, and the state of their clothes is extremely bad. No doctors are allowed to visit patients, and there is no medicine available. Up till now, only the Papal Nuncio has been allowed to visit these camps and his efforts to mitigate the fate of the internees have, it is reported, had no appreciable success, as the German authorities refused to treat the men according to the international statute on prisoners of war.
(News Digest 26.6.44 Baslet Nachrichten.)

An Italian sailor deported to Germany told of his sufferings [illegible] and his treatment in the Concentration camps

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(News Digest 26.6.44 Baslet Nachrichten.)

An Italian sailor deported to Germany told of his sufferings on his journey to Germany and his treatment in the Concentration camp at MARIT PONGAU into which he and his comrades were put. "There were 12,000 Italians, about 1,000 British officers and 4,000 French, Russians and Serbs. We were very harshly dealt with, food was bad and most insufficient, consisting of a little bread, dirty water called tea and potatoes. At the end of the first week a wretched little man in spectacles who said he was a fascist, made a speech in order to induce us to enlist in the Italian SS to make up for the betrayal of the swine Badoglio and the infamous old Victor Savoy. About 20 out of 12,000 agreed to enlist. The ridiculous result of this appeal brought forth reprisals on the part of the Germans. The slightest pretext was sufficient for us to have to skip a meal; in one week we had only three meals.".
(News Digest 23.6.44 Libera Stampa).

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POLITICS.

XIII. Changes in Fascist Government?

In connection with the Fascist Radio commentator's announcement that Mussolini is engaged in reshuffling the Government, Fascist circles say that FARINACCI may even be made Premier, while Mussolini would remain Head of the Republic. PAVOLINI, PISENTI, MEZZASOMA and several other Ministers would be eliminated. Farinacci's Government would have the character of a Committee for Public Safety with the primary duty of fighting the partisans and maintaining public order while Alexander and Kesselring prepare their final duel in northern Italy.
(News Digest 6.7.44 La Suisse).

There are various signs that the German authorities are dissatisfied with the Fascist Ministers, who are accused of being mainly responsible for the general popular discontent and the increase in partisan activity.

Mussolini is blamed for having no more prestige among the people, and for having lost all his personal energy. This impression is confirmed in a whole series of attacks in Farinacci's paper Regime Fascista of which the last and most violent one was launched against Pisenti.".
(News Digest 6.7.44).

XIV. Disintegration of Fascist Party.

The frontier correspondent of Popolo e Liberta states that desertions are constantly increasing in the Fascist Party. Prefects, other officials and employees living in fear of popular revolt, of the partisans and of attentats, are either deserting en masse or favouring anti-Fascists and all persons connected with partisans in an attempt to create a moral alibi for the future. The correspondent concludes that the Fascist regime is virtually incapable of imposing its will.

The fall of Rome, the allied penetration into the Marche Tuscany and Umbria and the most intensive partisan activity have reduced the authority of the Fascist Government to a minimum. Contact between the central and local authorities is constantly decreasing and every province is already practically self governing. It is generally believed that Mussolini's Republican experiment is on the eve of collapse.
(News Digest 26.6.44).

Various signs of certain unrest in the future are to be noticed. In Lombardy, for instance, all orders for the army have been cancelled in shoe factories. The construction of a new airfield in the MILAN-

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(News Digest 6.7.44).

The impending danger of a German defeat in Italy has already induced several Fascist officials to leave for Germany and FARINACCI is said to have left for MUNICH and GRAZIANI for VENICE. It is even declared that the Under-Secretary for foreign affairs MAZZOLINI, tried to contact the BONOMI government in order to see whether it would not be possible to bridge the differences between the Democratic and the Fascist governments. It is said that Bonomi refused even to discuss the question.

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XV. Appointments.

The Fascist authorities have announced that CERUTI has been appointed Chief of the Republican Police, in place of TAMBURINI. (News Digest 26.6.44 Agence Telegraphique Suisse).

Police Changes in Six Provinces. The Fascist Government, which is doing its utmost to master the situation has decided to replace the Chiefs of Police in MILAN, GENOA, CUNEO, ASTI, PAVIA and TREVISO. (News Digest 28.6.44 La Suisse).

New Commissioner for the Banca d' Italia.

Mussolini has appointed ORGERA commissioner of the Banca d'Italia.

XVI. Reported Annexation of Elba.

The Fascist newspapers publish an order of the day declaring that the Allies intend to annex ELBA for France. The newspapers protest, reporting that the Fascists in Elba attempted an armed revolt against the occupation troops.

XVII. More Jewish Property Confiscated.

It was announced on June 20th that, so far, 14 to 35% of Jewish property in northern Italy has been expropriated. Joint Stock companies, which, up to May 30th, had not reported the names of Jewish stockholders, must do so before the end of June. Confiscation of Jewish house property has begun in TURIN and MILAN. In four communes in MODENA Province, it was established that Jewish families still occupied apartments of eight or more rooms. These will be reserved for lodging refugees. Seventy agricultural establishments, covering a total area of about 30,000 ha, have been confiscated by the State so far. (News Digest 23.6.44 Transocean).

ECONOMICS.

XVIII. Food Situation.

Pig Breeding in Adriatic Zone. Owing to the general fat shortage, the High Commissioner of the Adriatic coastal zone insisted on and succeeded in obtaining from the Reich, the promise that Germany will permit 10,000 young pigs to be exported to the Adriatic coastal zone, although there is no surplus of young pigs in the Reich. Actually the first transport has already arrived, and the animals will now be distributed among the local farmers for fattening. Peasants will be encouraged by premiums of ten kg. of extra meat for each pig surrendered weighing 120 kg. Moreover, the weight of the fattened pig will be credited with the total weight of cattle to be surrendered..

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Chiefs of Police in MILAN, GENOA, COMO, ASTI, PAVIA and TREVISO.
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ECONOMICS.

XVIII. Food Situation.

Pig Breeding in Adriatic Zone. Owing to the general fat shortage, the High Commissioner of the Adriatic coastal zone insisted on and succeeded in obtaining from the Reich, the promise that Germany will permit 10,000 young pigs to be exported to the Adriatic coastal zone, although there is no surplus of young pigs in the Reich. Actually the first transport has already arrived, and the animals will now be distributed among the local farmers for fattening. Peasants will be encouraged by premiums of ten kg. of extra meat for each pig surrendered weighing 120 kg. Moreover, the weight of the fattened pig will be credited with the total weight of cattle to be surrendered..
(News Digest. 4.7.44. Deutsche Adria Zeitung).

MILAN. The Head of the Province on the suggestion of the Commission for supervising restaurants, for the purpose of eliminating difficulties which have occurred in connection with coupons for fats, has ordered that restaurants shall supply soup and a main dish with vegetables, without demanding a fat coupon from customers from other provinces in which the coupon regulation is not in force. It is also permissible to serve a second helping of soup, if asked for, in return for one coupon.
(News Digest 24.6.44 Corriere della Sera, Milan).

Control of Prices. The Decree setting up the National Alliance of Cooperatives is the first step in carrying out the programme announced by the Government for regulating consumption and for the strict control

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of prices, in order to provide every worker with the necessary means of existence at prices within his reach. The supplying of rationed and controlled goods will be entirely in the hands of the Alliance of Co-operatives, the Co-operatives included therein, and the EICA (Ente Italiano Cooperative di Approvvigionamento) For the fulfilment of this task, the EICA's central and peripheric structure will be developed, together with the existing network of cooperatives. Joint and individual co-operative shops will be established by the communes, factories and provinces, and factory shops already in existence will be transformed into cooperative stores.
(News Digest 30.6.44 Pomeriggio Milan).

XIX. Industry.

Employers Accused of Promoting Inflation. Employers have no easy job in Fascist Italy. They are not only treated on every occasion as parasites, as anti-Fascists or as hidden enemies of the Social Republic but they are even blamed when, acting on their own impulse, they raise the wages of their employees and workers.

The MILAN newspaper "Secolo Sera" accuses them of promoting inflation through the granting of voluntary allowances and wage increases to cover the increased cost of living, loans and other advances. The employers are stated to have been carrying on an absolutely devilish egoistic game; for the more money was depreciated in value, the more would the value of factories increase and the higher would rise the prices of products and the profits. The Government was showing a good example by paying family allowances to employees of the Ministry of Economy not in money, but in the form of vouchers for goods.
(News Digest 4.7.44 Neue Zurcher Zeitung).

Nationalisation Decree.

Stampa recalls that according to earlier propaganda announcements Mussolini's nationalisation programme would be effective from June 30th. Meanwhile complete uncertainty has arisen. The employers do not wish to carry out the programme. The workers are also asserting that the Republic will not keep to its promises and that it is useless to demand for reforms from the Republic, since it is just as incapable of making capitalism see reason as was the old Fascism.
(News Digest 28.6.44).

XX. Postal Services.

Postal Delay Explained. Repubblica Fascista 27.6.44

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(News Digest 28.6.44).

XX. Postal Services.

Postal Delay Explained. Repubblica Fascista 27.6.44 openly admits lack of organisation in public offices, particularly in post offices, where very considerable delay occurs in the delivery of letters. In explanation of this the paper writes "We have too little means of transport, we have scarcely any more petrol, we have too few free men, since we are unable to use those conscripted for the GNR".
(News Digest 30.6.44).

XXI. Finance.
Allied Advance Affects stock Market.

As fear of inflation disappeared owing to the advance of the Allies in Italy, stock exchange quotations fell in MILAN and TURIN.
(News Digest 30.6.44).

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XXII. Air Raid Damage.

TRIESTE According to the Italian press, the Allies bombed TRIESTE causing considerable damage and victims (30.6.44).

During the last bombing of POLA (says the same source) the 16th Century Cathedral was completely destroyed.

VENICE Seidlitz reports from VENICE "The town is almost without water. Hits scored by Allied bombers have damaged the pipe lines between the mainland and the island town. A smell of rot and decay hangs over the town. There are only a few wells and the population's drinking water is mainly brought by small tankers. It is placed in reservoirs, in front of which the Venetians queue with bottles, jugs and pots. Eggs, meat, fish, vegetables and fruit, on the other hand are plentiful.

On the lido there is no bathing; military necessities are more important than life on the beaches.

There are more than 30,000 refugees in Venice and there is no room for any more. As a result of the concentration of Italian administrative work in northern Italy, numerous administrative departments have been established in Venice. Almost a dozen foreign countries have chosen Venice as the seat of their diplomatic missions.

LABOUR

XXIII. Forced Labour.

It is calculated that in the past weeks no less than 200 workpeople per day have been torn from their homes. In the night of the 8th-9th June a platoon of G.N.R. appeared at the Berlotti Schools (MILAN) where numerous families who had lost their homes as a result of air raids had taken shelter, and "requisitioned" about 40 women. These unfortunate creatures who had already gone to bed, were compelled to get up and dress and to follow the soldiers. The most heartrending scenes took place; fathers cursed, mothers and children wept. The same morning, the 9th June, the women who had been recruited were sent to a foreign destination. This sort of thing went on in spite of the assurances given by the competent authorities to Cardinal Schuster, Archbishop of Milan, whose remonstrances "drew blank".

XXIV. The Genoa Strike.

The strike at GENOA on June 10th, which was made in protest against the shooting of 49 hostages, was not [illegible] it approved of it.

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XXIV. The Genoa Strike.

The strike at GENOA on June 10th, which was made in protest against the shooting of 48 hostages, was not led by the C.N.L., though it approved of it.

As a result of the strike, 4000 workers from the ANSALDO factory were sent to Germany
(Confidential Source 3.7.44).

PRESS

XXV. Suppression of Catholic Weekly.

In view of the paper shortage, the Fascist Minister for

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Propaganda has ordered the suppression of a new series of six publications, including the Catholic Weekly "Pro Famiglia". (Agence Telegraphique Suisse 30.6.44)

CHURCH

XXVI. Fascists' Desperate Attack on Church.

The Fascist regime's position in northern Italy has become increasingly untenable. The authorities, in a last minute attempt to discover the "wonder accomplishing remedy" with which to divert the anger of the population on the general discontent are concentrating their attack on the Church. Members of the Fascist Party have distributed leaflets in MILAN exhorting the population to "revolt against the Church", as the cause of all the misfortune. Posters on MILAN walls and elsewhere in the town attack the city's Archbishop Cardinal Schuster, with extreme virulence.

XXVII. Church Opposes Alexander's Appeal.

A Conference of Cardinals and Bishops of northern Italy met recently in a North Italian town and discussed questions concerning the Church and political problems. It was also decided to publish nine pastoral letters. One deals with the effects of the air war and another with the war on Italian soil. It is learned that General Alexander's appeal to the bands in northern Italy was also discussed. Some of the Church leaders expressed the opinion that the appeal incites people to put themselves outside the community and the law, and that the Church should oppose it.
(T.P. In German for Europe).

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"D" Section Italy (Occ)

[illegible] July, 1944.

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DC- 1/4/74
BY [illegible] NARS, Date 3/3/75

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 7941.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 15.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Proof of the efficacy of Partisan activity is available from German sources. H.Q. of the VITERBO Military district on 7th April 44 issued an order declaring certain roads extremely dangerous and laying down convoy movements of not less than five vehicles, repeating Marshal Kesselring's instructions regarding the measures to be adopted for the protection of troop movements.

The control exercised over Partisans by local Committees of Liberation is indicated by notices found in Perugia. The first ordered all patriots who were anxious to fight to report themselves to the Provincial Military Giunta. The second advised families of Fascists not to flee from the city, in accordance with Fascist recommendations, as they had nothing to fear from the new Democratic Government in the way of reprisals.

Partisan Activity

The Germans have been forced to close the railways to COMO, VARESE, and SONDRIO. Armoured units were sent from BERGAMO to cope with the patriots in the VALTELLINA. On 18th and 19th June patriots tried to capture TURIN, but were driven out. Large scale Italo-German police operations north of VICENZA resulted in the death of 140 partisans and the capture of 60. Partisans have increased their activity in the DOMODOSSOLA region. Four Czech battalions have reinforced the Germans here. The railway lines DOMODOSSOLA-MILAN and DOMODOSSOLA-NOVARA are reported completely stopped.

Sabotage.

Germans in MILAN have arrested a number of Italian railway workers as hostages after a grave act of sabotage

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Sabotage.

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Assassinations

GIANCARLO SCORZA, secretary of the Fascio of OVADO was killed on 16th June, and at ZAVATTARELLO, near BORGO PRIOLO six GNR militiamen were killed while on duty on 19th June.

FASCIST FORCES

A credible source reports that the German H.Q. has issued a secret circular that from now on only 1000 men out of each class will be allowed to be called up for the Italian army. The rest must go to Labour units.

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SUMMARY 2.

Morale

In keeping with the chaotic organisation of the Fascist Forces their morale varies from fanaticism, as portrayed in the letter from an officer of the G.N.R. written on 23rd June, to the depths of desperation, as displayed in the song found on a leaflet in ORVIETO in June.

Police Methods

A source from TURIN recounts his experiences which show that the Turin Fascists have nothing to learn from their Roman confreres in methods of brutality and gives the names of some members of the political squad.

GERMANS

Reaction to Partisans.

It is reported from Switzerland that Kesselring has decided to place 44 N. Italian provinces under strict military regime owing to the generally bad situation. Fascist Radio, reported in News Digest of 29th June contains an appeal or rather tirade of Kesselring against General Alexander for having stirred up Italian patriots.

Morale.

Reports from ASCOLI (15th June) ANTRODOCO (16th June) TERAMO (13th June) give instances of poor morale on the part of German units in those areas.

Atrocities.

An official report from the local G.N.R. to the Fascist authorities of NORCIA details the cases of 21 identified persons and 12 unidentified persons killed by the Germans during mopping up operations up to the 6th April.

POLITICS.

Tendencies and Parties.

One source reports a strong Communist organisation in TURIN in close contact with partisans. Another tells of the growing tendency of Turin workers towards communism, while he reports FLORENCE as still harbouring strong Fascist elements. MILAN and BOLOGNA he found apathetic. Of the anti-fascist parties in FLORENCE the most active are the Communist and Action parties.

Mussolini

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Mussolini

It is reported that FARINACCI and SCORZA on one side and RICCI and PAVOLINI on the other are intriguing to overthrow Mussolini.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation.

FLORENCE The food situation is comparatively good, with the exception of olive oil, which has reached unheard of prices. Harvest prospects are good, but transport is lacking.

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SUMMARY 3.

SECRET
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GENOVA. Only people who are working are allowed ration cards.

