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File No. 102 / 101PRES. ROOSEVELT V.
May-July 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

R1/401/PRE

30 July 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Repatriation of Italians via the Brenner Pass has increased to 4500 a day and via Switzerland to 2500 a day, the Allied Commission announced today.

Since the liberation of the North in May, more than 265,000 refugees are reported to have entered Italy. Of these 80,000 were repatriated in May, 61,000 in June, and 103,000 up to July 22. These figures are not completely accurate because many refugees streamed over the Austro-Italian border during the first days of liberation ^{before} adequate Allied controls could be set up.

The Records Bureau of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission now lists nearly 90,000 names covering 72 nationalities and is kept busy answering enquiries from families in search of long-missing relatives.

About one third of the Italians returning (mostly from Germany) originate from Southern Italy. In the last week, 9,310 of these refugees returned to their native towns while another 10,155 arrived in Rome from the North to await dispersal. Allied and other nationals are also going home: 927 of various nationalities this past week left for France and 710 Greeks are returning to Greece by sea. In addition, 58,873 refugees were moved by other organizations.

All major refugee movements are made by rail, close liaison being maintained with the A.C. Transportation Sub-Commission. Sixty-odd camps, holding 15,000 United Nations nationals, besi-

by refugees evacuated from the new Greek Italian border during the first days of liberation/adequate Allied controls could be set up.

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All major refugee movements are made by rail, close liaison being maintained with the U.O. Transportation Sub-Commission. Sixty-odd camps, holding 15,000 United Nations nationals, besides Italian refugees, are now full and operating. Health conditions are up to standard and medical officers are keeping a very close watch on occasional cases of typhus or small-pox.

Switzerland is reported to have harbored 32,000 and the former SILEX area 350,000 Italian refugees. The Como-Berne terminals on the Switzerland route, which was opened on the 29th of

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June, and the Munich-Verona railheads on the German route, are working smoothly, with SHARP liaison officers stationed in Italy to help A.C. officers to straighten out tangles.

Since January, 1944, the Allied Commission has handled 490,000 Italian refugees and 70,000 United Nations nationals in Italy.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AND
FOOD RELATIONS DIVISION

28 July 1945

400/R1/PRE

Press Release - Immediate

Effective Wednesday, August 1, the price of bread and pasta in the Regions of Emilia, Venezia, Lombardia, Liguria and Piemonte will be increased on the basis of new prices just established for the grain used, the Allied Military Government announced today.

A "caropene" allowance of 95 lire a month has also been established for all persons legally entitled to it, it was further announced.

The prices for the sale of grain used in making bread and pasta to mills have been set as follows:

Wheat (soft or hard)	1,120.40 lire per quintal at the mill, unthreshed
Barley (unthreshed)	845.00 " " " " " "
Rye	1,018 " " " " " "
Corn	1,005.05 " " " " " "

The above prices apply to the aforesaid grains whether home-grown or imported.

Bread prices will be fixed locally. Local charges may produce a variation in the price of bread from province to province.

The "caropene" indemnity will be paid to all persons in the classes that follow who are in the possession of an official bread and pasta ration card.

Effective Wednesday, August 1, the price of bread and pasta in the Regions of Emilia, Venetia, Lombardia, Liguria and Piemonte will be increased on the basis of new prices just established for the grain used, the Allied Military Government announced today.

A "cecapens" allowance of 95 lire a month has also been established for all persons legally entitled to it, it was further announced.

The prices for the sale of grain used in making bread and pasta to mills have been set as follows:

Wheat (soft or hard)	1,120.00 lire per quintal at the mill, unreged
Berlay (unhusked)	145.00 " " " "
Rye	1,010 " " " "
Corn	1,005.05 " " " "

The above prices apply to the aforesaid grains whether home-grown or imported.

Bread prices will be fixed locally. Local charges may produce a variation in the price of bread from province to province.

The "cecapens" indemnity will be paid to all persons in the classes that follow who are in the possession of an official bread and pasta ration card.

Persons unemployed through no fault of their own; registered paupers or permanent relief cases; relatives of enlisted men serving in the Italian Army; relatives of Italian prisoners-of-war; relatives of Italian civilians deported by the Germans; refugees; victims of war damage; and dependents of Italian civilians residing in Italian Africa or abroad.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

400/R1/PRB

20 July 45

Press Release - Immediate

The 40th meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy took place in Rome on July 20th under the chairmanship of the Acting British Representative, Mr. H.L.A. HOPKINSON. Other members of the Council present were:-

M. M. Couve de MURVILLE	FRANCE
N. George EXINTARIS	GREECE
General VASILIEV	SOVIET UNION
Mr. Alexander MIRM	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Dr. Sloven SMODJAKA	YUGOSLAVIA

Rear Admiral Ellery W. STONE presented to the Council a report on the current political events in Italy.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

399/R1/PRB

18 July 45

Press Release - Immediate

No foundation whatsoever exists in recently published reports that the Allied Authorities have given permission for the former prefect and the former mayor of Bolzano to proceed to Paris, London and Washington for political purposes, the Allied Commission announced today.

The Allied Commission reiterated that the aforesaid reports are entirely baseless. No authority has been granted by Allied authorities for such travel.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
A-0 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

393/R4/PRB

17 July 45

Press Release - Immediate

During the first two weeks of operation of the radio-telephone circuit from Rome to the U.S.A. a total of 663 calls have been completed, the Allied Commission announced to-day.

From a daily total of 30 to 35 in the early days of the service, the number of completed calls has risen to 55 - 60.

A relatively high percentage of calls to California, Texas, Washington and other Western or Southern States has served to reduce the number of calls completed.

The limiting factor is still the ability of the New York end of the circuit to clear calls. Every effort is being made, however, by the American Telephone and Telegraph company to increase the speed with which calls are handled.

Since technical considerations still limit the placing of calls in Italy to Rome, a percentage of daily bookings is being reserved for those soldiers on leave in Rome.

So far all users of the circuit have expressed themselves as well pleased with the clarity of the communication.

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ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS

AFG 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

21/357/PMB

17 JULY 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The Finance Division of the Allied Commission's 5th Army AMG staff has recovered during its operations in Italy 8,305,526,504 Lire which had been deposited in German Government accounts in Italian banks, according to Lieutenant Colonel John W. Clarke (5732 South East 8th Ave, Chicago, Ill.), Senior Finance Officer of the 5th Army AMG, the Allied Commission reported today.

In the Rome area about 29 million Lire were found, but Northern Italy proved to be a much richer region for German accounts. The following amounts have been found: Liguria Region 37,296,000 lire, Piemonte Region 37,054,749 lire, Venezia Region 5,402,273, 755 lire and Lombardia Region 600,000,000 lire. In addition confiscated were more than 1,200,000,000 lire in cash from German Army organizations.

From the last day of the liberation of Bolzano Province there has been one AMG Officer doing nothing else but running down German Army funds, coming from the Todt Organization, paymasters, depots, headquarters, etc. One of the latest caches was from several cases of 33 uniforms in a warehouse, which were found to have very large sums of Italian Lire in the pockets.

Front-line troops of the 5th Army had turned in to the Army Finance Officers about one and a half billion captured lire. Still another one and a quarter billion lire was collected in working the ground over again. The 349th Infantry, which is

of the 5th Army AMG, the Allied Commission reported today.

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The following amounts have been found: Liguria Region 37,286,000 Lire, Piemonte Region 37,034,749 Lire, Venezia Region 5,492,273, 755 Lire and Lombardia Region 800,000,000 Lire. In addition confiscated were more than 1,200,000,000 Lire in cash from German Army organizations.

From the last day of the liberation of Bolzano Province there has been one AMG Officer doing nothing else but running down German Army funds, coming from the Todt Organization, paymasters, doctors, hospitalists, etc. One of the latest catches was from several cases of SS uniforms in a warehouse, which were found to have very large sums of Italian Lire in the pockets.

Front-line troops of the 5th Army had turned in to the Army Finance Officers about one and a half billion captured Lire. Still another one and a quarter billion Lire was collected in working the ground over again. The 349th Infantry, which is still stationed in the Bolzano area, is putting on an intensive campaign of combing the hills and small German units still there, with a good probability of further recoveries.

Insufficient Italian metropolitan Lire was found in Turin, Milan, Genoa, so one billion Lire was transferred from Bolzano to Milan, and an additional one and a half billion was turned in by the 5th Army Finance Officer to the Milan Allied Financial

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Agency - a transaction which enabled the bank in that vicinity to meet their cash requirements. Other transfers made were 500 million lire from Bologna to the branch of the Bank of Italy in Venice, so the Venezia Region would not a drain on the Milan branch.

Most of the Republican Fascist Ministries were quartered in the Verona, Brescia and Bergamo area, and an early job of AID was conserving the valuables of the Ministries for the eventual arrival of the accredited members of the Italian Government from Rome.

Thirteen large bags of valuables, estimated to be worth 10 million lire, were placed in the custody of the Bank of Italy in Brescia, and later sent to the Allied Munitions Agency in Rome, for ultimate delivery to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

R1/396/PRB

14 July 1945

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON ITALIAN ELECTIONS

With transfer of practically all Italian territory back to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government in prospect later this year and with the progress already made in restoring administrative normalcy to the country, plans are now being intensified for holding free elections in Italy for the first time in a generation.

