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JCC 10000/125/285 63/4 - PAT. INF. ON BANDS IN ENEMY TERRITORY - PIEDMONT
AUG. - SEPT. 1944

INF. ON BANDS IN ENEMY TERRITORY - PIEDMONT-LIGURIA (REGION X)

AUG. - SEPT. 1944

6644 - PAT.

TOP SECRET

INF. ON BANDS IN NEW TERRITORY

REDMONT - LIGURIA (REDAUX)

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THIS FOLDER

INFO ON BAVIS IN NEW TERRITORY

REDYONT-LIGURIA (R) (X)

10000

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THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM AUG 1944

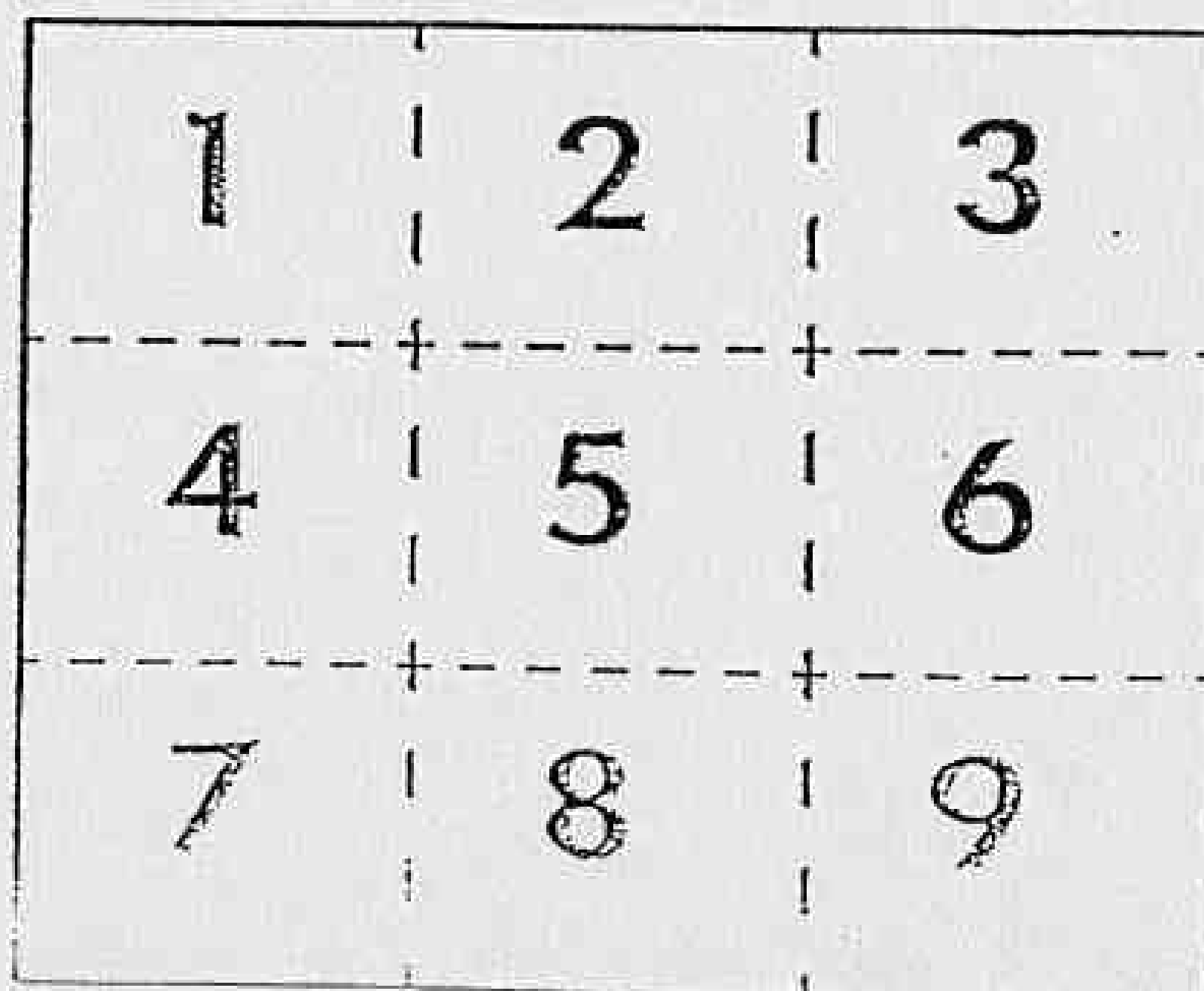
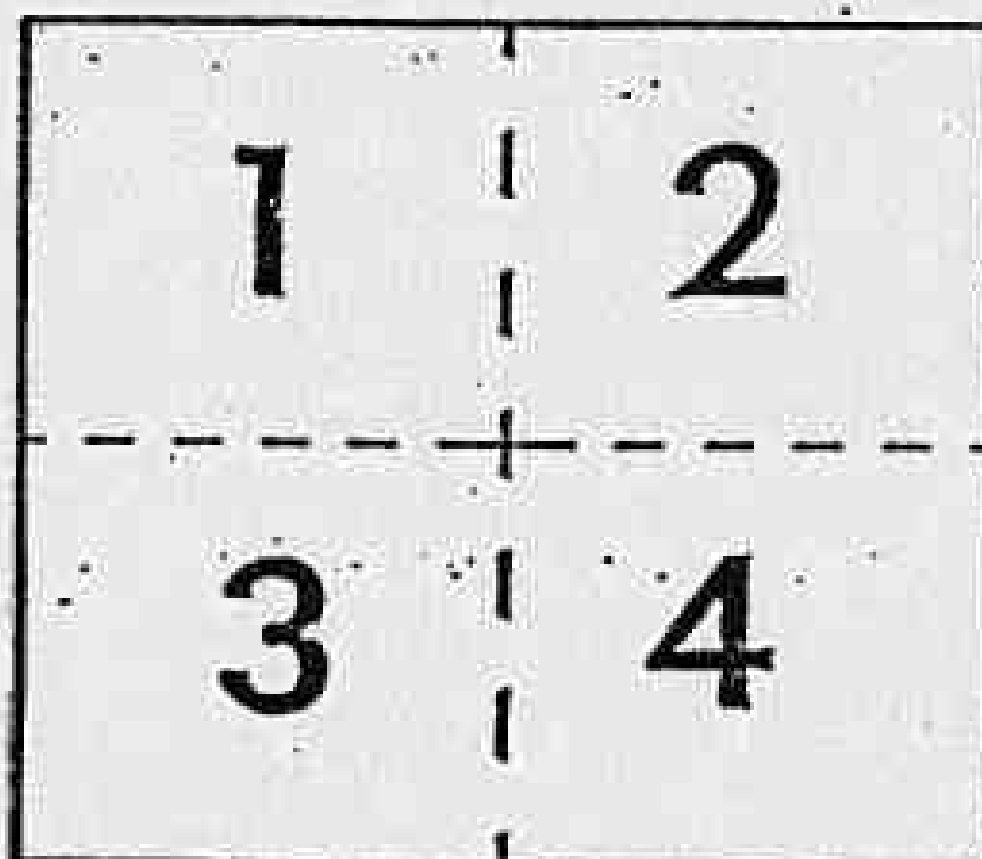
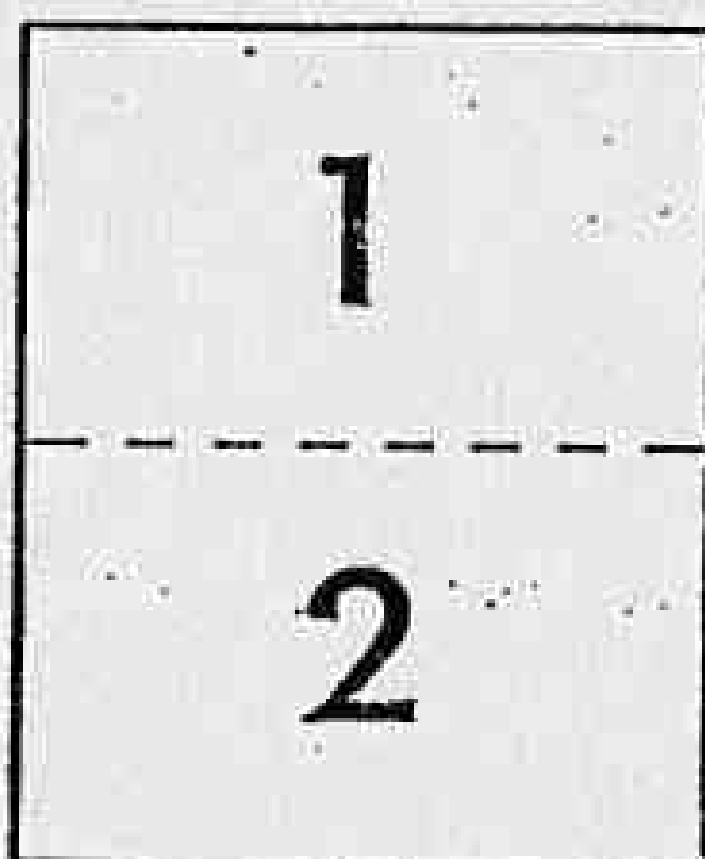
TO SEPT. 1944

CATALOGUE.

