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

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Front of Copy Filed By Correspondents
WAR. - Nov 1944

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Resume of Correspondents' File for week ending March 7 1944

Speculation started March 7 on possibility of King's abdication and resignation of the Badoglio Government. However, AFHQ (Algiers) has ordered full censorship of any reference to or discussion of the division of the Italian Fleet, and one dispatch filed here (by Dana Schmidt, UP) had been referred to AFHQ for censorship, as Schmidt refused to allow modification of his dispatch here. For information only, Schmidt's dispatch (based on an interview confidentially known to be with Prince Umberto) said in part:

"Naples quarters close to the King said 'the abdication of the King and the resignation of the Badoglio Government is extremely likely', if an explanation of President Roosevelt's announcement of the division of the Italian Navy ... does not make the development 'more compatible with our sense of honor.' These same quarters pointed out that the abdication and resignation over such a popular issue as a protest against loss of the Fleet, would only strengthen the Monarchy and elements of the present government.

"Representatives in the "Giunta" told the United Press that 'We do not see how we could undertake to form a government if the present one resigns over the Fleet issue. Any government which used the advantage of the loss of the Fleet to come into power would be doomed to failure.'

"American and British political observers are inclined to discount the threats of the King's abdication and Badoglio's resignation, seeing therein Italian attempts to pressure the Allies on the Fleet question."

Sprigge (Reuters) avoided, to date, any /direct mention// of the Fleet and said:

"Stories that there is an imminent crisis in the Italian Government appear premature. Premier Badoglio was at his office to-day (Tuesday) as usual, administering his business. However, this may only be a respite while the situation remains unclarified."

Other political correspondents had to date filed no dispatches on the subject.

Only other issue of political attention by the correspondents of the Allied Press was the decision of party leaders in the "Giunta" to call off the proposed labor strike and instead to announce plans for a public meeting for March 12 in Naples.

Massock (Associated Press) in a radio voice-cast said that the strike call was "the boldest manifestation of political hostility to King Victor Emmanuel and Premier Badoglio since the Armistice six months ago." The "threat", he said, "also served to dramatize a major political difficulty faced by Allied Control Commission in its task of enforcing the Armistice terms."

1900

/ In cabled

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In cabled dispatches, Massock said that the "Neapolitan public appeared indifferent to the published announcement of the strike's suspension by 'precise injunction of the Supreme Allied Command' ...

"The program submitted more than a week ago by the 'Giunta' of six anti-fascist parties has never been made public, but it is understood to express willingness to form a government as well as calling on the King to relinquish his powers."

Massock said the party leaders, before they agreed to call off the strike, had been "threatened with arrest."

Other correspondents treated events in routine fashion.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

11 March 1944.

Summary of Press Dispatches on General Mason MacFarlane's Press Conference of March 10, 1944

Probably because much of what General MacFarlane said was "off the record" and the remainder unsensational, only two Special Correspondents, plus the main press associations (AP UP and Reuters) sent cables.

Press associations treated the story in routine fashion, each of the major three filing about 300 words. The food story and the refugee story were combined, except by Sprigge of Reuters, who quoted General MacFarlane on the refugee situation and used Colonel Legg with direct quotes on what he said of the food situation.

Lumby (London Times) and Stoneman (Chicago Daily News) were the two specials.

"Definite assurances that the food situation in liberated Italy is looking up were given to-day by General Mason MacFarlane, Chief of the Allied Control Commission," Lumby began, and in a short dispatch quoted facts given by Colonel Legg.

Stoneman's piece did not use any of the material given out at the Conference, and was rather sharp. "After 5½ months of Allied occupation," he wrote, "the Neapolitan black market not only shows no signs of losing its grip, but is in many respects worse than ever. A survey just completed shows prices uniformly higher and virtually all foods except the bread ration have to be secured at prices dictated by the black market.

"Prices bear no relation to those officially established by AMG. An outstanding example is flour, supposedly to cost 1,000 lire a metric ton, but actually selling at 18,000 lire.

"The daily bread ration is insufficient for anyone except an aged invalid, and only one issue of olive oil, to a part of the population, has been made. But olive oil can be bought on the black market for 280 lire a litre - a price few honest people can afford - which is 100 lire above the price at Christmas. This reflects the tendency of price increases.

"While political consequences of the food shortage cannot be described as serious, it is clear that the population is not pleased. They properly expect us to do something to stop the black market racket. In the estimation of most observers, including high-ranking officers, it is time that drastic steps are taken . . . A permanent solution is possible only if Washington and London really apply themselves to the problem."

Although off-the-record comment was made on the Italian fleet matter, the story appears dead from this sourde at the moment, and only two correspondents had anything to say in cables after the meeting.

/ Lumby

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Lumby of the Times said: "Churchill's announcement that no change is contemplated in present Allied arrangements concerning the Italian fleet has greatly relieved Italian feelings. His remarks are read in both Government and opposition camps as meaning that Allied treatment of Italy will be determined mainly by her contribution to the war effort."

Chicago (International News Service) filed a speculative dispatch in which he said:

"In what is regarded here as a surprise move by Stalin is revealed in a message sent to Marshal Badoglio offering to exchange ambassadors as an expression of Moscow's recognition of the solidarity of Badoglio's government.

"Marshal Badoglio would not personally comment, but members of his Cabinet acknowledge a momentary confusion, in the first place because the Russian lead amounts to an official disownment of the Italian Communist forces, whose leaders have been claiming an intimate Moscow tie-up.

"The second element of confusion is represented by the fact that both the U.S. and Britain are at present limiting their relations with the Badoglio Government to the Advisory Council and its constituted consulates under the Allied Control Commission.

"The Italian Government is wondering whether Britain and the U.S. are aware of the Soviet move and if they are prepared to follow suit."

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

15 Mar 44. (8)

Digest of Press Dispatches on Public Meeting in Naples
of March 12, 1944

Dispatches reporting the mass meeting sponsored by the three Leftist parties in the Galleria Umberto I were uniformly mild, factual and with no references to ACC other than the fact that the meeting was permitted by Allied authorities.

Sprigge (Reuters) said in part: "Five thousand lustily cheered denunciations against the King and the Badoglio Government by orators representing the Communist, Socialist, Action and Republican Parties in the biggest open meeting yet held in liberated Italy. . . . Apart from one incident when a junior Italian Army officer was assailed with an umbrella by those nearby when he emitted shouts in favour of the monarchy, the proceedings passed off in perfect order . . . Not one orator mentioned Churchill. It was noticeable, however, that cheers for England and the United States, which hitherto featured all demonstrations and manifestations, did not figure in to-day's proceedings, whereas each reference to Russia brought tumultuous applause." The dispatch carried in full the resolutions adopted at the meeting.

Massock (Associated Press): "A crowd estimated variously from 6,000 to 12,000 attended the meeting. Two indirect references were made to Churchill's recent endorsement of the Badoglio Government. Socialist Oreste Longobardi said: 'If the Allies still believe that the King and Badoglio Government represent the Italian people they are mistaken.' Communist Paolo Tedeschi asked: 'Has the King any authority to make the Italian Army fight?' and the crowd answered with loud shouts of 'No.' The Communists, with red flags, placards, and a band, were the most showy group, flourishing clenched fists and cheering and singing when their speakers appeared. During the meeting there were frequent shouts of 'Out with the King' and there was booing and whistling whenever the monarchy or the Badoglio Government was mentioned. The meeting was orderly, and a score of American police on motor-cycles scooted through the main streets around the Arcade to see that traffic was not impeded. Allied personnel was not allowed near the meeting in order to keep it strictly Italian."

Packard (United Press): "Between 7,000 and 8,000 enthusiastic Neapolitans - a majority of whom were Communists - participated in the biggest political demonstration of any kind permitted by the Allied authorities to date. The purpose of the meeting was to demand the abdication of the King and the removal of the Badoglio Government, a theme eloquently presented by eight speakers . . . The most tense moment came during a speech by Enrico Russo, General Secretary of the Confederation of Labor, when a 18-year old youth in a crowd near the speakers' tribunal suddenly started shouting and brandishing an Army revolver. Some Communists overpowered him, took his gun and hustled him out of the Galleria. Insistence by Allied authorities for maintenance of complete order saved the [illegible] as the crowd instantly

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Lumby (London Times): "The prime purpose of the meeting was to demonstrate the Leftist parties' whole-hearted support of the Allies and their desire above all for more effective Italian cooperation in the war effort against the common enemy. Speakers produced much the same arguments as those heard at the Bari Congress. References were made to the need for better-organized food supply and the opportunity to work, and it was emphasized that no measures in those directions had been taken by the Badoglio Government which was so closely associated with Fascism that it was not likely to command the confidence of working classes. Communists predominated in the audience, but the group on the platform was a motley one comprising several who in England would rank as Conservatives."

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

Trend of Correspondents' Copy for Week Ending March 19

Food and the Black Market drew attention of the Allied Press during the week.

United Press, Reuters and Associated Press picked up the editorial in the Stars and Stripes entitled "Don't be a Sucker" in which it urged troops not to pay exorbitant prices for souvenirs.

Associated Press used in whole the story from ACC on exports of lemons and citric extracts to UK.

Massock (of AP), apparently responding to a query from his home office, cabled:

"Lieut-Col Charles Poletti laughed loudly and said he had never heard of such a thing when he was informed of reports in New York that four attempts had recently been made on his life.

"'Absolutely false,' he added, and expressed concern lest his wife take the report seriously and be worried about him."

AP also cabled the order of Region III abolishing the Fascist system of commune and provincial government in Naples area.

There were two special articles on the food and Black Market situation.

Bracker (New York Times) cabled in part:

"The food situation in this war-gripped metropolis is fraught with paradox. On one side of a street confectioners display luscious cream-and-almond pastry priced at 15 cents each. On the other side of the same street ragged mothers holding sickly babies wait outside American military messes with cans and jars which they hope to fill with the leavings from the soldiers' tables. The explanation for this situation was provided by Major S.F. Sealey, British Officer (in the Naples area) with ACC. He explained that sugar, which is a basic ingredient for luxury foods, probably comes from stores pilfered or secreted from the Germans. Sugar is strictly rationed but can be bought on the Black Market at a price 20 times the ration figure.

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"Allied authorities are unconcerned with the possession by confectioners of sugar which they presume was obtained while the Germans were here . . . It has been officially proposed to close down the pastry shops or at least to order a stop on production

/ of

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of luxury sweets. But the proposal was turned down because of the fear that it would lead to a greater evil: bootlegging of sweets at higher prices under less sanitary conditions than those prevailing in the shops . . . Meanwhile AMG has stepped up its drive against the Black Market, which admittedly thrives here in Naples. Not a day passes without sacks of flour disappearing from trucks or warehouses, and cases are known wherein the Military Police are being offered bribes up to $300 to let vehicles pass or be hi-jacked."

Massock (AP) cabled in part: "Allied authorities have started cracking down on the Black Market in the Naples region. The situation has reached gang-like proportions. Lieutenant Corea, former Federal district attorney in New York State, as chief prosecutor, is conducting the drive with a staff which he has organized . . . Swift and sure punishment for soldiers as well as civilians . . . is promised."

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 20 13 April 1944.

To : Lt. Caccia.

Subject: Trend of correspondents' copy.

From a necessarily brief survey it seems that in spite of the large attendance the conference did not attract much notice from correspondents and the proportion of the night's cables devoted to it was small. So far as politics went, attention was mostly treated chiefly on the meeting of the Junta and upon various surmises and forecasts , quoted or invented. All correspondents did, of course, quote Macmillan and Murphy, but only very briefly in most cases. CHINIC stated that Sforza was insisting on Badoglio's retirement: BRACKER said that politicians would now be out of a job: Miss PACKARD forecast Croce as Minister of Education and Longobardi as Minister of Interior, adding that Badoglio was anxious to get Croce, but the latter was refusing on grounds of age: she added that Murphy and Macmillan had said that Badoglio's resignation was highly improbable. MAYCOCK said that the arrangements had been made between the Villa di Sambro and the Villa Cimbrone, and conveyed to Naples without the knowledge of most Italian politicians: he also stated that the Junta expected wholesale resignation and that Badoglio might then be asked to form a new government. SPRIGGE was insistent that a mere reshuffle would not satisfy the parties. LUBBY noted a strong feeling that Badoglio should resign. Doris Lemare, who reported the conference at some length, said that Murphy "supported by the three British chiefs, Macfarlane, Macmillan and Charles, had visited the King and talked of the question of withdrawal". SULZBERGER in a highly coloured despatch, which reflected the views of most correspondents, said that the news "attracted little attention in this fatigued city" and alluded to Macmillan "taking up the slippery cudgel". He quoted Murphy as saying that " the King asked if we had any objection" and Sforza as declaring that "it was no use going on with illusions or empty phrases: the King and Badoglio would never be forgiven by the Italian people". He described the conference as held in "a high-ceilinged room with a bust of Napoleon at one end and some unknown Asiatic at the other, with the afternoon light glinting sharply off hideous crystal chandeliers". General Macfarlane "sat silently". SULZBERGER ends "Any such formalities oddly existing at this moment should have endured so many hours and resulted in a kind of postponed pseudo-abdication is something that history will have to figure

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1993

(Sgd) LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major,
Director of Public Relations.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 20. 21 April 1944.

TREND OF COPY FILED BY CORRESPONDENTS ON APRIL 20

Only five correspondents have followed the political crisis attentively - Reuters, UP, the Times, the New York Times, and the New York Herald Tribune. Other correspondents, some of whom were recalled from the front in a hurry to cover the political scene, were clearly out of their depth and sent either vague prophecies or plain statements of unimportant facts.

ELEANOR PACKARD (UP) was the most prolific guesser, sending seventeen despatches in the course of the day, culminating in a final "Badoglio formed Government" at 8.20 p.m. This she qualified later by reporting the Action Party's non-cooperation. In a series of later cables she built up the government, giving Badoglio as Premier and Foreign Minister, Croce, Sforza and Nenni as Ministers without Portfolio, Arangio-Ruiz as Minister of Justice, Cerabona as Minister of Agriculture, De Ruo as Minister of Public Works, Eugenio Reale as Minister of Economics; air, land, sea to go to nominated service-men and finance to a nominated non-party technician, such posts being earmarked for the Action Party when they came in. In previous despatches she gave full accounts of the movements of Badoglio who "proved his determination to work by waiving his right to an impressive automobile, and went visiting in a battered sea-green Naples taxi ... he greeted me recalling the time when I fainted at his press conference at Addis Ababa" and when asked how things were going "gave me an enthusiastic smile." She concluded by stating that the outcome represented a political victory for the Marshal and that the other parties' quarrels were "mainly due to a reluctance to assume responsibility."

BRACKER (New York Times) ignored the sea-green taxi and said that Badoglio went about in a car with four red stars flying a blue flag. Croce, he said, showed "visible signs of strain"; Omodeo, he predicted, would be offered a post "despite the recalcitrance of his organization." He added that the Advisory Council, by an interesting coincidence, would be in Naples tomorrow, and that by an even more striking coincidence tomorrow would be Natale di Roma, the anniversary of Rome's foundation.

SPRIGGE (Reuters) after stating that there was now little doubt that the parties would accept what were, in fact, Badoglio's terms, said that the Action Party, by sustaining, now held a big position as "the solitary opposition party of intellectuals and youthful idealists." He made some rather flattering references to Bianco, Soriano and Carracciolo who, he suggested, doubted whether "Togliatti would by some miracle suddenly succeed in converting the Communist and socialist rank and file."

1892

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1892

LUNDY (Times) described Badoglio as having seen the parties separately at first, but "gradually gathered them into his room, including Sforza and Croce. Togliatti and Longobardi arrived together, last." He added that the Action Party were insistent on recasting the upper ranks of the armed forces.

MICHAEL CHILDS quoted Sforza as saying, when asked by Croce to intervene with the Action Party: "I did what I could: it is for them to decide."

KENNEDY (AP) sent a straight factual story of movements without comment.

MALKIN (Winnipeg Free Press) observed that the Italian people "were inarticulate" and that the politicians "were having more fun than they had had for twenty years."

/ SONIA TOLARA

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SONIA TOMARA (New York Herald Tribune) left politics alone today and concentrated on a well-documented food story, concluding with an appreciation of the general situation here. "The Italians remind me of Chinese or Indians whose only allegiance goes to their family." She added that criticism of AMG and ACC had been too sharp. "AMG took things over when chaos reigned ... ACC still guides Italian central and regional authorities and sees that fascism does not rise from its ashes."

LANG (Time) announced his intention of sending an "amgot fascist clean-up story" on the "excellent peg" of the trial of three fascist cotton directors.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 20. 24 April 1944.

TREND OF COPY FILED BY CORRESPONDENTS APRIL 23

Surprisingly few correspondents had anything to say about the new Government. The despatches of Sprigge (Reuters) who left for Salerno on Sunday morning were conspicuous by their absence. Of the rest only Tetlow (Daily Mail), Hammond (Sunday Times) and Lumby (Times) discussed political changes in detail.

TETLOW, after remarking that "Italian political sense was still dead, and observers here were beginning to wonder whether it would ever reawaken" allowed that the new government might be "though purely temporary, a tiny step forward." He then devoted a great deal of space to Alberto CIANCA "far the most interesting personality in the crisis, and the Action Party's virtual head" who, he said, was insistent that the King and Badoglio must go and "would have more influence outside the Cabinet than within it." "He will bear watching." TETLOW added that "the amiable Badoglio would have no easy task" but, like other correspondents, stressed the help given to him by the Communists. He concluded "Italy is the first country in Europe to offer the opportunity of setting up a political alternative to fascism and nazism."

HAMMOND after a long factual review of the circumstances leading up to the crisis, and the crisis itself, quoted Rome radio as saying "Badoglio has fooled everybody by turning the roaring lions of Bari, who had sworn to devour the monarchy into meek sheep ready for slaughter." HAMMOND also sent fully the story of ACC public works activities released today by PR Branch.

LUMBY said that the "government of caretakers" was better than had appeared at first sight. He stressed the importance of Togliatti's support, and suggested that this would "bring about the effective cooperation of partisans beyond the lines." He gave special notes of commendation to Gullo, di Napoli, Aldision and Quintieri.

SONIA TOMARA (New York Herald Tribune) wrote that it had been a triumph for Marshal Badoglio to obtain the support of Togliatti "known to be Moscow's voice in Italy." After various (quite reasonable) comments on the Black Market position and the failure of the previous Government to take drastic measures she added that "MacFarlane and other Allied authorities had been eager for a new Government which would stop such abuses ... but a raising in the price of wheat would have more effect on farmers than any change

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WILL LANG (Time Magazine) filed a highly-coloured despatch on life in Naples. According to him, amusements (including Marlene Dietrich) and black market restaurants flourished, the "best-fed army in the world" needed 1,500 police to handle crime, prostitution was rampant ("there's nothing they won't do for a can of meat and beans") and Allied stores were constantly stolen by organized gangs, about which he wrote in great detail. In fact, we may expect "City of Luxurious Vice" to be the next Time headline.

BROWN (Reuters) sent the whole story of ACC public works released by PR Branch.

/ MORGAN (Chicago News)

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MORGAN(Chicago News) after some days of silence filed a long despatch which is perhaps the most encouraging summing-up which ACC has yet received. He described at length, and correctly, the steps leading to the erection of ACC and the present position of ACC/AMG (ACC "eclipsing the initials"). Most of this information he obtained from PR Branch. After devoting much space to a consideration of the difficulties involved - "the ACC is constantly hamstrung ... the average CAO sometimes wished that co-belligerency had neverbeen invented" - and also to the feeling that British were outranking Americans in the ACC ("But this organizational irritant is being dealt with by MacFarlane") he stated that "whatever limitations historians place on the success of this noble experiment they must measure in the light of the facts that it has never been done before and that too many Italians in places high and low had seized the occasion to play at political and black market intrigue." He concluded with a close study of "tall, silver-haired MacFarlane" who was "scrupulously fair and honest with his men but fires those who can't work": and ended "La Guardia himself might be forced to give up in despair if he had to try to run New York City with the same number of men as General MacFarlane has to run Italy."

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 20. 28 April 1944.

TRENS OF COPY FILED BY CORRESPONDENTS 27 April 1944

Correspondents' copy covering the first meeting of the new Italian Cabinet and its declaration of policy was mainly characterized by flamboyant ~~and inaccurate~~ reporting of the scene of the meeting. A multitude of words were cabled about the mahogany table, the size and shape of the armchairs, the exact dress of the Carabinieri, the type of blotting-pads and inkwells used, the murals and the view and even the carafe of water on the table. Correspondents clearly regarded the declaration itself as ~~trite~~ pedestrian and LIBBY (Times) summed up the general view by saying that it was "an unexceptionable catalogue of good intentions: the country now wants to see what the Government will really do." The two points which attracted most attention were (a) the intention to set up a "limited advisory body as a symbol of parliament" and (b) the call to workers in German-occupied territory to celebrate May Day.

ORINIGO (INS) cabled a long interview with Omodeo, whom he called the "fiery Rector of the Naples Athenaeum." The interview was drastically anti-fascist and anti-clerical. It was essentially Omodeo is quoted as saying, "to stress the true terms of the quarrel between Church and State." At 1600 Orinigo telephoned a despatch from Salerno containing an exact translation of paragraphs 1 - 5 and paragraph 8 of the declaration (which was not released until 1730). He made no comment except that it was a "resounding declaration of new policy."

Only one other correspondent, ELEANOR PACKARD (U.P.) filed copy at this time (1410) from Salerno. She gave details of the declaration and quoted all six points on the agenda, giving them as (1) French Committee of Liberation (2) Participation of Italian forces in war effort (3) Government's relations with Russia (4) Government's relations with ACC (5) May Day celebrations (6) Epuration. SPRIGGE (Reuters) filed a straight story of the declaration from Naples at 1630. He did not, as ORINIGO, use its exact terms, and later, after the general release had been made, sent alterations of his previous despatch. PARKER (Exchange Telegraph) filed a descriptive story, with vague hints of the declaration, from Naples at 1650. He described the Council Chamber in detail. "Badoglio was evidently too pre-occupied to smoke, as there was only one cigarette-stub in his ash-tray after the two-hour sitting."

GODFREY TALBOT (BBC) filed a straight descriptive story from Naples at 1650, getting neatly round the censorship stop on Salerno by stating that the ministers overlooked "a beach made famous in this war."

1838

MACDONALD (News Chronicle) filed a story from Naples at 1703.

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pedestal

by saying that it was "an unexceptionable catalogue of [illegible] intentions: the country now wants to see what the Government will really do." Its two points which attracted most attention were (a) the intention to set up a "limited advisory body as a symbol of parliament" and (b) the call to workers in German-occupied territory to celebrate May day.

O-I.IGO (I.S) cabled a long interview with Croce, whom he called the "fiery Rector of the Naples Athenaeum." The interview was dramatically anti-fascist and anti-clerical. It was essential, Croce is quoted as saying, "to stress the true terms of the quarrel between Church and State." At 1600 Chicago telephoned a despatch from Salerno containing an exact translation of paragraphs 1 - 5 and paragraph 8 of the declaration (which was not released until 1730). He made no comment except that it was a "resounding declaration of new policy."

Only one other correspondent, ELEANOR PACKARD (U.P.) filed copy at this time (1618) from Salerno. She gave details of the declaration and quoted all six points on the agenda, giving them as (1) Fascist Committee of Liberation (2) Participation of Italian forces in war effort (3) Government's relations with Russia (4) Government's relations with AGO (5) May Day celebrations (6) Epuration. SPRIGGE (Reuters) filed a straight story of the declaration from Naples at 1630. He did not, as CHICAGO, use its exact terms, and later, after the general release had been made, sent alterations of his previous despatch. PARKER (Exchange Telegraph) filed a descriptive story, with vague hints of the declaration, from Naples at 1630. He described the Council Chamber in detail. "Badoglio was evidently too pre-occupied to smoke, as there was only one cigarette-stub in the ash-tray after the two-hour sitting."

GODFREY TALBOT (BBC) filed a straight descriptive story from Naples at 1650, getting neatly round the censorship ban on Salerno by stating that the Princess overlooked "a beach made famous in this war."

1858

MACDONALD (News Chronicle) filed a story from Naples at 1705. "I learn that relationships with Russia were discussed and Togliatti spoke at length on this"..."When I was allowed briefly to watch the Cabinet discussion, Togliatti held the floor." He stated that the release of 50,000 prisoners in Russian hands was discussed, and also defascistization," which was listed rather cumbrously on the Cabinet agenda."

This concludes the list of correspondents who filed stories before the release of the declaration.

COOPER (Daily Express) filing at 1745 sent a straight story of the declaration, giving the agenda of the meeting. He described the setting in details, mentioning the murals as "depicting the ancient history of the town."

/ MCDRICK (News Chronicle)

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YINDRICK (News Chronicle) filing from Naples at 1750 sent a descriptive story of a comically exaggerated nature. "I climbed the huge staircase to the Cabinet Chamber".... "a ceiling fifty feet high with walls topped by paintings of lovely women in various stages of undress"...."the carafe of water and the glass on the table were untouched." HAMMOND (Sunday Times) also gave prominence to the untouched carafe. His statement of the declaration was factual without comment: he gave the full agenda.

ELEANOR PACKARD (U.P.) in a later despatch sent at 1856 said that the cabinet had allotted 200 million lire to public works, and added that the next meeting would be on May 4.

KENNEDY (A.P.) filing at 1647 sent a perfectly straight story of the declaration. He included no mention of the agenda.

HOMER BIGART (New York Herald Tribune) and JOHNSON (Chicago Sun) did not send stories till later and then gave the declaration without comment.

It seems clearly established that several correspondents entered the council chamber during the lunch recess and examined the documents left on the table. This was unfortunate, especially as a notice had been posted in the correspondents' room at Naples on Wednesday giving the location of the Italian Government Press Bureau in Salerno and stating specifically that correspondents would NOT be allowed in the Council Chamber. At the same time, if State papers are left lying about in a room not properly guarded, it is difficult to bring accusations against particular correspondents, especially since it is clear that the information was spread amongst nearly all of them: CHINIGO and PACKARD were merely quicker to scoop.

Copy to CC
Ex C
Col Corley
Capt Stone
Mr Montemuro

1887

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

5 May 1944

PRB 20. TREND OF COPY FILED BY CORRESPONDENTS ON MAY 4

The second meeting of the new Italian cabinet failed to attract the flood of correspondents who attended the first. Maybe they felt that, having described the Palazzo del Governo with such a wealth of detail, there was nothing left to describe. As far as is known only CHINIGO (INS) ELEANOR PACKARD (U.P.) SPRIGGE (Reuters) and LUMBY (Times) were in Salerno, the last two only because the car which was taking them down to Sicily had broken down there.

Both ELEANOR PACKARD and CHINIGO obtained scoops as they had done the previous week. The former certainly had the full text of Badoglio's message when she filed her story at 1625. She quoted his "granaries of the people" (which this Branch had persuaded him to include) "equitable compensation" and "deeply felt discipline" which can "achieve results far superior to those obtained by exclusively coercive measures." She also gave, once again, the full agenda, including the purging of fascists in key posts, the composition of the consultative body, the living conditions of State employes, communications (especially buses and trams for suburbanites) and volunteers for the Italian army. At 2100 she filed a despatch stating that Omodeo had been appointed head of the anti-fascist purge.

CHINIGO had clearly got similar information at the same time and wrote a similar despatch (Both correspondents were hours ahead of the official release). He also sent a story to the effect that Marshal Badoglio had had an hour's interview with Sir Noel Charles and had stressed the need for material, particularly aircraft, to permit full Italian cooperation in the war. CHINIGO (who was certainly busy) also sent a long interview with Sforza who was quoted as saying that "co-belligerency must go" and "the Allies must decide once and for all whether Italy was to be allowed to take a serious part in the war."

This note, stressed by CHINIGO in his account of both interviews and underlined by his own comments which suggested strongly that a better deal was now called for, was also struck by SPRIGGE (Reuters) in a despatch sent two days previously, in which, after concentrating at some length on the "delicate negotiations" concerning prisoners of war, he worked up to the conclusion that "co-belligerent status is a source of much bewilderment to friendly Italians and to allied authorities controlling populations which it can treat neither as enemies nor as full friends." SPRIGGE and LUMBY (Times) filed despatches covering Badoglio's declaration on the Ammassi late in the evening after it had been officially released (2115).

BIGART (Herald Tribune) filed a long article in praise of Colonel Poletti whom he described as "a man often criticized as a loud uncouth extrovert," who has nevertheless "chivvied and bullied the populace out of its bemused attitude of defeatism

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A great deal of censorship was occasioned by correspondents' references to the statement which appeared in IL CORRIERE of May 3 to the effect that there were large troop concentrations in Italy. This statement was a gross infringement of military security.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

22 May 1944.

PRB 20.

Subject: Correspondents' copy.

To: Major T.L. Bullock, DDPR, c/o AMG Eighth Army.

1. Up to 12 noon today correspondents had not mentioned AMG activities at all in connection with the advance: this applies only, of course, to copy filed at the Naples office.

2. It may interest you personally to know that Colonel Albright reported that Major Supeene, a French Canadian (AMG) with the French Corps, got into San Giorgio a Liri before the army did. I have not been able to check the accuracy or detail of this story: am asking Leaacos to do so.

3. The general position as regards AMG all along the front seems to be that towns and villages are flattened and uninhabited and most of the work is confined at present to looking after stray refugees.

(Sgd.)
LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major,
Public Relations Director.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

22 May 1944

PRB 20.

Subject : Correspondents' Copy.

Correspondents are concentrating on the offensive and are leaving AFHQ/ACC alone.

While most American correspondents concentrate on individual stories of experiences of American officers and men who took part in the battle, British correspondents descri e the general rather then the particular picture.

Sprigge "Daily Telegraph" describes his impressions of some of the Italian troops now at the front. They are apparently a little bored with their diet altough they state it is adequate. But they are impressed with the quality and stoutness of their British army boots.

Cassino and the Monastery have come in for a considerable amount of description. The photographers are having a whale of a time taking shots from every angle.

Burke Walsh "Catholic News" is concerned with the devastation of a historical religious seminary, and promises a closer description of actual damage when clearing up commences, but he thinks that most of it above ground level is a write off.

Speculation is now rife as to whether Highway N°7 running across the Pontine Marshes is, or is not, completely useless for military traffic as a result of flooding by the Hun.

Copy to :

Major T.L.Bullock, DDPR, c/o 8th Army AFO
Major John P.Lennacce PRO c/o 5th Army AFO

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

File 30

24 May 1944

American Press reaction to AMG/ACC and G-5 :

There are encouraging signs in recent American press cuttings that AMG/ACC, its work and difficulties, are becoming more fully appreciated.

"Nex York Evening Post" - May 11 (Carey Longmire) says :
"It is untrue that Allied Military Governors have bungled their job..... The Allied Control Commission which runs AMG now is in capable hands"..... "Naples appears to be at least five times better off than was Madrid in 1939 after the Spanish Civil War."

Edgar Mowrer in "Buffalo Evening News" - May 12 - commenting on the apparent bewilderment and supineness of the Italians says :
"But who would'nt be ? A year ago, more or less unwillingly, they were fighting with Germany against the United Nations. Then the King and Badoglio surrendered unconditionally under conditions which seem to permit the Allies to do almost whatever they like".

He then describes the claim of Allied rule in liberated Italy and says : "These people are the real rulers of our co-belligerent. Italy under them is divided into three zones. In the first - a thin strip of actual fighting in the north - power in the hands of generals of the Fifth and Eighth Armies, assisted by autonomous AMG units,who, incidentally, do a superb technical job" .....

Interest from activities of AMG/ACC in Italy has been diverted by the announcement of the setting up of G-5 and by the visit of correspondents to the Civil Affairs training centre in England where officers are being prepared for the tasks confronting them in liberated European countries, and later in Germany itself. The Centre has got off to a good start by stressing the magnitude of the difficulties involved and letting correspondents fully understand the position. In this their P.R.O. has a distinct advantage over AMG/ACC.

It finds its reflection in comments by Dorothy Thompson in "New York Post - May 15 - who points out the inevitability of some political chaos when we reach Germany and proceed to put Allied policy into practice.

Although little difficulty is expected with Holland, Belgium and Norway, since negotiated agreements exist with their governments,

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one or two correspondents point out the explosive possibilities in regard to France when AMG is set up in that country, as a conflict of opinion already exists between Algiers and London and Washington on some important points.

Meanwhile a statement issued for the Press Conference held by Assistant Secretary of War John J.McCloy and Director of Civil Affairs Division in Washington, Major General John H.Hilldring, puts AMG in Italy, and the admirable purpose it serves, in its true perspective. Miscalculations had been made. Some of the plans conceived did not work. Yet so far as the tactical situation was concerned it had never been hampered or even threatened by civilian misconduct. This had been accomplished by AMG without resort to any of the terrorism practiced by the Boche. The enormous task has bringing order, preventing disease and famine in the wake of battle in one of the most poverty stricken areas of Europe had largely been accomplished.

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File

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 20. General trend of British and American press - Period May 20-31.

Politically the tone of the British and American press during the period May 20 - May 31 is one of speculation as to what will happen when the Allies land in France and Civil Affairs begins to function on French soil. The press of both hemispheres was clearly alive to the possible difficulties. Some American papers showed irritation at De Gaulle's self-assertive, if not truculent attitude, and they would seem to reflect Mr Roosevelt's coolness towards the French leader as well as some antipathy on the part of a section of the United States.

The bomb, being closer to the British doorstep, is treated with more circumspection by the British Press. The main concern in England is clearly that of ejecting the Boche from France (and the Channel ports) by any possible means, and there is less evidence of any definite feeling for or against De Gaulle, the majority being content to await the impact of Mr Churchill's political guile on the French soldier-politician. The assistance of the French underground movement is very clearly wanted in harassing the Hun when the Second Front opens - hence the reticence of the British Press till the intentions of H.M. Government are made clearer.

AMG/ACC has come in for no adverse criticism during this period. Its efforts in the wake of the advancing armies in Italy have been "recorded" but the main interest has naturally been on the break through in Italy with the glittering prize of Rome now within grasp.

Italian partisanship was played up, a prelude to the fall of Rome, and an incentive to any incipient Garibaldi. But a policy of wait and see towards the Badoglio government was clearly seen.

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Trend of copy filed by Correspondents.

May 31 1944.

Most correspondents are still following the fighting very closely, the Velletri-Valmontone sector having the closest attention - as presumably they think this will be the quickest way for them to get into Rome should Highway 6 fall.

The general impression is that they are all poised for the entry into Rome.

Hill "Herald-Tribune" tells his paper that "New York Times" has all its correspondents standing by for Rome and that Columbia has three men standing to. "Naples is uncovered" he wires.

Spriggs (Reuters) 30. 5. Sends a message quoting General Messe to his Italian troops now fighting alongside the Allies.

Spriggs - 29. 5. dd. Quoted that A.M.G. had distributed 3,000 ons flour to newly occupied towns. Also that A.M.G. now using "food packs". Says stock of food for feeding 1,000 people for 30 days.

Russell Hill - Devotes a wire to work of AMG in latest advance. Says 28 Communes entered; 11,000 refugees dealt with including "large number civilian battle casualties." Says 8th Army facing greater refugee problem in near future and quotes Benson that "enemy has carried out forced evacuation of a belt 15 miles deep behind Hitler line.

Russell-Hill - Later. 110 AMG officers will follow troops immediately to Rome. He quotes Brigadier Lush at yesterday's Conference "We must find out what Italians want. They know better than us." Col. Findlay's remarks on the courage of his Jugo-Slav refugees is quoted. Send.Ltr Benson also quoted as on expected "Niagara Falls" of refugees to come.