Considerable spadework is required, however, before elections can be held for either local or provincial offices or for the Constituent Assembly, it was pointed out at the Allied Commission.

Preparation of electoral lists by Italian officials in AMG territory in North Italy will begin July 15.

The electoral lists registering all Italians qualified to vote are a basic requirement preparatory to holding any election.

More than 50 tons of forms and instructions already have been dispatched to the Northern AMG regions of Liguria (4½ tons), Emilia (9½ tons), Venezia (12½ tons), Piemonte (10 tons) and Lombardia (14½ tons - five for Milan Province alone), the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission said.

Transport is being made available by AMG to take the official papers to outlying communes and to facilitate the work of Italian officials in the preparation of the lists. Steps are also being taken to free premises for use later as polling places.

"In view of the deep interest which the United States and British Governments feel in this matter, the Allied Commission and the Allied Military Government in the Northern provinces of Italy

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Transport is being made available by AMG to take the official papers to outlying communes and to facilitate the work of Italian officials in the preparation of the lists. Steps are also being taken to free premises for use later as polling places.

"In view of the deep distrust which the United States and British Governments feel in this matter, the Allied Commission and the Allied Military Government in the Northern provinces of Italy will do everything in their power to assist the Italian authorities to prepare for future free elections, which will be one of the most important steps that Italy can take towards becoming a true democracy", Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission said.

"The manner in which the elections are held will be watched with great interest by the democratic nations as a test of Italy's ability to achieve and maintain true democracy", Admiral Stone added.

A prime pre-requisite for preparing the electoral lists is the prompt functioning of Italian local government officials in every one of the 40 provinces and 4,005 communes of the North, the Local Government Sub-Commission said.

The Italian local government officials must be on hand since it will be their responsibility to carry on the actual work of preparing the lists.

AMS officials have only the duty of insuring that the necessary Italian officials are operating, and of expediting the procedure.

Electoral lists in Southern Italy have now been practically completed, as a result of intensive Italian Government activity. Work was started in February. Preparation of the lists in Umbria-Marche provinces and in part of Toscana started in May and in the rest of Toscana in June.

Under the decree of the Italian Government, the time-table required for completion of the lists in AMS territory is 105 days, starting from July 15.

The Italian officials who will figure in the work of preparation include (besides the Prefect) the Vice Prefect Inspector, the manager of the Prefectural Electoral Office, the Sindaco and Cammunal Secretary of every commune.

Where the communal authorities indicate that the work is not progressing with sufficient diligence, the prefect may appoint

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Where the communal authorities indicate that the work is not progressing with sufficient diligence, the prefect may appoint special Commissari to take over the job.

The monumental job of preparing for elections has many obstacles. Italy has not had an inter-party national election since 1922 nor a local election since 1925 and the last call to the polls for a national vote of confidence in the Fascist regime occurred in 1934. There are few officials left who are familiar with the mere mechanics of the process.

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The granting of suffrage to women for the first time in Italian history as a result of the Italian Government decree of February 1, 1945, is a new factor in the elections. Woman suffrage is expected to add an estimated 15,000,000 names to the registration lists. The addition of women will obviously increase the burden of the task. Separate registration lists have to be drawn up initially for the female vote.

Consequently, the Italian Government is devoting a great deal of attention to perfecting election plans and re-orienting an efficient electoral machinery.

Records, vitally important because of the cross-checking necessary to fulfill the legal requirements of proper electoral lists, are also in many instances in a poor state. Many are lost, burned, destroyed, scattered. Communications are difficult in many cases, individual transport is short and even adequate wood and glass for the ballot boxes themselves are scarce.

The Allied Governments have asked the Italian Government to re-examine pertinent election laws with a view to insuring that all proper safeguards are taken for free and secret balloting as well as to modernize provisions relating to the extent of franchise, the possible use of proportional representation, the qualification and nomination of candidates, the safeguarding of the independent nominees and the printing of the official ballot papers.

The steps in preparing the lists are simple, though their execution is liable to prove long-drawn-out. In addition to taking names on hand from official sources, the Sindaco also advertises for all citizens to come forward and apply to be registered. Before the legal electoral lists can be formulated, there has to be a register of those who are obviously qualified, not necessarily to vote, but to be registered.

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This qualification may be defined as applying to any Italian citizen, man or woman, who was 21 years old December 31, 1944. This register or Elenco is usually taken from the permanent population registers of the municipality. Where such records are missing, records of marriages, births, etc. may serve.

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The next step involves a great deal of labor in cross-checking the register for disqualification. For example, the present law denies the vote to lunatics, habitual drunkards, brothel-keepers, registered prostitutes, permanent inhabitants of public welfare institutions, bankrupts, certain police, suspects, certain criminal convicts, former Fascist hierarchs down to communal posts, persons convicted of Fascist crimes, and persons when a special Provincial Commission (not the Provincial Election Commission) deprives of civil rights for offenses against the civic morality.

This special Commission will examine many such charges against alleged Fascists and may order them disqualified from voting as late as ten days before an election.

The duly constituted Italian authorities for public assistance and for public safety must send the Sindaco the names on their records from his commune. Where criminal records in the Casellario Giudiziale have been lost, the Allied Commission is asking for immediate notification from the ARE regions so that adequate measures may be taken to aid the Italian authorities to obtain copies of duplicate records from the Central Casellario in Rome.

All persons affected by disqualifications may appeal to the courts. Refugees, incidentally, will be able to register in the commune in which they are presently located or in their permanent residence. All qualified registrars may later change their voting address.

The electoral lists then go to the Electoral Commission itself, an all-important body which validates the final, definitive electoral list. The Electoral Commission reviews all relevant documents and again may add or subtract names on the basis of later information. There will be such a commission in every judicial district, and a sub-commission for every 50,000 inhabitants or fraction thereof, of the district.

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The lists are then declared valid, are posted publicly in the communal municipio and cannot be changed except by death of a voter, or by an appellate court decision.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APC 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

13 July 45

21/395/PAB

Press Release - Immediate

A special economic conference to examine the most urgent problems attendant to the unification of the economy of North Italy and of South and Central Italy was held today, the Italian Government and Allied Commission jointly announced.

The conference, which was held at the request of the Italian Government and which met in Allied Commission Headquarters, was attended by ranking officials of the Italian Government and of the Allied Commission, headed by Rear Admiral Eileen W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, who presided at the meeting. The Italian contingent was headed by Prime Minister Benito Mussolini.

The conference first examined the problems of what immediate steps to take for creating a uniform policy concerning the readjustment of wages and salaries and prices on a national basis.

Projects for the relief of unemployment were also examined. Plans have been made to begin placing workers on simple public works projects within the next few weeks. It was estimated that projects were available which might cost as much as many billions of lire but that the main handicap to starting work on the projects was lack of transport to move the workers.

The agenda also included discussion of the economic price of wheat and bread, trade and exchange of goods between the North and South Italy, the control of such movement of goods, and the

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The agenda also included discussion of the economic price of wheat and bread, trade and exchange of goods between the North and South Italy; the control of such movement of goods, and the distribution thereof.

General agreement on all problems was expressed by both Italian and Allied representatives. Admiral Stone said that further meetings between the Italian Government and the AMG Regional Commissioners might be held in order to maintain close liaison on economic policies.

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Present also on the Allied side were Brigadier General Edward E. McMinley, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section; Brigadier Maurice S. Lusk, Executive Commissioner of the Allied Commission; Brigadier Harold E. Johnson, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section; Colonel Charles Pylested, Air Regional Commissioner of Lombardy Region; Brigadier M. Carr, Air Regional Commissioner of Liguria Region; Brigadier A.H. Duplon, Air Regional Commissioner of Venesia Region; Colonel Floyd E. Thomas, Army Regional Commissioner of Emilia Region; Colonel Clarence E. Birchett, representing the Air Regional Commissioner of Piemonte Region; Mr. William H. Braune, Director of the Labor Sub-Commission; Colonel Robert Manapace, Joint Director of the Finance Sub-Commission, and various other Allied staff officers.

On the Italian side, in addition to the President of the Council of Ministers, there were Minister Marcello Soleri of the Treasury; Minister Giovanni Gronchi of Industry and Commerce; Minister Mauro Scoccimarro of Finance; Minister Fausto Gullo of Agriculture; Minister Ugo La Malfa of Transport; Minister Durio Uboldi of Food; Minister Gastone Barbareschi of Labor; Under-Secretary of the Presidency Giorgio Amendola; Under-Secretary of Public Works Giuseppe Bruno; Under-Secretary of Agriculture Antonio Segni; Dr. Morandi, President of the Committee of National Intervention for Alta Italia; Prof. Pesenti, former Minister of Finance, and Dr. A. Bozzi, Secretary of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Reconstruction. In addition there were various other members of the CEMAT and of the Central Economic Committee.

Distribution A, B and C.

representing the 11th Regional Commissioner of Piemonte Region; Dr. William H. Braine, Director of the Labor Sub-Commission; Colonel Robert Johnson, Joint Director of the Finance Sub-Commission, and various other allied staff officers.