TOP SECRET

MAPS AND CHARTS TOO LARGE TO FILM
ON ONE EXPOSURE ARE FILMED CLOCKWISE
BEGINNING IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER,
LEFT TO RIGHT, AND TOP TO BOTTOM.

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.

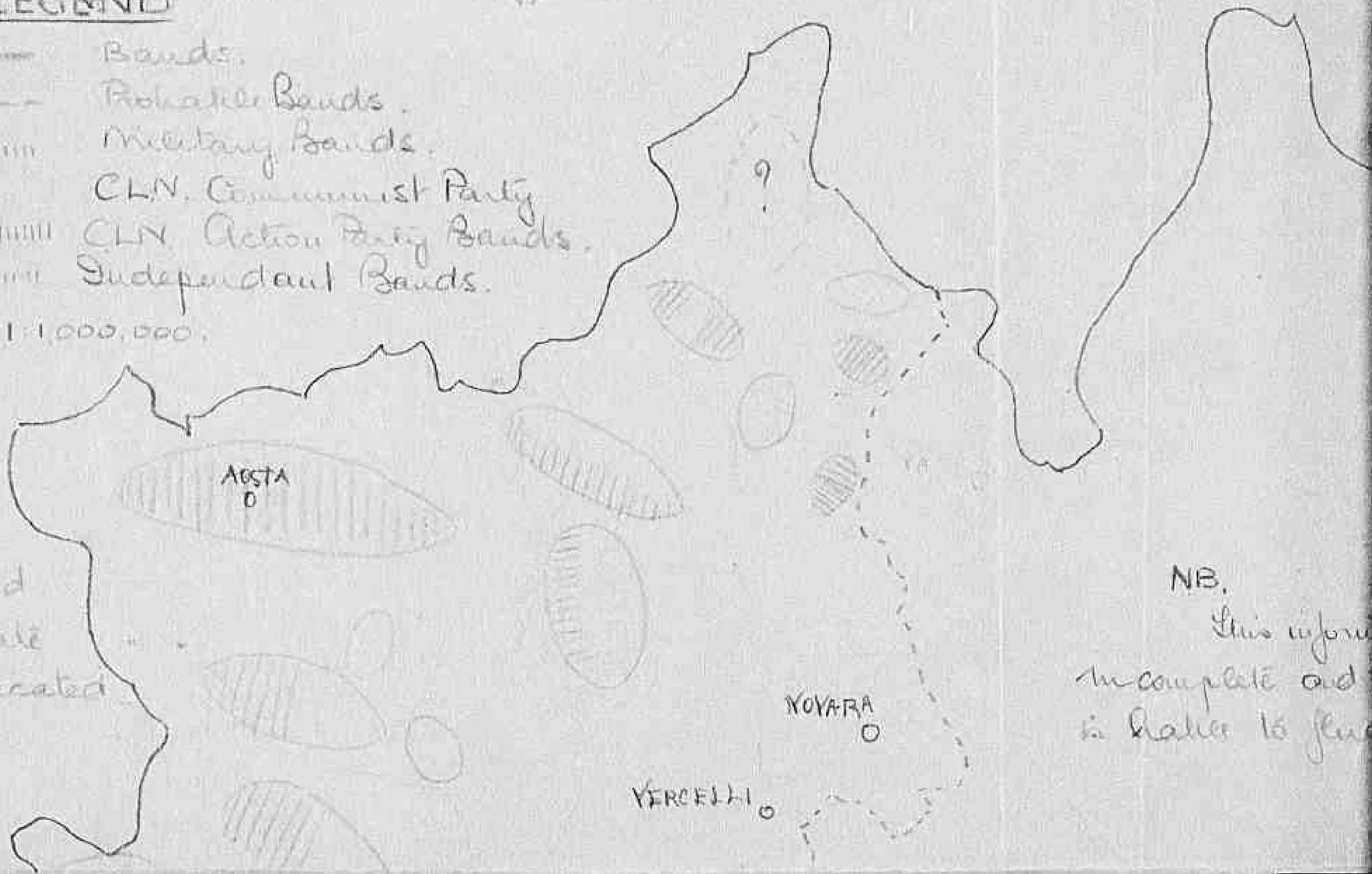


LEGEND

REGION X

TOP SECRET

- Bands.
 - - - - - Probable Bands.
 ~~~~~ Military Bands.  
 CLN. Communist Party  
 CLN. Action Party Bands.  
 Independent Bands.
- Scale: - 1:1,000,000.



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Bands.

Probable Bands.

Military Bands.

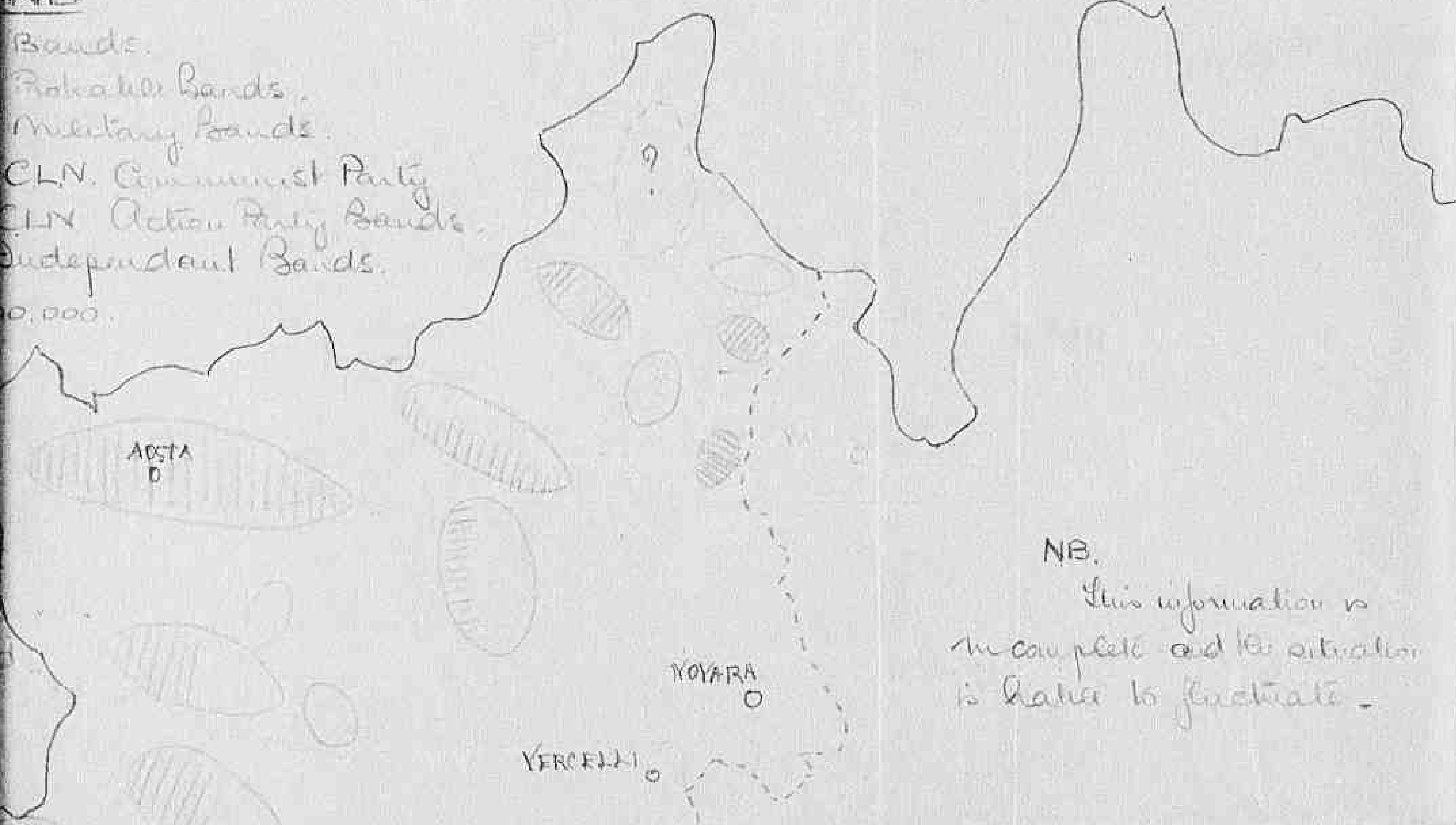
CLN. Communist Party

CLN. Action Party Bands.

Independent Bands.

10,000.

## REGION X



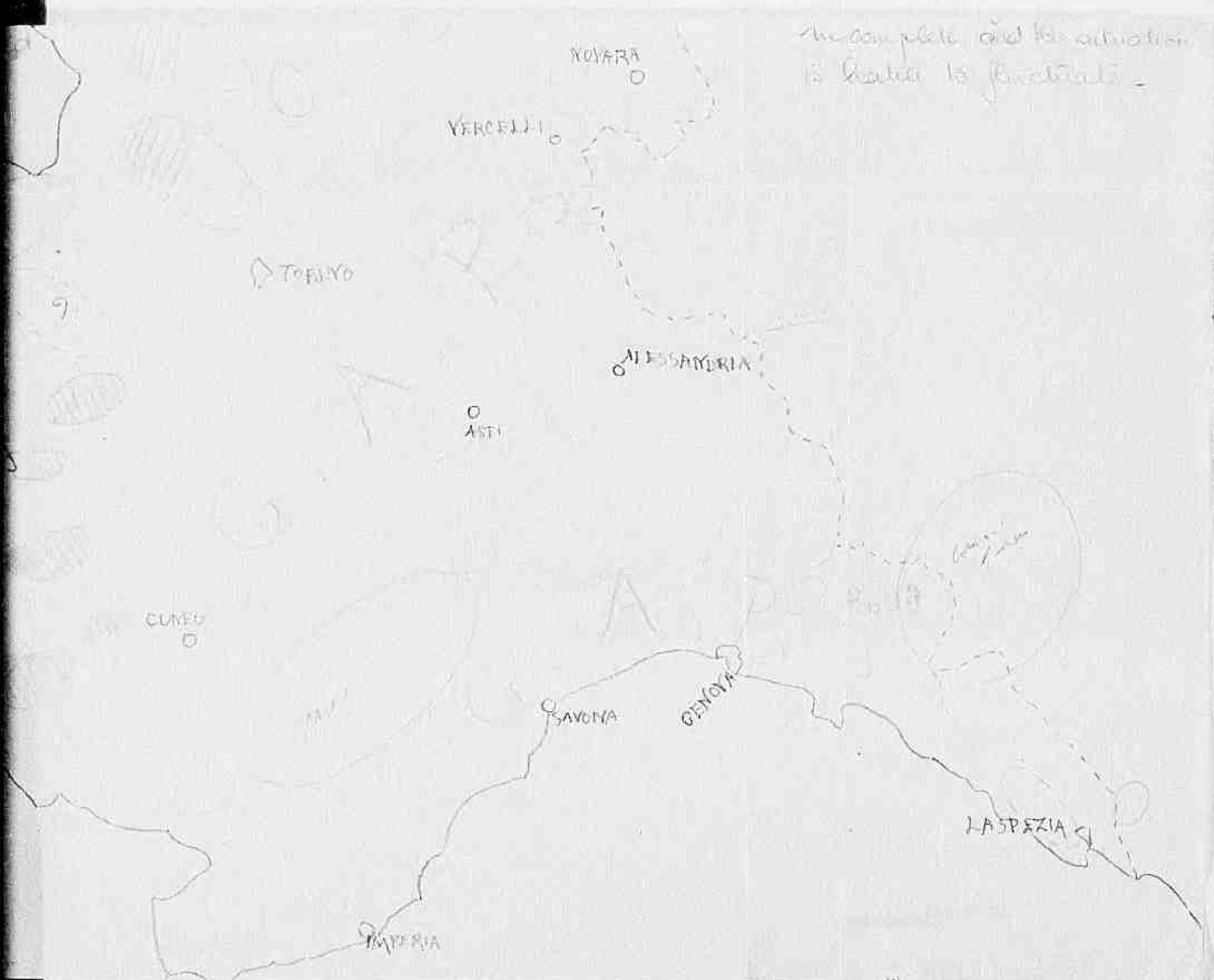
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NB.

This information is  
incomplete and the situation  
is liable to fluctuate.





PROF. GIO







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senge only, as far as Ventimiglia with 5 or 6 interruptions on the west coast, and over a distance of alone twenty kilometers in the east coast, i/ e. from Genoa to Sori.

Postal service does not operate in North Italy generally.

The inhabitants are leading a restless life. Other people, especially amongst workmen but also from the leading classes, were taken away by the Germans.

About the middle of July many units of the Italian "Alpini", Monte Rosa Division, occupied the country replacing the German troops; they didn't know the real situation, but after some time desertion became frequent amongst them.

As to the underground political activity, it may be said that, leaders having to keep in hiding, their activity doesn't appear, but does exist. In fact, last May, I had the occasion to get in touch with various of them, who are awaiting and preparing themselves for the liberation.

Further information was given by me to capt. Salvadori (Patriot Branch, ACC HQ), on his request (see my letter August 23 rd 1944 addressed to him) and to D Section, P.W.B. (capt. Vernon).

I am ready to continue my work, that is to go on gathering news about Genoa and Liguria, and, when the moment will come, to obtain more precise information directly on the spot. This for the sole purpose of enabling the Allies to have the real facts before them regarding the local situation, and subject, of course, to your agreement.

*Giovanni Balbi*

(prof. Giovanni Balbi, attached to ~~xxx~~ the Patriots Branch HQ ACC and as liaison with Liberation Committee).





















Top Secret.

