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Headquarters, United States

Press Release

Office - DIAY 1945

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Pre-Colonial

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

391/R1/PRB

4 May, 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The 35th Meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy was held in Rome on May 4, 1945 under the chairmanship of Alexander Kirk, the United States Representative on the Council. The Representatives of the five other Allied Nations attending the meeting were :

M. Oscar de Harvelle	FRANCE
Spyros Kalokerinos	GREECE
Gen. A. Kislenko	SOVIET UNION
Sir Noel Charles, Bart.	UNITED KINGDOM
Slobodan Jovitsha	YUGOSLAVIA

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, presented a report to the Council on recent political events in liberated Italy.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

DIVR/PRB

4 Nov. 1947

Press Release - Immediate.

"To see a crippled kid get up and walk - that's the greatest thing in the world for me."

Thus does Staff Sergeant Louis J. Paduda, former Norwich (Conn.) attorney, now chief clerk, Public Safety Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, Italy, sum up the reason for his philanthropic interest in 25 infantile paralysis victims in Rome.

The story of how Sgt. Paduda happened to "adopt" the 25 Italian youngsters began when representatives of the Italian Army and of an association devoted to the care of children war cripples called upon Lt.Col. John McSweeney, Welfare Branch, Public Health Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission. That the Italians wanted were materials from which to make artificial limbs and other orthopedic appliances.

Col. McSweeney was eager to help but was baffled by the technical problem involved. What types of metal could be used, if obtainable? That was only one of several questions that presented themselves at the outset. The answer came in a chance conversation between the colonel and Sgt. Paduda who worked in an adjoining office.

The sergeant owns the Allied Mo[illegible]

These have Staff Sergeant Lewis J. Fraker, Jr., Public Relations (Army) attorney, non-judicial clerk, Public Safety Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, Italy, who is the point man for the problem and interest in 25 injured Italian civilian victims in Rome.

The story of how Sgt. Fraker proposed to "adopt" the 25 Italian youngsters came when representatives of the Italian Army and of an association diverted to the care of children war victims called upon Lt. Col. John McSweeney, Military Branch, Public Health Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission. The Italian Central Office requested from Allied Headquarters some artificial limbs and other orthopedic appliances.

Col. McSweeney asked to help and was notified by the medical problem involved. That types of metal could be used, if obtainable. Sgt. was only one of several specialists that presented themselves as the subject. The answer came in a chance conversation between the colonel and Sgt. Fraker who served in a civilian office.

The sergeant owns the Allied Medical and Orthopedic Company in Norwalk. Having left his job provided for manufacturing, Sgt. Fraker had become a qualified steel service orthopedic and medical technologist. As a hobby after the crippled children under care of the State of Connecticut Department of Health and having sold appliances to hospitals and individuals throughout the world, the sergeant was well qualified to act as consultant to Col. McSweeney.

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A series of discussions with Italian officials followed. The army's salvage stocks were surveyed. Much critical material was unearthed and is now being purchased by the Italian government. For example, it was found that certain airplane struts could be turned into excellent artificial limbs, and there were many of these available on the salvage piles which lay in Italy.

During the time that Sgt. Priddy was trying to advise the colonel, his reputation was spreading among the pile of 25 mountains suffering from infantile paralysis who had been bombed out of their asylum in further city. Taken to Rome, the children had been turned over to a group of nuns who were caring for them. All were dishevelled little waifs.

Sgt. Priddy sent home to his company for new materials from which appliances could be fashioned and when the materials arrived took them to the children. He then showed the young sters how to make their own braces. The sergeant's face lit up as he describes the joy and eagerness of the little cripples as they set to work and describes how he furnished "slippers" then. The "slippers" consists of his promise that as long as they live and as long as his business continues, he will furnish them with whatever appliances they may need.

Meanwhile, Italian craftsmen here already commenced work with the salvage materials. Thousands of crippled soldiers and other thousands of maimed civilians - estimated at 58,000 - will eventually profit from the sergeant's know-how and willingness to serve his fellows in his own time. And here it should be stressed that the sergeant's contribution to

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youngsters suffering from infantile paralysis who had been forced out of their rubber city. Upon his back, the children had been carried over the Andes to the Andes to seek aid for them. All were eventually made well.

Sgt. Fabian sent home to his factory for materials from which appliances could be constructed and then the materials arrived took them to the children. He then showed the problems how to make their own braces. The sergeant's task is now up to his ankles the joy and eagerness of the little cripples as they set to work and describes how he forthwith "adopted" the "kiddies" consisting of his growing family as long as they live and as long as his business continues, he will furnish them with indoor appliances free of cost.

Meanwhile, Italian civilians have already commenced work with the enemy casualties. Thousands of crippled soldiers and other thousands of maltreated civilians - estimated at 50,000 - will eventually profit from the sergeant's know-how and willingness to serve his fellows in his own time. And here it should be stressed that the sergeant's contribution to Italy's unfortunates was made without interruption of his regular work in the Public Safety Sub-Commission.

Born 40 years ago in Salvia, Campobasso, Italy, Sgt. Fabian arrived in America in 1910. A graduate of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, he received his law degree from Ohio State University and commenced his law practice in Connecticut. Later, having become owner of the appliance firm, he dropped his law practice almost entirely in order to devote himself to his new

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combined operation.

Explaining that every filling presents new problem, the Sergeant highly praised Italian civilians for their helpfulness in improvise, pointing out that they had managed to make some excellent appliances in the face of a critical shortage of material.

Entering the army in December, 1942, Sgt. Petula was first assigned to the 34th Bomb. Inter, because he spoke Italian fluently, he was sent to the Army's Military Intelligence School at Camp Ritchie, Md. Assigned to the Allied Military Government in August, 1943, he landed at Salerno on D-Day. As order clerk of his unit, he assisted in the organization of the first Allied military court system in the 5th Army area and helped to prosecute the first violators of AMG proclamations in continental Italy. He has been awarded the Good Conduct Medal and wears bronze stars for the Naples-Foggia and Rome-Arno campaigns.

Sgt. Petula's wife, Mrs. [illegible], is now residing at the home of his parents, 64 West Ave., Norwalk.

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[illegible] Ernesto, Mr. Assigned to the Allied Military Government [illegible] in August, 1943, he landed at Salerno and Naples. As chief clerk [illegible] his unit, he assisted in the organization of the civil aid [illegible] Lattera court system in the Naples area and helped to preserve [illegible] the civil records of AMG headquarters in occupied Italy. [illegible] has been awarded the Bronze Star and Army Commendation [illegible] medals for his service in the Mediterranean theater.

Sgt. Salvatore Anto. Bile, is now residing at his home in Bro[illegible] Arthur, 94 West Ave., Norwalk.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

350/R1/2RB

4 May, 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The economic boundary line between North Italy and previously liberated Italian territory, established to prevent an inrush of profiteers and speculators into the North, will be maintained only as long as is necessary to work out a policy for inter-regional movement that will promote the well-being of Italian economy as a whole, the Allied Commission said today.

"Only in this way can the differences between the cost of living in the North and in Central and Southern Italy be equalized without sudden and violent changes", said Mr. A.G. Antolini, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section of the Allied Commission.

"The measure", Mr. Antolini added, "is simply a wise precaution to protect an organism, whose tone is already considerably lowered, from receiving further shocks that could not but retard its revival."

The recommendation to establish the boundary was made by the Economic Section as a result of its experience to date in liberated Italy, which has shown that as the Allied Armies advanced northward each region became a zone of speculation and illegal traffic, with consequent grave repercussions on the food and industrial markets. This danger is particularly serious in the present situation since the price levels of the

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The goal of the Allied Commission, Dr. Antolini said, is to restore the normal ebb and flow of internal commerce as soon as possible so that full circulation of products and resources may go to the more needy and deficient areas without damaging

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the richer and surplus areas which supply the goods.

Restoration of such free movement, now that all Italy is liberated, will also bring much nearer the resumption of normal commercial relations by Italy with the United Nations and neutral countries. The mechanics of such relations are being currently re-studied in the light of the new situation created by the liberation of the North. The war up to the recent surrender of the enemy in Italy has precluded greater progress in solution of this problem of foreign trade.

The renewal of commercial relations between Italy and the world is aimed not only at enabling Italy to help in her own reconstruction but to allow her to contribute to the re-adjustment of the world's economy, Mr. Antolini said.

In conformity with the principles so often declared by the Allied Governments, private enterprise in Italy must be encouraged as far as possible, so that, freed from the rigid Fascist controls of the past, private enterprise may take the leadership in giving Italy all the advantages derived from a flourishing foreign commerce.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

358/R1/ERB 4 May, 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Recently promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel, FRANK N. WILLIAMS of Sarepta, Louisiana, is now assigned to the Motor Transport Group, Allied Commission, Italy, where he is acting as assistant G-3.

A combat veteran with over two years of overseas service, Col. Williams served also on anti-aircraft units before his transfer to the Allied Commission.

The Allied Motor Transport Group, composed of nearly 9,000 Italian Army personnel under Allied officers, provides sorely needed transportation to distribute food and other essential commodities. When a current project of expansion is completed, the Group will have a monthly lift capacity of 150,000 tons.

The colonel, a son of Mrs. Hazel Williams, 107 McDonald St., Minden, Louisiana, graduated from Louisiana Tech at Ruston in the class of 1932. His wife, Kathleen C. Williams, resides in Sarepta.

Prior to his entry into the army, Col. Williams was employed at the Southern Kraft Paper Mill, Springhill, La.

He wears the American Defense ribbon and the Mediterranean Theatre ribbon with two battle participation stars.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

357/B1/2RB

3 May, 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Recently appointed Warrant Officer Junior Grade, Robert A. Ladd, 509 Georgia St., Harriman, is now serving with the Allied Commission in Italy.

Formerly a teacher in the Fairview School, Roane County, Mr. Ladd, who is 35, entered the Army in May, 1941. Landing in Italy in July, 1944, he was employed in the Adjutant General section, Allied Force Headquarters.

With his promotion from Technician Fourth Grade, Mr. Ladd was transferred to the Allied Commission as assistant to the adjutant of his regiment. Primary work of the Allied Commission, as representative of the United Nations in Italy, is to aid in the physical and political rehabilitation of that country's civilian population.

Born in Kingston, Mr. Ladd attended the University of Tennessee. His mother, Mrs. Alice K. Ladd, lives in Harriman and he has one brother in the Navy.

Mr. Ladd is a holder of the Good Conduct Medal and on his European Theatre campaign ribbon wears a bronze battle star for the Rome-Arno campaign.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

356/P1/PRB 2 May, 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume, GSC, Assistant Chief of Staff - G-5 - Senior Civil Affairs Officer and Chief of Allied Military Government of the 5th Army, like so many of his peers in this war, is no desk general.

Fifth Army troops, for example, recently captured Bologna, Modena, Reggio, Verona, and Vicenza, cities which General Hume's officers and men must relieve and organize. AMG officers with the troops took immediate stock of how many there would be to feed, how many more people would arrive in the cities from outlying districts, how the food situation was, how many buildings were demolished, how the water and public utilities functioned, etc.

At forward headquarters emergency staff meetings were held to meet the problems and present recommendations to the AMG chief. But in each case, General Hume had been in every town on the first day of liberation, often even before his own officers and had brisk recommendations of his own to make. His staff officers, in fact, not infrequently complain that the paper work gets left behind, to which the General replies that there is always a chief of staff to do that.

General Hume, who has spent more than 30 of his 55 years in the Regular Army, has been making a habit of being first into towns throughout the entire Italian campaign. He landed in Sicily on D-Day, July 10, 1943, and at Salerno on D-Day, September 9, 1943. He entered Naples with the first combat elements on

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Laying a solid groundwork for the rehabilitation of Naples, which had been damaged severely by German demolitions which especially wrecked all public utilities, and mobilizing all

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resources to meet the most serious threat of a typhus epidemic in the present war, General Hume then went forward to the double job of directing AMG operations in the field with the 5th Army, and of planning for the liberation of Rome, the first step of which was the Anzio beachhead, where AMG officers were continuously under fire for as long as any combat units in their tours of duty.

Rome was another "first" for General Hume, who entered it with General Clark on June 5, while the team he had organized and trained went to pre-assigned stations and took over the administration of the refugee-packed Eternal City, the first European Capital to be liberated in the war, in what has been called the smoothest military government operation in history. One of General Hume's most notable acts in Rome was the unprecedented granting of freedom of the press to Italian newspapers which had been regimented as propaganda sheets for 20 years under Fascism.