On the Italian side, in addition to the President of the Council of Ministers, there were Minister Marcello Solmi of the Treasury; Minister Giovanni Gronchi of Industry and Commerce; Minister Mauro Scoccimarro of Finance; Minister Fausto Gullo of Agriculture; Minister Ugo La Malfa of Transport; Minister Emilio Nobile of Food; Minister Gaetano Marbassotti of Labor; Under-Secretary of the Presidency Giorgio Amendola; Under-Secretary of Public Works Giuseppe Bruno; Under-Secretary of Agriculture Antonio Segni; Dr. Morandi, President of the Committee of National Liberation for All-Italia; Prof. Resenti, former Minister of Finance, and Dr. A. Bozzi, Secretary of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Reconstruction. In addition there were various other members of the CEMAT and of the Central Economic Committee.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APR 334

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

21/394/PBB

12 July 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section of the Allied Commission, today was awarded the Legion of Merit for his work as former chief of the Fiscal Division of the Office of the Quartermaster General of the War Department.

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, presented the award to General McKinley in the presence of the other vice presidents of the Commission and of French and Russian representatives.

The citation states that General McKinley, during a period from January, 1940, to January, 1945, "displayed superior leadership and outstanding vision in establishing fiscal policies during a period of great depression."

The citation further reads:

"The development of the Fiscal Division, centralization of fiscal records establishment of cost analysis procedures, coordination of budgetary functions, growth of field fiscal organizations and defense of the Quartermaster Corps budget estimates were all accomplishments attributable to his extraordinary efforts. General McKinley's professional skill and tireless application to a difficult task insured notable achievements by his division and contributed greatly to the war effort."

General McKinley began his career in the U.S. Regular Army

the Fiscal Division of the Office of the Quartermaster General of the War Department.

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, presented the award to General Mokineley in the presence of the other vice presidents of the Commission and of French and Russian representatives.

The citation says as that General Mokineley, during a period from January, 1943, to January, 1945, "displayed superior leadership and outstanding vision in establishing fiscal policies during a period of great expansion."

The citation further reads:

"The development of the Fiscal Division, centralization of fiscal records, establishment of cost analysis procedures, coordination of budgetary functions, growth of field fiscal organizations and defense of the Quartermaster Corps budget estimates were all accomplishments attributable to his extraordinary efforts. General Mokineley's professional skill and tireless application to a difficult task insured notable achievements by his division and contributed greatly to the war effort."

General Mokineley began his career in the U.S. Regular Army in July, 1917. He was assigned to the Allied Commission in February, 1943. In his present position as head of the A.C.'s Economic Section, General Mokineley is responsible for planning and coordination of supply and production activities in AMG territory in North Italy as well as for advice and assistance

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to the Italian Government on general economic matters, including rehabilitation projects and formulation of import-export programs.

The General is a graduate of the University of Maryland and of the Harvard University School of Business Administration. He was born in Washington, D.C. 55 years ago. He is president of the Irish American Club of America.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

393/R1/2RB

July 11, 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

Virtually all the classic works of art removed by the Germans from Italian National Collections have been recovered, the Allied Commission announced today.

Still missing, however, are nine masterpieces from Tuscany and 15 cases of bronzes and pictures taken from Monte Cassino.

The recovered art, whose value is estimated at \$100,000,000, although much of it is priceless, was found in two deposits near the Brenner Pass. Most of the art came from the Florence area to which it will shortly be returned by special convoy.

Clear-cut evidence has been unearthed that the Germans planned to despoil Italy of all major works of art to take them to Germany.

Increasingly strained relations had been developing between the Nazis and their Fascist Republican allies in Italy over the question of custody of Italian art preceding the German surrender in Italy.

These facts were revealed in a special joint report just issued by Lieut. Col. Ernest A. De Wald, Director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission for Italy, and Wing Commander Douglas Cooper, Acting Director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Branch (British) of the Allied Control Commission for Germany.

The information was elicited as the result of intensive

Commission announced today.

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Increasingly strained relations had been developing between the Nazis and their Fascist Republican allies in Italy over the question of custody of Italian art preceding the German surrender in Italy.

These facts were revealed in a special joint report just issued by Lieut. Col. Ernest A. De Wald, Director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission for Italy, and Wing Commander Douglas Cooper, Acting Director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Branch (British) of the Allied Control Commission for Germany.

The information was elicited as the result of intensive interrogation by the two Allied officers of Kunstschutz (Fine Arts) personnel of the German Army now prisoners-of-war in Italy.

Before the Allied breakthrough to the Alps in the final campaign, famous Italian art missing from Tuscany included 291 paintings from the Montagnana cache, 198 paintings from the Poppi cache, 52 cases of Renaissance sculpture from the Poggio a Caiano cache, 26 cases of Hellenistic-Roman sculpture from the Diociano

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cache and 69 cases of Medieval Renaissance sculpture from the Soci cache.

The art had been originally removed for safe-keeping to these deposits by Italian authorities.

No estimate has been made of the individual removals from private collections by German soldiers or units.

The German-removed art was eventually transferred to two deposits at San Leonardo and Campy Doves about 20 miles from the Brenner Pass. Himmler, head of the SS, had given orders that the art should be moved to Germany for "safe-keeping" but German General Carl Wolff, head of the SS in Italy, made excuses of lack of petrol and transport.

Italian art authorities throughout these transfers were either ignored or told fabrications as to the location of the art, which the Italians wanted to remove to their own deposits on the Etruscan Isles in Lago Maggiore. The Germans also said they feared Mussolini might have used the masterpieces as security to obtain loans from the outside world.

The German deposits in the Brenner Pass region were in the South Tyrol Gau, administered as German territory. No Italian was even permitted access to the region.

The interrogations also disclosed the information that the decision to blow up all of Florence's famed bridges, with the exception of the Ponte Vecchio, was taken at a meeting attended by Hitler, Goering and Marshal Kesselring, commander-in-chief of German forces in Italy.

The art taken from Monte Cassino was removed by the Hermann Goering Division and only after considerable negotiation within the German Army itself was most of the loot removed from the

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Fifteen cases of the Monte Cassino loot, however, have yet to be recovered. They contained six famous bronzes from Pompeii and Herculaneum, antique gold objects from the Naples Museum and 13 paintings, including two Titians.

A report has just been received that possibly the missing

art may be located at Alt Aussee in Austria, where considerable German deposits are awaiting examination.

General Wolff told the Allied interrogators that he had ordered the removals in order to preserve the art "for Europe" and that he felt that the masterpieces were a safer in German than in Italian hands.

Investigation into the activities of the German Kunstschutz revealed that the German fine arts organization was not nearly as well-organized as the Allied effort. Considerable work was done by the Germans; however, in protecting monuments and treasures and an invaluable photographic reference library was accumulated.

The head of the Kunstschutz in Italy was an SS man, Dr. Alexander Langsdorff who took his orders from Himmler and General Wolff.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

392/R1/FRB

July 7, 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

Approximately 25,000 migrant workers are again in the rice fields along the Po River and its tributaries and in fields irrigated from water canals, AMG agricultural experts reported to the Allied Commission today.

It is too early to forecast the probable rice tonnage for this season, except that acreage this year is somewhat less than that planted in previous years and fertilizer is in short supply.

Fortunately, the water systems are not badly damaged, although 32 bridges were knocked into the water over the Canale Cavour which runs from the Po River at Chiavasso just east of Turin in a northeasterly direction to the Ticino River a few miles west of Milan.

AMG has facilitated planting work by aiding in the transportation of migrant workers to the rice fields, and in supplying bags and twine and other essential ingredients, including fertilizers.

Rice is an important supplementary crop, particularly for North Italy. In previous years around 320,000 acres were normally planted to rice, and the production ran around 700,000 metric tons.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

391/R1/PRB

July 6, 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

The 39th meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy was held in Rome on July 6, 1945 under the chairmanship of Major General Adrian Vasiliev, the Soviet Union Representative on the Council. The Representatives of the five other Allied Nations attending the meeting were:

M. Couve de Murville	France
George Exintaris	Greece
H.L.d'A. Hopkinson	United Kingdom
Alexander Kirk	United States
Dr. Sloven Smedlaka	Jugoslavia

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

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ALLIED COMMISSION

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

39C/R1/EE3

3 JULY 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Five hundred thousand (500,000) tons of phosphate rock have been allocated for the next twelve months from North Africa to Italy to reactivate the Italian fertilizer industries, the Allied Commission announced today.

The allocation, authorized by the Combined Chiefs of Staff is effective July, 1945.

The Italian Government's purchase of the phosphate rock is being negotiated directly with the French Government and represents the first time since the early part of the war that any substantial amount of this product has been available to Italy.

The 500,000 tons of phosphate rock is sufficient to produce one million tons of super-phosphate which is about two-thirds of Italy's normal consumption.

A further allocation of 200,000 tons may be authorized for import at a later date. It is expected that this total of 700,000 tons of phosphate rock - a quantity 7 times larger than that available the past 12 months - will bring Italy's fertilizer industries back to almost normal production.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

389/21/PRB

5 JULY 1945

Press Release - Your Release 5 July

Italy's chief breadbasket - the Po Valley - is in harvest, with increased returns expected in practically every main crop. Due largely to drought, interruptions because of the war, and the lack of normal fertilizer supplies.

Except in the most heavily-fortified zones and in enemy-flooded areas of the Po Valley, farmers literally sowed and cultivated the land by hand and hoe, and battling a lack of horsepower, shortage of fuel and equipment, planted something in every inch of soil.