SUMMARY INFORMATION ON SOME ASPECTS OF THE SITUATION  
IN NORTH-WESTERN ITALY.

GENERAL -

North-Western Italy includes Piedmont and Liguria in Region X and Lombardy in Region XI. The total area is approximately 24,000 sq.m. or less than one fifth of the Italian Kingdom in its 1939 boundaries. The population was in 1942, over 11 million inhabitants or about one fourth of the population of Italy. The density of population is high: over 460 inh. per sq.m.

North-Western Italy includes thinly populated mountain districts: in the provinces of Aosta and of Sondrio the density is about 100 inh. per sq.m. It also includes part of the Po valley where the density of population is very high, reaching in certain districts from 1,000 to 2,000 inh. per sq.m.

Regions X and XI include some of the most important towns of Italy. Milan is the second largest town in Italy (over 1 million inh. in 1942) and the most important industrial center. Turin is the first largest Italian town and second only to Milan in industrial importance. Genoa is the fourth largest Italian town and used to be the second port in the Mediterranean. There is a large number of secondary towns, most of which used to be prosperous industrial or agricultural centres.

From an economic standpoint, North-Western Italy

2167

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From an economic standpoint, North-Western Italy produces about 30% of the total amount of grains (including rice) produced in the country. More than one third of the cattle existing in Italy could be found in that area. In the same area were located approximately nine tenths of the Italian cotton industry, two thirds of the wool industry,

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practically all the silk and artificial silk industries. Also most of the heavy industry (at SESTO SAN GIOVANNI, AOSTA, TORINO, LECCO, GENOVA and surroundings, MILANO, BERGAMO, BRESCIA); of the mechanical industry (Fiat in TURIN, Ansaldo in GENOVA, Breda at SESTO); of the ship-building industry (GENOVA and SPERDITA); of the plane industry (MILAN, SESTO, GENOVA); of the car industry (TURIN, MILAN, BRESCIA); of the chemical industry, etc. The triangle MILAN-TURIN-GENOVA can be compared, for its importance in the industrial life of Italy, to the industrial area of the Midlands and Northern England. As much as two fifths or more of the Italian national income comes from that area.