From Rome, as the 5th Army advanced, General Hume went to Florence, where he directed rehabilitation of that classic city of Dante and art, and helped to meet the problem of the Partisans, Italian Patriots who had engaged in guerilla warfare against the Germans, and were left unemployed and homeless behind the Allied lines. Having looked ahead to the preparations for Bologna, General Hume went on to make his plans for the military government of the industrial cities of north Italy, hard-hit by Allied air bombardments, when the 5th Army should liberate them in its advance.

In his task of directing the 5th Army AMG, which calls for fluid tactics to meet situations as the army's area expands or contracts with operational necessities, the General has not only contracts with operational necessities, the General has not only

[illegible] of the moment - where

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In his task of directing the 5th Army AMG, which calls for fluid tactics to meet situations as the army's area expands or contracts with operational necessities, the General has not only to keep in mind the tactical needs of the moment - where populations have to be evacuated, rearlines secured against civilian-clothed spies, unrest allayed, etc., - but has to begin carrying out the long-term objectives of the Allied Commission as the organ of the United Nations in Italy. The 5th Army AMG operates under Army Operational Command, but carries out its mission on the lines of policy objectives laid down by the Allied Commission,

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which has the benefit of field recommendations made by General Hume.

On the recent anniversary of the establishment of the Allied Commission, General Clark publicly commended the 5th Army AMG in a letter written to General Hume, and American personnel of 5th Army AMG were awarded the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque by Lieutenant General Lucian K. Truscott, Jr. several weeks ago.

A native of Frankfort, Kentucky, General Hume still lists that city as his home, using the address of his sister, Mrs. Tleanor Hume Gifut. He is a widower. A son, Edgar Erskine Hume Jr. is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. A first cousin, Commander Jerry South, Jr. is in the Navy.

Entering the Regular Army Medical Corps in 1916 through competitive examination, in which he stood first among several hundred applicants, General Hume attended the Army Medical School from which he was graduated highest in his class, and was executive officer of the Division of Sanitation in the Surgeon General's office during the 1917 mobilization. He was sent overseas, where he became the youngest Lieutenant Colonel in the Army, and was in command of all U.S. hospitals in Italy. He also saw duty on the Western Front during the Meuse-Argonne St. Mihiel offensives.

For his services during the battle of Vittorio Veneto, when the Italians routed the Austrians in the first World War, he was awarded the Silver Medal of Military Valor and the War Cross by the Italian Government. He was also given the Croix de Guerre by the French and Czechoslovak Governments. He has been twice wounded in Italy. He holds the following American decorations: Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Purple Heart,

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Jr. is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. A first cousin, Commander Jerry South, Jr. is in the Navy.

Entering the Regular Army Medical Corps in 1916 through competitive examination, in which he stood first among several hundred applicants, General Hume returned to Army Medical School from which he was graduated highest in his class, and was executive officer of the Division of Sanitation in the Surgeon General's office during the 1917 mobilization. He was sent overseas, where he became the youngest Lieutenant Colonel in the Army, and was in command of all U.S. hospitals in Italy. He also saw duty on the Western Front during the Meuse-Argonne St. Mihiel offensives.

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In Italy in 1919 General Hume also directed the American relief expedition after the earthquake in the hard-hit Abruzzi. After the war he was chief medical officer and head of the American Red Cross Staff in Serbia, where he so successfully combatted

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the typhus then scourging the country that he received his citation for the D.S.M., which also noted his services in Italy. Later he directed refugee operations in the Baltic countries.

A medical scholar and historian, General Rumo has degrees and honors from universities all over the United States, and eight foreign countries. He has been listed in WHO'S WHO since 1923. He studied medicine, including tropical medicine, and public health, at the University of Munich, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Johns Hopkins and Harvard Universities. In addition he has honorary degrees from the Royal University of Naples, the Royal University of Madrid, Centre College, College of William and Mary, Georgetown University, Washington and Lee University, Hampden-Sydney College, Pennsylvania University, University of Kentucky, Washington and Jefferson College, the University of Leon in Nicaragua, the University of Pisa and the University of Florence.

He is a member of medical and learned societies in the United States, England, Scotland, France, Italy, Spain, Peru and Mexico. He has taught at Georgetown University, the University of Kansas and Johns Hopkins. As librarian of the Army Medical Library, the largest of its kind in the world, he edited the Index Catalogue which serves as the standard for medical bibliography the world over. The author of more than 300 books and articles, he was also the editor of THE MILITARY SURGEON, the monthly journal of military medicine. He speaks and has translated from Italian, French, Spanish, German and Portuguese.

The General is a member of the Explorers Club of New York, [illegible] societies (of which he has been

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The General is a member of the Explorers Club of New York, of the Association of Military Surgeons (of which he has been Vice President,) vice president general of the Order of the Cincinnati, and has been U.S. representative to 11 international scientific congresses.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

355/R1/PRB

Aug 2, 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

Agreement has been reached between the Italian Government and the delegations representing the U.S. and British Governments which have been conferring in Rome that a public telegraph service shall be opened between Italy on the one hand, the U.S. and beyond and the U.K. and beyond on the other, the Allied Commission announced today.

Collection and delivery will be in the hands of Italcable and the external service will be conducted by Radio Corporation of America and Cables and Wireless while military necessity requires the presence of these companies in Italy.

The service will be available initially to the U.S.A. and its possessions and to the British Commonwealth of Nations. Traffic will be limited initially to private telegrams and to business telegrams containing simple enquiries and exchanges of information. Telegrams containing simple enquiries and exchanges of information. Telegrams must be in plain language and must be in either the Italian English, French, Spanish or Portuguese language. The service will be opened on Friday, May 4.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

1 May, 1945

154/R1/PRB

Press Release - Immediate

Col. Charles W. Walton, staff officer in the Economic Section of the Allied Commission, Italy, was today awarded the Legion of Merit in a ceremony conducted at the Allied Commission headquarters in Rome.

Cited for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Italy from March 1, 1944 to March 1, 1945", Col. Walton was accorded recognition for his work as chief of the administration division in the Headquarters, Army Air Forces Service Command, Mediterranean Theatre of Operations, the citation stated.

The colonel was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin when he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Cavalry in 1917. His service in the Army has included duty on the Mexican border in addition to periods spent on several cavalry posts. He was born in 1894 in Scales Mound, Illinois, where his mother, Mrs. A.E. Walton now resides.

In 1933 Col. Walton was graduated from the Harvard University School of Business Administration. He is also a graduate of the Command and General Staff School, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

Col. Walton was assigned to the Allied Commission in April, 1943, after completing his Air Force assignment and now occupies a key position in the supply division of that agency.

[illegible] Mrs. M. Walton, lives at 1325 Hinman Ave,

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Col. Walton was assigned to the Allied Commission in April, 1945, after completing his Air Force assignment and now occupies a key position in the supply division of that agency.

The Colonel's wife, Mrs. Ryan H. Walton, lives at 1325 Hinman ave, Evanston, Illinois. A sister, Mrs. F.W. Henderson, resides in Dubuque, Iowa.

The award was made by Col. C.T. Parkin, Infantry, commanding officer of the 2557th Regt., Allied Commission, Rome.

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Col. Talson's citation follows :

CITATION FOR LEGION OF MERIT

CHARLES T. TALSON, 05715, Colonel, Headquarters, Army Air Force Service Command, Mediterranean Theater of Operations, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Italy from 1 March 1944 to 1 March 1945. As Chief of the Administration Division, Colonel Talson demonstrated superior executive ability and initiative in organizing, planning and supervising A-1 and A-2 activities of the Air Force Service Command. He assumed the responsibility of obtaining an authorized War Department bulk allotment of grades and ratings so that the Headquarters might be reorganized to meet forthcoming operations. This reorganization entailed a tremendous amount of study and preparation and its subsequent approval by the War Department contributed greatly to the efficient operation of the Headquarters. Colonel Talson directed the establishment of policies governing the employment of Italian civilian personnel which greatly increased the value of these workers to service organizations in the Theater and through his unwiring efforts Italian military units were assigned for duty with this and other service commands, thereby relieving skilled American personnel for other vital duties. Under his guidance a large and successful program of information and educational training was inaugurated and constantly expanded, and the smooth and efficient functioning of a Rest Camp program for Air Forces in the Mediterranean Theater is a direct tribute to his outstanding administrative ability. His superior leadership, keen judgement and tireless devotion to duty made possible the accomplishment

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superior executive ability and initiative in organizing, planning and supervising A-1 and A-2 activities of the Air Force Service Command. He assumed the responsibility of obtaining an authorized War Department full allotment of grades and ratings so that the Headquarters might be reorganized to meet forthcoming operations. This reorganization entailed a tremendous amount of study and preparation and its subsequent approval by the War Department contributed greatly to the efficient operation of the headquarters. Colonel Tilton directed the establishment of policies governing the employment of Italian civilian personnel which greatly increased the value of these workers to service organizations in the Theater and through his unwiring efforts Italian military units were assigned for duty with this and other service commands, thereby relieving skilled American personnel for other vital duties. Under his guidance a large and successful program of indoctrination and educational training was inaugurated and constantly expanded, and the smooth and efficient functioning of a Rest Camp program for Air Forces in the Mediterranean Theater is a direct tribute to his outstanding administrative ability. His superior leadership, keen judgement and tireless devotion to duty only possible the accomplishment of a highly commendable record which reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered service from Scales Mound, Illinois.

Galena Gazette, Galena, Illinois
Evanston Review, Evanston, Illinois
Chicago Tribune
Chicago Daily News
Chicago Times
Chicago Sun
Dubuque, Iowa, Telegraph-Herald

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

28 April 1945

353/R1/PRB

Press Release - Immediate

The Allied Commission today made the following statement:

There has appeared in the Italian press statements attributed to Colonel Charles Poletti in which he is alleged to have said that as a result of events in the North, he would renounce his position as Regional Commissioner of Lombardy and although he will go to Milan, he will only be there as an observer or adviser.

Reached by telephone en route to his post in the North, Col. Poletti vehemently denied having made any such statement or having seen any newspaper in many days.

"I am en route to my assignment as AMG Regional Commissioner for Lombardy, which speaks for itself," he said.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

28 April 1945

352/R4/DRI

Press Release - Immediate

No permits will be given to civilians to travel to forward areas of the 5th and 8th Army zones until the present situation in North Italy is stabilized, the Allied Commission announced today.

Civilians are urged to make no requests for travel to the North until further notice.

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Distribution A, B and C.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

349 /R1/PRB 25 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The most up-to-date American method of cattle vaccination - from vaccine manufactured in Rome - is now being carried out in Liberated Italy to protect dairy herds from brucellosis, thus safeguarding herds dangerously depleted by German requisitions, the Allied Commission reported today.

The fact that the disease germs are carried in the milk of infected cows and cause undulant fever in man makes prevention of the disease especially important, Allied Commission officers said. Undulant fever has increased as a result of infected cows, it was added.

Brucellosis is a disease commonly referred to as contagious abortion. Introduced by a germ known as the brucella abortus, it causes heavy losses to the cattle industry each year, largely through the loss of calves by premature birth, sterility and reduced milk production.

The new vaccine was introduced into Italy five months ago after the Allied Commission's Public Health Sub-Commission observed that Italian cattle were falling victim in increasing numbers to brucellosis. An order for vaccine was placed with the Bureau of Animal Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture.

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When the first cultures of newly developed bacteria arrived, Lieut.Colonel Roland W. Rushmore (Jefferson, Iowa), head of the Commission's Veterinary Branch, had them sent to Rome's Istituto Superiore di Sanità, with instructions for producing the vaccine on a large scale.

Now, under the direction of Professor Vittorio Lazzarocchio, head of the Veterinary Section of the Institute, cultural media

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C C O O

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

346/RI/PRB.AC

26 April 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

Mr A.G. Antoniadis, Actg. Vice President of the Economic Section of the Allied Commission, will hold a press conference on Monday, 30 April, at 5 p.m. in Room 48, 6th Floor, Allied Commission Headquarters, to discuss matters of economic interest, including the private export trade.

DISTRIBUTION -

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

347/R1/PRB

Press Release - For Release 30 April, 1945

Increased rates in every local and national tax of any consequence, together with recently enacted penalties for failure to make proper returns of income, have combined to improve the revenue situation in Liberated Italy, the Allied Commission reported today.

Government spending, however, is increasing at a rate faster than revenue collection, with the result that each month the budget deficit gets larger. The Finance Sub-Commission of AC has made strong recommendations on the subject.

Improvement in tax machinery and higher rates afford considerable hope, particularly if brakes can be more vigorously applied on the spending side. The Ministry of Finance and its counterpart in AC have worked closely in tightening up the taxing system. Most of the suggestions from the AC finance experts have been incorporated into the Italian decrees.

Tax collections for January and February reflected the improving tax situation, 3,567,700,000 lire being paid in. This compares with 2,480,500,000 for November and December, 1944, with 2,277,000.000 in September and October and only 1,543,800,000 in July and August.