ALESSANDRIA. Prices are rising steadily. The city is deserted at night for fear of air-raids.

Industry

TURIN The Fiat works is said to be openly adopting an anti-Fascist policy and employing Jews and other black-listed persons.

MILAN A German expert arrived to organise the production of ball-bearings which are seriously short in Germany.

Socialisation of Industry

The new laws have been much propagandised this week.

Air Raid Damage.

Several sources report that though the vast majority of the workers are pro-allied in sentiment, heavy bombing of cities has created a feeling of resentment. VENETIA is the area most affected and in TREVISO, which was badly damaged, there is a definite anti-Allied feeling.

LABOUR

Russian workers in the Todt organisation are said to have done considerable sabotage on ammunition trains.

Strikes. Large scale strikes broke out at a given signal throughout the industrial zone of Genova on June 10th. CARLO EMANUELE BASILE, proclaimed reprisals on the workers and ordered all industries whose workers had stuck to be closed. On 16th June 4000 workers were deported to Germany.

PRESS.

In FLORENCE two papers of the clandestine press have a good circulation, La Liberta of the Action Party which distributes 2000 copies all over Tuscany and Avanti, the Socialist paper. Two other papers exist, belonging to Christian Democrats and the Democrazia del Lavoro.

THE CHURCH

The Fascist press, particularly Farinacci's Regime Fasciste

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THE CHURCH

The Fascist press, particularly Farinacci's Regime Fasciste has been actively attacking the Vatican, Cardinal Schuster and the Church generally for not siding with the Fascists.

PERSONALITIES

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Fascists, Spies and Dangerous Characters.

Names of individuals in FLORENCE, TURIN, MILAN etc are noted, as well as a report on the activities of GIAN FRANCESCO NISTRI, comm. FIRCINI and GIORGIO GIORGI, who may be in Rome.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

12th July, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 12. APO 794.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 15.

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VII. Police Methods .. .. " 6.

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VIII. Disposition.. .. .. " 6.
IX. Kesselring on "The Stab in the Back". .. .. .. " 7.
X. Morale.. .. .. " 7.
XI. Atrocities .. .. " 7.

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XII. Communism In Turin.. .. .. " 8.
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XIV. Rumours of plans to overthrow Mussolini .. .. .. " 8.

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~~SECRET~~ 12th July, 1944.

"D" Section Italy (Ccc).

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
R.A.A.D. APO 794.

Report on Conditions in Enemy Occupied Italy - No. 15.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

All reports indicate the increasing preparation of northern partisans for full scale action when called upon by General Alexander. The "Fronte della Resistenza" communique no 79 reported that 80,000 patriots south of BOLOGNA are awaiting the proper signal for action.

From all accounts too the Germans have been obliged to bring in fresh divisions to deal with the threat to their lines of communication etc. occasioned by the partisans. It was reported from Chiasso on 23.6.44 that "The Wehrmacht has just sent to North Italy three divisions in order to replace those Kesselring hastily withdrew from this region to defend the road to Florence. These three divisions are drawn from troops operating in Yugoslavia, also occupation troops in Hungary and Bulgaria. Reinforcements are necessitated by sudden partisan uprising in ~~the BOLOGNA plain~~ the PO plain.
(P.I.D. Gazette de Lausanne).

Some idea of the scope of the partisan movement and of the German reactions to it can be obtained from the following extract from a translated German order of April last.

"H.Q. Military District 1043. 7. April 1944.
VITERBO

District Order No. 14.

Roads which are dangerous on account of partisans.

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"H.Q. Military District 1043.
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Roads which are dangerous on account of partisans.

The following roads pass through the partisan area:

(a) ORVIETO -ACQUAPENDENTE - CINIGLIANO
(b) ORVIETO -PITIGLIANO -ORBETELLO.
(c) Sec. of road BAGNI DI STIGLIANO to CANALE near BRACCIANO.
(d) The road south of TIVOLI to S. GREGORIO.

Travel on these roads is extremely dangerous. By day and night movement may only be carried out in convoys of at least five vehicles with weapons ready to fire, and alert observation of the countryside. Until a convoy protection system, using military police or patrols is organised this state of readiness must be maintained throughout the entire journey Night travel will be undertaken only in cases of urgency. All incidents of whatever nature, will be at once reported to the nearest military post.

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Action to be taken by columns of troops in villages.

In ROME recently a column of soldiers from a certain unit, was involved in a murderous attack. The high casualties sustained are attributable to the fact that they were marching in close order. Commander in Chief SOUTH-WEST (KESSELRING) has ordered that in future all troops in large villages will march well spread out, and withadvance, rear and flank protection. All weapons must be ready to fire throughout the march. Fire from houses, etc, will be returned immediately.

All local commands will therefore ensure that this order is carefully observed, in so far as it applies to their district. Military police and the routing patrols will be on the lookout for breaches of this order. Unit pickets will take the same action.
(4 Brit. Div. Int. Summary No. 35).

This type of order from the German command would apply equally well, if not more so, to the northern districts of Italy where partisan activity is very strong.

Committees of Liberation

The functions exercised by the Committees of Liberation in the various districts in the partisan movement are indicated by two notices recently found in PERUGIA which read as follows:-

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION
OF PERUGIA

We have been informed that certain people have taken individual action to form nuclei of armed resistance.

The National Committee of Liberation informs you that everything concerning the organisation of armed resistance has been made the province of the Provincial Military Giunta. All those who wish to take part in the liberation of the city should put themselves in touch with the above mentioned Giunta, which will publish its address in due course.

14.6.1944.

MILITARY GIUNTA OF PERUGIA.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION

The National Committee of Liberation has di[illegible]
responsible elements of [illegible]

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immediately.
All local commands will therefore ensure that this order is carefully observed, in so far as it applies to their district. Military police and the routine patrols will be on the lookout for breaches of this order. Unit pickets will take the same action.
(4 Brit. Div. Int. Summary No. 35).

This type of order from the German command would apply equally well, if not more so, to the northern districts of Italy where partisan activity is very strong.

Committees of Liberation

The functions exercised by the Committees of Liberation in the various districts in the partisan movement are indicated by two notices recently found in PERUGIA which read as follows:-

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION
OF PERUGIA

We have been informed that certain people have taken individual action to form nuclei of armed resistance.

The National Committee of Liberation informs you that everything concerning the organisation of armed resistance has been made the province of the Provincial Military Giunta. All those who wish to take part in the liberation of the city should put themselves in touch with the above mentioned Giunta, which will publish its address in due course.

14.6.1944.

MILITARY GIUNTA OF PERUGIA.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION

The National Committee of Liberation has discovered that the responsible elements of the Republican Fascist Party, with a view to intimidation, are carrying on their unpatriotic work and in order to involve as many of the citizens as possible in their responsibility, have invited members of the Party to leave the city in order to avoid eventual reprisals. The Committee of Liberation declares that animated by feelings of humanity and great patriotism, it will never have recourse to methods professed and applied by the Fascist barbarians; moreover true of the families of Fascist Republicans, even of the most responsible ones, will have anything to fear from the authorised representatives of the new Democratic Government, because the latter will avoid any form of vendetta whatsoever.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION OF PERUGIA.

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Re:
Partisan Activities in various quarters.

Following the fighting in COMO and control exercised by Italian forces of Liberation over roads, railways and lake traffic, Germans have closed railways to COMO, VARESE and SONDRIO. They have had to bring armoured formations from Bergamo to control patriots in VALTELLINA. Reports in the Swiss press again refer to bitter fighting in CUNEO region.

Seamen, industrialists, intellectuals and workers and students, elements of the army and navy have initiated Committees of Liberation. Martial Law in LIGURI. proves that the oppressors do not hide the seriousness of the situation.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 26.6.44).

It was reported from Chiasso on 22.6.44 that at the beginning of that week patriots tried to capture TURIN and succeeded in penetrating several quarters of the town. Shortly afterwards they were expelled.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 24.6.44).

It is officially announced that the Italo-German police forces carried out a large scale operation in the region north of VICENZA. One hundred and forty partisans were killed and 60 captured.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse. News Digest 29.6.44).

Partisan activity has recently increased in the DOMODOSSOLA Region. Occupation troops are now reinforced by four Czech Battalions. Several attacks have been carried out against the MILAN -DOMODOSSOLA line and clashes between Germans and partisans have been reported. The train circulation on the DOMODOSSOLA-MILAN and DOMODOSSOLA-NOVARA line is at present completely stopped. (22.6.44).
(P.I.D. Italian Region 24.6.44).

Reprisals for Sabotage.

The German military authorities in MILAN have just ordered the arrest of an unspecified number of hostages from among the city railwaymen, following a grave act of sabotage which nearly caused hundreds of victims. An official German communique announces that the hostages will be shot at the least sign of further sabotage. It is reported that there is unrest in MILAN and that a general strike is threatened. Five Fascists were victims of terrorist acts in Milan on June 26th.
(Tribune de Genevre 27.6.44. News Digest 29.6.44).

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Hatred of Fascists.

The hatred of the partisans for the Fascist Republicans is greater even than that for the Germans. At TORRE PELICE (TORINO) there were frequent clashes between Fascists and patriots, who, if the Germans had not intervened in time to restrain them, would have committed every sort of excess, sacking the city completely. At a certain point the patriots of the zone had the upper hand of the Fascists and dominated the situation to such an extent that they issued decrees and orders signed by their Committee to maintain order and protect the inhabitants.
(P.W.B. Rome Sig. B.).

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Complaint of lack of recognition.

In partisan circles it has been observed that in military allied newspapers published in Italy the operations of Italian partisans are seldom spoken of and never stressed.
(8th Army 29.6.44).

II. Assassinations.

BOLOGNA A Maresciallo of the G.N.R. GIUSEPPE TINELLI, Commander of a detachment of Marzabotto near Bologna was assassinated by bandits on May 21st. (News Digest 29.6.44).

CUNEO FRANCESCO ZALI, 75 year old priest of MORRA DEL VILLAR SAN COSTANZO in Cuneo province, was killed by bandits who had demanded a large sum of money from him.

BUSTO ARSIZIO The Militiaman GUGLIELMO BONETTI was assassinated while on duty in BUSTO ARSIZIO (VARESE) on June 20th.
(News Digest Pomeriggio di Milan 29.6.44).

OVADA The Secretary of the Republican Fascio GIANCARLO SCORZA of Ovada was killed near his home when returning from work - 14.6.44 The same evening two bandits guilty of highway robbery and of possessing firearms were executed.
(Regime Fascists Empex).

ZAVATARELLO While carrying out their duty at Zavatarello, near BORGO PRIOLO six G.N.R. Militiamen were killed.
(Regime Fascista Voghera 20.6.44 Empex).

FASCIST FORCES.

III. Call up.

It is reported that the German army has issued a secret circular stating that from nowon the Germans will not allow the Italians to call up more than 1000 men out of each class for the Italian army. All others are to be put in German labour units.
(Confidential Source 22.6.44).

The organisation of the Fascist Forces is almost chaotic. Battalions, companies etc. rise up like fungus - each with a resounding name and a different uniform. But the morale of the volunteers is poor, they are undisciplined and arrogant.
(P.W.B. Rome Col. S.P.E.).

IV. The Folgore Parachute Regiment.

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(P.W.B. Roma Col. S.P.E.).

IV. The Folgore Parachute Regiment.

The formation of the FOLGORE Para. Regt. was completed at SPOLETO in the latter part of April and was identified south of ROME on 3rd June. The regiment was not ready for combat when it was committed since they had not completed their training. Some of the troops had made training jumps in Germany and others were given a short course in Italy. The Regiment is organised similarly to the German Inf. Regt. with 12 Companies plus an Engineer Company and a Signal Company. P.Ws. did not know if they had a 13 and 14 company.

The unit is equipped with German weapons. Each rifle Co. has 9 LMG 42 and the heavy Co. has 4 81 mm mortars plus 10-12 HMG. They carry the German rifle 98K.

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Personalities of the Regiment.

Regtl. C.O.	Maj. KRUGER (G)	
1. Bn. C.O.	Maj. RIZZATI (I)	Killed in Action.
1. Co. CO	Capt. SALA (I)	
2 Co. CO	1st Lt. COOP (G).	
" Pl.Off.	2nd Lt. CAPRICCIO (I) -PW	
" pl. Off.	2nd Lt. CIFANI (I)	
2nd Bn. CO	Capt. GEROLD (G) wounded in action.	
7 Co. CO	1st Lt. FERRETTO (I)	
8 Co. CO	1st Lt. ELBERT (G)	
" Pl. Off	2nd Lt. MASINI (I)	
" Pl. Off	2nd Lt. COSENTINI (I)	
" Pl. Off	2nd Lt. SARPI (I)	
3 Bn. CO	Capt. BUSSOLI (I)	
11 Co CO	1st Lt. CANIERI (I)	
12 Co. CO	1st Lt. ORTELLI (I)	
Sig Co. Officers	2nd Lt. NAPOLITANO (I)	
	" TOMMASINI (I)	
	" BIANCHINI (I).	

(G.2. 5th Army 12.6.44).

V. The Barbarigo Bn.

The soldiers of the BARBARIGO BN (in Rome June 3rd). looked of very diverse origins; young students, criminals, a few old sailors -their spirit was extremely low, and they used to repeat that they would go back to their houses as soon as possible.
(8th Army 30.6.44).

VI. Morale.

A letter written on 23.6.44 from an officer of the GNR reads as follows:-

"We are continually on the alert because of the partisans, whose hours however are numbered.

I don't know if you have learned through the newspapers, our Battalion together with all the companies of the G.N.R. of Torino with motorised companies, with the motorised Battalion "Leonisse" has marched superbly through the streets of Torino, giving proof and clear demonstration of our discipline, and of our strength.

We were reviewed by General Castiota and by the Provincial Commander of theG.N.R., who particularly congratulated our commander for the high grade of training and preparation reached by our Battalion.

[illegible] regularly and it lacks but two months

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We were reviewed by General Castiota and by the Provincial Commander of theG.N.R., who particularly congratulated our commander for the high grade of training and preparation reached by our Battalion.

The course continues regularly and it lacks but two months to graduation. We now have a new uniform, just like that of the parachutists.

As regards the political-military situation, do not despair; even if the enemy has the superiority of strength and means. Soon, now, from Germany and northern Italy will come numerous and well-armed divisions; innumerable Italian Battalions of all branches of the army.
(Civil Censorship Summery).

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~~Secret~~

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The following is a translation of a song in leaflet form found at ORVIETO in June 1944:

"Women no longer love us because we wear a black shirt
They say we became prisoners
They say we are in chains".

Love with Fascists is not popular
Better a coward without a flag.
One who keeps his skin whole
One who has no blood in his veins.

We don't care.
Lady Death flirts in the midst of the battle.
And takes kisses from the soldiers.

Courage, boys, let us court her.
Let us give her a kiss under fire
Let us leave the other women to the outlaws."
(P.W.B. 8th Army).

VII. Police Methods.

Informant was emprisoned on the 28th October 1943 because he had sent supplies by trucks to partisan units in Piedmont (base of reception at CHIVASSO) The jail belonged to Italian Milizia and was situated in Corso Fiume (cellars and ground-floor; number of house not remembered) At the moment of arrest informant was blindfolded and then brought to the Police Commissariat of Via Po and finally to Corso Fiume (Chivasso) Interrogations and physical violence were very frequent; during many interrogations a revolver was held by an agent near the prisoner's ear.

At the last interrogation informant was given half an hour in which to answer; if he did not he would be handed over to S.S. (who were generally charged with execution).

Members of the political squad of TURIN who were present at the interrogations were Console LUBLANI, centurione VENTIMIGLIA, a man named VANNA; a dangerous spy was NERI MARCHINA. Former chief of the squad had been Count GASCHI, shot down by fascists because of his "generosity".

Informant lived in the jail almost two months and a half; after the last interrogation, during which he succeeded in deceiving the police by confessing unimportant and false things, he was sent to a concentration camp in MANTUA whence he escaped after a few days.
(8th Army Report 29.6.44)

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(8th Army Report 29.6.44)

GERMANS

VIII. Disposition.

SIRMONE There are many Germans here, mostly convalescent.
(P.W.B. Rome).

According to reports from reliable sources, Kesselring's decision to place 44 provinces in northern Italy under a strict military regime, owing to the deterioration of the general situation.
(Der Bund Berne News Digest 29.6.44)

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IX. Kesselring on "the Stab in the Back".