Ure "Times" gives a picture of conditions in Littoria and other towns and mentions food and supply efforts of AMG officers.

Walsh reports that according to Monuments Sub-Commission Cassino Abbey can be rebuilt on former lines, but reconstruction in strict sense doubtful. One of ACC first concerns will be ascertainment of art and sacred objects. Ruins are now off limits. Mines not yet cleared.

Little interest in general AMG/ACC matters and slight interest in activities of AMG in forward areas.

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Trend of Correspondents' Copy.

June 2nd 1944.

Correspondents in general are still very busy with the fighting around Velletri and Valmontone, and are anxiously awaiting the fall of Rome. They are gathering for an attack in force when the Enternal City is free.

Barber (Assoc. Press) has wired that sufficient stocks of food ~~xxx~~ have been accumulated to tide the population of Rome over a period of 20 days. He does not quote source.

Eleanor Packard has sent a long account of the alleged plight of the population of Rome and says that A.C.C. announces that food for the starving city is ready to be rushed in. "A.C.C. is better prepared to do a model job in Rome and will not repeat the numerous mistakes made in Naples and other big cities when the Allies marched in. The first few months when the Allies were in Naples Neapolitans were malnourished to the point of starvation.

A.C.C. is keeping its fingers crossed regarding the wheat crop in liberated Italy. Bumper crop is expected unless something untoward happens.

Sprigge (Reuters) has also sent a message regarding ~~xxxpx~~ food preparations for Rome.

In addition he has sent a message saying that in Frosinone AMG have followed on the heels of the Army and set up a provisional administration. The officers sent include those for health, finance and food. He quotes the Chief Commissioner's remark at Conference that General Alexander consists AMG/ACC his 3rd Army.

Sprigge has also filed a long message on the political implications and the position of Prince Umberto and Badoglio on the fall of Rome. The Prince will probably ask Badoglio to ~~xxxxxx~~ reform a Government after the Marshal has handed in his formal resignation. But the Prince's position has been compromised by his recent interview with a "Times" correspondent.

Italian ministers of the new Government who visit Rome on its fall will, for the time being, have no authority, any more than they do in Naples. They will merely go to make contacts and to explore the position, as it is not known what high Government officials in underground Rome have adopted towards the present Italian Government.

attitude

10

Trend of correspondents' copy

File

Imminent fall of Rome still keeps correspondents busy.

Four page "suggested feature" by Jordan (Press News Chronicle)

"If Allied policy in North Africa, as is generally admitted, was shameful and degrading, no such thing can be said of Italy - for the simple reason it does'nt exist. No one here can be blamed if all that is being here should collapse like a house of cards. The blame lies with ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Downing Street and Pennsylvania Avenue and not in the great Neapolitan building housing the Allied Control Commission. That is where Italian policy is being made. Mason MacFarlane can sit in his villa playing at King making; Umberto can sulk in his; Civil Affairs Officers can work their fingers to the bone (as they do); the Censors protect this and that reputation. Macmillan can flit between here and Algiers to his heart's content. But where is it all leading to ? And what does it mean ? It means nothing at all because nobody knows what he is supposed to be directing his energies to. Europe will look a sorry spectacle if we do not face up to it quickly. The lack of a principle and the evil that follows from ad hoc policies that change to meet the situation instead of forcing situations to adapt themselves to principles are manifest.

.....

Everyone here is officially allowed two slices of bread; they are determined to consume twice that amount and so they go to the Black Market. The price of wheat has been fixed arbitrarily and without relation to facts. At 1,000 lira it is selling in the black market today at 6,000 lira, and this will continue as long as supervision is limited to one Allied officer or man to every 8,000 of the civil population.

.....

Quoting "an Italian doctor who ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ is a law abiding citizen the latter says that "my sons will become thieves, my daughters harlots, when my savings go." The same picture as presented itself in Berlin over 25 years ago will be repeated.

.....

With the best will in the world the available overworked Allied officials cannot change anything.

.....

The vaunted freedom of the press is non-existent in Italy. The press is forced to buy PWB news. The position for them is the same as under Fascism.

.....

1578

Touching, and indeed noble, has been the work of C.A.C's and if the Italy of smaller towns and villages is beginning to breathe more freely it is largely due to their inexhaustible patience and good-will. They have worked in unbelievably bad conditions. So far as I can see there are no complaints against them. They and "not those who sit in villas up the hill, or for fear of bombs motor 60 miles each night from their centres of administration" are the people helping Italy to find herself. Their names

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1978

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1284

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Trend of correspondents' copy.

June 6 1944

The fall of Rome and the reception accorded the Allied forces dominates all else. Descriptions of the scenes run the whole gamut of emotion. Two of the more practical correspondents got in with an advanced American tank and hastened to the Grand Hotel "where we met Peter the barman who has served more Kings and titled people than any other in Europe." They had last been in the bar 2 yea rs and 25 days previously, but they mention nothing of the quality or the quantity of the drink.

The general picture of the fall of Rome seems to be:

Kesselring, von Weisacker (German Ambassador) and the Pope had been conferring together with a view to approaching the Allied authorities to restrict the fighting to certain areas in order to avoid destruction of the city. Owing to the speed of the advance this had never been communicated to the Allies and the Germans eventually left in a hurry, satisfying themselves with blowing up some of their own dumps.

From the time the Germans left until Major General Johnson arrived the situation was controlled by a General Bencivenga, who had been secretly entrusted with the task by ~~xxxxxx~~ Marshal Badoglio two days previously.

There was a certain amount of fighting between Partisans, Communists and members of the Polizia Africana Italiana, a body of Italians who had fought in Ethiopia and who had been allotted the role of Italian Gestapo by the Germans.

On the entry of the Allied troops the Partisans helped to search out German snipers and generally assisted our troops.

The whole thing then devolved into a triumphal procession with wine and flowers, waving flags, and tears: punctuated with lorry loads of Partisans tearing about the city armed to the teeth.

One Italian opportunist set up boot-legging with what he claimed was "pre-war whisky" at £22 per bottle.

The Pope toured the city and at 6 in the evening spoke from St.Peter's to a vast assembly and asked them to offer up thanks that their city had been spared destruction. He thanked both belligerents for this.

Military was the only traffic in the city.

Major General Johnson has proclaimed a 9 p.m. curfew and has abolished the Polizia Africana Italiana. He had appealed to the Partisans not to take revenge on known Fascists.

Members of AMG arrived at 2.30 p.m. with three lorry loads of food. According to one correspondent they set up H.Q. in the Governorate. A quick survey gave the impression that there were more people in the city than had been supposed, the figure 2,800,000 being mentioned, and that the food situation will require revision. Tetlow ("Daily Mail") reports that he saw one Italian collapse through lack of food.

1377

The Italian General Bencivenga had a long interview with General Hume. Lieut. Col. Pollock, formerly of Scotland Yard, arrived with 1,500 Carabinieri, and began to dispose them throughout the city. The Germans had apparently opened some of the prisons and released many prisoners.

Roper (U.P.) states that the Germans removed about 10,000 Italian workers in the last few days of their occupation. Prices of essential goods will be

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

fixed immediately, probably at about the prices prevailing before the Allied occupation. This is a smaller problem than that carried out in Naples where AMG tried to regulate prices of non-essential as well as essential goods.

The general impression is that very little damage has been done to the city except in the area of the railway yards. There is water, electricity and gas available, but some damage has been done to installations through our bombing. The Germans had recently cut off gas supplies. The general impression is that the Nazis did not loot much.

Sholto Watt quotes black market prices as:

1 Litre	olive oil	1200 Lire
1 Kg.	Sugar	500 "
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PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

6 June 1944

Trend of correspondent's copy

The fall of Rome and the reception accorded the Allied forces dominates all else. Descriptions of the scenes run the whole gamut of emotion. Two of the more practical correspondents got in with an advanced American tank and hastened to the Grand Hotel "where we met Peter the barman who has served more Kings and titled people than any other in Europe." They had last been in the bar 2 years and 25 days previously, but they mention nothing of the quality or the quantity of the drink.

The general picture of the fall of Rome seems to be :

Kesselring, von Weisacker (German Ambassador) and the Pope had been conferring together with a view to approaching the Allied authorities to restrict the fighting to certain areas in order to avoid destruction of the city. Owing to be speed of the advance this had never been communicated to the Allies and the Germans eventually left i in a hurry, satisfying themselves with blowing up some of their own dumps.

From the time the Germans left until Major General Johnson arrived the situation was controlled by a General Benoivenga, who had been secretly entrusted with the task by Marshal Badoglio two days previously.

There was a certain amount of fighting between Partisans, Communists and members of the Polizia Africa Italiana, a body of Italians who had fought in Ethiopia and who had been allotted the role of Italian Gestapo by the Germans.

On the entry of the Allied troops the Partisans helped to search out German snipers and generally assisted our troops.

The whole thing then levolved into a triumphal procession with wine and flowers, waving flags, and tears: punctuated with lorry loads of Partisans tearing about the city armed to the teeth.

One Italian opportunist set up boot-legging with what he claimed was "pre-war whisky" at $22 per bottle.

The Pope thoured the city and at 6 in the evening spoke from St.Peter's to a vast assembly and asked them to offer up thanks that their city had been spared destruction. He thanked both belligerents for this.

Military was the only traffic in the city.

Major General Johnson has proclaimed a 9 p.m. curfew and has abolished the Polizia Africa Italiana. He had appealed to,the Parti_

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

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Trend of correspondents' copy.

June 7th 1944

The aftermath of the fall of Rome, general description of the city, accounts of the harsh methods of the Germans and their Italian collaborators, these take up most of the copy filed by correspondents. Very little news of the further advance has so far be filed and everyone appears to have succumbed to the charms of the Roman ladies.

Redfern ("Daily Express") has sent a long five page story with the requisite amount of colour on German evil doings. He says that Brigadier General Hume is getting down to work and has had long conferences with the city officials and with Allied officers and specialists. He invited the correspondents to a conference yesterday afternoon, but when they arrived the Brigadier was swamped with a horde of Italian officials still trying to sort out matters, and the press conference had to be postponed.

Kennedy (A.P) says most of the Fascists have fled from Rome, but several hundred remained and these have been arrested. Allied food shipments into the city are continuing. The population is now estimated at 1,800,000 with an additional 100,000 refugees without homes. Earlier estimates had been higher than this. The pre-war population was a little over 1 million.

Conger (U.P.) says that Badoglio tendered his resignation to Prince Umberto yesterday and the latter immediately asked him to form a new Cabinet. The old one will meantime continue to function. He also reports that Badoglio went to Rome with the Chief Commissioner to consult underground leaders. The Italian Government will remain at Salerno as military necessity does not permit Rome to be under the Italian Government at present, and they wish to function on their own free territory. Badoglio has sent messages of congratulation to President Roosevelt, Mr. Churchill and M. Stalin on the fall of Rome. He seems to have been particularly reverent towards the Soviet leader.

Brown (Reuter) has sent a message in much the same strain, omitting the messages of congratulation sent by Badoglio.

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Chief Commissioner.

For clearance may be I request to see.

6/6/44

L. Ickes.
Regional DPR.

Thanks
Mrs Ickes

Executive Committee

For may like to see.
7/6/44

Ickes

Thanks
7/6/44

1296

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Trend o correspondents' copy

20

June 9, 1944.

Correspondents are featuring the rapid advance beyond Rome and are generally inclined to consider that it is turning into a rout for Kesselring's forces on the left flank. They do not devote much to the fighting in the centre.

A more sober picture of Rome is now emerging from the first joyful and emotional accounts. Agreement is general that damage is very slight and that only in the area of the railway marshalling yards is it anything like concentrated. Here a Lieut. Fredk. Hart, AMG., is quoted as saying that only the Basilica of San Lorenzo is damaged, together with part of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery. The tombs of Keats and Shelley are safe. Electric light has been restored. Many military police have now arrived in the city and every officer and man in the streets is liable to be challenged as to reason for presence in the city.

Barber (AP) sends a message refuting German statements that Allied bombing had destroyed or damaged cultural and religious monuments.

Packard (UP) seems to be the only one who has so far reported the emergence of Bonomi from the political welter. She states he was a pre- Mussolini Premier, a lawyer and a Liberal. During the Fascist regime he remained outside politics and devoted himself to his profession, but during recent months had become prominent in the underground movement

Sprigge (Reuter) has not filed anything since June 2nd.

Jordan (News Chronicle) who wrote an outspoken article dated June 2nd in which he criticised the lack of policy towards the Italian Government ~~xxxxx~~ and praised the work of the unknown CA officer, has not continued his attack so far.

A silver lining to the clouds of war has been found by a Canadian correspondent. In a descriptive article on Rome he notes that there are no smells in the city and that many of the women are blue-eyed blondes. They also have no sores on their legs as have many woman in Southern Italian towns and cities. In fact he thinks the troops will once again feel they are homeward bound as they pass through Rome as there is a distinct European atmosphere in comparison with southern Italy "of which they have had such a basinful."

1297

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RID

(1)

British press comment on the Fall of Rome

June 17 1944

British press comment on the fall of Rome may be divided into two groups, one dealing purely with the military implications and appraisal of their value, and the other ~~xkkh~~ which look a gift horse in the mouth and speculate on the political and economic problems handed down to us. In the first group admiration is expressed for General Alexander's strategy of hedging the Boche away from the capital and preventing destruction, while at the same time ensuring control of the network of roads which would disorganise the German retreat. The second group recognise the moral value of the capture of the first of the three capitals Rome-Berlin-Tokyo and see in its possession and future administration a test of Allied efficiency - or otherwise - which will be closely watched in other European capitals awaiting liberation. It is recognised by most that the more practical and urgent problem of food supply has had priority treatment and that mistakes made during our progress up the peninsula are not likely to be repeated. This and the suppression of the black market, a speedy restoration of the normal amenities, plus a sound Italian administration purged of Fascism will be the factors on which the Allies will be judged.

1870

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R10

Digest of merican press: Jn 17 1944

(2)

With the fall of Rome the political and economic problems now facing the Allies are duly noted. AMG's plans to feed the population of Rome had been [redacted] noted before the city was liberated, and it was generally conceded that these had been more carefully ~~planned~~ prepared and were an improvement on what had been foreseen for Naples. Opportunity is then taken to hark back on the Naples black market and to point out that this scandal will require stern handling in Rome. "Liberty" in a long article said that Naples was a barometer for Italians in other cities yet to be liberated. Food was the chief problem in and here the whole thing failed as AMG took no decisive steps to break up the black market operations of the "landed aristocracy" and AMG blundering and inefficiency must take responsibility for a major part of food shortage in Naples and other parts of Southern Italy. Regarding defascitation "Liberty" says that although the elimination of small fry has been effective, AMG officials display a certain naivete when it comes to the higher ups: "It seems that too many of our important officials can't see beyond an old name, a big house, a charming wife and one or two beautiful daughters." Yet it concludes that "there has been nothing malicious in the failures of AMG. They can be easily corrected."

x x x x

In commenting on the difficulties ahead of Civil Affairs officers in "making the liberation of Europe painless" the issue of military money and the further inflation of currencies is regarded as an evil, and one which de Gaulle considers intolerable, the effects of this policy in Italy being quoted as an example. Moreover the uncontrolled spending by troops is bound to cause a considerable amount of bad feeling and will lead to an even greater scarcity of supplies. On the other hand attempts to restrict spending by troops may hurt Army morale and the only way is to put the case quite clearly to them & seek their co-operation.

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20

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

June 23, 1944.

The tumult and the shouting a t the fall of Rome have died down and correspondents are sending in desultory reports of the advance up the Italian peninsula. There do not seem to be so many first hand accounts of the fighting as during the initial break through and up to the fall of Rome, when correspondents were well up in front. The impression gained is that many of them have anchored down in Rome and are justifying expenses by sending in bits and pieces garnered in the country to the rear of the Armies. Items dealing with missing church treasures, or alleged looting or damage to famous buildings.

Spriggs (Reuter) Cardinal Stuart's library is safe in the Vatican. He was the Young Pretender's younger brother - the so-called Cardinal of York.

Spriggs (Reuter) 15 cases of treasures emanating from Naples and Pompei are said to have been lost in transit between Teano and Rome.

Heinzerling (AP) The Castle of Gambara, near Viterbo, has been looted of ancient silver and furniture.

The presence of Mr. Myron Taylor and his visit to the Vatican xxx is causing speculation as to future world peace plans.

Little has been filed on the present situation with the Italian Government. Kennedy (AP) hints that Badoglio's fall was not liked in some Allied capitals and that he may eventually re-enter the Cabinet although not as Prime Minister. Spriggs (Reuter) says that Badoglio has promised the Italian Government cordial collaboration, and that Bonomi instead of taking the oath to the Monarchy will pledge to abstain from constitutional controversy pending the setting up of a constituent assembly. Immediately the whole country is liberated a law convoking such an assembly will be passed.

Morgan (Chicago News) has sent a three page despatch dealing with Colonel Poletti's conference. He says that the black market in Rome is to be rigourously repressed. Fascists cleared out as rapidly as possible. Even efficient Fascists will have to go. "We have no replacements wrapped up in paper" Colonel Poletti is quoted, "but we can find them."

Four large building contractors who enjoyed a virtual monopoly under the Fascists will have no further contracts.

Colonel Poletti said that the whole question of supplies depended on transportation. He simply must have more trucks if anything is to be done. The Germans had not interfered with civil transport to any great extent but AMG had immediately "frozen" everything. This was for a check up and registration and will soon be modified. Even AMG itself could not get enough transport for its own needs. Substantial supplies could now be moved more than a quarter of the way by rail from Naples, but for the remainder of the journey lorries were needed. The port of Civita Vecchia would be put into use as quickly as possible.

300,000 people in Rome are getting one meal per day in the soup kitchens. It consisted of dried vegetables, soup and olive oil. The Vatican has helped in this as well as some industrial organisations. AMG will attempt to revive the Rome Central Market and fix prices for vegetables, fruit and milk. Certain restaurants will be ear marked for Allied troops and the rest put off limits. At present restaurants were o

1358

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Sprigge (Reuter) says that 7,000 tons of food have now been sent to Rome and 375 Tons per day are coming in. 1,385,000 ration cards exist in Rome among them a large number of duplicates and false ones. According to this correspondent too, the agreement between Mussolini and Hitler for the sending of Italian men to Germany has been found in archives. It was signed by Hitler's envoy Rudolf Rahn and was dated May 21, 1944. Under this agreement practically the whole of the Italian man power was to be called up for service in Germany and German-Italian commissions were to be set up to examine very carefully all applications for exception.

Halliwell ("Daily Mail" "Daily Herald") reports rioting in Florence between Fascists and anti-Fascists.

Brown (Reuter) says that Perugia was taken by the Guards Brigade and the 16/5th Lancers.

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Major Pearce

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R/10

TRend of correspondents' Copy.

June 24 1944

(3)

Operations

Most correspondents devote space to the fighting in the Chiensi area North West of Perugia, where the Germans appear to be making a determined stand. It is said that this is because the Germans do not yet think their Rimini-Pisa line is sufficiently strong. They are trying to hold us while improving it.

AMG/ACC

Coc for "Blue War Journal": AMG is using the Partisan movement to find replacements for Fascists relieved of their jobs in the administration. Colonel Poletti thinks that Italians have more respect for one if a good outward show is put up. He has therefore had his temporary office cleaned and painted. In the meanwhile he is seeking another office but refuses to take over the Palazzo Venezia from which Mussolini was wont to make his speeches. This correspondent also made some scathing remarks about the Grand Hotel and the numbers of cars always drawn up there, and says that Italian civilians are being waved off the sidewalk because there is some "personage" living there or expected to arrive. (The Censor has cut this last passage).

Colonel Poletti has ordered a purge of Rome newspapermen with Fascist records and has appointed Bergamini to carry out a purge and to submit a list of journalists qualified to practise. Approved men will be given cards and allowed to circulate after curfew. Poletti said he had noticed several newspapermen with Fascist pants at his first Press conference.

Pearce ("Daily Herald") send a long despatch on the Rome press which he says with the exception of "Corriere di Roma" is free from Allied military influence and is vigorously political. He says the press is unanimous on the urgency of drawing up complete plans for post war reconstruction in Italy, and he quotes what he considers a very sound article in "Italia Libera" called "Problems of peace".

Morgan ("Chicago News") has filed a story that two "lieutenants" of the underground movement "Armata Rossa" were arrested and charged at the AMG summary court with illegal recruiting and with falsely pretending to be acting on AMG authority, thus prejudicing public order. The men have been allowed out on bail of 100,000 lira.

Further to this story he has devoted some space to the lack of policy in regard to the Italian partisans vis-a-vis the Allied authorities. He thinks we will encounter considerable trouble later on when we arrive in Milan and Turin and that something should be done.

Rayner (PWB) for BBC and CBI sends a script in Italian for broadcast to the Italian Forces of Liberation fighting in Italy as well as other scripts for broadcasting to Italian partisans.

1356

The Italian Government.

Only one correspondent has so far given the list of the Italian Government. He is Burke Walsh (Catholic Syndicate) and he treats it more from a "religious" aspect. He is concerned to know whether Bonomi is a good Catholic or not.

Lumby ("Times") said that Bonomi has pledged to abstain from constitutional controversy until Italy is liberated and a constituent assembly is chosen. The

1302

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several days delay during which the Allies were trying to make up their minds damaged Bonomi's chances, but his appeal for national unity has found general support among army and navy officers.

Pearce ("Daily Herald") says Italy south of Rome is whole heartedly for Bonomi, and that "Avanti" (Socialist) is the most vigorous anti-Badoglio paper. There is general evidence in the Italian press that party politics in its narrower sense is being avoided, but that there is much insistence on a post war plan of reconstruction as well as political enlightenment of the people.

General

Mr. Murphy was received by the Pope yesterday. A French correspondent (not Mme. Tabouis !) considers that the intense diplomatic activity within the Vatican has some connection with certain concrete proposals which the Germans made to the Pope before leaving.

The German reppresentative (von Weisacker) is said to have protested to the Pope at the favourable reception being accorded to Allied personalities compared with the treatment received by German diplomats previously.

Barreto Leite Filho of "Diarios Associados" has sent a 5 foolscap page despatch on the Italian Government and the Allied authorities, but we have been unable to fully understand the Spanish (? Portuguese).

1303

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

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

File (1)

June 25, 1944

PRB/ R /10

Trend of Correspondents' copy

RITA HUME (INS) sends a long account of the atmosphere in the Grand Hotel at Rome which she says surpasses the most fantastic episodes of Vicki Baum 's novel of that name. It has become a melting pot for Kings, Prime Ministers, 4 star Generals, Ambassadors, and war correspondents. At any moment one may stumble into King Peter of Jugoslavia, General Smuts, or Prince Umberto. Here one sees Mr.Myron Taylor lunching with Mr. Harold Tittman, or Sir Noel Charles. In giving a running commentary on various personalities she says one sees "big, likeable General Mason MacFarlane arrives in his inevitable British shorts, and soon the rest of the A.C.C. staff materialise. Last night (June 24) there were U.S. Ambassadors Murphy and Kirk, Colonel Chas. Poletti, Dr. Krek of Jugoslavia, U.S. Navy Captain Ellery Stone (former President of the Postal Telegraph and Telephone Company, and now Acting A.C.C. Chief, and Dr. Henry Grady, among those present. As for most of the permanent residents it does not matter who comes and goes "so long as it means that they get hot water."

KILGALLEN (INS): Says that Rome not long ago was an Axis capital. Today it is a colourful, overcrowded city, efficiently ruled by AMG. General Johnson has assured correspondents that he is striving to make American officers and soldiers behave well, and he has succeeded. Nobody is going hungry in Rome today. Besides the free food which is being issued everyone can get 150 Grammes of bread, 10 Grammes olive oil, 8.5 Grammes sugar; 13.3 Grammes dried vegetables (peas and beans); 13.3 Grammes canned meats; 6.6 Grammes salt and 3.3 Grammes soap.

CARL MYDANS (War correspondent with 5th Army) sends 6 rolls of films showing people and things in the refugee camp at Cesano left by the Germans. The camp is said to have been set up in a mustard gas producing plant of the Industrie Chimiche Nazionali Riunite. Storage tanks hidden under grass mounds contain thousands of tons of Lewisite and mustard gas. A story accompanies the films.

CCE (Blue War Journal) quotes Colonel Poletti: The rank and file of Italians had concrete evidence of Allied promises when they saw Fascists removed. It was however harder to remove such Fascists from private businesses, but he had already warned AMG to have no dealings with known Fascist firms. The Partisan movement would provide him with replacements for Fascists.

WINSTON BURDETT to CBS yesterday: Says that Rome papers approve Bonomi's call to clean up the house and mentions the Cabinet's call for increased help for Partisans in North Italy.
BIGART (New York Herald-Tribune) also mentions this latter point.

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1304

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

STRAND (Chicago Tribune) quoting Colonel Poletti says that in normal times slightly more than 40,000 quarts of milk were consumed in Rome daily. The dairy farmers of the Agro Romano had managed to save about half their herds from slaughter by the Nazis. Pasteurisation plants will soon be in operation and transport of the milk will be handled by AMG. It may be necessary in the beginning to subsidize dairy farmers on account of their losses. This will be done out of Rome's tax funds. Otherwise the retail price of milk will be too high for the poorer classes. Count Nicolo Carandini, one of the wealthiest landowners was taking a leading part in the milk problem. Poletti revealed that farmers had hidden cattle between false partitions on the farms and some had even been hidden in the city of Rome.

HAMMOND (Kemsley Press, London) in an article on general situation said that ACC has had to spread its resources and personnel over a vast new area which was without railways and where a great many demolitions had been carried out. It had only the barest means of transport. 300 tons per day is being brought into Rome and with the co-operation of the Vatican 326,000 people were being fed.

MATTHEWS (New York Times)
HAMMOND (Kemsley Press, London)
have sent despatches regarding the political activity of the Vatican in recent days and its implications on possible peace proposals, or even of the Pope taking part in any Peace Conference on the conclusions of hostilities. Commenting on this latter MATTHEWS says that if the Pope consistently maintains his attitude of "forgiveness of sins" then it will be embarrassing for the United Nations when it comes to meting out just punishment to Germany.

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

Major Lascaces

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

RIO

June 26, 1944

PR/R/10

Trend of correspondents' copy

Both American and British correspondents have reported the increase in the bread ration for Rome and are paying some attention to Colonel Poletti's remarks on the fundamental problem of lack of transportation.

LUMBY ("Times") reports the increase but says that the 300 Grammes now given in Naples will not be reached in Rome until transportation difficulties North of Rome have been overcome by the capture of Leghorn and Ancona.

BIGART (AP) says the new scale is just double what the Romans got during the last 4 months of the German occupation, but is still not sufficient. He adds that 100 Tons of vegetables came into the city yesterday under the auspices of AMG, more than Rome has seen for many months. A Carabinieri guard accompanied each truck. One of the causes of the present food shortage was under estimation of the city's population. Instead of ½ million refugees it was found there were 1 million, and that the city's population is thus 2½ million.

STRAND ("Chicago Tribune") says Colonel Poletti discussed a few particulars of the elaborate system of food controls which will be going into effect in the next few days in order to combat the Black Market, where prices have skyrocketed beyond even the worst wartime inflationary levels. Under this scheme all roads to Rome will have police guards posted under Allied officers. They will stop every food truck entering the city limits from surrounding agricultural districts. Each truck will have a special guard to see that it goes direct to the Central Market place where the produce will be sold to retailers under AMG auspices and re-sold to consumers under rigidly controlled sales.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS) "As we move away from Rome AMG is tackling the big problems of food, water and transport and the black market." No further comment.

STRAND ("Chicago Tribune") in a further despatch says that under Colonel Poletti's scheme for transport all cars will be licensed by Allies and any car or truck circulating without a "sticker" will be immediately requisitioned. But the control of transport is not the full answer to the black market. It is also necessary to distribute American foodstuffs to the civil population in order to force price reductions and as soon as Army needs slacken this will be done. The Rome population is of a different cal ibre to the criminal elements of Naples are missing. He says that bitter things are already been said among the poorer classes at the failure to control the black market. Some of the measures may seem harsh to Americans, but these people have existed for the last 20 years on the practice of every man for himself. There is little spirit of co-operation and fair play and the only alternative for the American/ British authorities is to try to curb the selfishness of all classes. The first arrest of black market operators have been made. The National Committee of Liberation has been asked to name Fascists still connected with food or transport and to nominate successors.

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1306

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Via PRO Algiers
" POW to PWB NAPLES

During the 9 months of German occupation the Agro Romano dairy herds have been reduced from 17,000 to 9,000 head, according to the "Risorgimento Liberale". But even with this reduced herd it is believed that there will be enough milk for Rome's children, and forthe aged and sick. But this can only be done by a series of control measures and it hopes the authorities will take prompt steps.

According to KORAN ("Chicago Tribune") many American correspondents in Rome are without funds since the United States Treasury made a decision refusing the transmission of funds abroad. Many ofthem he says are following Casanova's precepts that the best way to conceal poverty is to live in luxury. But the situation is getting serious.

1307

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

Major Lascelles

PRB/R/10

June 27 1944

Trend of correspondents' copy

LONGMIRE (AP) have a long account of an afternoon spent in Col. Poletti's office and the typical problems which AMG is called upon to tackle. Much of it was devoted to remarks "by a young lieutenant" on the difficulties created by our present attitude towards former Italian partisans.
(This article was marked "WITHDRAWN"- and was not sent).

LONGMIRE (AP) also sent a long despatch complaining that the American Army newspaper "Stars & Stripes" obviously keeps all serious discussions of American political problems at arms length. As a result American soldiers read only stuff fit for 12 year olds. He compares it with the discussion of British post-war political problems which appear in "Union Jack".

MARSLAND GADAP ("Daily Telegraph") says that the British flag hoisted by Lieut. Col. Pollock, AMG. on the Capitoline when the Allies entered Rome is to be sent to Mr. Winston Churchill. He goes on to discuss the AMG police task in Rome, which is full of headaches. But law and order have been well and strictly maintained. Four Italian Generals, he says, claim to be the lawful Chief of Police. 300 Fascists have been arrested by AMG police, including the notorious police chief Caruso. A young medical student has been arrested in connection with the death of an Italian Guardia Finanza on our entry into Rome. He will be tried before AMG military court.

ELEANOR PACKARD has cabled the ACC release on the re-opening of the Italian Court of Cassation.

JOHNSTON (BBC-) says that the news that a considerable amount of the money found on the ex-Fascist police chief Caruso has been handed over to an Italian bank has created a great impression on local Italians in the light of their experiences under the Germans.

NICOLO WATT ("Daily Telegraph" & "Montreal Star") gives a breezy account of a "tour round Rome". He says that Romans don't like the warlike declarations of their new Government; they want nothing to do with war. The white flour brought by the Allies ~~brought~~ gave great delight. Romans like white flour. It was the first they had seen for years. An experienced neutral observer was greatly impressed with the quantity and quality of Allied equipment compared with what the Germans had. Porters of hotels and flats are now in a quandary. Many of them were police spies and informers. Now they don't know whom to report. There is great currency confusion in Rome. Before our entry the Swiss franc (equal to 1/- or 25 ¢) brought 200 lire. Our rate is 100 Lire to U.S.dollar. The Swiss are not pleased. But Axis agents find their German printed lire worth more than ever. The Allied bombing raid of July 1943 caught the Fascists on one leg. The A.A., police, relief and fire services failed and proved bad propaganda for them. A prominent hostess of Rome at present is one Signora [illegible] Giorgio, the German born wife of an Italian. She gave many parties to German officers, and the other night gave a dance for Allied officers. The apparent leniency of the Allies has encouraged many Fascists to emerge when they had fully expected to have to leave Rome. ~~Those included Felix Lizzi, Lithuanian a notorious informer~~ (Censored) and an ~~Italian named Capocelli, press spokesman for Fascist Government~~ (Censored). No case had yet come to his notice of any member of the Rome aristocracy having lifted a finger to help the poor or anyone except themselves. He quotes the case of a rich woman, the owner of two palaces

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who complained that the Fascist Republicans "actually wanted to put refugees, dirty, smelly people from noone knows where"into one of her palaces. She tried by every means to find tenants for her palaces to prevent refugees going in, but one woman to whom she rented part of them turned out to be of loose moral character. Now she cannot get the tenant to quit. Count Sforza will very likely become Prime Minister of Italy. But he will wait until things settle down.

BRIAS (AP) says that Colonel Poletti announces that the Italian Committee of Liberation working with the Rome Giunta will recommend the list of Rome Government agencies after purging of Fascists. At the same time Col. Poletti announced he will appoint a Committee of 12 Italians - 2 from each political party - to act as a purging committee for Rome Region. Meanwhile AMG has distributed thousands of questionnaires to all public authorities in order to find out the Fascist background of their employees, and this will be the basis for cleaning those of Fascist elements. Dismissed employees may lodge an appeal with the Committee of Twelve. The latter's recommendations then go to Col. Poletti for a final decision.

SPRIGGS (Reuter) announces the forthcoming trial of Domenico Soprani, former Prefect of Naples who is said to have issued an order for mobilisation of civilians to work for the Germans, as well as of Guiseppe Frignani, governor of the Bank of Naples, for corruption and for his part in the 1925 coup d'etat.

RITA HUME (INS) gives Gen. Hume a write up and makes much play on the autograph book which the General keeps containing signatures of prominent people who have visited him.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times") : One person in every 5 in Rome has tuberculosis. This was stated by Lieut. Col. Orpheus J. Bizzozero, chief of AMG public health section. This is as a result of the 9 months German occupation, aggravated by overcrowding and malnutrition. Energetic measures being taken.

MAY ("Times" London) Felix Topolski, the Polish artist has visited Assisi. He had last visited the place 11 years ago. He was much perturbed at the somewhat crude restoration work on Giotti's frescoes, but the paintings had suffered no damage through war.

Correspondents have devoted a considerable amount of space to the visit of General Smuts to the Italian front and most of them quote the General's remark that the new German flying bomb or "doodle bug" was a damp squib. It will make no contribution whatever to the ending of the war.

PIOMBINO port facilities have been badly smashed but the town itself is intact.

1859

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

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

Mario Lanaces
Tpr

PRB/B/10

June 28, 1944

Trend of correspondents' copy

GODFREY TALBOT (BBC): Broadcasting last night said that one of the best jobs being done in Italy - although a job well behind the lines - is the feeding of Rome. The Romans have not a lot of food and are not being pampered. Yet although the Germans took a lot of food away with them and left only a two days supply in the city the Allied authorities saw to it that nobody starved and everybody had enough to go on with. And they are improving the situation although it is a big transport job. The people of Rome are now getting twice as much bread as they were under the Germans, and it is white bread, and not the dirty grey commodity issued by the Germans. AMG/ACC is helping the people of Rome to get their own food supplies going and Rome is getting back "to war time normal." 68% of the water supply is now coming in spite of damage to aqueducts. Reserve steam plants are being used to pump water and to supply light and power. But the plants require 300 tons of coal and a lot of oil each day, yet there is a fair supply of light. Only 10,000 out of the city's 120,000 telephones are working and the Army takes priority in use. Meantime the peasants between Rome and the present front line are reaping their corn. Women and children form the majority of those 300,000 now being fed daily at Allied soup kitchens.