Manufacturing taxes (amounting to 64,700,000) were higher than for any month since the C...

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Manufacturing taxes (amounting to 64,700,000) were higher than for any month since the Germans were driven out. Direct taxes totaling 626,200,000 were also the best for any month, as were also indirect taxes which amounted to 788,900,000 lire.

For centuries in need of a major overhaul, the Italian tax system has become unwieldly and expensive, both Allied and Italian officials agree. Everywhere the poor taxpayer looks

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a tax collector is in waiting. There are 54 State revenue and 21 local taxation heads under which the taxpayer must pay tribute. Many of these tax units have sub-heads, which together bring the total number of different taxes to well over a hundred.

When the Germans retreated northward, the tax machinery ceased to function. Records in many places had been destroyed, property damage was such that tax values would have to be re-assessed, and tax offices themselves were disrupted by some tax officials departing with the Germans.

It was planned to abolish the old tax system, simplify the tax laws and start off with a revenue plan which would rest almost entirely on two or three principal taxes. It was soon realised, however, that because of the tremendous disruption of property values, the confusion in tax offices and because of the psychological apathy on the part of both taxpayers and government officials, that it would be wiser to limit the effort to resuscitation and improvement of the existing machinery and the stimulation of tax collection.

A new tax system will have to await liberation of all Italy and an opportunity for the switch-over to be made under more orderly circumstances.

The Allied Commission directed the re-establishment of the tax administration. Its officers in the field ascertained where the shortage of personnel was most acute and arranged for the transportation of replacements, and assisted in finding accomodations where offices had been rendered uninhabitable. Paper was supplied for office stationery and distribution arranged to central depots.

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The system employed in Biblical times of farming out the collection of taxes is still used in Italy today. The state sells the tax book, which stipulates what each taxpayer is to pay, to the highest bidder on contract for a period of five or ten years. These collectors, or "Esattori" as they are called, have to deposit substantial amounts as guarantee and for this reason the contracts are often undertaken by bankers or syndicates of financiers.

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Under this contract system the collectors have to pay over the total amount of the tx roll to the state coffers within a few days of its due date, whether they have collected it or not. For undertaking this risk and to cover the cost of collection they receive an "aggio" or percentage of the total amount collectible. The "aggio" is recovered from the taxpayer by adding it on to the tax demand note. The average aggio is about 6 per cent., a high cost by comparison with the cost of tax collection in the United States and England.

The cost of gathering in communal taxes is even more expensive. Until the recent change in the basis of assessing Imposta di Consumo, or consumer's tax, the main source of communal revenue, the cost of collection was in some instances as high as 50 per cent. of the total collected.

State revenue officers determine the amount of the liability to tax. Until now this has been done by "accordo" or verbal agreement between civil servant and taxpayer. This has been a most corrupt system, and the fast talker or unscrupulous often were able to obtain a much better deal than deserved. With enforcement of new decrees this practice will cease.

It has been customary for centuries past for the individual to admit to having earned only about one quarter or so of his real earnings. Even less recording changes in title seldom give the figure at which the transaction actually was made. Tax rates are high in Italy only because they are a charge on only a portion of the taxpayer's actual liability.

What is wanted, say tax authorities, is a greater sense of civic responsibility in tax matters, higher type tax officials,

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What is wanted, say tax authorities, is a greater sense of civic responsibility in tax matters, higher type tax officials, a recognition on the part of the public of the necessity of Government revenues, and a new and modernised tax system.

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Special Distribution and Distribution C.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

245/M1/PRB

25 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

More than 182,000 blankets from Allied sources are now being distributed to institutions there now Liberated Italy, the Allied Commission announced today.

The blankets, which were furnished by the Commerce Sub-Commission, have been placed at the disposal of the Welfare Branch of the Public Health Sub-Commission.

Hospitals, orphanages, child welfare and other institutions will receive priority treatment. Twenty thousand of the blankets are already on their way to Sicily and another 5,000 are being sent to Sardinia for distribution there, Lieut. Col. John McSweeney, chief of the Welfare Branch, said.

In Rome a comprehensive survey of local charitable institutions has been made under the direction of Captain George M.V. Brown, public welfare officer for the former Lazio-Umbria Region. The survey was carried out by a group of Italian women who volunteered to conduct personal investigations under the supervision of Mrs. Maysie G. Robinson, American social worker of the AC.

As a result of these efforts, stockpiles have been compiled of local child welfare needs and the distribution of 10,000 blankets in Rome is now taking place. Another distribution of blankets is being made to Rome hospitals.

Transport for the distribution of the...

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[illegible] Commission [illegible] throughout liberated Italy, are now being [illegible] voluntary.

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In Rome a comprehensive survey of local charitable institutions has been made under the direction of Captain George N.V. Brown, public welfare officer for the former Lazio-Umbria Region. The survey was carried out by a group of Italian women who volunteered to conduct personal investigations under the supervision of Mrs. Muzzio G. Robinson, American social worker of the AC.

As a result of these efforts, registries have been compiled of local child welfare needs and the distribution of 10,000 blankets in Rome is now taking place. Another distribution of blankets is being made to Rome hospitals.

Transport for the distribution of the blankets is being provided by the Ente Nazionale per la Distribuzione dei Soccorsi in Italia (E.N.D.S.I.). The trucks were the gift of the American Relief for Italy Inc.

DISTRIBUTION B - C

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

345/P1/PRB

24 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate.

Colonel GEORGE J. MURPHEY, QMC, 54, of Galveston, Texas, now assigned to Economic Section, Headquarters, Allied Commission, was yesterday awarded the Bronze of Merit for exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service from June 1942 to March 1943.

During this period Colonel Murphey served with the South Atlantic Wing, established in June 1942, and later with the United States Army Forces South Atlantic. He showed, in the words of the official citation:

"Exceptional organizing ability and foresight in making the necessary provision for supply during the emergency period of the establishment of the South Atlantic Wing. Through his great effort and foresight supplies were always available when needed during the various emergencies that occurred. He supervised their distribution along a 4,000 mile line of communications by continual inspections. His indefatigable energy and efforts were an inspiration to his personnel. To a great extent his excellent judgement and constant attention made it possible to accomplish the tasks assigned to the American Forces in the South Atlantic."

Colonel Murphey's organization had a vital responsibility in keeping open the line of communicati[illegible] the Middle East [illegible]

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

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Colonel Murphey's organization had a vital responsibility in keeping open the line of communication between the U.S. and the Middle East and Persia which, before the North African landing, was the only one available. The chain of airfields, for which supplies were maintained, extended from Belem (Para), in Brazil, to Ascension Island, and at times dealt with nearly [illegible] 000 planes a day.

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The presentation of the award was made at Headquarters, Allied Commission by Colonel Warren E. Fisher, Acting Executive Commissioner.

Colonel Murphey has had a long military career, being first commissioned in December 1941 as an Infantry Officer. He was with the A.E.F. in France in World War I, as a Lieutenant-Colonel. The Colonel joined Allied Military Government in November 1943, entering Italy from Sicily during the same month, and was assigned to the Allied Commission in January 1944.

Colonel Murphey was born at Augusta, Ga., and is married to Mrs George J. Murphey. His home address is 12 Cedar Dam, North, Galveston, Texas.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

344/PRB

Press Release - For Release 1 May, 1945.

In the past 2,000 years the Adriatic town of Rimini has many times been the scene of war. Tactical pivot for the Po Valley and east coast base for attack on Rome, Rimini has seen every aggression in Italy directed north and west. Julius Caesar's legionaries mobilised for their march on Rome in this town and since that day Rimini has been torn by war at frequent intervals. But never before in its history has the town been so destroyed; modern warfare has clawed down and razed its historic buildings and homes.

In the attack of the Allied 8th Army and in the defence of the Wehrmacht 85 per cent. of the town was destroyed. It represents a scene of disaster, destruction and hopelessness, but, curiously enough, from this worst damaged of all east coast Italian towns there has risen a very definite spirit of hope.

The keynote of Rimini is reconstruction and it is not merely talk. Today, eight months after the liberation and under the guidance of the Allied Commission's 8th Army AMG, reconstruction is a fact in terms, not only of ideas, plans and hopes but in terms of work and achievement.

The story of new Rimini began during the battle for the town when the town held only ten civilians. The remainder were sitting, eating, sleeping, being sick, dying and being born

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The story of new Rimini began during the battle for the town when the town held only ten civilians. The remainder were sitting, eating, sleeping, being sick, living and being born in the dim, overcrowded tunnels of San Marino. There, while their town was disintegrating before their eyes, a group of Italians led by Commendatore Elio Alessandrini, a local contractor, planned the new Rimini before the old had been completely destroyed. In the unlit tunnels and cellars of San Marino, they discussed with young architectural students, engineers and

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craftsmen how the new city should be built, for what purpose it should be built and by what means they could build it.

With the fall of the town to the Allies the refugees returned to their shattered homes. They brought with them the germs of typhoid fever which they had found in the same cellars and tunnels in which they had planned the future. They returned to problems greater than that of reconstructing a new town. The problems were those of how to feed and house immediately a population of 30,000 in a town which was 85 per cent. destroyed and of which 65 per cent. was unrepairable, even temporarily.

These were the problems that faced Alessandroni with all his plans for a new Rimini. These also were the problems that faced AMG officers whose responsibility it was to make life possible in the town. Rimini had literally ceased to exist. There were few houses. There were no sewers. There was no water. There was the threat of typhoid fever. What was to be done about all this and was it possible to house Rimini's homeless? These were the questions posed to AMG. Was the new town plan merely a dream for the distant future which would have to be shelved while first things were dealt with first?

These questions were answered by AMG, through Lt. Peter Natale (340 Park Avenue, Hoboken, New Jersey) their AMG engineering officer in Rimini, who had been sent to deal with the problem by AMG's veteran Regional Engineer, Colonel W.M. Spann (230 West 70th Street, Kansas City, Missouri). Within a day of his arrival Lt. Natale had called a meeting of all the local architects, engineers and contractors. Following this meeting a deputation immediately presented itself at his office asking

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These questions were answered by AMG, through Lt. Peter Natale (340 Park Avenue, Hoboken, New Jersey) their AMG engineering officer in Rimini, who had been sent to deal with the problem by AMG's veteran Regional Engineer, Colonel T.L. Spann (230 West 70th Street, Kansas City, Missouri). Within a day of his arrival Lt. Natale had called a meeting of all the local architects, engineers and contractors. Following this meeting a deputation immediately presented itself at his office asking to be allowed to help make the town habitable. This small deputation was presented with the plan of the new town. The Italians were asked to co-operate with AMG in rebuilding Rimini. They agreed enthusiastically and the following day saw a new delegation at the AMG headquarters, representing all the political parties in the town. This larger and broader delegation also promised to assist and agreed for the time, at any rate,

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that all political differences should be shelved.

The new town plan was elected enthusiastically by the people of Rimini and having been accepted, the matter did not rest there. Lt. Nanele explained that before the new town could be built, the old town would have to be cleaned up. This meant much more than lip service, said Rimini's AMG engineers it meant work and hard work.

Today the people of Rimini are working on their new town. They are completing with voluntary unpaid labour the clearing up of the bomb damage and shell destruction. Hundreds of houses have been pulled down and all the material has been salvaged and stored in warehouses to rebuild homes for the homeless. Every day Rimini sees hundreds of volunteers working in the streets, tearing down wrecked buildings, reconstructing temporary houses, digging new sewers. Every day groups of people come to work without pay. Every week the barbers of Rimini close for a day and do their work for their town. A free technical school, sponsored by AMG and paid for by local professional men has been opened. This is the first free technical school in Italy and it will produce thousands of skilled workers who will play an important role in building the new Rimini. The new town plan was completed and the final design made by Architect Lacatros, a world famous architect and prize winner in the town planning competition of the University of Bratislava in 1940. The town of Rimini is a hive of industry and hope.

The new Rimini will accomodate 300,000 people. One hundred [illegible] will be holiday visitors and the remainder [illegible] $200,000,000

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hard work.

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The new Rimini will accomodate 300,000 people. One hundred and fifty thousand will be holiday visitors and the remainder residents. The cost of the new town plan will be $200,000,000 and the plan will take twelve years to complete. Today, with the war still within hearing and certainly not out of memory, the New Rimini Planning Group has already raised by loans fifteen million dollars to cover reconstruction costs from 1945 until 1947. In addition, the people of Rimini have themselves raised $1,000,000 bringing the total of the present capital to $17,000,000.