LOMBARDY, PIEMONTE and LIGURIA, although forming one economic unit, have each their regional characteristics. This is the result chiefly of a difference in historical background. LOMBARDY was for centuries a prosperous independent State until it became a province first of Spain, then of Austria. PIEMONTE was nearly always an independent State continually at war against strong neighbours. GENOVA was an active trading Republic;

Only as a result of the second war for independence, the three regions were merged in the new Kingdom of Italy (1860).

Since the unification of Italy, the center of Italian political activities has usually been in the three regions. From there came the group of able and conservatively-minded Liberals who under Cavour and his successors first helped to make Italy and then ruled the country until 1876. The three regions have also been the center of the Italian Socialist Movement, from 1890 to 1922 and are now an important centre

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one which is usually called Democratic (between Liberalism and Socialism) have their centre elsewhere than in the three regions.

It is likely that on their arrival in North-Western Italy, the Allies will find a situation different from that they had known in the South and in Rome.

#### ORIGIN OF THE PATRIOT MOVEMENT.

The Patriot Movement of N.W. Italy can be considered a new and wider development of the struggle carried out during the last twenty years by several underground organisations against the Fascist regime. The activities of these underground organisations had a direct influence in creating the conditions which made possible the coup-d'etat of July 25, 1943.

After the coup-d'etat, leaders and members of the underground organisations came out into the open. With the re-establishment of the Fascist regime (25 Sept. 1943), it became imperative for anti-fascists in N.W. Italy to go into hiding. The same was done by many other people who had not taken part in anti-fascist activities before July 25th; and who after that date had shown sympathy for the new regime and for the Allied cause.

As a result of the armistice, most of the Italian Army disbanded. When the new Fascist Government was re-established and it became evident that the enemy was going to occupy the country for a certain while, officers and soldiers who did not want to join the new Fascist Army or were afraid of being sent to Germany to work went into hiding.





Following the great arc made by the Apennines and the Alps around Liguria, Piedmont and Lombardy, one finds approximately the following situation.

