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

ACC 10000/125/414 141/3/PAT. MEETINGS WITH ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

Ap. - Nov. 1945

141/3/POT

UNCLASSIFIED

MEETINGS WITH ITALIAN

GOVERNMENT

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0024

ex Sect 14/6

MEETINGS WITH ITALIAN

GOVERNMENT

C.A. Sect 14/6
Pats 25/6
~~C.A. Sect 25/6~~
Pats 25/6.

10000 / 125/414

UNCLASSIFIED

THIS FOLDER
CONTAINS PAPERS
FROM APR. 1945
TO NOV. 1945
CATALOGUE-

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

FILE 1441/3/PAT

DATE	MINUTE SHEET NO 3	PAGE
9 JUL. 46.	D/D. Sec. 17a. (6) 19 of 51/22/5/PAT bears on this subject to. R. R. Cripps CA.	
	(7) D.G. Minister for approval.	
19 JUL. 46.	Min. 19A. Noted + agreed. (8) I have sent a copy for agreement with. Min. P.W.A. R. R. Cripps CA.	

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R. R. Cripps
Cl.

(7)

D-G.
Minutes for approval.

(8)

19 JUL. 45.

Mis. 19A. Noted & agreed.
I forward a copy for agreement with.
Min. P.W.A.

R. R. Cripps
Cl.

9896

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141/3

MINUTE SHEET No. 2

DATE | PAGE

2.

C.A. Section

For your information, note at (12A), of meeting between Lt Col White, & HE Spataro, Under Secretary, M. of Interior.

14 June 45 Patriotic Branch 3 M. Probyn from land

Noted – Where is letter of 6 June? How can applies ? follow this business?

4.

CAS

Refer 3 please. see 56A of 12/6 Pat

At 14A are minutes of a meeting of 16 Jun

LCS. i/c.
22 JUL 1945

Patriotic. 5

I still dont understand the differentiating raised over payments. Payments made by allies before liberation surely have nothing to do with it; what is second payment which it was proposed that Re

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of meeting between Mr Col Ones, HE Spataro, Under Secretary, M. of Interior.

14 June 45 Patriotic Branch 3 M. Proby for Cmd

Noted – Where is letter of 6 June? How can applicants be informed the minutes?

4.

CAS

Refer 3 please, see 56A of 12/6 Pat

At 14A on minutes of a meeting of 16 Jun

E.G. o/c.
28 JUN 1945

Patriotic. 5

I still dont understand the difficulties raised over payments. Payments made by allies before liberation surely have nothing to do with it; what is second payment which it was proposed DMPRs should make.

GPR 36685

25 Jun

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0030

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FILE

MINUTE SHEET No. 1

141/3/PAT (~~Cont~~)

PAGE

DATE

C.A. Section

1.

Memorandum opposite, re Dr Curcio's visit to Patriots Branch, 9 June, for your information.

11 A

A. Prosby for Col

9 June 45.

Information

300%

Letter sent

Notes on meeting held at the Office of
the Ministry of Post War Assistance
on Tuesday 13th November 1945.

Present: Sig. Berardinone and Moscone.
Lt Col White, Major J.S. Reakes and Col Fava.

ANPI.

Lt Col White asked what the position was with regard to the new constitution of ANPI. Reference was made to the letter written by this HQ to ANPI and to the Ministry of Post War Assistance on 22nd October 1945. The Ministry of Post War Assistance stated that they had not received the letter. In these circumstances there was no point in discussing the points raised by the Allied Commission as the Ministry was unaware of them. A copy of the letter would be made and handed to Col Fava for delivery to the Ministry of Post War Assistance.

DMPRs.

Lt Col White stated that a Report received from the DMPR Treviso indicated that the Secretaries of ANPI needed some guidance as to what their duties were and as to what they could and could not do. In the case of Treviso ANPI appeared to be exceeding their true powers and reference was made to this HQ letter 135/PAT of 1 Nov in which some of the points raised in the Report were answered in detail.

Discussion took place on how far ANPI was entitled to take active measures in epuration, and in the running of private enterprises.

The Ministry of Post War Assistance would consider the matter and let this Commission have its views. It was obvious that some form of guidance would require to be issued to DMPRs and that ANPI should give guidance to their branches.

J.S. REAKES
Major,

CA Sec
13 Nov 45

3683

Copy to File 135/PAT
Col Fava (for info)

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0032

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

141/5/PAT

30 August 1945

Dear Sir,

I enclose herewith a note of the meeting between us on 24 Aug 45 which I hope may be of use to you.

Perhaps you will let me know if it contains any point which is not in accord with your recollection or which does not quite correctly represent your views.

Yours very truly.

Sig MORCONI,
Ministry of Post War Aid,
ROME.

NOTES OF A MEETING
between
Col. CRIPPS AND SIG. BERNARDINONE AND SIG MOSCONI

on 6th September at 1100 hrs.

Col.CRIPPS desired to raise the question of treatment of Patriots who fought outside Italy and referred to a letter from the Ministry No 886 dated 29th August. One point he wished to be clear about was the statement concerning persons returning from the Balkans as soldiers. He read it to mean that all fighters coming from the Balkans should be considered as members of the Italian Army and therefore not entitled to any demobilisation bonus they will receive arrears of pay as soldiers.

Sig. BERNARDINONE agreed on this point of view and stated that the Minister has already expressed similar views on this point.

Col.CRIPPS said he would issue that instruction but said there might be exceptional cases of Italians who fought outside Italy (with the Maquis &c). In these cases he suggested that the facts and particulars of each case should be collected and passed to the Ministry of PWA for final decision.

Sig.BERNARDINONE agreed that special cases should be put up for decision by the MPWA.

Col.CRIPPS mentioned that he had forwarded two cases. One concerned 10 Italian soldiers who would be dealt with as soldiers and not as Patriots. The other concerned two men who claimed to have been fighting in YUGOSLAVIA as Patriots. They were soldiers and had already been paid the bonuses due to them as soldiers. Quoting from the letter Col. Cripps stated that it said that for the time being all coming from abroad should not be considered Patriots.

Sig.BERNARDINONE asked Col.Cripps to wait a few days to give him an opportunity of speaking to Sig.LUSSU and Mr. CHIABOTT who is coming to ROME in a few days.

There was a discussion on the duties of all soldiers to escape and continue to fight on under all circumstances. This should exclude soldiers from being considered Patriots.

Col. CRIPPS meanwhile we have many of such applications waiting. Originally it was decided to pass them to Dr.CHIABOTT but he would get snowed under. I personally feel it is better to avoid paying these people.

Mr. BERNARDINONE. Yes.

3681

It was agreed to wait until we heard from MPWA before sending out any instructions. Sig. BERNARDINONE to speak to Sig. LUSSU.

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of the Italian Army and therefore not entitled to any demobilisation bonus they will receive arrears of pay as soldiers.

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Mr. BERNARDINONE. Yes.

3681

It was agreed to wait until we heard from MPWA before sending out any instructions. Sig. BERNARDINONE to speak to Sig. LUSSU.

Considers that members of foreign armies are not entitled to bonus. They suggest that a ribbon should be given.

Col. CRIPPS. Next point concerns Venezia GIULIA. How do we recognise Patriots of Tito. Col. CRIPPS explained that he was going up on Monday and had not made up his mind as to whether to open an office or not. Considered he might have to open an office to settle with those in transit, wounded, killed etc. He considered they should only deal with those who in fact had Italian Citizenship. Suggest a screening Commission and if that was a success then it could investigate all claims.

./.

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Sig. BERNARDINONE had not such idea as to the number of patriots in V.G. but thought it better to wait until Col. CRIPPS returned from his visit and get his views.

Col. CRIPPS It is agreed that no letter be sent meantime. I will try and persuade Col. Bowman to allow an UNRR to operate in the Region.

Discussed choice of man suitable for the post. It is better that he should know local conditions rather than be an expert on Patriot matters.

Col. CRIPPS Was going to raise the question of ANPI. Sig. MOSCONI handed Col. Cripps a memorandum which he proposed to study, first, and raise at the next meeting.

Sig. BERNARDINONE Spoke about his visit to the North and said there is a difference between ANPI of the North and ANPI of the South. The difference appears to be one of programmes. He feels that one set of instructions would not be suitable meantime but later on it will become a National affair. The two branches act independently but decide together.

Col. CRIPPS I have no other point.

Sig. BERNARDINONE Spoke about hospital i Trento and showed two letters he had received from the DPPG. in which he stated that the Sanitorium at ARCO is not going to be used for military purposes and therefore should be considered available. He will send us copies of the letters. L.1,000,000 has been allocated for the hospital and Mr. CHIANOFF thought this was sufficient until the end of October.

Col. CRIPPS Said he will speak with the Regional Commissioner of VG on the same subject.

Sig. BERNARDINONE Stated that hospitalisation is the subject of special care from the Ministry of DPA without any distinction between patriots veterans or ex-internees. The point of view of the Ministry is not to have different kind of hospitals for patriots, veterans and so forth but to have hospitals well equipped for everybody in need of medical treatment. He said that convalescent centres are to be organised.

Sig. BERNARDINONE Said that during his visit to Milan ANPI had informed him that they intendd to publish a newspaper but Col. Poletti had not granted permission.

Col. CRIPPS I will try and find out why permission was refused. I will ask De Caroton about this point.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

144/3/PAT 30th August 1945

Dear Sir,

I enclose herewith a note of the meeting between us on 24 Aug 45 which I hope may be of use to you.

Perhaps you will let me know if it contains any point which is not in accord with your recollection or which does not quite correctly represent your views.

Yours very truly,

Sig MOSCONI,
Ministry of Post War Assistance,
ROME.

3679

/dnw.

Notes of a Meeting
between
COL CRIPPS AND SIG MOSCONI
24 Aug 45

Col CRIPPS discussing the arrangements for the handover said that it might not be possible to close Regional HQ simultaneously with the handover as there might be some ends to tie up. Sig MOSCONI asked that Regional HQs should be maintained for the time being because the MPWA proposed to create a regional organisation. As soon as these offices are set up DHPRs will become Regional officers of the MPWA. This proposal has however not yet been approved. If the proposal goes through the MPWA will have its own organisation and will not work through Prefects but have their own staff. However this is all still in the air.

Col CRIPPS said that a clear decision was necessary if officers were to be kept on, steps would also have to be taken to get or retain offices. Quarters would have to be arranged for officers and their families. Rations or messing would also have to be arranged. In reply to the enquiry whether instructions had not already been issued Col CRIPPS said only as regards Provincial offices. Sig MOSCONI said that Prefects of the Provinces in which Regional HQs were situated to provide such accommodation as would be necessary.

Sig MOSCONI said that he would speak to the Minister that day on the matter. He enquired whether AC thought that CMLAB.F could be made responsible for planning and setting up the new organisation and making the necessary arrangements. In answer to Col CRIPPS enquiry Sig MOSCONI said that he did not think that a cancellation of ACs instruction to disperse the Regional staff need go out immediately and that it was not necessary to make a decision at once.

At this point Col CRIPPS left the conference to keep another appointment and Lt Col WHITE continued.

Lt Col WHITE referred to the arrangements for hospitalising patriots. He said that he had discussed with Land Forces the possibility of releasing hospitals. The Italian Army had had 15,000 beds that had now been reduced to 10,000 and proposals were on foot to reduce it further to 5,000. The 5,000 beds would be required for the use of the Italian Army and was mainly composed of one four hundred bed hospital in each of the 11 Military districts. The army would not be able to accommodate patriots in these hospitals nor in fact with one or two exceptions were they located where they could be of any use to patriots. A list of hospitals was produced and examined. To enable the problem to be examined it was necessary to have facts. Could the MPWA say where men requiring hospital treatment were located and how many of them there were in each place. AC was making enquiries but would be glad of any information that the MPWA had on this subject.

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[illegible]
between
[illegible]
19 Aug 45

Col. [illegible] said that the Under Secretary for the Interior had expressed to him his agreement that Prefects should administer Italy. He had documented instructions to Italians accordingly, a copy of which had been sent to both the [illegible] and the U Interior. These instructions would come to have effect when the territory was under Italian administration. It was necessary therefore that the Italian Government should send out their own instruction as to the organization to be effective when AMG ceased. Mr [illegible] said they agreed and would prepare instructions, which he would send through the [illegible] Interior for their concurrence for transmission by AC to the Prefects.

Col. [illegible] informed Mr [illegible] that instructions to procure lists of patriots entitled to the U Italian had been sent out and that he had drawn the attention of the officers concerned that the Allied decision as to entitlement ranged with the committees which would be appointed under U. 330.

Col. [illegible] then drew attention to the situation in the North of Italy with regard to ANPI. Not infrequently officers previously occupied by various committees now had signs showing that they were now the offices of ANPI. In many places persons were proposing to act as provided on Liberated Committees or as officials of ANPI who had not been appointed in accordance with the ANPI statutes. These persons had no reason to act and what they had purported to do was entirely irregular, some of them seemed to be acting most improperly. It might have been of material emotional assistance to the Italian Government if ANPI had been able to take part in the organization of ANPI on the statutory lines and had warned those who had assumed its authority but there was hardly time for AC to organise this now. AC did not like the idea of leaving back territory while the position was so unsatisfactory, the larger these areas were in power the more tenable it would be to remove them.

Mr. [illegible] said that he was aware of the irregular position which he was anxious to terminate. The position however was that the statutes which had been issued did not tout with the entire approval of opinion in the North of Italy and notifications thereof were under discussion. He did not feel in a position to implement the present situation knowing they were to be altered. Further it was undoubtedly that elections should be held at the present time because persons who claimed to be members of ANPI who were not "true" patriots might until new members were admitted outvote the true patriots. Provisional committees would probably be formed to prepare the way for proper elections. Col. [illegible] said that under the circumstances he could do nothing at present to help.

2677

Col. [illegible] enquired whether there was any further information as to the name of the hospital at [illegible] to which it was desired to send patriots. The answer was in the negative. He said that he was expecting to hear by phone and would have the name forwarded at [illegible]. He understood that in

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[redacted] in world and through the U Interior for their concurrence for translation by [illegible] officials.