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This is the background of the plan. The old Rimini covered an area of 2,500,000 square meters. The new city will cover an area of 15,000,000 square meters. Two modern hospitals will be built for the people. A Rimini and each citizen will own his house. No houses will be rented and each household then will pay for his house by yearly or monthly installments. The city will consist of a number of quarters which will include the hotel section on the coast, the shopping center, the governmental section, the residential section, the first class section, the sports and educational section and the self help section. All modern architectural and engineering science will be utilized to create a model town of what was destroyed.

The town plan was officially adopted on the 28th of April, 1945. Work on the new town is scheduled to commence towards the end of May. Rimini has produced a plan which already is being copied by other Italian towns. Today, AMG offices in many Italian towns are receiving inquiries as civilians seeking to be permitted to help in the rebuilding of their war-torn towns and homes. Recently a delegation was received in Rimini from the twelve coastal towns stretching from Ravenna to Ancona asking that a town plan similar to Rimini's should be prepared for them.

Italy's greatest experiment in social co-operation and reconstruction is on its way.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

343/R1/RPB

23 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Private First Class [illegible] B. DE LEO, JR., of 907 Ellsworth St., Philadelphia, Pa., now assigned to Headquarters, Allied Commission, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations in Italy from 20 May to 15 June 1944.

The official citation describes how " Pfc. De Leo not only executed his assigned duties in the administration of a large rehabilitation camp in a most distinguished fashion but in addition, and on his own initiative, he voluntarily and with considerable difficulty uncovered subversive plotting on the part of local enemy sympathizers and brought about their apprehension and subsequent prosecution, thereby making a valuable contribution to the success of Allied Military Forces in Italy ."

The presentation of the award was made by Colonel C.J. Perkin, Inf., Commanding Officer, 2675th Regiment, and Acting Vice President of the ACA's Establishment Section.

The son of Mrs Sophia De Leo, Pfc. De Leo was a Linotype operator before he entered the service in April 1943.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
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342/R1/PRB

21 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The scourge of malaria which for centuries has been a drain on the human resources of Italy is being attacked on several fronts by the Allied Commission, other Allied agencies and by the Italian government, it was announced today.

Through three sub-commissions of AC - Public Health, Agriculture and Public Works and Utilities -- treatment of malarial cases and prevention of any extension of the disease are being carried on.

With the onset of warmer weather threat of malaria always increases. Fifty million tablets of atabrine for public use have been allotted to AC by the Allied Military authorities, a similar amount is being provided by United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency (UNRRA) and stocks of the Italian Government are being used both as a preventative and for treatment.

AC has undertaken to rehabilitate the pre-war government system for treating and combatting. Clinics in each province have been reopened and stocked with personnel and supplies for treatment. Insecticide squads work in the provinces cleaning out ditches, canals and other basins where water accumulates. Workers also spread Paris green over swamp areas.

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

While flooding by the Germans of the extensive reclamation areas in Italy served to hold up the advance of Allied arms by only a few hours, malarial authorities with the Public Health Sub-Commission of AC have stated that the flooding plunged the country back into the position it was before malarial control was started 20 years ago.

Malaria had a sharp increase last year in Rome province and south. Littoria province had 54,000 cases of malaria from June to December, in Rome province there were 10,000, in Frosinone 10,000 and in the whole of the Southern Region 50,000 cases. Few deaths resulted fortunately.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

21 April 1945

341/R1/PRB

Press Release - Immediate

Inhabitants of the Sicilian commune of Barcellona in the province of Messina are to name their chief square after President Roosevelt, the Allied Commission reported today.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

340/R1/PRB 20 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The 34th Meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy was held in Rome on April 20th 1945 under the chairmanship of Sir Noel CHARRIS, Bart., the British Representative on the Council. The representatives of the five other Allied Nations attending the meeting were :

M. Couve de MURVILLE	France
Georges EXINTARIS	Greece
Gen. A. KISLENKO	Soviet Union
Alexander KIRK	U.S.A.
Sloven SMODLAKA	Yugoslavia

Rear Admiral Ellery W. STONE, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, presented a report to the Council on recent political events in Liberated Italy.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

330/PI/PRP

20 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Food and medicine are being distributed in newly liberated Massa and Carrara, debris is being cleared up, public utilities are practically restored and Red Cross clothing will be available shortly, 5th Army ACC reported to the Allied Commission today.

The two main power stations, supplying both towns, have only suffered minor damage. Italian Army Engineers have begun repairs on Massa's water supply, damaged by German demolitions. 3 million gallons are on hand for current needs.

Six hundred patients were evacuated from the civil hospital at Massa to that at Carrara, but the Germans then started shelling the latter, and that also had to be evacuated. Urgent civilian cases now go to Lucca or Viareggio hospitals. Massa and Carrara hospitals are both well equipped and staffed by competent Italian Red Cross sisters.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

19 April 1945.

338/A1/PRB

Press Release - Immediate.

800,000 Italian Navy shell forgings will be turned over to Italian steel mills as scrap to be re-converted into carpenter nails and construction materials, the Allied Commission announced today.

The shell forgings have been gathered from the Royal Navy Arsenal and Naples shipyards. When melted down, the scrap will provide at least 2,000 tons of steel, it was estimated.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
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336 R1/PRB 18 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Three important developments which will definitely improve the transportation of essential civilian supplies in Italy were announced today by the Allied Commission.

A FURTHER SHIPMENT of 1,860 trucks requested by the Allied Commission from the United States has been approved. The trucks will be available for shipping by late spring and early summer. This will make an over-all total of 3,560 trucks authorized for Italy.

TRUCK ARRIVALS to date of the 1,700 consigned last fall now amount to 1,552. Arrivals began in January with an initial shipment of 72. All trucks under these consignment will be used primarily to move civilian supplies in liberated areas, particularly in the North.

AN ALLIED MOTOR TRANSPORT GROUP has been established, consisting at present of three U.S. Q.M. truck battalions and two British S.E. columns. Operating personnel are 90 per cent. Italian Army officers and men, with an eventual strength of nearly 9,000.

The new consignment of trucks will include 250 10-tonners, the remainder being 1½-ton trucks. Of the 1,860, 1,360 will be re-conditioned vehicles.

The trucks arriving currently are shipped in crates and are

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

A FURTHER SHIPMENT of 1,850 trucks requested by the Allied Commission from the United States has been approved. The trucks will be available for shipping by late spring and early summer. This will make an over-all total of 3,550 trucks authorized for Italy.

TRUCK ARRIVALS to date of the 1,700 consigned last fall now amount to 1,552. Arrivals began in January with an initial shipment of 12. All trucks under these consignment will be used primarily to move civilian supplies in liberated areas, particularly in the North.

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The new consignment of trucks will include 250 10-tonners, the remainder being 1½-ton trucks. Of the 1,850, 1,360 will be re-conditioned vehicles.

The trucks arriving currently are shipped in crates and are sent to Rome by rail from the ports. The trucks are then assembled in Rome by 500 Italian civilians working under the direction of a British major and four American enlisted men.

Four assembly lines are now in production and 15 to 25 trucks are rolling off a day. With increased rate of arrivals, assembly production is to be stepped up to approximately 50 a day, the job to go on 24 hours a day.

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Even every last piece of wood in the shipping crates is used at the Rome assembly plant - for shelvings and receptacles for the 500-odd spare parts items shipped with each truck for a six-months' supply.

The Allied Motor Transport Group has been made a separate, integral unit of the Allied Commission with administrative autonomy similar to a region.

Since its first small beginnings in February, 1944, when military sources turned over 1,000 old trucks to the Commission, it has hauled to date more than 451,000 tons of civilian supplies, usually in the forward areas where its vehicles at times have been strafed and even captured and its personnel wounded while running food to the hungry front-line towns.

When units now being organized are completed, the transport group will have 1,200 trucks under American formation and 1,200 under British. Each G.M. company has 50 trucks while each G.I. company has 120. There will be 24 of the former companies and 10 of the latter. There will also be a number of maintenance companies. The organization of the group is under command of Col. J.J. Carnes (Royalton, Minn.), a West Pointer who established the U.S. Army's truck training courses at the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga.

The new group has been established, Col. Carnes said, with the aim in mind of creating an organization that will be able to maintain itself at maximum operating efficiency in order to do the urgent job of moving Italy's essential civilian supplies most expeditiously where they are most needed. The group will have a total monthly lift of 150,000 tons when complete. Currently 2,000 tons a day are moved.

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Eventually, the organization and trucks will be turned over to the Italian Government, on whose financial accounts they have been purchased. The trucks are not for sale to private buyers.

Extra trucks over the 2,400 number to be regularly assigned will be used as replacements for the worn-out stock now on the

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road. These trucks needing major repairs will be re-conditioned and placed in organized civilian transport pools under Italian Government control.

In the program to create a self-sufficient transport unit, the first class of a training course for 95 mechanics has just started in Rome. In addition, all drivers receive first echelon or preliminary mechanics' training in a special drivers' school at Civitavecchia where 2,500 drivers are now in course of training. There, on a plot of ground nearly two miles square, drivers are learning the latest driving techniques. A 12-mile strip on road is employed as a training ground for convoy drill. Traffic rules taught are those of standard U.S. Army regulations.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
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18 April 1945

335/R1/PRB

Press Release - Immediate

Civilian mine-clearers have lifted over 50,000 mines in the agricultural areas of Pisa, Pistoia and Lucca Provinces under 5th Army AMG supervision, the Allied Commission reported today.

During the past week 2,900 mines have been lifted in the Pisa area, 1,300 in Pistoia, and 1,500 in Lucca. Work is also proceeding at the Solvay Soda Factory at Grosseto, mine clearing of which is a first step toward reactivation.

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334 /R1/PRB 17 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

First institution of its kind to be used exclusively for Italian Patriots, the 75-bed Anna Maria Enriquez Hospital has been established at Pescia in Tuscany by the 5th Army ALC, the Allied Commission reported today.

Financed by the Italian Ministry of Occupied Italy, the hospital is named after a girl of the Modena Brigade who was captured and shot by the Germans.

Two and a half tons of medical supplies have been given to the hospital by the Allied military authorities and the Florence Allied Military Government is supplying the food.

The hospital's director was once a captain in the Italian Army. On the staff are five Italian doctors, ten Italian Red Cross nurses, five Patriot nurses and five Italian sisters. The institution is run on the same lines as a military hospital.

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Italian Patriots, the 75-bed Anna Maria Enriquez hospital has been established at Bessio in Tuscany by the 5th Army AMG, the Allied Commission reported today.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
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333/P1/PRB

Press Release - For Release 4 May 1945.

Coal, grain and other foodstuffs and materials essential to the life of Rome and environs are now coming through the historic port of Civitavecchia in steadily-increasing volume as a result of Allied Commission efforts in rehabilitating the German-devastated port.

Completely knocked out by air raids and by German demolitions which smashed every port building and pier and scores of fishing boats and large ocean-going cargo ships, Civitavecchia is once again a picture of activity as Liberty and other ships are unloaded and their cargoes transferred to rail cars or trucks and headed for Rome.

Huge piles of rubble - conglomerates of stone and twisted masses of steel - are everywhere in the port area. Partially sunk ships and wrecked cranes and harbor equipment strew the harbor itself. But throughout this maze of ruins Italian workers have cleared channels in the harbor, rebuilt piers and cleared the dockside sufficiently to enable ships to come in and discharge.

Within a brief period port facilities will be restored sufficiently to handle 3,000 tons a day, all for Italian civilians. This tonnage, Allied Commission and Italian transportation authorities say, will be enough to supply the Eternal City with at least its minimum requirements from Allied [illegible]

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Of crucial importance because of its proximity to Rome, this old port, begun in 102.A.D. by the great architect Apollodorus under the Emperor Trajan, and shaped down through the centuries by such world-renowned artists and architects as Bramante, Bernini and Michelangelo, was damaged so badly that it was completely

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immobilized for three months after it was occupied by Allied Forces. The waters of the Tyrrhenian Sea were muddy from the great underwater explosions prepared by the Germans before their departure. Mines continued to explode for weeks after the area was liberated.

Civitavecchia fell to the Allies June 7, just three days after Rome had been freed. It was not until September that enough debris had been cleared away to allow any traffic at all; in that month only 731 tons were unloaded. In October some headway had been made in clearing a channel and readying a berth, and 4,748 tons were unloaded. Tonnage has been increased every month since, and for April 1945 tonnage was in excess of 60,000.

In October, 1944 it was decided to turn the port, which is about 40 miles northwest of the capital city, back to the Italians, since by that time the Allies had moved considerably farther north and had occupied Leghorn, thus gaining an important port near the Fifth Army. It also was decided that Civitavecchia should be a port to receive supplies for Italian civilian account, so it was logical that responsibility for the port should be placed in Italian hands.