The wheat harvest in Northern Italy, including all of the Po Valley as well as Venezia and the Hill provinces beyond the Po, is virtually over. It is at least 15 days ahead of schedule due to dry weather. Italian and Allied Military Government experts, under the supervision of Lieutenant Colonel Stanley Andrews (Little Rock, Arkansas) Agricultural Officer of 5th Army AGO, predict a wheat production this year of about 20 million quintals, as compared with the bumper crop of 30 million quintals last year, or 30 per cent below normal.

Rye, barley and oats - normally large crops in Northern Italy - are running a proportional reduction in total production, although the barley crop coming to harvest earlier is probably less affected by the dry weather than the other crops. The first corn crop is normally about 20 million

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Rye, barley and oats - normally large crops in Northern Italy - are running a proportional reduction in total production, although the barley crop coming to harvest earlier is probably less affected by the dry weather than the other crops. The first corn crop is normally about 20 million quintals for the area, with the second crop running about 20 million quintals.

The early wheat harvest is not an unmixed blessing.

It will give the farmers time to prepare their land for

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planting the second crop of corn. This they are doing, and with late summer rains, a good late crop can be expected, due to increased plantings and the fact that fertilizer materials will be distributed in the areas this summer.

Late spring and summer fruit and vegetable crops have been exceptionally good, and since transportation was more plentiful in Northern Italy, nearly all of the surplus which in normal times was exported to Central Europe, has been moved to Southern cities and the large industrial areas of North Italy. While lack of sugar prevented the preserving of the cherry crop, which was very good, pulping plants were put into operation and large stocks of cherries were pulped. Normally six thousand tons of cherries are exported.

Fruit, peaches, plums, pears and apples will begin moving in early July out of the Bolzano-Trento-Belluno area. This is one of the most highly-concentrated and highly-productive fruit areas in Europe, and normally produces one million quintals of fruit, of which about two-thirds stays in Italy and one-third goes to Austria and Germany. Italian fruit exports expect only about one-half that amount this year, due to lack of care of the trees and transportation and harvesting difficulties. The large peach district in the Savona area, which normally sent prime peaches to France and Germany, has a good crop, and nearly all of this fruit is at present moving to markets in Southern Italy.

Potatoes, normally producing about 14 million quintals a year, show about a 20 per cent. increase in the number

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Potatoes, normally producing about 14 million quintals a year, show about a 20 per cent. increase in the number of acres planted, but total production will not be increased by that much, due primarily to dry weather and lack of fertilizers at planting time.

Tomatoes in the Bologna area, usually a large crop, will show a decrease in the next crop, as well as a decrease in the part normally going to paste manufacture. It

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consumed

will be largely in the fresh form and used in home-production of tomato paste, since many of the large tomato paste manufacturing plants are destroyed, or immobilized due to lack of fuel.

Vegetable oil crops, rapeseed, sunflower and flax, have been harvested with some damage, and these crops are moving on a fast market, as opposed to an amassing program, for the first time in many years.

Sugar beets and rice, normally large and important crops in Northern Italy, come to harvest later in the season, but both crops are down in acreage by from 50 per cent. for beets to about 40 per cent. for rice. The loss in beets is due to the destruction of the sugar beet factories in the lower Emilia Region by the Germans, and the lack of coal to process the beets. Rice is down due to the lack of horse-power and the damage to irrigation and drainage installations during military operations, which hit the area during planting season.

It is too early to predict the wine and table-grape crop, although the vineyards are in good shape, and local production plus imported supplies have permitted an approximate 50 per cent. distribution of copper sulphate and other fungicides, which minimize rot on the grape. Last year nearly 50 per cent. of the wine crop in Tuscany was lost due to the lack of these essential materials.

While the total picture on livestock, especially as regards horses and cattle, is about the same for Northern

gram, for the first time in many years.

Sugar beets and rice, normally large and important crops in Northern Italy, come to harvest later in the season, but both crops are down in acreage by from 60 per cent. for beets to about 40 per cent. for rice. The loss in beets is due to the destruction of the sugar beet factories in the lower Emilia Region by the Germans, and the lack of coal to process the beets. Rice is down due to the lack of horse-power and the damage to irrigation and drainage installations during military operations, which hit the area during planting season.

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While the total picture on livestock, especially as regards horses and cattle, is about the same for Northern Italy as for the rest of the country, that is reduction from 20 per cent. to 60 per cent., the livestock picture is not as bad as originally pictured. The Germans, in their procurement program for their armies in Northern Italy last winter, concentrated on beef and pork, with the result that a large number of the oxen normally utilized for work animals were beefed, and practically all of the fat

4983

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hogs were taken. However, hogs reproduce quickly, and at present there are actually surpluses of feeder pigs in some areas of Northern Italy. Allied Agricultural Officers and Italian agricultural specialists are sponsoring a feeding program for 100 thousand pigs from old corn, found mainly in Lower Emilia and Venetia Regions.

Though there are some provinces almost totally devoid of cattle, there are others which have been more or less out of the active war zones and to which many cattle migrated during military operations, and in these provinces there is an actual surplus of cattle. One example is Modena Province, where there are some 20,000 head of yearling calves, and older animals in excess of normal. Presently these animals are being re-distributed to other areas as breeding stock, with the culler and cull cattle going for beef.

While the cheese industry in Northern Italy was one of its most important agricultural industries, providing not only export to other areas of Italy but to the whole world, in recent years extreme difficulty has been experienced in keeping up the herds and, more important, keeping and maintaining the simple transport to move dairy products from the small farms to the cheese plants. However in many areas the cheese industry is reviving and plans by Italian farm leaders look to an early restoration of this important food-producing section of the North Italy farm economy.

The sale by the Allied Armies of 20 thousand captured

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The sale by the Allied armies of 20 thousand captured horses to the Italian farmers is replacing much of the horse-power lost due to the slaughter of work cattle. This

will materially aid fall planting, since horse and tractor power has been a limited factor in the areas of Piemonte and Lombardia Regions in recent years. In a few factories limited tractor production is being resumed.

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ROSENBERG STATE OF NEW YORK

1992

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

388/H1/ZR3

Press Release for Release July 1.

All Italian prisoner of war "co-operators" in Italy and Sicily are released from prisoner of war status effective to-day, 1 July 1945, the Allied Commission announces.

The men thus released will be formed into new units of the Italian Army, supplied from British and American sources, receive the regular Italian Army scales of pay and rations and henceforth will be subject to Italian military law.

The co-operators in Italy have been on duty with Allied Military service units for nearly two years and have rendered valuable service in the Allied cause.

The release of the "co-operators" from their previous status marks another step in the Allied policy of devolving an increasing measure of authority and responsibility to the Italian Government.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

H1/387/ERS

28 June 1945

Press Release for 1600 hours, 28 June.

Radio telephone service to the United States will be available on and after Sunday, July 1 to members of the Allied Armed Forces and Italian civilians for calls dealing with personal or family matters, the Allied Commission announced today.

All calls will be limited to three minutes. No incoming calls will be accepted.

Persons desiring to use this service should go to the International Recording Operator, Room 43, Palazzo Ina on via Leoluca Piscolati where calls will be booked from 1200 to 2200 hours. All bookings must be made 24 hours in advance.

Technical reasons necessitate that all calls be made from the Palazzo Ina. Calling times will be from 1300 to 2200 hours daily (0700 to 1600 New York time).

The order of priority for calls will be:

1. Official government calls
2. Authorized Press calls
3. Members of the Allied Armed Forces
4. Civilian calls

The rate for three minutes will be \$12.00 to Zone I and \$15.00 to Zone II (1,200 and 1,500 at present rate of exchange).

Zone I includes Alabama, North and South Carolina, Connecticut, District of Columbia, North and South Dakota, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts,

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Zone I includes Alabama, North and South Carolina, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Maine, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

/s/

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None of includes Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 334
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

P/386/PRB

23 June 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Four Italian schools in Rome and vicinity and a home for destitute children at Ostia have been released in the last few days from Allied military use by the Rome Allied Area Command and returned to disposition of the Italian authorities, the Allied Commission announced today.

The four schools released will make space available for 2,100 school children in the fall, the Education Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission said.

The schools returned to Italian use are the Acilia Elementary School, the Commercial Technical School at 6 Via dell'Olmata, the Ferrante Apperti School on Via Antonio Serra and the Aurelio Saffi School at 35-37 Via dei Sardi.

The children's home released was the Colonia Marina Vittorio Emanuele III property at Ostia Lido.

All Italian property used by Allied military units is systematically examined by the Real Estate Section of the Rome Allied Area Command for return to Italian use as soon as possible, according to Lieut.Col. Roy S. McMurtray, head of the section.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

385/R1/RRB

19 June 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Leonardo Da Vinci's Last Supper, probably the most famous wall painting in the world, is now open to public inspection in the convent of the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan, the Allied Commission announced today.

Bomb hits in August, 1943, destroyed the wall and roof of the refectory housing the painting. The Last Supper was painted on one of the end walls in 1494-1497. The fresco at the time of the air raids was covered, heavily sandbagged and walled and supported by steel scaffolding.

According to official reports received by the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, the painting, which has been quite faded for years, is in satisfactory enough condition. The last restoration of the wall supporting the painting was done in 1924 and is standing up well.