Col. [illegible] informed Mr. [illegible] that instructions to prepare lists of patriots entitled to the U [illegible] had been sent out and that he had drawn the attention of the officers concerned that the ultimate decision as to entitlement rested with the committee which would be appointed under U. [illegible].

Col. [illegible] then drew attention to the situation in the North of Italy with regard to [illegible]. Not infrequently officers previously occupied by various organizations now had signs showing that they were now the offices of [illegible]. In many places persons were purporting to act as provincial or regional committees or as officials of [illegible] who had not been accredited in accordance with the [illegible] structure. These persons had no power to act and what they had supposed to do was entirely irregular, some of them proved to be active and improperly. It might have been of material practical assistance to the Italian Government if [illegible] had been able to take part in the organization of [illegible] on the electoral lines and had proved there who had occupied the authority but there was hardly time for [illegible] to organize this now. He did not like the idea of leaving back territory while the position was so unsatisfactory, the longer it was so the more it would be the more trouble it would be to prove them.

Mr. [illegible] said that he was aware of the irregular position which he was anxious to terminate. The position however was that the Statutes which had been [illegible] did not tout with the entire approval of opinion in the North of Italy and [illegible] Council were under discussion. He did not feel in a position to implement the present statutes knowing they were to be altered. Further it was intolerable that elections should be held at the present time because persons who claimed to be members of [illegible] who were not "true" patriots might until new members were admitted outvote the true patriots. Provisional conditions would probably be found to preserve the way for proper elections. Col [illegible] said that under the circumstances he could do nothing at present to help.

3677

Col. [illegible] enquired whether there was any further information as to the case of the hospital at [illegible] to which it was desired to send patriots. The answer was in the negative. He said that he was expecting to hear by phone and would hear the last behalf of Gouldsmith. He understood that Mr. [illegible] was already visiting the North of Italy perhaps on his return [illegible] might be in a position to realize the medical needs of patriots still requiring medical treatment both as to nature and location of medical centres. Mr. [illegible] said that that was one of the special objectives of his tour.

Mr. [illegible] enquired whether any information could be given on the point which he had raised the previous week, namely the removal from military hospitals after 60 days of patriots even though they still required medical or surgical treatment. Col [illegible] said that the matter was under consideration with those concerned but he was not yet in a position to make a statement. Mr. [illegible] hoped that a decision could be reached at an early date as patriots requiring important further treatment were being turned out of military hospitals even though there was no suitable alternative accommodation to receive them. He quoted [illegible] as an example. He regarded the matter as most urgent. Col [illegible] said that he would do all in could to expedite a decision.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIONI BRANCH

44/3/PAT

16 August 1945.

Dear Sir,

I enclose herewith a note of the meeting between us on 15 Aug 45 which I hope may be of use to you.

Perhaps you will let me know if it contains any points which is not in accord with your recollection or which does not quite correctly represent your views.

Yours very truly,

Sig. DEMARONNONE,
Ministry of Post War Assistance.
ROME.

3676

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MINUTES OF A MEETING
between
COL CRIPPS AND SIG. BONOMI AND MORONI
15 Aug 45

Col. CRIPPS said that the Under Secretary for the Interior had expressed to him his agreement that Prefects should administer IMPAs. The AC had despatched instructions to Regions accordingly, a copy of which had been sent to both the MMA and the M Interior. These instructions would cease to have effect when the territory came under Italian administration it was necessary therefore that the Italian Government should send out their own instruction as to the organisation to be effective when AMG ceased. Sig BONOMI said they agreed and would prepare instructions, which he would send through the M Interior for their concurrence for transmission by AC to the Prefects.

Col. CRIPPS informed Sig BONOMI that instructions to prepare lists of patriots entitled to the VL Ribbon had been sent out and that he had drawn the attention of the officers concerned that the ultimate decision as to entitlement rested with the committees which would be appointed under DL 350.

Col. CRIPPS then drew attention to the situation in the North of Italy with regard to ANPI. Not infrequently offices previously occupied by various commandos now had signs showing that they were now the offices of ANPI. In many places persons were purporting to act as Provincial or Comunal Committees or as officials of ANPI who had not been appointed in accordance with the ANPI statutes. These persons had no powers to act and what they had purported to do was entirely irregular, some of them seemed to be acting most improperly. It might have been of material practical assistance to the Italian Government if AMG had been able to take part in the organisation of ANPI on the statutory lines and had removed those who had usurped its authority; but there was hardly time for AMG to organise this now. AC did not like the idea of handing back territory while the position was so unsatisfactory, the longer these persons were in power the more trouble it would be to remove them.

Sig. BONOMI said that he was aware of the irregular position which he was anxious to terminate. The position however was that the Statutes which had been issued did not meet with the entire approval of opinion in the North of Italy and modifications thereof were under discussion. He did not feel in a position to implement the present statutes knowing they were to be altered. Further it was undesirable that elections should be held at the present time because persons who claimed to be members of ANPI who were not "true" patriots might until new members were admitted outvote the true patriots. Provincial Committees would probably be forced to pressure the Govt for proper elections. Col CRIPPS said that under the circumstances AMG could do nothing at present to help.

Col. CRIPPS enquired whether there was any for their information as to the name of the hospital at TRANO to which it was desired to send patriots. The answer was in the negative. He said that he was expecting to hear by phone and

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he would send through the M Interior for their concurrence for transmission by AC to the Prefects.

Col. CHIAPPI informed Sig BONOMI that instructions to prepare lists of patriots entitled to the M Medal had been sent out and that he had drawn the attention of the officers concerned that the ultimate decision as to entitlement rested with the committee which would be appointed under DL 390.

Col. CHIAPPI then drew attention to the situation in the North of Italy with regard to ANPI. Not infrequently offices previously occupied by various commanders now had signs showing that they were now the offices of ANPI. In many places persons were purporting to act as Provincial or Communal Committees or as officials of ANPI who had not been appointed in accordance with the ANPI statutes. These persons had no powers to act and what they had purported to do was entirely irregular, some of them seemed to be acting most improperly. It might have been of material practical assistance to the Italian Government if AMG had been able to take part in the organization of ANPI on the statutory lines and had removed those who had usurped its authority; but there was hardly time for AMG to organise this now. AC did not like the idea of handing back territory while the position was so unsatisfactory, the longer these persons were in power the more trouble it would be to remove them.

Sig. BONOMI said that he was aware of the irregular position which he was anxious to terminate. The position however was that the Statutes which had been issued did not meet with the entire approval of opinion in the North of Italy and modifications thereof were under discussion. He did not feel in a position to implement the present statutes knowing they were to be altered. Further it was undesirable that elections should be held at the present time because persons who claimed to be members of ANPI who were not "true" patriots might until now members were admitted outvote the true patriots. Provincial Committees would probably be forced to prepare the way for proper elections. Col CHIAPPI said that under the circumstances AMG could do nothing at present to help.

Col. CHIAPPI enquired whether there was any further information as to the name of the hospital at PRATO to which it was desired to send patriots. The answer was in the negative. He said that he was expecting to hear by phone and would keep the NPA informed of developments. He understood that Sig BONOMI was shortly visiting the North of Italy perhaps on his return Sig BONOMI might be in a position to outline the medical needs of Patriots still requiring medical treatment both as to numbers and location of medical centres. Sig BONOMI said that that was one of the special objectives of his tour.

Sig BONOMI enquired whether any information could be given on the point which he had raised the previous week, namely the removal from Military Hospitals after 60 days of patriots even though they still required medical or surgical treatment. Col CHIAPPI said that the matter was under consideration with those concerned but he was not yet in a position to make a statement. Sig BONOMI hoped that a decision could be reached at an early date as Patriots requiring important further treatment were being turned out of Military Hospitals even though there was no suitable alternative accommodation to receive them. He quoted MILAN as an example. He regarded the matter as most urgent. Col CHIAPPI said that he would do all he could to expedite a decision.

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0044

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24A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

U4/3/PAT

16 August 1945.

Dear Sir,

I enclose herewith a note of the meeting between us on 9th August which I hope may be of use to you.

Perhaps you will let me know if it contains any points which is not in accord with your recollection or which does not quite correctly represent your views.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd) SH White.

Sir, BERNARD MORE
Ministry of Post War Assistance.
ROME.

3674

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NOTES OF A MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION AND THE MINISTRY OF POST WAR AID
HELD ON 9th AUGUST 1945 AT 1600 HOURS

PRESENT

Col CRIPPS
Lt Col WHITE
Maj REAKES
Col NAVA
Capt DI ROBILANT

Sig BERNARDINONE
Under Secretary for PWA
dealing with Patriots
Dott MORONI

Col. CRIPPS asked what instructions the Ministry proposed to issue to IMPRs when the territory was handed over. He pointed out that he had studied the decree instituting the Inter-Regional, Regional and Provincial Committees, that he presumed that the channel of communications would be through the Prefects.

Sig. BERNARDINONE - The committees will receive their instructions directly from the Ministry of PWA and not from the Prefects. The Committees will only have temporary powers and will cease to exist as soon as possible.

Col. CRIPPS - I don't think Committees will be constituted and set up by Sept 1, so what is going to happen.

Sig. BERNARDINONE - No. They will not be set up by then. Also there is a distinction between Prefects taking over and IMPRs who for a short time will be under the jurisdiction of Prefects. IMPRs will only be administered by the Prefects, but operationally will be under the Ministry of PWA; i.e. the IMPR will draw his pay and the moneys he may need from the Prefect, who will be put in funds by the Ministry. Mail will be addressed to the Prefetture but will be dealt with by IMPRs.

Col. CRIPPS said he was anxious to get instructions out to IMPRs now and tell them how they would be operating under Prefects.

Sig. BERNARDINONE - I agree, the Ministry of PWA will prepare instructions for the Prefects.

Col. CRIPPS - Such instructions will have to be given to the Prefects through the Ministry of Interior, who have direct jurisdiction over the Prefects. In any case instructions to the Prefects in AMG territory shall pass through Local Government Sub Commission i.e. through my office. Could you discuss this with whoever is going to be responsible at the Ministry of Interior for the matter and ask him to get directly in touch with me?

Sig. BERNARDINONE - Yes it will be done tomorrow, and have you the instructions for IMPRs ready.

Col. CRIPPS - Yes. I have them on hand at the moment. When could the instructions for the Prefects be ready ?

Sig. BERNARDINONE said he expected to have them ready by Monday.

Col. CRIPPS then said he had made a quick perusal of the decree of employment

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the decree instituting the Inter-Regional, Regional and Provincial Committees, that he presumed that the channel of communications would be through the Prefects.

Sig. BERNARDINONE - The committees will receive their instructions directly from the Ministry of PWA and not from the Prefects. The Committees will only have temporary powers and will cease to exist as soon as possible.

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Col. CRIPPS - Yes. I have them on hand at the moment. When could the instructions for the Prefects be ready ?

Sig. BERNARDINONE said he expected to have them ready by Monday.

Col. CRIPPS then said he had made a quick perusal of the decree of employment for wounded veterans, patriots etc. It appears to be extremely wide in its categories, it seems to include about all those between the ages of 16 and 60 in the whole nation.

Sig. BERNARDINONE - They will make an order on this decree giving directives as to implementing it.

Col. CRIPPS had the impression that 75% of any one category could be taken.

2673

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Sig. BERNARDINONE agreed.

Col. CRIPPS thought that the application of the decree required further study, and suggested that rules, similar to those established in Great Britain after the other war, may be established by which no Government contract be awarded to any contracting firm not employing a certain percentage of war invalids.

Sig. BERNARDINONE agreed and said the policy could be studied.

Col. CRIPPS asked what the views of Ministry of PWA were concerning aid to partisans in the Venezia Giulia, in particular who should be entitled to receive aid, compensation and prizes.

Sig. BERNARDINONE - did not seem to have very clear ideas on the matter, especially when partisans having fought under foreign formations were concerned.

Col. CRIPPS stated that he thought it would be equitable to pay compensation anyhow to the next of kin of fallen patriots.

Sig. BERNARDINONE agreed, but said that as the matter should be discussed in higher quarters of the Italian Government, he thought that it would have to be raised officially.

Col. CRIPPS agreed in putting the matter up officially.

Sig. BERNARDINONE and Dr. MOSCONI complained that they had been informed of cases where patriots wounded or sick, especially TBs, were being dismissed from military hospitals after 60 days even if still in need of medical or surgical attention. They were then transferred to Civilian hospitals. On the other hand the position was that all military hospitals were under 50% occupied while civilian hospitals were very over-crowded. As a result patriot patients were discharged with their wounds still open or in need of hospital attention and could not be taken into civilian hospitals for lack of available accomodation. They felt that the position should be determined officially and that military hospitals should be instructed to give treatment until required.

Col. CRIPPS said he would consider the matter, which required the co-operation of MPA however.

Sig. BERNARDINONE, before the conference closed asked if it was possible to alter the day of the weekly conference as on their days he had a Government meeting.

Col. CRIPPS agreed to hold the conference each Wednesday at the same hour.

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DRAFT

NOTES OF A MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION AND THE MINISTRY OF POST WAR AID

HELD ON 9th AUGUST 1945 AT 1600 HOURS

PRESENT	Col CRIPPS Lt Col WHITE Maj REAKES Col FAVA Capt DI ROBILANT	Sig BERNARDINONE Undersecretary for PWA dealing with Patriots Dott MOSCONI

Col. CRIPPS asked what instructions the Ministry proposed to issue to DMPRs when the territory was handed over. He pointed out that he had studied the decree instituting the Interregional, regional and provincial Committees, that he presumed that the channel of communications would be through the Prefects.

Sig. BERNARDINONE - The committees will receive their instructions directly from the Ministry of PWA and not from the Prefects. The Committees will only have temporary powers and will cease to exist as soon as possible.

Col. CRIPPS - I don't think Committees will be constituted and set up by Sept 1, so what is going to happen.

