

ACC 10000/125/394

126/PAT

ALTO COMMISSARIATO L' ASSISTENZA

NOV. - DEC. 1944

ALTO COMMISSARIATO L'ASSISTENZA AI PARTIGIANI

NOV. - DEC. 1944

closed: Oct. 20, 1945

FILE
126/PAT.

MINUTE SHEET No. 1

DATE

PAGE

25 Dec.

Director.

(1)

I think if the scheme could be furthered that at least it represents an effort in the right direction. Perhaps you will let me have your instructions.

C. Dwyer
Executive Officer.

26th Dec.

V.D.

(2)

1. I cannot believe that the scheme is sound.
2. It is surely quite improper for us to tell the Italian Government that they are to establish an extra tax of 5% on all public spectacles. Moreover, as you will see, this is a party suggestion and opposed to the Fascist Government. I do not advise that any further action should be taken in the matter.
3. I am intensely interested in material and pecuniary assistance to the patriots but I do not think that this is the correct way in which these objects should be achieved.

W.A. / W.C.

(3)

To Patriots.

no further action please.

26th Dec. 1944

again

W.A.

26th Dec.

26th Dec.

V.P.

- (2)
1. I cannot believe that the scheme is sound.
 2. It is surely quite improper for us to tell the Italian Government that they are to establish an extra tax of 5% on all public spectacles. Moreover, as you will see, this is a party suggestion and opposed to the Ionian Government. I do not advise that any further action should be taken in the matter.
 3. I am immensely interested in material and pecuniary assistance to the patriots but I do not think that this is the correct way in which these objects should be achieved.

To Patriots.

(3)

no further action please.

specW.A. / W.M.W.A.

3117

242

22 DEC Recd

126

Pats

Ref: 530

20 December 1944

SUBJECT: National Reconstruction.

TO : Civil Affairs Section

FROM : Political Section

I attach a copy of the reply sent to the Liberal Socialist Party.
The scheme in question is, of course, not official and, as you will see
from the fourth paragraph, the Authors are not friendly towards the
Government. If the Patriots Branch ^{are} interested in the particular pro-
posals for the relief of the Patriots, the best thing would be for them
to put it forward on their own initiative through the Patriots Committee
or, I suppose under the new arrangement, through the Ministry for Occupied
Italy.

H. L. A. HOPKINSON

H. L. A. HOPKINSON
Acting Vice President, Political Section.

1 Encl: Political Section ltr
dtd 13.12.44.

To: Patriots

W. G. S. Holland, Major

CA Sec

21 Dec 44

3116

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

TO : Il Presidente, (del Comitato Centrale)
Partito Libero-Sociale,
Galleria Regina Margherita, 7,
ROMA

The Political Section of the Allied Commission has been requested by the Chief Commissioner to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your memorandum of the 28th November enclosing a copy of the project of Signor Basile, the Secretary General of the Partito Libero-Sociale, in regard to national reconstruction. 1A

/s/ R. L. d'A. HOPKINSON
Acting Vice President,
Political Section

13.12.44

COPY

3115

2
9 December 1944.MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR SIR P.M. MAGNUS.

1. This Office has not been informed of the existence of an A.C.A.P. (Alto Commissariato per l'Assistenza ai Partigiani).

Rumours have been circulated in Official Circles about the future creation of a Governmental body to recommend, promote, coordinate and organize all branches of such assistance.

2. The reconstruction plan of the Secretary General of the Libero-Social Party, calling for the formation of a High Commission for National Reconstruction seems to be an extremely intelligent scheme which has great chances of being successfully brought into operation. Furthermore the imposition of an additional tax on the sale of wine, without altering the general economic standing of all classes of the population, is probably the only means to give the Government the necessary funds to begin a far reaching reconstruction plan, which besides making immediately available a large demand for employment would also provide housing for considerable figures of people who are entirely homeless because of war destructions.

Furthermore the increasing returning income of the new tenements would on the long run make the organisation nearly self supporting.