The following is the text of an appeal bearing the signature of Field Marshal Kesselring "After Badoglio the British General, Alexander, comes forward with a proclamation in which, among other orders, is the following injunction "Assail the military commands and small military centres; stab the Germans in the back in order to escape reprisals and to be able to kill more Germans". Badoglio, having driven the Italians to fratricide, pronounced his own sentence. Alexander too, has lost all military honour by issuing this proclamation. That is my opinion as a soldier. As a man, I furthermore condemn the invitation to stab in the back, since immense grief would be caused to Italian families, on whom no blame can rest, by our reprisals. Up till now, I have proved with fact that to me the respect for humane principles is a matter of ordinary logic. However, as responsible chief, I can no longer hesitate to prevent, by the most repressive means, this utterly despicable and medieval method of fighting. I give warning that I shall use these means forthwith. Badoglio's followers and subversive elements are warned not to continue their present behaviour".
(Italian Home Service. News Digest. 29.6.44).

X. Morale.

German troops in ASCOLI were heard expressing a desire to cut Hitler's throat (June 15th).

The morale of German truck drivers in the ANTRODOCO area was very bad (13th June) If they saw Allied bombers passing high overhead they would leave their trucks and run for cover.

One German soldier who lives in southern Germany was heard saying that all the civilians in that part of the country are tired of the war and that they were very short of food.

German troops in the TERAMO area (13th June) were seen burning their clothes and breaking up their weapons.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 28.6.44).

XI. Atrocities.

NORCIA. During mopping up operations in this zone, terminated on 6th April, thirty three persons were killed, of whom 21 were identified and 12 were unknown. Their bodies were brought back to their homes. The following were the victims:

RECCHI CIELLO, aged 37, baker, killed at S. PELLEGRINO DI NORCIA
A young man of 18 unidentified, shot at the same place.

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A young man of 18 unidentified, shot at the same place.
NOBILI, Pietro di Paolo, aged 30, peasant, killed at VILLA DI SERRAVALLE in the Comune of Norcia.
Two unknown people shot in the comune of CASCIA.) Killed in
MICHELANGELI Domenico aged 71, farm labourer.) the comune of
MICHELANGELO Emilio aged 23 do.) BORGO CERRETO
PERSIANI GIACCHO aged 60 do)
BONIFAZI Francesco aged 28. do.)

PIGNOLONI, Sabatino aged 70, farm labourer) Shot in the comune
DI CURZIO GERLAN aged 61 do) of CASCIA.
MASSARI ENRICO aged 61 do)

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R
VETECCHI Benedetto aged 65 farm labourer) shot in the comune
VERTECCHI, Alessandro aged 36 ") of C .SCIA
DE ANGELIS Fortunato aged 61 farm worker "
M.RSILI Raffaele aged 37 "
DI CURZIO Emilio aged 16, shepherd
CIVITENGA Alessandro aged 62 farm worker "
An unknown man "
PERONI, Antonio di Agostino aged 24, farm worker) shot near
POLI ATTILIO DI, Giovanni aged 29 ") MONTELEONE
BERNARDINI LUIGI aged 20 ") DI SPOLETO
CIMPINI, Carlo aged 67 ") because they
SERENI Giuseppe aged 44 ") were in touch with patriots.

SPANICCIATI Francesco aged 19 of Norcia, wounded near Cascia and died in hospital later.
8 young men who could not be identified, shot in the neighbourhood of PIERM.SOTTO in the Comune of VALLO DI NER.

During these operations the German soldiers, sacked and burned houses, and carried away a great deal of material including radio sets. They also deported numerous persons, particularly from the comunes of CASCIA and MONTELEONE DI SPOLETO, and their fate is unknown. (8th Army P.W.B.).

POLITICS

XII. Communism in TURIN

There is a strong Communist organisation in Turin in close contact with the partisans.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 29.6.44).

In working class quarters in Turin the tendency to communism shows itself ever more strongly. The monarchy and the House of Savoy, which was always strongly supported in Piedmont, are now almost completely ignored.

In FLORENCE on the other hand source noted a strong Fascist tendency. In MILAN and BOLOGNA he found apathy both towards the Allies and towards the Communists.
(P.W.B. Rome Sig. B.).

XIII. Parties in Florence.

The most active parties in FLORENCE are the Communist and [illegible] Parties. Socialists and Communists seemed [illegible] party. He thinks that [illegible]

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XIII. Parties in Florence.

The most active parties in FLORENCE are the Communist and Action Parties. Socialists and Communists seemed to source to be almost one party. He thinks that Florentines are still attached to the monarchy as an institution. The Committee of Liberation is well organised and has a considerable following in the city.

The major part of the population is antifascist, in spite of a fairly strong Fascist nucleus that is perhaps more powerful then that in other cities.
(P.W.B. Rome Col. S.P.E.).

XIV. Rumours of plans to overthrow Mussolini.

German S.S. H.Q. in VERONA have been advised by Italian sources.

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that a plan for Mussolini's overthrow was discussed during a meeting in Venice by F.RINACCI and SCORZA. RICCI and PAVOLINI are reported to likewise be discussing a plan.
(Confidential Source 22.6.44).

ECONOMICS

XV. Food Situation

FLORENCE

The harvest will be very good, but there is a risk of losing some of it on account of lack of transport.

Prices.

Cherries	40-50	l	per kilo.
Flour	40	l	" "
Oil	1500	l	for 2 litres
Cheese	45	l	per kilo
Eggs	11		lire each
Meat	150	l	per kilo

Milk does not exist
Pasta had not been distributed for that month.

The housing problem is not too acute. Refugees are housed in schools. (P.W.B. Rome Col. S.P.E.).

GENOA. All those who wish to eat in Genoa must work - otherwise they receive no ration cards. They may be stopped and asked to show them at any time in the street; if they have none they are arrested.

No bicycles are allowed in the city, as they might furnish people with a means of escape. All roads leading down to the port are partially blocked so that only one person at a time can enter them. (Naval Counter Intelligence (Br).

ALESSANDRIA (15th May)
"Prices are going steadily up here; butter is 50 lire per kg. Lard is 40 lire per kg; rice and flour prices have gone wild; all the dry goods stores are closed, and food stores close at noon and do not re-open. Alessandria is deserted; at night everyone leaves the city and returns in the morning, because of the bombings. Many houses have been destroyed; this is not war, it is murder".
(Civil Censorship Summary 19.6.44).

XVI. Industry

TURIN The FIAT firm has adopted an openly anti-Fascist policy and [illegible] persons on the black list of the Fascist Party

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(Civil Censorship Summary 19.6.44).

XVI. Industry

TURIN The FIAT firm has adopted an openly anti-Fascist policy and is employing Jews and persons on the black list of the Fascist Party (May)

MILAN A German technical expert came to MILAN to organise there the production of ball-bearings which are in serious short supply now in Germany.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 29.6.44).

Socialisation of Industry Laws.

The main subject for internal enemy propaganda this week has been the Socialisation of Industry laws which came into effect on June 30th. These laws at this critical period are said to prove faith

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XVII. Transport

A woman writes in April on the conditions of the railways in north Italy

"Here all the Fascists have been shot, especially in PISINO. The rebels attack the trains, and therefore travel is dangerous. The trains are not running between TRIESTE and PISINO, because the line is cut. Battles are always taking place."
(Civil Censorship Intercept).

XVIII. Air Raid Damage.

A number of informants emphasise that, while the overwhelming majority of the mainly industrial population in the north is pro-Allied the heavy and so far as the local inhabitants can make out, indescriminate, bombing of large towns has engendered a feeling of resentment, which in some areas approaches hostility. VENETIA appears to be the area most affected and TREVISO is singled out by two independent informants as a town where definitely anti-allied sentiment has grown up as a result of heavy air attacks.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 29.6.44).

GENOA It is claimed that the port itself has not been too much damaged, but that most of the damage has been in the town.
(Naval Counter Intelligence (Br).

FLORENCE The PIGNONE works have been destroyed, as also the GALILEO works and locomotive depot. Work has been much held up in all works in the city on account of air raid alarms.
(P.W.B. Rome Co. S.P.E.)

VICENZA A correspondent writing in May says "Our poor VICENZA makes us cry for the condition in which it has been reduced. It is a complete disaster. Since the last bombing we are without water - streets are in several points interrupted - three quarters of our poor main streets are uninhabitable; the tunnel has been damaged in four points, all the most important factories have been hit".
(Censorship Intercept 15.6.44).

FLORENCE Another writer, speaking of the air raid damage in Florence says "The district of CAMPO DI MARTE, including the station and the freight yards as far as the point where outbound trains were formed and some roads along the tracks, have been heavily hit. In the district of PORTA PRATO, the freight yards, warehouse repairshops, and the locomotive yard, plus the traffic control tower, of RIFREDI have been damaged.

At PITECCIO (on the road from PISTOIA to BOLOGNA)the bombing meant to destroy the bridge, but only one bomb hit it and little damage was done, so that traffic was restored to normal in three days".
(Civil Censorship Intercept)

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(Civil Censorship Intercept).

LABOUR

XIX. Sabotage by TODT workers.

A partisan officer states that, in Italy generally, Russian TODT workers had done considerable sabotage by such means as throwing ammunition overboard from trucks in motion. ~~He also said that there had been~~

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XX. Strikes in Genoa.

Large scale strikes broke out at a given signal throughout the whole industrial zone of GENOVA. (June ??) An interesting document to hand shows the importance of the strike. This proclamation of Carlo Emanuele BASILE, Fascist Head of the Province of Genova, directed to workers on stirke. In this proclamation Basile confesses that all his promises and threats have been in vain and threatens reprisals. He orders the closing of all industries whose workers have stmck. The list of industries includes -

S.I...C
Ansaldo
Ceramica Ligure
Cantieri Navali, San Georgio
Vaccari
Ferriere Bruzzo
Piaggio

and many others. The proclamation concludes with the threat that this is only the first and mildest measure to be taken.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 26.6.44).

In GENOVA on 16th June the Germans arrested and deported to Germany some 4,000 workers. They are now making preparations for the deportation of additional workers.
(Confidential Source).

XXI. Conditions in Milan.

Regarding conditions in Milan "Fronte della Resistenza" gives details. Hunt for men to send to forced labour in Germany continues, and also food looting by Germans. Harvesting has begun and German occupation authorities have given orders to send a large part over the Alps; the general situation grows increasingly serious. In the last few days (June) an exodus of Germans from Milan northwards has been observed. Before leaving Germans are looting everything they can lay hands on from factories and even private houses.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 26.6.44).

XXII. PRESS

FLORENCE - Clandestine press.

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(P.I.D. Italian Region 26.6.44).

XXII. PRESS

FLORENCE - Clandestine press.

Two papers have good circulation

"La Liberta" Party of Action. 2,000 copies distributed all over the region - as far as Perugia.

"Avanti " Socialist.

Two other clandestine papers existed - one Christian Democrat, and the other Democrazia del Lavoro.

The official Fascist paper is "La Nazione" - director RUDOLFO MAZZUCCONI. There is also a paper of the Federazione Fascista called "La Repubblica" instead of the old "Bargello". No one reads it, knowing it to be full of lies.
(P.W.B. Rome Col. S.P.E).

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CHURCH

XXIII Condemnation of the Vatican

Fascist circles have recently issued, through the press, strong criticism of the Vatican, which they say has received with afability the enemies of Italy. The Pope is condemned for not condemning the bombardment of other Italian cities as well as that of Rome. "As regards the Holy See not interfering in politics" they say, "it is confirmed unequivocably that today the Vatican is hostile to our cause"... Naturally the Archbishop of Canterbury is very satisfied. The Communists are less satisfied, as they do not look on the union between the Anglosaxons and the Holy See with favour... We must recognise that the Anglo-American advance in Italy has unmasked many high prelates. Encouraged by the successes of Italy's enemies, they want to play the Anglo-American game without reserve. We notice this without wonder. Their behaviour shows that we were right in reprimanding some of the Cardinals, who in spite of their hypocritical protests merited the accusal of being anti-Italian. One must recognise that the Catholic Clergy in the United States and England deserve greater esteem. They have gone from the beginning with their flags flying, supporting their governments, not preoccupying themselves with politics and dogma".
(Empax).

PERSONALITIES

XXIV. Fascists of Florence.

Segretario del Partito Fascista
MESCHERI - is at the Palazzo Littorio

Capo della Provincia (Prefetto)

DOTT. MANGANIELLO who is an ex member of the directorate of the Fascist Party.

Sig. GIUNTA, Francesco ex-governor of DALMATIA and ex-Secretary to the Presidency of the Fascist Government - is at the ALBERGO EXCELSIOR

Prof. Prof. ASQUINI undersecretary of the Ministero Cooperazioni - is at the ALBERGO EXCELSIOR.

(Advanced G.2. 24.6.44).

XXV. Political Squad of TURIN

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(Advanced G.2. 24.6.44).

XXV. Political Squad of TURIN

Members of the political squad of Turin who were present at interrogation of source

Console LUBIANI
Centurione VENTIMIGLIA
VANNA
NERI MARCHINA - dangerous spy.

(8th Army 29.6.44).

XXVI. Fascist Personalities in Milan.

COLOMBO)
BENCI) Chiefs of "Squadre Muti".

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MENDIA Chief of Political Squad.
COSTA Commissioner of Fascio
SANTARELLI Niccolini Chief of Police.

(8th Army 29.6.44).

XXVII. Dangerous elements in various zones.

CITTA DI PIEVE

GOBBANI Giovanni - an ex-squadrist of Citta di Pieve; gave out that he was escaping to PISA, but some locals think that he is actually in hiding near the town.

ASCOLI (12th May)

MORKA (Maltese) is suspected of informing Fascists of the whereabouts of Allied P.W. Speaks English and Italian very well and also some German.

HANNS (?) Joseph. D.L.I. is known to have informed Fascists of the hiding places of Allied ex P.W.

Cpl. BRAITHWAIT and L/Cpl MORGAN are said to have worked for the Germans in the Ascoli area.

FORCE

FOUST or FOUSTER is a Fascist and he is known to have killed some Allied P.W. last April.

MONTECCHIO

RASCOLI, a much heard of Fascist is described as follows:- Height about 6 gt, hair fair, good looking. Married with two children, living in the above town.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 29.6.44).

XXVIII. Details on NISTRI

SANTA CROCE ARNO

GIAN FRANCESCO NISTRI He is a doctor in agriculture and university lecturer (libero docente); born in 1909; residence of family SANTA CROCE SULL'ARNO where he owns an estate; lived in ROME, via Tre Madonne; cavalry captain, before the Armistice orderly officer of Gen. De. Stefanis of Commando Supremo; owner of weapons.

On the 12th September 1943 Nistri declared to informant that he was on perfectly good terms with the Germans, to whome he

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On the 12th September 1943 Nistri declared to informant that he was on perfectly good terms with the Germans, to whome he had revealed the Italian Government's intentions some days before the Armistice was published. He boasted of having thus let the Germans occupy airport in order to prevent landing of airborne Allied troops (Note: informant asks that this information be not publicly disclosed because he has his family in occupied territory (near LUCCA) and is the only man to whom Nistri revelaed the secret)

Informant heard him ring up the German Embassy and speak with attache Von Jena and Lieut Mayer who later on came and picked him up with a car. Nistri always went freely about Rome in German cars.

On 13th January informant saw him at the Hotel Excelsior very busy surrounded by a lot of people. He used to boast of having denounced, in collaboration with Maj. Foschini, many antifascist in FLORENCE

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his information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

On 13th January informant saw him at the Hotel Excelsior very busy surrounded by a lot of people. He used to boast of having denounced, in collaboration with Maj. Foschini, many antifascists in FLORENCE. He was highly considered in fascist milieus of TUSCANY. The first days after the armistice he had been politically uncertain; then he became a strong supporter of Graziani and of the Germans; he was extremely violent against non-collaborationists. He collaborated with Console Mannelli, Chief of the Italian S.S. who had previously granted him some war rewards; he was supposed to be chief of S.I.D. (Army intelligence service) for Tuscany. Before the Allied arrival in Rome he declared that he would leave in the town some people of his staff for intelligence missions.

A man who arouses suspicion is comm. FIORINI chief of a smuggling organisation which operated between Florence and Rome. - had very close relations with the Germans, from whom he got passes and other facilities -employed trucks of P.A.I. (Polizia Africa Italiana), guarded by armed agents - very intimate with Maj KAPPLER, Famous SS officer - his daughter in Rome used to organise banquets and invite German officers. One of his collaborators was GIORGIO GIORGI, leatner manufecturer (Tivoli) who lived in Rome at the Hotel Excelsior with his German wife (whose Mother was British) - supposed to own an apartment in Via Montevideo 2..
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 30.6.44).