Sig. BERNARDINONE- No. They will not be set up by them. Also there is a distinction between Prefects taking over and DMPRs who for a short time will be under the jurisdiction of Prefects. DMPRs will only be administered by the Prefects, but operationally will be under the Ministry of PWA; i.e. the DMPR will draw his pay and the moneys he may need from the Prefect, who will be put in funds by the Ministry. Mail will be addressed to the Prefetture but will be dealt with by DMPRs.

3671

Col. CRIPPS said he was anxious to get instructions out to DMPRs now and tell them how they would be operating under Prefects.

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Sig. BERNARDINONE - I agree, the Ministry of PWA will prepare instructions for the Prefects.

Col. CRIPPS - Such instructions will have to be given to the Prefects through the Ministry of Interior, who have direct jurisdiction over the Prefects. In any case instructions to the Prefects in AMG territory shall pass through Local Govt. S/C i.e. through my office.Could you discuss this with whoever is going to be responsible at the Ministry of Interior for the matter and ask him to get directly in touch with me ?.

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Sig. BERNARDINONE - Yes it will be done tomorrow, and have you the instructions for DMPRs ready.

Col. CRIPPS - Yes. I have them on hand at the moment. When could the instructions for the Prefects be ready?.

Sig. BERNARDINONE said he expected to have them ready by Monday.

Col. CRIPPS then said he had made a quick perusal of the decree of employment for wounded veterans, patriots etc. It appears to be extremely wide in its categories, it seems to include about all those between the ages of 16 and 60 in the whole nation.

Sig. BERNARDINONE - They will make an order on this decree giving directives as to implementing it.

Col. CRIPPS had the impression that 75% of any one category could be taken.

Sig. BERNARDINONE agreed.

Col. CRIPPS thought that the applications of the decree required further study, and suggested that rules, similar to those established in Great Britan after the other war, may be established by which no Govt. contract be awarded to any contracting form not employing a certain percentage of war invalids.

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Col. CRIPPS asked what the views of Ministry of PWA were concerning aid to partisans in the Venezia Giulia, in paticular who should be entitled to receive aid, compensation and prizes.

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50% occupied while civilian hospitals were very overcrowded . As a result patriot patients were discussed with their woundes still open or in bad need of hospital attention and could not be taken into civilian hospitals for lack of available accomodations. They felt that the position should be determined officially and that military hospitals should be instructed to give treatment until required.

Col. CRIPPS said he would consider the matter, which required the cooperation of MMIA however.

Sig. BERNARDINONE , before the conference closed asked if it was possible to alter the day of the weekly conference as on theirsdays he had a Govt. meeting.

Col. CRIPPS agreed to hold the conference each Wednesday at the same hour.

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Draft

Notes of a meeting between representatives of Local Government Sub Commission and the Ministry of Post War Aid held on 9th August 1945 at 1600 hours.

Present	Col CRIPPS	Sig. BERNARDINONE
	Lt.Col. WHITE	Undersecretary for PWA
	Sig. REANES	dealing with Patriots
	Col. FAWA	Dott. MOSCONI.
	Capt.De Robilant	

COL.CRIPPS - asked what instructions the Ministry proposed to issue to IMPRs when the territory was handed over. He pointed out that the Decree was in some detail and that he presumed that the channel of Communications will be through Prefects.

BERNARDINONE- The committees will receive their instructions direct from the Ministry of PWA and not from Prefects. The committees will only have temporary powers and will cease to exist as soon as possible.

COL.CRIPPS - I don't think committees will be constituted and set up by 1 Sept so what is going to happen.

BERNARDINONE- No. They will not be set up by then. There is a distinction between Prefects taking over and IMPRs who will for a short time be under jurisdiction of Prefects. IMPRs will only be administered by Prefects but operationally will be under the Ministry of PWA, i.e. the IMPR will draw his pay from the Prefect who will be put in funds by the Ministry. Mail will be addressed ~~go~~ ~~through~~ Prefects ~~who~~ will be ~~post office~~ IMPR.

COL.CRIPPS - said he was anxious to get instructions out to IMPRs now and tell them they would be operating under Prefects.

3668

BERNARDINONE- I agree. The Ministry of PWA will prepare instructions for Prefects.

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COL.CRIPPS - said he was anxious to get instructions out to IMPRs now and tell them they would be operating under Prefects.

3668

BERNARDINONE- I agree. The Ministry of PWA will prepare instructions for Prefects.

COL.CRIPPS - Someone has to get this to the Prefects.

BERNARDINONE - Can you prepare such instructions.

COL.CRIPPS - Yes. I have them on hand at the moment. In so far as AMG territory is concerned they will go through Local Government Sub Commission. ~~Home Office will pass instructions through the Prefects.~~ In answer to Capt. de Robilant the Ministry for PWA stated that they expected to have their instructions ready for Monday.

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Would Volume Point

COL.CRIPPS - ~~I think~~ the Decree of employment ~~but is it~~ not ~~rather~~ wide. It seems to include those be - tween 16 and 60. a Whole nation! that all.

BERNARDINONE- They will make an order on this Decree giving directions as to implementing it.

COL.CRIPPS - had the impression that you could take 75% from any one category.

BERNARDINONE- Yes. Yes.

COL.CRIPPS - explained that the British Legion is voluntary and that no Government Contract will be given to any other firm not on the list.

BERNARDINONE- Yes.

COL.CRIPPS - 5% of disabled persons ?

COL.CRIPPS - What is to happen in VENEZIA GIULIA? Do we require to have an Office there? If an office is opened there is every likelihood that many people will come over the border which this office could not deal with.

BERNARDINONE- ~~My own view is that the answer was that~~ It would be better if the point was raised officially.

COL.CRIPPS - in reply said that in that case he would put the matter up officially.

BERNARDINONE- It is a matter which calls for careful consideration.

3667

BERNARDINONE -explained that there were cases where patriots after 60 days in hospital were or should be turned over to civilian hospitals/ These patriots were often not cured and their wounds were still open. The civil hospitals were full and could not take them or give them proper attention whereas the military hospitals were only 50% full. He thought it a question of authority

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COL.CRIPPS - said he would consider the matter.

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22A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS FRANCE

Tel. Ext. 368

Ref : 141/3/PAI

4 August 1945

Subject: Notes of Meeting

To : Prisoners of War S/C

I enclose copy of notes of a meeting with the Under Secretary of the Min. of Post War Aid for such action as you may deem necessary in connection with the complaint (contained in the last few lines of the report) that a convoy of personnel returning from N.Africa had been diverted without notice to another part so that the reception arrangements were thrown out.

B.H. WHITE
Lt Colonel
D/Director
Local Government S/C

/lb

3666

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NOTES of a MEETING between

Lt. Col. WHITE, Sig. FERRARA, and Sig. MOSCONI

2 August 1945

Sig. MOSCONI - said that there were at present time in Rome a number of foreign nationals who had fought with the partisans and who were now receiving aid and he enquired what steps should be taken to send those people home and what should be done with these who did no t wish to return to their country of origin.

Lt. Col. WHITE - pointed out that it was a Partisan problem to disarm pay and disperse them. In the case of foreign nati nals,disposal was effected ~~with~~ by passing the person to Displaced Persons who have machinery for sending them home. They were also prepared to deal with those who did not want to go back. The MPWA was responsible for dealing with welfare of both partisans and repatriates. They could deal direct with DPR S/C on this matter there was no need to deal through Patriots Branch.

Lt. Col. WHITE - referred to the fact that on the handover IMPRs would come under Prefects and said it was AMG's desire that this should take place as early as possible so that Patriot Officers should have time before the handover to see if either the IMPR or the Prefect were meeting with any difficulties. It was undesirable that the handover should not take until the day AMG moved out. Sig.FERRARA agreed but said it was still not absolutely certain whether the Prefect would act or some special office be created: the matter was under discussion between the Prime Minister the MPWA,and the Min. for War.
He suggested that no action should be taken pending the result of this discussion. Lt. Col. WHITE agreed but asked that the point might be regarded as urgent ~~decision~~. AMG regarded it as important that whoever lookover should have the b nefit of working some little time with RPOs before they were withdrawn. Sig. FERRARA said he agreed, but the decision involved matters of high political importance,he hoped it would be made in the next few days.

Lt. Col. WHITE - pointed out that there would,even after the handover and allied Officers had been withdrawn, continue to be matters in which the Allies were interested. One was the machinery for passing to the allies arms recovered after the date of the handover and the other was the machinery for signin g and issuing Alexander Certificates. Sig. FERRARA said the former would fall within the sphere of the Min. War to whom he would mention the matter. Would AC bring the point to the notice of the Land Forces S/C. The checking the service of and consequently the entitlement of Patriots to Certificates would be handed in Rome by the MPWA which would have an undersecretary specially to deal with the Partisan Affairs It would probably be most convenient for the MPWA to pass the lists of these entitled to HQAC and the latter to issue the signed certificates to them for distribution.

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3665

Lt. Col. WHITE - referred to the fact that persons were still acting as Officers of ANPI who had been either selfappointed or been appointed in some other way not in accordance with the Statutes. Sig. FERRARA agreed that these persons were acting irregularly. He was as anxious as ~~AG~~ were to stop them.

Lt. Col. WHITE - referred to an incident at Civitavecchia in which alleged partisans had forcibly boarded a steamer to enable themselves to return to Sardinia and asked, as a matter of interest what the facts were - the matter was of course one entirely for the Italian Govmt. Sig. FERRARA said that the Italian Govmt. had been caught by surprise. The facts were more or less as reported. He had no further information. He enquired whether AC considered there was any lack of liaison or information which led to the surprise. Recently a convoy returning from Africa had been diverted from Leghorn, where all arrangements had been made to receive it - without notice to the Italian Govmt. to Civitavecchia-where no arrangements were ready.

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1-7/8 24

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE MINISTRY OF P.W.A. ON [illegible] 1945

Attended by :

Col. GRIPPS
U.N. FERRARA
Doc. MINGHINI
Col. FAVA
Capt. De ROSELLANI

Col. Gripps, Asked Dr Ferrara if any provisions had been made by the Italian Govt. towards taking over the patriots problems when regions North of the Gotic Line will be returned to the Italian Administration, which is expected to be soon.

Dr. Ferrara said that administratively INPGs would pass under the jurisdiction of the local prefects, as has been done previously in other provinces, whilst it was not yet clearly established if it would be the Presidency of the Council or the Ministry for P.W.A. to whom INPGs would be responsible for their activity towards the patriots.

Col. Gripps, said that in order to be enabled to issue some definite directives to the regions, a signal would be necessary from the Ministry concerning the matter.

Mr. Ferrara assured that a letter would be written to AC stating all available information concerning the future policy of the Italian Government on the partisan problem.

Col. Gripps then asked if some sort of regional organization would be maintained.

Mr. Ferrara stated that although no definite policy had been adopted on the matter in general, he thought that the regions would be maintained, he also stated that in Lombardy an interregional organization had been set up.
The Ministry for P.W.A. had decided to appoint regional delegates of the Ministry to each Italian Region.

Col. Gripps, asked weather while Allied Officers should remain in the regions to complete their work, Regional INPGs would be allowed to remain with them.

Mr. Ferrara answered affermatively.

Col. Gripps then started that he was not satisfied with how A.N.P.I. officials were appointed. The present system was not following the rules of the Statutes, as established by the known D.L.L. instituting the A.N.P.I. It appeared that ANPI officials were appointed [illegible]

Col. Cripps, asked Dr Ferrara if any provisions had been made by the Italian Govt. towards taking over the patriots problems when regions North of the Gothic Line will be returned to the Italian Administration, which is expected to be soon.

Dr. Ferrara said that administratively AMGOT would pass under the jurisdiction of the local prefects, as has been done previously in other provinces, whilst it was not yet clearly established if it would be the Presidency of the Council or the Ministry for R.W.A. to whom AMGOT would be responsible for their activity towards the patriots.

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Dr. Ferrara answered affermatively.

Col. Cripps then stated that he was not satisfied with how A.N.P.I. officials were appointed. The present system was not following the rules of the Statutes, as established by the known D.L.L. instituting the A.N.P.I. It appeared that ANPI officials somehow appointed themselves, it also appeared that all A.N.P.I. officials seemed to belong to only one political party.

Dr. Mosconi explained that the situation, although not normal because of the impossibility of holding local elections, had been somewhat improved since the conference that was held soon after the liberation between the ANPI officials of the North and the South from which a Central Committee of 17 members had arisen, where it seemed that all recognized parties were fearly equally represented on the Committee. It was to be hoped that the situation would now improve also in the the outside branches.

Col. Cripps, said he was planning to go to the North sometime next week, and he wished on the occasion to investigate the ANPI situation. He suggested that perhaps it would be useful if he would be accompanied on the trip

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by Mr. Ferrara, or by another official of the P.W.A. Ministry.

Mr. Ferrara thanked Col. Cripps for the offer and said he would arrange to go himself or send Dr. Mosconi.

Col. Cripps finally asked if any news had been received concerning the institution of partisan commands in Italian regions, south of the Gothic Line, and in the Islands where there had been no active partisan movement what so ever.

Mr. Ferrara stated that he had heard of some such organisations which apparently had been created by former partisans who had been repatriated from the North. The organisations claimed to be only wellfare organisations in which case little or nothing could be done against their existence, but if the above organisations should have proved to have other and illegal tasks, they would become a matter for the Police and Public Security to deal with. The matter any way was not a direct responsibility of the P.W.A. Ministry who could only signal it to the Ministry for Interior for any necessary action.

/lb

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref : 141/3/PAT

Tel. No. 489081
Ext. 321

Subject: Meeting between Colonel CRIPPS and Sig FERRARA

20th July, 1945.

To : Sig FERRARA,
Under Secretary of Post War Assistance.
ROME

-19A

Attached is copy of Summary of our meeting of the 17th July.

1. Would you be good enough to confirm that those records correctly represent your views as expressed at this meeting.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel.,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

/dmw.

MR

6V

(see folio 18 and 13)

3662

NOTES OF A MEETING BETWEEN UNDER SECRETARY OF POST WAR
ASSISTANCE (MR. FERRARA), COLONEL CRIPPS
AND MR. MONSCHI
17 JUL 45.