Should the plan be adopted, it could become one of the standpoints in the new Italian Government's program.

It is obvious that if the plan should be approved it should be closely supervised, without being hindered though, by technical and financial executives of the A.C.

3. The plan by which the High Commissariat for assistance to the Patriots should receive the necessary funds for the immediate provisions on behalf of the Patriots by the returns of an additional 5% taxation on theatrical and movie shows is a clever proposition which would probably give most satisfactory results.

3114

- 2 -

2A

It is suggested though, that all funds thus collected should be turned over to the Patriots Office or to any other body specially appointed, which should definitely not be affected by any political tendency, thus avoiding impartialities in the distribution of the returns.

4. This Office ignores entirely that the Libero-Social Party has filed applications to publish a newspaper and equally ignores the reasons why such a request has not been granted.

Col. G. FAVA,

G. Fava

GF/mfg.

3113

Copy

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

1 Dec. 44

Tel. 289

Ref. 6502/25/COS

SUBJECT : National Reconstruction.

TO : Political Section.

1. Attached letter No. 4842 dated 28 Nov. 44 from the President of the Central Committee of the Liberal Socialist Party is passed to you for reply.
2. Copies are being sent to the Civil Affairs Section, Economic Section and PR Branch to facilitate any necessary co-ordination.
3. Two copies of your reply should be sent to the Chief of Staff for information.

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

Alto Commissariato per l'Assistenza Partigiani.

Copy to: Economic Section
Civil Affairs Section
PR Branch
S O to Chief Commissioner.

3112

Translation

Libero-Social Party (Labour Union)

Central Committee: Galleria Regina Margherita, 7 tel. 42183
Rome.

n. 4842

Rome, 28 November 1944.

To Commodore Ellery Stone
Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission
R o m a

I take the liberty of sending a project by
our Secretary General Carlo Basile, hoping that
you may intervene in the interest of our country.

I remain,

Sincerely yours,

THE PRESIDENT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
(Avv. I Cocola)
/s/ Avv. Ignazio Cocola

3111

Copy

Translation

Summing up of the project of C.L. Basile, Secretary General of the Libero-Social Party (Labourist Union) for the formation of a

HIGH COMMISSARIAT FOR NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION
(A.C.R.N.)

Five hundred milliard lire appropriated in twentyfive years without weighing on the State Budget.

Two and a half million rooms (in tenement houses) to be built in ten years and allotted to the people whose houses were destroyed during the war; after twenty five years, the ownership should pass to them.

The only way to face and solve the problem of National Reconstruction is to have a determined plan and important funds for a certain number of years. This hasn't been possible for the exhausted finances of the State couldn't bear any burden without endangering the precarious position of the lire, already in great danger because of the inflation, which from a first phase, has now reached what may be called the 'strong' phase.

On the other hand, the strict control of the Allies should never allow appropriations which might interfere with the finances or the Budget of the Italian State.

④ But the unanimous feeling of mistrust towards the Bonomi Government is to be ascribed not only to the food question which has never been faced and even less solved, but also to the fact that nothing has been, we don't say realized, but attempted about the Reconstruction; hundred of thousands of people who lost their houses saw with great bitterness that why the fascist republicans gave an indemnity for war damages, the democratic government has remained obstinately silent on this point for over six months.

The Basile plan makes possible, - for the realization of a concrete plan - the appropriation of about 500 milliard lire without burdening the Budget of the State. It suggests to establish an extr-tax on a commodity which is produced and used in great quantity, which doesn't belong to the category of essential food-stuffs, and the purchase of which is not indispensable to the