Accordingly, Allied military authorities handed over the devastated port to the Royal Italian Navy. Cranes, bulldozers, face shovels, dumpers, a quantity of compressors and a repair ship were also turned over to the Italians, since all such Italian salvage and construction equipment had been destroyed or had been removed and taken north by the Germans.

One thousand Italians working under the direction of the

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[illegible] September that enough debris had been cleared away to allow any traffic at all; in that month only 731 tons were unloaded. In October some headway had been made in clearing a channel and providing a berth, and 4,746 tons were unloaded. Tonnage has been increased every month since, and for April 1945 tonnage was in excess of 60,000.

In October, 1944 it was decided to turn the port, which is about 40 miles northwest of the capital city, back to the Italians, since by that time the Allies had moved considerably farther north and had occupied Leghorn, thus gaining an important port near the Fifth Army. It also was decided that Civitavecchia should be a port to receive supplies for Italian civilian account, so it was logical that responsibility for the port should be placed in Italian hands.

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One thousand Italians working under the direction of the Italian Navy began unscrambling the shambles of the port. Hundreds of thousands of tons of wreckage had to be removed from the water and unloading areas. Piers which had been blasted had to be rebuilt and redraged so that ships could again come alongside. Barges, tugs, schooners and other craft sunk in a way best calculated by the Germans to impede ship traffic had to be raised or broken to pieces and moved out of the traffic lanes.

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A visitor to the port sees Italian workmen at these tasks of clearing away and rebuilding. Much work has to be done by hand because there are not enough proper machinery and tools and progress is necessarily slow. Commander Giuseppe Vosturo is the Royal Italian Navy officer in charge of the port. With him are two officers from the Allied Commission: Major C.P.E. Goldson, RA (Newcastle-on-Tyne, England) port construction officer, and Captain J.V. Bowes, Manchester Regiment (Manchester, England), port liaison officer.

Four berths have been repaired and ships up to 10,000 tons are being unloaded, all by Italian labor. A fifth berth will be ready to take ships shortly. Smaller craft can tie up at a few old docks and colliers, and in addition to discharging direct to railway cars, can anchor in the harbor and offload their cargoes into British Minor lighters or barges to be taken to Fiumicino, at the mouth of the Tiber, and towed up the river to Rome.

Rail connection to Rome directly from the harbor area has been restored by the Italian State Railways. Additional spur lines to the docks are yet to be built, but great piles of wreckage will have to be removed before any progress can be made in that direction.

In addition to its responsibilities in connection with rehabilitation of the port, the Italian Navy has control of all ships and craft in the harbor and in the loading and unloading of schooners and coasters.

Two fishing boats which had been sunk in the harbor have been raised, as have a 200-ton coaster and three barges of 80 tons each.

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Simons (Manchester, England), port liaison officer.

Four berths have been repaired and ships up to 10,000 tons are being unloaded, all by Italian labor. A firm hand will be ready to take ships shortly. Smaller craft can dock at a few old docks and quays, and in addition to discharging direct to railway cars, can anchor in the harbor and offload their cargoes into British lighters or barges to be taken to Pianosina, at the mouth of the Tiber, and towed up the river to Rome.

Rail connection to Rome directly over the center area has been restored by the Italian State Railways. Additional spur lines to the docks are yet to be built, but great piles of wreckage will have to be removed before any progress can be made in that direction.

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Two fishing boats which had been sunk in the harbor have been raised, as have a 200-ton dumper and three barges of 80 tons each, a tug and a pilot boat. Some 89 barges are still underwater, but many will be floated within the next few weeks. The City of Trieste, 8,000 tonner, which plied the Adriatic before the war, is a complete wreck and cannot be recovered. Its presence does not obstruct traffic, nor does the Sebbia, 6,000 ton passenger-cargo ship, partially submerged

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near the harbor entrance.

In 1937 Civitavecchia handled 1,516 ships and discharged 1,145,372 tons. Many ships put out from this port to ride the Atlantic as well as the less tempestuous Mediterranean. A lively traffic runs through this port to Sardinia.

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

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332/R1/PRB

14 April 1949.

Press Release - Immediate.

At a special ceremony at 4.30 Sunday afternoon (15 April) the Rome Technical Police School Barracks at 31 Via Guido Reni will be named after Maurizio Giglio, lieutenant of the police corps who was murdered at the Ardeatine Caves, the Allied Commission announced today.

After the unveiling of a memorial, a special program has been arranged as a close to the 34th Police Cadets Course. Among the events will be a police parade, a military demonstration, music, a gymnastic display and a tour of the school buildings.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

321/P1/PRB

14 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The island of Sardinia, after more than a year and a half of administration under the guidance of the Allied Commission, was well on its way to recovery and rehabilitation when the last Allied officers withdrew at the end of last month, the Allied Commission reported today.

Exports from the island for the first three months of the year amounted to more than 100,000 and imports to 40,000 tons. In addition 4,100 sheep, 1,200 cattle and 500 horses and donkeys were exported to replenish depleted stocks on the Italian mainland.

The main commodities exported were 62,000 tons of coal, 5,200 tons of salt and 750 tons of paint pigments. Chief imports were 15,300 tons of grain, 1,000 tons of phosphates (to make fertilizer) and 11,000 tons of coal. Coal figures among Sardinia's exports and imports because the low-grade island coal is sent to the mainland, while the island itself requires some 1,900 tons a month of higher grade imported coal for its industries and railroads. More miners are being recruited to raise production, 500 coming into the industry last month.

A year ago the food situation was serious and there was a great shortage of consumer goods. By April 1944 rationed commodities - flour, pasta, beans, soup, olive oil, milk and sugar - were adequate and have since been distributed regularly

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

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The main commodities exported were 82,000 tons of coal, 6,200 tons of salt and 750 tons of paint pigments. Chief imports were 13,300 tons of grain, 4,000 tons of phosphates (to make fertilizer) and 14,000 tons of coal. Coal figures among Sardinia's exports and imports because the low-grade island coal is sent to the mainland, while the island itself requires some 2,000 tons a month of higher grade imported coal for its industries and railroads. More miners are being recruited to raise production, 500 having left the industry last month.

A year ago the food situation was serious and there was a great shortage of consumer goods. By April 1944 rationed commodities -- flour, peas, beans, soap, olive oil, milk and sugar -- were adequate and have since been distributed regularly to the population.

The wheat collection campaign resulted in the amassing of 310,000 qtl. of grain, more than 10,000 qtl. over the estimated collection. In addition, approximately 290,000 qtl. of grain were imported and with the arrival of a further 240,000 qtl. the bread ration until the next harvest comes has been completed.

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The olive oil collection has yielded to date 14,217 qtl. A year ago the island was almost without oil.

The tunny fishing season is due to commence later this month and will provide an exportable surplus. Lambs will be available for export later in the year.

Cagliari, the island's severely bombed capital, is now looking much more like its pre-war self. Water supply, sewage system, electricity (including street lighting) and trams have been completely restored and the city has half its former gas service. Streets are all clear, with rebuilding continuing and making sudden progress with the better weather. Railway extensions in the port are already in use and nearing completion.

All Italian military barracks in the city are to be handed over to the Commune for conversion into flats and tenements. Between 300 and 400 families are expected to be housed in this way.

Over 73,000,000 lire worth of public works are in progress or projected, including road reconstruction, housing, water and drainage schemes, clearance and demolition projects and work on the docks.

Work on the great Flumendosa hydro-electric project - to utilize the upper waters of the river Flumendosa - has reached an advanced stage. When completed the project will allow the installation of nearly 55,000 kilowatts, increasing the capacity of the Sardinian electrical system by 50 per cent. and promoting future development in mining and industry.

The tunnels are now all cut, the chambers for the installation of machinery all on the way to completion, foundations for the four dams are all laid and one of the dams is practically

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

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The tunnels are now all cut, the chambers for the installation of machinery - all on the way to completion, foundations for the four dams are all laid and one of the dams is practically finished.

Local cement from the Cagliari plant, which is producing 4,000 tons a month now and should be producing 6,000 shortly, will be utilized for the work. More coal for the railway and trucks for the roads are needed, however, to take the cement to

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

the electrical plant.

The standard of public safety, never too high in the island, has improved to such an extent that last month only one murder was reported and cases of armed robbery declined from 50 in February to 38 in March.

An Italian military court, to whom the Allied authorities had entrusted the trial of two paratroopers dropped last summer from enemy aeroplanes, sentenced one of the accused to 30 years imprisonment and acquitted 6 others. The tenth was shot by the Carabinieri when attempting to escape from capture.

Italian courts were re-opened in April 1944 after being closed since June of the previous year. As many as 15,000 cases are still outstanding in the tribunals, but the Court of Assise is keeping abreast with current work.

The recent delivery of 57 vehicles from the Italian Army for civilian use and the allocation of 30 tires will help make good the general deficiency of transport. Ten tons of carbide received last month from the mining division will help repair coal-burning locomotives.

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imprisonment and acquitted 3 others. The bandits are shot by the Gendarmerie when attempting to escape from capture.

Indian courts were re-opened in April 1944 after being closed since June of the previous year. As many as 16,000 cases are still outstanding in the tribunals, but the Court of Appeal is keeping abreast with current work.

The recent delivery of 57 vehicles from the Indian Army for civilian use and the allocation of 50 tires will help make good the general inadequacy of transport. Ten tons of carbide received last month from the mining division will help repair coal-burning locomotives.

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Distribution A, B and C.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION

330/81/PRD

13 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Within two hours of the capture of Lugo San Army AMG Officers had started to organize the new administration of the town, the Allied Commission reported today.

Before nightfall a Sindaco and Giunta had been elected and had started work. Allied Military Government Proclamations were posted in the streets and Italian officials instructed in their duties towards the civilian population of 30,000 and to the Military Government.

As most of the Carabinieri had retreated with the Germans the AMG in charge called for volunteers for police duties. A large number of people volunteered and 50 were chosen. The first batch of regular Carabinieri arrived in the town shortly after.

The day after the liberation of Lugo (April 11), AMG Public Health Officer arrived. He has already organized the local civilian 150 bed hospital. Although damaged in the battle, the hospital now holds 125 patients, 80 of whom are battle casualties. Arrangements have been made to move 120 patients to civilian hospitals in Ravenna and Bagnacavallo. The evacuation of movable patients has already begun.

The enthusiastic welcome given to the Allied troops by the people of Lugo, whose town saw Garibaldi's troops organise their

0734
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Allied Commission reported today.

Before nightfall - Sandro and Pluto had been located and had started work. Allied Military Government Proclamations were posted in the streets and Italian civilians instructed in their duties towards the civilian population of 30,000 and to the Military Government.

As most of the Carabinieri had retreated with the Germans the AMG in Genoa called for volunteers for police duties. A large number of people volunteered and 30 were chosen. The first batch of regular Carabinieri arrived in the town shortly after.

The day after the liberation of Lugo (April 11), AMG Public Health Officer arrived. He had already organised the local civilian 150 bed hospital. Although located in the battle, the hospital now holds 125 patients, 90 of whom are battle casualties. Arrangements have been made to move 120 patients to civilian hospitals in Ravenna and Bagnacavallo. The evacuation of movable patients has already begun.

The enthusiastic welcome given to the Allied troops by the people of Lugo, whose town saw Garibaldi's troops organise their Sicilian campaign, was not only expressed vocally. For example, a worried British Major rushed into the AMG headquarters and asked if something could be done about filling certain uncanny holes in the roads. His tanks and carriers were suffering badly from them. The new Sindaco immediately offered the assistance of 30 men to fill the holes and within five minutes, in spite of lack of tools, the work was in progress.

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People of Iwo are also reading their first free paper published since Fesolon's occupation. Copies of the PWB Corriere Alleato are distributed by AMG officers.

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DISTRIBUTION: A B C

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

388/P1/PRB 13 April 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the AC, today issued the following statement:

" The death of the President Roosevelt has come as a great shock to the Italian Government and people and to the Allied Commission. He was personally and deeply interested in Italy and its problems. We were constantly conscious of his efforts to give assistance to the Commission's work. The American Staff of the Commission mourns the loss of their Commander-in-Chief, and the members of all nationalities in the Commission send heartfelt sympathy to his family in their tragic loss."

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PR/PI/283 10 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

More than 3,000 children have been examined under 5th Army AMG direction in a medical survey in the liberated portion of Bologna province, the Allied Commission reported today.

Of the children 3,410 required medical treatment and 433 needed their tonsils removed.

Supplementary food for 30 days has been provided, with Vitamin C and calcium tablets for children awaiting operations. In addition, the American Red Cross has provided 30 days' supply of multi-vitamin tablets for all the children requiring medical treatment.

Allied military surgeons have volunteered to provide instruments and carry out the operations, as there are not enough Italian doctors available.