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

SECRET

"G" Section Italy (Ccc). 5th Jul., 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 8. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ITALY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 14.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E), and 5(D) or (E)
JCS 1/4/72
BY NARS, Date 5/3/75

It is credibly reported that the French and Italian patriotic underground movements have now linked up.

The rapid liberation of areas north of Rome now reveal the effects of partisan activities. Besides the assistance given to the Allied operations, most of the towns are under the control or administration of partisans or of their nominees. This state of affairs is likely to be intensified as the Allies move northwards, particularly in the Florence area.

Apart from their activites in the zone immediately in the rear of the German retreat, the patriots in the rest of Italy are becoming more and more aggressive.

Como. Fierce fighting was reported from Como on 15th June, and road, railway and lake traffic north of Como is claimed to be under patriot control. Owing to the hold-up of a train north of Varese when German soldiers travelling on it were disarmed, the head of the Province broadcast in Nord Milan station that the administration only guaranteed freight traffic as far as Varese.

La Spezia. This town is reported to be in a ferment.

Brenner. Between the Brenner pass and Trieste, 12000 well armed men, mostly Italian soldiers from the Balkans are said to be operating.

Cuneo. In the area of Cuneo and S.W. of Turin the partisans are well organised and cover a wide zone.

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

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
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BY NARS, Date 5/3/75

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Arezzo. Near Arezzo, in the Casentino, a large group of 6-7000 men are reported to have rendered communications so unsafe that the Germans suspended night traffic in the Trevi area, while notices warned travellers to beware of partisans on the Casena-Bibbiena road.

Romagna. The local partisans are anxious to co-ordinate operations with the Allies and occupy the passes of Muraglione, San Benedetto in Alpe and Passo Dei Mandrioli. They lack weapons and means of communication.

Bologna. The city is organised by an unknown central authority in the Guardia Armata Popolare, consisting of squads of 10 men and a leader. This is sponsored by the Communists.

Volterra. A large group of 5-7000 patriots is collected in the Volterra-Anteatini-Val di Cecina area.

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Florence In May there were 2300 partisans in Pratolagno between Florence and S. Sepolcro. A combat with Germans at S. Sepolcro in early May lasted three or four days; another took place at Citta di Castello about the same time.

Monte Amiata. A British escaped P.W. was operating with the partisans of this area since January. Practically every ten miles between Florence and Monte Amiata was covered by some band of partisans. Communications were maintained on horse-back.

Allied P.Ws.

Elena Coutts, now Signora Ciacchetti, was tried in Florence for sheltering Allied P.Ws. and was sentenced to 30 years. Her husband Giovanni Ciacchetti and Bernard Seeber were condemned to death in contumacia.

Assassinations

At Castiglione Fibocchi two English P.Ws. went to the house of Major Dei, of the Fascist Milizia, a hated hunter of P.Ws. and shot him dead. Unfortunately one was caught on the spot and the other two days later. They were both shot.

Other notable cases were those of Maoussi, president of the political tribunal of Angelate, two officers of Italian A.A. artillery and a Commissario Prefettizio.

FASCIST FORCES.

The officers of "X" MAS Flotilla are violent Fascists and from their barracks in Lido Di Camaiore, south of La Spezia, sent out plundering groups to terrorise and despoil the countryside.

The Fascist Army and the Balilla. Friction is reported as having arisen between the Republican Army and the Opera Nazionale Balilla over the enlistment of recruits. The O.N.B. promise that their recruits will not be sent to the front.

GERMANS

Reports mention the presence of numerous German troops in Rimini and their anti-landing exercises. On the other hand there are few left along the Riviera so that not all the pill boxes on the hills are manned. The Germans' boasted anti-invasion Wall on this coast seems to be an utter fake. The

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The German Retreat. Eye-witnesses have commented on the heterogeneous collection of transport employed by the retreating Germans. Many left Orvieto on bicycles and local carts. At Perugia more than half the columns passing through in the last days were horse-drawn and included a number of farm carts. Some of the last Germans are said to have left Rome in horse-cabs.

Morale. Near Lucca, a source spoke with 30 Germans. Most of them railed against Hitler, but stated they would fight to the end because the Allies say they are not fighting Hitler but the German people.
In Milan Germans are eager to buy goods and exchange marks, which are now quoted very low. Italians refuse marks; the Germans, to procure Italian currency, sell fuel and food.

A German officer said the morale of his regiment was very low owing to constant retreat and bad news from home.
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~~SECRET~~ Summary 3.

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POLITICS

CREMONA, obviously at Farinacci's orders, is the centre for the "Crociata Italica", an organisation of militar, chaplains and fascistophil priests, with the support of German Catholics and aimed chiefly against Cardinal Schuster. It is subsidised by Germany and is anti-semitic and anti-communist.

In VICENZA the strongest anti-fascist party is the Christian Democrat.

MILAN While the bulk of the population is anti-fascist, the fascist party is very strongly entrenched here.

TREVISO The crushing bombardment of Treviso has alienated considerable sympathy from the Allies.

MONFALCONE. Workers' unions have succeeded in quietly making themselves independent of local government authorities.

ECONOMICS.

Food. Food price reports indicate that in the Romagna and the north food is not scarce. Olive oil appears to be the exception. Clothing and foot-wear are at exorbitant prices.

Transport. The train services are disastrous. One train runs daily from Venice-Padova-Verona to Milan. Two trains run from Milan to Turin and Genova respectively.

The destruction of Piacenza station has completely cut the main line of communication from N.W. Italy so that to reach Florence from Milan one must travel to Verona-Venice-Bologna-Florence.

The Brenner line, which was working on 23rd May, was reported cut again on 26th May. When this line is interrupted trains must go by way of TARVISIO, with two days delay.

INDUSTRY

The Germans exercise complete control over all stocks through Reich Kommissars in Milan. These officials block all goods and manufacturers cannot sell without a certificate of release. Middle-men are Italians from Amsterdam, Paris, Lyons, Luxembourg previously employed by the Germans, admitted to

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The German Ministry of War Production (Speer organisation) ruthlessly exploits Italian industries. The chief materials urgently required in Germany are paper, mineral oil, machinery, radio-valves, packing cardboard. Some manufacturers evade this looting by hiding new parts and handing in old spare parts.

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Summary 4.

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Air Raid Damage.

S. Oreste. The raid on Kesselring's H.Q. is said to have caused many casualties, particularly among officers.

Rimini Except for the port, the town is almost completely destroyed.
Alessandria. Life is paralysed because, in the absence of shelters, people evacuate the city after mid-day.
Florence Raids here have been very accurate and only military targets have been bombed.
Pisa. South of the Arno there has been much damage, north of the river it is very slight.

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

0634

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ). 5th July, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 8. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 14.

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"G" Section Italy (Ccc).

5th July, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 8. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 14.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE.

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

French and Italian patriots link up

Reuter reports that the two great underground movements of Italy and France have now linked up, and that direct contact has been established between the Italian resistance committee and the French forces of the Interior. The Italian partisans in Piemonte and the French Maquis in Savoie have been collaborating for some time past, and as the Allied armies advance control of the passes of the Western Alps will be of great strategic significance. The need for friendship with France has been stressed by leaders of the Italian anti-Fascist movement from the start.

Observations on General Partisan Organisation

North of Rome the effects of partisan activity are now directly observable. In towns recently occupied by the Allies not only is one told, on good authority, of the ways in which the partisans have assisted the Allied advance (i.e. by marrying the German retreat, bringing in prisoners, arresting Fascists etc.) but also one can observe that the towns themselves are mainly under partisan influence. In VITERBO, for example, the acting Prefect of the Province, Col. T. was a partisan leader. In ORBETELLO, the man who runs the town and who has nominated the Mayor, Col. R., led a band of partisans in the MONTE ARGENTARIO PENINSULA, while in GROSSETO the President of the newly formed Committee of Liberation Dott. M. also commanded a large band of partisans. Moreover, the partisans themselves say that this situation will be intensified further north, particularly in the FLORENCE area.

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It would appear that some of the partisan bands follow Allied directives and that some do not. The partisans of UMBRIA, TUSCANY and LAZIO who are under Allied control are commanded from the Palazzo CAPRARA in Rome by the "Commanding General of Partisans in Central Italy" (Col. M.) who presumably, is himself under Allied Control. The "Commanding General" has several sub-commanders-in GROSSETO for example Col. C. a regular officer of the Italian army operates under the instructions of 4 corps, while in the FLORENCE area an Italian General holds a similar position. Col. C's chief worry at the moment (and this may well be the worry of the other sub-commanders) is that of communication and supply. For these they are dependent on couriers, while the urgent need of his men for arms and ammunition has not so far been fulfilled, although "rather vague" promises have been made. Once these requirements have been fulfilled the partisans feel that they can take really important military action at the behest of the Allied Command, but if they are not they will be obliged to confine themselves to harrying tactics. (P.W.B. 5th Army 21.6.44).

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News of resistance in various districts.

In a number of localities patriots have risen before the departure of the Germans, overwhelmed their rearguards and prevented the destruction of bridges and industrial installations.

The number of foreign elements of the Wehrmacht -Poles, Russians and Yugoslavs - going over to the partisans is growing steadily and several cases of German soldiers going over are also reported.

The Germans are losing men and material in their retreat as a result of effective partisan activieies. In several places they have risen before the arrival of the Allies. TERNO, for example, was already in patriot hands when Allied troops arrived. Patriots had occupied and defended the streets and bridges and preserved them from destruction.

The importance of partisans being informed in good time of the imminence of our arrival is emphasised, since, even in areas where they are too badly armed to take effective actions against the retreating Germans, they may be able to prevent engineers left behind from carrying out their task of demolition.

While the main strength of the partisan formations in the far north is still awaiting orders from General Alexander for general action, firee fighting was reported on 15.6.44 from CCMC. Partisans control railway, roads and lake traffic north of CCMC, arresting Germans and fascists.

Last week near VARESE the partisans held up a train carrying several German soldiers. The soldiers were asked to join the partisans. Some accepted, others were released after being disarmed.. The train then started at full speed and was wrecked at the next curve.

Following this incident the following announcement was made through loud speakers at NORD MILANO station "The Province chief announces to the passengers that freight traffic can be guaranteed only as far as VARESE. The administration cannot take the responsibility for traffic beyond VARESE.

Two militiamen were recently killed at LISSONE (CCMC) At noon the following day two German soldiers arrived by motorcycle from MILAN, killed the first two passersby as a reprisal. Fascist leaders at BALLAGIO were also attacked. A train between TIRANO and COLICO was held up by partisans. All Italian soldiers aboard the train, including three senior officers were taken into the mountains.

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SPEZIA At the beginning of June reports and admissions in the Fascist press spoke of widespread insurrectional activity in the naval base of Spezia, activity being directed by the local National Liberation Committee. Fighting still continues and whilst the enemy may be able to hold Spezia he has not sufficient reliable troops to control, much less suppress, partisan activity.
(P.I.B. Italian Region 20.6.44).

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BRENNER-TRIESTE 12,000 well-armed partisans are said to be operating in the area between the BRENNER and TRIESTE. They have rifles, m...Gs, and some artillery. They consist mostly of Italian soldiery from the Balkans and are said to be in touch with TITO. They harass German MT and troops and have blown some bridges. They get their food by robbing German columns.

Many partisans were seen in April between TREVI and S. GI..CCMC. About 70 were armed with pistols, rifles and ....Gs. The Germans do not use the roads by night in this area.

CUNEO-SW TURIN. Partisans operating in this area have small arms, ..Gs., some MT. They are well-organised and operate over a wide area. In April they blew up the railway between CENA and MILLESIMO.

AREZZO an important group, stated to number 6-7000 is reported in the M. CASENTINO area near AREZZO, armed only with small arms. Even in the area of the PISA-RIMINI defence line notices warning travellers of the danger of partisan bands were observed at the beginning of May on the CESENA-BIBBIENA road. Reports of partisan successes on this front are mainly concerned with harassing enemy lines of communication by wrecking occasional German trucks, but civilian reports, which are confirmed from captured documents, indicate that the Germans have found such activities sufficiently annoying to make them alter their transport schedule. Thus in the TREVI area traffic by night is reported to have been suspended in April. One informant complains that partisans in some cases are little more than brigands. Since supplies are the main problem for partisans, some forcible requisitioning from civilians is to be expected. On the whole, however, complaints on this score have been noticeably absent, a fact which speaks for the organisation of the political side of the Italian resistance movement. In this connection the Communist and Action parties are reported to be the only parties politically active in northern Italy. Allowing for some exageration, this statement is believed to be correct for most areas.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 26.6.44).

ROMAGNA The leader of the patriots in ROMAGNA thinks that a combined action in the zone MT. FUMAIOLO-MT. FALTERONA will be extremely effective. A few patriots would suffice to occupy the passes PASSO MURAGLIONE, SAN BENEDETTO IN ALPE-PASSO DEI MANDRIOLI) and harass Germans, while the Allies would operate SAN BENEDETTO

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In the zone RIMINI, CERVIA, CESENATICO etc. there are many squads useful for combined operations in the event of landings, but their morale has suffered from heavy bombings. Anyhow, the human partisan material in Romagna is excellent and exasperated by Fascist oppression.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 26.6.44).

BOLOGNA -mid April Resistance in the city is organised by an unknown central authority. Partisans are grouped in squadre of up to 10 men under a leader, but the number of squadre is not known to the rank and file. The organisation is known as the "Guardia Armata Popolare" and is sponsored by the Communists, as elsewhere, the strongest political body and the most active
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 27.6.44).

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BRESCIA. Resistance is very strong among the workpeople of BRESCIA.

Immediately after the armistice Capt. B., finding that the patriots in Brescia were helpless, as they were without arms, sent to the English officer at the BERETTA works to get machine guns, but was refused. Three days later the patriots, with the aid of the chief workshop steward, broke into the shop, and carried off 1000 machine guns, with the necessary ammunition. The Germans took 40 hostages.

It was a real sacrifice for the people to give to the cause of the patriots. Workpeople in all the works gave 10 lire every fortnight, and in every parish of the province the alms that were collected were for the patriots; tradespeople collected shoes and clothes, the peasants corn, flour etc.

On the 26th October when the Germans declared the death penalty for all deserters the band of BRESCIA numbered about 8-10 thousand, with 250 prisoners of war (American and British) of which 25 were officers.

On the 30th October Capt. P. went to Rome to contact the centre of clandestine warfare and gave them particulars of suitable places for dropping by parachute so that later on a radio transmitter could be sent to them.
(Capt. P. P.W.E. Rome).

VERONA. The house of the federals of Verona was destroyed by a bomb in the Borgo Trento district.

A German truck was destroyed by another bomb in the Via Massimi, next to the Super Cinema. In neither case did the Germans take reprisals.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 24.6.44).

There is a big concentration of patriots (5 -7 thousand) in the area VOLTERRA MONTECATINI DI VAL DI CECINA and surroundings.

FLORENCE-SAN SEPOLCRO An informant was told by a wounded Bn. "M" man in hospital in Rome in May that there were 2300 partisans in the area known as PRATO MAGNO between FLORENCE and S. SEPOLCRO, ie. between the ARNO and the road AREZZO-BIBBIENA, FLORENCE. (The Bn. M. man had been wounded in an encounter with some negro P.Ws. who had escaped when their train was bombed while passing over a bridge in the area, and had seized the weapons of their guards). A battle

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The latest mopping-up operations of the Germans occurred after the last call-up on 28th May, which was directed at all the soldiers disbanded from their units since September. A battle at S. SEPOLCRO in the first half of May lasted three or four days and another took place at CITTA DI CASTELLO about the same time.

There are many partisans also in the area of LUCCA. Their leader was Gen. P.B. whose adjutant had been betrayed to the Germans by a spy who observed his visits to a certain village.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 20.6.44).

It seems that at present there are three "Garibaldi" batallions with 600 men each (many Allied P.W.) The situation of these partisans gets worse because of supply difficulties and increased espionage.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 20.6.44).

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FELTRE about the end of April on the road BASSANO-VICENZA near PCZZOLEONE the following episode took place. An allied plane let fall a parachute with clothes, arms and money which was picked up by carabinieri and taken to a lorry. A band of patriots stopped the lorry and carried off the supplies, threatening the carabinieri with their weapons. This incident was related to source by the driver of the VICENZA-BASSANO courier.
(F.W.B. 8th Army 27.6.44).