On the picture, only in the area - about 10 centimeters square - of the tunic of St. James the Greater, which always has been the weakest point of the famous masterpiece physically, is there any noticeable alteration, experts reported.

There, a very thin flake of the plastering has swollen up and the plaster underneath has been reduced to dust. This area has undergone conservation work several times in the past. The small swollen portion is not part of the original plaster.

Work is now about to begin to strengthen the wall behind the fresco, since the supporting plaster is generally in danger of

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Work is now about to begin to strengthen the wall behind the fresco, since the supporting plaster is generally in danger of disintegration. Slight but prompt repairs will avoid further damage, the sub-commission believes.

Art experts are currently also studying the problem of dusting the picture, itself a delicate operation. Distribution A, B and C.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

384/R1/DRE

Press Release - For Release on June the 20th.

There is a good deal of shuffling and moving and apparent confusion at the Allied Commission's repatriation center at Bolzano, Italy, but the net result of each day's work is 2,000 happy homeward-bound Italian repatriates from Germany.

Established on May 17 by the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission and 5th Army AMG, the camp got off to a flying start and by June 10, 48,000 refugees had passed through it. On an average day the camp handles 60 former inmates of such ill-famed places as Dachau, Belsen or Buchenwald and about 600 former Italian prisoners-of-war, captured by the Germans after the Italian Armistice. The rest are men and women who had been packed off to various parts of the Reich as labor slaves.

Bartolo Bertoli, a lawyer from Lucca who was an inmate of the German-Fascist concentration camp at Bolzano before he became civilian director of the refugee center, explained that the camp staff is far too busy to bother with complicated statistical records. The same goes for AMB officers, representatives of the Vatican, CIM agents and volunteer civilian aides. Their only job, which takes about eighteen hours a day, is to keep the flow of refugees moving.

To this end, transportation is "promoted, scrounged and practically stolen", to quote Signor Bertoli. Captured German

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To this end, transportation is "promoted, scrounged and
practically stolen", to quote Signor Bertoldi. Captured German
trucks, driven by prisoners-of-war, U.S. Army trucks, Italian
Red Cross trucks, trucks sent by various Italian cities, and
trucks furnished by private persons are all used in transport-
ing the repatriates to key cities throughout Italy from which
they are forwarded to their homes.

None of the convoys originates in Bolzano as the repatriates
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are all screened and processed at Innsbruck, Austria, and forwarded to Bolzano by Seventh Army transport. The border at Brenner is closed and no pedestrians are permitted to cross until they have been through the processing at Innsbruck. Thus the Bolzano center is relieved of the necessity of weeding out former Fascists, war criminals, would-be illegal entrants and bearers of contagious diseases.

One narrow escape from the need for enforcing quarantine on about 1,400 transients occurred recently when it was discovered that a group of former internees from Dachau had among their number three cases of typhus. This group was shifted to a nearby hospital before they entered the camp. Many sick people arrive at the camp, however, and these are hospitalized until they regain sufficient strength to continue their journeys. Medicine, in ever pressing necessity, is furnished by U.S. and British Army medical units, the Italian Red Cross and the Vatican State.

Little reaction is noted as the repatriates sit on the bundles and boxes which hold all their worldly possessions. By the time they reach Bolzano, they are usually numb with fatigue because of the necessity of jampacking all available transport. The long awaited thrill of landing once again on Italian soil seems to nerve most of them dead. Men, who outnumber the women by about five to one, seem to be a trifle more animated than the women who, for the most part, sit vacant eyed and patient.

Another problem, that of "repatriation in reverse" is shortly to be solved after the former Bolzano concentration camp has been refitted as a staging post for German civilians in Italy who are to be shipped back to their former homes in Germany. Many of

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Another problem, that of "repatriation in reverse" is shortly to be solved after the former Bolzano concentration camp has been refitted as a staging post for German civilians in Italy who are to be shipped back to their former homes in Germany. Many of these are the wives and children of German soldiers who have been on garrison duty in Italy. The soldiers are now in prisoners-of-war camps and their families, therefore, are stranded in various parts of North Italy.

Nearly 200,000 refugees have been handled in AMB and Allied Commission Camps since the German surrender.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

383/R4/PRB

18 June 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The public is advised that certain changes will take place in the supply of electricity in Central Italy on completion of the repairs now being made to the high voltage transmission system between North and Central Italy, the Allied Commission said today.

Electrical power will be transmitted from North Italy to Central Italy over the inter-connected grid system and will supplement the power already being generated in the Central Italy area, the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission explained.

Eventually, 100,000 kw. will be transmitted. Repairs permitting the first transfer will be completed about August 1.

For technical reasons the frequency of supply in Central Italy will have to be raised to 50 cycles at the time the inter-connection with the North is completed. The change-over may cause some temporary inconvenience to electrical users at that time.

The change to the 50-cycle frequency, which is beyond the control of the electrical companies, will have the effect of increasing the speed of electrical motors. Consumers in those areas who have not previously had a 50-cycle supply should prepare the necessary alterations to the plant drive if required.

The increase in frequency is expected to have a marked beneficial effect on industrial power.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFC 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

382/R1/PRB

18 June 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Italian civilians are requested to turn in the location of the graves of all Allied soldiers buried in other than established Allied cemeteries in Italy to the nearest Allied Commission or AMG office, the Allied Commission said today.

Allied airmen, POW escapees and soldiers have died in unfrequented places throughout Italy. Many of these were buried by Italian civilians or by the military in civilian cemeteries or isolated graves, and no record of their burial place was reached Allied military authorities.

The following information is desired: Place of burial, nationality of deceased, particulars of identity, date and circumstances of death.

This information should be turned over to the nearest Allied office or to Italian officials who are requested to pass on the information to the Allied Commission.

Distribution B and C.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

331/R1/PR3

15 June 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The 38th meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy was held in Rome on June 15, 1945 under the chairmanship of George Exintaris, the Greek Representative on the Council. The Representatives of the five other Allied Nations attending the meeting were:

Jacques de Benamarchais	France
General Adrian Vasiliev	Soviet Union
Sir Noel Charles, Bart.	United Kingdom
Alexander Kirk	United States
Dr. Sloven Smolke	Yugoslavia

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

380/R1/PRB

14 June 1945

Press Release - Hold for release on the 14th of June.

The Provinces of Florence, Livorno, Pisa and Pistoia, effective June 19, will be returned to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government, with the exception of the contiguous Communes of Pisa, Colle Salvetti and Livorno, which will remain under Allied Military Government, the Allied Commission announced today.

The communes reserved for AMG contain large military installations and supply dumps adjacent to the military port area of Livorno.

As a consequence of the turnover of territory, the Tuscany Region of the Allied Commission, with headquarters in Florence, will shut down on June 19 and officers withdrawn from the affected Provinces.

The Provinces of Lucca and Aponia, which remain AMG areas, will be turned over to Liguria Region for administration.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APC 194
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

12 June 1945

373/RM/ERR

Press Release - Immediate

"Yellow seal" dollars and British Military Authority notes expressed in sterling will not circulate in any part of Italy as legal tender after July 31, the Allied Commission announced today.

These two currencies, used by the Allies for a short period during the liberation of Sicily in the summer of 1943, have steadily been withdrawn since that time. The volume now outstanding is so small that there is no longer any need for such notes to remain legal tender.

The withdrawal of BMA notes and yellow seal dollars has already taken place in French North Africa and other countries where they have been used.

Yellow seal dollars (which bear a yellow seal on the right hand of the face of the note) and BMA notes may be exchanged for lire currency at any branch of the Banca d'Italia or the official exchange rates during the month of August, the Finance Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission explained.

No fee or commission will be charged for such exchange.

The Italian Government is effecting the withdrawal of the legal tender privilege from these two currencies by legislative decree in that part of Italy under its jurisdiction. The Allied Commission is doing likewise in Military Government territory

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The Italian Government is effecting the withdrawal of the legal tender privilege from these two currencies by legislative decree in that part of Italy under its jurisdiction. The Allied Commission is doing likewise in Military Government territory by the issuance of a new proclamation.

Persons who continue to hold yellow seal dollars and RM. notes after September 1 will be violating the law and will be subject to appropriate penalties.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

378/R1/TRB

11 June 1945

Press Release - Immediate

A request by the Italian Government for immediate delivery of supplies under the joint program for first-aid to Italian economic reconstruction - now based on total needs of the country following complete liberation - has been forwarded to the Combined Chiefs of Staff, the Allied Commission announced today.

In a letter by Prime Minister Ivanoe Bonomi of Italy to Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, the Italian Government, further requested that coal and raw materials purchases have absolute priority over all other requisitions filed in the program to provide the war-stricken economy with a portion of the tools needed to rehabilitate itself.

The coal and raw materials would be allocated to textile, fertilizer and other industries in Southern Italy and to key industries found undestroyed in the North. Already on the high seas are 15,000 bales of cotton for the textile mills of Naples and the Northern area.

In his letter to Admiral Stone, Prime Minister Bonomi pointed out that provision of coal and raw materials were urgently needed to prevent unemployment.