BRIGGS (Reuter) says that the Rome paper "Risorgimento Liberale" frankly criticises the wisdom of the measures taken by Col. Poletti for purging of Fascists. They will deprive numerous families of the means of subsistence and will at the same time throw into one bag, persons of varying guilt. It criticises these Rome proceedings while the Italian Government is carrying on its own plan in a different manner. There is a great rush in Rome with everybody trying to establish credentials of anti-Fascism. Political party offices are receiving suspiciously large numbers of requests for membership. Another method is to show documents of arrest by Fascists or Germans, or documents proving them to have belonged to an underground organisation. According to the press the black market price for such documents is from 1,000 to 2,000 Lire. There are many recriminations regarding certain societies now being formed, for instance, the Association of Anti-Fascist University Professors, which one paper says contains nobody who lifted a finger against Fascism. Many notorious people like General Santoro, many years President of Mussolini's Special Tribunal, have succeeded in obtaining membership of alleged anti-Fascist parties. A file of Farinacci's personal documents has been discovered by the police.

CHESTER (AP): Nearly a month after the fall of Rome refugees are still crowding the roads between Rome and Naples. Some had fled to Rome from the South; others had been pushed out of the city by the Nazis. There is a population movement in progress.

BIGART ("New York Herald-Tribune"): Writes that the Socialist paper "Avanti" complains of the administrative confusion in Liberated Italy. After 3 weeks occupation the problems connected with recording those willing to fight and work are still untouched. The Government is still relegated to Salerno. Municipal administration does not yet know its real powers. The Allies are floating on a sea of rules and regulations following each other at short notice and often contradictory.

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TETLOW ("Daily Mail") (This correspondent had been asked by his paper to obtain a story on a certain Colonel Rocke.)
He cabled that Col. Rocke had turned up in Perugia about a week ago. The Colonel admitted quite frankly that he had broadcast for the Nazis and that he was once on friendly terms with Mussolini and had great admiration for him. Col. Rocke is being vetted by Field Security Officers.

Yesterday TETLOW informed his paper that his Colonel Rocke story was stopped by the Censor. An exclusive story he wrote had also been stopped, but might be released later on.

RITA HUME (INS) has turned to fashion reporting and on what the women of Rome are wearing. She thinks that very large earrings will shortly be worn by smart American women, this fashion coming to them from Rome.

ELEANOR PACKARD (UP) : Cables that the situation in Genoa has become critical, with street fighting between anti-Fascists and Germans and Fascists.

LIEUT. PAVESE (For 8th Army News): A lengthy account of the alleged atrocities in the Rue Tasso at Rome.

COE (Blue Network) : The July 4th celebrations in Rome this year will include the raising of the American flag which was flying over the Capitol at Washington when the Japs attacked Pearl Harbor.

CHINIGO (INS) gives an account of the way the Germans took over Rome and began to print their own notes. Allied bombing destroyed one plant and so large numbers of higher denomination notes came into circulation. He says that American white flour, stolen from warehouses in Naples and brought to Rome by fishermen, was being sold in the Rome black market. The well known soprano Gianna Federzini is branded by the Italian press as having been Farrenacci's mistress, and to have many documents relating to Fascist misdeeds. Her Rome apartment is being guarded by the police.

COOPER ("Daily Express"): The Baroness Koke arrested by Alliedauthorities is a mystery woman. An Albanian, she had lived in leading hotels and was friendly with German officers. None of those arrested have been shot.

MATTHEWS (New York Times"): Each year a medal is struck and presented to the Pope. It depicts some outstanding event in the Pontiff's life. This year the medal was to have depicted the Pope visiting places hit by Allied bombs, with the Basilica of San Lorenzo in the background, and the people imploring ~~the~~ him for help. This would normally have been presented to him on the eve of the feast of St. Peter & Paul. On the Allied entry into Rome the medal was withdrawn and the new one shows the Pop e as the protector and saviour of Rome.

PARKER (Exchange Telegraph) : Bishop Alexander Evreinoff, former Russian diplomat, controls the Vatican bureau for sending messages to relatives of prisoners of war and vice versa. It is revealed that since 1939 some 5 million messages have been sent and its present staff includes 300 prelates, clerics and lay clerks. It has been instrumental in tracing 61,808 American and British prisoners in Japanese hands.

ELEANOR PACKARD (UP):
In a belated message says that Gabrielle Annunzio (who was reported arrested) was accused of having started a "Green Shirt" movement, with its H.Q. at the Hotel Eden, Rome.

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Major Lascaris

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/R/10

June 28, 1944

Trend of correspondents' copy

A large number of correspondents have filed dispatches giving the outline of Colonel Poletti's purging campaign in Rome. Two have mentioned it in broadcast talks.

RALPH HOWARD (NBC) broadcasting from Rome says "Colonel Poletti, the Little Flower of Rome" is using both feet to kick former Fascists out of the Rome government. So far 5,750 have been removed from office; 198 arrested and another 5 to 600 are scheduled to go. Black out regulations are violated by almost every building; cars travel at night with full lights. The war seems a 1,000 miles away."

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS) devoted three quarters of his broadcast yesterday to the broad facts of Colonel Poletti's campaign, but made no comment.

LUCAS ("Times" London) : More elaborate instructions for the purging of Fascists have now been issued by Colonel Poletti than by any Allied authority so far. His decree covers those who became Senators under Fascism, or newspaper editors, leader writers, or radio broadcasters. It will be interesting to see how it works out. In Bari, Brindisi and Salerno, where it has been left to the Italian Government, the axe has only fallen very slowly either because of some semi-occult influence at work, or even because Allied officers themselves interfered to secure the maintenance of some expert official whose assistance was considered indispensible for the Allied war effort."

COOPER ("Daily Express") writes that Col. Poletti says that Major Anthony Heath, 32 year old former diplomatic service man, who has lived in Italy, France and Spain, has done a fine job of work in the purging of Fascists.

STRANG ("Chicago Tribune"): Some thing new in the realm of political science is being done by Colonel Poletti. He quotes the document issued and says that Poletti maintains that his door is open at any time to those who think they have received injustice. The correspondent remarks that this is quite true. Trying to get an interview with Poletti is a catch-as-catch can affair, but he does see those who ask for him "which is more than can be said of a number of other high Allied officials here who are not half so busy." Poletti is aiming at municipal employees and not national. National officials will be dealt with by the new Bonomi Government.

SPRIGGE (Reuter) says 30,000 cards have been issued for finding out Fascist background of employees. The order issued by Col. Poletti sets out who are Fascists. They will have the right of appeal. Poletti's regulations do not concern national institutions like Ministries situate in Rome nor the University. For these the A.C.C. acting with the Italian Government will later issue instructions.

GARDAR ("Daily Telegraph") mentions the forms which Col. Poletti has issued and gives the names of arrested persons. When asked if any of the 198 arrested had been shot, Poletti laughed and said "No !" Col. Poletti declined to answer questions regarding the period of or conditions of detention of those arrested. Asked what happened to displaced Fascists

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Colonel Poletti said he imagined they were absorbed in some way and had to find job for themselves like everybody else. Some of them might have private funds.

ELEANOR PACKARD (UP) gives the facts of Poletti's meeting without any comment.

The following correspondents also filed despatches on Col. Poletti's meeting.

VIDRICH ("News Chronicle - London")
PARKER (Sunday Telegraph)
CUNEAN (INS)
RAYMOND (Romeley Press)
MATTHEWS ("Times" N.Y.)
TALBOT (BBC)

KENNEDY (AP) has filed a long story by Bonomi Snr. on his experiences in the underground movement in Italy.

BRIA (AP)
ELEANOR PACKARD (UP) : Both file stories on rioting and street fighting in Florence and in other cities of Northern Italy. The last named correspondent quotes the Rome "Ricostruzione" that 20 Italian youths were executed at Novara on the orders of Marshal Graziani, for refusing to report for military service.

MATTHEWS ("Times" New York)

Friends of Gigli, the tenor, consider that the Pope performed a genuine act of kindness in receiving in private audience one whose urge to sing knows no political bounds. This act may permit the revival of Gigli's career and give thousands joy in hearing his voice, on the theory that art has no nationality or politics.

E. PACKARD (UP) King Peter of Jugoslavia and his mother received by the Pope.

BURKE WALSH (Catholic Syndicate) send a despatch about the number of vendors selling religious relics to Allied soldiers in St. Peter's Square under the pretext that they have been blessed by the Pope. The Allied authorities have moved them further away from the Square.

DIXON (AP) sends a voicecast of 3 pages on the women of Rome. It is meant to reassure wives and sweethearts in the United States. The main thesis is that the troops had not seen many clean looking women up to the time of their arrival in Rome and were a little overwhelmed as they "still liked to see their womenfolks scrubbed behind the ears." There is no need to worry, most of the boys still think of the girls back home.

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

Dept Lorenzos
file

P RB/2/10

June 30, 1944

Trend of correspondents' copy

SPRIGGE (Reuter)
PACKARD (UP)
MATTHEWS (Times - N.Y.)
PARKER (Exchange Telegraph)
CHESTER (AP)
SCANZIANI (Agence Telegraphe, Berne)

These are some of the correspondents who have sent corrections of the list of arrested Fascists and denied the story of the arrest of Gabriello Ammunzio.

LAMB ("New Yorker"): Sends a long account of the coming of the Germans to Rome and their subsequent behaviour in an endeavour to win over the Romans. He gives an account of the efforts of Italians to avoid being conscripted by changing their names, and their addresses; friends sheltering friends for a few days - a constant movement of population. The Germans tried to take a Census and issued forms for the purpose. They received back 4 million forms for a city of 1 million, the Partisans having helped to swell the lists and confuse the whole thing. He mentions the torture chamber in the Via Tasso, where a ~~Germ~~ Colonel Montezemolo, head of the Partigan movement was tortured and where he finally died; as well as the arrest of a General Oddone.

LEMEX ("Times"): Allied authorities are taking steps to reopen Rome University as soon as possible. Consultations have taken place with Prof. Guiseppe Caronia who has succeeded Ruggerio on the latter's appointment to the Bonomi Government. A Committee of 6 has been appointed from the professorial staff and they will examine the records of the academical administration and make recommendations for changes both of staff and curriculum to eliminate Fascist tendencies.

SCHMID ("Nouvelles Economiques, Lausanne): Gives a picture of the financial situation with Allied Lire and Italian Lire. Financial institutions of Rome are temporarily closed. There is a general moratorium for obligations above 5,000 lire, except wages. Prices and wages for Rome have been raised 75%.

MATTHEWS ("Times - N.Y."): A long interview with Orlando who is still an ardent liberal and feels that the Monarchy is one of the few remaining factors for cohesion in Italy. Orlando thinks that the present parties and their ideals are luxuries which Italy cannot afford. For the next 50 years the country is faced with the problem of survival. Party politics should go.

COOPER ("Daily Express") adds a few further gruesome details of the execution of Ciano and others. The film was taken by German Army cameramen (in mufti) and the Germans would not trust the Italians to make it. It was intended for Hitler to use as a means of blackmail to possible defaulting satellites. No copy of the film is available as the Germans would not entrust it to anyone, but it is said to have been a complete record from the time the condemned men were in their cells. Gotardi - a Fascist Beau Brummel - had a new coat prepared for the day of execution. But the accused were placed on chairs with their backs to the firing squad and bare backs. Gotardi then handed the new coat to the poorest member of the firing party as a souvenir.

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BRIA (AP) : Italian police have found one million lire worth of pictures, tapestries, and silver, in the garage of the house of Farinacci's mistress in Rome.

BERGH ("Handelstidning" (London) : A Commission of British, American and Swedish experts visited Rome last Saturday to investigate the report of the destruction of the two Roman galleys of Caligula. No report has yet been published, but it has been ascertained that the fire was started at 10.30 pm on the night 31st May/1st June and that it was obviously not an accident.

It is expected that Rome's electricity supply may be normal in a minimum of 5/6 months.

14,000 Romans have so far volunteered for work while the German "Arbeitedienst" did not succeed in getting any volunteers.

Free Austrian, Hungarian, Czech and French movements in Rome are now busy preparing public meetings.

SCANZIANI (Agence Telegraphe, Berne, and head of the neutral correspondents) Sends a despatch explaining that the delay in submitting copy has been due to the necessity of acquiring fresh credentials from Allied authorities. No restrictions will be placed on neutral correspondents, but there are one or two cases of correspondents which cause some concern and he will do his best to assist them.

The same correspondent has filed a long despatch which the Censor has marked "Not for publication". It is mainly about the underground movement during the days of the Germans, but adds that three Swiss nationals were detained by the Allied authorities (1 man and two women) and that the Swiss Charge d'Affaires had to intervene. He also says that 6 Austrian Journalists were interned and then allowed out on special conditions, and he also mentions that there are certain Hungarian, Roumanian and Polish Journalists finding difficulties. The article is restrained.

RITA HUME: This correspondent has proceeded to Naples to get a story from a certain Baroness Avezzano of her experiences under the Germans.

BIGART ("New York Herald-Tribune") is sending a number of cables on the lack of facilities afforded the "Stars & Stripes" to publish American political news in comparison with the "Union Jack". He feels it particularly important now with Governor Dewey's nomination.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS) has also taken up the question in his broadcasts.

KENNEDY (AP): An American actress, Miss Virginia Robinson is broadcasting in German to the Nazi troops in Italy, under the auspices of 5th Army. She was educated in Germany and she broadcasts as "Toni the American". Her photos are also being dropped into the German lines.

1853

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

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/3/10

July 1, 1944

Trend of correspondents' copy.

MORGAN ("Chicago News") : AMG police have arrested General Fernando Soleti, ex head of the Fascist national military police forces, who is accused of complicity in the escape fx of Mussolini last September. Soleti admits that he participated and gave some further details of how the escape was engineered, but he protests that he was an unwilling accomplice of the Nazis. He was arrested in the home of an American woman in Rome after the Carabinieri had learned that he was there. General Soleti insists that he is a refugee from both the Nazis and Fascists; that he had been hiding in Rome since last September. Despite his denials he was arrested and the Allied authorities stated that they had no information that the 53 year old General as having been at one time a close confidant of Mussolini, or involving him in his ex-chief's escape. He is now in prison and may be turned over to the Italian Government for trial on war guilt charges. Lieut. Col. J. Pollock, AMG Rome police chief, an ex-inspector of Scotland Yard, said that Soleti's arrest was one of the most important AMG had yet made.

Soleti has stated that he was compelled to accompany the Nazis to the place where Mussolini was held prisoner and was to have induced the officer in charge not to resist. When the Germans arrived at the hotel most of the Italian guards were asleep and the Dictator was freed without a shot being fired and within 20 minutes Mussolini was on a plane bound for Vienna. The Nazis escorted Soleti back to Practica and then on to Vienna where he saw Mussolini next morning, but according to the General the Germans had told Mussolini that they had received no co-operation from him (Soleti) and his ex-chief chided him on the subject. Soleti was then taken to Munich and put in prison with some 25 other Italian generals, but was later ordered to return to Rome under escort. He escaped his guard en route and went on alone in full uniform to Rome, where he was soon forced into hiding. When arrested he produced a document of 19 pages to support his story.

SPRIGGS (Reuter): Pope has received General de Gaulle in private audience. The interview is said to have had some political significance.

PWB to New York)
London,)
Algiers) General Smuts gave an interview xxxx to "Italia Libera" and said that he did not think there would be a general peace conference, but a series of conferences lasting over a number of years.

PWB Marshal Messe, head of the Italian General Staff, has ordered an examination of the records during the period since the signing of Italy's armistice, of all Italian commissioned officers of the army, navy and air forces, according to General Bencivenga, Rome representative of the Italian army. They will fall into 3 groups (i) Those who have fulfilled their duties according to the law of military honour (ii) Those who have acted against such duties and (iii) Doubtful cases since September 8th. General Bencivenga said the Marshal was himself personally supervising the task of purifying the officers corps and will give the final decision in doubtful cases.

BIGART ("New York Herald-Tribune") continues his complaint against the American Army News Service and the PW.B. at the paucity of American political news permitted by them to be printed in the "Stars & Stripes" as compared with what is allowed in the "Union Jack."

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TETLOW ("Daily Mail") : German officers with pockets full of Italian bank notes are roaming Bologne, Padua and other cities of Northern Italy trying to induce Italian specialists to work for them and offering anything from £25 to £50 per month. The specialists are first of all allowed to work in Italy and later on, willing or unwilling, are sent to Germany to work.

BURKE WALSH (CAtholic Syndicate): Major de Wald of Fine Arts Sub-Commission says that the church of Sacro Speco, near Subiaco, which encloses the cave where St. Benedict lived for 3 years, is intact except for the windows. All books, MSS and incunabula are safe. The other famous religious shrine of St. Scholastica Monastery, near Subiaco is also only slightly damaged. It had two bomb hits, but these were in the modern part of the building and the frescoes are safe although some of the windows are broken.

BERGH ("Göteborgs Handelstidnung"): Sends a resume of Italian political feeling for and against the Monarchy. Says al most entire South Italy, especially Sicilly and Sardini a claim regional autonomy as the only solution of economic, political and moral crisis. The vital interests of Southern Italy had been sacrificed to those of Northern Italy.

RODEL ("Zuricher Zeitung") praises the measures taken by the Allies which have contributed in a large measure to a revival of spirit in the people of Rome. He mentions the increase in bread ration; market control; water being rapidly restored but gas non-existent and electricity only at certain periods of the day in some quarters of the city.

SCANZIANI (Agence Telegrpahe): Sends lengthy article on the present position of the Italian Government and its difficulties. Notes with pleasure that "Ricostruzione" (which he calls Bonomi's organ) has already devoted two articles to Switzerland describing the latter country as a land of true democracy in spite of the three recial elements it contains.

COOPER ("Daily Express"): Partial demobilisation of the Palatine Guard at the Vatican has taken place. It had been increased by 1200 temporary volunteers to guard the Vatican.

MATTHEWS ("Times N.Y."): answering "James 302000" says that the rumours that Princess Marie Jose intends to divorce Prince Umberto are received with surprise in Rome. At this moment when the Prince is trying to save the Monarchy does not think that the Princess would prejudice his chances. These rumours are always cropping up about Royalty. Both are devout Catholics & divorce would not be easy.

HELLWELL ("Daily Herald") who met an Englishwoman married to an Italian and living on the island of Polvese in Lake Trasimeno round which the fighting is still taking place, quotes her as saying that the Germans behaved well when they first arrived. But as the war went against them and Rome was lost they began to vent their spite on the local peasants and burned and destroyed.

Extension of the Rome curfew has been noted by one or two correspondents.

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

REDFERN ("Daily Express" on Colonel ROCKE. RID

After 4 years in ordinary clothes Lieut. Col. Cyril ROCKE, D.S.O. who commanded the 2nd Battalion Irish Guards on the Somme in 1916, with General Alexander then as his second in command, put on his service dress at 5 a.m. after a peep from the verandah of the Hotel Brufani at Perugia. The Colonel who was formerly British military attache at Rome had been hiding all night in the cellars of the Brufani, on the roof of which one or two German soldiers were posted and using as an observation post. On the ground floor in the lounge otherGermans were grouped round a piano and bawling German songs. The Colonel with his service dress in a small bag sat quiet. But in the night he heard the clatter of heavy German boots as they moved out. Just as the sky lightened it seemed safe enough to go upstairs and he passed through the rooms where the Germans had been celebrating a few hours before. Empty bottles littered the lounge. Sheets of music were scattered by the piano. The Germans had gone. The tall Lieut. Colonel peered in to the half light. Half a mile or so away vague shapes of men in British battle dress were to be seen. But he was still not sure so he found an Italian employee who had a pair of opera glasses. Then he knew. He went into the cellar and changed, and with his tie just correct and his two rows of ribbons walked out of the hotel and joined the British on the outskirts of the town. He was stopped by an officer who said "By God ! It's you, Sir !" The officer was Capt. Aubrey Ponsonby son of one of the Colonel's brother officers in the first world war.

It is said that the Colonel and the two officers walked back to the hotel the Germans had been in 5 hours before.

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

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

ZIB/3/10

July 2, 1944

Front of correspondents' copy

ALGIERS FORCES (UP) The unannounced departure for London of Sir Noel Baker-Carlyle last week is almost universally interpreted in Italian circles as a sign of Churchill's displeasure for not having insisted that Badoglio receive an important post in the recently formed Italian Govt. Authoritative Allied circles deny MacFarlane's illness being only diplomatic. They insist that he is suffering seriously with his back which was injured in an auto accident a few months ago. It is however agreed that it will be difficult to convince the Italians that his back injury was the real reason for his departure.

(Later note): Whether the post will later be filled by another British appointee is apparently undecided. United States Naval Captain Ellery STONE, at present Acting Chief Commissioner as well as carrying out his present work as Deputy Chief Commissioner. Capt. Stone's name is at present before Congress for confirmation of his appointment to Rear Admiral by President Roosevelt.

GUNTHER ("Times" New York): Also gives the news of General MacFarlane's absence, and adds that in spite of Mr. Cordell Hull's denial on behalf of Mr. Churchill, the British Prime Minister wanted Badoglio to remain and brought pressure to bear. As head of A.C.C. General MacFarlane has been held responsible for Badoglio's overthrow.

KNICKERBOCKER ("Chicago Tribune") has taken up the subject of the lack of political news permitted by the American Army News Service and the P.W.B. in the "Stars and Stripes".

LAING ("Time"): Italian government now at Salerno is like a man trying to drive a car from the back seat. The approval of both the American & British Govts. as well as the Chiefs of Staff will have to be given before it can come to Rome. It has worked extremely slowly, but fortunately Allied officials have done a considerable amount of urgently necessary preliminary work of reconstruction. If the Italian Govt. had undertaken the work of purging Fascists A.C.C. would have been saved one of its worst blunders since the occupation of Rome i.e., Poletti's inclusion of a number of Italian generals in the list of Fascists deposed or jailed. There is great dissatisfaction among Italians and in the Italian press at the slowness of the Fascist purge. The correspondent then gives a long account of the building up of ZIB/ACC in which he says there is some overlapping. For instance, ACC is still in charge in Rome, but AGO has moved into the old Ministry of Corporations Building and it is described as an "advance unit" dealing only with problems of areas handed back to the Italians. The article goes on to describe the departure of General MacFarlane and its alleged cause, but as his absence continues and London is saying nothing this indicates something contradictory to the medical story. He adds that in Rome and in Northern Italy there is strong Communist feeling, but leading political figures working in the underground movement in Northern Italy are not being disclosed by the Allied authorities in case the Republicans and Nazis take reprisals.

1349

COCKER (UP): Col. Poletti had a 45 minute private audience with the Pope and then presented to persons of his staff. It is estimated that since fall of Rome at least 100,000 Allied soldiers have had audiences and 3,000 rosaries have been distributed with 100,000 photos. During same period about 50 high ranking officers including generals have been received.

1319

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DAY ("Baltimore Sun") : Carries an account of alleged murders of civilians by the Germans at Guardiagrele. Major Carl Kalt, 34th officer said he saw about 60 bodies. Some were partisans and others were civilians murdered in revenge for the shooting of 6 German soldiers.

(This story has been sent by several correspondents, one of them adding that American Army photographers are taking pictures as evidence).

DARNE (UP) : P one is going to Castelgandolfo to look over. A special Allied commission has been appointed to assess the war damage at the palace. They are expected to arrive there tomorrow (Monday) and repairs will commence almost immediately.

It is reported that Mussolini has removed the Prefects of Genoa, Milan, Turin, Asti and Pavia.

BRIA (AP) : Col. Poletti, after 1 year's experience of AMG is convinced that the Allies must remain in Italy after there at least until Italians decide what form of Govt. they want. Italy's reconstruction must be by Allied loans. The Allies would be doing Italy a great disservice by pulling up and moving out on Armistice Day. Under Fascism ordinary citizen could never see high officials, but C-i. Poletti is trying to do the opposite. Poletti, in spite of his Italian ancestry has no special feeling for Italy and the Italians. If he had the choice he would rather work in Greece or Poland.

Winston Burdett, broadcasting yesterday, describes how the American troops employ their time in visiting Rome. Nothing very much has been done to encourage them in the city, and their presence is a problem both for the Romans and ourselves.

HOFFMAN ("Chicago News"): General Poletti who has been arrested by AMG is engaged to a Mrs George Nelson, (nee Marjorie Grace Bertaine). She is divorced and has 3 children, her former husband still living in Rome. She maintains that Poletti was forced by the Nazis to undertake the trip to Dyan Sasso.

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/R/10

TREND OF COPY FILED BY CORRESPONDENTS

July 3, 1944

BERGH ("Goteborgs Handelstidning")
Thousands of refugees have already left Rome and others are awaiting impatiently to get back to such places as Albano, Ariccia, Genzano, Frascati and Velletri. About 50% of those who return find 90% of their houses quite uninhabitable. It is now confirmed that the Germans were responsible for the burning of the two galleys from Lake Nemi. The ships' bronzes had, however, been previously removed. Thousands of Czechs, Jews, Greeks and Italian partisans are now said to be coming back to Rome, many of them with false papers. At least 1 million genuine identity cards are in existence, but a large proportion of them made out in false names. During the German occupation some wealthy Italians had as many as 6 of these cards. There is a tendency in Italy now to condemn "nationalism" and to substitute "Europeanism."

SEVAREID (Columbia Broadcasting)
We now have a refugee problem in reverse. Thousands of those sent South are now drifting back to their homes in Central Italy now that war has passed.

ROPER (UP)
Repeats the story of the murder of 60 inhabitants of Guardistillo by the Germans in revenge for the killing of 6 Germans. Victims include partisans as well as unoffending villagers.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)
General MacFarlane's departure given rise to the rumour that he will be replaced and that there will be a change of policy in the sense of reduced readiness of the Allies to return liberated areas back to the Italians. In Italian eyes General MacFarlane was the key man.
Italian Cabinet yesterday fixed penalties for failure to deliver grain to the People's Granaries. There will be imprisonment up to 6 years and fines equivalent to 20 times the value of any grain withheld. A quarterly Budget has been announced until such time as an Annual Budget is possible. A special rank is to be made for Carabinieri who have shown aptitude in the last 3 years. After 1 month's liberation Italian Government still anxious to know when they will be permitted to open up in Rome. Apart from the fact that news services between Rome and Salerno are non-existent. An instance of what this means is seen in the fact that only one Rome paper published the Agenda of the meeting. Everything is complicated by the fact that there are both AMG and ACC in Rome, as well as Rome Area Command and various other commands. Italians are dazed by the variety of Allied authorities to look after such matters as epuration, requisitioning, publications, and education. Allied authorities themselves are convinced of the desirability of re-opening Italian Ministries to simplify relations. The Allied Advisory Council has discussed this point but the decision remains with London and Washington.

LYONS ("Stars & Stripes") to "Stars & Stripes" - New York.
Denies that they have a feeling that discrimination is being exercised in issuing American political news, but that the news permitted is dull and unin[illegible]

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LYONS ("Stars & Stripes") to "Stars & Stripes" - New York.
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COOPER ("Daily Express")
The story on Colonel Rocke is still withheld. Decision rests with Foreign Office, London.

UHL (PM)
Sends a long account of a visit to a Partisan refugee camp at Bari. Descriptive and favourable.

SCHMID (Gazette de L ausanne)
Political developments of past weeks show that the victory over the Monarchistes was not real. Even if the Allies did not put pressure on Bonomi, it w as evident they would not tolerate a weakening of the position of the Monarchy as was intended by the parties of the Committee of Liberation.

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TUCKER (PA)

Major Paul D. Schriver, Regional Property Control officer for Rome announced that the holdings of more than 40 American firm s, representing investments in Rome of approximately 30 million dollars have been assessed and inventoried. Statements will be submitted to the owners in due course. He said some firms are already operating at a profit. Not one cent worth of damage sustained. The firms include American Express, Barclays Bank, Eastman Kodak, General Electric, Western Electric, Italian American Bank and many large film companies. The banks which are solvent had a combined capital of 33 million Lire with deposits of 75 million Lire. An American-British dog track had been closed by the Germans. 68 out of the 300 dogs were surviving and it wa s hoped to re-open and give the profits to the American/British/Italian Red Cross.

BURKE WALSH (Catholic Syndicate)

This correspondent has filed three articles on the restoration of Cassino Monas tery and as there are many interesting details the story is given at some length.

Removal of rubble is to start as soon as workmen are available. To commence with, at least, Italian soldiers will be used. Their work will only be a first aid measure to clear away the top rubble. It is planned to have a group of the monks . return to guard . anything found. They may have to live in tents for some time but the Allied authorities are encouraging them as there has already been some pilfering. The 80 year old Abbott will live in a near by town. Major de Wald, Fine Arts Sub-Commission, considers that the work really amounts to rebuilding more than restoration, the foundations being the only part of the old structure us able. Tombs of St. Benedict and St. Scholastica considered to be intact as they were below ground. The bronze doors not yet found after prolonged search. Major de Wald and his ACC staff have made intense searches. They were in place when the monks finally left on February 17th, and if not found can only be concluded Germans took them. Considered that many bodies of refugees will be found. Major de Wald strongly urged a permanent guard. The Poles did so at first but Italian soldiers eventually took over. A richly orna mented cane belonging to a formerr Bishop of Naples had been found on a German officer and handed over to General Anders - Polish C.in.C. who will hand it back to the community, and ACC has been very energetic in its efforts to guard such relics. The library is safe but private archives of the Prince of Piedmont are under the ruins. Two cases of literary relics of Keats and Shelley were brought safely to Rome.

Last October the Germans asked the Abbott to evacuate the Monastery but the latter refused. Gradually however some of the monks withdrew and some remained to care for the refugees. By December the Nazis had established a neutral zone of 300 yards about the Abbey and promised not to enter this zone. They broke this promise and gradually drew nearer. But they never seemed to have . established an observation post actually in the Monastery, but on the hillside below and to one side of it. The Abbott himsel has made a written statement that there were never any German soldiers within the precincts of the Monastery, and three gendarmes were near by to see that the neutral zone was respected. These were later withdrawn. During October and November, 1943, most of the treasures were evacuated. But all could not be salvaged. From eye witness accounts it is known that at ARPINO on April 21 at a gala military dinner Germans paraded in copes, chasubles and other articles of the sacred wardrobe, and on the same occasion certain of the table

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Last October the Germans asked the Abbott to evacuate the Monastery but the latter refused. Gradually however some of the monks withdrew and some remained to care for the refugees. By December the Nazis had established a neutral zone of 500 yards about the Abbey and promised not to enter this zone. They broke this promise and gradually drew nearer. But they never seemed to have established an observation post actually in the Monastery, but on the hillside below and to one side of it. The Abbott himself has made a written statement that there were never any German soldiers within the precincts of the Monastery, and three gendarmes were near by to see that the neutral zone was respected. These were later withdrawn. During October and November, 1943, most of the treasures were evacuated. But all could not be salvaged. From eye witness accounts it is known that at ARPINO on April 21 at a gala military dinner Germans paraded in copes, chasubles and other articles of the sacred wardrobe, and on the same occasion certain of the table decorations were recognised as from the Monastery. Correspondent has himself seen the hand printed invitations to this festival addressed to Nazi officers for "a small gentlemen's evening" the officers calling themselves "the Brothers of St. Benedict". The seal on these invitations was of sealing wax with strips of linen from stoles or maniples and items on the menu had a Cassino flavour. Each officer was asked to bring some "decoration" from the Monastery. The correspondent gives generous praise to the Polish troops who captured the Monastery. At the time of their attack the Germans were relieving their troops. Instead of meeting 3 regiments, the Poles encountered 9.

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/R/10 July 5, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

The visit of Mr. Stimson, Secretary of War, figures prominently. He has refused interviews with war correspondents and there is some speculation as to the purpose of his visit.

KILGALLEN (INS): Mr Stimson made it clear we are not in Rome as conquerors but as deliverers and that the bringing of coal and supplies was more a symbol of desire to help Italy. (A train load of coal - the first to arrive by rail - was in the station). Mr. Stimson and his party had come by special train. He descended at Cassino for a 45 minute visit. The journey from Naples took 7 hrs. 26 mins, including the 40 minute stop. Colonel Polletti joined the train on the outskirts of Rome. Various correspondents describe the scene on the Piazza Venezia at the ceremony of lowering the Stars and Stripes which had flown over the Capitol at Washington at the time of Pearl Harbor, while one correspondent-photographer has recorded the scene in colour film.

BUMBY ("Times"): Exactly one month after the Allied occupation of Rome railway communication was re-established. American engineers, together with Italian labour, had finished the job 5 days ahead of schedule.

KORMAN ("Chicago Tribune") : When hot water was turned on at the Grand Hotel for the first time since General Mansell's visit there was some guessing as to whom the distinguished visitor might be. Prominent among the guesses was Charlie MacCarthy and President Roosevelt.

MATTHEWS (Times" N.Y.) : Gives due credit to AMG for getting in the coal.

MORGAN ("Chicago News") has started a series of 4 articles on handling civilian problems in Rome and the mistakes we are committing and which may help us to lose the peace. As the war proceeds we are getting the Italian people ready for peace. Here is where the controversy lies. Are we helping Italy to make legitimate preparations for a better life ? The Romans are now watching the "liberators" very closely and comparing them with the Germans. As from the beginning of time soldiers were careless. The 5th Army made some mistakes, as at Naples. Too many hotels were requisitioned; cars were snapped up "for military purposes"; housewives lost their maids to officers with generous views of wage scales who set themselves up in elegant apartments. But the really serious deficiencies were (i) Purging of Fascists and, (ii) What to do with the partisans. The Fascists comprise a crowd of political, social and economic panderers who were on Mussolini's side of the street, and are now trying ours "with scandalous success". The partisans were ordered to lay down their arms and go home. But as they have a vital stake in the country no real plan for reconstruction can go through without their co-operation. Those who know Fascism say that this emotional energy of the partisans cannot be shut off like closing a tap, and if it is not used up its pent up force will cause an explosion. Rome at present is treating the war with unbelievable detachment. If the Allies want "normal" life the Romans are beating them at their own game. Romans assume us to be miracle men, and certainly AMG's physical accomplishments have been consistently dazzling in bringing in and distributing food supplies.

1845

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TIMES ("Times"): Exactly one month after the Allied occupation of Rome railway communication has re-established. American engineers, together with Italian labour, had finished the job 3 days ahead of schedule.

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In a second article attacks the Roman aristocracy. AMG officers have so much of their time taken up with petty thefts or curfew violations that they have no time for combatting this Fifth column danger. Firms who had made millions under the Fascists had recently begun to give subscriptions to the underground movement "to cover their bets." Although the offices of the Army Intelligence service were in the same building, yet General Solotti had been living there for 3 weeks before he was arrested.

LUMBI ("Times") : Col. Polotti today authorised suspension of 25 Fascist professors from Rome University. Majority have been Ministers or held high appointments in the Corpo rations such as Guiseppe BOTTAI, many years Minister of Education; Giacomo ACERBO, several times Minister of Agriculture; Alio CASTELLI ANI, well known authority on tropical medicine, and Alberto STEFANI, leading economist.

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PACKARD (UP): Interviewed Gigli, the singer. On telling him of the reports of his death he jumped up hastily and touched a piece of iron (the Italian "touch wood") saying, "That is so, such reports will not come true." The tenor stated he was very much alive and anxious to resume his opera work. He thinks that when the newspaper vilification has died down, the real truth will come out. If he had not sung for the Germans hundreds of Italians would have been jobless. "When I am permitted to sing to American and British soldiers" he said,"I will be singing with my whole heart."

CONGER (UP): Quotes Pietro Nenni in the Socialist "Avanti" that the Allies should control the conduct of French Moroccan troops. There are things which are not permissible even in a conquered country in war time. The ACC is asked to investigate acts in Frosinone Province and take urgent measures without which nobody can be responsible for present or future consequences.