There are many partisans in the area MARESCA nr. PISTOIA and PAVULLO(N of PISTOIA), the latter having been supplied by allied parachutes. They had two villages burned by the Germans.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 22.6.44).

British Prisoner's Life with Partisans.

Source was captured at Tobruk, interned in North Italy, and escaped at the time of the armistice. He lived for five months with a family in Tuscany, was hunted by the fascist soldiery, and spent his remaining time in German territory with a band of partisans operating in the Monte Amiata Sector. There were several prisoners of war in this group of about fifty, including one American. They enjoyed the limited hospitality of the country-side, and managed to live fairly well. They attacked from time to time, German and Fascist transport, and raided food dumps and granaries, allowing the wheat to be distributed among the population. Source said that practically every ten miles between FLORENCE and AMIATA was covered by some band of partisans. Communications between bands were maintained on horseback. His band had several horses and was well-armed.

They commenced a strong series of sorties on the strength of the leaflet and radio instructions they received at the beginning of the CASSINO offensive. Feeling that they were being called upon to come down from the mountains and obstruct the German communications system as much as possible, they attacked a number of German trucks over a period of time. He remembered that the partisans considered "Italia Combatte", the newspaper distributed by plane by P.W.B., as the authoritative organ of the patriots. He had never heard the radio programme of the same name, though he knew about it from reading the newspaper and from hearing others talk about it.
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(P.W.B. done).

II. Allied Prisoners of war.

FLORENCE The Territorial Military Tribunal tried ELENA COUTTS, born in India, Italian through her marriage, GIOVANNI GIACCHETTI, Italian national born in India and BERNARDO SEEBER (Corriere Sera, Florence 5.6.44). COUTTS was charged with sheltering two British escaped Prisoners of war near SAN DOMENICO DI FIESOLE; GIACCHETTI and SEEBER were charged with being accessories. The evidence showed that Giacchetti and Seeber, in their role of agents of the Action Party, had systematically helped the Allies by assisting, hiding and transporting across the frontier escaped prisoners of war. Coutts also participated more or less directly The Tribunal condemned Coutts to thirty years imprisonment; Giacchetti and Seeber were condemned to death in contumacie. (Espan).

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CASTIGLIONE FIBOCCHI (about the end of February).
Two English P.W. called at the house of a Major DEI(?) of the Fascist Militia, known to have betrayed many P.W. to the Germans. They asked his wife to call him downstairs and when he appeared one, of them killed him with two shots of a revolver. The other was captured there and then. P. who made off on a bicycle, was captured two days later. Both were shot.
(8th Army Special Interrogation report 20.6.44).

III. Assassinations.

Patriots do not generally attack Germans, as they are too well armed and take reprisals on hostages. There is particular feeling against the militia, who are considered traitors, and have been known to torture captured partisans by prising the nails from their fingers. Among the successes of the partisans are the assassination on 20th March of MCDUSSI, President of the political tribunal of MONDLATC, who had condemned 10 partisans to death, and the killing of one BARONI, two officers of the Italian A.A. Artillery, and the commissar of the Prefetizio.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 27.6.44).

FASCIST FORCES.

IV. Progress of reconstitution of army

The army is being reconstituted under the constant heavy pressure of authorities, many well equipped (light armed) units may be seen outside or in exercise camps. But their spirit is low, and of course not trustworthy from the German point of view.

Fascist squads are well organised and well armed. Informant says that on May 30th he saw two trucks coming back from LAKE MAGGIORE after an operation ("epurazione") against patriots. Fascists had suffered heavy losses.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 22.6.44).

V. Fascist soldiers plunder countryside.

A.R. was hiding in Rome in early March; his presence was revealed to the Fascists and he had to volunteer for the Fascist Republican Army. He was sent to La Spezia where he spent about

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(A.R. P.W.B. Rome).

VI. Friction between Army and Balilla.

There is friction between the Republican Army and the Opera Nazionale Balilla over the enlistment of recruits, each vying with the other to obtain the maximum number. The Army resorts to street parades, the Balilla promises boy and parents that he will not be sent to the front.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 24.6.44).

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GERMANS

VII. Dispositions

FLORENCE There were Army Germans in Florence between 15th April and 15th May - very few afterwards.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report

Civilian sources confirm previous reports that FLORENCE is treated by the Germans virtually as an open city. As at ROME, there are stated to be virtually no troops billetted in the town, and the only HQs are those of the local "Frontstelle" and the Movement Control near the station.
(8th Army Summary 24.6.44).

RIMINI Many German troops were noticed at RIMINI - May 20th. They were doing anti-landings drill.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 20.6.44).

RIVIERA A.D. stated that there seemed to be very few soldiers on the Riviera (May) and not all the pill boxes on the hills were manned. German pretensions of having a formidible wall against invasion were utterly false. They had very weak defences, mostly easily surmountable concrete and wire barriers along the beach; at one time, early in the year, they had an invasion score and were scarcely able to assemble three thousand men.

The railroad between GENOA and MILAN is in good order (up to May 11) also the autoroad between MILAN and PAVIA. Between BOLOGNA and FLORENCE a detour of several kilometres is encountered where the Germans are building fortifications (Source could not name the exact point).
(A.D. P.W.B. Rome).

LAKE GARDA All the villas on Lake GARDA have been requisitioned by the Germans, especially those around GARDONE. One is the headquarters of the Republican Militia.

VIII. Morale

Many civilians have commented on the disorganised appearance of the Germans in retreat, and the strange vehicles commandeered. Many left CRVIETO on bicycles and local carts, and at PERUGIA more than half the columns passing through in the last days are reported to have

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HQs are those of the local "Frontstalle" and the Movement Control near the station.
(8th Army Summary 24.6.44).

RIMINI Many German troops were noticed at RIMINI - May 20th. They were doing anti-landings drill.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 20.6.44).

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(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary).

3522

LUCCA Informant spoke with about 30 Germans holding the observation post at PERIGNANO (LUCCA). Most of them were against Hitler, but will fight up to the end because the Allies say that they are not fighting Hitler, but the Germans.(According to German propaganda). They were fed up with the war, but still are well fed and well dressed.

MILAN In Milan German officers and soldiers were very eager to buy goods and change marks, which had reached a very low quotation. Sellers refused marks; in order to get Italian money Germans were selling, in recent months, fuel and food. They used to say that they will ornament their walls with marks after the war is over. A colonel was always

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reporting to informant that he did not know how to help his wife, whose house in Germany had sustained great damage by air bombings.

Germans in Milan and other northern towns did not generally express any opinion upon the issue of the conflict; people felt that they were held in the dark about war news.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report. 20.6.44).

A German officer Hintzen interrogated on 20.6.44 stated that the morale in his regiment was very low owing to the constant retreat and the bad news from home. (Two of his brothers had been killed on the front and his mother wounded in COLOGNE, which was his home). He felt that good leaflets considerably deepened this feeling of depression and lessened the will to fight on.

Although barely 20 Hintzen had been in the army since 1942, had been wounded 4 times and was in the retreat from Stalingrad. He said he had now "had enough". As far as one could judge he was of the better type of German, but one who had, to date, probably fought very well. It is therefore an encouraging sign that such men should given themselves up. He stated that he had always liked and admired the British, and hoped that they would be allies. He had never met any Americans, but their reputation was that they were "very cruel" and maltreated their prisoners.

He did not think that the Germans had sufficient troops or men to defend the "Goth" line. He and most of his regiment thought that the war would be over by the autumn.
(P.W.B. 5th Army 22.6.44).

IX. Methods.

The Germans called for volunteers for the CASSINO front from Italian labour camps in Poland. Welcoming this opportunity to get back to Italy, many enrolled, and at UDINE the whole band, estimated at 10,000, escaped.

To distinguish ambulances carrying ammunition from other ambulances, so as to secure a quick passage on the road, the Germans attach olive-branches to the former, fore and aft.

On May 27th a "hospital train", marked FLORENCE, and with the Red Cross and manned by Italian Red Cross personnel, left BOLOGNA for FLORENCE, transporting about 1,000 armed Germans with S.A., plus 100 engineers, all under a Major.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 17.6.44).

X. Treatment of

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X. Treatment of Prisoners of War.

A German Prisoner of War cage was situated in the CINE CITTA in ROME (6.6.44) It consisted of about 200 English, 200 Americans, 16 coloured South Africans, 15 Italians. Two Germans W.Os were in command. On 6th June the whole cage was moved to FABRICA DI ROMA, then to VIGNANELLO. According to the German guard it was intended to move the whole cage on foot to FLORENCE. According to an informant who was a PW until his escape on 8th June, the Italians were badly treated, though they had the same food as British and Americans PW.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 17.6.44).

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XI. Atrocities.

CRVIETO German troops on leaving the town of Crvieto are said to have taken several peasants and stabbed them to death for no apparent motive.

The Fascist "M" En took 6 patriots from the local prison and shot them, along with an old man who had given them food. (early June).
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 27.6.44).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

XII. Leaflets

Hintzen (a German officer prisoner interrogated on 20.6.44) had in his possession two leaflets.-

1. "Frontpost" dated June 8th 1944
2. "Das geht auch euch an".

The "Frontpost" he had found on June 8th at SECCETE, 8 kms south of RCCCASTRATA. There were many lying about and he and his men had picked them up. He had done nothing to prevent his men from doing so, and he had, in fact, discussed the leaflet with them. It was the first news they had had of the beginning of the second front, and it had given them quite a shock, although they accepted it. They had not believed the bomb tonnage figures - they were too fantastically high. The signpost cartoon had struck home, as it had so much truth in it.

The "Das geht auch euch an" leaflet he had picked up in the middle of May 8 km north of APRILIA. He had thought it also quite striking
(P.W.B. 5th Army 22.6.44).

An informant from ASCOLI PICENO said that Allied leaflet propaganda is ineffective. It is too wordy for a semi-illiterate people and appeals to political idealism, which Mussolini managed practically to erase from the mind of the old and which was never made known to the young. Further our propaganda demands action from a people which is politically and militarily capable of inaction and passive resistance only.

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Tunis).
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 27.6.44).

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Radio propaganda is more effective, but should be more fiery and picturesque.
(Sgt. B. captured in Tunisia on 15.1.43)

POLITICS

3521

XIII. Fascist Republican Party

The Fascist Republican Party is composed of (1) former fascist organisations (2) elements comprised by malvers then (3) local criminals. (4) a few communist elements.

At ORELCNA has been formed a centre for the organisation "Crociata Italica", led by military chaplains, with the support of German catholics, and against Cardinal SCHUSTER of MILAN. It is subsidised by Germany and is anti-semitic and anti-bolshevik.

A special police organisation drawn from the German and Italian

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S.S., units of the Publica Sicurezza GNR and common spies, with its own headquarters, has been set up to prevent infraction of the laws concerning the blockade of goods.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 26.6.44)

XIV.
Anti Fascist parties in Vicenza. Of the anti-fascist parties here the strongest is certainly the Christian Democratic party. Peasants, landed proprietors etc. belong to it. It is strongly anti-communist. Small communist centres exist in the factories. Old liberal elements try to organise in Vicenza and the province. In the local factories, Pedavena, Rossi, Marzotto, the Christian Democrats are the political organisers.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Sig. P.)

XV.
Director of Socialists in northern Italy.

The Socialist movement in northern Italy is directed by ALESSANDRO PERTINI, who left Rome a few days before it was liberated.
(P.Nenni in a letter to Mr Gillies, the Secretary General of the Labour Party in England dated 14.6.44).

XVI. Milan, Treviso, Trieste.

Business men and manufacturers of MILAN are on the whole anti-fascists, some very strongly. The political situation, however, is apparently dominated by fascists.

The overwhelming majority of the "men of the street" sympathise with the allied cause; but some disappointment has recently spread among the population because of allied air bombings on the towns -TREVISO especially.

At MONFALCONE and surroundings (NW of TRIESTE) social organisations of workers (unions, factory committees) have succeeded, by silent agreement, in being quite autonomous from local government authorities
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 22.6.44).

XVII. Fascist atrocities March-April.

Several young men (probably 12) were shot down or thrown into the Savio river at MARTORANO near CESENA because they were shirking military service.

A young man was brought to hospital with his spine broken after an

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A young man was brought to hospital with his spine broken after an interrogation by GARAFFONI, secretary of the fascio in CESENA.

The shooting of five young men who refused to enlist by a platoon of comrades forced by the fascists to the job also took place. There were scenes of terror, riots of women and menaces of the crowd against the Prefect. Later condemnations were made but they were milder (not the death penalty).
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 20.6.44).

ECONOMICS

XVIII. Food Situation

Prices in Milan	1 K	of Flour	lire 35-40
	1 K	Rice	" 20

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1 pair of shoes	2000	(May)
suit	12-15000	
1 pair of socks	200	
1 litre of olive oil	about lire 1000	
1 k butter	lire 250-450	(much exported to Germany)

Prices in Romagna and Rimini

Romagna. Pair of Oxen 90,000 lire
Horse 70,000
Meat 150 1 a k.
Flour 25 1 a k
Oil 750 1 a litre
Eggs 6 lire each
Milk 7 lire

There is surplus of flour and all the communes in Romagna have distributed extra rations to the population.

Rimini. Rations

Bread 200 grms a day.
Meat 50 grms a week
Butter 150 grms a month
No oil.
Cheese 80 grms a week.
Jam only for children.
Sugar 50 grms a month.
Milk only for children and old people.
(8th Army 17.6.44).

Prices in La Spezia :

At La Spezia the government is very disorganised. The town is mostly destroyed. A ration of 200 grms of bread a day is given, but nearly anything else. There is enough wine. Flour sells on the black market for 90 lire a kilo. The German soldiers in the region include a large number of Mongoloid looking men, and are probably from the Russian prisoner division mentioned in the latest military despatches.
(A.R. P.W.B. Rome).

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Food in Vicenza. The factories work regularly, without interruption from air raids. Agriculture also proceeds quietly.

Butter L. 360

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Horse 70,000
Meat 150 1 a k.
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3520

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Butter L. 360
Fat L 200
Flour L. 17
Yellow Flour 5-10 lire
Tobacco (cured) from 400 to 600 lire.
(P.W.B. 5th Army Sig. P.).

XIX. Transport.

Railways in Northern and central Italy.

South of FLORENCE trains do not run. (From here on informant came as far as PERUGIA with an MT column). In northern Italy the situation is disastrous. There is only one lateral service for passengers, viz. one train a day from VENICE-PADOVA-VERONA to MILAN, where two trains run to TURIN and GENOA respectively. To travel from NW Italy to FLORENCE it is necessary to go via MILAN and VERONA.

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because the line is irreparably broken at PIACENZA, where the station is completely destroyed. Passengers get out in the middle of the countryside 2 km west of PIACENZA. This means that PARMA and REGGIO EMILIA are isolated as far as railway communication is concerned.

The north-south line from the BRENNER to BOLOGNA was functioning better on 28rd May. Thus, informant travelled as follows:-

Dept.	NURNBERG 0800 hrs.	Arr.	MUNICH 1200 hrs
Dept.	MUNICH 1700 "	"	INNSBRUCK 0100 hrs 24 May
Dept.	INNSBRUCK -	Arr.	VERONA 0530 hrs.

At INNSBRUCK they heard that the line at the Brenner had been cut and that they would have to go via TARVISIO, which means a delay of two days. The train, however, did in fact go through the Brenner very slowly. Later at ALESSANDRIA (26th May) source heard that the Brenner line had again been cuty.

At BOLOGNA the two stations in use are BORGO PANIGALE to the west and S. RUFFILLO to the South east. The latter is an important troop-detraining station and informant got a lift on a hospital train. This was described by the Major in charge of the troops as very urgent. To reach FLORENCE it had to return to BORGO PANIGALE and continue on the line to PISTOIA. They left BOLOGNA at 0600 hrs and reached FLORENCE at 1545, having had to wait 5 hrs at PORRETTA TERME because an allied raid at mid-day had blocked the line further south.

No trains were running from GENOA to LA SPEZIA on 27th May because the line had been cut a fortnight before, and it was considered unlikely that it would be repaired.

The following stations have only one track in working order:-

RIFREDI (the goods station of FLORENCE destroyed in March when full of laden waggons)

PRATO
PISTOIA
BOLZANO.

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The Germans appear to be lax about supervision of civilian passengers. There is no checking of papers except at exit of FLORENCE station, and civilians can even get a lift on an urgent military train (see above) On the other hand there is a control point at the entrance of every town (this is only informant's personal experience between 23-26th May) .

VERONA. The PORTANUOVA station has been repaired. A train leaves for the BRENNER daily at either 0630 or 1735 hrs, informant did not know which (1st June).