Col. CRIPPS said that he would find weekly meetings between himself and the Minister of Post War Assistance (PWA) helpful and asked Sig Ferrara his views on the proposal. It was agreed that such meetings would be useful and it was arranged that they would be held at the Ministry at 1500 hours every Thursday.

Col. CRIPPS then enquired as to the proposed organisation of the Ministry both centrally and particularly in the Field. It was important that we should be able to inform our Italian Military Patriot Representatives (IMPRs) to whom they would be responsible when the time came for us to hand over the North of Italy.

Sig. FERRARA said that so far as the central organisation was concerned the organisation was not yet complete but all communications should be addressed to the Minister or the Chief of Cabinet of the Ministry. There would be an office in Milan under Mr Chiabof for the whole of AMG territory but there was no intention of appointing special officers in the Provinces. The IMPRs would come under the superintendance of the Prefects who would also take charge of their records. In this sphere of his work the Prefect would be responsible to the President of the Council of Ministers. It was intended to run the organisation apolitically.

Col. CRIPPS asked whether the Milan office would take over the functions at present exercised by General Cadorna's office in Milan. In reply Sig Ferrara distinguished between the functions of the two offices. General Cadorna's office was responsible to the Ministry of War and dealt with matters of policy which affected Patriots as a whole, such as decisions as to the policy as to pay, bonuses, medals, recognition of equivalent ranks etc., whereas his office would be concerned with the rights and welfare of the individual patriot after disparmal.

Col. CRIPPS referred to the payments which had been made to Patriots in Piemonte by the CMRP and said that he understood that their records were not complete and he enquired how double payment could be avoided. He was told that where it was discovered that a double payment had been made the CMRP had undertaken to recover and repay the amount to the Italian Government. Orders have been given that every care shall be taken to avoid double payments being made.

Sig. FERRARA then raised the question of the mode and time of payments. The Government was anxious to ensure that the payments actually reached and benefitted the individual patriot and were not diverted to serve political ends. Colonel Cripps said that the money was always paid to individuals and cited the example of VERONA where payment was by means of a banker's order and the man himself collected the money from the bank. There was delay in paying injured who were still in hospital but this was with the intention that the man himself should have the benefit of the money when he left hospital and should not find that it had been squandered before he got out.

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Minister of Post War Assistance (Italy) [illegible]
views on the proposal. It was agreed that such meetings would be useful and it was arranged that they would be held at the Ministry at 1600 hours every Thursday.

Col. GRIPPS then enquired as to the proposed organisation of the Ministry both centrally and particularly in the field. It was important that we should be able to inform our Italian Military Patriot Representatives (IMPRs) to whom they would be responsible when the time came for us to hand over the North of Italy.

Sig. PERTAFA said that so far as the central organisation was concerned the organisation was not yet complete but all communications should be addressed to the Minister or the Chief of Cabinet of the Ministry. There would be an office in Milan under Mr Chiabof for the whole of AMG territory but there was no intention of appointing special officers in the provinces. The IMPRs would come under the superintendance of the Prefects who would also take charge of their records. In this sphere of his work the Prefect would be responsible to the President of the Council of Ministers. It was intended to run the organisation apolitically.

Col. GRIPPS asked whether the Milan office would take over the functions at present exercised by General Cadorna's office in Milan. In reply Sig. Pertafa distinguished between the functions of the two offices. General Cadorna's office was responsible to the Ministry of War and dealt with matters of policy which affected patriots as a whole, such as decisions as to the policy as to pay, bonuses, medals, recognitions of equivalent ranks etc., whereas his office would be concerned with the rights and welfare of the individual patriot after dispersal.

Col. GRIPPS referred to the payments which had been made to Patriots in Piemonte by the CMRR and said that he understood that their records were not complete and he enquired how double payment could be avoided. He was told that where it was discovered that a double payment had been made the CMRR had undertaken to recover and repay the amount to the Italian Government. Orders have been given that every care shall be taken to avoid double payments being made.

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Sig. MOSCONI said that in PIEMONTE 30,000 persons had been paid on the lower scale. Colonel GRIPPS said that the payment of the balance was in hand.

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18A

HEAD QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Tel No 489081
Ext. 321

11 July 1945

Ref : 141/3/PAT

Subject : Meeting between Colonel CRIPPS and Mr. LUSSU.

To : Mr. LUSSU, Minister for Post War Assistance
ROME

Attached is copy of a Summary of our meeting of the 10 of July.

1 Would you be good enough to confirm that these records correctly represent your views as expressed at this meeting.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

BF
AT
/mlo.

3660

Where we have to write a covering letter like this - ~~[illegible]~~ see folio 13.
MEF 7/8/45

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HEAD QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LEGAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

188

Ref : 141/2/[illegible]

11th July 1945.

[illegible]
[illegible] 10 JULY 1945

Present: Signor [illegible], Minister for Post War Assistance.
Colonel R.P. CRIPPS, Director, Patriots Branch.
Colonel G. [illegible].
Captain [illegible].

COLONEL CRIPPS stated that his visit was in the nature of a courtesy call in order to introduce himself to the Minister. Colonel CRIPPS explained that the subject of Patriots was one of his particular responsibilities and he would therefore like to know to which of the Minister's officials letters of ordinary routine business concerning Patriots would be referred.

SIGNOR [illegible] stated in reply that matters of permanent and immediate importance would be dealt with personally by him and he would be glad if Colonel CRIPPS' office would telephone to him at any time when the matter was of real urgency. The Under Secretaries [illegible] and [illegible] would deal with matters executively. As far as detail matters were concerned Mr. [illegible] would be the Director General of the Patriot Department in the Ministry. Signor [illegible] said that there would always be present in the Ministry one or both of the Under Secretaries when he, the Minister, was absent. He anticipated being away in the near future for varying periods.

SIGNOR [illegible] stated that he had already appointed Signor [illegible] as a permanent delegate of the Ministry in the North. He will have offices in Milan.

COLONEL CRIPPS suggested that it would be useful if Mr. [illegible] was put in touch with the Regional Commissioners.

COLONEL CRIPPS then raised the question of the payment of Patriot bonuses to [illegible] individuals claiming to have taken part in patriot activities in countries other than [illegible]. Colonel CRIPPS stated that in his view [illegible] should not [illegible] these individuals except in very exceptional circumstances such as those persons who had formed part of the [illegible] Garibaldi Division in Jugoslavia and had recently been repatriated. In his opinion, there formed a recognised Italian Patriot band. The Division was very largely composed of soldiers in service at the time of the Armistice (8 Sept 1943) and arrangements had accordingly been made to pay their back-pay from military sources. There, however, they were not in service and had completed the obligatory 6 months service in the Division he had ordered that they should be paid as Patriots.

SIGNOR [illegible] was entirely in accord with this decision and went on to say that it was his opinion that only members of recognised Italian formations should be acknowledged as Patriots.

[illegible] said that [illegible] single or stray individuals entering Italy

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COLONEL CHIPPS stated that his visit was in the nature of a courtesy call in order to introduce himself to the Minister. Colonel CHIPPS explained that the subject of Patriots was one of his particular responsibilities and he would therefore like to know to which of the Minister's officials matters of ordinary routine business concerning Patriots would be referred.

SIGNOR LUSSU stated in reply that matters of permanent and immediate importance would be dealt with personally by him and he would be glad if Colonel CHIPPS' office would telephone to him at any time when the matter was of real urgency. The Under Secretaries BERNARDINES and FENICIA would deal with matters executively. As far as detail matters were concerned Dr. [illegible] would be the Director General of the Patriot Department in the Ministry. Signor LUSSU said that there would always be present in the Ministry one or both of the Under Secretaries when he, the Minister, was absent. He anticipated being away in the near future for varying periods.

SIGNOR LUSSU stated that he had already appointed Signor CHIARDI as a permanent delegate of the Ministry in the North. He will have offices in Milan.

COLONEL CHIPPS suggested that it would be useful if Mr. CHIARDI was put in touch with the Regional Commandants.

COLONEL CHIPPS then raised the question of the payment of Patriot bonuses to Italian individuals claiming to have taken part in patriot activities in countries other than Italy. Colonel CHIPPS stated that in his view these should not [illegible] individuals except in very exceptional circumstances such as those persons who had formed part of the D'Italia Garibaldi Division in Yugoslavia and had recently been repatriated. In this opinion, these formed a recognized Italian Patriot body. The Division was very largely composed of soldiers in service at the time of the Armistice (8 Sept 1943) and arrangements had accordingly been made to pay their back-pay from military sources. There, however, they were not in service but had completed the obligatory 6 months service in the Division he had ordered that they should be paid as Patriots.

SIGNOR LUSSU was entirely in accord with this decision and went on to say that it was his opinion that only members of recognized Italian formations should be acknowledged as Patriots.

COLONEL CHIPPS said that concerning single or stray individuals entering Italy who report to Allied or Italian authorities and claim to be Partisans he would like to suggest that a full record of each individual be taken and forwarded for examination and/or documentation to some central office.

SIGNOR LUSSU agreed and suggested that the office be that of his delegate in the North, Signor CHIARDI, at Milan.

COLONEL CHIPPS then stated that he proposed to advise his Regional Patriot Officers accordingly in regard to these individuals and that as far as persons entering Italy in formed bands were concerned he would issue instructions to his Regional Patriot Officers that in no case in the future would they pay Patriot bonuses to such persons without first referring the matter to the Patriot Branch of the Allied

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Commission. This would provide an opportunity both to the Allied Commission and to the Italian Government to study the matter before making any decision.

COLONEL GRIFFITH said that he would like to know the Minister's plan for the hand-over of Patriot work when the Italian Administration takes over further territory from AMG. He felt it was a matter of immediate consideration.

SIGNOR LUSSU replied that the problem was of such importance that he intended to deal with it personally.

COLONEL GRIFFITH suggested that in future it would be of advantage if meetings were held weekly with the Under Secretary FERRARA and SIGNOR LUSSU. As he understood the offices of the Ministry were likely to be somewhat overcrowded he would be very glad to offer the use of his own office for this purpose. The conference should be simple and in the nature of a round table discussion for the purpose of dealing with current items and should facilitate an exchange of views on policy.

SIGNOR LUSSU agreed. And then stated that he proposed to go to the North from 16 - 20 July. During the period 18, 19 and 20 it would probably be useful if he could meet Colonel GRIFFITH in MILAN.

COLONEL GRIFFITH agreed that he would like to do this but would have to refer the matter to his Vice President in view of the fact that a high percentage of his staff were at present away on surveys connected with local government matters and it might therefore be a little difficult to be away from HQ at that time.

SIGNOR LUSSU told Colonel GRIFFITH that if he desired it, one of the Under Secretaries of the Ministry would travel with him in order to discuss on the spot immediate problems.

SIGNOR LUSSU summarised the points covered in the above notes and added that it was his intention to deal firmly with all bogus partisans, to prosecute and eliminate them. His intention being to give real prestige to bona fide partisans; he was particularly anxious to stamp out all forms of extortion.

R.R.G.

R.R. GRIFFITH, Colonel.
Director
Local Government Sub Commission.

Distribution

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SIGNOR LUSSU — agreed. And then stated that he proposed to go to the North from 16 - 20 July. During the period 18, 19 and 20 it would probably be useful if he could meet Colonel CRIPPS in MILAN.

COLONEL CRIPPS — agreed that he would like to do this but would have to refer the matter to his Vice President in view of the fact that a high percentage of his staff were at present away on surveys connected with local government matters and it might therefore be a little difficult to be away from HQ at that time.

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R.R.C.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel.
Director
Local Government Sub Commission.

Distribution

Signor LUSSU. Minister for Post War Assistance.
Civil Affairs Section.
Liaison Officer, Patriots Branch.

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17A

Notes of interview between Col. Cripps,
Director, Local Government Sub Commission
and Sig. MOSCONI, Director General,
Patriots, Ministry of Post War Assistance.

5th July, 1945.

Also present:
Capt. DiRobilant
Col. Fava.

1. Col. Cripps explained that he had several points that he wished to get straight regarding Patriots in the North. The first problem related to those individuals returning from other countries, stating that they have been doing underground work on Patriot activities. They are turning up in some of the Patriot Centres and demanding pay as Patriots. Col. Cripps said he would like to know what the Italian Government had in mind with respect to such people. Do they agree that Italian nationals returning from other countries were not entitled to Patriot payments, etc.?

2. Sig. MOSCONI said he agreed. He went on to say that the problem needed an adequate solution, and said he thought there should be a clause of reciprocity included that those subjects who were members of foreign formations should receive the same treatment as Italian Patriots.

3. Sig. MOSCONI further stated that it was his understanding that a directive had been issued covering this point by Patriot HQ in the North: this allowed payment to foreign nationals serving with Patriot Bands in Italy and outlined the procedure to be adopted with regard to such individuals.

4. Col. Cripps stated that the Garibaldi Division had disbanded and were coming into the province of Udine from Yugoslavia, where they have an official stand-down parade day after tomorrow. It was understood that they were practically all serving at the time of the Armistice, and it was intended to pay them at their military rates for the period of time they were serving. Col. Cripps said he did not think they should also be paid as Patriots for the

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

those individuals returning from other countries, stating that they have been doing underground work on Patriot activities. They are turning up in some of the Patriot Centres and demanding pay as Patriots. Col. Cripps said he would like to know what the Italian Government had in mind with respect to such people. Do they agree that Italian nationals returning from other countries were not entitled to Patriot payments, etc.?

2. Sig. MOSCONI said he agreed. He went on to say that the problem needed an adequate solution, and said he thought there should be a clause of reciprocity included that those subjects who were members of foreign formations should receive the same treatment as Italian Patriots.

3. Sig. MOSCONI further stated that it was his understanding that a directive had been issued covering this point by Patriot HQ in the North: this allowed payment to foreign nationals serving with Patriot Bands in Italy and outlined the procedure to be adopted with regard to such individuals.