SERIGGE (Reuter) : also touches on this. He gave figures of over a dozen civilians killed and 400 cases of rape but these were cut by Censor.

REILA (INS): Croce said today that he would resign as soon as the Italian government transferred to Rome. He was too old and his health bad.

UHL (PM): Conservatives and Monarchists in Rome are at work in the salons. All sorts of little political parties are creeping up which it is impossible to track down. Most of these think that the underground movement is wicked and that a democratic government in Italy would not work. The Roman aristocracy are the Monarchy's staunchest supporters and their chief job at the moment is to charm high ranking British and American Officers particularly of the ACC & AMG. This is not difficult. They have lovely appartments,servants,good food, and most of them speak English. "The Rome season is in full swing" Even the Carabinieri is carrying on a quiet monarchical propaganda. When Churchill makes speeches in the House of Commons expressing his sympathy for the Italian monarchy one cannot expect British officers on the spot to do anything but smile indul gently on these monarchist activities. Only there are a lot of Italian who just don't like it.

POPOFF(Basler Nachrichten) : As a neutral who has seen both [illegible] Allied Armies in Rome makes some comparisons. The

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POPOFF (Basler Nachrichten) : As a neutral who has seen both German and Allied Armies in Rome makes some comparisons. The degeneracy of the democracies is finally exploded in his mind and he is now quite sure who is going to win this war. The average Allied soldier is far more cheerful and has more individuality than the German soldier. There is no doubt of the better equipment possessed by the Allies and of its overwhelming nature. It is also technically more up to date.

SPRIGGE (Reuter): Allied Govts. now suggest that full terms of Armistice be made public. Objection to this really came from Badoglio who wished to get some of the terms changed. The Bonomi Govt. has not yet replied. Anti-Bonomi circles feel that he will never come to Rome and that Orlando should form a Cabinet with Badoglio as War Minister.

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BERGH ("Handelstidning") (Goteborg) : It is especially distressing to see the number of intellectuals in Rome who are without employment.

MATTHEWS ("Times" N.Y.): gives a long account of an interview with Colonel Poletti, who touched on the work of AMG right from the time of the invasion of Sicily. Poletti stressed the usual difficulties of transport, black market and said that objection to the raising of wages was that it might lead to inflation.

SPRIGGE (Reuter) : Turin workers have stopped striking since this brought German reprisals. They now abandon their benches entirely, and the situation is intense.

ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/R10 6 July 1944

Trend of copy filed by Correspondents

ELGART (New York Herald Tribune): Col Rowell, AMG Education Officer, discussing the apuration of professors from Rome University, says that Spano is not a member of the Committee, but continues as administrative director of the University. As for Prof. Vassalli, Col Rowell revealed that he had accepted the Professor's resignation but this did not imply that he had been a Fascist. Prof Vassalli will sit as Professor of Civil Law. (These two men had been attacked by the Rome Press as being Fascists who were sitting on the University Committee for apuration). Among the professors who have been expelled are CASTELLANI, Eugenio MORELLI, a tuberculosis specialist, and Nicola PENDA, a gland specialist. The latter had been responsible for the racial manifesto against Jews. Col Rowell said many of those who had been given Chairs through Fascist favouritism will be weeded out. The honeymoon period for Rome appears over. The Rome press is having a wonderful time heckling AMG. "Avanti" is crying out for the Government to be permitted to come to Rome as only an autonomous government functioning from the Capital can tackle the problems of inflation, black market and prostitution. Poletti's measures are proving more difficult than was thought. There is increasing dissatisfaction in the Rome press. But Col Rowell says the University must remain above politics.

TUCKER (AP): Friends of CASTELLANI, including many Americans and British, are extremely critical of the steps taken against him. (CUT BY CENSOR).

WICK FOWLER (Dallas Morning News): sends a list of American officers serving at Rome Area Command.

SCANZIANI (Agence Télégraphique): The "Official Gazette" is to resume publication. Newspapers report that Chief Police Commissaire Arturo MUSCO, who displayed great activity with the OVRA, has been arrested.

MORGAN (Chicago News): devotes the third and fourth of his articles to the lack of policy regarding the partisans and to the spirit of compromise which the Allies are adopting. The dangers and difficulties faced by the partisans behind the German lines are not sufficiently realized, although Kesselring himself has made [illegible] point of their activities. They embrace many social

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The psychology of compromise seems to have crawled with the Allied Armies right up Italy from North Africa. A sort of "police department" outlook towards whole populations has developed, on the theory that if we set black "law and order" everything becomes "normal." The result is that issues are becoming more and more confused.

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1343

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We want Italian good - will; they want our good - will. One cannot blame AMG which has had a big load to shoulder in getting civilian life going again. They have been tied down by many directives. But can we now afford this spirit of "compromise" as we draw nearer to Germany? One of the worst mistakes we can commit is to leave Italy too soon.

JOHANNESSON ("Svenska Dagbladet"): Gives some figures on AMG's food efforts and says it must be remembered that Rome has no productive hinterland and that the principal regions from which it formerly obtained supplies have now been partly destroyed. 20,000 soldiers and local volunteer corps are helping in Foggia and Campania where crops are good and a bumper harvest is expected. AMG have provided machinery, carts, gasoline and even footwear for the workers and Rome is looking to these regions as her future "pantry".

NORCROSS (AP) : Exhumation of bodies of 320 people killed by Germans on March 24 will begin next week. Until the exhumation Allied authorities are saying little.

PETROW ("Daily Mail"London) : All medical supplies in SIENA were requisitioned and removed by the Germans.

CENTIGO (ING) SFORZA is preparing an article on Italy and Europe. It is for the "Cosmopolitan" Magazine.

KENNEDY (AP) : A 5,000 word article is offered by an officer of the Carabinieri who was part of the guard over Mussolini during the latter's 45 days incarceration. It appears authentic and contains interesting remarks by the ex-Dictator on his policy. The author wants $ 500.

STURSBERG ( ) : A photo of the Pope broadcasting from his private quarters and taken by the Official Vatican photographer will cost L.25.

MATTHEWS (Times/N.Y.) : There is no doubt that visits of Myron Taylor and Stimson connected with peace proposals. At least 5 diplomatics accredited to Holy See were permanently engaged on the task. The Allies insist on unconditional surrender and approach must be made by the Germans. Pope fears that these terms may lead Allies to a spirit of revenge which must be avoided, although his sympathies are not pro-

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UHLFELT (AP) : A 5,000 word article is offered by an officer of the Carabinieri who was part of the guard over Mussolini during the latter's 45 days incarceration. It appears authentic and contains interesting remarks by the ex-Dictator on his policy. The author wants $ 500.

STURCHERG ( ) : A photo of the Pope broadcasting from his private quarters and taken by the Official Vatican photographer will cost L.25.

MATTHEWS (Times N.Y.) : There is no doubt that visits of Myron Taylor and Stimson connected with peace proposals. At least 5 diplomatics accredited to Holy See were permanently engaged on the task. The Allies insist on unconditional surrender and approach must be made by the Germans. Pope fears that these terms may lead Allies to a spirit of revenge which must be avoided, although his sympathies are not pro-Nazi. He also still feels Russian anti-religious feeling.

NORGARD (AP): Generals Clark and Juin and Brig.Hume,AMG visited SIENA yesterday, and lunched there. Town is unharmed.

CHESTER (AP)

DAY ("Baltimore Evening Sun") Approximately 2,000 pictures and sculptures from as far away as Naples, Milan and Venice, are stored at the Vatican. They include priceless works by Titian, Raphael and Tintoretto. The Vatican states that many were transferred "under the intervention of the German military forces" who also sometimes provided transport.

/ Burke

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

1333

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BURKE WALSH (Catholic Syndacate) : has visited ASSISI and sends a reassuring article on the situation. No damage. German commander himself took over protection treasures which are intact. At FOLIGNO however the Germans attempted to blow up the Municipio and Cathedral, but had no time to do so. There has been some damage to the Cathedral from bombing, while the Church of Nunziatella is damaged beyond repair. The Vatican has offered its transport to take refugees to the South, back loading agricultural products for the city. Many of these lorries were used to bring in supplies from Florence before the fall of Rome and some had been the object of air attacks.

PACKARD (UP): All Vatican employees to have their salaries increased, both clerics and laymen. Since the war these have been raised 3 times. At present Cardinals receive 7,000 lire per month. ($70).

ADVANCED HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/R10 7 July 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

CHINIGO (INS): Allied purge has included notorious pro-Nazi radio broadcaster Prince Sanfaustino, son of late Jane Campbell of New York and Prince Francesco Raspoli, whose wife belongs to a wealthy Brazilian family. Raspoli is said to be on close terms with Gestapo circles.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS): "Osservatore Romano" has indicated its strong disapproval of the conduct of certain Allied troops in liberated Italy. (CUT BY CENSOR: According to sources close to the Italian Govt many criminal assaults against women and several acts of looting and violence were committed last month in the Province of Frosinone.) The Vatican paper admits that disciplinary action has been taken, but observes that punishment is not enough after the act. Either they submit to the same discipline as others or they must not be allowed to have contact with the civil population.

BIGART (New York Herald Tribune): Gives the same account and adds that the acts took place at MONTEFIASCONE, North of Viterbo. At SIENA the French took precautions and hurried these Moroccan troops around the city, leaving only a small garrison within.

JOHNSON (UP): At CIVITELLA partisans killed 3 Germans. As a reprisal the latter sent flame-throwing tanks into the village and set fire to the whole village. They also machine-gunned inhabitants.

KENNEDY (AP): Mon. Enrico PUCCI's Vatican news service says it is understood in Vatican circles that Cardinal ASCALESI has submitted his resignation as Archbishop of Naples. This is reported to be because he is considered by AMG as pro-Fascist. He is, however, not pro-Fascist, but has always endeavoured to look after the welfare of his diocese. It is a fact that the Allied authorities obstructed his journey to Rome.

1841

CHINIGO(INS): Has started a "Persecution Series". First one is by His Excellency Dante ALMANZI, President of the Union of Jewish communities in Italy. He alleges that 50 kilograms of pure gold, or 200 Hebrews' heads, were demanded of him by a German Major, named KAPNER, at the German Embassy. The gold was found. He also says that the Community Library Centre of the Rebbi College was raided, and that 2,500,000 lire and all documents were stolen.

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

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SEWAREID (CBS - July 6): Col Poletti, Allied Governor of Rome, told Italians over the radio last night that the process of epuration must go slowly as we are trying to be just as well as firm with the men who ruled Italy, but we want Fascist methods to disappear as well as the Fascists themselves. Poletti thanked the Vatican for its aid to Rome. He also thanked Italians for their cooperation and also for their criticism as well as their praise. He pointed to the current accomplishments; running water is back; telephone service started; railway connection with Naples; bread ration doubled and fruit and vegetables now coming in.

Correspondent adds: not all those arrested are Italians; one just taken is a former British Army colonel named Cyril Rooke who was devoted to Mussolini and is said to have tutored Il Duce in English.

/ KEPPLER

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KEPPLER (Bundreduktion): Roman newspapers talk a lot of purification but it seems Allied and Italian Govts take different points of view on the subject. Allies intend to discharge all those made officials, punish those guilty of acts of terror towards anti-Fascists and confiscate property of those who have misused power to accumulate wealth. Italian Govt intends to punish all those who marched on Rome and were representatives for the abolition of constitutional rights. It is not easy for a neutral to understand the Italian political situation. Of the six parties nobody knows whether they correspond with the major current political feelings of the masses. "Avanti" deplores that no work is provided for the masses. Nobody works in factories, nobody in the administration, nor in the building yards.

POPOFF (Basler Nachrichten): Allied authorities in Rome are resenting the Pope's constant preaching of a "peace of understanding" with Germany. The Pope has been constant in this at all audiences with British and American officials and high officers, as well as with troops. It is pointed out that the Pope made energetic protests whenever a Catholic church was damaged. It is hoped that in future the Pope will refrain from this as there is now no further chance of such a peace.

R. MOWRER (Chicago News): Rome anti-Fascists much disturbed by survival and continued freedom of Fascist elements.

KORMAN (Chicago Tribune): is making constant reports on the amount of political news permitted in "Stars and Stripes" and the type of news.

GUGLIELMO EMANUEL (INS Staff Correspondent) reports that the bombing of the Vatican on 5 Nov 1943 was done by a certain Sergt RENATO PARMIGIANI. He flew a Marchetti Savoia 81 from Padova airfield.

MATTHEWS (New York Times): Says the bomb was British, the plane German, and the pilot an Italian aristocrat, closely connected with Farinacci. Germans, who had loudly denounced the outrage as by the Allies, were furious when they found out the truth, but had to keep up the deception. It is said the Vatican will release the real story, probably at the end of the war.

PACKARD (UP): Bonomi Govt has announced that the Italian Air Force has received material and equipment to enable Italian aviators shortly to go into action. It is not specified

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PACKARD (UP): Somoni Govt has announced that the Italian Air Force has received material and equipment to enable Italian aviators shortly to go into action. It is not specified whether material is British or American, or both, but chiefly believed to be American. Rome press is delighted at the news.

DAY (Baltimore Sun): Through efforts of Col Rowell, AMG Education officer, more than 25 shows, largely comedies, have been put on in Rome per month. These are primarily for civilians. Symphony concerts have also been given. Funds for these concerts are loaned by AMG through normal civilian channels - i.e. Ministry of Education and the commune.

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ADVANCED HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/R10

8 July 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

BIGART ("New York Herald-Tribune")

On their own responsibility and without previous consultation with the Swiss Govt. Allied officials in Rome entered the German Embassy on June 8 and discovered 1,400 lbs explosives concealed in an underground cellar in an old Roman wall. It was made clear that no negligence attaches to the Swiss Minister in charge of German property. Allied officials had received word that sabotage agents had been drawing explosives from this Embassy cache. Normally the Swiss Minister would be obliged to consult Berne before admitting a search party. Rome Area officers descended on the Embassy pausing only to notify the Swiss Minister a search would take place, and taking a Swiss representative along with them as diplomatic observer. Besides the 1400 lbs explosives, there were fuses and material for 5 radio transmitters. Five days were required to remove the material and while some was being taken away a car load of incendiaries mysteriously caught fire. There were some minor explosives in the Embassy grounds but nothing serious. An inventory was made of all items removed and this was handed to the Swiss Minister, and when the search was completed the premises were once more handed back to the protecting power. The explosives were weighted and sunk in the Tiber.

Most correspondents have sent this story, but BIGART is the only one who touches on the "own responsibility" side of the Allied authorities.

CHICCO (INS)
PACKARD (UP) : Mario Vitiello, founder of the OVRA and Gesualdo Barletta, an inspector of this secret police organization, have been arrested.

CONGER (UP) and most correspondents.

Mr. Stimson gave press conference yesterday. He said the purpose of his visit was to contact officers and men of the United States army in the field and get a first hand knowledge of conditions. He would make no prophecies about the end of the war.

COOK ("Newsweek- N.Y.") in his account says that the "Grand Hotel" was simply surrounded with police and military, as well as secret [illegible] which must have made the Italians think

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1840

COCH ("Newsweek- N.Y.") in his account says that the "Grand Hotel" was simply surrounded with police and military, as well as secret service agents, precautions which must have made the Italians think of Mussolini's days. The presence of Major General Surles, public relations Officer of the War Department, gave correspondents a chance to get a list of "squawks" off their chests afterwards. Apparently correspondents had already presented a petition complaining that there is no transportation of any consequence; communications in Rome are fair, but there are big difficulties in getting copy to Rome from outside, the radio breaking down at inopportune moments. Last recent incident was taking of Siena. They urged closer liaison with 5th and 8th Armies to facilitate coverage. They protested against the failure to brief correspondents on the Elba landing, only a few correspondents having been aware. They wanted promises of briefing for future operations. Some PRO's had a tendency to become press agents to one General, one army,

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and even to insist on the motion of that army in all copy. There were plenty of people representing the Armies; correspondents wanted someone to represent them to the Army. A petition had been sent to Brig. General Frisson Tupper. They also complained of the facilities of their hotel (de Ville) its mess being one of the worst in the city. They were not interested in "sex" and the embargo on ladies should be lifted so that they could entertain both male and female news sources.

R. HOWARD ("Chicago News")

Quotes at some length from the Risorgimento Liberale on the treatment of partisans and its plea that they be given recognition for the work, or a chance to become regular soldiers. When they were behind the enemy lines they were incited to revolt and sabotage and were afterwards told to give up their arms and go home. These partisans were the most courageous Italians. While certain exigencies are recognized in the handing over of arms, yet no provision has been made for the partisans and assistance for their dependents. Must they exist on charity as in the days of their clandestine activity? It is true there are some "false partisans", but the Allied and Italian Authorities have the means of exposing these. Correspondent adds that a number of political leaders in Italy have pointed out to him the demoralising effect of the present Allied policy on partisans still in enemy held territory.

DAY ("Baltimore Sun") Continues his theme on the dangers inherent in accepting many members of the Roman aristocracy at their name and "salon" value. One month ago American armed reconnaissance was probing on the outskirts of Rome. Now prominent Romans "armed in silks and perfumes" are probing Allied forces in Rome to discover if the moment is opportune for husbands, brothers, fathers and sons to come into the open as forces of democracy. They have centuries of social experience behind them. So great families are of this set. By marriage they are international. Responsible AMG/ACC officers refuse all invitations on principle. A young Allied officer who on the day we entered Rome was greeted in English by a well dressed middle-aged lady, found himself at lunch with a group of people who, during the soup course were taken into arrest as Fascists! This is merely a minor case. To achieve success we must show the masses that we act in good will and every Allied officer or man seen in fascist company makes this task harder.

MATTHEWS ("Times, N.Y.")

Someone has suggested that AMG get out a new Italian social register - a mildly flippant way of keeping unsuspecting Allied officers

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Berch ("Gotborgs Handelstidning")
The paper "New Italy" supports Prince Umberto. Many Italians wish Orlando to return. It is reckoned Bonomi will change some of his ministers on arrival in Rome. Orlando is in Sicily to discuss Sicilian autonomy. Rumoured Badoglio will go to Washington as Ambassador. Freemasons, after 20 years suppression, have now entered political field.

Spanish correspondents have now started filing copy. Their attitude at present is cautious, a little flattering to the Allies and somewhat flowery. Delegation National Press, Madrid and "YA" Madrid are at present the only papers covered.

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/R/10 July 9, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

INGRAHAM ("Time"): Has filed a long despatch, much of it dealing with life in the Vatican during the German occupation, but part is devoted to an interview with Colonel Poletti who made the following remarks on work and wages in the Rome Area. Wages are admittedly low considering rising prices, but Poletti tells workers the solution is not an increase in wages, but lower prices when we can get additional supplies into the country. To boost wages would simply mean inflation. In Sicily he had granted a flat 70% increase based on the existing cost of living. The same was done in Naples subsequently he had granted public utility workers an additional rise because they had been working under a collective bargaining agreement negotiated in 1929 which the Fascists never revised. In Rome, Poletti approved wage scales provided in existing collective bargaining agreements, and he says that not a single delegation has approached him on wage complaints yet. The wage controversy between AMG and Gen. Alexander's H.Q., involved only a small number of civilians, clerks, stenographers, messengers and chauffeurs. AMG wanted to pay the same scale as paid in Rome under existing collective bargaining agreements, but Alexander's HQ demurred and took the stand that rates should be at the lower Naples levels. This is only a small patch in the whole problem. Poletti admits there is considerable unemployment in Rome but thinks it is not grave compared with what we encountered in Naples where industries were destroyed through bombing or which had to shut down as they were purely war industries. Poletti says that in Sicily and parts of Southern Italy there is actually a labour shortage, chiefly agricultural. In Naples it is chiefly mechanics and artisans who did not want farm work, and who dislike leaving their families or moving them to agricultural districts. Poletti has tried to ameliorate with public works, but he is unable as yet to detail the scope and cost of this. It will probably include buildings, bridges, repair of the River Tiber banks, all of which work was frozen by the Fascists some months ago. This will be done as a first step. Speaking of the Italian Govt. Colonel Poletti said that it will not be a functional Govt. for at least 6 months after its arrival in Rome. In addition to getting stuff it must also carry out epuration. Poletti challenged the criticism that AMG had been slow in weeding out Fascists. On the contrary some Italians thought it was too fast and vigorous. The Italian Govt. Committee will require years, not months, to complete its work as each case is tried separately and in a formal legal manner.

STUART ("New York Herald-Tribune")
DAY ("Baltimore Sun")

An Italian Catholic Action group had denounced the unseemly behaviour of some Italian women in Rome. It asks for the exercising of control over entertainments and spectacles of every kind, and wants a wider film censorship so include theatres and halls of facilities. AMG officers however say that Venereal disease is well under control and the incidence is negligible compared with Naples. The closing of licensed brothels by AMG has drawn protests from Italians as they foresee an increase of soliciting in the streets. They mention the AMG drinking restrictions which have been imposed.

1839

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

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KENT ("Chicago Tribune") gives an account of a visit of himself, some colleagues and various Allied officers to the house of a Roman aristocrat "somewhere behind the Coliseum." There were British, American, South African, Canadian and Australian officers present, as well as princesses, duchesses, countesses. The whole was a picture of luxury with white coated servants. He was told that much of the food had been provided from Army stores. There was whisky & cocktails. This naive Allied party was used as a depot into democracy. AMG officers know this sort of thing goes on nightly and they are working as fast as possible. But each case must be judged separately and not by clichés.

BRLA (AP) : Italian Govt. moves to Rome on July 15. HQ., AMG will be swelled by the Allied Advisory Council for Italy which will function from Rome as from the same date. The return of the Govt. does not mean that the capital will be given to the Italian administration. It will remain under AMG.

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

BURKE WELSH (Catholic Syndicate) sends a summary (not for publication) on a movement of "Catholic Communists". It has its own paper "Voce Operaie" and members declare themselves obedient Sons of the Church, claiming that Communism, stripped of all its materialism is an expression of reality which cannot be overlooked.

In a further article the same correspondent quotes Colonel Poletti as saying "I feel obliged to thank religious authorities for support and help given to AMG from the very beginning."

SPRIGGS (Reuter): During first month of liberation material situation of Rome has much improved. The Allied authorities have reaped unstinted credit. Water, light, food are improving. There are, however, 200,000 unemployed and they make shift as best they can as porters, navvies &c. Rome's central areas give a wrong impression of prosperity, but the distress is no way comparable to that which existed in Naples. Allied troops in Rome are better behaved. Mentions that the partisans are a big problem. The present government under Bonomi has only a shadowy existence. The extent to which its proceedings are subject to Allied control gives cause for disenchantment among the Italians. It is an eye opener that all diplomatic conversations between the Italian Govt. and neutral diplomats are subject to the control of the Allied Commission.

PRIA (AP): Minister of Agriculture GULLO has expressed concern over the harvest in Sicily where farmers are being told by agents of the separatist movement not to send in their grain for the mainland. The Allies and the Italian Govt. are to take strong measures. Gullo says the great landowners are behind the movement for their own private gain. He added that it was too early to estimate the crop, but it might be insufficient for the country's needs since the cultivation surface had been reduced by war and there was a lack of fertilisers.

D'HOSPITAL (Transpress): The Vatican has started a journal in arabic for the native troops with the French forces in Italy.

JOHNSON:

Perugia was bombed for the first time in the war by German planes. There were several casualties and troops are still digging out victims.

SPRIA (AP): Quotes Pietro Nenni in "Avanti" who says that it cannot escape the sagacity of President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill that the moment has come to reconsider the Italian armistice. This is in the interests of Italian democracy. This correspondent also quotes "Giorgio Amendola" in saying "Is it true that the sacrifices of the partisans is not considered a sufficient cause for a revision of the armistice.

SCHMID ("Stockholms Dagblad du Lausanne"): Italian circles very satisfied that Govt. will move to Rome. Work of partisans justifies abrogation of the armistice terms in Italian eyes. The Italian press wants the armistice terms published so that Italians may know under what conditions they will have to live and can start reconstruction, but the Italian people as a whole should not have to bear the whole blame of Fascist misdeeds.

PADWARD (AP): German ambassador to Holy See has again protested at the favourable treatment received the Allies by the Pope, as well as against the acceptance of Czech and Hungarian representatives to the Holy See.

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

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BACKARD (UP): German ambassador to Holy See has again protested at the favourable treatment accorded the Allies by the Pope, as well as against the acceptance of Dutch and Hungarian representatives to the Holy See.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times"): has interviewed the leading Rabbi of Rome on the treatment of Jews by Fascists and Nazis. The Italians did not interfere with Jews to any great extent, but persecution started when the Germans arrived. Rabbi spoke of Col. Polotti as "a grand man with extraordinary intelligence". He has told Polotti the Jewish community in Rome are mainly small traders and artisans and have no large controlling interests. The community has lost about 40 to 50% of its members. It needs reconstruction from the bottom up and appeals to American Jews for assistance.

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ADVANCED HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/R 10

10 July 1944

Trend of Correspondents's Copy

BIGART (New York Herald-Tribune)

Major de Wald, Fine Arts Sub-Commission states that Breughel's masterpiece "The Blind Leading the Blind " is missing from the collection sent for safe keeping to the Vatican from Cassino Monastery. The picture was originally in the Naples Museum but was removed from there to Cassino when Naples came into the battle area.From Cassino this picture and many others were afterwards sent to Spoleto and finally to the Vatican. Major de Wald thinks it is not a casual loss, but intentional.

GARDNER (Daily Telegraph)
CONOVER (UP)

Details regarding Colonel Rocke have now been permitted. Col. Rocke was first encountered when the British took Perugia. He met American CAC's and offered all possible assistance and was apparently for the time being persona grata. He had appeared in a British officer's service dress with a steel helmet covered with camouflage netting. He explained that he had not been sent to Germany with other internees at the time of the Italian armistice because he had been taken ill.He had been allowed to live in a hotel, reporting three times a day to the Italian police. Other British and American internees had received similar treatment. He remained in Perugia for some days after its capture and then asked AMG for military transport to take him to Rome where he owns property. He was given a car and a military escort and went to Rome where he was seen in the streets by old friends and acquaintances to whom he talked quite freely. Two days later Allied military security officers asked him to go to HQ. for questioning. Rocke made a full and detailed statement concerning his activities in Italy since the war. Allied security officers say they are holding Col. Rocke on unspecified charges . This is the first known case of what the United Nations plan to do with their nationals who have given "aid and comfort" to the enemy.

1838

MATTHEWS (New York Times)

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1838

MATTHEWS (New York Times)
BIGART (New York Herald Tribune)
DIXON (AP)

Col. Egbert White, Publications Officer, "Stars & Stripes" has been relieved of his post and has gone to Algiers. The "Stars & Stripes" has been turned over to the War department. The present crisis has long been going on behind the scenes. Col. White has tried to get untrammeled news from UP and AP, particularly of American political events, but there are other factors. These include some of the cartoons by Mauldin which some authorities thought gave too much glorification to the fighting men to the detriment of those behind the lines. Letters of soldiers sometimes contained criticism

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of officers, while one high officer recently protested at the printing of the story of a marriage celebrated between an American Army nurse with an enlisted man. The nurse holds officer rank and was not supposed to associate with an enlisted man. The members of the staff were sergeants, corporals and privates, and they feared to say anything against officers. There has also been a conflict between the paper and IBS. Major General Arthur Wilson of PWB resented criticism of his organization. In addition some of the editorial comment in the free supplements of "Colliers" and "Saturday Evening Post" were considered to be too controversial and to have angered high officers, but it is also thought that other magazines who were not permitted to give free supplements were becoming jealous.

NORMAN (Chicago Tribune)

Says that it now seems that "Stars & Stripes" will be turned over to Public Relations officers of the Army. They could not provide correspondents with a decent mess until a protest was made and Rome Area Command stepped in.

MATTHEWS (New York Times)

Cesare Rossi, thought to have been closely concerned with the murder of Matteotti has now been arrested. He was arrested last December by Allied authorities and later released. This time he has been arrested by the Italian authorities.

BERGH (Handelstidning - Goteborg)

quotes "Arvard". What is the use of the government coming to Rome if Allied permission is necessary even when a porter is wanted. It is absolutely necessary to provide work for the unemployed. Thousands of partisans are now returning from the mountains. They are thoroughly disillusioned because they can find no work and there is not even the possibility of entering the army. The emigration cry is heard everywhere. No work - no raw materials. "Then let us emigrate". It is expected that Bonomi intends to form a small consultative including delegates of all six parties. It is believed that a plebiscite would give 50:50 for the Monarchy and Republic, but the church is in favor of the Monarchy.

COOPER (Daily Express)

Has had an interview with Gigli at the Sforza villa. The singer reiterates his desire to sing to American and British troops and is just as insistent that he will never sing to the Italians again. A photo of Gigli which has appeared in an Italian paper with the words "For my German comrades" under

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1349

Serious.

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SCOTTI (Daily Express)

Has had an interview with Gigli at the Tuscan villa. The singer reiterates his desire to sing to American and British troops and is just as insistent that he will never sing to the Italians again. A photo of Gigli which has appeared in an Italian paper with the words "For my German comrades" under his autograph is a forgery. It was in German and he does not know that language.

SEVERED (ONS)

Says in a broadcast that American negro troops in Rome are particularly well liked by the Italians. They are always smiling and so gentle with children. Italians love people who smile.

TRIA (AP)

Quotes at some length from Togliatti's speech at the theatre of Santo Stefano Maggiore. Togliatti's speech was punc-

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1837

taunted with cries of "Down with the Monarchy". Togliatti said that the Italian government must strive to re-open factories and relieve unemployment; that the partisans should be permitted to join the Italian army and operate under Italian command. When the terms of the armistice are published, he told his audience, many illusions will be shattered. Italy can only rise again with weapons in her fist with which to drive out the Germans. The attitude of Italian communism to the Catholic Church was summed up by Togliatti - we respect the Catholic Church and ask Catholics to respect our faith and symbols.

WARSH (National Catholic Welfare Service

The Vatican took over the 13 vehicles belonging to the Societe Generale Immobiliare di Lavori di Utilita ed Agricola so that the Germans were not able to confiscate them. These vehicles were used in building maintaining and equiping the soup kitchens organized by the Vatican. In addition the Vatican ran the Circle of St. Peter and the Onarmo (National Work for Moral and Religious Assistance to Workmen) The latter organization concerned itself chiefly with giving hot meals to workers in industrial plants, without which they would not have been able to carry on heavy work. Pets are one of the chief things missing from Italian workers' diets at present. It has been found that the number of those availing themselves of the Vatican free meals is undertaking this month, since Allied supplies are now coming in regularly. A total of 85 soup kitchens were open at one period.

LUCEY (Times)

Sends a long political despatch. It is expected that when the Italian Government moves to Rome Naples will be handed over to them, including Benuvento, Avolino, and other areas of Central Italy. The position will now become much easier. For nine months the Italian Government has been waiting with its hat in its hand to obtain recognition. The Partisans are disillusioned at not being able to help. This is having a bad effect. Quotes "Avanti" that the lack of confidence in Badoglio was comprehensible since he was Fascist, but a similar lack of confidence in a national and democratic government based on the Committee of Liberation is difficult to understand. If this persists the government will be forced to resign. If the Government find their efforts to work their passage do not get better recognition they may become listless and eventually prove nothing but a drag on the Allies. Anglo collaboration should be based on the present as the best opportunity.

1837

MARCH (National Catholic Welfare Service)

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REUTER (Reuter)

Says that Prince Umberto is also taking up residence in Rome. Quoting the "Corriere di Roma" says that the Allied policy is not to govern Italy but to see that the Italians govern themselves in a democratic spirit.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R/10 11 July, 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

DAY

KENT

BIGART (New York Herald-Tribune)

Colonel Poletti has issued a warning to his staff officers not to accept invitations into Roman society without first checking the political background of their host. His security officer has records which are open to any officer desiring to use them. None of his staff is so far compromised, but he only wanted them to be careful. Roman Fascists are "slick articles" he told them and will try only try to get next to Allied officers in order to get car permits, gasoline or other favors. There has been much unfavorable comment regarding Allied officers attending the salons of Roman nobility who are so willy warren with the Fascist brush, and anti-Fascists were shocked to see an American Major General drive to the inauguration ceremony of Prince Doria as Mayor of Rome accompanied by Prof. Aldo Castellani. Doria refused to admit Castellani to the ceremony and Castellani was subsequently removed from the faculty of Rome University. Poletti urged officers to cultivate those anti-Fascists who had risked their lives and retained their faith. AMG officers will be screened by Col. Poletti's security officer who has compiled a card index of 15,000 Fascists and Germanophiles. Poletti quoted the case of a Countess who immediately before our entry was the mistress of a German General and of a Princess known to be among the blackest of Fascists. Both issued invitations to Allied officers almost before the sound of artillery fire had died away from Rome. Mussolini's physician had asked for Allied sponsorship through a public notice appointing him advisor to the military administration of the city.

SERIGGE (Reuter)

General Giambattista Oxilia has been appointed joint Under Secretary for War. He commanded the Venezia Division which resisted the entry of the Germans into Rome last September. Orlando has arrived at Palermo. He had previously visited Bonomi at Salerno. It is hoped he will exercise a pacifying influence in Sicily where tension is said to be mounting. The Italian Government recently rejected Sicily's demand to carry on its own agricultural policy and fix own wheat prices and this has had the worst repercussions since Sicilian farmers in some places have refused to deliver wheat at the uniform Italian prices into the public granaries. Sicilian agriculturists were supported by the High Commissioner Musotto and by leading citizens. The "Risorgimento Liberale"

1836

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None of his staff is so far compromised, but he only wanted them to be careful. Roman Fascists are "slick articles" he told them and will be only try to get next to Allied officers in order to get our permits, gasoline or other favors. There has been much unfavorable comment regarding Allied officers attending the salons of Roman nobility who are heavily tarred with the Fascist brush, and anti-Fascists were shocked to see an American Major General drive to the inauguration ceremony of Prince Doria as Mayor of Rome accompanied by Prof. Aldo Castellani. Doria refused to admit Castellani to the ceremony and Castellani was subsequently removed from the faculty of Rome University. Poletti urged officers to cultivate those anti-Fascists who had risked their lives and retained their faith. All officers will be screened by Col. Poletti's security officer who has compiled a card index of 15,000 Fascists and Germanophiles. Poletti quoted the case of a Countess who immediately before our entry was the mistress of a German General and of a Princess known to be among the blackest of Fascists. Both issued invitations to Allied officers almost before the sound of artillery fire had died away from Rome. Mussolini's physician had asked for Allied sponsorship through a public notice appointing him advisor to the military administration of the city.

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MATTHEWS (New York Times)

The journal "La Voce Repubblicana" suppressed by the Fascists is to reappear. Its reappearance coincides with the return of the Government to Rome. The republican movement is something with which the Government will have to reckon , especially in regions which were formerly Papal domains. It carries on the old Garibaldi tra-

1936

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ditions and there are many other republic n-minded people in the other parties. In the Christian Democrats there is a threat of a split on the Republic/Monarchy question. The Vatican backs the monarchy. The republicans will inevitably come into conflict with those elements among the Allies who are trying to sit on the Italian lid. They want to cooperate in the war against Fascism and a defense of Italian integrity; suppression of capitalistic privileges and alliance with the Allies - not co-belligerency. The Separatist movements in the islands should be treated as treason. The first and greatest problem for Bonomi is the publication of the Armistice terms. They fear severe reaction.

CONGER (UP)

AMG Police Chief, Lt. Col. Pollock announced that all Rome police who served in German or Fascist execution squads are now dismissed as well as police members who accepted decorations from the Germans. The total is only a small one. The actual executioners were all volunteers and were paid lire 400 for each job, but the officers acted under orders and had no choice in the matter.