The large concentration of Patriot bands (mostly under Communist control) in the mountain areas of the provinces of PARMA and PIACENZA (region IX) includes also areas in the provinces of SPEZIA and GENOA. The presence of Patriot bands is reported also in the mountains west of SPEZIA. West of VARESE LIGURE was reported the presence of a band of about 300 Patriots. Another one, with about 250 Patriots belonging mostly to moderate tendencies, was reported in area SCORRERA-TORRIGLIA (prov. of Genoa).

West of GENOA, was reported recently the presence of a large concentration of bands along the border between the provinces of GENOA, SAVONA and CUNEO. It appears that most of the bands (approximately 4,000 strong) were under the leadership of Italian Army Patriots. They occupied the district from VAL PESIO to the LANGHE and from the COL DI NAVA to the COL DI CADIBONA.

A different group of Patriot bands could be found further west, in the valleys of the Western ALPS. In VAL DI DEMONE, VAL MAIRA, VAL VARAITA, VAL PELLICE, VAL CHI-SONE, the Patriot bands included, before the sudden influx of fresh recruits, not less than 2500 or 3000 men. They

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ly came without much difficulty under Communist influence.

In the important VAL D'AOSTA most of the 2,800 Patriots reported at the end of July appeared to be under the leadership of Action Party Democrats. The other were mostly Italian Army Patriots. Communist influence appeared to exist in VAL TOUNNANCHE.

In the regions of BIELLA, VALSESIA and VAL D'OSSOLA, was reported the presence, according to the source, of 3000 to 5000 Patriots. There were strong and well organized Patriot bands under Communist control. Other bands were formed and led by Italian Army Patriots. The Action Party Democrats, with their G.L. formations, were a minority.

The position in the valleys of upper Lombardy appears to be less clear than the position in the valleys of Piedmont. There were recently undoubtedly fairly large but also inactive groups of Italian Army Patriots in VALTULLINA, south of the SPLUGA Pass, in the upper VAL BREMBANA, etc. An active Patriot band was located in the central VAL CAIAPO NICA. In VALSASSINA, in the BRIANZA and north of VARESE there appeared to be Patriot bands either under Communist leadership or under the leadership of Action Party Democrats.

In the Apennine and Alpine valleys of Liguria, Piedmont and Lombardy, there may have been before the recent influx of fresh enthusiastic recruits, anything between 25,000 and 30,000 Patriots organized in the various bands. It should be remembered however that not all these Patriots would come under the definition of a Patriot given by A.C.C. Applying this definition and not taking into account the