Sufficient iodine for 30 days' treatment has been supplied for the benefit of 350 of the children found to be suffering from goiter.

Further, precautions have been taken against an outbreak of malaria and all possible mosquito breeding places throughout the whole Commune have been sprayed by mobile units.

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and direction in a medical survey in the liberated portion of Tolmino province, the Allied Commission reported today.

Of the children 3,418 required medical treatment and 403 needed their tonsils removed.

Supplementary food for 30 days has been provided, with Vitamin C and calcium tablets for children awaiting operations. In addition, the American Red Cross has provided 30 days' supply of multi-vitamin tablets for all the children requiring medical treatment.

Allied military surgeons have volunteered to provide instruments and carry out the operations, as there are not enough Italian doctors available.

Sufficient rations for 10 days' treatment has been supplied for the benefit of 350 of the children found to be suffering from malnutrition.

Further, precautions have been taken against an outbreak of malaria and all possible mosquito breeding places throughout the whole countryside have been sprayed by mobile units.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

327/R1/PRB

9 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

At Saline-Volterra in Tuscany a tile factory has been reactivated by 5th Army AMG which will produce a million and a half tiles a year, the Allied Commission reported today.

The first lot of tiles, which will be made from local material, will be ready in two months' time, after which the plant will turn out 3,000 tiles a day.

Electric power has been allotted to the plant for three hours a day and there is enough coal on hand to keep the oven going. Forty people are already employed in the plant.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

9 April 1945

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

Correspondents interested in seeing at first hand what is happening to the more than 1,000 trucks sent over from the U.S. may visit the newly established Allied Motor Transport Group of the Allied Commission in the suburbs of Rome on Wednesday, April 11, at 2 p.m. Correspondents wishing to make the trip please notify Major Beaches in advance at 46,061 - Extension 353.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

326/R1/PRB

7 April 1949.

Press Release - Immediate.

The King of England, on the recommendation of the First Lord of the Admiralty, has conferred the honorary appointment of Commander of the British Empire on Rear Admiral Tillery W. Stone, USNR.

The award was granted in recognition of Admiral Stone's services as Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission in Italy. The Allied Commission is an arm of the Allied military forces in Italy and is charged with maintaining law and order transportation and communication in that portion of the country which has been liberated from the Germans.

Admiral Stone, 28 years in the Naval Reserve, had been president of the Postal Telegraph - Cable Company before being ordered to active duty in the Navy. His home is in New York City.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

325/51/GRD. 8 April 1945

FOR INFORMATION - NOT FOR PUBLICATION.

Chief personnel of the Allied Commission in headquarters and field:

Acting President .. .. Mr. Harold Macmillan (B)
Chief Commissioner.. .. .. Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR (A)
Executive Commissioner.. .. .. .. Lieutenant H.S. Lush (B)
Deputy Executive Commissioner .. .. Colonel Norman E Fiske (A)
Vice Presidents
Economic Section .. .. .. Mr. A.G. Ambrini (A) (Acting)
Brigadier General Edward E. Oakley (A) (Deputy)
Civil Affairs Section .. .. Brigadier G.R. Upjohn (B)
Establishment Section .. .. Colonel Norman E. Fiske (A)
Political Advisers .. .. Mr.H.I. D'A Robinson (B) (British Embassy)
(attached but not members of Commission) .. .. Mr. Walter C. Dowling (A) (American Embassy)

Economic Section Sub-Commission Directors

Agriculture .. .. Mr. Leland S. Ebaugh (A)
Economics .. .. Colonel W.F. Evans (B)
Finance .. .. (Brigadier A.E. Drummond-Smith (B)
(Joint Directors) .. .. (Commander F.J. Dexter (A)
Food .. .. Colonel W.C. Bean (B)
Industry .. .. Mr. William S. Vaughan (A)
Labor .. .. Mr. William H. Brazine (B)

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

Chief Commissioner..	Mr. Harold Macmillan (B)
	Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR (A)
Executive Commissioner..	Air Vice Marshal M.S. Ivelaw (B)
Deputy Executive Commissioner	Colonel Norman E Fiske (A)
Vice Presidents	
Economic Section	Mr. A.G. Archbald (A) (Acting)
	Brigadier General Edward N. Grimley (A) (Deputy)
Civil Affairs Section	Brigadier S.R. Upjohn (B)
Establishment Section	Colonel Norman E. Fiske (A)
Political Advisers	Mr.H.L. D'A. Hopkinson (B) (British Embassy)
(Attached but not members of Commission)	Mr. Walter C. Dowling (A) (American Embassy)

Economic Section Sub-Commission Directors

Agriculture	Mr. Leland C. Allbaugh (A)
Commerce	Colonel W.E. Evans (B)
Finance.	(Brigadier A.A. Griffiths-Smith (B)
(Joint Directors)	(Commander A.J. Ingler (A)
Food	Colonel W.J. Ross (B)
Industry	Mr. William S. Vaughan (A)
Labor	Mr. William H. Erskine (B)
Public Works and Utilities..	Colonel Louis A. Jenny (A)
Shipping	Mr. J. Tyson Graham (B)
Transportation	Mr. Merritt H. Taylor (A)

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

Civil Affairs Section Sub-Commission Directors

Displaced Persons and Repatriation ..	Colonel S.D. Pinsky (B)
Education	Lieut.Colonel Carleton A. Melbourne (A)
Local	Colonel A.D. Behrens (B) (Deputy Chief Local Affairs)
Local Government..	Colonel R.L. Cripps (B)
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives	Lieut.Colonel Ernest T. D. Will (A)
Public Health	Brigadier G.L. Parkinson (B)
Public Safety	Colonel John H. Chapman (A)

Independent Sub-Commission Directors

Air Force	Air Vice Marshal M.A.R. Dawson-Dyserelet (B)
Land Forces	Major-General L. Browning (B)
Navy	Rear Admiral Guy L. Warren (B)
Communications	Colonel J.L. Henderson (B)
War Materials Disposal & Prisoners of War	Lieut.Col. J.A. Campbell (B)
Public Relations Branch	Mr. G. Stewart Brown (A)

Regional Commissioners

Umbria-Marche	Colonel C.H.A. French (B)
Toscana	Colonel Robert G. Tirkowski (A)
Emilia	Colonel Alfred C. Bowman (A)
Liguria	Colonel G.G. Fossey (B)
Piemonte	Colonel Robert F. Marshall (B)
Lombardia	Colonel Charles Poletti (A)
Venezia	Brig. J.K. Dunlop (B)

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

Independent Sub-Commission Directors

Air Force	Air Vice Marshal [illegible] Parker-Rhodes-Boarlat (G)
Land Forces	Major-General I. Browning (G)
Navy	Rear Admiral Guy L. Warren (B)
Communications	Colonel J.L. Henderson (B)
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Regional Commissioners

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Tuscany	Colonel Robert G. Kirkwood (A)
Emilia	Colonel Alfred C. Crumen (A)
Liguria	Colonel [illegible] Ferney (B)
Piedmont	Colonel Robert E. Marshall (B)
Lombardy	Colonel Charles Poletti (A)
Venezia	Brig. J.K. Dunlop (B)

Others

Naples Commune (AMG Commissioner) ..	Colonel [illegible] Pennycuick (B)
Bari (Liaison Officer)	Lieut.Col. R. Jewsch (B)
Catania (Liaison Officer)	Major H. Bentley (B)
Palermo (Liaison Officer)	Lieut.Col. [illegible] Norton (A)
Sardinia (Liaison Officer)	Lieut.Colonel Lester M. Albert (Civil Liaison Officer)(A)

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

324/R1/TRB

April 7, 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

One million five hundred thousand seedling trees, suitable for replanting, have been found by the 8th Army ADC in the provinces of Ravenna and Forlì, the Allied Commission reported today.

Transplanting of the seedlings has already commenced.

Timber requirements for bridge and road construction in the past year have devoured 8th Army territory of acres of forest. The discovery of these seedling trees will recover more than 1,500 acres.

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C C I I

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

323/Pi/PRB 7 April 1946.

Press Release - Immediate.

Fellowships to Italian graduate students of fine arts have been offered by New York University, the Allied Commission announced today.

The fellowships will be for the university year commencing September, 1946. Details of their number and value are not yet available.

In the meantime the Italian Ministry of Public Instruction is investigating the possibility of offering fellowships in Italy to British and American students.

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UNCLASSIFIED ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC INFORMATION BRANCH

122/81/PIB

8 April 1945

Press Release - 1 Addend

The 23rd meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy was held in Rome on April 8, 1945 under the chairmanship of General A. Kislenko, the Acting Soviet Union Representative on the Council. The Representatives of the five other Allied Nations attending the meeting were :

M. Alexis de Marcilly	France
Alvaro Lopez Quintero	Brazil
Sir Noel Charles	United Kingdom
Alexander Kirk	United States
Slavko Gecelkan	Yugoslavia

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, reported to the Council on recent political events in liberated Italy and Brigadier G.E. Upjohn, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section of the Allied Commission, delivered a report on occupation.

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The representatives of the five other Allied Nations attending the meeting were :

M. Pierre de Charville	France
Señor Quintanilla	Mexico
Sir Noel Charles	United Kingdom
Alexander Sachs	United States
Slavko Grulich	Yugoslavia

Here M. Albert Eileng W. Sven, Peace Commissioner of the Allied Commission, reported to the Council on recent political events in liberated Italy and Brigadier T.H. Rylett, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section of the Allied Commission, delivered a report on operations.

PASSED FOR PUBLICATION BY THREE POWER CONSTOR

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

391/R1/PRB 6 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Italians who allow themselves to be used as enemy espionage agents were warned today by Allied authorities to give up risking their lives uselessly in the face of imminent German defeat.

The Allied authorities issued the warning as follows:-

"The Allies are now advancing on both the Western and the Eastern fronts; Germany is being inexorably crushed, and it is becoming obvious that the final crash cannot now be much longer delayed. Nevertheless, there are still a number of young Italians who allow themselves to be lured by the German propaganda into accepting espionage and sabotage missions against the Allies, in the false hope of pecuniary gain or in the misguided belief that they may be helping a German victory.

"These missions, even if they were successful, could now have little effect on the outcome of the war. But nearly all end in complete failure. Hardly a day passes without several arrests taking place. So much information has been obtained by the Allied counter-espionage organization that a detailed description of almost every agent whom the enemy sends is now known to Allied controls well in advance of his arrival in Allied territory. Such agents are almost invariably arrested and find themselves at once facing a military court on trial for their life.

"The enemy on his side is almost certainly aware of this,

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"The enemy on his side is almost certainly aware of this, yet in his desperate attempts to stave off the day of defeat for even a short time by requisition of information about Allied movements still persists in despatching these youths in large numbers. He has even been reduced, in two recent cases, to press-ganging two young men into his service, and then sending them over the lines at the point of a gun with no training of

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my hand but with the full instruction to 'bring back information about lorrities of allied units'.

"The Allies cannot take useless waste of young Italians who would be better employed in helping to rehabilitate their country by useful work. They have however no option but to punish strongly those who attempt to help the enemy by clandestine means."

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AMG
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

310/Pr/282

1 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

What is believed to be the first AMG technical school in the history of Italy has been established in Rimini under the joint auspices of the 5th Army AMG and the town's business and professional men, the Allied Commission reported today.

Under the direction of the President of the New Rimini Planning Group (an association of local architects, engineers, contractors and AMG representatives), a technical school for unskilled labourers has been organized.

One hundred students have already enrolled and by the end of April the number of students is expected to reach 1,000. It is hoped to train 5,000 students by the end of the year.

No fees will be paid by the students. The entire cost of text books, tools and equipment will be met by Rimini contractors and civic leaders. Classes will include theoretical and practical instruction in carpentry, bricklaying, steel working, plumbing, plastering, roofing, glazing and cement and concrete construction. Tuition in draughtsmanship will also be included in the curriculum.

To compensate prospective students who cannot afford sacrifice time and pay from work to attend the classes, Rimini contractors have agreed that all workers in their employ who attend the classes will be paid for the time spent in the school.

The plan for the school, which was sponsored by AMG has

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

professional men, the Allied Commission reported today.

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To compensate prospective students who cannot afford sacrifice time and pay from work to attend the classes, Rimini contractors have agreed that all workers in their employ who attend the classes will be paid for the time spent in the school.

The plan for the school, which was sponsored by AMG has also been approved by the Italian Ministry of Education, which said that "never before in Italy has there been an opportunity for the ordinary unskilled workers to receive technical education."

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

316/R1/PRB

April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Six sugar-beet processing plants will be re-activated this summer to produce an expected 13,000 tons of sugar and 4,000 tons of molasses, the Allied Commission announced today.