COOPER (Daily Express)

To put British soldiers on their guard on the strength of Italian wine Ad. Hq. Italy have published a table showing strength.

Red wine	1 litre	= Half bottle of whiskey Half bottle of gin 4½ bottles Canadian beer 8 pints English war time draught beer
White wine	.....	= 2/3 bottle whiskey 2/3 bottle gin 3 3/4 bottles Canadian beer 7½ pints English war time draught beer

The inevitable comment in Italy is "Is English beer so weak then these days?"

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS)

In Rome Italian papers have been asking that the Allied authorities give some definite decision regarding the relations with Italy. The armistice terms may be published in a few weeks. These terms have become a bugbear with the Italians and an extra psychological stone around the Italian Govt's neck. Their publication should at least clear the air, and if any revision can be obtained the Italian Govt. will have a chance to stand on its own feet.

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BIGART (New York Herald-Tribune)

World reaction to the Armistice terms awaited with some apprehension both by Allies and by the Bonomi Govt. Their publication will almost certainly arouse demands for modification. One of the Italian Govt's. most pressing problems is the situation of the partisans. They have been disarmed and not accorded the slightest recognition. Their treatment has shocked anti-Fascist elements and is reacting unfavorably on partisans in the North. Perhaps a solution is to incorporate them in the army and give them a chance to help in liberation. Yet their enlistment campaigns have been discouraged by the Allies. The Bonomi Govt.

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will demand the four freedoms as Italy is now a co-belligerent. One of these at least has been kept; Rome newspapers are displaying remarkable freedom and so far this has not been abused.

UHL (P.M.)

Two most pressing problems are the partisans and epuration. At whatever angle one looks, there must be a definite change in Allied policy, which so far has encouraged the Monarchists and Conservatives, or a crisis in the relations between the Bonomi Govt. and the Allies. Military and political aspects cannot be separated. So long as the Monarchists have the remnants of the Royal Italian Army they can hang on. But the partisans belong to a different world. They think in terms of a new Italy and they are frequently communists. The Allies have encouraged them in underground work and now they want a national Partisan Army. They do not want to enter the Royal Italian Army - not with its present command anyway. One solution might be a purge of the Royal Italian Army so that it would lose its old character and become a real people's army. That would be a task many charming, immeasurably attired generals would have to go, and the second stronghold of Monarchism would have been lost. Meanwhile Northern Italy is reaching saturation point in Fascist mayors, financiers etc. Some of them will perhaps see the light of day and come over to the Allies. What happens in Rome for the next month or two will pretty well set the pattern for what we can expect for the rest of western Europe.

DAY (Baltimore Sun)

Sentiments in favor of continued Allied guidance for a limited period after the war are growing daily stronger in liberated Italy. As Nazi domination ceases it is widely believed that Americans and British should remain at least during the period of the forming of a Constituent Assembly and the first elections. Many Allied officers believe it would be a mistake to get out immediately at the end of hostilities, dropping all programs for the alleviation of the sufferings of the people and withdrawing administrators and technicians working for the reconstruction of the shattered economy. One school of thought maintains that there will be a drift towards some sort of Fascism again if this is done; the other fears that the country will veer too much towards the left. Colonel Poletti says that the people of Rome have succeeded much better than those of Southern Italy in pulling themselves together. But he finds many Italians who want the Allies to stay. Probably this decisiveness on the part of the Romans is due to the many months they spent under Nazi rule when the order of the day was ob-

1835

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1835

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
PRB/R10 ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION 12 July, 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

RALPH HOWARD (Free)

Here in Rome Army Finance officers are having trouble with the large amount of counterfeit lire notes now in circulation. Roman counterfeiters who have been arrested state that the notes are printed in Naples, while the Naples gang insist that the notes are being printed in Rome. Finance officers are the hardest hit, for if they do not detect the forgeries immediately they are held responsible for repayments. At the moment the Blue Seal is worth Lire 240. These Blue Seal dollars arrive with each new batch of army reinforcements.

TUCKER (AP)

The Abbot of Cassino Monastery, Bishop Gregorio Diamare, remains in angry seclusion at the Anselmo College, Via Aventino, Rome, and has refused to see any Allied representative since the arrival of Allied forces in Rome. Before the city fell he posed with German officers for a photo and made statements crying that the Germans entered the Monastery prior to its bombardment. His denouncement of the bombing was broadcast everywhere on the German wireless. It is stated at the College that the Abbot has nothing to add to the statements published by the Germans. Father Domenico Falconio, one of the Monastery fathers, was discovered by an AMG officer ill and lying on a cot in a room crowded with returnees. Father Falconio said the Germans were actually in the Monastery. There was a neutral zone of 300 meters, but gradually the Germans began to show themselves to the Monastery and eventually they had guns and men near the Abbey walls.

1824

HALLOND (Kemsley Press)

The Fascists removed the greater part of the Archives from Rome and this is causing the Italian Govt. much difficulty. The Ministry of the Interior particularly, which controlled the police, supervised the anti-Jewish laws and interned the anti-Fascists. Practically all the files have disappeared.

MATTHEWS (New York Times)

A new political crisis is brewing over the publication of the Armistice terms. As the situation is developing it will be impossible for the Bonomi Govt. not to publish the

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MATTHEWS (New York Times)

A new political crisis is brewing over the publication of the Armistice terms. As the situation is developing it will be impossible for the Bonomi Govt. not to publish the terms and the resultant storm will blow the Govt. away.

KORMAN (Chicago Tribune)
SONGER (UP)

Leading business men of Rome have been named by Col. Poletti for the price control agency to be set up in order to break the black market. The agency will publish lists of maximum prices for certain goods an services and business men are asked to assume responsibility that all merchants conform. The lists will include prices for clothes, liquor, fish, meat, vegetables and cars and services like laundry work. The prices will be posted in prominent places in establishments. Those violating will have their premises put off limits and will face trial in AMG courts.

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[illegible] (New York Times)
[illegible] (UP)
[illegible] (Chicago Tribune)
A commission has been appointed by Col. Poletti to investigate the looting of Italian hostages by the Germans last month. It is headed by Prince Doria Pamphili, Mayor of Rome, and includes four Roman jurists, three American and one British officer &Count Hans Wolf de Salis of International Red Cross.

[illegible] (CBS)
Commenting on the dispute regarding the"Stars and Stripes" said "Our attempt to neutralize Army publications has resulted in sterilizing them until today the only soldiers' paper offering a challenge to the minds of serious soldiers is that issued by our allies -the British"

[illegible] (New York Herald Tribune)
[illegible] (Newsweek)
The"Stars and Stripes" issue centers around Public Law No. 477 which covers publication of controversial matter in Army publications. At present the "Stars and Stripes" is featureless and is getting only material supplied to it by PWB. No copy is being received from the Army News Service.

[illegible] (New York Herald Tribune)
In all about 12 paintings are said to be missing from the collections stored in the Vatican. This was revealed on making an inventory. They are valued at about 3 million dollars and their value will be put on the German reparations bill.

[illegible] (Canadian Press)
In a series of articles on Sicily and particularly Catania says that when the bread ration was increased prices fell almost immediately. Sicilian farmers do not trust the People's Economy . They do not turn in their proper quota and have always held back part in amounts for the black market. Through personal greed, now that AMG is only in Sicily in an advisory capacity, Sicilian farmers are again allowing the black market to succeed. The same applies to olive oil and sugar. Foodstuffs supplied by the Allies are negligible. But communications by road and rail are coming back to normal. In any case a considerable amount of the wreckage of war has been "salvaged" by the Sicilians themselves for their own private use. Politics are a matter for a few individuals with many of the masses apathetic about them. Many of the professional classes who were forced to recognize Fascism in order to exist are now remaining aloof from politics for the time being.

TUCKER (AP)
[illegible] Catholic explorer, was asked

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[redacted] on the Fascist Regime, the Duce's new corps-
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SECRET (New York Herald Tribune)
WOOL (Newsweek)
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People's Economy . They do not turn in their proper quota
and have always had back dent in amounts for the black
market. Through personal greed, now that AMG is only in Sicily
in an advisory capacity, Sicilian farmers are again allowing
the black market to succeed. The same applies to olive oil and
wine. Foodstuffs supplied by the Allies are negligible. But
communications by road and rail are coming back to normal. In
any case a considerable amount of the wreckage of war has
been "salvaged" by the Sicilians themselves for their own
private needs. Politics are a matter for a few individuals
with many of the masses not caring about them. Many of the
professional classes who were forced to recognize Fascism
in order to exist are now remaining aloof from politics for
the time being.

MUCKER (NY)
General Umberto Nobile, the Arctic explorer, was asked
Bonomi to give him a post in order to help in the reconstruction
of Italy. He has never been able to get along with the Fas-
cists and has lived in the United States, Spain and Russia.

TRANSPRESS (London)
Bonomi has arrived in Rome. He has discussed with the
Allied authorities the declaration of the zone to be placed
under civil jurisdiction. A line will be drawn North of Rome
with an area around Naples under exclusively reserved for
the use of the Allies.

STAGE (Gotaborgs Handelstidning)
Malta towns are crowded agricultural labor is scarce de-
spite wages more than four times those of four years ago.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

13 July 1944

TREND of CORRESPONDENTS' COPY

BIGART ("NewYork Herald-Tribune")

Has interviewed Mr. Henry Grady, Chief of Economic Section, ACC., on his forthcoming departure from Rome to return to the United States and take up his post as Chairman of the Federal Trust Bank, San Francisco.

Mr. Grady said that his long term rehabilitation programme for Italy had not been evolved as 85% of the nation's industrial facilities are still in German hands. A few industries had been got going but prior military needs impeded matters. Tools and materials delayed for months through lack of shipping. From the beginning the Commission concerneditself only with industries of direct benefit to war effort. Grady said he had stayed in Italy much longer than he had originally intended. If the Germans carry out destruction in Nothern Italy as thoroughly as they had done so in Naples there was little hope of national recovery in Italy. If mills and factories are spared there is some hope.

Mr. Grady is being succeeded by Col.O'Dwyer who comes to this important post with a limited background of District Attorney to Kings County. Col O'Dwyer's selection has mystified Commission members. Only plausible explanation is that it is a political appointment. 40 civilian experts are en route from Washington to demilitarise ACC, Mr. Grady revealed. The War Department cannot be expected to be a source of civilian supply all the time. Other civilian agencies must cope with Italy's economic future. Probably UNRRA will undertake relief function.

CHINIGO (INS) : In his " Persecution Series" No.4 gives an account of a 24 hour stay in the prison at Via Tasso by Prof.Lucio URBANI, a prominent Roman physician . There is mention of beatings but not of actual torture. 1833

LUMBY "Times" (London)

First Cabinet meeting of Italian Government will be held in Rome on Saturday. The amount of respect they will command in Italy depends on how they face up to the Allied authorities. The Govt will stand or fall on the collection of the harvest of wheat. If they do not succeed in this urban population will be short of rations next winter. The reports on the harvest are diverse. Sicilian farmers are

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CONGER (UP)
MATTHEWS (NewYork Times)

Says Croce is not willing to leave his Salerno home to come to Rome and will probably withdraw from the Cabinet. Also reported that he is dissatisfied with the refusal to take the oath.

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UHL (BM) : Great problem of Italy's status has yet to be solved by Allies. Italian prisoners of war in Italy have been freed . In American hands in N.Africa they are half freed. In French hands they work on the roads and live in prison camps under guard. To accept Italy as an Ally - which Italians most desperately want - is to put Italy on the winning side of the peace table. To give the Italians full power loosens the control which we exercise for an ex-enemy country which must still bear some responsibility for the faults of its ex-rulers. The present Italian Government bear responsibility of their people for everything that goes wrong, yet have no power to do anything about it. It is a democratic civil Govt. having to depend on a Monarchical reactionary army for its armed forces. Marshal Messe is at present well in with the Allies. Yet he fought for Fascism in Russia and was finally captured in Tunisia by the Allies.

KENNEDY (AP) sends a long despatch on prevailing conditions. The black market in Rome is not so extensive as under the German, but is still effective. At many restaurants one can get a good meal at from $2 to $3 and many Allied troops are customers. At the Grand Hotel food regulations are observed in the dining room but one may have a good black market meal sneaked upstairs by the waiter, including steak and such appetisers as choice sardines. It comes to $11 or $12. Many now entertaining Allied officers who once entertained Germans and Fascists. Rome a city of contrasts. Dancing which the Fascists had forbidden has started in some hotels and night clubs. Opera and theatres are running. Shortage of electric light one of the greatest tribulations. Food situation not yet solved but better than in the final days of the German occupation, but most public services now worse than when Germans were in Rome as they damaged the installations. Germans took most of the buses with them. Water still scarce in higher parts of city. No power to pump it. Bread ration now 2/3rds of a lb. Quality of bread is much better than under the Germans. Prices of goods sold to Allied troops have trebled. With Germans and Fascists printing paper money in the North and the Allies recognising its validity big inflation is under way, and there appears little hope of checking it at present..

Allies themselves have issued a lot of paper money which is an obligation against the Italian treasury. Rome has serious unemployment problems. While as yet no correct figures available it can be said they are mostly white collar workers. Many of these may find jobs with the Government when it sets up. Little reduction in the city's

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CONGER (UP) : Prince Doria Thilipi received by the Pope together with members of his council. One Communist deputy merely shook hands with the Pope; another genuflected and kissed the ring. Allied troops have contributed $3,000 to St. Peters since the liberation.

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BRIA (AP) : 22 Italians killed in a railway collission at Torre Annunciata when one train ran into a stationary train.

NEWMAN (Internews) : Press were permitted to visit Castel Gandolfo yesterday. During the period of the Anzio Beach-head fighting there were at one time 15,000 refugees there. When bombing started various parts of the College of Propa-ganda were hit, one bomb killing 500 refugees and the Sister Superior in charge. The Papal Observatory was also slightly damaged.

COOK (Newsweek") Checked up on 20 enlisted men at the Red Cross Club regarding the stopping of the magazine supplements. 16 said they would miss them; 4 said no. Asked whether they were satisfied with the political news in the "Stars & Stripes" 11 had no opinion to offer. Most GI's are more keen on getting home than worrying about a fourth term for President Roosvelt.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R 10

14 July, 1944

Trend of Correspondent's Copy

BUCKLEY (Reuter)
LUMBY (
BRIA (AP)
CHINIGO (INS)
"Il Tempo" has published the shorthand report of the meeting of the Fascist Council on Oct. 15th 1940 when it was decided to create an incident for a declaration of war on Greece. It is said that this is an authentic document and sets out the views of various prominent Fascists on war with Greece. Marshal Badoglio attended the meeting.

COOK (Newsweek)
Cables his journal: "As part of Italian political story suggest you ask London to check real reason for presence there of Lason MacFarlane, ACC Chief. Reported here that he is ill. It is possible he was recalled because of British displeasure over shift from Badoglio to Bonomi."

BRIA (AP) : "Unita'" has called for the release of Rosario BENTIVEGNA, the medical student held for trial before an AMG court for the killing of an Italian Guardia Finanza in the first day of the liberation of Rome. The journal says this man participated in 30 actions against Germans and Fascists and was also concerned in the attack on the German SS column in the Via Rasella for which the Germans retaliated by mass executions. Every Italian patriot is amazed that he is in prison.

SEVAREID (CBS) : Every day here it becomes more clear what war is doing to Italy. Allied economic experts realise that when the war ends Italian industry will be almost non-existent and that it will require years to rebuild it. We have smashed a lot ourselves with our bombing, but in some plants near Rome we found nothing left but the grease spots on the floor; the Germans moved machines by the train load to factory sites in Northern Italy and from there as the war approached are moving them systematically into Germany. There is a current saying in Italy that " when this war is over Italy will have nothing but her beauty".

1831

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COCK (Newsweek)
Cables his journal: "As part of Italian political story suggest you ask London to check real reason for presence there of Mason MacFarlane, ACC Chief. Reported here that he is ill. It is possible he was recalled because of British displeasure over shift from Badoglio to Bonomi."

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KENNEDY (AP) ; Caruso, former police chief of Rome, may be tried as a war criminal in view of the many crimes which are now being made against him.

MATTHEWS (N.Y. Times) In a long despatch discussed the possibilities of peace feelers from the enemy countries via the Vatican. The United Nations are now in a very favourable position and they insist on unconditional surrender. This has been made clear to the Pope who still abides consistently with his peace of compromise and understanding. But with the Russians making such quick progress the Pope is perturbed at the influence they will exert at the peace table. He fears that the Communist attitude towards Catholic Poland will not be a good one.

In/

1831

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

In an interview with TOGLIATTI the correspondent asked the Italian Communist leader his attitude to the Roman Church. Togliatti said that Italian Communists would respect religion. But Italian Communists did wish to break up the latifunda land tenure system.

CHIMICO (INS) : In his persecution series No.5. This is by Count Umberto CONTI, Italian military cadet turned patriot. The writer makes definite charges of the use of the cat-o-nine tails on the naked body but not of torture.

MORIONES (EFE, Madrid) : On the initiative of Prince CHIGI, representatives of the Roman aristocracy headed by Prince Aldobrandini and Marquis Theodoli have offered one million lire to the Pope for charitable purposes.

WALSH (National Catholic Welfare) : Through the Pontifical Commission for Help to Refugees a Papal "motorcade" has set out for Campania and Capitanata carrying priests and lay persons, who were refugees in Rome, to their homes. Many hundreds of persons from Naples, Benevento and Foggia are availing themselves of this service.

BERGH (Göteborgs, Handelstidning) : Romans hailed with enthusiasm the Mobilisation Order of Minister of War Casati calling up men born between 1914 to 1925 who served in the Army on the 8th September last. "Finally allowed to fight" was the cry on the street corners. There is a secret hope that this step may be a good omen for firm behaviour of the Bonomi Government. The document issued by "Il Tempo" on Italy's seeking for a cause for war with Greece is very interesting but must be treated "Cum grano salis"

PACKARD (UP) : Badoglio has arrived in Rome on what is described as a private visit.

A report has been jointly compiled by the Papal secretariat, the Congregation for the Oriental Church and the Pontifical Commission for Russia, and presented to the Pope. It concerns an anti-Nazi Government created by German prisoners in Russian hands to which Soviet Russia has given temporary recognition. The report indicates that there is some likelihood of this "government" being permitted to follow the Russians into Germany where it would immediately start to govern as the most representative type of German Government, and would govern Civil Affairs until more representative government can be chosen.

SPRIGGE (Reuter) : First meeting of the Bonomi Cabinet to take place in the Viminale Palace, once the HQ of sinister

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SPRIGGE (Reuter) : First meeting of the Bonomi Cabinet to take please in the Viminale Palace, once the HQ of sinister elements of the Fascist' regime. While it is true that Croce wishes to return to his literary studies and is not in good health, it is also a fact that he has become greatly attached to Badoglio recently and has ceased to collaborate with Sforza. Croce opposed publication of the Armistice terms, following the lines taken by Badoglio and by the Italian Foreign Office the chief objection being that the partisans in Northern Italy would receive a rude shock, and the Italy's national prestige would sink. Majority of Italian Misters now consider it better to publish the terms and drag the secret into the open rather than have exaggerated rumours. While publication will clear suspicions regarding past they will also coincide with tangible improvement of relations which may encourage partisans to con-

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1371

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time the fight with more vigour. Bonomi Govt.'s chief task after the cleaning up of the partisan question is that of food and the collection of the harvest. Govt. ability to do this depends to a large extent on the liberty of action conceded by the Allies. It is understood Croce will be succeeded by SCIURI. Soleri's post will be taken by Ivanoe BONOMI.

ADVANCED HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/R 10 15 July 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

HAMMOND (Reuters Press) : Over 20,000 people connected with Italian film industry are idle due to the fact that the Germans plundered Cinema City, just outside Rome. Only four studios are standing and refugee families are sheltering in the remainder. But Roman Cinemas are now taking over 45% more receipts since American films are being shown.

TUCKER (AP) : Rome skimmed the cream of Rome's loftiest society for a guest list for dinner to General Clark last night at the Excelsior. Johnson who succeeded Rome as commander Rome Area was not present, which caused some speculation.

KENT ("Chicago Times") :Purging of Fascists is going slowly as there is lack of liaison between investigating agencies. Anglo-Saxon straight forward way of trying to separate black from white is complicated by a lot of half tones, various shades of guilt in grey. 40 days purification has only brought a pattern of doubtful value. Yet AMG finds that although there is much talk in the streets and in the press complaints are very slow in coming through official channels. The purge is complicated by the efforts of Rome Society to obtain favours from friendly Allied officers. Most AMG/ACC officers are not influenced by this, but officers down from the line seek only a good time for a few hours and so they accept the hospitality.

SAVEREID (CBS) : Much unemployment in Rome. Many Italian soldiers without units to report to; thousands of civil service workers with no bureaus running; thousands of office people in the Rome offices of factories in Northern Italy. AMG spending ½ million on public works, tearing down bombed buildings, cleaning up public parks, opening up the two tunnels for Rome's trams which had been turned into air raid shelters. Some of this idleness we ourselves have been responsible for. We requisitioned a large new department store for a British club which has put 600 men and women on the list of unemployed.

1829

HOWLAN ("Chicago News")
KENNEDY (AP)
HAMMOND (Reuters Press)

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MORGAN ("Chicago News")
KENNEDY (AP)
HAMMOND (Reuseley Press)

Bonomi visited the Ministry of the Interior yesterday and spoke to the employees. He said that the 6 parties must not become a dictatorship of parties. His job will be to restore the civil service which involved their purging. Liberty of speech will be restored. The provincial authorities will be kept aloof from political currents.

BAILLARD (UP) The Pope will receive Bonomi in audience tomorrow and not before the first Cabinet meeting as had been previously arranged.

BERGH (Goteborgs Handels[illegible]ing) :

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

BERGH (GOVERNORS ROUNDTABLE) : There is a certain nervousness now that Govt. has finally arrived in Rome. Under Fascism few undertook responsibility but looked to the Govt. for guidance. Few understand real liberty and what it means. Bonomi's task is more difficult than an Italian Govt. has ever had to face. Owing to his violent criticisms of the King Sforza has lost influence. There is much bitterness against former military leaders as new documents come to light.

SERIGOE (Reuter) Quotes an anonymous article in "Osservatore Romano" which seems to suggest that a new Catholic world order is best. Thinks that whatever lies behind the article, which seems to be inspired by higher circles, it portends vast world developments in the near future.

MATTHEWS (Times New York) Rome Region and all territory south of Rome will soon be turned over to the Italian Govt. This will be something for the Bonomi Govt. to throw to a restive public. But the Govt. will stand or fall on the publication of the Armistice terms. The decision now lies with London and Washington who will do nothing without consulting Moscow.

It will take about 20 years, according to Italian experts, to repair damage done to the Pontine Marshes drainage scheme. The Nazis destroyed or took away all machinery and Italy has no possibility of reconstruction. It must be started again by the building of drainage canals as undertaken by the ancient Romans.

KORIAN (Mutual Broadcasting) A script of the broadcast yesterday by Colonel Poletti, Lt. Col. Lane and Father O'Hara given in the form of question and answer. Poletti said the greatest problem was food. Not enough food and too many Fascists. He reiterated all the usual things - shortage of food, black market, lack of transport. The black market will decline as food becomes more abundant and we are able to force drivers of vehicles to take supplies to the central markets. But we can never finish off the black market completely. Poletti described the work of epuration, and when asked to speak on labor introduced Col. [illegible] that [illegible] as an unified labor movement when we arrived than in Southern Italy. Germans had had a difficult time getting Italians to work for them and had resorted to labor conscription by blocking off streets and seizing men. Asked "What about the worker's district?" Col. Lane said "This is the Trastevere [illegible] near the Vatican. In that area was found the core of resistance to the Nazis. No German dared walk in that area at night." "Now we have an over abundance of labor on the free market as the Italians are more willing to work for us. We have more machinists mechanics and drivers than we can employ. Asked about other workers Col. Lane replied that there

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Father O'Hara spoke on welfare work and the work the Vatican has been doing. 330 soup kitchens feeding 264,000 people daily. AMG has brought in sufficient medical supplies for the hospitals. 30,000 litres of raw milk are distributed daily and 52 tons of powdered milk have arrived. Vatican is supervising the return of the-

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

1378

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

bands of refugees to their homes using its own transport and returning with food supplies. Asked what he thought the attitude of the mass of Italians to Fascism was Col. Poletti said that at first they backed Mussolini thoroughly, but as the regime became more corrupt they saw its true worth. The result has been the greatest indictment of Fascism that could be made - a lack of a sense of moral responsibility among many Italians. But Col. Poletti think the Italian people will institute and maintain a democratic form of Govt.

DANTON (Readers') Gives an extremely interesting letter to his editors on the Jugoslav situation, detailing the ideas and ambitions of the two opposing parties of Michailovitch and Tito, and speculates on the future form of Jugoslav Govt. after the war which will be influenced by Russia.

PRICE DAY (Baltimore Sun) is the only correspondent who has so far filed anything on the trial of Bentivegna for the murder of Guardia Finanza Lieut Barbarisi. He hints at the political implications behind the case and gives details of the scene and the evidence of witnesses.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRE/R10 16 July, 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

The first meeting of the Bonomi Cabinet in Rome dominates the correspondents' copy.

BIGART (New York Herald-Tribune)
SPRIGGE(Reuter)
HAMMOND (Kemsley) And others

The first meeting of the Bonomi Cabinet in Rome was preceded by a visit to the Catacombs of St. Calixtus, where the hostages shot by the Germans are said to have been buried.The Socialist and Action party members refrained from taking part in this visit in order not to be seen in company with Prince Umberto, who headed the party.

BIGART (New York Herald) said that what could have been the occasion for general rejoicing for the re-establishment of a democratic form of government was allowed to pass without even a street parade. Utter lack of graciousness was displayed by the Allied authorities towards the Bonomi Govt. which is bound to weaken its position in the eyes of the populace. Not even a brigadier general was at hand when the Council of Ministers, "---more like pallbearers than a party of men about to rebuild Italy" marched into the Council room. No bands, no spectators gathered in the square outside. The meeting lasted from 10 a.M till 7 p.m with a two hour luncheon interval. Among the things discussed were collation of the anti-Fascist decrees; more active participation of Italy in the war and theprice of bread. A new director of railways is expected to be announced on Monday.In Italy's participation in the war the greatest difficulty centers round the incorporation of the partizans in the regular army. In regard to the price of bread the Govt. is giving 20 million lire annually as subsidy but to raise the price of bread would not relieve the food situation One or two correspondents mention that the publication of the Armistice terms was discussed, but there does not seem to be a general confirmation of this. The anti-Fascists feel that Bonomi's Govt. has such limited powers that Italy's new political deal is jeopardised and that the Govt. representing

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the correspondents' copy.

BIGART (New York Herald-Tribune)
SPRIGGE(Reuter)
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Croce was asked to remain and continue to give his sound advice. Orlando has been nominated President of the Chamber of Deputies. One observer, when told that the Ministers had almost finished the draft of the Decrees of Epuration remarked, "They will be through just as soon as they have put in the loopholes.

The Cabinet will reassemble on Monday.

KENNEDY (AP)

George Nelson Page, former chief of the Fascist radio division, Ministry of Popular Culture, has been arrested by the Allied authorities. He is a nephew of Walter Hines Page

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He was formerly an American citizen but became violently pro-Fascist at the time of the Ethiopian war. Others arrested include Prince San Faustino and Prince di Cuto. Ezra Pound, the American poet, is wanted on a charge of treason.

SPRIGGE (Reuters)
H[illegible]WD (Kemsley Press) and others.

The Allied Advisory Council for Italy met in Rome yesterday and examined the situation resulting from the permission given to the Italian Govt. to come to Rome. It made several recommendations. (No correspondent stated what these were)

MATTHEWS (New York Times)

The cost of living in Rome rose 749 % between Nov. 1940 and June 1944 according to statistics of the Chamber of Labor issued today. The weekly budget of a typical working class family consisting of parents and three children under the age of 14 years are given as follows:

Nov. 1940	Lire 194
" 1943	" 805
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Since the Allies entered Rome there has been a steady sharp rise. This phenomenon has followed the Allied armies throughout Sicily and Italy. At the same time there is a sharp rise in unemployment. This is due to the fact that the Italians who did not want to work for the Germans are now looking for jobs.

MATTHEWS (New York Times.)

Interviewed the editor of "Avanti" (Pietro Nenni) Nenni fought with the International Brigade in Spain. Nenni attacked the Allies for their failure to discriminate between Fascists and non-Fascists and considered:

(i) The Allies should call off the Armistice terms as having been made under circumstances which have now changed.
(ii) Give Italians a larger part to play in the military operations.
(iii) Do more to help Italian labor and industry to get on its feet.

The editor of "Avanti" said that if 8 or 10 more Italian cities get in the same state as Naples, where three quarters of the population lived by beggary, prostitution, peddling and black market, Italy will cease to exist. The Left parties in

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The editor of "Avanti" said that if 8 or 10 more Italian cities get in the same state as Naples, where three quarters of the population lived by beggary, prostitution, peddling and black market, Italy will cease to exist. The left parties in Italy felt that conservative elements in London and Washington still had too much fear of radicalism.

While the correspondent was interviewing Nenni, Saragat, a socialist Minister without portfolio came into the room. Asked how the Cabinet meeting was going Saragat said that at present they were coordinating the anti-Fascist decrees to make them into a single text. "Have you power to do that without Allied consent?" asked the correspondent. Both Italians laughed and Saragat replied "Nothing can become law without your permission.

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SPRIGGE (Reuter)
HAMMOND (Kemsley Press)
KENT (New York Times)

Report details of the Bentivegna case. SPRIGGE says that sentence will be given according to Italian law. HAMMOND tells an alleged story of how Bentivegna carried out the coup which led to the killing of 32 German soldiers. Bentivegna, he said, arrived in the Via Rasella with a cart. He was disguised as a street cleaner and the cart was loaded with dynamite. As the Germans approached Bentivegna's companion removed his hat as a signal, whereupon Bentivegna set fire to the fuse and retired down the street where he handed over his clothes and false moustache to his accomplice. KENT (Chicago Times) says that the Communists are making the Bentivegna case a cause celebre which will determine the Allied attitude in the future towards communists.

BIGART (New York Herald-Tribune)
KENT (Chicago News)

Have made lengthy stories of the concert in the Adriano Hall, when the second part of the performance had to be abandoned. Molinari has been dropped as a conductor at the series of concerts which has been arranged. Col. Rowell, AMG. Education officer revealed this. Col. Rowell disapproved of the gallery's reaction to Molinari and said he knew there was trouble when he saw a number of youths lining up outside the hall. Col. Rowell said he wanted to keep in the background but when the trouble was at its height he was forced to go on the stage to tell the gallery that he thought people had come to hear music, not to make politics. But the catcalls continued. Molinari wished to abandon the concert after the first half but Col. Rowell persuaded him to continue, and they were about to do so when it was discovered that the first soprano had walked out on them, compelling them to cut the concert short. Col. Rowell thought that the audience consisted of about 80% Romans who wished to hear the music, 10% troops with the same intention, and 10% who had come to make a scene. He was convinced that this was not a demonstration by mature people, nor was it organised.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 Trend of Correspondents' Copy

17 July, 1944

RALPH HOWARD (NBC)

Here in Rome rumor is growing that Italy may have still another cabinet. These reports have it that a new cabinet - the fourth since last October - would be set up as soon as the Allied armies have liberated more Italian territory. In the new government would be Victor Emmanuele Orlando who sat at the peace table in 1919, Bonomi and Badoglio, the latter, apparently, not to be ousted from Italian politics. Incidentally the age of these three totals more than two centuries.

CHINIGO (INS)

Tomorrow the Govt. will pass a law empowering a special high court to try all leading Fascists including Mussolini. They are liable to capital punishment or life imprisonment. The law also provides for state seizure of profits accrued through holding office under Fascism.

MOORE (Daily Telegraph)

The Govt. is trying to establish procedure for punishing Fascist crimes. Special court with power to impose the death sentence is being set up to try the major criminals of Mussolini's regime. Two points of principle were established at Cabinet meeting. First it was decided to maintain legal principle that actions which were not crimes at the time they were committed are not to be regarded as such now. On the other hand the Govt. is resolved to override the Italian Statute of Limitations whereby criminals who go unpunished for a certain number of years, varying according to the gravity of the offense, cannot afterwards be tried. Ministers decided that since Fascist rule for so long impeded the true course of justice, those who sheltered underneath the regime can properly be brought to trial.

MATTHEWS (New York Times)

Criticisms of the Vatican policy are now coming into

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MATTHEWS (New York Times)

1825

Criticisms of the Vatican policy are now coming into the open in the Italian press.These criticisms include the strong"Italianity" of the Pope and his refusal to create new cardinals; the ultra-conservatism of the Holy See; the Pope's support of Monarchists and reactionary forces.The republicans accuse the Pope of undoubtedly seeking to bolster the Monarchy by Giving audiences to Prince Umberto and the Duke of Aosta, and by the Vatican support of a wing of the Christian Democrats. Nenni, in an interview with the correspondent, claimed to see a revival of clericalism in Italy, and if this was the case, the Socialists would become anti-clerical.

Myron Taylor has become a close personal friend of the Pope, as well as being the representative of President Roosevelt. On their first meeting the Pope kissed

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Mr. Taylor on both cheeks as an expression of his joy at seeing him. The stories of the Pope having been a virtul prisoner under the Germans were pure fiction.

MATTHEWS (New York Times)

Claims to have seen a document which he considers to be authentic, and written by an Italian Army doctor whose name he must not reveal. The doctor attended Mussolini just after the King and Badoglio caused the Duce to be arrested. The doctor made some notes of his conversations with Mussolini. His first visit was at 9.30 on the evening of July 25th, 1943, the day Mussolini was arrested. At that time Mussolini said that he had no pains in the stomach and refused treatment. He said nothing of interest.Next day the doctor had three quarters of an hour with the ex-Dictator when Mussolini told him he had suffered with duodenal ulcers for more than 20 years and had often lived on little more than milk, vegetables and fruit.But the Duce said he was not interested so much in his own physical well-being as his moral personality. He wanted to put into practise the philosophy of primitivism. Mussolini said that after the signing of the Lateran treaty in 1929 the King wished to make him a prince or at least a count but he had refused saying that he wished to remain the son of a blacksmith. "Is Rome calm" he enquired of the doctor and the latter assured him it was. On the following day the doctor saw the Duce for 1½ hours. After examining him he had a long conversation. Speaking of the newly formed Badoglio Government Mussolini said it was a government of technicians and bureaucrats- a good government which would continue the directives of previous governments (i.e. Mussolinis) The ex-dictator said the only thing he did not like was the inclusion of Bergamone who had not done well as prefet of Naples.Mussolini also thought there would be pacifist demonstrations in the Po Valley which could easily be quelled. Italians, the Duce philosophized are a superficial people in every way, even religiously. They believe in a saint only when and to what extent he answers their prayers. They apply the same do ut des (tit for tat). They cover themselves with varnish that has no depth and leaves no stain. The 16th to the 18th centuries, when the Italian people had no recourse to arms, influenced this characteristic to a great extent. They are an immature people. The Pontifical States

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED [illegible]

RRB/R10 18 July 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

BROWN (Reuter) : Allied Control Commission say that because of lack of transport and storage facilities 25 million litres of last year's Italian wine will probably have to be poured away so that the vats may be cleaned ready for this year's harvest.