(8th Army)

XX. Industry

Directors and skilled workers unite in keeping industrial production as low as possible and in conserving their stocks, in the place of present difficulties. 95% of north Italian industry is still functioning and the sugar-making, sugar refining, textile and food

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industries are almost intact. The Germans have imported, in the measure permitted by the means of transport available, textiles, timber, iron goods; but there are still ample reserves. The Fascist Republic makes capital out of a spurious prosperity due to the impossibility of exporting to Germany or southern Italy.

The Germans control everything by means of Riichkommissare possessed of full powers and residing at MILAN. These Commissare block all goods and stock so that the manufacturer cannot sell them without a certificate of release. Middle-men are Italians who have come from AMSTERDAM, PARIS, LYONS, LUXEMBOURG, where they had already been in German employ, and who live in the hotels requisitioned by the Germans, are admitted to the restaurants reserved for the Germans, and are authorised to circulate by car with military petrol. The best known restaurants are the "Bella Napoli" run by Sign DARIO, formerly proprietor of a restaurant at Paris, and the "Bacco D'Oro" Many middle men are Fascists from south Italy, trafficking in certificates of release.

The Black Market satisfies the well-to-do and is supplied by producers who have made false returns to the Germans about their production and present stocks.

German firms pay with Italian Republican money. The monthly issue of 7 milliards covers German and Republican needs.

The gold sterling is valued at 12000 lire repubblicane, and is bought by Fascists who wish to have means of escaping to Switzerland. The S.S. facilitate the purchase in order to confiscate the gold later.

Absolute economic control is exercised by the Germans in MILAN. (May) In the biggest factories German personnel is coming from German industrial organisations (military or militarised); in the smaller factories periodical controls exist (twice a week). (8th Army Special Interrogation Report 26.6.44).

Germen Ministry of War Production (Speer Organisation)

The head office of the section for occupied Italy is in the Palazzo EDISON, FORO BONAPARTE 16, MILAN. Here work 1500 officials and clerks. The officials spend the night in COMO (Hotel VOLTA, in the main square, overlooking the lake), leaving MILAN by train at 1900 hrs and returning at 0900 hrs. The object of this organisation, viz. [illegible] of the industrial undertakings of occupied territory,

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The following factories are making paper for banknotes:

PESCIA. (Cartiere MAGNANI)
(50,100, 500, 1000 lire notes) 10 quintals a day.

ROMAGNANO SESIA (nr NOVARA) 12 quintals a day

VERZUOLO (nr CUNEO) 10 " "

SERRAVALLE SESIA 13 " "

(Informant stated that the Germans were especially short of paper for maps, as also of rubber, nickel, copper, cobalt, manganese).

(8th Army Report 15.6.44).

Armaments Works.

By its geographical position BRESCIA, after MILAN, is the most important city of LOMBARDY. It is principally industrial, and its most important industry is that of armaments.

The main works are:-

BREDA anti-tank guns - anti-aircraft guns from 20 mm.
Heavy guns for airforce and navy.
About 6 thousand workpeople, working in three shifts.

O.M. Officine Meccaniche Costruzioni Automobili.
Heavy cars such as SAURER, lorries.
8 thousand workpeople.

TEMPINI. Machine guns, light and heavy. Mortars
Cartridge cases for artillery.
6 thousand workpeople.

FRANCHI-GREGORINI

SOCIETA ANONOMA BRESCIANA ARMI small arms.

SOCIETA ANONOMA VILCANIA shell filling

SOCIETA ANONIMA SORLINI " "

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(8th Army Report 19.6.44).

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GARDONE VAL TROMPIA

BERETTA ARMA WORKS Machine guns, small arms.

BERNARDELLI arms works small arms.

ARSENELE R. ESERCITO transformed by the Germans on behalf of O.M. into works for the construction of cars and parts of armoured cars.

LUMEZZANE

GNUTI works. Precision apparatus for time fuses, for anti-aircraft shells, hand grenades etc.

VILLA CARCINA

FONDERIE GLISENTI.

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The electrical energy from the Alps of the Brescian mountains not only provides power for works in Brescia, but for the surrounding districts. The most important power centres are that of GEDOGOLO and that of PONTE near RIVA DI TRENTO.
(Capt. P. P.W.B. Rome).

XXI. Air Raid Damage.

S. CRESTE The raid on KESSELRING'S HQ is said to have caused many casualties, particularly among officers. It is also said to have had a very dispiriting effect on the troops there.

RIMINI Except for the port, the town is almost completely destroyed. No Germans were there.

ALESSANDRIA Life is paralysed because, there being no shelters and the people being afraid of raids, there is a general exodus into the country from mid-day onwards. The barracks of the Carabinieri and of some infantry unit have been destroyed. (27.5.44).
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 17.6.44).

FLORENCE Air raids on FLORENCE have been very precise. Only military points have been bombed. Among them, very efficiently bombed are:- Fortezza d'Abbasso (or Fortezza da Basso), Campo di Marte, Scalo Merci di Porta al Prato, Deposito Ferroviario del Romito.

PISA The south Arno part is very heavily bombed, the north one very little (May)
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 24.6.44).

LABOUR

XXII. Conditions of work in Todt organisation

A.D. worked for the Todt organisation as a labourer on the construction of concrete walls from S.VONA to S.DO LIGURE and concrete blockhouses in S.VONA. Most of the workmen are of military age and are working to avoid army service. Pay is low, about 40 lire a day, and promises of adequate food have never been fulfilled. Between CERIALE and ALBENGA only German workmen are used as a landing is feared there.
(A.D. P.W.B. Rome).

PRESS

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RIMINI Except for the port, the town [illegible] No Germans were there.

ALESSANDRIA. Life is paralysed because, there being no shelters and the people being afraid of raids, there is a general exodus into the country from mid-day onwards. The barracks of the Carabinieri and of some infantry unit have been destroyed. (27.5.44).
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(A.D. P.W.B. Rome).

PRESS

XXIII. A New Communist Clandestine Paper from Milan.

A series of extracts from a new Communist clandestine paper called "La Fabbrica" (The Workshop) of May 3rd 1944, have recently come to hand. The paper begins by denouncing a pamphlet entitled "La Riscossa Proletaria" as a Gestapo production, and attacks the newspapers "The Worker" and "The Red Guard" as having nothing to do with the Communist Party.

It also urges the workers to continue their demonstrations and strikes by means of which they had already succeeded in forcing the Germans to cancel some of the lists of deportations of men and women workers to Germany.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 16.6.44).

XXIV. The Republican Press.

The Republican Press is clever, but enjoys little influence because

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the directors and editors are either former fascists or secret-service southerners; e.g. Concetto PETTINATO in the Stampa di Torino, AMICUCCI (from the Abruzzi) in the Corriere della Sera and BORZINI (from the Abruzzi) in the Repubblica. Mussolini either writes under the pseudonym GIRAMONTE or uses the pen of R. ALESSI or of PICCIO of TRIESTE, flattering the extremist parties and boasting of the absence of a revengeful spirit towards the enemies of Fascism and of the fact that Social-Fascism is applying or intends to apply the programmes of the Left. People with common sense, however, are proof against this propaganda, and object that Social Fascism wishes to blast agriculture and industry on the people just at the moment when both are about to become a liability on account of the inevitable crisis caused by the war and post-war conditions, so that they themselves would have to propose and accept reductions in salaries and wages.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report, 26.6.44).

PERSONALITIES

XXV. Dangerous republican Fascists of Pisa and of Buffarini's entourage.

Dr. Pippi LANDI - chief of an agricultural office of PISA.
Dr. Mario OSTINI - supporter of the new fascist party.
Dr. Gigi PACINI - priv. secr. of Alfieri, known prominent fascist (rumours have spread he has been killed in BRESCIA).
Avv. Mario CARUSO - new Chief of Police in PISTOIA.
Dr. Cesare STUDIATI - Pres. "Cons. Prov. Corporazioni" in PISA.
Dr. Ferruccio SCARAMELLINI - new chief of COMO province, very cruel.
Dr. Guido MENNA - new chief of ROVIGO province.
Guido FRASSI - agent of Buffarini (seems to be in FLORENCE now).
Ing. Paolo CERRUTO - political office in Pisa (very dangerous as semi-resident intellectual).
Dino GIGGETTI - was chief of the province of VENICE.
Giuseppe FRASCHINI - very dangerous.
Comm. FRANCHINI - Director of National Insurance Inst. (I.N.A.)in PISA.
Avv. CARUCCUCCI - secr. Ente Tirrenia.
Ulderigo LISCHI.
Dr. BOSSO - chief of political squad in Pisa - a spy.
Rag. MUCCIARELLI (Buffarini's relative) - a spy.
Dr. VANNINI - secretary of Pisa municipality - a spy.
BIAGINI - agent of motor car factories - a spy.

XXVI. Dangerous elements of VOLTERRA.

OLIVIERI - consule of Milizia.
DALLE MURA - lieut of Milizia.
DEL TESTA - employee of mad-house.
Cav. BACHI

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PERSONALITIES

XXV. Dangerous republican fascists of Pisa and of Buffarini's entourage

Dr. Pupi LANDI - chief of an agricultural office of PISA.
Ir. Mario CERINI - supporter of the new fascist party.
Dr. Gigi PACINI - priv. secr. of Alemi, known prominent fascist (rumours have spread he has been killed in BRESCIA).
Avv. Mario CARDO - new Chief of Police in PISTOIA.
Dr. Cesare STODNITI - Pres. "Cons. Prov. Corporazioni" in PISA.
Dr. Franco SOMMARUGA - new chief of COMO province, very cruel.
Dr. Guido MUSSO - new chief of ROVIGO province.
Guido FRASSI - agent of Buffarini (seems to be in FLORENCE now).
Ing. Paolo CARUSO - political office in Pisa (very dangerous as semi-ident intellectual).
Din. CAGGETTI - was chief of the province of VENICE.
Giuseppe BISCIONI - very dangerous.
Comm. BIANCHINI - Director of National Insurance Inst. (I.N.A.)in PISA.
Avv. CAMICCIOLI - secr. Ente Farmaci.
Ulderigo LISCHI.
Dr. BONSO - chief of political squad in Pisa - a spy.
Rag. MUCCIARELLI (Buffarini's relative) - a spy.
Dr. VANNINI - secretary of Pisa municipality - a spy.
BIAGINI - agent of motor car factories - a spy.

XXVI. Dangerous elements of VOLTERRA.

OLIVIERI - consule of Milizia.
DALLE MURA - lieut of Milizia.
DEL TESTA - employee of ware-house.
Dev. FALCHI
MAFFEI
Marshal of C.C.R.R. station (if still the same as a year ago).
(8th Army Report 28.8.44).

XXVII. The Hunt for CARITA

Partisans of FLORENCE are trying to catch CARITA at all costs and he is compelled to change his car every day.

ADAMI ROSSI is one of the big men of the Tribunale Speciale of Florence.

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CXVIII. Fascists at Treviso.

The ill-famed GRIZONI is still Federal Secretary at TREVISO and the G.U.F. (Fascist Organisation of University Students) is again functioning with the MAFERA brothers in charge. At the end of November it had only 20 members.
(Civil Censorship Summary 15.5.44).

XXIX. Vicenza and District.

VICENZA. Head of the province is ex-prefect DI NALE

BASSANO DEL GRAPPA

Local Head of P.R.F. Dott VELO, ex-political secretary of the district.

Chemist. DALL'OLIO
Leased Proprietor FAVERO. of Sicilian origin.
a man who calls himself an engineer, but is really a carpenter from Barestica.

These were responsible for having 34 of the older people of BASSANO arrested to send them to forced labour. Fortunately it was recognised that they were too old for this. Among them was a man of 64.
(P.W.B. 8th Army).

The Sec. Politico of Bassano is one Ing. PASVELLO.
Executioner and torturer TONIOLO.
Thugs and criminals FACCI
NEGRATI.

(P.W.B. Rome).

XXX. Prison officials at TURIN

The following GNR personalities were in charge of a prison and are said to be virulent Fascists.
Ten PALMIERI
Maresc. CAPRINI, Giulio.
Ten TERRACIANO (parachutist).
S/Ten TESTA (parachutist).
Brig. LEONIDA.
S/Ten CICCARELLI (wears German uniform.
Serg. FAUSTO
S/Ten Carlo FERRONI

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XXIX. Vicenza and District.

VICENZA. Head of the province is ex-prefect DI NALE

BASSANO DEL GRAPPA

Local Head of P.R.F. Dott VELO, ex-political secretary of the District.

Chemist. DALL'OLIO
Landed Proprietor FAVERO. of Sicilian origin.
A man who calls himself an engineer, but is really a carpenter from Marostica.

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(P.W.B. 8th Army).

The Sec. Politico of Bassano is one Ing. PASVELLO.
Executioner and torturer TONIOLO.
Thugs and criminals FACCI
NEGRATI.

(P.W.B. Rome).

XXX. Prison officials at TORRI

The following GNR personalities were in charge of a prison and are said to be ardent fascists.
Ten PALMIERI
Maresc. CAPRINI, Guido.
Ten TERRACIANO (parachutist).
S/Ten TESTA (parachutist).
Brig. LEONIDA.
s/Ten CICCARELLI (wears German uniform.
Serg. FAUSTO
S/Ten Conte ERMANNI
Capt. ZWEIGER
(8th Army Report p. 17.6.44).

XXXI. Fascist Chief of Cellen

Fascist boss of CELLENO was CALLISTRI , Cir.. He took part in the March on Rome and attained the rank of Console in the Fascist Militia though his promotion was somewhat retarded by his stabbing his first wife to death. Shortly before the arrival of the Allies he personally superintended the burning of the houses of some local partisans. His eldest son; DOMENICO, took after his father. Both have succeeded in escaping to German-controlled territory.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 17.6.44).

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XXXII. Atrocities at LUCCA

The most prominent and vicious Fascists are the Prefect of LUCCA, PIAZZESI, Comandante PASCALE, Pascal of the Scuola Arditi at the Lido, Tenente VEZZOZI who killed five young men who were captured, in cold blood, and Capo CHIRICONI, Sergeant Major in the Navy. The last named ordered a boy who was doing forced labour at LA SPEZIA and was heard singing "Bandiera Rossa" to be brought in, tortured him and sent him off to LUCCA to the Fascists, from where he never returned.

In the first days of May the Prefect of LUCCA, PIAZZESI, came to the Lido di Camaiore, where the Fascist Republican troops were billeted, to organise an expedition against partisans in the mountains in order to get able-bodied Italians for labour. The next morning about 50 soldiers were ordered out and proceeded to LUCCA where they were joined by about 150 Fascists. They then went on in trucks for a seven hour ride into the mountains to the north of the GARFAGNANA range. The Battalion slept in the field that night, getting food they plundered from the farmers in the neighbourhood. At 4.30 the next morning they began a search of the small towns in the region, breaking into houses, looting and carrying away all the livestock they could get their hands on. They got no men, but two young boys who had pistols with them. Pascal had both of them shot immediately. One of the brothers of these boys was shot a short while later and afterwards four others were murdered by Pascal and his aides. The expedition returned without any success as far as the original purpose of it was concerned.
(A.R. P.W.B. Rome).

XXXIII. Collaborators in BRESCIA

DUONANI Prefect of BRESCIA.
BASTIANONI Commander of the Guardia Repubblicana of BRESCIA.
the brothers GNUTI (LUMEZZANE) proprietors of the GNUTI works, work for the Germans and have given them every possible assistance.
Lt. Col. SCIVITARRO.
Col. KOVARIC of the Fabbrica d'Armi R.E. of GARDONE VAL TROMPIA. Put himself at the disposition of the Germans and refused to help the patriots of VAL TROMPIA.
Cav. PREATONI Proprietor of the Caffe MAFFIO, much frequented by the Germans. Changed his opinions daily.
Signora BRUNERI daughter of the proprietor of the BRUNERI shops

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(A.R. P.W.B. Rome).

XXXIII. Collaborators in BRESCIA

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BASTIANONI Commander of the Guardia Repubblicana of BRESCIA.
the brothers GNUTI (LUMEZZANE) proprietors of the GNUTI works, work for the Germans and have given them every possible assistance.
Lt. Col. SCIVITARRO.
Col. KOVARIC of the Fabbrica d'Armi R.E. of GARDONE VAL TROMPIA. Put himself at the disposition of the Germans and refused to help the patriots in VAL TROMPIA.
Cav. PREATONI Proprietor of the Caffe MAFFIC, much frequented by the Germans. Changes his opinions daily.very
Signora BRUNERI daughter of the proprietor of the BRUNERI shops friend of officials and fascists. A spy.
Augusto TURATI Ex. Segretario of the Party.