This first shipment of supplies is requested for September of this year and amount 710,000 tons, of which 383,000 is coal. The Prime Minister added:

"I am aware that all this represents for the Allies a sea transportation problem of sizeable proportions. However, I speak

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"I am aware that all this represents for the Allies a sea transportation problem of sizeable proportions. However, I speak in the name of 40 million persons, of whom half have been reduced by the war to conditions of want and suffering. The other half is ready to repair the destruction and to provide the urgent requirements of their fellow countrymen, but they have no materials for the gigantic task".

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

377/PRE/R1

11 June 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

Mr. A.G. Antolini, who was just relinquished his post as acting Vice President of the Economic Section of the Allied Commission, was conferred with the Cross of Grand Officer with order of the Crown of Italy, by the Lieutenant-General of the Realm yesterday, June 10, in appreciation of Mr Antolini's services to Italy.

Mr. Antolini is now en route to the United States.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 894
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

376/R1/PRB

6 June 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The new museum in the centre of the excavations of OSTIA ANTICA will be formally opened by the Minister of Public Instruction on Tuesday, June 12th at 1000 a.m., the Allied Commission announced today.

The museum contains the results of the extensive recent excavations undertaken by Prof. Galassi, which include some of the finest discoveries of classical sculpture in recent years. Unlike the provincial cities of TUSCANY and HERCULANEUM, OSTIA was a busy commercial town, the seaport of ancient ROME.

A notable feature of recent excavations is that many of the houses reveal an architecture which is the direct forerunner of the Roman palazzo, with its compact exterior, tall rooms, and deep, colonnaded, central courtyard.

The reopening of the Museum arises out of the policy of the Italian Government, with the aid of the Monuments and Fine Arts Sub-commission, to get as many as possible of Italy's collections open on a normal basis as rapidly as possible.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

375/31/323

Press Release - For Release 10 June 1945

Re-created out of the confusion and chaos of 18 months ago, a brand-new, efficient and compact Italian Army has arisen which has made invaluable contributions to the Allied war effort both in support of military lines of communications and in the final assault on the Nazi lines in Italy. The Land Forces Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission said today in a special report.

The sub-commission's report, which summed up the history of the Italian Army's re-organization under joint Italian and Allied leadership, paid tribute both to the tremendous saving in Allied manpower made by Italian service troops and to the valiant battle record of the four combat groups which participated in the fighting with the 6th Army in April.

The strength of the Italian Army was publicly revealed for the first time as consisting of more than 300,000 officers and men. Apart from Combat Groups, thousands of troops were used to guard important installations. The service troops numbered 175,000 and worked directly under Allied Commands. Porta labor battalions have broken many records in the unloading of Allied ships. Road construction units have maintained vital communications under enemy fire to allow armored forces to advance without delay. Mine clearance companies have lifted nearly 600,000 mines.

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The strength of the Italian Army was publicly revealed for the first time as consisting of more than 500,000 officers and men. Apart from Combat Groups, thousands of troops were used to guard import installations. The service troops numbered 175,000 and worked directly under Allied Commands. Some labor battalions have broken many records in the unloading of Allied ships. Road construction units have maintained vital communications under enemy fire to allow armored forces to advance without delay. Mine clearance companies have lifted nearly 500,000 mines.

The Land Forces Sub-Commission, which also has the title of Military Mission to the Italian Army, is headed by Major General Langley Browning (E). It is the agency which from the beginning has been responsible, with the Italian Ministry of War, for re-organizing and re-disciplining the Italian Army. General Browning said in his report:

"Great credit must go to the officers of the Italian War Ministry and General Staff under the good leadership and untiring

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efforts of H.E. Count Casati - the War Minister. Many cross-currents have tended to hamper and even divert the re-creation of this truly national army. The task of the Minister of War has been a heavy one. Yet, with true patriotism, he has overcome all difficulties and has undoubtedly succeeded in restoring much of the prestige of the Italian Army in the eyes of the United Nations."

In the new Order of Battle of the Italian Army appear hundreds of Italian units, Combat Groups, Guard Battalions, Service Units, Territorial Headquarters. These units represent Italians from every walk of life, and every part of Italy - hardened soldiers repatriated from the Balkans, Patriots, Grenadiers, Bersaglieri, Alpine Troops, Parachutists, Assault troops - many of whom have seen fighting in the Balkans, in Africa, on the Garigliano, at Cassino, on the Gothic line, and in the final assault, whilst others have seen serving the Allied Armies in the Poets, on the roads or with their rifles.

The birth of the new Italian Army goes back to September 8, 1943. A new Italian Army was essential to the smooth-running of, and assistance to, the Allied war effort and for the internal security of both the Allied Armies and the civilian population.

Work of reconstruction was started at once. The Italian Ministry of War and General Staff sought out Generals and staff officers from all quarters in order to set up the vital administrative machinery necessary for the formation of an Army.

The first Italian formation chosen to fight with the Allies was concentrated in Apulia for re-organization and training. Fitted throughout with Italian arms and equipment, this First Motorized Group became known the Corpo Italiano di Liberazione (C.I.L.). Overcoming great difficulties owing to shortage of

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This C.I.L., made up of Infantry, Bersaglieri, Alpini, Parachutists and Artillery men, handicapped by poor equipment and lack

- 3 -

of modern arms, with very little transport, met the enemy for the first time at Monte Lungo, sustaining heavy casualties. In this action, the C.I.L. gave a good account of itself and won the praise of General Mark W. Clark, then commanding General, 5th Army, who said:

"This action shows the determination of Italian soldiers to liberate their country from German domination, a determination which may well serve as an example to the oppressed peoples of Europe."

After four months in the line, the C.I.L. passed to under command 8th Army and took part in the brilliant action which seized the height of Monte Lattaro on March 31, 1944. After months of patrol work and holding, Filottrano was captured by the "Nembo" paratroopers, sustaining over 300 casualties. Many brilliant actions were to follow before the C.I.L. was pulled out of the line in August, 1944.

Behind the fighting line, the Italian Army was by no means inactive. A far greater number of Italian troops were working and co-operating for the Allied War effort. Labor battalions, road construction units, mine clearance units, signal and line telegraph companies, docks operating companies had been formed and put to work on the maintenance and safe-guarding of the Allied lines of communications.

Italian mule pack transport companies were carrying supplies and ammunition right forward in the mountainous regions of the Apennines, where no vehicles could move. Much work had to be carried out under enemy shell fire and many casualties were sustained. Recognition and praise was freely given by Allied commanders employing these units.

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At the Ministry of War, hard work and loyal cooperation was being given by the Italian staffs. Difficulties of equipment, transportation and documentation were daily problems. Italian staff procedures had to be changed to conform with Allied procedure and directives. The Italian Territorial lay-out was put into effect as territory was handed over to Italian administration.

1267

- 4 -

Call-ups and recalls to the colors were re-started.

Allied equipment and material, however, were not available to maintain a large Italian fighting force, Allied commitments in Europe and in the Far East being very heavy.

Finally, in response to the urgent desire of the Italian nation and the Army for a greater representation of Italian fighting troops in the line, and the successes of the C.I.L. combined with the work of the service units, brought about the decision of the Allies in July, 1944 to form six Italian combat groups to be employed in combat with the Allied Armies. British arms and equipment for these groups were made available and Italian and British staffs set to work.

The work of re-equipment, organization, training in British methods and clothing in khaki battle dress was initiated by a relatively small staff of British and Italian personnel. Units were formed, training pamphlets and manuals were translated into Italian, training schools were opened and bi-lingual Italian officers and non-commissioned officers were found, trained and instructed. The vast task entailed was carried out by hard work and loyal cooperation of the Italian staffs and British instructors.

Towards the end of 1944, five months after its formation, the first Italian combat group - the "Cremona" - went into the line under the command of the 8th Army, having been completely re-formed, re-equipped and trained in British arms and methods - an achievement of original character and considerable speed. Soon other combat groups were ready and by March 2, 1945, four groups were in the line and "CERIGNOLA" had already achieved success in an attack south of Po di Trignano when over 200 German prisoners were taken. A fifth group - "Liantova" - was about to enter

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During the last great assault of the armies in Italy, the Italian Combat Groups - CREMONA, PAVIA, LEGNANO, and POLICORE - all played their part. The "PAVIA" sustained 500 casualties in the attack on Bologna - units of the "LEGNANO" were amongst

- 5 -

the first to enter the city. The "CRISTINA", for example, pursued the enemy across the R. SANCHEZ, and won the praise of the Commander of the 5th British Corps who said:

"You and your Group have admirably carried out operations assigned to you and your officers and men have shown great courage and zeal during the recent fighting."

In addition to the praise given by the Commanding Generals of 15th Army Group and of the 5th and 8th Armies, the Supreme Allied Commander himself, Field Marshal Alexander, under whose over-all command the more than 300,000 Italian soldiers operated, has always been the first to appreciate the good work of the Italian Army, and has said so publicly on many occasions, the report concludes.

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DISCLOSURE FOR INFORMATION BY NAME OF THE COMMISSIONER

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

374/R*/PRB

2 June, 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Lady Baden-Powell, international head of Girl Guides and widow of the founder of the Boy Scouts, and Mrs. Leigh White, Director, World Bureau Girl Guides, are expected to visit Italy shortly to aid in the revival of Italian Guides, the Allied Commission announced today.

The Education Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission hopes the movement will grow big enough to be officially recognized by the World Guide Bureau at an early date.