4. Col. Cripps stated that the Garibaldi Division had disbanded and were coming into the province of Udine from Yugoslavia, where they have an official stand-down parade day after tomorrow. It was understood that they were practically all serving at the time of the Armistice, and it was intended to pay them at their military rates for the period of time they were serving. Col. Cripps said he did not think they should also be paid as Patriots for the same period of time. This will be an exception to the decision NOT to pay repatriates for their previous underground activity in foreign countries.

5. Sig. MOSCONI stated that technically, if any compensation should be paid, it should be paid by the Yugoslav Government. But if they were not going to pay them, then the Patriots should have their compensation from the Italian Government.

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6. Col. Cripps stated he was anxious to know what would happen with IMPRs in the end.

7. Sig. MOSCONI stated that concerning IMPRs., the Chief of Cabinet of the Ministry of Occupied Italy had informed Col. Pava that, following arrangements and discussions between SCOCCIMARRO and the Under-Secretary of the new Ministry for Post War Assistance, they decided that the whole assistance of Patriots should be transferred from the former Ministry of Occupied Italy to the new Ministry for Post War Assistance. Therefore, the IMPRs will become a part of the Assistance Ministry and will weigh on that budget, while their payment may be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Ministry for Post War Assistance and would weigh on what is left of the funds which have been appropriated originally by the Ministry of Occupied Italy for assistance purposes.

8. It was agreed that Sig. MOSCONI should inquire of the Ministry of War whether or not the instructions issued by them to A.N.P.I. on 15 May 1945 were actually in effect and being followed, or whether they were still under discussion.

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of Patriots should be transferred from the former Ministry of Occupied Italy to the new Ministry for Post War Assistance. Therefore, the DMTs will become a part of the Assistance Ministry and will weigh on that budget, while their payment may be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Ministry for Post War Assistance and would weigh on what is left of the funds which have been appropriated originally by the Ministry of Occupied Italy for assistance purposes.

8. It was agreed that Sig. MORONI should inquire of the Ministry of War whether or not the instructions issued by them to A.N.P.I. on 15 May 1945 were actually in effect and being followed, or whether they were still under discussion.

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141/3/PAT

MEMORANDUM FOR COL. CRIPPS.

49/3/PAT - FAA

1 Explanations were requested from the Ministry of War of the letter addressed to A.N.P.I. of 15 May 1945, especially regarding back payments of patriots who on 8 - 9 - 43 were not on active service.

2 The Ministry of War replied that the letter had been written following a meeting attended by the representatives of the Forces, of Ministry of Occupied Italy, of the Treasury and of the Presidency of the Council.

3 The issue of the meeting was the letter written by Mr. SPATARO to A.C. and following conference attended by Mr. Spataro, Lt. Col. White, and the Finance S/C representative.

4. Since then no more was heard by the Presidency of the Council, and, as stated in the above mentioned letter, the matter cannot become executive until the implementation of the decree, and appointment of the committee instituted with D.L.L. 5/4/45 No 158.

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G. FAVA,
Colonel,
Liaison Officer.

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141/3

15A

Ministero dell'Italia Occupata

Ufficio

Prot. N.° E/31- / A.I.

Allegati N.°

Risposta al N.° 141/3. PAT

del 18 June"45 Uff

OGGETTO

Roma, 23 June 1945

Al TO Lt. Col L.H. WHITE

A.C. = Local Government S/C

Patriots Branch

R O M E

23 JUN 1945

23 JUN 1945

Dear Colonel,

13A

I received your letter 141/3/ Pat dated 18 June.

I see that our views completely agree and thank you very much for your kindness during the meeting of 15 June last.

With the best regards, I remain

very truly yours

(Dr. Rocco Curcio)

Rocco Curcio

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

Ufficio
Prot. N.° E. 31- / A.I.
Allegati N.°
Risposta al N.° I4I/3. PAT
del I8 June"45

R O M E

OGGETTO

Dear Colonel,

13A

I received your letter I4I/3/ Pat dated I8 June.

I see that our views completely agree and thank you very much for your kindness during the meeting of I5 June last.

With the best regards, I remain

very truly yours

(Dr. Rocco Curcio)

Rocco Curcio

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

141/3

14A

SUMMARY OF THE CONFERENCE HAD BY
H.E. MERICI and COL. CHIPPS held
AT THE LATTER'S OFFICE ON 16 JUNE 45.

Col; CHIPPS told HE that returning from an extensive tour in the North he needed a few explanations on financial matters, which had been noticed especially in PIEMONTE. Were the payments upon recognised scales made by the CLN or by HQs of the CVL ~~were~~ being recognised as legal by the Italian Government, also when made with money which had been borrowed from Banks at a rate of interest of 4%?

H.E. MERICI said that such payments would be recognised and therefore reimbursed by the Italian Government who would also repay the interest at which it had been borrowed, provided the loans were done in legal form and could be legally proved.

Col. CHIPPS asked what attitude the MCCI would take where money, when obtained from voluntary subscriptions were used by CLN to pay subventions and compensations to Patriots.

H.E. MERICI replied that such money could not be refunded.

Col. CHIPPS said that Gen. ALEXANDER had instructed that Alexander certificates could only be issued to those patriots who had been for six months or more on active service with partisan units, while the demobilisation bonus of 8000 lire would be paid after three months of active service. He ~~was~~ suggested that such a condition was liable to create discontent amongst the patriots as those who served for many months with the regular partisan formations would ~~be~~ feel entitled to higher compensation than those who had only served for the last few months in the towns, with the GAPs and SAPs and therefore had had a much easier life, and the possibility of earning wages while not engaged on specific partisan activity.

HE MERICI replied quoting the financial decree establishing that ~~the~~ compensations to patriots should be paid upon the evidence of the rolls of partisan brigades, and therefore not including either the GAPs nor the SAPs; the decree was going to be published and become executive in the next few days.

Col. CHIPPS said, that he remembered something had been mentioned by which the necessary time entitling the demobilisation bonus was up to June 1st ~~was going~~, i.e. that after mid-night of 31 May patriots' activity should not count in the award of demobilisation bonuses.

HE MERICI replied that he even considered such time as being

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

therefore reimbursed by the Italian Government, also repay the interest at which it had been borrowed, provided the loans were done in legal form and could be legally proved.

Col. CRIPPS asked what attitude the ICCI would take where money obtained from voluntary subscriptions were used by CLN to pay subventions and compensations to Patriots.

H.E. MR ICCI replied that such money could not be refunded.

Col. CRIPPS said that Gen. ALEXANDER had instructed that Alexander certificates could only be issued to those patriots who had been for six months or more on active service with partisan units. While the demobilisation bonus of 5000 lire would be paid after three months of active service. He suggested that such a condition was liable to create discontent amongst the patriots as those who served for many months with the regular partisan formations would feel entitled to higher compensation than those who had only served for the last few months in the towns, with the GAPs and SAPs and therefore had had a much easier life, and the possibility of earning wages while not engaged on specific partisan activity.

MR MEDICI replied quoting the financial decree establishing that compensations to patriots should be paid upon the evidence of the rolls of partisan brigades, and therefore not including either the GAPs nor the SAPs; the decree was going to be published and become executive in the next few days.

Col. CRIPPS said, that he remembered something had been mentioned by which the necessary time entitling the demobilisation bonus was up to June 1st, i.e. that after mid-night of 31 May patriots' activity should not count on the award of demobilisation bonuses.

MR MEDICI replied that he even considered such time as being too advanced.

Col. CRIPPS then pointed out, that from April 30 to May 31st only those patriots who had been employed for special armed services, and as police, patriot or guard duties would be entitled to have the period after April 30st accounted towards the bonus, if they did not serve the necessary time previously. And they would only be a small minority with whom he felt, it could be afforded to be slightly generous.

MR MEDICI agreed.

Col. CRIPPS then mentioned that in Northern Italy AMG Public Safety Officers had come up against real cases of black mail where local CLNs were sending out orders to pay in

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considerable sums of money for the assistance to patriots upon the strength of decrees issued by the CLN at the time of the insurrection. AMG has issued a proclamation by which all decrees issued by CLN were no longer valid. He then said that those who issued the requests for funds would be singularly and personally warned by AMG to refrain immediately from those particular requests and in case of disobedience would be considered as breaking the AMG regulations and would be treated accordingly.

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13A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

141/3/PAT 18 Jun 45

Dear Sir, 13B

I enclose herewith a note of the meeting between us on 15 June which I hope may be of use to you.

Perhaps you will let me know if it contains any point which is not in accord with your recollection or which does not quite correctly represent your views.

Yours very truly

Dr. CURCIO
Ministry of Occupied Italy.
ROME

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

121/3

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 15 JUNE 45
BETWEEN LT COL S.H. WHITE AND Dr. CURCIO

FWOA 121/1

Dr. CURCIO referred to Allied Commission letter 121/15/PAT of 12 Jun 45, and handed the reply showing how the criticisms and comments had been met. He asked whether the decree could now be issued, and was informed that his letter would be studied and a reply sent.

Dr. CURCIO said that the decree authorising the issue of a medal to patriots had been passed, and was in course of issue. No contract for the manufacture of the ribbon had been granted; it was open to any manufacturer to make the ribbon, and any person could buy it in the shops. Lt Col WHITE enquired what means of distribution was in contemplation and was informed that there were none. He pointed out that Associazione Nazionale Partigiani Italiani (Patriots' Welfare Committee) might be a satisfactory channel of distribution. J/Comd [illegible] enquired whether the poster informing patriots of the steps that they should take to obtain a ribbon, had yet been printed and was informed that as no decision had been reached yet with regard to the distribution of the medal it had not been possible to prepare the poster.

Dr. CURCIO referred to alleged shortage of notes in Apulia. In reply to enquiry he said that the principal designations short were the smaller ones, in particular those for 100 lire and 500 lire. Lt Col WHITE said that he had already spoken to the Finance Sub Commission on the matter and they would take steps to ensure that there were no deficiencies.

Dr. CURCIO said that the Under-Secretary of State proposed to go to Milan on a Monday. A point which was causing him particular concern was the insufficiency of sleeping accommodation. He asked whether Allied Commission could place accommodation at the disposal of patriots. Lt Col WHITE said that administrative details such as that were a matter for the Regional Commissioner on the spot. Perhaps the Under-Secretary of State would find time to discuss the matter with the Regional Commissioner when he was in Milan.

Dr. CURCIO then referred again to the decree authorising payment of bonuses to patriots and asked whether the same might now be published, and was informed that he would have a reply as soon as the Ministry's letter had been studied.

NOTES OF A MEETING
between
Lt.Col. S.H. WHITE and H.E. SPATARO.

11 June 1945.

2A 49/3
~~FSEA~~ of 121/t/PAT

Lt.Col. WHITE referred to HE letter of 6 June 45 and said that he desired to discuss the questions raised but in order to do so he first wanted a little further information. The letter referred to pay for "civilian" patriots but the period and scale was not mentioned. HE said that the pay would be the military rate of the rank equivalent to the duty performed for the full period over which those duties were performed.

Lt.Col. WHITE pointed out that the patriots had been maintained for a considerable time by funds from various sources and and that in particular the Allies had provided considerable funds from which payments had been made to patriots in many cases at a rate higher than that which was now being discussed. It was considered that credit should be given for any such pay when calculating the sum payable. HE agreed, in principle.

Lt.Col. WHITE then referred to the proposal that these payments should be made by IMPRs. He pointed out that the IMPRs had not the staff or time to investigate past payments and could not accept the responsibility for saying that the amounts shown to be due were correct. He asked why the present paying organisation could not continue to pay. HE said that payment by IMPRs would be an assurance to the Allies that the money was being properly spent. They would also act as a check on the CLN or other officials some of whom were inclined to be a bit irresponsible sometimes over "generous" and not always impartial.

Lt. Col. WHITE said that IMPRs could not be responsible to two masters. If they were paying out very substantial sums for the Italian Government they must be responsible to the Italian Government for the prompt and correct payment of claims.

Lt. O'CONNOR (Finance) pointed out that state employees who joined the patriots would be entitled to arrears of their civil pay. Provision should be made to ensure that patriots were not paid under two heads. He also pointed out the arrangements for payment of arrears of civil pay by instalments to avoid the inflationary effect of the release of considerable sums at one time. He was of opinion that a similar safeguard would be desirable in this case.

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Lt.Col. WHITE said that he noticed from the letter that a sum of two milliardes was mentioned. He thought that the release

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would be the military rate of the rank equivalent to the duty performed for the full period over which those duties were performed.

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Lt.Col. WHITE said that he noticed from the letter that a sum of two milliardes was mentioned. He thought that the release of so large a sum in a relatively short time might have an adverse effect and he enquired whether the Treasury and the Finance Sub Commission had been consulted and approved. He also enquired whether credit had been given for the very considerable payments already made. HE said that neither the Treasury nor the Finance S/C has as yet been consulted. He was not satisfied that the sum mentioned had taken payments already made into account. The figure of two milliardes was to indicate the size of the problem, it was not an estimate. He hoped the sum would be considerably less.

Lt. O'CONNOR enquired whether payments could not be made through the existing channel of the Intendenti. Lt.Col. White said that it might have an important psychological effect in assisting the patriot to settle down in civil life if payments were made

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through a usual civil channel rather than through special military, patriot or CLN channels. Lt.Col. White said that while DPPs could not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the claims he would have no objection to the necessity for countersignature of the claim as a check on the person preparing the account provided the signature went only to the fact that the claimant was a patriot and the amount of the claim appeared reasonable. HE agreed to this provided it was not published to the DPPs or to the persons preparing the claims; the deterrent effect would be lost if it were thought that the signature was a mere empty formality. Lt.Col. White said he would suggest a form of certificate.

Lt.Col. WHITE then referred to the decree as to bonuses and suggested that under the Decree as worded a wounded patriot appeared to be entitled to both the 5,000 and 10,000 grants. HE said that this was not the intention, he would look into the matter.

Lt.Col. WHITE also said that para 2 of Art 3 did not mention the missing or those killed by way of reprisals or those dying as a result of wounds or illness contracted on service. He thought the wording in the Ministers letter better. HE said he would look into the matter. The decree had been passed by the Council of Ministers but it was still possible to amend it.