(CAPT. P. P.W.B. Rome).

XXXIV. Dangerous Elements of FAENZA

RENATO ALBONETTI, chief of the "guardia del corpo" of Mussolini.
RAVAGLIA, secretary of the local fascio.
MONTANARI (known as Nerone) - may camouflage his opinions.
Ing. BENEDETTI and his brother.
ELIO GHINASSI
DREI.
(8th Army Special Interrogation report 26.6.44).

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SECRET 5th July, 1944.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 14-APPENDIX.

Partisan Activities in Areas Recently Liberated.

A certain amount of disappointment over the activities of partisans is noticeable in some reports from forward P.W.B. sections. There is also a feeling that partisans tend to exaggerate their friendships and exploits.

Undoubtedly a very large proportion of young men living in the "macchia" merely fled there in order to evade military service or labour service in Germany, and lived upon the generosity and patriotism of the peasantry.

Again many so-called partisans remained very quiescent and rarely indulged in active aggression against the Germans.

It must be remembered, however, that only a small fraction of the patriots were armed, that the Germans made ferocious reprisals on innocent persons for attacks upon them, and that every town and district contained fascist spies and denouncers.

In spite of these difficulties and special danger in the immediate rear of the German army, thousands of Allied P.Ws. have been sheltered, fed, hidden and passed on from home to home as if it were the most natural thing to do, in spite of imprisonment, torture and death for discovery. If in some zones resistance was slight, the continual flow of reports indicate that the patriotic movement was wide-spread, sometimes violent, and always galling to the invaders.

It is unfortunate that news of the resistance in the Alps, which, from all accounts, appears to be the most tenacious and successful of all, is extremely scanty. It is probable that we shall only be able to tell the full story when the whole of Italy has been liberated.

CIVITA CASTELLANA

Towards the end of September 1943 Ten. Col. BERNABO came to an agreement with Doctor CHORATI ROBERTO, President of the Committee of Liberation in the locality, to organise resistance in the Flaminian zone.

2516

Intelligence Centre. About mid-October the Intelligence centre was organised and functioning in Civita Castellana. German troop movements, batter, sites, headquarters, traffic on the Via Cassia and Via Flaminia were observed and reported.

A brilliant result. The exact site of the airfield of Fabrica di

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Intelligence Centre. About mid-October the intelligence centre was organised and functioning in Civita Castellana. German troop movements, battery sites, headquarters, traffic on the Via Cassia and Via Flaminia were observed and reported.

A brilliant result. The exact site of the airfield of Fabrica di Rome was reported to the Allies who bombed and destroyed most of the buildings, and all the planes on the ground, to the number of 30, hidden along the edge of the surrounding "macchia" (scrub).

Sabotage. A stretch of the ROME-VITERBO electric railway was mined with anti-tank mines stolen from theGermans. The locomotive of a train carrying men and munitions was damaged and traffic suspended for a day. Mines were laid on the FABRICA-CORCHIANO, FABRICA-CIVITA CASTELLANA and CORCHIANO-GALIESE roads.
On the night of 4-5th April two German trucks were blown up and four

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badly wounded. Two of them died almost immediately.
25th March near San Salvatore the road was scattered with three-spike nails, pieces of glass and thick grease. A heavy lorry belonging to the S.S. skidded and nearly went over the precipice alongside the road. It remained suspended, but all the load of petrol was lost. Near Monte Peglietta, Salite delle Forche nails were scattered on the road and a heavy lorry carrying ammunition was stopped. A few hours later it was blown up by Allied planes.

Attacks on Germans. Near CORCHIANO the patriot MAFFUCCI LUCIANO met two German S.S. men, who ordered him to stop. He opened fire and wounded both, one dying soon after. Other German Patrols arrived and he tried to escape, but was shot dead by tommy-gun fire.
6th June. The German garrison of FALERIA was attacked before Allied troops arrived and 10 Germans were disarmed and handed over to the Allies. Five Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans were arrested and handed over to the F.S.S.

Guiding the Allied Troops. When the Allies entered CIVITA CASTELLANA MINELLI ARIOSTO, DE VINCENZO AURELIO, Cap. CAROTTI ELIO, ANTONINI PAOLO and BELLONI NULLO met the first patrols and pointed out road-mines and gave information of the enemy's movements.
In the Ponzano zone Baron FRANCESCO ZUCCARO carried out similar duties.
(Report by Local Committee of Liberation).

FIUGGI

The FIUGGI sector of Partisan network was directed by Prof. CONTI 60 year old adherent of the Christian Democrats. His right hand man was General PADOVANI of the Italian Air Corps. Conti kept weekly contact with the Committee of Liberation in Rome since October 1943, travelling on bicycle in various disguises. His zone contained about 300 partisans and covered FIUGGI, TORRE, CAETANI, ANAGNI, ALATRI, FROSINONE and FERENTINO.

Funds. The Stato Maggiore doled out 15,000 lire. Landowners and farmers provided sheep and cattle.

An Ingenious Hideout. At one time the patriots made a transaction with a landowner and obtained a strip of woodland on a mountain top. By posing as woodcutters and living in huts, they were able to carry on their activities without arousing suspicion.

Clandestine Paper. The group printed a newsheet called "Liberta" on a mimeograph in ALATRI.

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Funds. The Stato Maggiore doled out 15,000 lire. Landowners and farmers provided sheep and cattle.

An Ingenious Hideout. At one time the patriots made a transaction with a landowner and obtained a strip of woodland on a mountain top. By posing as woodcutters and living in huts, they were able to carry on their activities without arousing suspicion.

Clandestine Paper. The group printed a newssheet called "Liberta" on a mimeograph in ALATRI.

Activities. While this group did not appear very active there was sporadic strewing of nails on roads (these nails were passed through pieces of paper to keep their points upright) stretching wire across roads to catch motor-cyclists, smuggling arms (usually done by women under their skirts) When the Allies arrived they co-operated in mopping up Germans in the Fuggi area.

Lack of Means and of Instructions. This group complained that their efforts were handicapped through lack of food and money and inability to contact the Allies. Though they listened to B.B.C., Bari, Naples and Algiers it seems that they did not realise that newly liberated areas came under A.M.G. administration.

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Appendix 3.

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PALLANO

The partisan group here was similar to that in FIUGGI, but was more politically inclined and operated through the Communist Party. The leader GIANETTI ENRICO, called RISATTO, stated that his contacts since October 43 were made directly through the Communist Party representative in Rome SCLIVARI.

Zone covered by group. The zone covered included ZAGAROLO, PALESTRINA, ROCCA DI CAVE, GENAZZANO, SAN VITO ROMANO, BELLEGRA, CIVITAVECCHIA ROMANO, PALIANO, PIGLIO, ANAGNI, SEGNI, FERENTINO, FROSINONE, RIPI and COLLEPARDO. The group received a total of 1o,000 lire from the Communist Party.

The group numbered 400, or which 30% were armed and included Russian deserters from the German forces.

Activities. Gianetti claims that his group blew up two ammunition dumps, killed 80 Germans, destroyed 87 trucks, disabled one armoured car, helped Allied P.W., cut wires and strewed nails on roads. The Rome Communists are said to have made a three pronged nail for this purpose.
(P.W.B. 8th Army No. 20).

CERCHELLO

The Partisans, a band of about 1000 commanded by Colonel Riccardo RICCI, did very well at the time of the German retreat, cutting the Spoke leading to the peninsula and capturing 21 Germans.

CERVETO

A quite large Partisan organisation, about 500 in number, was in existence. Most of their resistance seems to have been of a political nature, though they claimed that when the Allies were near, they attacked the Germans, killing 10, wounding 7 and taking 15 prisoners. It appears that they are directed by an individual called Col. SIMAR, though this does not seem to be his real name. It is said that he was ordered to take over the command of TERNI and CERVETO zones. He is supposed to have 100-150 men camped in the Monte CERNUTO (?) area, and to control about 1,000 others in the neighbourhood. It is said they carried out ambuscades in the localities M. FICULLE, ALVIANO, FABRO, CARNAIOLA. The last news received from them before the Allied advance severed communications was that they were engaging the Germans in the area between PARRANO

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P.R.R.NO, PIGNO, ...ARI, SARACCO, ... CCL...RARDC. The group received a total of 15,000 lire from the Communist Party.

The group numbered 400, or when 300 were armed and included Russian deserters from the German forces.

Activities. Gianetti claims that his group blew up two ammunition dumps, killed 80 Germans, destroyed 87 trucks, disabled the armoured car, ...lped ...llied P.W.s, cut wires and strewed nails on roads. The Red Communists are said to have made a three pronged nail for this purpose.
(F.A.S. 8th Army No. 20).

CRESTELLO

The Partisans, a band of about 1000 commanded by Colonel Riccardo RICCI, did very well at the time of the German retreat, cutting the road leading to the peninsula and capturing 21 Germans.

ORVIETO

A quite large Partisan organisation, about 500 in number, was in existence. Most of their resistance seems to have been of a political nature, though they claimed that when the Allies were near, they attacked the Germans, killing 10, wounding 7 and taking 15 prisoners. It appears that they were directed by an individual called Col. SI...R, though this does not seem to be his real name. It is said that he was ordered to take over the command of TERNI and ORVIETO zones. He is supposed to have 100-150 men armed in the ...nte CERNUTO (?) area, and to control about 1,000 others in the neighbourhood. It is said they carried out ambuscades in the localities N. PICULLE, ...ERONA, F...ERO, CA...NICOL.. The last news received from them before the Allied advance severed communications was that they were engaging the Germans in the area between PARRANO and PICULLE ... and had inflicted and sustained casualties.

A.G.L.:

A conversation with the British officer in charge of Corps 9515
Refugee Camps confirmed that there had been little partisan activity in the VITERBO area.

RIETI

The Liberation Committee under the leadership of SILVESTRI RAOUL, was very active in sabotage. Lines of German trucks used to come through the town at night and often halted there, whereupon the sabotage group stuck knives into tyres quite regularly. The band numbered about 50 and worked in groups of 4 or 5.
(F.A.S. 8th Army No. 22).

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APPENDIX 4.

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Typical Stories of Partisan Bands.

Tenente G. de A, who was born in Philadelphia, U.S.A., was with his regiment in TOLMINO. Between the 8th September 1943 and the 15th he was on his way to Sulmona, accompanying recruits. He discovered that the Germans were in Sulmona, and escaped disguised as a charcoal burner. Col. Brusati, Col.of his regiment refused to fight, and as the recruits had no rifles they were told to return home. Later, on September 27th, de A returned to Sulmona, found his Colonel and asked for arms and provisions. These were refused, although Sulmona was the centre for the mobilisation of the Aquila Battalion, and there was much material there. The Germans, aided by the Milizia were searching for and carrying off military equipment.

De. A returned to Aquila with other officers who had accompanied him, and there they hid some arms in a cemetery. He then went to BORGO COLLEFEGATO, where his family was, to await the Allies. His first activity was to help escaped prisoners of war. Then he and his patriot band killed a Fascist spy dressed in German uniform.

Patriots began to assemble in small groups, but without any set programme. In RIETI they set up an intelligence service with three officers and some trusted soldiers to check the movements of Fascists and Germans. In the LUCPOLI zone the Germans made big ammunition dumps and the patriots began to steal ammunition, especially hand grenades, by night, right under the noses of the sentries. They also stole one quintal of explosives, but a spy gave the hiding place away and it was retaken. At ANTROCCO they stopped several German lorries, but did not kill any of the occupants, for fear of reprisals. At first the Germans did not defend themselves.

About twenty of the partisans were now armed. The countryside was full of rumours of thousands of partisans. During the winter they passed many prisoners of war over to the Allied lines and were trying hard to get into contact with the Allies. In March they succeeded, but only received money. The band now numbered sixty. At POGGIO BUSTONE, CANTALICE and LEONESSA the Germans instituted reprisals; they bombarded Poggio Bustone and Cantalice and shot a number of men in Leonessa. After this the local population was terrified and refused to help the partisans. The group then split up. Part of it went to BORGO COLLEFEGATO, CONTIGLIANO and MACERO, and continued to collect arms from the Fascists.

The Germans paid no attention when they killed Fascists.

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About twenty of the partisans were now armed. The countryside was full of millions of thousands of partisans. During the winter they passed many prisoners of war over to the Allied lines and were trying hard to get into contact with the Allies. In March they succeeded, but only received money. The band now numbered sixty. At POGGIO BUSTONE, CANTALICE and LEONESSA the Germans instituted reprisals: they bombarded Poggio Bustone and Cantalice and shot a number of men in Leonessa. After this the local populations were terrified and refused to help the partisans. The group then split up. Part of it went to SANTO COLLEFEGATO, CASTAGNE and MACCHIA, and continued to collect arms from the Fascists.

The Germans paid no attention when they killed Fascists. From September onwards they made great propaganda efforts against the call-up. At the end of April a group near Rieti at LAGANELLA was betrayed by one of their officers, ANGELO CUCILLA, and about 100 were arrested. Some of the rooms of the band enrolled in the Fascist ranks.

With the coming of the good weather the patriots began to assemble in greater strength. They seized sheep, and lived on meat alone. Their contacts with Rome were continuous. They gave a plan of the Airport of Rieti to the Allies, who were able to bomb it in spite of camouflage. Of forty Messerschmidts based all were destroyed. The Luftwaffe never returned to Rieti. Patriot patrols of two men each scoured the whole countryside for depots, arms, lorries etc to report to Rome for bombing. During this period one patriot was killed by Fascists, and one by the Germans.

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APPENDIX 8.

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At the end of May the patriots had their first real battle - on MONTE FRATTA. The Germans came up either to look for patriots or cattle. About thirty of them were seen, they were driven off, but their losses were unknown - one patriot was badly wounded.

At the beginning of June the band occupied the road TORLIPARTE -SANTA LUCIA and blocked it for three hours. The Germans arrived in greater strength, and they were obliged to retire, but German losses were heavy. Ten lorries full of dead and wounded were afterwards reported by the villagers. The patriots suffered no losses. The next day again they had a clash with German patrols in SELLA DI CORNO. Two more Germans were killed.

All this time the band was without news, because their radio was not working. The Germans surrounded their hideout and blocked all access to the hills, so it became impossible to get food and news. An Austrian told one of the villagers that the Germans thought there were 22,000 of them.

From Rome came instructions to make fire signals to the Air Force every night. They also met parachutists who advised them to flash torches at night, but nothing happened. The Germans mined roads and bridges on the way to AVEZZANO.

One night the patriots attacked some cars, but they turned out to be armoured, so they were forced to retire. However at MONTROCCO a soldier came with the news that bridges had been blown in the CIGLIANO zone, so the patriots turned back on the SANTA LUCIA -TORLIPARTE road. The bridge was still standing and some cars were passing. These were captured, about five or six of them.

Before the arrival of the Allies the patriots began to reorganise the zone COLLEFEGATO, PESCOMACHIANO, FLAMINIANO. They dismissed the Commissar of the Prefettura, disarmed the Milizia, arrested the most fanatic Fascists and some spies, created sindaci, etc. Police work is done by the CC. RR. who were on the side of the partisans. The patriots requisitioned hidden grain etc and distributed it to the people. Arms and ammunition were collected from the civilians. The CC.RR who did not join the patriots were suspended. They succeeded in saving all the cattle in the fields. One man, the father of five children lost a leg some time, as the patriots are without mine detectors. They have therefore been forced to abandon this work, as the road to BORGO COLLEFEGATO is not used by

in greater strength, and they were obliged to retire, losses were heavy. Ten lorries full of dead and wounded were afterwards reported by the villagers. The patriots suffered no losses. The next day again they had a clash with German patrols in SELLA DI CORNO. Two more Germans were killed.

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(G. de A. P.W.B. Rome).

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On September 8th 1943 Lt. N. was with his regiment which was stationed at SAVONA. On Sept 9th most of the officers made their escape in civilian clothes, and within the next few days the majority of the regiment did likewise. After many vicissitudes Lt. N. by eventually reached the Brenner. This was at the beginning of November. He took a week to cross over the mountains to BOLZANO, after which he made his way to VERONA, MILAN and BOLOGNA. In the mountains round Bologna he met many British and American prisoners, as well as some Jugoslavs. He accompanied some of the latter to ALCONA, as they could not speak Italian. One was dressed as a

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priest and another was in women's clothes. After that Lt. N. made his way to Rome, which he reached early in December. There he found hospitality with the family of one of the sergeants in his regiment, and started working on the railway in the TODT organisation near VITERBO. He was joined by many soldiers of his regiment. They worked by day and at night carried off and hid parts of the railway line.