- 2 -

population, but facultative. The wine only would answer to these requisites; an amount of about 40 million qls is produced and bought yearly. An extra-tax of L. 5 a liter during ten years would only affect the sale prices for 1/10 and it would not make much difference to the customers, for the sale prices of the wine are already very high, and the purchase power of the lira is getting smaller everyday. In this way, about 20 milliard lire a year would be appropriated; one half would be used to pay war indemnities to the 'sinistrati', and the other half would be employed to build tenement houses. It would be possible to build about 250,000 rooms a year in tenement houses. The rent should be low (about 600 lire a year for each room). This would mean an extra income of 1 1/2 milliard lire during the first year, 3 milliards during the second, 4 1/2 during the third, 6 during the fourth, 7 1/2 during the fifth, 9 during the sixth, 10 1/2 during the seventh, 12 during the eighth, 13 1/2 during the ninth, 15 during the tenth, establishing that after 25 year, the ownership should pass to the 'sinistrati' tenants, who wouldn't have to pay the rent any more. To the 200 milliards which would have been appropriated, must be added 307,5 milliards coming from the rent, amounting comprehensively to about 500 milliard lire for reconstruction in 25 years, with 3 million and a half rooms in tenement houses.

It may be said that it is impossible to start at once building tenement houses because of the lack of raw materials. C.L. Basile answers that if the Allies put two steamers the tonnage of which would amount to 20 thousand tons, at the disposal of the High Commissariat, and which would be employed for bringing coal and naphta to Italy, it would be possible to supply a hundred brick kilns which suffered practically no damages during the war. As for iron, the countryside is full of wreccages which might be taken to the steel plants of Terni, which have kept 80% of their efficiency. This would give the necessary material for ferro-concrete and beams, for immediate employment.

This would partly solve the problem of unemployment, for it would give work to thousands of brick-layers, workmen, employees, technicians, carpenters, blacksmiths, etc.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL

/s/ C.L. Basile 3109

Rome, 27 Nov.1944.

10
C o p y

Summing up of the project of C.L. Basile, Secretary General of the Libero-Social Party (Labour Union) for the formation of a

HIGH COMMISSARIAT FOR ASSISTANCE TO THE PARTISANS (A.C.A.P.)

The dissatisfaction of the partisans is due to the fact that they have no Official Organ for Assistance.

The three distinct organizations mistrust each other and fight one another politically: the means of assistance come from public generosity and their destination isn't controlled. The subsidies given by the Bonomi Government were of course insufficient to give the Partisans what they needed.

As the Allies and the Italians proceed they are disarmed and sent home in really miserable conditions.

The formation of a High Commissariat for Assistance to the partisans would hearten the Partisans of North Italy have a favourable effect on the dissatisfaction of those who have been mobilised in liberated Italy.

To provide the required funds without burdening the exhausted finances of the State, it would be necessary to establish an extra tax of 5% on all public spectacles and this only till six months after the end of hostilities in Italy. All Italians should agree that who enjoys himself can also pay a little more for those who have been and are still risking their life to collaborate in the fight against the Nazi-fascists, and for the liberation of Italy.

Like the fiscal tax, this extra tax should be exacted from the Società degli Autori which could advance funds for the organization of the High Commissariat, this when the decree should have been passed. More than 30 million lire a month could be had by means of this extra tax, and this amount would increase with the reopening of cinemas, theaters, etc. and the progress of the liberating troops. A practical, quick and safe organization would cost about one million lire a month, only 3% of the total income. An inspector of the High Commissariat should be sent in the newly liberated regions; a provincial delegate should be sent in the regions ~~which~~ have

- 2 -

already been liberated a certain time; he would have to live in the chief town, as guest of the Prefecture or of the Municipality, and have one book-keeper and one typist only at his disposal.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL

C.L. Basile

Rome, 27 Nov 44.

9102

IF
C o p y

The Libero-Social Party (Labourist Union) has been founded on July 26th 1943, uniting the Italian Labourist Party and the Vanguard Democratic Party.

Opposed to the Bonomi Government, it hasn't been allowed to have its own newspaper, in spite of many solicitations. At present it is asking to be allowed to publish the paper 'La Concordia', organ of the P.L.S. The Party is well organized in Lazio, Campania, Puglia and in some Provinces of Sicily.

Fifteen thousand members are inscribed.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL

/s/ C.L. Basile.

Rome, 27 Nov 44.

3106

0836