Lt.Col. WHITE said that Art 5 appeared to be inappropriate. DPPs were at present employed by AC it was not appropriate to lay down their duties by decree. Art 5 was purely administrative in nature it would be more appropriate for AC to issue the matter contained in this Art to DPPs as an administrative instruction. HE said he appreciated the point and the Art would be deleted. He enquired whether AC would be making these representations formally and was answered affirmitively.

HE then referred to a problem which had arisen. It was the intention of the Italian Government to commence relief works in the North to ensure the re-employment of a number of patriots and to assist in bringing about their dispersal. The works in question were all of a public utility nature, reconstruction of roads, railways, bridges, tunnels etc. For this work there were in North Italy ample supplies of cement but the Italian Government had been informed that the whole supply was "frozen" for exportation for reconstruction work in Austria. HE added that representations should be made apart from the necessity for these works the finding of work for patriots was an important factor in preserving good order in the North.

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S.H. WHITE
Lt Col
D/Director
Local Government S/C

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HEA QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Tel. No. 439081
Int. 321

11 Giugno 1945.

Ref : 141/3.

Oggetto: Dr. Garcio.

Al : Ministero dell'Italia Occupata
Gabinetto.

Si trasmette, per conoscenza, alcune note sulla visita del Dr. Garcio a questo Ufficio.

R.R. CRIPPS,
Colonel,
Director,
Local Govt. S.C.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

NOTES ON VISIT OF Dr. CURCIO TO PATRIOTS BRANCH.

1. Dr. Curcio visited Patriots' Branch on 9 June and informed Lt Col White that reports had been received at the Ministry of Occupied Italy, through General Parri, (who had just come from Milan,) anticipating disquiet and trouble among Patriots, the cause of which was said to be a failure to make payments to them.

2. Dr. Curcio said that he had been in Milan on 7th June and had spoken with Lt Col de Garston who told him that increased bonuses had been authorised, but that it was not known how the funds should be obtained. Dr. Curcio had not spoken with Col. Cripps in Milan.

3. Dr. Curcio stated that the Ministry was proposing to give Gen. Parri 60,000,000 lire in the form of drafts, which he would take by air to Milan to-day, and that if he were not permitted to do so, the Ministry of Occupied Italy could not be responsible for any trouble that might occur in connection with patriots.

4. Lt. Col. White, after consultation with Brig. Upjohn, informed Dr. Curcio that it was quite unnecessary to take funds to the North; that there was plenty of currency available, the AMG Authorities and Italian Military Patriot Representatives were aware of how it should be drawn; all that was required was to draw the money and pay out to the Patriots. Lt. Col. White further showed Dr. Curcio signal No. 1039 received on 5 June from Lombardia, stating that they were proposing to start paying bonuses at the increased rate on 4 June, and A.C. signal No. 9153 of 5 June authorising them to do so.

5. Dr. Curcio agreed that on arrival in Milan Gen. Parri would contact the Regional Commissioner and the Partisan leaders and ensure that the procedure for payment as laid down by A.C. was fully understood. He would also probably go to Turin and Venezia for a similar purpose. In no case would he draw on the draft funds he carried without the agreement of the Allied authorities concerned.

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BU for Col Cripps
RP 9/6

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- 2 JUN Recd

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION

PATRIOTS BRANCH

File

Notes on conversation on 1 JUNE 1945
between Colonel CRIPPS and H. E. CHIRI,
High Commissioner for War Veterans.

COL. CRIPPS informed H.E. that he had received a letter from the Regional Commissioner of TOSCANA Region querying what is to be done with the Patriot Centre at FLORENCE. This Centre is accommodating 150-200 Patriots per day. It had been suggested that the centre should close down on 10 June, for residents at any rate, as this was the date when military rations cease. The Regional Commissioner had said in his letter that if it was thought that this date was too early to close the camp, he would carry on on civilian rations.

The question of rations for Patriots was being investigated and we were trying to find out whether the Food Sub-Commission would be able to carry the load of Patriot rations; failing this AMG would be asked if we may be allowed to carry on with the Patriot military ration. Colonel CRIPPS added that so far as the provision of a ration by the Food Sub-Commission was concerned, they were trying to build up a reasonable ration from civilian rations available; nevertheless, some items, such as milk, would be lacking.

The question of feeding, in the opinion of Colonel CRIPPS, did not really arise since there would be either the military ration or a ration supplied by Food Sub-Commission. There was little chance of neither of these extra rations being made available, and in any case the ordinary civilian ration would be available.

Colonel CRIPPS thought it was as well to keep the camp going and said it was a good opportunity for H.E.'s staff to step in and take control of it.

H. E. CHIRI said that if AMG was thinking of handing over, they would like to take over the whole thing, equipment, etc., and run the camp. HE.E. enquired whether there were many more centres in Northern Italy.

COL. CRIPPS said that there were many Patriot camps in the North but there was some doubt as to how many would remain open. Col. CRIPPS said that there were 7 barracks in MILAN but he had suggested this be reduced to 4.

COL. CRIPPS said that H.E. would be able to get an idea of the position of the camp at FLORENCE on his trip and suggested the establishment of an office in FLORENCE. Colonel CRIPPS said that he would write to FLORENCE suggesting the camp should be taken over by the High Commissioner for War Veterans.

H. E. CHIRI said that he had heard a lot about the camp at FLORENCE and had been told that it was an excellent camp.

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COL. CRIPPS suggested that H.E. might like to see what was happening in PESCIA camp as he himself was rather in the dark concerning it. Colonel CRIPPS added that he saw no reason for keeping it open, except that there were some

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COL. CRIPPS suggested that H.E. might like to see what was happening in PESCIA camp as he himself was rather in the dark concerning it. Colonel CRIPPS added that he saw no reason for keeping it open, except that there were some Patriots in hospital there. Colonel CRIPPS said that the hospital was being run by the Ministry of Occupied Italy; originally supplied by army medical supply, it had since received supplies from UNRRA.

H. E. CHIRI said that he foresaw that a great number of people requiring hospitalisation would come from GERMANY and it would have to be discussed who would take care of them; hospital accommodation would have to be made available.

H. E. CHIRI said that he thought he would like to take over the camp at FLORENCE.

COL. CRIPPS suggested that when H.E. was in FLORENCE he should find out whether they were ready to hand over on 10 June.

H. E. CHIRI said he would stop at FLORENCE on his way backfrom Northern Italy.

COL. CRIPPS said that by that time Colonel KIRKWOOD would have received a letter from him (Colonel CRIPPS) concerning the hand-over of the camp.

/COL. CRIPPS informed.....

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COL. CRIPPS informed H.E. that while he was visiting the camp at FLORENCE he would no doubt be afforded an opportunity to inspect the complete documentation of Patriots which had been made by IMPRs. These would provide the information H.E. required concerning the grades of trades, etc., which was necessary for the planning of future employment of soldier and patriot veterans.

H. E. CHIRI said that he would call on Colonel CRIPPS when he returned to ROME after his visit to the North.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION
(PATRIOTS BRANCH)

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R. R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION
(PATRIOTS BRANCH)

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION

PATRIOTS BRANCH

Notes of Conversation between

Colonel CRIPPS and H.E. CHIRI, High Commissioner for War Veterans

30 May 1945

H. E. CHIRI said that he intended to visit the North, probably leaving tomorrow, that he was interested in the welfare of veterans, both ex-POW and Patriots, and that he thought that Colonel CRIPPS might have some suggestions to make for this visit.

COL. CRIPPS pointed out that WMD & IPW Sub-Commission were responsible for ex-POW veterans and Patriots Branch responsible only for Patriots; Patriots are, in certain circumstances, considered veterans and when in transit are handled as ex-soldiers and, for convenience in making trains available, as refugees.

H. E. CHIRI said that he spoke of veterans as a whole and he was interested in what could be done to assist them generally.

COL. CRIPPS considered that the matter was much the concern of the Ministry for Occupied Italy, since they were handling the demobilisation of Patriots.

H. E. CHIRI said that he had already established contact. He would, however, like to be put in contact with regions regarding absorption and welfare of army veterans and Patriots. H.E. said that he had at his disposal some financial means which could be used for assisting Patriots and veterans.

COL. CRIPPS thought it was a little early to issue instructions in the North, since the whole matter regarding Patriots, etc., was much in a state of flux. He suggested rather that a directive be put out stating the form of assistance , etc.

H. E. CHIRI said that in territory returned to the Italian Government, Organisations for refugees and veterans had merged and welfare, canteens, etc., had been started.

COL. CRIPPS spoke of an evening on which he was advised by telephone of the arrival of some 200 Patriots in ROME when he had arranged that they be handled as returning military.

H. E. CHIRI agreed that Colonel CRIPPS had taken the right course. H.E. mentioned the fact that the home which was already open for veterans and patriots at via SAVOIA 13 (formerly a German school),would increase its facilities to accommodate 500 persons.

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COL. CRIPPS said that he would like to have an outline of the manner of handling patriots and veterans when the Ministry of Occupied Italy's responsibilities cease.

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H. E. CHIRI said that large public works projects were already being planned for central Italy which would ensure the employment of 300,000 war veterans per day. A grant of 60 million lire had already been approved to cover the work. These works were not dependent on equipment.

COL. CRIPPS said that similar plans should be worked out for the North. He considered that an inspection tour would be beneficial but that it was advisable to give no instructions in the North until a plan had been worked out; this was necessary to avoid confusion.

H. E. CHIRI assured Colonel CRIPPS that it was his intention only to gather data which would enable him to work out a plan when he returned to ROME.

/H.E. CHIRI said that....

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H. E. CHIRI said that with regard to the plan he was at present having discussions with the Ministry of Agriculture in order to ascertain where works, etc., were required. It was extremely important that immediate employment should be made available in the areas in which the veterans already were.

H. E. CHIRI was anxious to establish the numbers and types of workmen the war veterans and Patriots could offer; farmers, brick-layers, etc., in order to make a general outline of what work was necessary to cover the demand.

COL. CRIPPS said that such particulars were already recorded in the Patriots camps but the registers were not yet available.

COL. CRIPPS said that since it was the intention to gather information for future plans he would give H.E. letters to Regional Commissioners and ask them to give him assistance.

H. E. CHIRI thanked Colonel CRIPPS and said that he hoped to be able to speak to Patriot Band-Leaders, etc. He said that when he had got a picture of the North he would return to see Colonel CRIPPS.

H. E. CHIRI said that he wished to visit MILAN-VERONA-PIEMONTE-GENOA-PADUA-EMILIA-BOLOGNA.
H. He pointed out that VERONA was the centre of war veterans from GERMANY.

<u>IT WAS AGREED:</u> That H.E. CHIRI would go on a general survey to the North in order to collect data on which to base future plans, for Patriot and ex-POW veterans.

H.E. CHIRI said that if Colonel CRIPPS felt it might be useful to send an officer with him it would be appreciated.

<u>CLOTHING:</u>

H. E. CHIRI said that the Minister of War had taken the responsibility of clothing war veterans of the Italian Army only. Patriots were being clothed by Allied Camps in forward areas. H.E. wished to know whether there was any way of assisting Patriots who have been "this side of the line" for some time and were badly in need of clothing.

COL. CRIPPS said that clothing was still a great problem. If these people had passed through the Patriot camps then they had already had the benfit of what little clothing we have.

H. E. CHIRI regretted that many arrived without adequate clothing, no doubt due to their own fault since many of them were in such haste to come South that they had not waited to be clothed properly.

COL. CRIPPS explained that AC received only a small percentage of salvage clothing which was at present being given entirely to Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, the bulk of clothing was allocated to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour who should be approached on behalf of the Patriot veterans by H.E.

<u>PATRIOT PREMIUMS:</u>

H. E. CHIRI said that there was a difference in the amount of the premium paid to Patriots

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PATRIOT PREMIUMS:

H. E. CHIRI said that there was a difference in the amount of the premium paid to Patriots in various provinces (£,000 - 1,000 lire) and requests were being received for the payment of the difference to those who had received the official amount of 1,000 lire.

COL. CRIPPS said that he had received no instructions to increase the amount and until he did he would continue to pay 1,000 lire.

H. E. CHIRI said that he would find out who had instigated the payment of the increased rate.

TRANSPORT:

H. E. CHIRI spoke on the subject of transport but Colonel CRIPPS suggested that Colonel CAMPBELL of WMD & IPW Sub-Commission should be approached for information on the subject.

H. E. CHIRI said that there would be a considerable number of military veterans, including those from France, who would have to be repatriated to the South and to Sicily.

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

SUBJECT: Notes on the Conference between H.E. Medici and Col. Cripps held in the latter's office on 29 May 45.

1. Col Cripps informed Mr. Medici that about a week ago while he was in Padova, at AMG Regional HQ, discussing matters concerning payments of bonuses and compensation to Patriots with the Regional Patriots officer and with local leaders of various formations - Mr. Curcio, (for whom Col Cripps himself had obtained a permit to go North on a request signed by the Minister Cocchiarro) walked in person into the office. Mr. Curcio stated that the bonus to Patriots had been raised to 5000 lire and suggested issuing instructions to that effect to Italian Military Patriot Representatives from Milan.

Col Cripps answered that no instructions could be issued unless proper assurance had been received in writing by A.C. Local Government Sub Commission from the Italian Government, and that in any case such instructions could only be issued by the Local Governments' offices in Rome, in both Italian and English.

Assuming, though, that Mr. Curcio was a responsible official of the Ministry of Occupied Italy Col Cripps instructed Regional and Provincial Patriot officers to withhold payment of the 1000 lire bonus temporarily pending the issue of instructions concerning payments of 5000 lire.

Col Cripps also remarked on the general attitude of Sig. Curcio where Allied officers were concerned, and pointed out the unfortunate results that would inevitably arise should Italian officials assume the same attitude as Sig. Curcio, and go around making unauthorised statements. H.E. Medici replied that Sig. Curcio had never been authorised to give any kind of statement, much less issue instructions, concerning compensations, at least not by Medici himself (who at Ministry of Occupied Italy is responsible for patriot assistance) and that he would certainly call him sharply to book, both with regard to his duties as an Ministry of Occupied Italy official and on his personal behaviour in connection with Allied officers.