BROWN(AMUSED)
NEWMAN (INS)

1,000 refugees, mostly Jewish and stateless, are leaving shortly for the United States, escorted by U.S. officers and men returning on leave. The refugees have come from the camp at Naples.

KELLER (AP) : Several prominent refugees from Leghorn now at Querciantella have told Major. Carl Rent, AMG., that the city of Leghorn is so wrecked that it may be necessary to distribute many of its 140,000 inhabitants among other towns.

LESSING (Exchange Telegraph)

Bank deposits in Rome have risen 10% since June 5th when the Allies entered the city, according to a careful survey of the principal banks.

WALSH HOWARD (UNO)

In Rome Allied authorities are preparing a fascist Social Register. In it will be listed the best families who until June 5th gave lavish dinners and parties for fascist leaders and German Generals, and who are now seeking Allied favour by the same tactics. The "Who's Who" in reverse will be circulated among socially inclined Allied officers who might give prestige to such dinners and their vacillating hosts. Recently two former fascists were arrested while in the next room their honoured guests - 10 Allied officers - ate blissfully on.

BRIX (AP)
MATTHEWS ("New York Times") quote at length from an article by Tandolfo Pacciardi in the "Voce Repubblicana". Pacciardi is a former commander of the Garibaldi contingent which fought in the Spanish civil war. The Bonomi Govt. has only partial control of territory south of Salerno, and now even out of touch with that area. Sardinia, Corsica have High Commissioners. What does this administration of the islands mean? Who imposes it? The Allies are refusing to let Italy take more part in

1824

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PISA (AP) : Several prominent refugees from Leghorn now at Cuorcianella have told Major. Earl Hall, AMG., that the city of Leghorn is so wrecked that it may be necessary to distribute many of its 140,000 inhabitants among other towns.

LESSING (Exchange Telegraph)

Bank deposits in Rome have risen 70% since June 5th when the Allies entered the city, according to a careful survey of the principal banks.

RALPH HOWARD (NBC)

In Rome Allied authorities are preparing a Fascist Social Register. In it will be listed the best families who until June 5th gave lavish dinners and parties for fascist leaders and German Generals, and who are now serving Allied favours by the same tactics. The "Who's Who" in reverse will be circulated among socially inclined Allied officers who might give prestige to such dinners and their vacillating hosts. Recently two former fascists were arrested while in the next room their honoured guests - 10 Allied officers - ate blissfully on.

BELL (AP)

MATTHEWS ("New York Times") quote at length from an article by Randolfo Pacciardi in the "Voce Repubblicana". Pacciardi is a former commander of the Garibaldi contingent which fought in the Spanish civil war. The Bonomi Govt. has only partial control of territory south of Salerno, and now even out of touch with that area. Sardinia, Corsica have High Commissioners. What does this administration of the islands mean? Who imposes it? The Allies are refusing to let Italy take more part in the war and backing the Monarchists. The other parties show signs of splitting and whole Coalition is weakening. It is under fire from Right and Left with Orlando trying to form another kind of Coalition to be called a "democratic union".

/BUCKLEY (Reuter)

1824

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[illegible] (Reuter)
[illegible] ("Time")
[illegible] (Exchange Telegraph)
and others.

Bonomi Govt. continued its session yesterday. It has agreed on a new unified law for liquidating Fascists and punishments of the leaders. The principal Ministers and ex-Party chiefs will be tried before a special High Court composed of career judges and high personalities of public life. The court may impose the death sentence. A number of those Italians who collaborated with the Germans last September will be tried by court martial, even though civilians. Nevertheless those who can show that they went to Northern Italy or worked for the Republican Fascists only under threats to themselves and their families will have favourable consideration. Fascists who made fortunes will have them confiscated and to prevent evasion of this, severe penalties are provided for those who take over such monies. Vast numbers of copies of the new law are being printed and distributed throughout liberated Italy. The Cabinet, with some abstentions, elected Marquis Pietro della Torretta as President of the Senate. Together with Orlando he will probably undertake to advise the Lieut. General of any Cabinet changes.

Cabinet decided to continue the subsidising of bread to the tune of 25 Billion Lire per annum. Soleri is reported to have refused Croce's place in the Govt.

[illegible] (UP) An Italian News service charges Ernesto BOTTO, Under Secretary for Air under the fascist Govt. with being the pilot of the plane which bombed the Vatican on Nov.5,1943. The same service says that the Vatican has established the identity of the plane and used this knowledge to compell the Germans to release Gen.Adriano Monti and 100 partisans who were seized last February in the San Paolo Basilica.

[illegible] ("Exchange Telegraph")

An important step in the re-organisation of the Italian State will be taken by Bonomi Govt. in the next few days when all civil servants at present in Rome will have to report to their various departments. Those with fascist records and all those who served the Puppet republic in Rome will be excluded. Meanwhile 300 generals and superior officers have been dismissed or otherwise subjected to anti-fascist measures of the Minister of War. This latter step is one of the first to be taken for a thorough reorganisation of the army in order to increase the Italian war effort.

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TELEGRAFO ("Exchange Telegraph")

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CORRIERE (INS) Croce says there are too many hands directing Italy. They are all directing it in different directions and there is little progress. Croce also attacks the publication of the Armistice terms. The same correspondent sends a long page despatch by Storer which extols the Bonomi Govt. and Fascism.

L'UNITA ("News Chronicle") sends a long despatch on the work being carried out by the Italian partisans.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

19 July 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

The arrival of the first Brazilian Expeditionary Force of 5,000 men occupies a lot of attention by Correspondents. They landed in Naples on Sunday last.

SEVAREID (CBS)

....." The Italian Govt. at present guests of the Allies in Rome where we still exercise final authority, will be in complete charge of Rome and the Rome area on august 15th when the military Government withdraws. Colonel Poletti, Commissioner here, will move further forth into newly occupied regions. Speaking of the Armistice terms t is correspondent says that what Italian leaders object to is the stipulation that the Allies reserve the right to put back under military control any Italian Government area whenever events make it necessary; which leaves the Italian Govt. in an uneasy, impermanent position. At present the ACC is headed by an American - Capt. Stone of the Navy,- who took over from General Mason MacFarlane, recalled by Churchill. (OUT BY CENSOR: "When he permitted Badoglio to be unseated. General MacFarlane will not return, and the British want anotherof their Generals in charge".

COE (Blue Network)

Allied authorities have taken their first step to keep prices at a reasonable level in Rome. With the lira devalued to one fifth of its previous value, naturally there have been some increases in prices. Now all stores are required to post alist of their prices, and all goods must be marked. No longer will the Roman shopkeepers be able to "shrewdly appraise each customer and charge what the trafic will bear!" ..... Civilians, including Govt. Employees, are the first benefactors of price fixing. While price fixing is being enforced on legitimate stores, the black market flourishes. Silk stockings are still $7 per pair and hard to find. American cigarettes range from $1 per package. British authorities are widely publicising sentences passed on British soldiers for aiding the flow of military goods into civilian channels. One British soldier was sent up for 12 years. But for all that is being

1823

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1823

BRIA (AP)
CHINIGO (INS)
LUMBY ("Times")
SPRIGGE (Reuter)

After a 3 day meeting the Italian Cabinet retired from the diplomatic service Cesare Maria deVecchi, one of the quadrumvirs in the march on Rome; Giuseppe Bastianini former Ambassador in London; and Dino Alfieri, former Ambassador at Berlin.

/it is

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It is unofficialy reported that Gen. Taddeo ORLANDO who led the Army Corps in Tunisia finally captured by the Allies, was subsequently released to become War Minister in Badoglio's Cabinet,, has been appointed 'General Commander of the Carabinieri. The Cabinet has abolished the post of Army Inspector General held by Ambrosio former chief of the General Staff, against whom strong objection was entertained in Jugoslav circles. Cabinet has decided to give satisfaction to partizans by formally incorporating them in army organisations. In agreement with Allied authorities steps already taken to mobilise a certain number of additional classes. A new General Director of Italian railways has been appointed. The sole purpose of the appointmento of Orlando as President of the Chamber, and della Torretta as President of the Senate, is to fill lacuna in constitutional emergonsy, since in case Govt. resigns is it usual for the sovereign to consult the President of the 2 chambers before selectin a new Prime Minister. There can be no question at present of constituting a full Parliament. Croce's resignation letter to Bonomi made it clear that he only intended to remain a Minister until the Government reached Rome.

The Cabinet is meeting again on July 27th.

BERGH ("Goteborgs Handelstidning")

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PACKARD (UP) : Brig. General Erskine Hume, Chief of AMG, 5th Army, has presented Gen. Mark Clark with a copy of his 146 page book which gives a summary of AMG's accomplishments during the first 10 days of the Allied occupation of Rome, when Hume was Military Governor. Among the tasks which the book reveals were carried out during this period was the bringing of 1,000 tons of food into Rome, mostly flour, whereby the bread ration was maintained and 100,000 needy persons fed free of charge. A camp housing 50,000 refugees was established at Città Cine, Rome's Hollywood. Numerous refugees were helped to return to their homes. AMG also imported 6 tons medical supplies to replace those carried away by the Nazis; got limited supply of gas - mostly for hospitals Hume's book gives work of his aides in restoring anti-Fascist government. Within 24 hours of Allied

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number of additional classes. A new General Director of Italian railways has been appointed. The sole purpose of the appointments of Orlando as President of the Chamber, and della Torretta as President of the Senate, is to fill lacuna in constitutional emergency, since in case Govt. resigns is it usual for the sovereign to consult the President of the 2 chambers before selectin a new Prime Minister. There can be no question at present of constituting a full Parliament. Croce's resignation letter to Bonomi made it clear that he only intended to remain a Minister until the Government reached Rome.

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MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")
LUMBY ("Times")

Both quote from the "Risorgimento Liberale" parts of Ciano's diary being published in that paper by a journalist writing under the pen name "Porfirio". This journalist,was said to have been one of the last persons to see Ciano before the latter was arrested. The extracts purport to show the state of extreme nervousness in which Mussolini acted from the time of the outbreak of the war in 1939 and his contradictory decisions regarding Italy's entry. The original diary is said to be with Ciano's wife in Switzerland and that she intends to use it eventually to vindicate her husband. Seven copies have been made and are said to be in existence in various cities as a safeguard that one will eventually be published.

CONGER (UP) ; Says that of the 1,000 refugees now en route for the U.S. from Naples, 365 are Jugoslavs, 228 Austrians, 153 Poles, 93 Germans, 40 Czechs, with smaller numbers from almost every European country. They are mainly Jews.

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 20 July 1944

-Trend of Correspondents' Copy-

The fall of Leghorn and Ancona dominates the copy filed by correspondents today.

FEDER (AP) : Major Keit, AMG, 5th Army says that an administration board was set up for Leghorn. Discussions had been going on for some days at Quercinella with leading citizens who had fled the city. From the information they supplied some idea of the condition were obtained beforehand.

VARIOUS CORRESPONDENTS : The situation in Leghorn appears in general to be as follows. The port area had long been closed to civilians. The Germans had mined it and had apparently been expecting a landing there. Many thousands had been evacuated from the city as long ago as last November. Leading Fascists had fled some days ago and left the place in control of Republican police. The Germans had pillaged the center of the city. The large Ciano Hospital was intact, but all bed linen and medicines had been taken. A number of Carabinieri under Captain Mack are on their way. The banks and post office had been closed for 20 days, but much of the money is said to have been hidden from the Germans. Telephones have ceased. There is no supply of electricity. The Committee of Liberation appear to have done quite a lot towards planning in advance. Notices in English and Italian had been printed secretly ready for immediate posting. They had gathered information on the mined areas and had a representative each for public health, public works and fire prevention. Sewage disposal facilities have ceased to operate. The water system has been destroyed but there is a minimum of water obtainable from wells. Brig. Hume has visited the city to take over restoration to normal life. He had said that the so-called "black zone" in the harbor area was the worst so far encountered in the way of mines and booby traps. AMG is undertaking chlorination of the water from wells. About 35000 of the normal 136,000 population had remained in the city. Those who had been evacuated will not be allowed to return until things are are made more normal. There is no serious lack of food in the city. There were stocks for three days. The bread ration was 200 grammes daily. There was enough grain for 10 days and a

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SPRIGGE (Reuter)The Govt. yesterday decided to retain the subsidy on bread at the price of 9 lire per kilo or 1½ pence per pound. Macaroni will be provided at equally uneconomic prices or, as it is called here in Italy, "political prices". The price will be 7 lire (60 cents)These are maximum prices and provision is made for their reduction in certain eventualities.The present grain prices and cost of production of bread and macaroni are reckoned to be 12 lire and 15 lire. The official decision has not yet been published but inspired forecasts attribute it

1321

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partly to the wishes of the Allies to impede in every way possible soaring prices and a deflation of the currency. The Risorgimento Liberale however, thinks the political price an illusion if it is intended to stop inflation. Inflations controlled in one direction only produce inflation in another.

CHINIGO (INS) Reports that 14000 volunteers have enlisted in one day in the voluntary organizations which are to be incorporated in the Italian Army.

FRANSPRESS (Algiers) The Ministry of the Interior has decreed the dissolution of the Italian police forces. They will be retained until the end of August and will then be replaced by Carabinieri formations. The police forces were the instruments of the Fascists. This is one of the most important measures to insure epuration of the administration.

MYDANS (Life) A 16 page article on Col. Poletti, his work and views. Points out that many Italians think that the Allies have come to Italy to take over and run a bankrupt country. Instead of which the Allies merely wish to sow the seeds of democracy and give Italy a helping hand in the early stages. The Allies' Military Govt. is now in Rome Behind it are trials and errors - but, more important still, great accomplishments. Col. Poletti still thinks that of all Italians the Sicilians were the mosy helpful. Italian criticism of Col. Poletti stems from their ostrich-like attitude towards the war. It is over as far as many of them are concerned. Why is there not more food - more transportation. Poletti symbolizes the Allied Govt. in Italy and everything is laid at his door. American criticism of Col. Poletti is that he is too much the politician. He is too ambitious. But the article is full of praise for Poletti.

SPRIGGE (Reuters) A spate of documents or extracts from documents is appearing in the Rome press. They are in the nature of revelations about the Fascist regime. Some of these are rumored to have come from two former ministers, Luigi Federsoni and Giuseppe Bottai, both of whom arenow in the Vatican. Ex-Minister Alfredo Demarsico is said to be in liberated Italy. Ex-General Soleti has also made some

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BIENSTOCK(Overseas Agency,N.Y.) Sends a long article on how Rome looks these days. Italians feel that the Allies are treating them as a conquered nation which hurts their pride. The ACC has complete control of the economy of the country, issues its own decrees, has its own regional commissioners, and own "purge commissions". The Govt. is in an anomalous position in the areas turned over to it in that it has financial responsibility for the public services, but no authority over them. Bonomi Govt. pays the Rome police but cannot dismiss a policeman. To quote an

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

extreme example, the Govt. cannot telephone a local official in one of the provinces without arranging the call through the Allied authorities.....It must be stated that the occupation authorities have not done a great deal to encourage development of the respective self government in Italy and the country suffers from it. There are delays in organizing the physical reconstruction of the country; failure to bring in food relief to meet the distressing situation at a time when the Italian Govt. is powerless has not improved Italian confidence in the intentions of the Allies. Italians are disturbed at the failure of the Allies to utilize Italians in the war effort.

BURKE WALSH (Nawelco) Discusses a possible abrogation of the Lateran Treaty of 1929 if certain radical elements should get into power. The sovreignty of the Holy See is not questioned but the Concordat which regulates relations between Holy See and Italy most definitely is. Fear of Communism and its possible anti-religious doctrines, and suspicion of the approaches of Italian Communists towards the Catholic Church.

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1829

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

21 July 1944.

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

Most correspondents have reported the handing back of Avellino, Campobasso etc.

LESING (Exchange Telegraph): By 15 August one third of Italy will be in Italian hands. This covers 46,000 square miles, with a population of 15 million inhabitants.

LUMBY (Times): By August 15 the Province of Rome, including the city, and the provinces of Frosinone, Littoria, will be handed over.

BUCKLEY (Reuter): Although the Allies cede administration some ACC officers will remain behind in order to assist and advise the Italian administrators. The transfer of territory has been warmly welcomed by the Italians and it is hoped the Italian Government will be able to tackle the numerous pressing problems with greater freedom of action.

MATTHEWS (New York Times): Although no-one will deny that this is a step forward Italians are certain to point to some very great limitations in "jurisdiction" granted to Italy. In the first place Naples itself remains a military zone on account of the importance of the port to the Army, and the United Nations also reserve the right to hold Allied Military Courts in territory handed over to the Italian Government for the trial of offences against Allied forces or property. Each of the Italian administrations will have a member of ACC attached as a deputy. When Rome, for instance, is turned over on August 15, Poletti and AMG will remain in an advisory capacity carrying on virtually the same duties as at present. The Prefect will nominally issue orders, but unless these orders have the AMG stamp "Visto" on the back they will not be valid.

BECKWITH (BBC): Gave a broadcast on the Italian political situation. Inter alia. The Constitutional problem will be postponed until after the war. Bonomi Government is restricted by a feeling of being only temporary. The thing most lacking in present day Italy is self respect. The decision of the Government to consider the partisans as "an integral part of the nation's war effort" has caused general satisfaction.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS): ..... Here in Rome the Italian Government has called to arms Roman youth of the classes 1923 and 1924. The response has surpassed all official expectations. Thousands of young Romans have been flocking to the barracks during the past two days, quite a different spectacle from the man hunts which the Germans staged to recruit Romans for their labour battalions.

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LONGHIRE (New York Post): Rome gives one the jitters as far as glimpses of post-war Europe are concerned. The headache of food and work to the Romans will officially be out of Allied hands by August 15 and Italians will have "theoretical" freedom. But there is little sign that the Italian man-in-the-street has any feeling of civic responsibility to make this a boon. The average Italian seems uninterested on the big war issues. Rome's upper crust tries to ensnare Allied officers and complains loudly of the horrors of war, but has virtually no feeling about the guilt of the Italian stab in the back for France. Few seem to look on Italy's entry into the war with anything else but cynicism.

/ Many

1919

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

Many of the wealthy are occupied in drinking, eating and speculating whether they will be once more able to escape the summer heat in Rome by going to Capri. The Bonomi Government has the tremendous task of inculcating civic spirit in the Italian nation. This is an independent view. A competent Allied official says that Italians generally possess only one chief spirit of obligation and that is to the life of the family. This spirit does not seem to apply to the larger community - an exception being the traditional feeling of loyalty to the Church. Politically Italians are "illiterates". It may be that Italy will be the sole European power, with the exception of Germany, whose people have failed to learn a lesson of watchful insistence as the only way to cure reactions which lead to war and chaos.

PACKARD (UP): Devotes a long despatch to the system to be set up to enable U.S. troops in this and other theatres to record their votes for the Presidential Elections. 300 voting officers will be appointed by July 25. They are to have a two-day course of instruction in their duties. There will be no political censorship of newspapers and magazines reaching the troops from the United States. The parties may deluge the troops with material if they wish. The "Stars and Stripes" will be given complete political freedom to publish the views of politicians and parties.

(Also BIGART (New York Herald Tribune))

KEPPLER (Sundredaktion): Rome newspapers state that the Germans are putting 28 milliards of printed lire into circulation in Northern Italy. It is estimated that about 1,200 milliard lire have been issued by the Germans in 10 months, that is twelve times more than the total of notes issued up to September 1943.

BERGH (Göteborgs Handelstidning): Electric supply in Rome almost normal while certain improvements expected by end of year. No doubt the best Christmas present for all Romans would be more light and cooking facilities. The Pontine Marshes are particularly badly hit. There will be no harvest from them this year and none in 1945 if they are not drained within the next two months. There is no electric current to drive the machinery. (CUT BY CENSOR: Malaria is increasing all round Rome, especially at Terracina and the towns on the marshes. This is caused by the floods and the lack of quinine.) There is a lack of soap in Rome, even the black market has none. Soap had already reached 1,000 times its place time price on the black market. Sadoglio has just issued a book about the 60 days between the fall of Fascism and the Armistice. It follows the lines of the series "The open town" by a German-Roman functionary.

SPRIGGE (Reuters): General Mason MacFarlane's retirement is regretted in political circles without distinction. His efforts to assist Italians to exercise maximum political autonomy compatible with the Armistice terms were important to each successive government. He had three difficult periods during his Commissionership: in November when the King refused to abdicate and frustrated the expected reum- government; on February 2 when the Bari

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

22 July 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy.

Practically all correspondents have filed copy on the ACC decision to recognise the work of the Partizans.

BRIA (AP) DIGART ("New York Herald Tribune")
MATTHEWS ("New York Times") STEAD "CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR ")
LUMBY ("Times") BROWN (Reuter)

Bigart says that ACC has ordered a more gentle "brush off" of the partizans by directing that each shall receive a certificate of merit, for framing. The "Thanks pal" certificates, bearing the seals of United States and Great Britain, and with Alexander's signature, will be handed out by partizans representatives accompanying AMG officers into liberated areas.

Bonomi's proposal that they be incorporated into the Italian army has been turned down by the Allied authorities.

The partizans are to have strong representation in local government. They must be treated firmly in the handing over of arms, but with sympathy for the work they have done. The certificates of merit must be endorsed by a partizan leader and a Civil Affairs officerand in special cases they may be presented by senior officers.

GODFREY TALBOT (BBC)

...."Amgot officers with forward units of the 5th and 8th Armies have just received orders to regard the partisans as Civil Priority No.1 and to give them every possible help and to have them substantially represented on every local government committee.

LAIRD ("Time")

Lieut.General Mason MacFarlane has resigned following serious operation. His successor may furnish an important guide post for the future. There is a feeling in a nebulous way that it will be linked with peace or post war developments. There is a trend of civilians to take over

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1818

LAIRD ("Time")

The Allied authorities are having difficulty in compiling their official register of Fascists. It is almost impossible to distinguish white from black. Some individuals had been Fascists and had later on worked against the regime.

/ RALPH

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RALPH HOWARD (NBC)

"..... In the meantime someone here in Rome had better bring pressure to bear upon the Carabinieri, or Italian police, and have them fall in step with the Allied authorities to stamp out the black market. All of Rome is forced to cook with charcoal pending the restoration of gas, and this morning I drove 16 miles north of the city before I found a man who would sell his charcoal. Prior to that all makers of charcoal had told me their product was frozen, but this was belied by the hundreds of men and women carrying charcoal into Rome to sell. The crux of the whole problem was that before you can buy the stuff it was necessary to get an O.K. from the local Carabinieri, and then it was 4 times the prices set by AMG. Shades of Fascism!"

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R.10 23 July, 1944

Trend of Copy Filed by Correspondents

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

Rosario Bentivenga, 22 year old medical student, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment for the shooting of Lieut. Barisi of the Guardia Finanza, on the second day after the fall of Rome. The verdict was greeted with booing and whistling from the large crowd of students and Communists who had followed the trial. One spectator shouted "Long Live the Allies" and the crowd began to threaten him: the Carabinieri intervened. The accused has 30 days in which to lodge an appeal. The case has aroused a considerable amount of attention first because the accused was a prominent leader of the partisans, and secondly because the trial was conducted under British court procedure. This latter procedure has been watched with great interest by Rome lawyers who observed the contrast with Italian procedure where all the important evidence is taken in writing behind closed doors prior to the trial. Roman lawyers say that the British procedure demands greater agility and attention on the part of all concerned. Another feature of the trial which impressed lawyers was the facility for the accused to go into the witness box. This has no counterpart in Italian procedure. The trial was held in an AMG court on the grounds that it involved the security of Allied Forces.

COOK (Newsweek)

.....Dont assume that the turning of Rome and other provinces to the Italian administration means that local government is already strong enough to handle things. The action is primarily a moral and psychological welfare move and behind the scenes the Allies will still be doing most of the governing work. The Italian Govt. it simply cannot in the short time available get the city's verious administrations purged from Fascism, hire competent personnel, get files in shape and do the myriad of other things necessary for governing. This does not mean, however, that the Allies are unwilling to relinquish authority. They'll be glad when it is possible without lapse into confusion. Those hoping to see Italian labor become more prominent do not see much hope at present. The General Labor Confederations created in Southern Italy months ago have refused to merge with Rome's General Confederation, insisting that no general confederation can be set up until the whole of Italy is liberated; the real

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Rosario Bentivenga, [illegible] ced to 18 months imprisonment for the shooting of Lieut. Barisi of the Guardia Finanza, on the second day after the fall of Rome. The verdict was greeted with booing and whistling from the large crowd of students and Communists who had followed the trial. One spectator shouted "Long Live the Allies" and the crowd began to threaten him: the Carabinieri intervened. The accused has 30 days in which to lodge an appeal. The case has aroused a considerable ammount of attention first because the accused was a prominent leader of the partisans, and secondly because the trial was conducted under British court procedure. This latter procedure has been watched with great interest by Rome lawyers who observed the contrast with Italian procedure where all the important evidence is taken in writing behind closed doors prior to the trial. Roman lawyers say that the British procedure demands greater agility and attention on the part of all concerned. Another feature of the trial which impressed lawyers was the facility for the accused to go into the witness box. This has no counterpart in Italian procedure. The trial was held in an AMG court on the grounds that it involved the security of Allied Forces.

COOK (Newsweek)

.....Dont assume that the turning of Rome and other provinces to the Italian administration means that local government is already strong enough to handle things. The action is primarily a moral and psychological welfare move and behind the scenes the Allies will still be doing most of the governing work. The Italian Govt. it simply cannot in the short time available get the city's verious administrations purged from Fascism, hire competent personnel, get files in shape and do the myriad of other things necessary for governing . This does not mean, however, that the Allies are unwilling to relinquish authority. They'll be glad when it is possible without lapse into confusion. Those hoping to see Italian labor become more prominent do not see much hope at present. The General Labor Confederations created in Southern Italy months ago have refused to merge with Rome's General Confederation, insisting that no general confederation can be set up until the whole of Italy is liberated; the real reason seems to be that the Southern group fears centralization might mean loss of control of their area. The Southern group is divided into 'red' and 'white' confederations. The red, which is Leftist, contains mostly industrial workers, while the white, which is Catholic, is mostly made up of farmers. The prospects are for the maintenance of regional labor groups for some time, which means labor interests are considerably weakened.

PACKARD (U.P)
BRIA (A.P.)
MATTHEWS (New York Times)
BURKE WALSH (Nawelco)

All send long despatches on an article which has appeared in Osservatore Romano and written by Mariano Cordovani in which Father

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

he emphasizes the incompatibility between Communism and Catholicism. The article is regarded as the official Vatican view towards Com-
munism which is one of working to achieve harmonious relations with the Russian people while remaining skeptical towards Communism. The article is aimed at the Catholic Communist Party which is trying to assert that its members remain true Catholics. The fundamental mistake, says the article, of the new party, is that it is trying to combine Catholic dogma with Communism's historical realism even though the latter is used only as a government technique. Those desiring to achieve such a thing will simply put Catholic morality in the attic, subordinating it to political ideologies: If those postulating such a thing did not correct their position they would inevitably jeopardize their Catholicism. If, as Pius XI said. in his Encyclical, Quadragesimo Anno, "No one can be a good Catholic and at the same time a Communist".

BERGH (Gotesborgs Handestidning)

Quoting Hitler's speech on the attempt on his life, says that a group of anti-Nazi conspirators has existed in Rome for 2 years now. The leader is a certain Dr. Nix who, after being in a concentration camp, left Germany and settled in Italy protected by the Vatican. The Rome association has 350 members, mostly intellectuals, among them five ex-correspondents of German journals of importance who remained hidden during the German occupation and now intend to start a newspaper called "Deutsche Zeitung". The Roman group cooperates with anti-Nazis in other towns as well as with groups in Germany, France, United States and England. They have helped many prisoners of war to escape. The group dreams vaguely of returning to Germany as a party for those working for European federation. The Mazzinian group in Rome have the same dream and have covered the walls of the city with their posters. Times have not been favorable for intellectuals in Italy. Almost nothing in the way of art, music and literature has been produced, but the printing of books has now commenced on a violent scale, but almost only with translations from the Russian. Russian authors fill the shop windows., while Tolstoi reappears in Italian theaters.

TUCKER (AP)

"Ricostruzione Liberale" says that Roosevelt will almost certainly come to Italy in the near future, together with other Allied leaders; in vier of what is going on in Germany.

PACKARD (UP)

The Allies have detailed a special group of motorized military police who escort the diplomatic representatives of enemy countries on their drives through Rome outside the Vatican territory. Their cars are marked "Diplomatic Escort Car".

MATTHEWS (NY Times)

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

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MATTHEWS (NY Times)

Roman opinion carried some weight regarding events in Germany, since Italians were in contact with high German officials. Hitler has a firmer grip than Mussolini, they think; but this simply means the decomposition will be slower. The technique is about the same.

Mr. Grady, former head of the Economic Section of the ACC was interviewed by this correspondent. Mr. Grady considers that if the Germans go on destroying in the North as they fall back, there is little hope for Italy's economy for generations to come. The Germans seem to have the idea of destroying competetive manufactures in neighboring countries.

Unlike Col. Poletti, Col O'Dwyer- Mr. Grady's successor - will not figure prominently in the news for his is the unspectacular job, although of great importance to Italy.

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

PRB/R10

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Text of Correspondent's Copy
24 July 1944

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS)

Here in Rome the Allied General Court has just pronounced a verdict in the first trial it has held in this city. The court condemned a young Italian Communist partizan to 18 months imprisonment. He was Rosario Bentivegna. He was one of the most active partizans in Rome during the German occupation. On June 5 just a few hours after we entered Rome and the streets were still being patrolled by Italian partizans Bentivegna shot and killed a Lieut. of the Italian Customs guard during a street altercation. The defence claims he acted in self-defense. The prosecution claimed he acted impulsively in legitimate defence. But that was not the main issue of this trial. The main issue was much larger. We the Allies, are urging the the Italian partizans to create confusion and disorder behind the German lines, and we impose standards of peace-time law and order upon them.....This is what the Allied prosecutor during the trial said: "We must not forget that the purpose of this court is that of safeguarding public order...Americans and Englishmen have come to this country to teach liberty to the Italian people....This court must keep order and must give some examples of which Italians have a great need"....

The reaction of the Communist party to this verdict is very bitter. The party paper this morning says that while Bentivegna is condemned two of Fascism's worst figures.... the former chief of Police in Rome and the general who surrendered Naples to the Germans are still living. The paper says This verdict will be heard with apprehension by all democrats and fighters of the United Nations who believe that the defense of liberty and order is essentially a struggle to the death against Fascism." The whole drama of Italian resistance is here.

After this verdict it will be hard ofr Italian patriots to decide whether the Allies have come to Italy to destroy Fascism or to impose order.

MILLER (UP) SMITH (NY Herald Tribune) and others
BRIA (AP)

Major Hendrickson, AMG chief legal officer, Rome Region, has asked the Allied Publication Board to consid...

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BRIA (AP)

Major Hendrickson, AMG chief legal officer, Rome Region has asked the Allied Publication Board to consider action against the Italian Communist paper "Unità" which criticised the AMG court verdict on Bentivegna. The paper criticised the Allies for their delay in trying Caruso, former Rome police chief, and compares this with the trial of Bentivegna who for 9 months risked his life fighting for the Allies. The Court said that this was a case of two excitable young men who lost their tempers and used firearms unnecessarily. The Court could not accept self defence as a plea and could not agree that it was necessary to use the amount of force the accused had done.

The Italian lawyers told one correspondent that decision was a model application of Italian law

/BRIA

1816

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

BRIA (AP) : Says that "Unità" quotes La Guardia's appeal to the partisans to carry and use the knife. La Guardia, says "Unità" like us, holds United Nations propaganda just and sacrosanctc, and can buthold the judgment pronounced yesterday as wrong.

VERMILION (UP)
KELLY ("News Chronicle")

Have a story that the Germans are holding 230 men, women and children as hostages in the Monastery of St.Ubaldo, overlooking GUBBIO. They are using the Monastery as an observation post and threaten that if the Allies bombard the place they will shoot these hostages . The bishop of Gubbio is said to have appealed, without success, to the Pope to intercede. The refugees have been in the Monastery since July 11th. So far Allied troops have not attempted to bombard the Monastery and it is hoped that advances on either flank may eventually compel the Germans to evacuate the place.

BRIA (AP)
SPRIGGE (Reuter)
MATTHEWS (Times NY)

During an audience granted to members of the St.Peters Club (which is one of the organisations set up by the Church to feed the poor) the Pope said "We have to complain that some of our Sons although they go on calling themselves Catholics follow theories that have been condemned, and appear to have forgotten more important and sacred teachings of the Church." The Pope declared, however, that the Church does not oppose but encourages movements that strive to solve social problems.

By a coincidence, at the same time that the Pope was speaking in an indirect way against Catholic Communists, there was a politicalmeeting being held where de Gasperi, Minister without Portfolio, and acknowledged head of the Christian Democrat party made clear the overtures of the Communist party; and frankly criticised the Monarchy. This is a surprising development as deGasperi is known to be in close touch with the Vatican.
SPRIGGE (Reuter)

There is a reason to believe that the Holy See views the situation in Germany as sufficiently critical to require the utmost readiness of the State Secretariat to play its part if necessary. Weizsacker, the German Ambassador to the Vatican,

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SPRIGGE (Reuter)

There is a reason to believe that the Holy See views the situation in Germany as sufficiently critical to require the utmost readiness of the State Secretariat to play its part if necessary. Weisaacker, the German Ambassador to the Vatican, has given it as his private opinion that all overtures between the Pope and the Allies would be doomed to failure unless direct approaches can be made between the Vatican and Russia.

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 25 July 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy.

KENNEDY (AP)
PACKARD (UP)

Attempts to enforce the 3% tax on sales of fruit venders in the Municipal market resulted in a stormy demonstration After causing some damage in the market, fruit sellers, most of whom are small traders depending for their livelihood from the sale of one basket of fruit each day, marched through Rome to the Office of the Municipal Food Bureau, shouting "Death to Giacomini". This referred to the former Director of Markets who is still on the staff of the Market Board. They entered the offices, damaged the furniture, threw files out of the windows. The former Director General of Markets, Francesco Tuccari, who had been removed by AMG as being a Fascist, was hoisted on their shoulders and marched through the streets. Colonel Poletti ordered an investigation, but at midday yesterday Rome was without vegetables. In consultation with the Mayor of Rome and the Chief of Police, Colonel Poletti decided that the tax could not be repealed. He said the Romans must realise that rioting, breaking of furniture and the disrupting of supplies were not the means to obtain reforms. Col. Poletti says that a number of Fascists were involved in throwing out the files, as the dossiers contained evidence which they are anxious to destroy. During the riot Cesare de Simoni, newly appointed Director of the Municipal Food Bureau tried to calm the demonstrators.

MATTHEWS (NY Times)

..... Shadows of pre-Fascist days came to life again this morning as Rome had its first honest to goodness riot ..... There is some suspicion that Tuccari, former Fascist director of markets, who was in the crowd, and was finally hoisted on the crowds shoulders, had some interest in the destruction of documents in order to foil and investigation now under way. Colonel Poletti said that a similar incident had occured at Catania, in Sicily, after the Allied entry, and for the same reason. Three ring leaders have been arrested and a few more arrests are contemplated. The tax will be enforced at whatever rate the Municipally decide since it is desirable above

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

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WINSTON BURDETT (CBS)

Sends a five page despatch on the trial of Rosario BENTIVEGNA "which may prove useful to Shirer et al". After giving an account of the trial and the evidence for the prosecution and defence, he quotes what the Communist journal "Unita" has had to say in the matter. The correspondentcomments that the trial has brought out the whole contradictory drama of the Italian partisan movement, as the partisans are first encouraged supported and armed by the Allies, and then disarmed, disregarded and disbanded, by the same authorities as they come under our control.