Girl Guides (known as Girl Scouts in America) were not strongly established in pre-Fascist Italy, although at least one company of Guides was in existence when Scouting was declared illegal by a Fascist decree in 1926.

The present history of Italian Guides actually began as a clandestine movement nine months before Rome was liberated.

On September 5, 1943 a group of women met and constituted the Catholic Guide organization which was called the Associazione Guide Italiane. The first Patrol made its "Promise" on December 28, 1943, in the Catacombs of Priscilla. A second Patrol was formed the following April. Both these patrols were of girls over 20 who were expected to become the future leaders of the movement.

The Germans were driven from Rome in June, 1944, and by October 21 this group had nine Companies with about 300 Guides.

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The present history of Italian Guides actually began as a clandestine movement almost months before Rome was liberated.

On September 5, 1943 a group of women met and constituted the Catholic Guide organization which was called the Associazione Guide Italiane. The first Patrol made its "debut" on December 28, 1943, in the Catacombs of Priscilla. A second Patrol was formed the following April. Both these patrols were of girls over 20 who were expected to become the future leaders of the movement.

The Germans were driven from Rome in June, 1944, and by October 21 this group had nine Companies with about 300 Guides. A training camp was set up in the grounds of the Villa Pamphili, through the interest of Prince Maria Pamphili whose daughter was one of the original eleven. A committee was formed which began to draw up the rules of the A.G.I., and contact was made with the Rev. V.C.E. Logan, assistant International Commissioner

1975

- 2 -

Boy Scouts, through whom a request for official recognition was made. The draft Statute and organization received the approval of the Pope.

Since then the A.G.I. has made further progress. There are now fifteen Companies in Rome, including several of Rangers, and some Brownies, called "Gai" - i.e. "half-guides". These were present at the first rally held in Rome at the Villa Pamphili on April 29, 1945. In the provinces, companies have formed or are forming at Bari, Florence, Perugia and Lucca. The President and International Commissioner of the organization are respectively Princess Maria Massimo Lancillotti di Prossedi and Signorina Giuliana di Carpegna.

The other Italian Guide organization is the Unione Nazionale Gioventù Esploratrici Italiane, parallel with the non-denominational Boy Scout Association (C.N.G.E.I.). A committee was formed in March 1945. A training course for Guide Captains is now organized, supplemented by regular Sunday practices of outdoor activities. The formation of three companies (one of Brownies - to be called "Primale" in the U.N.G.E.I.) began in April. The President of the U.N.G.E.I. is Signora Ercole Graziadei, Via Ramusca Orsini, 36, Rome. A similar group has been formed in Florence.

As would be expected, the main handicap to the progress of the movement in Italy at present, is a lack of materials - uniforms, tents, equipment, literature, etc., all of which are only obtainable, if at all, at excessive prices. Any help in this connection, even gifts of second-hand uniforms, and every visit or message from abroad will do much to encourage

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFC 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

373/R1/PRB

1 June, 1945

Press Release - Immediate

The 37th meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy was held in Rome on June 1, 1945 under the chairmanship of M. Courvoisier, the French Representative on the Council. The Representatives of the five other Allied Nations attending the meeting were:

George Exintaris	Greece
George Akopov	Soviet Union
Sir Noel Charles, Bart.	United Kingdom
Alexander Kirk	United States
Dr. Sloven Smolnik	Yugoslavia

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APC 304
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

R1/372/255

30 May, 1945.

Press Release for release 12.00 hours.

A meeting will be held at the Ministry of Marine at 11 o'clock this morning under the auspices of the Mediterranean Shipping Board, with the Italian Ministry of Marine and representatives of the Italian shipping industry, the Allied Commission announced today.

Admiral Sir John D. Cunningham, R.N., K.C.B., M.V.O., Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, will address the meeting.

It will be announced that the Ministry of Marine will resume control of the Italian schooner fleet under the supervision of the Allied shipping authorities, and also of those vessels allocated by the shipping authorities to the Ministry of Marine to maintain the coast-wise shipping service, according to Mr. J. Gibson Graham, Director of the Shipping Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission and Chairman of MEDSO.

Besides Admiral Cunningham, the meeting will be attended by Rear-Admiral Ellery W. Stone, U.S.N.R., Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission; Rear-Admiral G.L. Warren, A.C.; Brig. A.T. de Rhe Phillips, C.B., C.B.E., of G-4, A.F.H.Q.; Commodore C.R.L.V. Porryman, R.N., P.S.T.O. Med.; Commodore H.W. Ziroli, U.S.N., A.C.; Colonel E.H. Lastayo, U.S.A., G-4 (Am); Colonel M.J. Sieff, C.B.E., A.C.; Lt. Cdr. G. Pawle,

11 o'clock this morning under one auspicious
Shipping Board, with the Italian Ministry of Marine and rep-
resentatives of the Italian shipping industry, the Allied
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of Marine to maintain the coast-wise shipping service, according
to Mr. J. Gibson Graham, Director of the Shipping Sub-Commission
of the Allied Commission and Chairman of MEDEO.

Besides Admiral Cunningham, the meeting will be attended
by Rear-Admiral Ellery W. Stone, U.S.N.R., Chief Commissioner
of the Allied Commission; Rear-Admiral G.L. Warren, A.C.;
Brig. A.T. de Roe Philipo, C.B., C.B.E., of G-4, A.F.H.Q.;
Comodoro C.R.E.W. Forryman, R.N., R.S.T.O. Med.;
Comodoro H.W. Zirotti, U.S.N., A.C.; Colonel E.H. Lastovo, U.S.A.,
G-4 (Am); Colonel M.J. Sioff, O.B.E., A.C.; Lt. Cdr. G. Pavlo,
R.N.V.R., Flag Lieut. to Admiral Cunningham; Mr. J. Gibson Graham,
M.C., Chairman of the Mediterranean Shipping Board and U.W.T.R.
Med.; Mr. C.W. Kallach, War Shipping Administration;
Mr. Ian D. Campbell, D.N.W.T.R. Med.; Mr. A.G. Antolini, Med.
of the Economic Section, A.C.; Mr. Merritt H. Taylor, A.C.;
Mr. J. Henderson and Mr. W. Williams of Ministry of War Transport;
Commander Mattoli, Liaison M.W.T.

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The Italians will be represented by Admiral De Courten, Minister of Marine; M.E. G. Montalbano, Under-Secretary for the Ministry of Marine; Lt. Gen. Matteini, Director General, Merchant Marine; Gr. Uff. Ballanti, Merchant Marine; Dott. Sarnella, COGENA; Prof. Minolotti, Commiss. for Merchant Marine in the C.N.L.A.I.

A representative of the Gente del Mare will attend, as well as representatives of the shipping industry from the following regions: Genoa - 4; Venice - 3; Naples - 4; Sicily - 2; Sardinia - 1; Rome - 3.

After the formal meeting, the Committee will proceed to discuss the future of Italian shipping.

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ALLIED ARMY COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 504
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

R4/371/PRB

10 maggio 1945

Comunicato stampa.

La Commissione Alleata annuncia oggi che soltanto 500 o 1000 abitanti della zona di Rimini dovranno evacuare per permettere alle autorità militari di concentrarvi i prigionieri di guerra tedeschi. La notizia che 10.000 persone sarebbero state fatte evacuare è infondata.

Gli ufficiali del Governo Militare Alleato della Regione Emilia e gli ufficiali britannici che hanno l'incarico di radunare i prigionieri tedeschi, stanno lavorando insieme con le autorità italiane anche il trasferimento delle famiglie si effettui in 'breve tempo possibile.

In vari casi gli ufficiali alleati hanno la disposizione, precedentemente stabilita, delle baracche per i prigionieri per poter evitare una cosa che altrimenti si troverebbe in mezzo alle costruzioni dei campi dei prigionieri.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

370/24/PRB

25 May 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Effective Monday, May 26, civilian movement in Italy will be free up to the Piave River and to within a short distance from the frontiers and the economic boundary line between the North and the rest of Italy will be abolished, the Allied Commission announced today.

Abolition of the economic boundary will not mean unrestricted movement of goods. All movement of goods will be controlled through ENLAC and recognized autotrasporti according to fixed rates and schedules designed to facilitate the orderly resumption of internal commerce, the Commission's Economic Section said.

The lifting of restrictions for civilian movement means that any civilian can now proceed freely without an Allied pass up to the two following lines:

1. The Security Control Line, which runs from the mouth of the River Piave, across the Piave and Route 13, through Conegliano, Vittorio Veneto, Piave di Cadore, St. Stephano di Cadore and thence due north to the frontier.
2. Frontier Zone Line, which is a line 25 kilometers inside the frontier and parallel with it.

be free up to the River Piave and to within a short distance from the frontiers and the economic boundary line between the North and the rest of Italy will be solidified, the Allied Commission announced today.

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2. Frontier Zone Line, which is a line 25 kilometers inside the frontier and parallel with it.

Movement is free in territory below these two lines and between the island of Sicily, Sardinia, Elba and the mainland.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

369/PRB

26 May 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

The Allied Commission has received word from the Allied authorities in Milan that Signor Pietro Nenni, Socialist leader, who was arrested yesterday at Vincennes for addressing an unauthorized public meeting, has been released with the warning that he must not address further public meetings without authorization from the Allied authorities.