The plants to be started are located at Cesena, Granaiolo, Rieti, Foligno, Capua, and Jesi.

An estimated 17,500 acres (7,100 hectares) will be planted to sugar beets in the areas feeding these plants. Planting is taking place now in some localities.

The molasses will be used to meet requirements of yeast manufacturing plants.

Rehabilitation of the plants, which were heavily damaged by German sabotage, is proceeding well. Stolen and destroyed plant equipment is being replaced in the main from units provided by the idle sugar mill located at Littoria, which was stripped of all motors and turbogenerators by the Germans.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

321/P1/PRB

5 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Italians who allow themselves to be used as enemy espionage agents were warned today by Allied authorities to give up risking their lives needlessly in the face of imminent German defeat.

The Allied authorities issued the warning as follows:-

"The Allies are now advancing on both the Western and the Eastern fronts; Germany is being inexorably crushed, and it is becoming obvious that the final crash cannot now be much longer delayed. Nevertheless, there are still a number of young Italians who allow themselves to be duped by the German propaganda into accepting espionage and sabotage missions against the Allies, in the false hope of primary gain or in the misguided belief that they are to helping a German victory.

"These missions, even if they were successful, could now have little effect on the outcome of the war. But nearly all end in complete failure. Hardly a day passes without several arrests taking place. So much information has been obtained by the Allied counter-espionage organization that a detailed description of almost every agent whom the enemy sends is now known to Allied controls well in advance of his arrival in Allied territory. Such agents are almost invariably arrested and find themselves at once facing a military court on trial for their life.

"The enemy on his side is almost certainly aware of this, yet in his

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"The enemy on his side is almost certainly aware of this, yet in his desperate attempts to stave off the day of defeat for even a short time by requisition of information about Allied movements still persists in dragooning these youths in large numbers. He has even been reduced, in two recent cases, to press-ganging two young men into his service, and then sending them over the lines at the point of a gun with no training of

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"The Allies regard this useless waste of young Italians who would be better employed in helping to rehabilitate their country by useful work. They have however no option but to punish strongly those who attempt to help the enemy by clandestine means."

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

320/R1/PRB

7 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Problems of food import and employment are being tackled in the Island of Elba under AMG direction as the battered isle returns to more normal conditions, the Allied Commission reported today.

The island has been administratively a part of Livorno Province in Tuscany Region since December. French forces who took the island last June had been in control previously.

In the island 35 per cent. of the people live off the land. The wine industry, with 50 million seed plants in the ground and valued at 10 billion lire, is a basic industry. Recent rains have improved the prospects of a good crop, although 500 tons of sulphur are still needed. AMG has blocked a percentage of the crop for island consumption at controlled prices.

Production of green vegetables meets about half the needs of the population. To raise more food some farmers have moved their vineyards higher up the hills and put in gardens on the lower levels. The area of arable land is small and a year's crop only feeds the island for one month.

The chief town, Portoferraio, where 35 per cent. of the islanders live, was bombed by the Germans in September 1943 and again by the Allies in April 1944. All insecure walls have been torn down and the work of clearing debris is still

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

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The chief town, Portoferraio, where 35 per cent. of the islanders live, was bombed by the Germans in September 1943 and again by the Allies in April 1944. All insecure walls have been torn down and the work of clearing debris is still going on. Two hundred tons of cement were released for rebuilding.

Local administrations in the eight communes are running well. SEPRAL has a branch on the island and since 15 January 15 Italian officials have been responsible for identing for, financing, transporting and distributing all Italian basic

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foodstuffs, though AMG helps to get supplies to Piombino, the nearest port on the mainland.

Shops in Elba are open and doing business. The banks have been open since last August. The French Government has eased the financial situation considerably by redeeming large amounts of French currency in 500 and 1,000 franc notes, some of which had been issued by the Germans.

Mines and doubtfished harbors are being cleared. Ten ships were raised and are being refloated in a local shipyard. In good weather small boats ply regularly between the island and the mainland, though travel beyond Piombino is limited to ten persons a day.

The nearby islands of Capraia and Pianosa now have telephone connections with Elba. There is a military line from Elba to the mainland.

With the large Ilva steel plant smashed and the iron mines sabotaged by the Germans, the island's heavy industry is inactive.

Two electrical power plants running on diesel oil left in a German submarine base have a yield of 350 kilowatts for domestic lighting, milling and light mining.

Roads have been resurfaced with stone and earth. Bridges are intact.

The civilian transport situation is good, fares being 2 lire a kilometer, a lower rate than on the mainland.

Mainland refugees have all left the island. The only refugees remaining are inhabitants of Portoferraio who were bombed out earlier in the war and are staying with relatives.

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All primary schools are open, though on a part-time basis. Teachers have been spaced and books supplied from Tuscany Region AMG.

The Italian Court Chamber is up to date and the first AMG court since December met last week.

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The general health situation is good. A threatened scabies epidemic was averted with improvised ointment made of mending resin, grease and sulphur. Bar soap is now available on presentation of a medical certificate.

Medical supplies have arrived for the Portofranco Hospital, sorely in need. However, of our local staff not an operator for the X-ray apparatus. Four ambulances are idle because of lack of tires. Malaria control measures are being carried out by the Genio Civile under AMG instructions.

The R.I Cross has distributed a lot of clothing to needy internees, but could use supplies for 3,000 more persons.

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1987312

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BELOUGHERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

310/R1/PRI

3 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

What is believed to be the first free technical school in the history of Italy has been established in Rimini under the joint auspices of the 8th Army AMG and the town's business and professional men, the Allied Commission reported today.

Under the direction of the President of the New Rimini Planning Group (an association of local architects, engineers, contractors and AMG representatives), a technical school for unskilled labourers has been organized.

One hundred students have already enrolled and by the end of April the number of students is expected to reach 1,000. It is hoped to train 5,000 students by the end of the year.

No fees will be paid by the students. The entire cost of text books, tools and equipment will be met by Rimini contractors and civic leaders. Classes will include theoretical and practical instruction in carpentry, bricklaying, steel working, plumbing, plastering, roofing, glazing and cement and concrete construction. Tuition in draughtsmanship will also be included in the curriculum.

To compensate prospective students who cannot afford sacrifice time and pay from work to attend the classes, Rimini contractors have agreed that all workers in their employ who attend the classes will be paid for the time spent in the school.

The plan for the school, which was sponsored by AMG has

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The plan for the school, which was sponsored by AMG has also been approved by the Italian Ministry of Education, which said that "never before in Italy has there been an opportunity for the ordinary unskilled workers to receive technical education."

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

318/R1/PRB

9 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Six sugar-beet processing plants will be re-activated this summer to produce an expected 13,000 tons of sugar and 4,000 tons of molasses, the Allied Commission announced today.

The plants to be started are located at Cesena, Granaiolo, Rieti, Foligno, Capua, and Jesi.

An estimated 17,500 acres (7,100 hectares) will be planted to sugar beets in the areas feeding these plants. Planting is taking place now in some localities.

The molasses will be used to meet requirements of yeast manufacturing plants.

Rehabilitation of the plants, which were heavily damaged by German sabotage, is proceeding well. Stolen and destroyed plant equipment is being replaced in the main from units provided by the idle sugar mill located at Littoria, which was stripped of all motors and turbogenerators by the Germans.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

SAT/RI/PRB

5 April 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

4 further 160 1½-ton trucks have arrived in Italy from the United States, the Allied Commission announced today.

This latest consignment brings to 1,194 the number so far received out of the total of 1,700 scheduled to come.

Commissione Stampa.

La Commissione Alleata annuncia che altri 160 autocarri, tutti portati da 1½ tonnellate ciascuno, sono arrivati in Italia dagli Stati Uniti.

Dei 1,700 autocarri previsti per sono così stati consegnati, a tutt'oggi, 1,194.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

316 /R1/PRB

5 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Work in progress for reconstruction in Tuscany under supervision of the 5th Army AMG amounts to almost 350 million lire, the Allied Commission reported today.

Among the first problems met by the engineers of AMG has been that of removing debris to repair water lines and drains. Hill villages are mainly dependent on electric pumps for water, and as power installations have been practically the first smashed, the inhabitants of these villages have had to be assisted in the improvisation of other methods of pumping water, such as use of agricultural tractors and old steam engines.

The repair of local mills by wind drain and of olive presses is another priority. Many communities have reverted to methods discarded years ago, such as using a donkey tied to a pole and going continually round in a circle. Provision of power for pumps to supply the irrigation systems in agricultural areas is also under constant study.

Industries supplying reconstruction materials have been booming. Small firms have shown great initiative, reconstruction of houses in a large measure having been made possible through the production of bricks and tile by small local works. In many communes local workers and the manager of a plant have collected hidden machinery, reinstalled it and begun to operate [illegible] for electricity to be made available.

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Transport has reverted also to primitive methods, in many cases consisting of carts drawn by horses and oxen or even pushed by hand. Where bridges were destroyed - and they were legion - ferries have been started. Speaking of bridges, Sth Army AMG found one civilian who displayed a little too much initiative in the river crossing business. Having a hat that looked more or less official, he stood at one end of a Bailey bridge across the Arno and charged the lire of everyone who wished to cross. He is now in prison.

One of the greatest problems of reconstruction is the rebuilding of the banks of canals for drainage in low-lying areas - especially the lower Arno Valley, the Maremma, and the Val di Chiana, where the banks of the rivers have been damaged by fox-holes, bombing and mill race foreings and last November's floods, the worst in Tuscany in 100 years.

Among the reconstruction projects underway in March were :

Sewers and water repairs	22	million lire
Removal of debris	71	" "
Flood Control	70	" "
Hospitals	11	" "
Schools	15	" "
Official Buildings	14	" "
Prisons	2	" "
Churches	3	" "
Monuments and Fine Arts	4	" "
Bridges and Roads	100	" "
Road Maintenance	30	" "

Also planned is a 8 million lire project for repair of the buildings of the University of Pisa.

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Building of dikes and channels for drainage in low-lying areas - especially the Lower Arno Valley, the Versilia, and the Val di Cecina, where the banks of the rivers have been damaged by fox-holes, bombing and military fortings and last November's floods, the worst in Tuscany in 100 years.

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THE QUADRIPARTITE ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC INFORMATION BRANCH

315/45/283

Immediate release - or release at 2400 hrs. April 4, 1945.

Effective cooperation of the people of Rome with the Allies has borne fruit in the improved situation in food, power, public health and general recovery in the capital city, Colonel Charles Poletti (x), retiring Regional Commissioner of the Lazio-Rome Region of the Allied Commission, said over Radio Rome tonight.

Since withdrawal of Allied Commission regional administration from Italian Government territory on April 1, Colonel Poletti has been appointed Regional Commissioner for Lombardy and is now planning his activities for administration of that region when liberated.

In his last public act in Rome, Colonel Poletti at 5 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday, April 5) will be awarded a special medal of the City of Rome by Prince Doria, Sindaco of Rome, in ceremonies to be held at the Campidoglio. The medal is for recognition of the Colonel's services to the Eternal City. Only two other similar presentations of the medal of the City of Rome have ever been made - one to U.S. President Wilson and one to the famous German historian of the 19th century, Mommsen.

In his radio speech, Colonel Poletti traced the course of AMG efforts to help Rome. When the Allies entered, he related, food stocks for only a few days existed, water was low, power crushed, public health in peril, transport crippled and public services demoralized, almost as if the city had been plunged back into the Middle Ages.

Thousands of tons of foodstuffs were rushed into Rome at the rate of better than 300 tons a day. Transport difficulties were

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

Since withdrawal of Allied Commission regional administration from Italian Government territory on April 1, Colonel Poletti has been appointed Regional Commissioner for Lombardy and is now extending his activities for administration of that region while liberation.

In his first public act in Rome, Colonel Poletti at 4 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday, April 5) will be awarded a special medal of the City of Rome by Prince Doria, Syndaco di Roma, in a ceremony to be held at the Campidoglio. The medal is for recognition of the Colonel's services to the Eternal City. Only two other similar presentations of the medal of the City of Rome have been made - one to U.S. President Wilson and one to the famous British adventurer of the 19th century, Lawrence.

In his radio speech, Colonel Poletti traced the course of his efforts to help Rome. When the Allies entered, he relaxed food stocks for only a few days remained, water was low, no sewerage, public health in peril, transport disabled and public services demoralized, about as if the city had been plunged back into the Dark Ages.

Increases of tons of foodstuffs were sending food rolls at the rate of better than 300 tons a day. Transport difficulties were so great that there only two or three days' reserves of food were on hand. The food ration was increased at once to 200 grams a day, with supplements for workers, and 200,000 hot meals were served to the needy with the help of the Vatican. Thanks to Allied efforts and Italian help, Rome today has 30 days' food supply on hand.