H.E. Medici furthermore stated that with regard to the increase in payments to patriots, during the Cabinet meeting attended by Gen. Cadorna and the other members of the C.L.N. of Northern Italy, it had been agreed to increase payments to patriots as follows:

a) Demobilisation bonus from 1000 to 5000 lire.
b) Compensation to wounded from 5000 to 10,000 lire.
c) Compensation to families of fallen patriots from 10,000 to 20,000 lire.

While the previous increase in the demobilisation bonus had applied to all patriots, the new increase, referred to above, would apply only to patriots who had been active up to the time of the final liberation of Northern Italy, in view of the greater hardships they had endured. H.E. Medici also stated that such provisions would require a certain time to become effective, because although approved in principle, they had still to be discussed in detail by the competent bodies of the Italian Cabinet, i.e. Treasury, Finance Minister, etc., and with the Finance Sub Commission Allied Commission.

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to Italian Military Patriot Representatives from Milan.

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Col Cripps then asked if Medici thought it would be wise to instruct Regional Commissioners to continue with the 1000 lire payments pending the last increase - to which Mr. Medici agreed.

Col Cripps then gave a full account of his impressions of his tour in the North and explained some provisions that had been adopted locally by Regional and Provinical Commissioners and by Patriot officers, more particularly where disarmament was concerned.

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

SUBJECT: Note of Interview - Local Government Sub Commission offices

DATE : 27 April 1945 - 1500 hours.

PRESENT: Col. R. R. Cripps, Director, Local Government S/C
Junior Commander Proby, Patriots Branch
H. E. Medici Tourraquinci, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Occupied Italy
Col. Farva, Liaison Officer, Patriots Branch
Capt. Di Robilant, interpreting.

1. Col. Cripps opened the interview by suggesting that H. E. MEDICI present his points for discussion first. Capt. Di Robilant, speaking for H. E. MEDICI, said that the necessity has arisen for the Patriots in the North to be given assistance as quickly as possible. Past experience emphasized this necessity, as it has sometimes shown that when officers are attached to a Region or Province, they are left on their own without supervision. This has brought about most unsatisfactory results and occasionally an irreparable mistake.

2. Col. Cripps asked if there were any suggestions as to how this condition might be overcome.

3. The conclusion has been reached, said H. E. MEDICI, that a dangerous atmosphere had set in amongst the Patriots because of the lack of assistance. It was only due to the personal initiative which H. E. had exerted in collaboration with Patriots Branch that it has been possible to completely change the situation which had established itself. In order to overcome these difficulties, they were proposing to institute a Provincial Commission, under the supervision of a Central Patriots Committee, in order to deal with those matters which had proved unsatisfactory during the past winter.

4. Col. Cripps asked if this were not the plan actually shown in the draft of Decree which had been submitted. It was replied that it was the same, but that all the points in that Decree were not quite clear and H. E. MEDICI wished to elucidate these.

5. One of the first faults in the proposed Decree is that it does not lay down how the Ministry of Occupied Italy could maintain liaison with the I.M.P.R.

6. The Decree furthermore does not make quite clear what the relationship between the Provincial Commissioner and the I.M.P.R. should be. Col. Cripps queried this point, and it was explained that the Decree does not define very clearly what the responsibility of the I.M.P.R. is towards the Ministry and towards the Allied Provincial Commissioner.

7. Capt. Di Robilant went on to say that under the Decree now being considered, there was provision for the institution at the Ministry of a Central Committee for the assistance of the Patriots to be presided over by the Under Secretary, H. E. MEDICI. But, he said, the Decree does not lay down the channels of control, nor does it state specifically who would be the "responsible person" to be made chairman of the Committee.

8. Col. Cripps stressed the point that if there was an allusion to the [illegible] Government incorporated in the Decree, it might then be

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said that the necessity has arisen for the Patriots in the North to be given assistance as quickly as possible. Past experience emphasized this necessity, as it has sometimes shown that when officers are attached to a Region or Province, they are left on their own without supervision. This has brought about most unsatisfactory results and occasionally an irreparable mistake.

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8. Col. Cripps stressed the point that if there was an allusion to the power of Military Government incorporated in the Decree, it might then be acceptable to the Allied Commission. It was explained that, assuming the Decree was to be operative in Occupied Italy, an effort would be made to find some way of incorporating such a clause.

9. It was pointed out that Article 4 of the Decree instituting the Ministry of Occupied Italy, states literally that:

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"-----in all zones at present under AMG and in the territory which will be liberated by the Allied forces, the Assistance Officers will make all necessary provision for the preparation and implementation of the programme to give all possible material and moral assistance to the above formations of patriots and other civilian population of the above liberated areas: this in strict collaboration with and through the channels that will be laid down by the Allied Commission."

Therefore, it was stated, it will be possible to establish as a channel that the I.M.P.R. will be responsible to the Ministry of Occupied Italy as well as to the Provincial or Regional Commissioner. An amendment can be made to the assistance Decree to that effect.

10. Col. Cripps stated he felt this was an important point, for he felt that it was not possible for an officer to serve two masters. He said he felt that while an officer is under AMG, he must be under the control and orders of AMG officials. It was important that this point be made very clear.

11. There followed at this point some discussion of the second phase of the Decree, that relating to amendments to the financial estimates of the Ministry of Occupied Italy. Capt. Di Robilant stated that H. E. MEDICI felt there was considerable possibility of confusion on this point, in that cases might well arise in which the Regional or Provincial Commissioner gave approval for certain expenses on behalf of the patriots which may or may not be approved by the Ministry of Occupied Italy. In order to overcome this difficulty, it was suggested by H. E. that instead of having one representative who would be responsible to both parties--that is, AMG and the Ministry of Occupied Italy--there should be two officers, one of whom will be responsible to the Ministry and one to the Regional Commissioner.

12. Col. Cripps said he thought this might create further difficulty in that one of them would be an executive under the Regional Commissioner and the other will be simply reporting on what is going on. He went on to say that this was really an "exploratory" meeting. The draft Decree had been discussed with Brig. Upjohn who felt that there was some merit in having something of this sort set up, and he, in turn, was going to discuss the matter with the Admiral.

13. H. E. MEDICI wished to point our another difficulty. He felt that it was advisable to have some supervising organization to control these Committees, and to co-ordinate their activities. To that end, he suggested that the Ministry of Occupied Italy should appoint one inspector for each Region, whose name would be approved by the Allied Commission. It was his idea that these inspectors should bring to the notice of the Ministry of Occupied Italy, through the Allied channels, all measures which were considered to be necessary in order to co-ordinate the work of the provincial committees.

14. Col. Cripps said he was wondering if the situation were not too temporary to warrant the appointment of such inspectors. H. E. MEDICI answered that approximately two months was the length of time they would be used, and that he believed past experience had shown the need for these inspectors.

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15. There followed here a considerable discussion of the question of the second phase of the Decree--that having to do with finance--in which it was pointed out by H. E. MEDICI that, because of the peculiar procedure which had to be followed in connection with Italian financial matters, it was most desirable that a "forecast" be given of amounts which it would be necessary for the Ministry of the Treasury to allot to the Ministry of Occupied Italy for patriot activities. This discussion included various references to the part played by the Allied Financial Officers and, in the end, it was decided that this phase would be taken up with Finance Sub Commission when the draft Decree was re-submitted.

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16. Col. Cripps said he had one other point to bring up and that had relation to the urgent need for sending officials forward to the North as quickly as possible. He stated that the Military authorities were having great difficulty in sending even their own people forward, and that when patriot officials were ear-marked to go, they must be ready to leave at a minute's notice. It was agreed by H. E. MEDICI that this should be done.

17. Junior Commander Proby asked if it were not possible to set up a reserve list of people who had been screened and accepted, in order that it might be known who could be replaced. Capt. Di Robilant stated that it was the Ministry's intention to keep five or six officers "in cold storage" for that purpose.

18. Col. Cripps brought up points in connection with two patriot officials—POPPI and BALBI—and in the case of the first official, he said it was desired that he be dropped completely, because he had said a lot of objectionable things about the Allies and it had also been found that he was very difficult to work with. As to BALBI, this man was o.k. but it was preferred that he be the provincial man rather than the regional man.

19. One final point brought up by Col. Cripps related to the question of rations for patriots in hospital. He stated that AFHQ had asked the AC to take over control of this item and arrange to have all hospital cases treated in one central civilian hospital or group of hospitals. This request had been made because it had been felt that the rations did not always get to the patient under the present set-up. If the treatment of patriots was centralized in this fashion, it would be possible to have a patriot officer responsible for the question of feeding.

20. H. E. MEDICI agreed to take this point under consideration, and at this point the interview was closed.

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Ref : 141/3/PAT

NOTES OF

CONFERENCE BETWEEN H.E. BOCCIARDO AND COL. CRIPPS.

26 April 1945

Col. Cripps suggested that, possibly because of the Undersecretary's absence, the understanding and cooperation between the Ministry of Occupied Italy and the Local Government Sub Commission, are not as complete and as close as would be desirable.

Mr Bocciardo replied that never until yesterday did he have that feeling, and the feeling was created by the fact that directives concerning patriots had been issued by Patriots Branch, which were not in accordance with previous directives, which had been based upon agreements reached previously and illustrated by Dr. Pertini. The differences mainly concerned the institution of provincial commissions, the specific duties of Italian Military Patriot Representatives, and the financial procedure necessary to supply Italian Military Patriot Representatives with funds.

Col. Cripps replied that the financial machinery had been devised only to simplify matters and to avoid the necessity, particularly undesirable at this time, of Italian Military Patriot Representatives, travelling to the North of the country with large sums of money in a suitcase.

It had therefore been established that all necessary moneys would be requested by Italian Military Patriot Representatives, with the approval of Allied Patriot Officers, from the Prefects, who would be supplied by Allied Financial Officers.

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Mr Scoccimarro replied that never until yesterday did he have that feeling, and the feeling was created by the fact that directives concerning patriots had been issued by Patriots Branch, which were not in accordance with previous directives, which had been based upon agreements reached previously and illustrated by Dr. Portusi. The differences mainly concerned the institution of provincial commissions, the specific duties of Italian Military Patriot Representatives, and the financial procedure necessary to supply Italian Military Patriot Representatives with funds.

Col. Crippa replied that the financial machinery had been devised only to simplify matters and to avoid the necessity, particularly unsuitable at this time, of Italian Military Patriot Representatives, travelling to the North of the country with large sums of money in a suitcase.

It had therefore been established that all necessary moneys would be requested by Italian Military Patriot Representatives, with the approval of Allied Patriot Officers, from the Prefects, who would be supplied by Allied Financial Officers.

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Concerning the General directives to Italian Military Patriot Representatives Col. Crippa said that the Policy of the Allies, with regard to Patriots, when they were encountered, was to give them such assistance in the form of food, clothing, etc. as was possible, and return them as soon as possible to civilian life.

The Patriots effort would be acknowledged by the issue of a memorial medal, by the payment of compensation, and by the issue of Alexander Certificates.

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It appeared that the decree, the draft of which had been submitted to A.C. for scrutiny, would set up a sort of permanent organisation whose duties it would be to take responsibility for, and organise in a nearly permanent way, patriot Centres where patriot formations would remain and be kept for an indefinite period; the decree in itself did not seem to be in accordance with the policy of A.C.

In any case, if the decree were approved, it could become effective only after A.M.G. territories were returned to the Administration of the Italian Govt.

Col. Cripps pointed out that the first responsibility for rehabilitation of Patriots was with A.M.G. This had been made quite clear and confirmed, and he called attention to the Aide Memoire addressed to the Prime Minister on 27 January 1945, para 2 C.

Mr Scoccimarro said that although the channels through which the work and the welfare for the patriots should be operated and been established the policy of this work and welfare had not been agreed upon.

In reply to a question from Col. Cripps, Mr Scoccimarro said that it had never been is intention to keep the centres as a permanent set up and that centres should not be maintained for periods of much more than one month.

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In reply to a question from Col. Cripps, Mr Scoccimarro said that it had never been his intention to keep the centres as a permanent set up and that centres should not be maintained for periods of much more than one month.

Mr Scoccimarro gave also a complete explanations of how the provincial commissions should work, and what the political reasons for such commissions could be. He pointed out that the commissions would have two duties; the first would be to consider how assistance funds should be spent, which it would be better qualified to do than an Italian Military Patriot Representative alone.

The second would be political because the commissions would comprise one member of the C.L.N., one representative of the Prefecture and the Italian Military Patriot Representative. The three of them would be more fit to handle partisan

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matters than the Italian Military Patriot Representative, also who may or may not be acquainted with local problems.

Mr Scoccimarro, furthermore declared that his views on military and civil reemployment were as follows:

a) Partisan Units should be employed wholesale for replacements in the Italian combat Units.

b) Partisans should be employed for "War Police" i.e. to trace and eventually destroy or capture enemy parties which may have been left behind in order to carry out sabotage or other war actions.

c) That the RR.CC.advancing with Allied Forces should be accompanied by partisans, to enforce the law amongst partisans and civil populations who may be averse to the RR.CC. for political reasons.

d) The partisans should be trained for mine clearance duties.

e) Partisans from the centres should be detached for emergency labour such as reconstructions, clearance of debris etc.

He concluded that the partisan Centres should be kept as replacement depots for the combat units and as emergency depots for miscellaneous labour.

Mr Scoccimarro furthermore stated that abrupt dispersal of the partisans when they found themselves behind the Allied lines, or when they came through the lines, would be impossible, or at best would create a very great disillusion, [illegible] replied that, as far as the military reemployment of patriots

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c) That the AM.CC.attending with Allied Forces should be accompanied by partisans, to enforce the law amongst partisans and civil populations who may be averse to the AM.CC. for political reasons.

d) The partisans should be trained for mine clearance duties.

e) Partisans from the centres should be detached for emergency labour such as reconstructions, clearance of debris etc.

It concluded that the partisan Centres should be kept as replacement depots for the combat units and as emergency depots for miscellaneous labour.