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Recently was reported the formation of a number of GAP Brigades in the towns and plains of the three regions.

The political leadership of the Patriot Movement in North Western Italy has been mostly in the hands of the Committees of National Liberation (C.L.N.). A central Committee for northern Italy (C.L.N.A.I.) had appointed a Military command with the aim of coordinating the efforts of the Patriot bands. The Military Command was able to bring under its leadership many Patriot bands but not all of them. At first one Patriot, a member of the Action Party, had been appointed Military Commander. It appears that there is now a Military Command composed of three people: a General of the Italian Army, a member of the Action Party and a member of the Communist Party. This gives representation to the three main elements who have been active in the resistance movement in North-Western Italy: Italian Army Patriots (mostly Monarchists); Democrats organized in the Action Party (mostly Republicans) and Communists.

#### ALLIED SUPPORT TO PATRIOT BANDS -

One of the main problems for the Patriot Bands and the GAPs of North-Western Italy (as elsewhere in Italy) has been the supplying of arms and ammunitions. Allied organizations had done something in order to establish contact with the Bands (the GAPs had not been taken in consideration) and to supply them with stores. Only in recent months these efforts have begun to give appreciable results.

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The C.I.N. regional organisations of Liguria, Piedmont and Lombardy had been contacted by either British or American agents. Patriot bands in Upper CUNESES, in VAL PELLICE, in VAL D'AOSTA, in VAL SESIA, in VAL CA-MONICA, in VALSASSINA have enjoyed at one time or the other direct W/T communications with Allied HQ. A certain amount of stores was dropped.

By supplying stores and through their propaganda, the Allies have given considerable support to the Patriot movement in North-Western Italy. It would possibly be a wise thing to examine the problems connected with the presence of fairly well organized and armed Patriot bands led by people who have decided political views.

2179

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

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PROVINCES OF PIEDMONT

PROVINCE OF TURIN

Capo Gabinetto : Gaspare MARCONCINI, Piazza Castello 10