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Transport ships from the Germans was collected and used in the organization established to bring in food. The average quantity of food and vegetables entering the Rome markets rose from 3,000 quintals a day less than June to 7,000 quintals a day within a few months. The railroad also aided immensely, the track to Naples being re-opened on July 4, only 29 days after liberation.

Precautionary health measures with the water supply, sterilize distribution and hospital supervision checked the disease rate. Powdered milk helped cut down malnutrition and the rising death rate among children. Dignity began to revive. Public works for more than two billion lire were started. The ports of Civitavecchia and Fiumicino, devastated by the Germans, were re-opened to use. At the latter port 40 sunken ships were raised and 10 others blocking the harbor were blasted out of the way. The low point in Rome's recovery was past, the colonel said.

Mentioning also for the record the restoration of public confidence in law and order, the replacement of fascist-tainted officials in the administration and the encouragement given to workers' organizations and trade unions, Colonel Poletti ended as follows:

"The way back to prosperity and strength is long and difficult. We who have worked with you will follow the stages of your development with sympathy and are certain that if the Italians believe in themselves, if their leaders have faith in the people and if everybody applies himself to the work of reconstruction, Italy will have once more the place that awaits her among the nations".

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

514/PI/PRB 4 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Four famous medieval towers in the section of Florence blown up by the Germans on either side of the Ponte Vecchio are being rebuilt and repaired under 5th Army AMG supervision, the Allied Commission reported today.

Of the four towers, the Torre degli Amidei is the principal one in the Por Santa Maria, and said to be one of the finest examples of 13th Century architecture. When the Germans blew up the Por Santa Maria, there was nothing left of this tower but one wall and portions of two others, with rubble heaped all around. The tower was seamed with cracks and apparently so shaky that no one thought it could be saved.

Although Italian engineers wanted to demolish it because of the danger that the tower might fall on the people working below clearing away the rubble from the base, 5th Army AMG Fine Arts officers found Italian contractors willing to assume the risk.

Timber abandoned by Army units in Florence's Piazza Michelangelo was found by AMG and brought down to use in propping up the tower. Wooden and iron clamps were also put around the tower to hold it together.

Now the rubble is completely cleared away, and a wall is being built with bricks removed from protected monuments -- particularly those of the Palazzo Pitti. With these bricks

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

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Now the rubble is completely cleared away, and a wall is being built with bricks removed from protected monuments - particularly those in the Palazzo Pitti. With these bricks a complete structure will be built more than half way up the tower, and this structure will later be faced with old stones that already have the patina of age. On the tower were the sculptured lions' heads which have been preserved. Later they will be remounted in their original positions.

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The other towers on the east side of the river - the Torre del Bellevino (1) and the Torre del Cerdusch - and the Torre del Vecchio across the Arno at the other end of the Ponte Vecchio, have been repaired and re-roofed to prevent their possible destruction.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

313/R1/PRB 3 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Effective April 9 the Italian civil postal services will be extended to include the cities of Lucca and Pistoia and the southernmost parts of those provinces, the Allied Commission announced today.

The northern boundary of the postal delivery area will then run from the northern boundary of Pisa province through Lucca, Pescia, Montecatini, Pistoia, Prato, Sesto and Florence, then along the river Arno and the northern boundaries of the provinces of Arezzo and Pesaro.

Details of the extended facilities will in due course be available to Italian civilians at all civil post offices.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

312/R1/PRB

2 aprile 1945

Comunicato stampa - Immediato

In occasione della sua cessazione dalla carica di Commissario Regionale per il Lazio e l'Umbria, il Colonnello Charles Poletti, pronunzierà alcune parole di saluto a Radio Roma mercoledì prossimo, 4 corr. alle ore 20.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

20/PRB 2 Aprile 1945

Spett. Direttore del _____

_____

Mercoledì 4 corr. il Colonnello Charles Poletti, cessando dalla carica di Commissario Regionale per il Lazio e l'Umbria, terrà una conferenza stampa nel suo ufficio - via Lucullo 4, piano 2°, stanza N° 201 - alla quale sono invitati i rappresentanti della stampa romana. Contemporaneamente verrà distribuita ai giornalisti copia della conversazione che il Colonnello Poletti terrà alla radio la stessa sera alle ore 20.

Questa comunicazione serve da invito.

G. Stewart Brown
G. STEWART BROWN,
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

311/R1/PRB

2 April 1945

Press Release - Immediate

All San Marino, with the exception of eight Fascist Republicans under house arrest, turned out yesterday (April 1) to celebrate the inauguration of the Captains - Regent of the Republic of San Marino in the presence of Allied representatives, the Allied Commission reported today.

Full medieval protocol - 1,550 years old - was picturesquely in order as the new officials, escorted by noble guards, first attended high mass in the Cathedral of Plebale di San Marino and walked in procession to the palace, where they took over the symbols of office from the retiring Captains-Regent.

The assemblage then paraded to an old preparatory school which has been used for three centuries to introduce the newly elected heads of the state and celebrities to the populace.

At the official banquet following the ceremonies, one of the two Captains-Regent - Eco. Cassoli - told Colonel A.C. Bowman, Regional Commissioner of Emilia Region of the Allied Commission and charged with supervising relations between the Republic of San Marino and the Allied Armies, that "many problems face San Marino and that AMG help in the past has been of great assistance."

The Republic lies within the 8th Army zone of operations and has been assisted by 8th Army AMG officers to meet problems of refugees, particularly from Rimini, food, transport and medical supplies.

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The Republic lies within the 8th Army zone of operations and has been assisted by 8th Army AMG officers to meet problems of refugees, particularly from Rimini, food, transport and medical supplies.

San Marino officials also expressed their gratitude to Col. Bowman for AMG aid in curbing a typhoid outbreak and said the assistance from Emilia Region and 8th Army AMG had been a real "life saver."

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Col. Bowman replied to the Captain-Regent's remarks by saying that the Allies were pleased and proud to help San Marino and remarked that President Lincoln also had been happy to accept an honorary citizenship in Europe's oldest democracy.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

310/R1/PRB.

2 April, 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

Nearly 1,000 higher grade officials of Italian state department have been investigated by Italian epuration commissions, the Allied Commission announced today.

Nearly 300 officials were sent for trial, and according to returns, 100 have been dismissed from service. The trials are not yet all concluded.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

309/R1/PRB 2 April 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

Drainage of the Pontine Marshes, rich agricultural area south of Rome flooded by the retreating Germans a year ago, is practically completed the Allied Commission announced today.

Within another two months all flood waters will have been drawn off, according to present plans, it was added.

Most of the land which was flooded not only has been cleared of water but has been plowed and sown. Some land still to be drained will have to dry but will still take a crop this year, according to the Agriculture Sub-Commission of AC.

Additional pumping equipment will be necessary to control the autumn rains, however. Since no facilities are available in Liberated Italy for the manifacture of the pumps and motors needed, and since they cannot be assembled by cannabalization of wrecked equipment, efforts are being made to obtain the necessary machinery from the United States.

The Germans scientifically sabotaged the water control systems which drained the Pontine Marshes. Their purpose was two-fold: to destroy or impair the usefulness of the land for agricultural purpose, and to increase the spread of malaria.

The Pontine Marshes are actually two reclamation zones and together comprise the coastal plain from Terre di Foce,

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

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The Pontine Marshes are actually two reclamation zones and together comprise the coastal plain from Torre di Foce, Verde,, near Anzio, to Terracina to the south, a distance of about 30 miles. The Bonifica of Littoria covers 121,455 acres, is on a higher level of the two zones, and its drainage to the sea can largely be accomplished by gravity. The Bonificazione Pontina covers 65,172 acres and most of its drainage can be

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accomplished only by pumping.

By the end of last May, about 27,000 acres of land in the marshes were under water and a much larger area was threatened. By the end of September, the inundated area had been reduced to about 13,500 acres and by the end of October the area was further reduced to 7,400 acres. Today there remain only about 5,000 acres still under water.

The Germans constructed a dam across the harbor channel of Porto Badino, into which feeds the Amasseno River, one of the principal drainage watercourses. They also sank vessels in the harbor. Bridges over drainage channels were demolished, flood control gates destroyed and pumping plants were put out of commission by removing most of the electric motors, transformers and other electrical equipment, and by destruction of electric power distribution lines.

Measures to protect the health of the inhabitants were taken immediately by the Allied Commission and the Italian authorities. The flooded areas were sprayed or dusted with larvaecides and over five million tablets of atabrine were distributed. Considerable was done in alleviating the flood condition by thousands of manual laborers who had to work without mechanical aids.

Italian Government officials promptly put forward detailed plans for rehabilitation, in the development of which they were assisted by AC officers. Mine fields, especially at Porto Badino, had to be cleared, the dam across the harbor had to be broken, and debris obstructing the many drainage channels had to be removed. By-pass channels had to be built around inoperable pumping stations and the accumulated silt in the channels had to be dredged out. Meanwhile, the Italian Royal Navy was

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The Germans constructed [illegible] Porto Badino, into which feeds the Arasene River, one of the principal drainage watercourses. They also sank vessels in the harbor. Bridges over drainage channels were demolished, flood control gates destroyed and pumping plants were put out of commission by removing most of the electric motors, transformers and other electrical equipment, and by destruction of electric power distribution lines.

Measures to protect the health of the inhabitants were taken immediately by the Allied Commission and the Italian authorities. The flooded areas were sprayed or dusted with larvacides and over five million tablets of atabrine were distributed. Considerable was done in alleviating the flood condition by thousands of manual laborers who had to work without mechanical aids.

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Construction of the by-pass channels and clearance of obstructions in the channels and at the outlet to the sea involved an expenditure of approximately 50 million lire. In addition, 26 bridges were rebuilt on roads of various priorities. In

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this and in the repair and restoration of the electrical facilities the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission of AC and Italian Agencies cooperated. There still remain 230 bridges in the area to be rebuilt.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

308/R1/PRB 2 April 1945.

Press Release - Immediate

The discovery in Ravenna by an 8th Army AMG agricultural officer of a large and hidden store of farm tractor parts has resulted in the supply of a steady stream of spares to hundreds of farmers throughout Liberated Italy, the Allied Commission reported today.

The tractor parts, which are valued at 16 million lire, were discovered during a search for a few spares required to repair a tractor belonging to a local farmer. The owner of the cache, Cornelio Grinassi, a machinery agent, then revealed that he had in his possession some thousands of vital machine parts.

Behind a false wall, which he had built with the assistance of a local bricklayer, Grinassi had hidden from the Germans enormous quantities of spares. In the cellars, covered with coal and fire wood were further supplies, while upstairs, piled to the roof were hundreds of apparently empty cases. The bottom layers of these were, however, packed tight with machine parts.

Further large quantities were packed into wine barrels and, under the eyes of the Germans, transported in trucks and lorries to the country where they were buried. His show rooms contained only a few dusty specimens of damaged and out of date machinery and although his premises were inspected several times by the Germans, but never by the same Germans, they did not discover this immense store of invaluable material.

A number of complete tractors also in his possession were dismantled and placed apparently indiscriminately around the

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

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A number of complete tractors also in his possession were dismantled and placed apparently indiscriminately around the countryside. These are now being reconstructed.

The Army AMG's agricultural division now has complete control of all these parts and they are being distributed, through the owners' pre-war agents and under AMG trust actions, to all farmers in need of them.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

307/P1/PRB

31 March 1945.

Press Release - 1 April 1945

The world-famous botanical collection of the University of Florence has been safely returned by 5th Army AMG from the Villa Medicea in Cafaggiolo, where it was taken in June 1940 because of the danger of air raids, the Allied Commission reported today.

The Germans tried unsuccessfully to obtain the collection after the botanical collection in Berlin was destroyed in the air raids. The Florence specimens are rated second only to those at Kew, England, in Europe and is rated the seventh most important in the world.

Under the noses of the Nazis between February and May 1944, the University secretly brought back 8,000 packages of specimens and 3,000 volumes by any means that they could find, including horse carts. With AMG trucks, 10,000 packages of specimens and 27,000 volumes were returned to the University.

The collection includes that of Sir Philip Barker Webb, which was willed to the University of Florence with a legacy to insure its upkeep.

The Webb collection is the first widely-known collection of wild flowers. Botanists and laymen have sent flowers here from all over the world to have them verified or identified. Webb also bequeathed his entire library, and editions of the Botanical Magazine (British) from 1787 to 1940, when the last copy arrived from London. There are only three complete sets

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Among other individual collections included at the University are the Micheli, dating from 1700; the Beccari collection of palms; the Martelli collection of Pandanus, and the Cesalpino collection of medicinal plants dating from 1500.

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