Lt. N. got into contact with some high ranking officers in Rome, and started working in an underground movement under the command of a major who had connections in the Vatican. N. used to bring P.Ws. from farms in the Viterbo district into Rome, where they were either taken into the Vatican or else into private families known to be friendly. This was managed by means of the Major's car (the major worked in a car repair factory in Rome), which had a permit to leave Rome. The control leaving and entering the city was not in fact very strict. The car used to fetch prisoners from Viterbo and bring them into the city. Munitions were also brought into Rome. The organisation doing this work, which consisted entirely of army people, was well provided with funds. Soldiers, for example, received 600 lire per month. Every ten days meetings were held at street corners, or other odd places.

Early in April N. was betrayed by a sergeant and captured by the German police. They found arms at his home, but the only piece of confidential literature, a list of superior officers, which he had sewn into his coat, he ate. He was handed over to the German and Italian S.S. at the Caserma Mussolini. The first time he was interrogated the atmosphere was friendly, and he was given cigarettes. He also received food. This having proved unfruitful, he was interrogated the following night (the main information wanted being the names of his superior officers) and tortured. He had practically nothing to eat, and was again tortured, each time in a more refined manner, on the next two nights. However, he revealed nothing on any of these occasions. After this he was left in the barracks unmolested for seven days, and was then taken to the German prison (3rd arm) in the Regina Coeli. There he was put in a cell with six other people - two Jewish women, a Greek naval officer, two journalists and an Italian captain and lieutenant. He was later removed to the Italian prison, where the treatment was better, and there were four people in a cell.

On the 11th May N. was interrogated before being taken before a tribunal, and asked if he wished to join the S.S. or the Republican Army. He refused, and was taken before the tribunal on the 29th May. The so-called trial, in which there was no lawyer for the defence, lasted twenty-nine minutes, after which

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(Lt. N. P.W.B. Rome).

Partisan Assistance to Allied Prisoners of War.

The number of Allied prisoners of war who have been fed, housed and assisted over the lines by partisans is very large, and every day fresh incidents are reported. The following are typical stories.

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APPENDIX 7

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Aid to Allied Prisoners of War in LAZIO before the Allied Occupation.

After the Italian troops had surrendered and the capture of Rome was announced, the city was surrounded by check posts. Mail and telephone communications were and remained practically cut; Germans and militia guarded the approaches.

A peasant girl from a little village in the province of SABINA crossed the block post line and came to Rome to tell a few of her wealthier friends that British and South-African prisoners from the concentration camps in Sabina were living with the peasants in her village. As it was then October they were suffering from cold and lacked food and warm clothes. She asked for help for them. At this time everyone was sure that Rome would be freed by Christmas, even the Germans did not dare to contradict.

Sigr. P.F. a Venetian lawyer who came to Rome after the 25th July to wait for the Allies, and whose brother was himself a P.W. in a South African camp, was the first to go out of the city without a permit, and although the only English book he had read in his life was A.A.Milne's "Winnie the Pooh" he decided to speak personally with Maria's guests.

The village had a small German garrison, but the Nazis did not realise that every house had two approaches, one from the main street, guarded by frequent patrols, and another through the steep rocks on the verge of which the village is built. Climbing, and with the help of ladders the soldiers could find the backdoors in a ray of moonlight and return before dawn to the mountains.

The villagers explained that the village was poor, and could not provide for anything but food. Every peasant gave his share, which was collected by a farmer with a donkey-drawn cart. What the prisoners needed most was shoes, blankets, plain clothes, hats, soap and maps. At least one of them listened every night to the B.B.C, expecting to hear of landings in Tuscany or Genoa or other areas. Some of the prisoners had already started to reach the lines near ~~ALATRO-ISOPRON~~, which was said to be the safest sector.

Sig. F returned to Rome and collected together his closest friends, who started immediately to collect clothes. In October alone 21 pairs of boots, 6 pairs of gloves, 22 jackets, 11 blankets, 10 shirts, 8 prs of trousers, 1 waistcoat, 10 hats, 3 pairs of socks, soap and razorblades were collected, the last three objects

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It was easy to collect clothes in Rome and to print maps but it was difficult to bring them out. Maria plied between Rome and her home, in order to avoid being searched she generally travelled in German lorries, got a lift somewhere near the city border and passed unmolested. The maps were brought out in an officers car. The officer sat on them.

In December the situation became more difficult. Fascist spies had repeatedly warned the Germans. The village was searched for the first time the day after Sig. F. had left, and was again searched in December (always in vain).. Naturally the Germans could not guess, when they found dyes, that they were destined to dye the naval uniforms or that leather meant that the father of Maria soled the shoes in the small hours. But suspecting what happened after curfew (they had curfew at 1600 hrs) the Germans arrested Maria's father, brought him to AQUILA, where he was tried and sentenced to death. Bribing one of his Italian guards with 15,000 lire and

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signing an IOU for 20,000. He managed to make good his escape. He walked home and lived after that like the prisoners in his own village.

The Germans started to search the carts and the donkey loads; they forbade the peasants to carry more than the smallest quantity of food with them. They requisitioned the sacks of corn flour (polenta). Nevertheless the peasants continued to help, encouraged by the slow, but steady advance of the 8th Army in the ADRIA sector. In these conditions many of the P.Ws. left and tried to cross the lines. They refused the help of Abruzzese shepherds and preferred to go alone. Little is known of their ultimate fate. It is certain that they would not be left without help. When they left the village the peasants gave them a certain amount of food, and at least some of them got as far as the Abruzzi National Park. One Italian Captain from PESCOCOSTANZO told how prisoners passed daily over the peaks above this village, especially between October and January. They were not at all surprised to find someone waiting for them at a lonely crossroad, with food and directions.

In January Maria was wounded by a machine gun, but continued her journeys. The need was urgent. It seemed that the Allies were held up at CASSINO. The Germans were badly fed and used every pretext to requisition eatables. Once a pilot described how Allied pilots came down by parachute. The Germans searched the whole region for them, but in vain. So they beat up and tortured the farmers instead. A priest nearby was burned. A dead Englishman was arrested and taken away. Near RIETI it was said that a priest who was sheltering prisoners was warned that the Germans were coming to search his house. The two prisoners who were lying in bed with high fever, ran out into the cold. They were found dead a few days later.

Later contact was made between the prisoners in SABINA and the organisation which helped Allied prisoners in Rome. Dr. ..L. P.W.B. Rome).

The Clandestine Military Organisation in the City of Rome.

This was set up in the last part of September 1943 through the initiative of Colonel Montezemolo, and had for his first collaborator and chief assistant Colonel Cutte. The organisation

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The Clandestine Military Organisation in the City of Rome.

This was set up in the last part of September 1943 through the initiative of Colonel Montezemolo, who had for his first collaborator and chief assistant Colonel Cordero. The organisation had, during it s first days, a radio centre established by Lt. Col. A.A. Marchand and by Maggiore ... Settembre. Also concerned in it were Generals Torsi, Martelli, Tonulli, Dodi, Lt. Col. C.C.R.R. Tregnano and Captain Corradverse. Of the first group, composed of 21 men, 15 were arrested, of whom 8 were afterwards executed.

The Italian Supreme Command appointed Montezemolo its representative in Rome, and under the greatest difficulties, between October and January, he organised a group of Italian patriots, arming them and arranging meetings.

In the month of January about 10,000 men in Rome were enlisted and as many in Lazio and Abruzzi, where Col. Bianchi controlled the activities of the military bands, with the full collaboration of the armed formations of the political parties.

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Contact had also been made with the existing organisations or those in process of formation in Piedmont, Liguria, Lombardia, Venezia, Toscania and the Marche, following directives emanating from the Supreme Command. In the city of Rome itself permanent collaboration was established with the Committee of National Liberation by means of a "Military Giunta". There was established also cautious contact with the police forces, contact which developed into a true and effective collaboration only with regard to the "Regia Guardia di Finanza".

Entrance to the organisation was refused to men of light character, or to officers who it was thought might betray their oath.

In the month of January the Supreme Command appointed General A. Commander of the City of Rome and shortly afterwards the landings at Anzio occurred. The Gestapo, organised with particular keenness by the Nazi Fascists, arrested members of the organisation who had probably been known to them for some time.

Under the command of A. the organisation developed an organic structure, particularly in the intelligence side, with Lt. Col. Antonio as its head, aided by the submarine officers Paolo and Marzia, and the activities of the bands that controlled the formations in the Abruzzi and the Lazio, besides those of the Marche and southern Tuscany.

In the month of March the organisation comprised:

The military command of the City of Rome.
The organisation for military service in the city of Rome
The organisation of counter-sabotage.
Collaboration with the armed forces in the city of Rome
Command of the military formations in Lazio, Abruzzi and the Marche
Command of the military formations of southern Tuscany
Office of information and counter espionage.
Liaison office.
Office of press and propaganda
Finance office.

After a time the organisations of the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force were also coordinated to the military one.

The existence and development of the organisation was the

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Office of information and counter espionage.
Liaison office.
Office of press and propaganda
Finance office.

After a time the organisations of the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force were also coordinated to the military one.

The existence and development of the organisation was the cause of a constant state of alarm among the German and Fascist police; they were exasperated also by the fact that in spite of torture the members that were arrested almost always managed to keep silence and died without revealing information.

In the intelligence field there left Rome every day information carefully gathered at great risk and competently analysed.

In the month of April the Italian government, with the approval of the Allies, assigned the civil and military powers in the city of Rome to General Roatta for the crucial period between the beginning of the German evacuation and the Allied entry. Roatta entrusted the military command to General Cantoni, who, under General A, had already had control of these forces. Under Roatta the military organisation retained its former structure and its forces were divided into three groups:

1. The forces of Rome, divided into three sectors.
2. Partisan bands outside Rome.
3. Reserve.

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APPENDIX 10.

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In the last days of the German occupation of Rome, General Cantoni, the commander of the groups of sectors, the commandant of a sector, and the commander of the CC.RR were arrested. The latter, in the face of great pressure and difficulties, had maintained their loyalty to their oath to the King. The solidarity achieved in the organisation was such, however, that even these arrests failed to disrupt it. Cotti was confirmed as head of the armed forces by Romanus and the civilian forces, mobilised by the government and the parties together, were sufficient to prevent great sabotage by the Germans and Fascists, to prevent sacking and looting, to free political prisoners and maintain public order.
(Italian member of the Organisation. P.W.B. Rome.
N.B. Only names of dead persons are given).

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About the 15th of June came to Bellante a hundred of Germans; they brought with them an English parachutist, whom prisoner near Roseto degli Abruzzi.

The Germans established in Bellante a temporary hospital. After two or three days they brought the prisoner into the country, at a distance of one kilometer from the town, they ordered him to dig a grave, saying that it needed for a farmer killed by the Germans the same day.

In the evening they made him drunk, and later led him near the above mentioned grave, where with two or three revolver-shots, they killed him, burying him in the grave dug by himself.

After the Germans quitted the town, the inhabitants exhumed his body and gave him decorous burial in the cemetery of Bellante.

The parachutist did not have about himself any identity card, he only had on his dress a leather strap with his name: S.G. ROGERS.

Pietro Nicola di Roseto, from Bellante, when the parachutist's body was drawn out of the grave, has photographed it, and has taken personally to this Command two pictures.

PIETRO NICOLA
Pietro Nic

Bellante, 13 July 1944

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Ref/459/56/CA.

18 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Patriots.

TO : Comando Supremo (Through MMIA)

1. I refer to your letter 13841/OP of 23 June 1944.

2. I enclose copy of a letter from R.C. Region IV for your information.

NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: Patriots Branch.

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

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HEADQUARTERS REGION 4
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
A.P.O. 394

TO : HQ ACC - (RC [illegible] Section) 14 July 1944

SUBJECT : Patriots

FILE N° : R/4 /850.16

1. I am obliged to you for your letter 459/41/CA of the 9 July from the Office of the Deputy Executive Commissioner.

2. I note that General Infante's letter was dated 23 June and no doubt refers to the situation as it existed some days previously.

3. The whole of Rieti Province was in fact by-passed by the main weight of the advancing Armies. There have been extensive demolitions and travel about the Province is difficult.

4. Lt. Col. Robinson with his Team did not get into Rieti (with the leading Squadron of Armoured Cars of the 12 Lancers) till 15 June.

5. The writer visited Rieti town on 24 June and again on 4 July, finally on 10 July when Region IV took over the administration of the Province from 5 Army.

6. Between 4 and 10 July Major Crippen, one of Lt. Col. Robinson's officers, made an extensive tour in the Cicolano Region using car, motor cycle and mule. Every effort is being made to restore the destroyed communications. The harvest in Rieti is good and it is only a question of getting the food moved.

Regional Commissioner

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

Ref/459/17/CA

26 June 1944

SUBJECT : Patriots.

TO : R.C. Region V/

There is sent to you herewith letter from Divisional General of Patriots in Central Italy dated 23 June 1944 for your information and action as considered necessary.

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

JSR/JR.

Copy to: Adv. A.C.C. (for Col. Fiske)

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

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Translation N° 825 - Pfc. Bonanni .-
Comando Supremo
Unit I -Operations Office.

23rd June 1944.

To: A.C.C.

File N° 13841/OP

SUBJECT : Situation in some localities of Central Italy.

The Group Command of the Patriots in Central Italy has communicated the following in regard to the situation in the Cicolano region (Valle del Salto) between Avezzano and Rieti:

1) No Allied unit has arrived in the zone as yet: order maintained by patriot units, the Commander of which is picking temporarily the Heads of the communes;

2) Food is lacking: the population is starving as a result of German looting; the patriots, too, are wholly lacking in supplies.

3) In Magliano Dei Marsi, there are mine fields which have not been cleared as yet.

Since the Allied organs in Rome have stated that they have no jurisdiction over this matter, we have informed the Commission of the above asking it to intervene not only in the Cicolano region, but also in the order secondary localities through which the Allied troops are not passing in their pursuit of the German forces.

Division General
Adolfo Infante.

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P.M.135, 23 giugno 1944

COMANDO SUPREMO

I Reparto - Uff.Operazioni

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

N. 13841 /OP. di prot.-

O G G E T T O : Situazione località Italia Centrale.-

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Il Comando Raggruppamento Bande Patrioti dell'Italia Centrale ha comunicato quanto segue circa la situazione del Cicolano (Valle del Salto) fra Avezzano e Rieti:

1°) - nessun reparto alleato è ancora arrivato nella zona: l'ordine è mantenuto dai reparti di patrioti, il cui comandante sta designando provvisoriamente i capi dei comuni;

2°) - mancano i viveri: la popolazione, dopo il saccheggio tedesco, è affamata; anche i patrioti sono assolutamente privi di rifornimenti;

3°) - a Magliano dei Marsi vi sono campi di mine tutt'ora intatti.

Siccome gli organi alleati di Roma interessati, hanno dichiarato di non aver competenza in merito, si segnala quanto sopra a codesta Commissione colla preghiera di voler intervenire non solo nella zona del Cicolano, ma anche in quelle altre località secondarie, attraverso cui le truppe alleate non si trovano a transitare durante l'inseguimento delle forze tedesche.-

IL GENERALE DI DIVISIONE f.g.s.
(Adolfo Infante)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

O G G E T T O : Situazione località Italia Centrale

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Il Comando Raggruppamento Bande Patrioti dell'Italia Centrale ha comunicato quanto segue circa la situazione del Cicolano (Valle del Salto) fra Avezzano e Rieti:

1°) - nessun reparto alleato è ancora arrivato nella zona: l'ordine è mantenuto dai reparti di patrioti, il cui comandante sta designando provvisoriamente i capi dei comuni;

2°) - mancano i viveri: la popolazione, dopo il saccheggio tedesco, è affamata; anche i patrioti sono assolutamente privi di rifornimenti;

3°) - a Magliano dei Marsi vi sono campi di mine tutt'ora intatti.

Siccome gli organi alleati di Roma interessati, hanno dichiarato di non aver competenza in merito, si segnala quanto sopra a questa Commissione colla preghiera di voler intervenire non solo nella zona del Cicolano, ma anche in quelle altre località secondarie, attraverso cui le truppe alleate non si trovano a transitare durante l'inseguimento delle forze tedesche.-

IL GENERALE DI DIVISIONE f.g.s.
(Adolfo Infante)

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