Medico Provinciale : Giulio GAROFANI, Piazza Castello 10

Ingegnere Capo del Rettorato Provinciale : M. Tullio MOSSI, Piazza Castello 9

Ingegnere Capo del Genio Civile : Giuseppe GODINO, Corso C. Ciano 41

Intendente di Finanza : Bernardino FLORIO

Direttore Provinciale delle Poste e dei Telegrafi : Aldo SERTOLI, Via Alfieri, corner of  
Via Arsenale.

PROVINCE OF ALESSANDRIA

Capo Gabinetto : Giovanni VELASCO

Medico Provinciale : Valerio CAVALLI

Ingegnere Capo del Rettorato Provinciale : Felice MORATO, Piazza Vittorio Emanuele 6

Ingegnere Capo del Genio Civile : Emilio SEGRE, Via Legnano

Intendente di Finanza : Giuseppe RUSSO

Direttore Provinciale delle Poste e Telegrafi : Filippo DE GIORGIS, Via Cavour, corner

Rettorato Provinciale : M.Tullio MOSSI, Piazza Castello 9

Ingegnere Capo del Genio Civile : Giuseppe CODINO, Corso C.Ciano 41

Intendente di Finanza : Bernardino FLORIO

Direttore Provinciale delle Poste e dei Telegrafi : Aldo SERTOLI, Via Alfieri, corner of Via Arsenale.

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Intendente di Finanza : Giuseppe RUSSO

Direttore Provinciale delle Poste e Telegrafi : Filippo DE GIORGIS, Via Cavour, corner of Via Faa di Bruno.

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Genio Civile : Pompeo CHIDONI, P.aza Vittorio Emanuele  
Intendente di Finanza : Giuseppe NEGRO, Palazzo del Governo  
Direttore Provinciale del-  
le Poste e dei Telegrafi : Giovanni ROBERTI.

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PROVINCE OF ASTI

Capo Gabinetto: Rodolfo SAPORITI, Corso Alfieri 86  
Medico Provinciale : Gregorio CERRITO, Corso Alfieri 86  
Ingegnere Capo del  
Rettorato Provinciale : Carlo ROSSI, Corso Dante, 6  
Ingegnere Capo del  
Genio Civile : Torquato PALAGI, Piazza Medici.  
Intendente di Finanza : Costanzo CAVANNA, Via Cavour 45.  
Direttore Provinciale del-  
le Poste e dei Telegrafi : Francesco APPENDINI, Corso Dante.

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6041





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PROVINCE OF VERCELLI

Capo Gabinetto : Lino CAPPELLINI, Via S. Cristoforo 22

Medico Provinciale : Alfino MONASTRA, Via S. Cristoforo 22

Ingegnere Capo del  
Genio Civile :

Marco MERLANO, P.zza Torino I

Ingegnere Capo del  
Rettorato Provinciale :

Alfonso BREZZI

Intendente di Finanza : Umberto SICCO, Piazza Mazzini

Vice-Intendente di Finanza - Carlo CAMOSSA.

Direttore Provinciale del-  
le Poste e dei Telegrafi :

Giuseppe AIMO, Via G. Verdi.

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