A similar warning is being issued to other political leaders in areas under army control.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 304
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

368/R1/PRB

21 maggio 1945

Comunicato Stampa

La Commissione Alleata riporta in data odierna che una grave crisi di mezzi di trasporto si è verificata in Italia sin dal giorno della resa tedesca, il 2 maggio, a causa della grandissima necessità di mezzi.

La Sottocommissione spiega che le già esistenti difficoltà sono diventate in quel giorno sempre più critiche a causa della aumentata richiesta delle esistenti linee ferroviarie sia per l'invio di truppe Alleate alle frontiere d'Italia e in Austria, sia per lo smistamento di migliaia di truppe dirette al Pacifico, sia inoltre per il necessario spostamento dei prigionieri di guerra tedeschi ai campi di concentramento stabiliti, per il trasporto di cibo, carbone e materie industriali e infine per l'enorme numero di profughi esistenti al Nord.

La Sottocommissione rende quindi noto che a causa delle predette condizioni non si può attendere per il momento nessun miglioramento nei trasporti per uso civile. Aggiunge inoltre che ogni tentativo di un' immediata o prossima sistemazione del sistema ferroviario è assolutamente infondato e privo di basi di fatto.

La Sottocommissione invita il pubblico a non presentare richieste di mezzi di trasporto per viaggi non strettamente indispensabili onde aiutare la Nazione e le Armate Alleate a risolvere e superare la presente critica situazione.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

367/E1/BRB

24 May, 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Approximately 40 camps have been established in North Italy by the Allied Commission to take care of an expected repatriation of 1,000,000 Italians, once the frontiers are opened to movement again, it was announced today.

In addition, special steps are being studied to move to their homes approximately 100,000 Italians from the Po Valley to Southern Italy and from Southern Italy to homes in the North.

Lastly, military and air units are attempting to speed the movement of an estimated 50,000 refugees now on the roads who crossed the borders into North Italy before the closing of the frontiers was effected. All Army trucks proceeding South from the Bolzano area, for example, have orders to pick up all refugees and transport them as far South as the trucks are travelling. Practically every commune in the area also is helping by providing special food counters where the refugees can eat.

The critical shortage of rail transport is handicapping the movement of refugees now under control, since the railroads are facing heavy military demands for maintenance as the long military lines of communications and emergency shipment of food and industrial coal to the North as well as moving German prisoners-of-war.

Two other bottlenecks to the refugees movement exist - at

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Two other bottlenecks to the refugee movement exist - at Bologna and at Rome. Movement south to Bologna is fairly easy but movement from Bologna further south is difficult due to the aforesaid limited rail capacity.

At Rome where currently there are 10,000 refugees under care (despite the fact that nearly 2,500 Southern Italians were repatriated during the past week), only one train a day for

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1,000 persons can be used for refugees. At least 2,000 refugees are arriving each day in Rome. Many have walked the entire distance from Berlin and Danzig to Italy.

The Northern camps of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission range in size from those at Treviso, with a capacity for 20,000, and at Modena with a capacity for 12,000, to camps with capacities for 3,000 to 5,000. In addition, near all regional and provincial committees have established smaller camps for refugees moving in trucks from coast to coast.

Stops are also being taken to care refugees coming by sea from Venice and Genoa.

The first rush of refugees over the frontiers met the sweep of the Allied armies to the Alps. Most of the persons encountered on the roads were able-bodied men, without women or children, who had been conscripted to help the German Todt Organization in building fortifications in the Bolzano area, which apparently was to have been the southern limit of the so-called Nazi bastion for last-ditch resistance.

This "olive leaf" poured back into the Po Valley in streams, augmented by "forced labor" from the Reich. Their happiness at reaching Italy is described as beyond words. All were unutterably tired but immeasurably happy. The U.S. section has been one avenue of entrance of Italy. In one day 30,000 persons were moved in one border packet. Also officers, Red Cross officials and even war correspondents helped guide them into trucks for their homeward and homeward trip.

Among the refugees are an estimated 10,000 Yugoslavs in Northeast Italy who are trekking southward.

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Steps are also being taken to move unprocessed arrivals by sea from Venice and Trieste.

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Among the refugees are an estimated 10,000 Yugoslavs in Northwest Italy who are traveling southward.

Way stations on the way to Southern Italy are already crowded. Forli has 10,000, Bologna has at least 4,000. Emilia Region was said to have at least 20,000 refugees all together, including many Italian soldiers taken prisoner by the Germans and sent to Germany.

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Also units are providing the refugees with biscuits, canned meat, dehydrated soup, medical supplies and DDT powder for disinsecting. Some 1,000 refugees are reported to have entered through the Brenner Pass in one day alone.

Many of the refugees arriving are dressed in the oldest garments - improvised shirts out of blankets, a spangled gypsy skirt, boots and a loincloth, an Italian flag and nothing else. They are wearing no uniform.

The importance of the refugee camps was stressed by AC officials who said that many of the returning refugees were either tubercular or had contagious diseases. The medical screening given at the camps was one measure taken to safeguard the health both of the refugees and that of the home population to which they were returning.

Special personal problems of an intricate sort are also cropping up among the refugees and aliens found in the camps. Polish, Austrian and Russian women assert they were brought into Italy by German soldiers and ask assistance. Others have married Italians and want to stay in Italy. German soldiers of so-called Axis nations who turn up in refugee camps ask to be returned to their homes in the Tyrol, Austria or Hungary.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

366/R1/PRE

19 May 1945.

Press Release - Immediate.

Approximately 23 tons of gold have been discovered by American troops near Bolzano and brought to Rome to be placed in custody of the Allied Financial Agency, the Allied Commission announced today.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

366/R1/PRE

19 Maggio 1945

COMUNICATO STAMPA

Seconda Interazione emanata oggi dalla Commissione Alleata una quantità d'oro (approssimativamente 23 tonnellate) trovata dalle truppe americane vicino a Bolzano è stata portata a Roma e messa in luogo sicuro sotto la custodia dell'Agencia Finanziaria Alleata.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

335/R1/FRB

19 May, 1945

Press Release - Immediate

Italian fishermen may resume operations in all Mediterranean coastal waters except the Port of Genoa and in Adriatic waters as far East as Corfu, the Allied Commission announced today.

In announcing the lifting of the wartime ban on offshore fishing, the Agriculture Sub-Commission stressed the fact that fishermen will operate at their own risk. Pointing out that certain areas are known to be heavily mined, the sub-commission warned fishermen to avoid approaching ships at anchor or buoys and other harbor markings.

Fishermen will be required to return to the ports from which they embarked, unless prevented from doing so by heavy weather, it was added.

The Adriatic boundary, fixed at 13° East Longitude, includes Corfu.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 384
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

334/E1/PRB

13 maggio 1945

Comunicato Stampa

La 36ma riunione del Consiglio Consultivo per l'Italia ha avuto luogo a Roma il 13 maggio 1945 sotto la presidenza del Dr. Sloban Stodilaka, Rappresentante Delegato della Jugoslavia nel Consiglio stesso.

I Rappresentanti delle altre cinque nazioni alleate partecipanti alla riunione erano:

M. Courvoisier	FRANCIA
Georgios Exintaris	GRECIA
General A. Vasiliev	UNIONE SOVIETICA
Sir Noel Charles	REGNI UNITI
Alexander Kirk	STATI UNITI

Il Consiglio ha discusso questioni di attualità.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 384
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

352/R1/PRE

10 May, 1945

Press Release - Immediate

of territory back to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government, and simultaneous withdrawal therefrom of practically all Allied administrative personnel, will take place today, Rear Admiral Eliery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, announced last night.

The transfer includes the nine Provinces of Grosseto, Siena and Arezzo in Tuscany, Terni and Perugia in Umbria and Ascoli Piceno, Macerata, Ancona and Pesaro in the Marche.

The Port and Comune of Ancona, however, will remain under Allied Military Government.

In making the announcement, Admiral Stone said:

"This, the fifth transfer of territory to the Italian Government since the liberation of Italy, will bring approximately three-fifths of Italian territory and approximately 24,000,000 persons under direct administration of the national Italian Government.

"It is with distinct pleasure that the Allied Commission, with the approval of the Supreme Allied Commander, Field Marshal Alexander, announces this step as a measure of the trust and confidence in the Italian Government."

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"It is with distinct pleasure that the Allied Commission, with the approval of the Supreme Allied Commander, Field Marshal Alexander, announces this step as a measure of the trust and confidence the Allies have in the efficiency and capacity of the Italian Government to resume free and full direction of its internal affairs.

"This announcement, coming immediately after the celebration of victory in Europe, for which so many millions suffered and died in the cause of the United Nations, and to which Italy, through the Italian Army, the valorous Patriots and the untainted labor of the thousands of Italians directly employed in support of the Allied war effort, has contributed, should

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make all of us face with ever greater vigor and determination our duty in the tasks of reconstruction that lie ahead, so that we may be all worthy of those who planned and fought and died to liberate Italy and make this return of territory possible.

"A further transfer of territory will be made in the near future."

Concurrent with the transfer effective today, the Marche Region of the Allied Commission has been abolished and all of the Commission's officers withdrawn except a few liaison officers and transportation specialists.

Access remains under Allied Military Government as a port of entry for military supplies.

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