/The

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

The Allied authorities seem more concerned with maintaining law & order than in carrying out a Fascist purge. "A plague on both houses" seems to be their attitude towards both non-Fascists and Fascists. While they don't want trouble our side of the line they are urging partisans behind the German lines to stir things up. The Allies have not recognised Italian partisans as regular soldiers as they have those of France and Jugoslavia. The correspondent then goes on to say "Here is what happened in Rome to some of these propaganda heroes. They arrived in Rome 2 days ago after fighting in the hills between Perugia and Urbino as members of the 5th Garibaldi Brigade. These 60 patriots and their commanding officer had been sent to Rome to be enrolled in the regular army. Arriving late at the Tiburtina railway station they asked permission to spend the night there but were refused. They went on without knowing where to, and without food or shelter, and with no prospect of obtaining any. They slept in the open and reported next morning to the barracks. But they were turned away because they belonged to none of the classes now being enrolled. They then wandered about looking for help but found none until next day they were taken in at the municipal poorhouse. They received relief there only on the intervention of the Communist party".The Allied authorities are, of course, in no way responsible for this incident. But it shows how difficult it is for these people. It is a worn and still valid Allied maxim that we do not want a Communist Italy. But this does not explain all our attitude towards the partisans. It would be simpler to say that we just don't want trouble of any sort. A typical statement of one Allied authority here was that as far as the Italian Government is concerned we are not in Italy to undertake any great democratic experiment. We just want a working machine. That seems to be our guiding principle. As things now stand it is difficult for Italian patriots to determine whether the Allies came to Italy to destroy Fascism or to impose order. Several recent events including the trial of Bentivegna have showed that the two things are not always the same.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

The first anniversary of the overthrow of the Fascist regime in Italy was not celebrated but was deliberately ignored, as the memory of July 25 evokes profoundly discordant sentiments among parties all of whom now claim to be anti-Fascist.

BERGH (Goteborgs Handelstidning)

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

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BERGH (Goteborgs Handelstidning)

Publication of armistice terms is delayed "calendas graecas" and it is not impossible that when published the number of paragraphs will be less numerous than they were in Sept. 1943. There is to be a new division of electricity supply in Rome. The city is to be divided into four areas each of which will receive electric current from 1400 hours to 0600 hours next morning for one day, and then remain 3 days without current at all.

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

26 July, 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

BRIA (AP)

Appeals for a revision of the armistice terms are frequently appearing in the Rome press. Bonomi gave some indication of the terms today when he met employees of the Italian Foreign Office and made a speech. He said that all Italy's internal and external life, all her economic and financial activities and all direction of her civil and military administration are submitted to the watchful will of the United Nations.

It is no secret that members of the Government as well as journalist are sceptical and embittered of Allied promises to judge Italy by the extent of her efforts against Germany. Some Italians also sceptical of the 9 point programme the ACC recently announced on behalf of the partisans. They note that while there is much praise for the part partisans are playing behind the German lines one of the points in the programme stressed the necessity of the partisans turning in their arms in liberated areas on the ground that these arms are required to equip partisans further North.

Bonomi's speech is regarded in Rome as a strong expression of fear on the part of the new Government that Italy may be held to the Armistice terms. It is noted that he stressed the severity of the terms and that he declared it would be unjust that Italy should suffer the same fate as a "conquered people" similar to those still Allied to Germany. Bonomi stressed Italy's part as a co-belligerent and said that the present Government in pledging itself to respect the Armistice conditions had the comfort of the solemn pledge made at Quebec that the terms would be modified in proportion to Italy's assistance in the war effort.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

1814

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SPRIGGE (Reuter)

1914

Bonomi said he did hope Italy's co-belligerent friends would help her to increase her participation in the war. For this she needed material aid and he believed his appeal would not be in vain. Italian foreign policy must return to the traditional friendship with the Western democracies, the historic friendship mentioned by Mr. Churchill. The Italian Prime Minister reminded the Allies that since September 8th Italy had opened her country to the already victorious Anglo-American advance, and had ordered her fleet to make for ports which were up till then "hostile". This very action gave the Unite Nations mastery of the Mediterranean.

MOORE (Daily Telegraph")

Bonomis speech reflect s current Italian fears that the

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Peace Treaty may involve the cession of Trieste and other territory to Jugoslavia. Bonomi hastened to point out that Italy had now helped Jugoslavia not only with words but also with weapons and Italian blood.

MYERS ("Times")

Bonomi did not deny that the terms of the Armistice were stiff. He pointed out that the Quebec Memoire left modification of the terms according to Italy's contribution in the war.

MOST CORRESPONDENTS FILED COPY DEALING WITH BONOMI'S SPEECH.

BROWN (Reuter)

4½ tons of quinine, enough for Italy's entire population for a whole year, have been discovered by AMG officers of the 5th Army in the small town of Volterra. The quinine was stored in a state-owned warehouse which was untouched in an area otherwise devastated by bombs. The major portion will be distributed for civilian use in malarial areas.

KENNEDY (AP)

Italian police raided the Via Tordinone in Rome yesterday. This is a notorious black market street. The vendors are mainly women and when the police arrived they rushed indoors with their goods and locked the doors behind them. One woman was wounded when the police were compelled to fire a pistol to break a lock.

SEVAREID (CBS)

Here in Rome it is still apparent that while it has brought freedom from fear the Allied occupation has by no means brought freedom from want. For the working classes the struggle to earn and the search for food they cannot find is still the paramount daily task..... Allied authorities are meeting to decide the question of wage rates for those thousands who work for the Allied armies..... The basic daily wage rate under our occupation is not only smaller than it was under the Fascist State, it is less than it was under the German army, nor do we give the food allowance in addition which the Germans gave..... Allied authorities here when they first arrived, tried to maintain the higher rates but they were over-ruled without notice by the administrative officers

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

there would at least be work for all , at wages which would make the next meal no longer a matter of scheming and wearing out of shoe leather as they searched the streets for food which their crisp new Allied printed notes will buy".

CHINIGO (INS)

Says that Count Nicolo Carandini will replace Croce as Minister without Portfolio in the Bonomi Cabinet. He is the joint head, with Casati, of the Italian Liberals.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

The Rome Epuration Committee promises to publish shortly a list of Fascists who have been eliminated from the public administration. Arrests are being carried out daily, one man having been denounced while actually attending the memorial service to the victims of the German massacre of hostages. Another arrest is that of Count Claudio Antonini, alleged to have been responsible for the betrayal and arrest of 15 officer prisoners of war. The Communists are calling for a purge of the Italian diplomatic service, including those diplomats in the Holy See. They point out that of the 9 missions which Italy has abroad, 5 are headed by Italians who all gained their posts through their adherence to Fascism.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times")

Rome is seeing the paradox of a heavy fall in dollars, pounds sterling, Swiss francs, and gold, in regard to the Italian lire. The Allied occupation which froze all safe deposits and boxes, brought a situation where Italians are frantically unloading hoarded foreign currency, selling jewels, works of art, family heirlooms, or anything that will sell in order to get enough lire to meet daily expenses. Just before the Allies entered Rome the gold pound sold at 13,500 Lire; today it is 5,000. Dollar bills were 550 to 600 Lire; today they are 190. The Swiss franc stood at 220 Lire and is now 75. For years Italians had been buying and hoarding dollars in their flight from the lire. They now have no other way to keep alive than by selling these dollars on the black bourse. Stock exchanges are not yet permitted to open, so Italians cannot yet sell stocks, but when they can

1813

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

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MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

July 27, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

BRIA(AP) Quotes the Action Party paper "Italia Libera" which has made some outspoken comments on present day Italians and the Allied authorities. The Allies, says the article, are wasting a lot of energy in futile effort. There is an ostentation [illegible] of infallibility, ignorance, ingenuousness, and fatuousness. Contradictions in the acts of authorities are noted. Their various powers are not precise. But the paper admits that never in the history of war was a people ever treated with greater trust and with greater understanding by the authorities and the occupying troops. "the Allies are waging a war and winning it" says the journal. The final result will probably render very small and unnoticeable any inconveniences of today." But the Allies consider modern comfort as the supreme thing and court luxury, good food, and facile entertainers. They also sought out parties given by the aristocracy where German lovers andspies of yesterday are not missing. There was an excess of requisitioning which was often unnecessary; of public drunkenness with minor incidents but visible and demoralising; too much money in the hands of too many people which results in new grave crisis in the already tormented unbalance between wages and prices. Abuse was also unfortunately not infrequent of the syatem which Churchill defines as a "single club and carrot". Single "with regard to the Italian ass". With regard to italians the paper said it was forced to note much servility contrasting with often unnecessary pride, a vicious tendency towards divisions and jealousies, cases of beggars not always for poverty alone but also for ignoble speculation, and a superficiality of judgment and irresponsibility in giving pledges".

MOORAD (CBS) : . ....." Here in Rome the purge of Fascists is finally gathering speed. The purging is being done in two separate channels - by the Bonomi Govt. of Italy and by AMG headed by Charles Poletti. Bonomi has just tossed out 32 members of the Italian diplomatic corps, and in Rome there were these arests: Major Gen. Cittardi, Second in command of the African Italian Police Force; various big shots of the notorious Queen of Heavens prison; and Vincenzo Agnesina, Commander of the Duce's special bodyguards at the Palazzo Venezia....."

1812

SPRIGGE (Reuter) : The fixing of the price of bread at 5 lire per

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1812

SPRIGGE (Reuter) : The fixing of the price of bread at 5 lire per kilo (- 1½d per lb.) is an unwilling concession to the communists and Socialists by the other parties for the sake of a united front. Behind the facade there is the sharpest split on the Monarchy - - Republican/issue as shown by the strong controversy aroused this week when the Christian Democrat leader de Gaspari refused to commit the party explicity to the Republic. The strength of this Government is in the fact that there is no imaginable alternative, as has been the case since the Armistice, and it is being conti= nually accused of insufficient activity in coping with reconstruction problems. The chief excuse given is that the limitation of the Government's transport and communication facilities are an immediate embarassment.

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SEWRIGHT (Reuter): The revolver which Marshal Kesse handed over to General Montgomery when he surrendered to the latter in Tunisia on May 11th 1943, was returned to the Marshal yesterday. It had been brought from England by the British General who had been responsible for safeguarding Marshal Messe as a prisoner of war. Messe has cabled his gratitude for chivalrous gesture. The revolver was a miniature model which had been in his possession since he was a second Lieutenant.

The American Govt. has obtained approval from the Italian Ministry of Education for the establishment of a large American - Italian correspondence school in order to intensify the cultural relations of the two nations. The school will be in the former Colonial Institute attached to Rome University. Italian tuition will be given to American soldiers by University teachers.

It is announced that Spadaro, chief of the Rome Fascist terrorist gang has fallen into Allied hands and will be tried together with Caruso. Caruso's lady friend, Countess Grelli, has been arrested.

MOORE (Daily Telegraph) : The highest ranking member of the 32 dismissed from the Italian diplomatic and consular service as Fascists, only holds the rank of Consul General, 2nd class. The remainder are secretaries of legations, and first and second class consuls . On an average Ministries have lost 50% of their staffs; some officials having fled, and others dismissed.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times"): With the war approaching its conclusion it is obvious that millions of eyes will be turned towards the Vatican through which it is thought peace feelers will come. But as Russia is rapidly over-running Catholic Poland and there is no doubt that Russia will be the future leading power on the Continent it is reasonable to suppose that the Vatican will wish to have contact with her. Knowing that the Pontiff has no rancour towards any particular nation the Germans are not unwilling that peace efforts should come through the Vatican. Everybody expects some sort of rapprochement between Russia and the Vatican before the year ends, by which time there may well be a Soviet Ambassador to the Holy See. This is a matter of pure politics having nothing to do with the Church's opposition to Communism. That continues and must continue so long as Communism remains faithful to its Marxist doctrines.

However the Church does not care what Government a country has so long as the rights of Catholics are prescribed, and on this basis agreement is expected to be reached. Weizsacker, German Ambassador to the Holy See, as well as representatives of other enemy countries now at the Vatican, are mostly not at one with the Nazis. But the Nazis are leaving their Ambassador there ready for the

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CHINIGO (INS): Bonomi has declared the abolishment of the po= litical censorship in territory administered by the Italian Government. It empowers Prefects to grant newspapers and magazine publication permits in each province.

KENNEDY (AP) : Mario Berlinguer, Commissioner for puni= shment of Fascist crimes, has asked the ACC to allow Italian law to be applied in such cases as that of Caruso. He asks that this

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be granted before August 15th, the day of handing over to the Italian Government, so that Italian courts may proceed before then with such cases. Although feeling is running high against Caruso it is possible that the Allied authorities may hold him for trial before an Allied Court which will deal with war criminals.

The exhumation of the bodies of those shot by the Germans in the catacombs, is proceeding. Col. Poletti visited the spot yesterday.

BRIA (AP)
PACKARD (UP)

A message has been sent to Bonomi by Italian patriot leaders saying that a GHQ for Italian Volunteer Liberation groups has been established in occupied Italy. The General Command would strive to unify the efforts of the partisan forces.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 28 July, 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

BRIA (AP)
CHINIGO (INS)

The Vatican, through the "Osservatore Romano", has warned both sides to reflect seriously on the moral consequences of the deliberate destruction of Pisa's monuments. The warning is given as a result of reports that the Germans are using the leaning tower of Pisa as an artillery observation post, and are building machine gun posts in the streets.

PACKARD (UP): In an interview with Dr. Salvatore Camera, private secretary to Bonomi, was told that the Italian Government were especially anxious to have Lease-Lend extended to Italy, and for the Allies to give Italy a chance of redeeming herself by more aid through her fighting troops, and the recognition of Italy as an ally and no longer as merely a co-belligerent.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)
MOORE ("Daily Telegraph"): A vast and complex political and financial clique is trying to suppress the publication of Ciano's diary, according to the Communist paper "Unita". Only extracts which do not compromise certain political groups who have extreme and urgent interest in suppressing the dangerous document are at least preventing its publication in entirety.

Contrary to the report that seven copies of the diary exist, it is believed that there is only one copy, written in several school exercise books, and that it is in the possession of someone in liberated Italy. In addition "Unita" says that many important and historical documents have been removed to safer places by civil servants and that some of these show the truth of how certain Fascists were responsible for the war. On the pretext of saving them first from the Badoglio Government, then from the Germans and then from the Republican Fascists some of the documents are said to be still in the hands of people who are trying to

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R. MOWRER (Chicago News) writing on the partisan problem says that representatives of the Italian Ministry of War have been directed to join AMG officers in forward areas and to deal with patriots in the 5th and 8th army zones as well as in the area under Polish command. They will interview partisan applicants for the Army and decide how many can be accepted. The ACC has issued detailed orders for giving priority to patriots who do not enter military

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service. The partisans do not believe the story that arms should be harboured over for the use of patriots in the North. Many of the arms are of Italian origin, hidden when the Italian army folded up last September, or German weapons taken from the Germans at the risk of patriot lives.

EISENSTOCK (Overseas News Agency. NY)

Gives a long favourable account of the work of AMG in dealing with the Italian refugee problem.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times") sends very lengthy article on the text of a "Fillipelli memorial" which has been translated from a photostat copy of the Italian original. It purports to give the true story of the kidnapping and assassination of Matteotti and those involved in the murder.

BUCKLEY (Reuter)

Filed a story which "Avanti" is said to have published, but which was not passed bythe Censor. It is an account of two women and two children having been thrown from a train by French North African troops. It states that several women and children got a lift on a train carrying these troops. During the journey these troops made indecent advances which the women rejected, and as a result the women were thrown from the train. One woman and child were picked up dead; one woman and child died in hospital, and another woman is now in the San Giovanni Hospital in Rome, and is not expected to recover.

PACKARD (UP): Says that the Democrat paper "Il Popolo" which is considered to be in close touch with the Vatican, has called the attention of the Allied authorities to the very difficult living conditions and hardships which Italian civilians are undergoing at present.

PACKARD (UP): Appointment of Count Carandini in replacement of Croce is being interpreted in Italy as an indication of Italian Liberalism swinging to the left since Carandini is an advocate of Republicanism whereas Croce was a Monarchist.

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The Liberal party has not yet made up its mind regarding the Monarchist-Republican issue. Many believe that the Liberals will split into two. Under the 6 party set up established by AMG as the only legal parties in Italy the Liberals were considered Rightists along with the Democratic Workers party, while the Christian Democrats were considered the Centre party, and the Action party, Socialists and Communists were of the Left. Although there are many Monarchists, they do not form any definite party, since it is reported they do not wish to raise the Monarchists issue at this juncture as they believe it would make Umberto and his 7 year old son the victims of some of the animosity felt toward Victor Emmanuel.

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SPRIGGE (Reuter)

Tribunal consisting of 2 professional judges and 5 citizens will be ready to commence trials of former Fascist Ministers and high party officials by the end of August, according to a Government announcement issued after the Cabinet meeting. Sforza has been confirmed in his office as High Commissioner in charge of these courts. At yesterday's session Count Pecconi, former Lieutenant Governor of Albania was ordered into retirement for his responsibility in the war against Greece.

The Minister of Communications has announced that all railway lines in Sicily and Sardinia and most of those in Southern Italy are now running limited services subject to the exigencies of military traffic. The Rome-Formia-Naples line is expected to reopen this month.

BERGH (Goteborgs Handelstidning)

In Rome there are at least 35.000 civil servants without work. This figure increases as the political purge takes place. Unemployment not only through lack of raw materials but also because machinery has been destroyed and there is no electric power. The Roma press insist it is necessary to send away many of the refugees still in Rome, as the lack of accommodation and food makes this urgent.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 July 29 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

KENNEDY (AP) : Has interviewed Giacomo Matteotti, son of the socialist leader who was assassinated by Fascists. He was 3 years old when his father was killed, and is now 23. He does not remember anything of the actual event, but he has been studying as a lawyer and for some years has been slowly collecting evidence to establish the guilt of those responsible.

COE (Blue Network)

....."Transportation is a great problem in Rome. There is a shortage of current for running the trams and trolley-buses. Bicycles are now appearing on the streets. The Germans had forbidden their use. The hiring of bicycles became very profitable until racketeers began stealing the machines.Now an order to hire a bicycle it is necessary to put down a deposit of ₰ 120. One set of racketeers set up a bicycle parking place outside a cinema , for the use of those arriving on bicycles to see the show. When the cinema goers came out they found all their bicycles had gone."

TUCKER (AP) : Sends a 3 page despatch on the disillusionment felt by many of the younger generation in Italy, and especially the girls. They do not wish to marry Italian men as they foresee years of misery and struggle ahead, but would give almost anything to marry American or Englishmen in order to get away from the country. "There is some justification for this pessimism" writes the correspondent. "The wage scale in Italy, in terms of buying power, is a social crime. Labourers are earning less under Allies than they did under the Germans. One effort was made to raise the scale , but General Sir Harold Alexander, commander of Allied forces in Italy, set it aside, saying the raise would be "reviewed". That was weeks ago and nothing has been done yet. One immediate result of this was an increase of Communist rolls. In one instance 116 Italian Army officers who had received no pay in months called round to Communist HQ and signed on the dotted line. The Communists pay ₰ 20 to newcomers. ₰ 20 is not a great deal but it looks good to a man who remembers the look of hunger on the face of his wife and children."

1868

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

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BRIA (AP) Sends a story of an attempt by Mussolini to end his life by cutting his wrist with a razor blade at the time he was a prisoner at Gran Sasso. It is said to be from a very reliable source.

BUCKLEY (Reuter): The Italian Govt. is fighting a harvest battle in liberated areas. The grain is coming in steadily but slowly. It is too early to draw any definite conclusions on what the final harvest yield will be. The Italian Govt.

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figures up to July 25th for 20 provinces of the mainland show nearly 50,000 tons handed over by farmers. This is not a complete figure as no returns have been made for some areas and for several weeks large quantities of grain now being threshed will come in. Nevertheless some 8 million people in liberated Italy require 800,000 tons in order to maintain the present daily ration of 300 grammes bread and macaroni throughout the year. By means of propaganda the Government, aided by ACC, are working to get in the grain. There are over 2,000 agricultural committees now working on how much each farmer should be able to turn in after retaining his own needs. Today the Allies offered extra motor transportation from Rome to help in collecting the grain.

LOWRER ("Chicago News")

"Italia Libera" voices the suspicion that Italian liberation corps is intended to be a new royal army for the House of Savoy. The recent visit of Prince Umberto to the front line where Italian troops are in action, and Allied praise for the work of these troops has led to this outburst. These visits are an attempt to demonstrate that the army is the property of the royal house.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times") has interviewed Bonomi. The Prime Minister said that only by allowing Italy to join the comity of nations and receiving Lease-Lend aid now can she expect to survive her present terrible plight. It is reasonable to suppose, comments the correspondent, that this request is being conveyed to Washington by Mr. Grady, late head of the Economic Section of the ACC. Bonomi agreed that Republicanism is strong in Italy today and can be expected to gain strength. He gave the impression that the liberation of Northern Italy and a consequent Plebiscite would show that a majority of the country is against the Monarchy. The Prime Minister did not expect civil strife or revolution so long as the Allies remained in Italy as a steadying influence. Asked about Russia's role in Italy confirmed what the correspondent had heard from other sources, namely that Russia is leaving Italy to the British sphere of influence and is not coercing or interfering in any way. This was something none expected when the Russians first made moves in Italy last Winter.

SPRIGGE (Reuter) : The Bishops of Abruzzi and Marche have paid a public tribute in the name of these provinces for the excellent Christian behaviour of the Polish troops in those

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SPRIGGE (Reuter) : The Bishops of Abruzzi and Marche have paid a public tribute in the name of those provinces for the excellent Christian behaviour of the Polish troops in those areas. Under Secretary Canevari's conversations with Russian representatives took place at the request of the latter. Participants were Canevari and Secretary Malfatti for the Italian Govt. while the Russian representatives were Alexander Bogomolov, the Russian representative on the Allied Advisory Council, and Michael Kosteylev, accredited representative to the Italian Government. Conversations with the Russians have taken place from time to time but this is the first time public attention has been drawn to them, but the tenor of the talks has not been disclosed.

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PACKARD (UP) : In the most important international speech he has made since the Allied occupied Rome the Pope in audiencing Polish troops yesterday said that all nations should take note of their debt towards Poland and give d to her the place which is due according to the concepts of justice and peace. The Pope exhorted the Poles to disdain revenge.
This is considered to be a hint to the Russians in their relations with Poland.

BRIA (AP) : The Italian Cabinet has abolished the death sentence which the Fascists had re-introduced in 1926. This abolition does not apply to the military code nor to the law for the punishment of Fascist criminals

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This does not apply to the right to assert any code not to the law for the
unclaimed or classified material

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 30 July 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

COE (Blue Network)

Allied Military Government has published its first price fixing order. It sets maximum prices for three flourishing Rome businesses: barber shops, shoe shine parlors, and bars ..... Liquor prices range up to a maximum of 48 cents for foreign liquors. Just how this will affect the Grande Hotel bar where a Martini is 70 cents and a Tom Collins is 90 cents a lot of people are anxious to see.....

CHINIGO (INS): The Italian and Russian Governments are negotiating for the release of Italian prisoners of war. Moscow is said to be "receptive" for "certain conditions" which are now under discussion.

SPRIGGE (Reuter): "Osservatore Romano" makes a guarded allusion to the possibility of Pisa's leaning tower being destroyed by Allied artillery fire. Quoting the "Stars and Stripes" a comparison is drawn between the German use of the monastery at Cassino. Regarding Cassino the journal says that it was never demonstrated that the monastery served military purposes, nor have we any proof to the contrary.

PACKARD (UP) filed the same story as a "bombshell" from the Pope.

PACKARD (UP): Rome's political satirist weekly "Centacinaro" has published a photostat copy of one of Mussolini's letters to a former mistress, Signorina Claretta Petacci. The love missive was said to have been found in the ville built for her by Mussolini, and was left behind when she fled to Northern Italy on the downfall of Mussolini.

1806

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1806

BIENSTOCK (Overseas Liaison Agency)

Prof. Bergami, UnderSecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture has pointed out the difficulties of collecting the grain harvest. He said that there is a shortage of equipment due to seizure by the Germans, and war destruction. Many threshing machines were out of commission owing to lack of spare parts and gasoline. The government had little or no transport at its disposal. What makes the position worse is that many of the principle grain

1444

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areas are still in the battle zone, or in German held territory. The Government has to overcome the spirit of years of resistance to the Fascist methods of grain collection, as well as to the recent resistance to letting the Germans take grain.

SPRIGGE (Reuter): Sicily's Prime Cardinal Lavitrano has arrived in Rome from Palermo in order to report to the Pope. He reassured Reuter on the situation in the island. Contrary to the disturbing rumours which had been circulating in Rome the Cardinal attributed any of the recent troubles in Sicily to the attempt to obtain wheat for the people's granaries at prices which the peasants are not prepared to yield. He asked whether it would not be more prudent to use public money to let the people's granaries put higher prices rather than maintain large police forces charged with attempting to track down hiding places where it is the easiest thing for peasants to conceal their grain. Answering Reuter's enquiry whether there are any troubles of a political nature the Primate said actual disturbances had been confined to Agrigento Province and related to economic conditions, but perhaps agitators exploited these and had given them a political aspect. He opined that careful watch should be kept to ensure economic conditions which are expected in the winter should not be a contributory cause to trouble.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

Mr. Alexander Kirk, United States representative, presided over a meeting of the Allied Advisory Council for Italy yesterday when Capt. Ellery Stone, United States Navy, who is acting Allied Chief Commissioner pending the appointment of a successor to General Mason MacFarlane, reported on recent political developments in Italy. Six Allied nations were represented by their standing members.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

State pensions payable to Italians who fought as Fascist volunteers in Spain were stopped by Government order. This is stated to be the first Italian condemnation of Fascist intervention in Spain.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 31 July 1944

Trend of Copy filed by Correspondents

HILL (New York Herald Tribune
MATTHEWS (New York Times)
BUCKLEY (Reuter)

Togliatti, in the Communist journal "Unita", has refuted the accusations which have appeared in the Rome press that the Allies are subordinating the Italian partisan movement, and he levels a similar charge against certain reactionary interests in Italy. Togliatti says that the Government's provisions for the partisans fail to materialize owing to interference from obscure forces which cannot easily be singled out. He fails to single them out himself.

"Unita" has also had an interview with Gullo, the Communist Minister for Agriculture who has just returned from Sicily with a report that "hold overs" of the former Fascist regime still hold key public posts in the island. These elements are resorting to passive resistance against the Government's programme for the People's Granaries, said Gullo, and he added that one of the most disturbing factors was the Regionalist movement. He apparently refers to the Sicilian separatists. According to "Unita", Prefects, mayors, directors of agrarian agencies, farmers' associations and public utilities willingly let the food situation in Sicily deteriorate in order to foster this regionalistic movement, thus undermining national unity which is indispensable to wipe out Fascism.

PARKER (Exchange Telegraph)
BRIA (AP)

An Italian resistance front communique says that the North Italian and Yugoslav Committees of National Liberation have agreed to form units and will operate together without distinction in the Venezia Giulia and in Slovenia. The communique also said Italian and French partisans have agreed to co-ordinate their efforts in the Haute Savoie.

MOORE (Daily Telegraph)

"Unita" accuses Badoglio of having had documents "placed in safety". It asks what has become of the correspondence between Hitler and Mussolini? What has become of the Ante Pavelich dossier and the Franco dossier? It is known that some of these documents were sent abroad by Badoglio between July 25 and September 8, 1943. Have not the Italian people the right to know what has

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SPRIGGE (Reuter)

1805

The outrage to which it is now permitted to refer was committed at Ciampino, 8 miles south of Rome by Moroccan troops a few days ago when Italian women who refused to respond to indecent demands were thrown from a train. Two women were killed and several others injured. The "Osservatore Romano" has commented on the outrage in the sharpest terms, saying that no official record or undertaking concerning the offenders and the punishment they will receive has been published. Following exposure by "Avanti" many other Rome dailies have expressed horror and indignation.

/ PACKARD (UP)

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PACKARD (UP)

Also sends the same story and adds that the "Osservatore Romano" does not mince its words in charging the ACC with lack of zealousness in searching out French native soldiers guilty of the alleged attack. The "Osservatore Romano" says that if the authorities maintain silence on the result of their searches and conclusions it will have a bad effect in Italy.

MATTHEWS (New York Times) has also sent the story.

NOYES (Washington Star)

Sends along account of the position regarding the Italian press now that, as from August 1st, the licensing and control of publications in Italian liberated territory are to be restored to the Italian Government.

The article gives a clear picture of the difficulties involved up to the present, especially in regard to the number of applications for publication of journals in Rome coupled with the shortage of paper.

Italian editors do not feel oppressed in any way by Allied regulations and directives, and they believe that no attempt is being made by the Allies to mould Italian public opinion through political control of the press. The most serious criticism they have to make is that Italian papers do not have enough of their own reporting staff at the front and have to rely on PWB and UNNS for world news. Although a few Italian reporters are now allowed the Allies will not yet allow the Italians to establish their own news agency. It is safe to say that the "liberation" of Italy's press will depend as much on the rebirth of the idea of liberty in Italy as on anything else.

BUCKLEY (Reuter)

Three Italian military missions have left Rome for the task of collaborating with the Allies in the selection of volunteers from among patriot bands in recently liberated territory, for service with the Italian armed forces. This represents the first serious attempt on the part of the Italian Government and the Allies to solve the difficult problem of the partisans.

MATTHEWS (New York Times)

A violent attack was made on the monarchy by Cianca of the Action Party, before a crowd of 5,000 people in the Brancaccio Theatre. His speech was one of a series which the leaders of the six parties are making in order to define the positions of their parties. He attacked Badoglio bitterly as being responsible for

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 Aug. 1 1944

Trend of Copy filed by Correspondents

PACKARD (UP)

Italian girls who fraternise with Allied troops are having their hair cut off by Italian youths. According to the Rome journal "Il Tempo" an incident occurred in the amusement park at Piazzale Clodio when some shooting occurred.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")
COOPER ("Daily Express")
BRIA (AP)
and most other correspondents.

Sforza held a press conference for foreign correspondents yesterday when he discussed the work of purging the Italian administration of Fascism. He said that under the new law the big shots of Fascism faced death or life imprisonment. Exemplary measures would be taken. The first trials would begin before the end of August at the latest. He described a Fascist as one who forever had "Country! Country! Glory! Glory!" on his lips, but shouted "Graft ! Graft !" in his heart.

Sforza declined to say who will be tried, but aided that there are about 30 or 40, including Caruso, former police chief, Rossi implicated in the murder of Matteotti, Trignanor - Governor of the Bank of Naples; Lauro, a shipping magnate accused of helping the Japanese, and Soprano, the Naples Police Prefect accused of signing the decree ordering the conscription of Neapolitan youth for Nazi labour gangs.

He declined to reveal whether steps would be taken against members of the House of Savoy as this was a Constitutional question. He was also opposed to trial in absentia, but pointed out that Grandi's case was an exception as he had been given the opportunity to return and face trial.

Allied commissions working on the problem of defascistication will cease to function in those areas now under Italian Government control.

The trial of Fascists will be strictly legal. 1804

BRIA (AP): The Italian Treasury in agreement with ACC has issued in order permitting the re-opening of the Rome and [illegible] from today. Trading will be confined

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

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BRIA (AP): The Italian Treasury in agreement with ACC has issued in order permitting the re-opening of the Rome and Naples stock exchanges as from to-day. Trading will be confined to cash transactions in State securities and public services.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times")

Sends a long article on "defascistisation". He says that "AMG., ACC., PWB., and a few others of the Allies' many alphabetical organisations recently evolved a definition of Fascism which Poletti solemnly promulgated. A Fascist, it said, was someone who had been a squadrista, who had marched on Rome, who had accepted, or worse still bought, a "Scarpa letters" Fascism's highest political decoration".

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It would surprise readers if one were to list some of the recommendations on behalf of noted Fascists now being made by some of the highest figures in present Italian politics. Many unquestionable anti-Fascists of today were at one time in their careers involved in Fascism's triumphs: here off hand are some - Croce, Orlando, Bonomi, Toscanini, Casati and Nenni. Everyone has tried to find a way out in order to avoid prosecution.

It is all very well for the Allies to tell Italians they must instil democracy as if by a magic wand. Italians cannot be turned overnight from Fascists to Democrats. Italy never knew true liberalism or Democracy. From 1870 to 1922 it was mainly three dictators - Depretis, Crispi, and Giolitti, ruling through their manipulation of parliamentary groups, although the general tendency was liberal.

It is considered opinion among some of the best political minds in Italy today that the country nearly escaped a return to Fascism in a modified form under Badoglio and King Victor Emmanuel, and that the alternative to the present Bonomi Government is a sort of neo-Fascism. Vested interests are working on the old theme, so effective in the years 1919 to 1922 and during the appeasement period in Europe before this war, that one must support conservative forces against Communism and revolutionaries. At a recent performance of Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit" all those who know Rome said that it seemed as if the only figure missing was Ciano, who was a friend to everybody.

Italy's history has been one long succession of leaders, princes, dukes, kings, dictators. To swing from Fascism to another authoritarian movement like Communism is much easier than to swing from Fascism to Democracy, as the latter demands certain gifts of civic virtue, understanding, self sacrifice for the common good that are not common to the Italian temperament.

EISENSTOCK (Overseas Agency)

The Socialist party are shortly arranging a campaign for a sweeping reorganisation of the entire Italian administrative machinery and its revitalisation into a democratic force. The old civil service is its target with particular emphasis on Provincial Prefects, police heads and other functionaries responsible to Rome. These men are not necessarily Fascist, but they have become accustomed to carrying out orders from a tightly centralised administration in Rome. The Socialists want to replace them with men who will actively promote democratic ideas and spirit. They want to give the people

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

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HOVEY (INS)

BBC broadcaster Vaughan Thomas, and Major Eric Linklater, the novelist, discovered many valuable paintings in a house near the front line south of Florence. They had stopped at a mansion serving as a battalion command post when they saw a number of painting stacked up against a wall which on examining they recognised as old masters. The Italian custodian of these pictures was eventually found, and he then guided them to other places in the area where pictures were stored. It appears that

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When the Allies first bombed Florence the Germans permitted the pictures to be taken to large houses in the surrounding countryside, in order to safeguard them from damage. The Germans had promised eventually to have them transported back to Florence, but had done nothing further about the matter. The pictures have been placed under guard, an inventory will be made and they will be removed to safety.

LUMBY ("Times")

The Monuments and Fine Arts Sub-Commission of the ACC is preparing an exhibition of old masters to be shown in the Palazzo Venezia. Owing to war conditions, there are at present in Rome an exceptional number of paintings of the Renaissance. They come from galleries all over Italy. This affords a unique opportunity to see an exhibition which in normal times it would be impossible to bring together in one place. It will be open to Italians and to members of the Allied forces.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R'O

Aug. 2 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

There is an epidemic of finding old masters in various large houses in the operational zone south of Florence, the latest reported being by HOWE (Canadian Press) who says that the Colonel of a Canadian armoured regiment discovered more of them while out on a reconnaissance patrol.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times")
SERIGGE (Reuter)
MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")
EUBEY ("Times")

Don Sturzo's statement at the Congress of the Christian Democrat party in Naples, broadcast on Sunday night, to the effect that Allied Chancelries are negotiating a tentative peace agreement with Italy has aroused great hopes. The "Italia Nuova" writes that it fully corresponds with the developments in the situation. For weeks it has been felt in Italy that with an anti-Fascist government, contribution by the partisans, naval help, and other material support to the Allies, that the country has well earned some amelioration of the terribly severe terms of the Armistice signed by Badoglio. Italian Government circles, however, express some surprise at Don Sturzo's statement. Though sceptical they hope the rumour will not prove baseless. The limitations on the Government imposed by the Armistice terms have been voiced for some time by the Rome press, the "Italia Nuova" even saying that Ministers have to get a yellow permit in order to travel on official business. Such comments are naturally increasing the internal political tension.