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Mr Beccomarto furthermore stated that abrupt dispersal of the partisans when they found themselves behind the Allied lines, or when they came through the lines, would be impossible, or at best would create very great disillusion.

Col. Cripps replied that, as far as the military reemployment of patriots was concerned the matter rested entirely with the operational command. To use them for hunting fascists bands and individuals would only lead to civil disturbance and disorder. Such duties are police functions. Patriots would probably be used on such police work temporarily, but this was a decision for the Regional Commissioner on the ground.

With regard to the mine clearance proposition, he agreed this matter was of such delicacy that training was first required, and that if Patriots were employed on such a task they would require at least a 14 days course

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of training.

Concerning patriots employment on civil work such as reconstruction etc., the policy is that once employment has been found for them they should be considered as Italian civilians.

Instructions have been given to all Allied Labour Officers to grant first priority to patriots in possession of the Alexander Certificate.

Mr Scoccimarro, then asked, what the actual duties of his Ministry were, and if it would be possible that he himself or the officials of his Ministry would be allowed to travel to the front in order to supervise the activities of the Italian Military Patriot Representatives and eventually give directives.

Col Cripps asked if Mr Scoccimarro was willing to go forward accompanied by Col. Cripps himself.

Mr Scoccimarro replied that such a solution could only help matters.

Col. Cripps then said that he would consider the possibility of obtaining permits to go forward for Mr. Scoccimarro and for a few officials.

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Col. Cripps pointed out finally that as long as Italian Military Patriot [illegible] A.M.G. territories they could not give or receive

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Mr Scoccimarro replied that such a solution could only help matters.

Col. Cripps then said that he would consider the possibility of obtaining permits to go forward for Mr. Scoccimarro and for a few officials.

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Col. Cripps pointed out finally that as long as Italian Military Patriot Representatives were in A.M.G. territories they could not give or receive direct instructions other that those issued by the Regional Commissioners.

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Earlier during the conference Col. Cripps asked Mr Scoccimarro if anything had been laid down for the granting of soldiers pay to patriots during their stay at the Centres.

Mr Scoccimarro answered that the Ministry of War was in the process of making the necessary arrangements.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref : 141/3/PAT. See 141/4 12 April 1945.

Subject: Broadcasts to N. Italy.

To : S.E. Mario SCOCCIMARRO,
Minister of Occupied Italy

Copy : Executive Commissioner

I forward herewith a copy of the notes of a meeting which took place yesterday at the Ministry of Occupied Italy and should be grateful to have your confirmation of these points.

F. CRAIG,
Lt.Colonel,
Deputy Director,
Local Govt. S/C.

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/mfs.

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NOTES ON MEETING BETWEEN S.E. SCOCCIMARRO AND COL.CRIPPS AND LT.COL. CRAIG.

11 April 1945

1. At a meeting between Col. Cripps, Lt. Col. Craig and S.E. Scoccimarro (Minister of Occupied Italy) it was mutually agreed that Italian Broadcasts to North Italy would be confined to :

   (a) Activities of the Italian Government;
   (b) Information from people of Liberated Italy to relatives in the North which would be worded in such a way as not to expose them to reprisals by the Fani-Fascists;
   (c) Appeals for unity among the Patriots;
   (d) General appeals for action against the enemy;
   (e) References - if it was necessary to refer to fighting in the North - limited to matter contained in the broadcasts of the Italia Combatte.

2. It was very definitely agreed that Broadcasts cannot be made without prior scrutiny of the script by Military Censor, P.W.D. and AC. HQ. Scripts of broadcasts would be submitted for scrutiny at least three days prior to date of broadcast. When convenient this time will be reduced.

3. The Ministry of Occupied Italy would be particularly careful not to Broadcast promises which could not be fulfilled.

/mfg.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref : 141/3/PAT. 12 Aprile 1945.

Oggetto: Radiotrasmissione per L'Italia del Nord.

A : S.E. Soccimarro,
Ministro per l'Italia Occupata.

Si trasmette copia delle note prese durante la riunione tenutasi ieri al Ministero dell'Italia Occupata e si prega di avere la conferma di V.E. al riguardo.

F. CRAIG,
Lt.Colonel,
Deputy Director,
Local Govt. S/C.

AMV/mfg.

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NOTE SULLA RIUNIONE TRA IL COL. CRIPPS, MEN.COL. CRAIG
E S.E. SOCCIMARRO

1. Durante la riunione fra il Col. Cripps, il Col. Craig e S.E. Soccimarro (Ministro per l'Italia Occupata) e' stato reciprocamente convenuto che le radiotrasmissioni italiane per l'Italia del Nord saranno limitate a:

(a) attivita' del Governo italiano;
(b) Notizie da persone residenti nell'Italia liberata a parenti residenti al Nord che verranno date in modo tale da non esporli a rappresaglie da parte dei nazi-fascisti;
(c) Appelli ai patrioti a restare uniti;
(d) Appelli generali per azioni contro il nemico;
(e) Se ritenuto necessario far riferimento ai combattimenti nell'Italia del Nord; cio' dovra essere limitato al contenuto del programma dell'Italia Combatte.

2. E' stato chiaramente stabilito che le radiotrasmissioni non potranno essere effettuate se prima il testo non sia stato esaminato dalla Censura militare, PWB e ACMB. I vari testi dovranno essere presentati almeno tre giorni prima la data della trasmissione. Se del caso tale periodo di tempo sara' ridotto.

3. Il Ministero dell'Italia Occupata dovra' aver particolare cura nel non trasmettere promesse che non possano essere mantenute.

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MEMORANDUM FOR CONFERENCE

between H.E. SCOCCIMARRO and Col. CRIPS

held on 11 - 4 - 1945

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1. Verbal apology for failure in obtaining the permit from 5th Army.

2. How far has the Patriots medals gone.

3. What arrangments have been made to reserve a ward in each available civil hospital.

4. Have arrangements been anticipated to hand over the Florence dressing room and the Pescia hospital to the High Commissariat for the Veterans.

5. Eight Army phoned informing that MACRI, DE LUCA and CASILLI D'ARAGONA are at present used and that don't want to have them replaced.
8th Army asked again for four more Representatives.

10 APR Recd

MP 2

141/3/PAT

MINUTE OF THE CONFERENCE BETWEEN MR. SCOCCIMARRO AND BRIGADIER URQUHART, HELD IN THE LAWTERS OFFICE ON 7th MARCH 1945.

Present at the Conference :

H.E. SCOCCIMARRO, Minister of Occupied Italy
Brig. URQUHART,
Col. GRIGGS
Lt.Col. CRAIG
Capt. DI COSILANT - interpreter.

H.E. Scoccimarro was asked to tell Dr. Pertusi that, although his activity is very praiseworthy, he should not make direct arrangements with Units in the field.

162/PAT

Such arrangements should always be made through official channels, i.e. A.C. H.Q. Patriots Branch.

H.E. Scoccimarro replied that he was entirely unaware that Dr. Pertusi had ever made any direct arrangements, and that anyway he would be instructed accordingly.

H.E. Scoccimarro was informed that the Pascia hospital was believed to be unsuitable ~~to be~~ as a Convalescent Home for Patriots because too small and as yet entirely full. He was also told that when he could be going in that area either Col. Griggs or Lt.Col. Craig would be there and study the possibility of finding larger premises for the purpose.

95/1/PAT

Mr. Scoccimarro was asked how the matter concerning the memorial medal to the patriots stood. He gave assurance that the matter was receiving careful attention and it could be expected that the medal would be approved in the near future. Requested he also said he would make a statement about it which would be transmitted to A.C. HQ. Patriots Branch.

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Lt.Col. GRAIG
Capt. DI ROSILART - interpreter.

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121/6/PAT

H.E. Scoccimarro was asked if he did not find it unsuitable that military representatives originally from Southern provinces should be appointed as representatives to provinces of Northern Italy.

36/PAT

H.E. Scoccimarro replied that the appointments had been made because there were no other officers available at the moment. But that upon liberation of the provinces it was to be expected that military representatives could be chosen from amongst the officers who remained in the provinces with the patriots. In such

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case the Southern Representatives could be recalled.

Asked about extra officers for Col. De Garston's staff and precisely for :

1 man for the office
1 M.O.
1 Chaplain
1 Camp Commandant,

he replies that he would see if it was possible to appoint the first three officers. Concerning the Camp Commandant he stated that Camp Commandants had been enclosed in the list which had been sent in on 6 April. He furthermore said that upon advise and requests from the North he would have found it advisable that the Camp Commandant appointed by the Ministry of Occupied Italy should only have administrative functions, While the Commandant of the Camp should be chosen from amongst the patriots leaders who would ~~be~~ live ~~[illegible]~~ the camp, also because such a man would be more appropriate to keep discipline and order in the camp. ?

H.E. Soccimarro was asked if patriots were entitled to military pensions, who should handle such matters, and if the demobilisation bonuses and other compensation payed out to patriots from the Patriot Representatives, and from the Patriot Centres would anyhow bear an influence on above pensions.

He answered that a decree was being prepared granting to all patriots who should legally have been recognized as such by the Patriots Committee set up at the Presidency of the Council the right to pensions of same scale as army pensions.

All applications should be forwarded complete with all possible data to the Ministry of Occupied Italy - Assistance Office.

Demobilisation bonuses and all other compensation payed out to patriots from Patriot Representatives or Patriots Centres would not bear in any way on the future pension of patriots.

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1 Camp Commandant,

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Asked if military representatives were included in the Italian Army ceiling, and as such entitled to military rations.

36/PAT

He answered that they were included in the ceiling established for the Italian Army, although not drawing full war indemnity. They would therefore be entitled to army rations.

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Asked if he knew anything about the departure of partisan volunteers for the front line, as published in the daily newspapers of April the 6th, he answered that he knew nothing about it, although he had requested information to the Ministry of Interior. He also stated that if necessary he would release a statement to the press on the matter.

Shown a petition of the "Avanguardia Partigiana", in which authorisation and means were asked to form partisan battalions for the front he answered that the Association itself was not endorsed by the Italian Government, that he himself had tried to have it disbanded, as well as other such associations, and suggested that a copy of the letter should be sent to the Prime Minister in order to obtain definite restrictive measures on the subject.

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81/PAT

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/mcg.

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SUMMARY OF THE INTERVIEW ON 27 MARCH

BETWEEN Lt. Col. CRAIG and S.E. SCOCCIMARRO

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1. Lt.Col. Craig informs S.E. Scoccimarro that Marchese Theodoli had graciously offered the Italian Red Cross Hospital in PRATO for the use of Patriots as a Convelescent Home.

   S.E. Scoccimarro acknowledged this suggested gift with thanks and said he would contact Marquis Theodoli the next day.

2. It appears to Col. Craig that Italian Military Hospital may not be able to hospitalise all the Patriots coming through the lines, in which case he suggests that a ward in each Civilian Hospital be earmarked or reserved for Patriots.

   Dr. Pertusi acting for S.E. Medici replied that Italian Military Hospitals have been instructed to hospitalise Patriots. Col. Craig pointed out that Italian Army casualties had first priority in their own Hospitals in which case it was possible that there might not be enough accommodation for Patriot casualties.

   In view of this he suggested that a ward in each Civil Hospital be reserved for Patriots.

   S.E. Scoccimarro takes a note of it.

3. Lt.Col. Craig asks if the Ministry of Occupied Italy can press the Presidency of the Council for the re-emburseement of 3 million lire which was advanced by Finance Sub Commission for payment of Patriot Centres.

   S.E. Scoccimarro assures him that he will bring the matter up with the President to-morrow morning, meanwhile he is ready to refund this money.

4. Lt.Col. Craig asks what the functions of the suggested "Provincial Commission" in Florence would be, and who the members would be. Dr. Pertusi explains that these Provincial Commissions will operate in liberated Provinces,

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5. It has come to Col. Craig's notice that a Home for Partisan women has been established in Florence. What is the object of creating this institution ?

It was explained that this was done to avoid promiscuity and that the Home receives all Patriot women of which there are very few.

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6. Col. Craig asked S.E. to define the position of the "Comando Superiore Partigiano". S.E. Scoccimarro stated that it is not a recognised body and will be eliminated by the Police.

7. Col. Craig asks for an explanation concerning Dr. Pertusi's statement on the economic treatment of Patriots. S.E. Scoccimarro made it clear that the Government wishes to grant to Patriots in the line, the same treatment as is granted to members of the Regular Armed Forces - about 50 lire daily - and he also adds that a few days ago he brought the matter up to the Ministry of War who will have to establish which of the two Central bodies will have this responsibility. He will go to Florence on the 11th April with a representative of the Ministry of War to study and settle the matter.

8. Col. Craig wished to know what would happen to the Pescia Hospital in the event of the Armies moving forward. Who would see to medical supplies.

It was explained that an agreement had been made with IV Corps of 15 Army Group that O.S.S. would supply medicine. The administration of the Hospital would remain the responsibility of the Ministry of Occupied Italy. The mobile part of the Hospital would move forward. The stationary part would be transformed into a convalescent Home for Patriots.

9. Col. Craig wished to know when the names of the Italian Military Patriot Representatives would be approved.

S.E. Scoccimarro answers that the problem would have been solved if it had not been for the Commissariat for Epuration who warned him that some of names selected were being investigated. However, the next few days the Ministry of Occupied Italy will send in the final approved list.

10. Col. Craig asks if the institution of training and qualifying courses for Band leaders who may wish to have an Army rank is foreseen.

S.E. Scoccimarro explained that a Commission instituted by the Ministry of War, with representatives of the Ministry of Occupied Italy will examine the applications and decide on their merits for the grant of Army ranks.

11. Col. Craig asks if consideration had been given to the question of local transportation for Hospitals and in reply Dr. Pertusi said he had obtained 5 Ambulances with American

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11. Col. Craig asks if consideration had been given to the question of local transportation for Hospitals and in reply Dr. Pertusi said he had obtained 5 Ambulances with American drivers. These Ambulances were not at their disposal permanently. They carried out their normal military tasks with the U.S. Army.

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