According to EUBEY ("Times") although there is no official confirmation of the rumour there is reason to believe that the Allied Governments are indeed considering the question in view of the fact that all Italy may soon be liberated.

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....No one who has faith in Italy and knows the Italians can doubt that it will leave Fascism behind. Nevertheless to

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MATTHEWS ("New York Times")

....No one who has faith in Italy and knows the Italians can doubt that it will leave Fascism behind. Nevertheless to ignore the power of Fascism and its after effects on present day Italy is dangerous. Most of all is the effect it has left of moral rottenness and inability to think for oneself. These were the greatest crimes of Fascism. 22 years of Fascism, 16of them totalitarian have left their mark on every Italian up to the age of 45 which can never be erased. There are many thousands of self-proclaimed anti-Fascists, but it must be frankly said that they did very little against Fascism. Fascism has not disappeared. It will take a generation of Italians to bring Italy back to its rightful place in the comity of nations. Epuration has only begun. The Foreign Ministry, for instance, has not been epurated either internally

1302

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or externally. "Who is going to educate the educators". It is a case of the blind leading the blind and there will be much stumbling for years to come.

BIMSTOCK (Overseas Agency)

The Italian Minister of Public Instruction today issued a decree ordering the reinstatement of teachers and other employees of educational establishments who had been dismissed from their posts by the Fascists under the racial laws. It ordered the reistatement as from the date of the liberation of the territory in which the dismissed personnel resided, the 1st June being the date fixed for the liberation of Rome.

PACKARD (UP): Jap Ambassador Hasegawa has complained to the Vatican through the Spanish authorities against the attitude of the American authorities towards him. He complained that American police kept him confined to his residence and did not permit him to move about except over a specially ordained route. He also objected to the cordon of police drawn round his Embassy. The Vatican has taken the attitude this it is a question for the Italian Government, but the American military police compelled to carry out the work complain that they did not come overseas just to protect Japs.

PACKARD (UP): The Vatican semi-official news service denies that Roumania has asked for an armistice through the Vatican.

SPRIGGE (Reuter): An Italian official communique says that Mr. Bullitt, at present Mr. Roosevelt's personal envoy in Europe, conferred with Count Sforza at the Viminale Palace yesterday. It is not possible to obtain confirmation in Rome that Mr. Bullitt's position is the one which the Italians assign to him. He is said to be here purely as a journalist.

PACKARD (UP): Official trading was resumed on Rome's stock exchange yesterday. Business was fairly active but transaction were confined to State and public service bonds exclusively. Prices generally were slightly under those which prevailed before the bourse was closed on June 2nd.

RALPH HOWARD (National Broadcasting)

....."I'd like to discuss a story of what will happen when we finally enter Florence. It is a black market story, but one involving hundreds of thousands of dollars, most of which come out of your pockets. When the Allied armies came to Rome the local black marketeers learned a lot of new tricks at our

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....."I'd like to discuss a story of what will happen when we finally enter Florence. It is a black market story, but one involving hundreds of thousands of dollars, most of which come out of your pockets. When the Allied armies came to Rome the local black marketeers learned a lot of new tricks at our expense. One thing they learned was that prices of any given commodity doubled or even tripled within 10 days of our occupation. With this in mind Rome black market dealers are doing everything possible to enter Florence with the first troops where they can capitalise on a war time market. Their system is simple. From Rome they or their agents bribe their way towards the fronts, their pockets stuffed with a million or two million lire. At the front they dress as farmers and either wait behind the lines or attempt to steal through the lines into Florence. The minute they are in the city will buy everything they can lay their hands on at the existing prices and then sit tight and wait for

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

prices to rise. The simplicity of it is that they are not required to transport their goods. The only transport involved is in getting to the front. A civilian friend of mine attached to the army and allowed unrestricted movement was recently offered 10,000 lire if he would carry an agent to the front. Allied officials seem to be stymied by the whole idea. Their first thought is to have Civil Affairs officers freeze all commodities in Florence the first day, but I've seen this tried before and it has never worked. However a few death sentences passed on black market useless might help."

R. MOWRER (Chicago News)

The French have opened a recruiting office in Rome for the French Foreign Legion. Many Italian youths are preserving themselves. The "Italia Nuova" writes that this is a grave error on the part of the Allies. It has nothing against the Foreign Legion as such, but recruiting on Italian soil under conditions of hunger as at present looks much like mercenary soldiering, if not an insult to our sense of justice.

RAYMOND ("Saturday Evening Post")

In a 13 page article on Italy and the task of rehabilitation gives an outline of the work of AMG/ACC and makes the following remarks. "ACC's mandate apparently contains many duties which only by the longest stretch of the imagination are concerned with winning the war and which obviously are more concerned with preparing conquered Italy for the kind of peace we want to impose. Third step in peace making will be taken by United States foreign economic administration headed by Washington's Leo Crowley. Civilian officials of this administration headed by A.G. Antolini, former buyer for Italy for Macy's Department stores of New York. Already begun infiltration into ranks of Allied Control Commission where they are known as officers of the Economic Sub-Commission and are already busy on plans to reorganise Italy's habits of production and consumption, import and export in the way we want them reformed. It is understood here that some British organisation similar to Mr. Crowley's is coming along soon for reshaping Italy's international trade policies which concerns Britain just as much as us, and perhaps more in such matters as shipping.

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before and it has never worked. However a few death sentences passed on black market dealers might help."

R. MOWRER (Chicago News)

The French have opened a recruiting office in Rome for the French Foreign Legion. Many Italian youths are presenting themselves. The "Italia Nuova" writes that this is a grave error on the part of the Allies. It has nothing against the Foreign Legion as such, but recruiting on Italian soil under conditions of hunger as at present looks much like mercenary soldiering, if not an insult to our sense of justice.

RAYMOND ("Saturday Evening Post")

In a 13 page article on Italy and the task of rehabilitation gives an outline of the work of AMG/ACC and makes the following remarks. "ACC's mandate apparently contains many duties which only by the longest stretch of the imagination are concerned with winning the war and which obviously are more concerned with preparing conquered Italy for the kind ofpeace we want to impose. Third step in peace making will be taken by United States foreign economic administration headed by Washington's Leo Crowley. Civilian officials of this administration headed by A.G. Antoilini, former buyer for Italy for Macy's Department stores of New York. Already begun infiltration into ranks of Allied Control Commission where they are known as officers of the Economic Sub-Commission and are already busy on plans to reorganize Italy's habits of production and consumption, import and export in the way we want them returned. It is understood here that some British organisation similar to Mr. Crowley's is coming along soon for reshaping Italy's international trade policies which concerns Britain just as much as us, and perhaps more in such matters as shipping.

1801

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

August 3 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

KENNEDY (AP)
PACKARD (UP)
MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")
SPRIGGE (Reuter)

Vincenzo Azzolini, Governor of the Bank of Italy in Rome, has been arrested. He is said to have handed over certain gold reserves to the Germans.

Besides Azzolini, Alberto Angioni, head of the Hoepli publishing firm, has been arrested. Allied police officials also occupied the Stefani agency premises in Rome. The agency has been dormant since the liberation of Rome, but had been frequented by certain members of the former staff.

MICHAEL STERN (Fawcett Publications) sends a 19 page article on the German Gestapo and their misdeeds in the Via Tasso. He claims to have contacted a Jugoslav girl dancer who appeared in a cabaret act at the Officers Club "Apollo", in the Via Nazionale. She had been the mistress of a German major who had happened to be passing the Via Rasella on the morning when 30 Germans SS troops were killed by a bomb. As he was carrying a camera at the time the Major took what are supposed to be the only photographs in existence of the scene immediately following the incident. The photos show the dead Germans as well as many Italian civilians who were in the neighbourhood at the time and who fell victims to the indiscriminate shooting which took place. The correspondent claims to have obtained these photos.

GEORGE MOORAD (CBS): "Rome after two months of Allied occupation is still not as peaceful as it might be. Almost any night you can hear occasional mysterious shots or explosions..... and it is not often you find an explanation. Some of this shooting in the last 24 hours came from Roman gangsters who attacked an American and Vatican truck convoy loaded with food. In one case an American driver was killed resisting..... though military police caught the criminals."

BUCKLEY (Reuter): Many young Romans are flocking to volunteer for the French Foreign Legion. Crowds often group

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BUCKLEY (Reuter): Many young Romans are flocking to volunteer for the French Foreign Legion. Crowds often group round the French office in the Via del Sudario and it is estimated that about 30/40 young men are enrolled daily. In all about 1500 are believed to have joined so far, including some ex-officers and soldiers of the Italian army. The French authorities say that no recruiting is actually done in Rome but that suitable applicants are sent to southern Italy for selection and eventual incorporation.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times")

There is feverish interest among the Polish troops in Rome at the conversations going on between Stalin and Mikolajcyk. The attitude of the Poles in Italy is made quite clear by a huge map which is displayed at a Polish Exhibition

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now being held in Rome. This shows the proposed Middle European "bloc" of Polish ideals. The map is drawing a considerable amount of attention as it is known that General Anders is a firm supporter of the idea.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

Bonomi's office has expressed great satisfaction with Mr. Stettinius's statement that the Italian request for Italian participation in Lease-Lend is now under consideration, not only because of the fact that supplies may be forthcoming to help Italy in her struggle for existence, but also because it will show that Italy is favourably considered as one of the nations worthy to draw such supplies. Such a thing would have an immense moral value.

BIENSTOCK (Overseas Agency)

Special UNRRA observers mission began functioning in Rome this week preparing a detailed report on Italian relief and reconstruction needs for submission to Lehman, and the Council of UNRRA, it was authoritatively learned today. One of the mission's tasks is to ascertain the extent of Italian relief needs, amount of supplies needed and the size of the organisation it will be necessary to set up to deal with same. The question as to whether UNRRA will be able operate in Italy will be one of the principal subjects at the forthcoming session of UNRRA Council at Montreal in September. Under UNRRA's charter all resolutions adopted at Atlantic City conference the organisation cannot operate in enemy or ex-enemy territory without the express desire of the military authorities. When the question of aid to Italy is raised in September it is expected that there will be some modification of the present regulations which will permit an agency to operate here. At present Italy is under the jurisdiction of Allied Military Government authorities and the field is closed for UNRRA. If the agency's council agrees to permit its functioning here it would have to be under control of the military authorities for the duration of the armistice and until the peace treaty is negotiated between Italy and the Allies. Operations, supplies, and personnel would have to be subject to military approval. So far the Italian Government has not formally requested UNRRA aid, but informal explorations are being made. The fact that the Government has already requested Lease-Lend sets a precedent for seeking aid. The U.[illegible] is to be headed by S.S.Wenzy of New York, supplies expert and a veteran of the Hoover Relief Mission.

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In addition to making a detailed survey of Italian relief and rehabilitation, the mission is studying the measures taken by AMG to meet the situation as they found it, as some

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sort of guidance, while at the same time the mission has the task of getting information from the Balkans relief organisation, and studying the flow of Jugoslav refugees. The mission will remain two months, but Scrieri and Madzo will remain being indefinitely and be attached to the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission. UNRRA has considerably modified its plans for the Balkans.

COOK (Newsweek)

The Allies have brought a change in Rome's working life. In summer Romans had been accustomed to work from 9 am to 1 pm and then to take a siesta till 4. They then re-opened and worked till 8 or 9 in the evening. They find it bewildering when they have an appointment with an Allied official at 2.30 pm or when they find Allied officials gone home by 5.30 or 6 pm.

On checking up on the story of the finding of old masters as announced by Vaughan Thomas of the BBC and Major Eric Linklater, it transpires that the Government well knew where the various paintings had been dispersed. About 20 to 25 repositories had been set up in Tuscany. In them were stored pictures from the Florence Galleries when that city was first bombed by the Allies. The place where Vaughan Thomas found the paintings was the Villa di Montegufoni, in the commune of Montespertoli in the Spesa Valley.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

The Keats-Shelley house in the Piazza d'Espagna was yesterday re-opened by Sir Noel Charles in the name of an Anglo-American Committee. Cases containing valuable MSS and relics were opened. They had been taken to Cassino two years ago and were later on removed to Rome to prevent the Germans seizing them.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 August 4, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

NOYES ("Washington Star")

Gives an account of a visit to a black market in Rome at Tor di Nona near the Tiber. There were many small stands set out similar to those in the legal market. One man had 10 tins of condensed milk for sale at 170 lire per tin, or equal to $ 1.70 each.

Following are some of the prices for goods.

	Black Market price			Legal price	
Natural rock salt (not the refined powder variety as this is adulterated with marble dust)	280	Lire	Kilo	5	Lire
Rice	280	"	"		
Sugar	430	"	"		
Olive oil	500	"	"	30	"
20 Italian cigarettes	50	Lire			
20 American cigarettes	100	"			
Flour	190	"	kilo		
Eggs	40	"	each		
Tomatoes	40	"	kilo	25	Lire
Potatoes	50	"	"		
Onions	60	"	"		
Pepper	50	"	"		
Egg plant	40	"	"		

Cheese was selling at around 350 lire per kilo for a cottage type and up to 700 lire per kilo for more expensive varieties, while steak was costing 1300 lire a kilo.

Most of these prices were considered fairly low as they were not more than double or three times the legal price.

AMG and Italian officials have long been aware of the Tor di Nona market and say there are a number of other places similar to it in Rome. There is not a great deal that can be done about it. The day after the correspondent visited the place it was raided by the police and 50 arrests were made. Within 24 hours different vendors were operating, but this time they remained in their houses. The sum result was that

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

tins of condensed milk for sale at 1/6 lire per tin, or equal to $ 1.70 each.

Following are some of the prices for goods.

	Black Market price	Legal price
Natural rock salt (not the refined powder variety as this is adulterated with marble dust)	280 Lire kilo	5 Lire
Rice	280 " "	
Sugar	430 " "	
Olive oil	500 " "	30 "
20 Italian cigarettes	50 Lire	
20 American cigarettes	100 "	
Flour	190 " kilo	
Eggs	40 " each	
Tomatoes	40 " kilo	25 Lire
Potatoes	50 " "	
Onions	60 " "	
Pepper	50 " "	
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INGRAHAM (Time)

American officers scouring the Italian countryside for supplies of olive oil for the Italian troops discovered that this commodity was particularly scarce although they knew it could be obtained in the black market. The alertness of a Carabinieri officer helped partly to solve the mystery. He was controlling passengers arriving by train and noticed that an uncommon number of the women passengers were apparently pregnant. This roused his suspicions. Investigation showed that many of them had special containers strapped round their

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waists under their clothes and that these were filled with olive oil. American sources state that already 10 tons of olive oil have been recovered by this discovery.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

Sends a long account of the work being done by the Monuments and Fine Arts Sub-Commission of the ACC in saving Italian artistic treasures. "Archaeologists and artists in uniform" he describes its members. He gives an excellent and favourable account of the work and mentions Major de Weld and Major Ward Perkins as Director and Deputy Director. Considerable sums have been advanced for this work. In Calabria alone 15 million lire (£37,500) will be spent in the next three months restoring monuments and buildings and works of art, and disbursements will not increase seeing that the army is fighting on artistically far richer soil of Tuscany.

PACKARD (UP)

The Italian newpaper "Voce Repubblicana" declares that La Guardia will soon be making a trip to Rome. The journal says this will be one of many trips by Italian-Americans. Two labour organisers Antonini and Baldanzi are expected to arrive shortly. These signs of increasing American interest in our cause, it says, show that things are moving on the other side of the Atlantic - and it is high time.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

Two negative events have contributed to the present feeling in Allied and Italian relations. First the Armistice terms not being published; secondly that no successor has yet been appointed to General Mason MacFarlane who has now been gone for two months. There is probably some simpler shallower explanation of these negative events, but they contribute to the feeling that the Allies are groping towards a formal revision of the system whereby affairs of liberated Italy have been conducted since last September.

Attlee's statement acknowledging the aid which Italian troops and workers have rendered, together with Churchill's statement that the Allies intend to accept an increase in armed co-operation of Italians, plus the statement by Stettinius that Lease Lend aid for Italy is being considered have all combined to arouse speculation here about possible changes in Allied relations towards Italy.

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SEVAREID (CBS) : ."Winston Churchill in the Commons named with praise all the peoples who are fighting together to cleanse the soil of Italy, but made no mention of the Italian, whose soil this happens to be; Italian Democrats have fought for us here, and if their partisans have done more than their regular troops, it is because we have not permitted some of their regular soldiers to fight..... Official agreement has been made that the Italian army shall be increased but the situation today is such that the only way an Italian

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of principles, and there are many, can be sure of fighting the enemy, is by joining the French Foreign Legion; the Legion has a recruiting centre in Rome.."

MATTHEWS ("New York Times")

It has been a source of complaint for two months now that at Papal audiences the front seats have been reserved for officers. An American soldier recently complained to the Pope and the Pope had his sympathy. It is now a case of first come first served and only a few seats in the front are reserved for generals.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Confidential

PRB/10

August 5, 1944

Trend of Copy filed by Correspondents

HADFIELD ("Times")

Official figures for grain harvest are expected in about a fortnight's time. Prospects are for a good crop especially from Foggia. Some provinces' deliveries are slowed down on account of lack of transport and lack of threshing machinery, but the outlook is encouraging.

LUMBY ("Times")

Sends a picture of present day liberated Italy. The people are bewildered by what they have been through. At the same time that they resent being kept in leading strings by the Allies, they dread the thought of the Allies leaving the country and leavingthem to their fate.

The Communists and Socialists appear to be trying to work together but beneath the surface there is extreme jealousy of each other.

The Bonomi Government plugs along passing decrees and ordinances in an effort to carve a path through the jungle of confusion and the handicaps under which it works are many. It has no means of communication, no production. For everything it wants it must go to the Allies with its hat in its hand.

The man in the street is confused. Some Italian soldiers are allowed to fight alongside the Allies; others are kept in prisoner of war camps. Italians are complaining that the promises of the Allies are proving as illusory as after the last war, but many of them are more pre-occupied with the grim economic difficulties facing them after the war. Noone can see any future for himself except in the doubtful possibilities of emigration. In this desperation Italians are inclined to contrast the negative attitude of the United States and Great Britain, who are marching to victory over the mangled body of Italy, with Russian solicitude. While remaining indirectly not concerned with the military administration and control of Italy, Russia takes care that

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Meanwhile, too, Togliatti is all things to all men and holds out the olive branch to Church and bourgeoisie alike. As a result many of the younger generation in Italy are climbing on the band wagon headed for Moscow.

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On the other hand there is a structure of the Fascist state in the Civil Service, trained in fascist ways. They cannot all be dismissed without producing chaos. Combing out is being done but key men are being deliberately left here and there in Government offices to hold together the threads of Italian economy, as this was developed under Fascism. These are the men whom the Left has in mind when they talk about the survival of "sinister cliques" and the "hidden hand of capitalism". The stage is thus being set for a clash between Left and Right. This clash will be more or less violent according to the extent to which rehabilitation of the country is made. Nothing would put better heart into the Italians than positive proof that Allied statesmen and economists are planning broad constructive measures for post war Europe and that every country will be included in such a scheme.

PACKARD (UP)

According to authoritative sources "civil war" has broken out among the German personnel of the German mission to the Holy See. First Secretary KarlWollemweber is trying to oust von Weizsacker from his post on the ground that the Nazi Govt. no longer has confidence in him. Various prominent members of the mission have taken sides one way or the other. The matter is being kept secret in order to avoid complications for the Vatican.

BIENSTOCK (Supernews, New York)

A series of decrees providing for the restoration of the property confiscated by the Fascists on racial grounds, and indemnities for the victims, are now being prepared. A special commission in the Ministry of Justice is engaged on the work and is being advised by experts of AMG. It is considered likely that the first decree may be issued in 6 weeks time, but complete legislation may have to await the liberation of the whole of Italy.

One exception of concern to those engaged in drafting the decrees are the rights and protection of those racial and political refugees who left the country and were deprived of Italian citizenship and of others who acquired other nationality. The procedure adopted in Italy will doubtlessserve as a guide for the greater problems of other European countries. As a temporary measure for aiding the Jews, Poletti has appointed a commission to investigate property confiscations. In practice this commission

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ATTENTION PLEASE !

This document is confidential. There have been recent leakages of information tending to show that this service is discussed outside the office. The Public Relations Branch will be obliged to discontinue this service if further leakages occur.

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 August 6, 1944

Trend of Copy filed by Correspondents

Representatives of the General Confederation of Italian Labour called on Gronchi, Minister of Industry, Commerce and Labour, and made strong appeals for urgent measures to be taken to relieve unemployment in liberated Italy. The delegates said that the real solution of the problem lay in sponsoring public and private works of reconstruction of devastated villages, towns and cities, but that if the Government delayed beginning works on a large scale their organisation would be forced to demand exceptional provisions "to guarantee the unemployed the elementary right to existence".

Gronchi replied that he recognised the gravity of the situation for the working masses especially in Rome and Lazio Provinces and declared that his Ministry is planning to reactivate those industries which it would at least be possible to operate on a reduced scale.

At the same time the Italian Cabinet announced the setting up of an emergency Committee to work on the problem of reconstruction. Headed by Bonomi the Committee had already started work on housing but owing to shortage of raw materials and transport this can probably only mean emergency provisions for sheltering the homeless before winter comes.

The representatives also mentioned that salaried workers in Rome were in a deplorable condition because of the rising prices. Wages did not suffice to buy even rationed goods.

COE (Blue Network)

"Here in Rome it is midnight but the brilliant lobby of the of the Grand Hotel is thronged with Allied officers and of representatives of Rome's society and cafe society. They've had their expensive cocktails, their 5 course dinners. In the city's civilian hospitals some of the patients are said to be dying of starvation." That charge was made tonight by the new Italian hospital commissioner, Dr. Ettore Pucello. He said Italian hospitals were so short of food that patients get only a dish of vegetables for each meal. Such diet for some diseases is worse that starvation, the [illegible] called. The Allies have promised to help, and

1795

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

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

And finally, the Vatican has revealed that the Allied authorities have been asked to allow two ships carrying food, which has been donated to the Vatican relief service, to proceed to Italy. One of the ships is at Barcelona, and the other at Buenos Aires.

Owing to the flooding of the Pontine Marshes and the shortage of quinine the first cases of pernicious malaria have been reported in Rome.

BUCKLEY (Reuter)

One hundred senior officers of the Italian army have been arrested in the last few days. They are officers who took the oath of loyalty to the Republican Fascist regime. It is believed there are many important officers among them, but for reasons of security no names are being released. They are all officers of the permanent cadres of the Italian army.

PACKARD (UP)

Saragat, in a statement to the press, revealed that the rationed bread which is being sold to the population at 5 lire per kilo, costs the Italian Government 13 lire per kilo to produce. Regarding inflation said it would be impossible to stabilise the currency owing to the Allied occupation. The 20 billion lire which the Government pays annually for the production of the bread was merely another form of inflation.

LESSING (Exchange Telegraph)

The price of gold sterling on the Rome black market had depreciated to 13,000 Lire during the German occupation and is now at 5,200 Lire.

When Rome was liberated it dropped to 6,000 Lire and has been falling steadily since. It is believed that this price will remain stabilised for some time.

HADFIELD ("Times")

Well known names in international political and cultural worlds are contained in a long list of men marked for possible exclusion from the academic staff of Rome University.

Among them are Counts Dino Grandi, Political Science; Giuseppe Tucci, Oriental Studies; Gioacchino Volpe, Political Science; Francesco Severi, Mathematics. They have all been suspended and another Committee will pronounce final judgment.

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COCK ("Newsweek")

Sends a 3 page despatch denying that there have been any widespread incidents of cutting the hair of girls who associate with Allied troops. Much of it, he says, is pure hearsay, and has taken its colour from what has been happening in Normandy. But he gives some account of the ways and wiles of the demi-mondaine in Rome and mentions, in particular, the Via Vittorio Veneto, which he says Allied troops now call the "Via Gonorrhea."

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

MATTHEWS ("New York Times")

There is evidence that Italy will definitely renounce its "kingdom" of Albania in a few days time, thus putting the final touch to the dissolution of Mussolini's "Roman Empire." The formal renouncement of King Victor Emmnuel's title will not take place since the Bonomi Government is pledged not to bring up constitutional questions. But it will take the form of a letter from Sforza to the President of the Senate regarding the epuration of the Senate. The two Albanian Senators who were appointed by the Fascists will be asked to resign and consider themselves merely as citizens of a free Albania.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 7 August 1944

Trend of correspondents' Copy.

A considerable amount of copy on the fighting in Florence has been filed. In the part of the city which is in Allied hands AMG is already at work, disarming the partisans and bringing in food supplies. 60 Carabinieri have arrived and have been warmly welcomed by the inhabitants. The first convoy of food arrived with flour, sugar, salt and milk. Water is scarce and supplies are dependent on wells, some of it being sold at about 1/- a litre. Apparently a number of British and American residents are still in the city. The population is estimated to be about 415,000 - about 100,000 of whom are refugees. Langanibile, the fascist chief, has fled North taking with him about 4 million lire.

GEORGE ROCHAD (OSS)

....." It is a beautiful summer afternoon in Rome. It is still light..... Just about the dinner hour. The tree shaded Borghese Gardens are crowded with Allied troops flirting with pretty Roman girls..... food, music, and fairly good wine at the big hotels, all of which cater exclusively to allied officers and their guests. There is a nice country club just outside the town.....and the fashionable Lido beaches are open again. On the surface it is all like some lovely holiday..... And in fact it is a good life - if you are an Ally. But for the Italians is it another story. Rome is sick and hungry. After two months of Allied occupation, ... there is a shortage of water, no gas, and little electric services. No transportation except bikes and a few wheezy old trucks converted into open-air buses. The sick are carried in bicycle carts or pushed on rolling litters. Sometimes they die in their homes because there are no ambulances. The head of the Rome civilian hospitals says that if the present situation continues... several thousand of his patients will die of starvation. We lack everything, he said, food, linen, medicines. Only yesterday, for the first time, they had a dish of pasta. Usually they have a single dish of vegetables or beans. Meat, cheese, fats and fish are completely lacking. Pernicious malaria has re-appeared for the first time in many years, but there is no quinine. There is no insulin, so diabetics must die, ... as they must all over Europe.

There has been an uproar about the pretty girls....

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1253

There has been an uproar about the pretty girls.... so truly charming in their summer dresses....who saunter in droves along the Corso Umberto and smile at young Americans outside the Excelsior Hotel. Some people call them bad names... the pretty girls, like the ugly ones.... and old men and children .... must eat. All Americans are notoriously rich....."

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

LESSING (Exchange Telegraph)

Nine year old fascist Bonds carrying 5% interest which will mature on September 1st, will be paid in full by the Italian Government, it is learned today. The Bonds amount to 2,400,000,000 Lire.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

The Government of liberated Italy will this month meet an internal debt which Mussolini incurred to finance the Abyssinian War. The Cabinet yesterday resolved to honour the 1935 special issue of Treasury Bonds which fall due for repayment on August 28th. These are Bonds which the fascist Government issued in exchange for foreign holdings which were compulsorily mobilised to raise funds for the Ethiopian adventure.

MR. CHURCH (editorial Column) "New York Times"

..... after several sentences which have been blue pencilled and are unreadable..... "In Rome there is an aggregation of alphabetical agencies each staffed with zealous patriots intent on doing a job who step on one another's toes, making Rome oddly like a miniature Washington. The vital difference is that the set-up and controls here are not American, or even Anglo-American, but an Allied affair, and an international bureaucracy is much more difficult to manage than an international administration and far more full of hazards for the future. Everybody who comes to help administer liberated Italy is impressed by Rome. Whether he hails from Manchester, Brisbane, Moscow or Moscow, something in the dignity and detachment of the Eternal City leads him to think of his job here as extraordinarily significant. He does not think that of 45 Million Italian waiting in a state of suspended animation or of a normal Government needing to be given responsibility to help solve the numerous problems facing the country....."

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 August 3, 1944

Trend of copy filed by Correspondents

JORDAN ("News Chronicle")

It is a thousand pities that the strong administrative hand of Mason MacFarlane is no longer in control of ACC. Whatever his political failings may have been he was a first class organiser. Already his absence is remarked on and regretted by the more serious of the staff who claim that the whole organisation is beginning to disintegrate. Minor corruption is creeping in. Pretty Roman faces - and they are legion - or the socially prominent, can obtain privileges that are denied to others. One beautiful, socially prominent woman I know, who used to be one of Ciano's mistresses, left this morning for Capri by car, where she has taken a villa. On the other side the Italian Government nominee for the Directorate of Press in Italy has been waiting some time for transportation to take up his duties, but it cannot be found for him, and as he has no beautiful wife who is apt to forget her own tongue sometimes and slip into German, he is likely to wait around a bit longer. PWB is trying to extend its authority for all channels of information here even though its terms of reference were designed to limit its sphere of influence. What the Italian Government needs is its own news agency and if restoration of the freedom of the press means anything they ought to have one. PWB is trying to block that, (CENSORED: by pretending that the terms of the Armistice prohibit a resumption of such service. This is not true. Such matters are at discretion of the Supreme Commander). There can be no real chance of a resumption of good life unless and until there is freedom of the press. There is not, and if PWB has its way that freedom will be further off than ever. The best thing that could happen to Italy at present would be the removal from Rome of all those bodies which interfere in Italian domestic life. There is too much intrigue here; too much backstairs influence and almost complete indifference to the country as a whole. Rome is not Italy any more than New York is America, and above all it has never felt the war until now. It resents war's ugly face and now blames it on us. PWB is so busy tinkering with patriots and partisans that it neglects the greater problem which is to help [illegible] if necessary through national penitence.

1732

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

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partisans that it neglects the greater problem which is to help
Italy to find her soul, if necessary through national penitence.

1732

Writing of some of the other problems which confront
the Government the correspondent mentions that stocks of wine
in the South of Italy cannot be moved because of lack of
transportation; that grain cannot be brought in to the granaries
and that it is a race between the Government and the black
marketeers as to who gets it first because of this. Few
Italians will lift a finger to help one another. They seem to
think it is the duty of the Allies to feed them. When it is
a question of getting foodstuffs into the urban areas at fixed
prices, lorries mysteriously break down or disappear altogether.

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It is said that hundreds of vehicles are hidden away in the catacombs of Rome, and that the entrances have been blown in to prevent their being found and used. Yet if foodstuffs can be brought in for sale at uncontrolled prices there is plenty of transport available.

KILGALLEN (INS)

Sends an account of an interview with Colonel O'Dwyer. He says that O'Dwyer is Vice President of the Economic Section of the ACC, with the personal rank of Minister, and that he was recently nominated Brigadier General by President Roosevelt. But Colonel O'Dwyer did not say much about his work as he prefers to tell the whole story when he is more acquainted with the facts.

WILLIAM ROSPIGLIOSI (INS Staff Correspondent)

....."Rome's streets are jammed with automobiles, some full, some almost empty, but Romans go on foot, not out of their own choice, either.....Longingly they look at sleek, streamlined Italian autos. They are vehicles hidden from the Nazis. Now they are requisitioned by the Americans; by the British; by the French; by the Poles. The Italians realise that the armies of four nations have quadrupled the requisitions of the Germans. The streets are crowded with military vehicles. Yet when the Romans want to go about it is the price of shoe leather, not of gas and tires they must consider. The busses and taxis are gone. Romans must walk. The few horse cabs are filled with laughing Americans.... Naturally for the Romans the coachmen know it and insist on American prices.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

The Republican Secretary-General Pavolini courted the Florentine gentry, not without success until barely a fortnight ago. The head of the Guicciardesca family, who is considered the leading local aristocrat supports the Republicans. Also Count Buffalini; Count Lordenel; and Count Brinetti. Many of these families are divided against themselves. The liberationists have formed a special Committee to guide the Allies in their dealings with the upper classes in Florence in view of the fact that some of these who have collaborated most closely with the Fascists and Nazis have family connections in England and America.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

Buying of stamps

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

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MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

Prices of stamps in Rome are slumping. Buying of stamps was formerly an investment and insurance which was practised by thousands during the war and the fall in prices now is partly an indication of returning confidence in the future. It is also a sign, however, that dealers are having to sell out to get money to buy food on the black market.

A complete set of the Vatican stamps last year cost approximately £17; during the German occupation this set rose to £105. Today the set is costing £37.

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

VIRGINIA COWLES ("Daily Telegraph")

Sends a long article on a visit to Castelnuovo, Sucbiie, and San Deoline, and gives eye witness accounts of massacres by the Germans in those villages.

PACKARD (UP)
DRIA (AP)

Sforza, in his capacity of High Commissioner for the punishment of Fascist crimes has handed a list of 310 Senators to the tribunal. The list is divided into 6 classes. There were formerly 420 Senators, and this leaves only 110 who were not on the list.

The first group includes senators who were Ministers, Under Secretaries of State, Presidents or Vice Presidents of the Senate, or of the Chamber of Deputies, after the 3rd January 1925.

1489

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R 10

August 9 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

The greater part of the copy filed within the past 24 hours was concerned with the position of stalemate reached in the fighting on the outskirts of Florence.

Many correspondents are on the spot and from all accounts the Republican Fascists are playing a prominent part in the sniping which is going on from the North bank against our troops on the South bank. Some of the Fascists are also apparently able to cross to the side of the river held by our troops and have been posting up anti-Allied posters by night.

Appeals for help are being shouted across by civilians cowering in houses by the fire of the opposing troops. They are without water and food.

Thousands of refugees are living in crowded conditions in one of the largest of the Florence gardens.

It is not reckoned that the Germans have many troops in the Northen section of the city, but they are taking advantage of the fact that we hesitate to shell the place and cause damage to many ancient buildings.

RIGNANO (Reuter)

Twelve leading officials of the Bank of Italy have been removed from their posts by the Allied authorities. They include Dr. Caetano Ciacomelli, Inspector General, and Dr. Roberto Tasso, director of branches. This purge follow the recent arrest of Dr. Azzolini, ex-Governor of the Bank.

PESA (AP)

Lieut. Alfonso Casati, only son of the Minister of War, has been killed in action on the Adriatic front.

In a letter of condolence to Casati, the Prime Minister Bonomi said "What voice will still be able to accuse us of half heartedness and perplexity."

1780

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 August 10 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

PACKARD (UP)

The semi-official Vatican news agency reports that Marshal Tito is in Rome and that he visited St. Peter's yesterday with members of his staff.

HILL ("New York Herald Tribune")
PACKARD (UP)
BUCKLEY (Reuter)
STEAD (Boston Monitor)
MCCormick("New York Times")

Following a meeting between Togliatti and Pietro Nenni together with other leading Socialists and Communists, the Italian Socialist and Communist parties yesterday announced they have formed an alliance to unify the working class struggle against Fascism. A general invitation was issued to all democratic parties to join in the alliance for the formation of a democratic republic through a Constituent Assembly. The announcement was made late last night and possibly on this account has not yet met with much comment from the press of the other parties. The communique issued says that while maintaining their individual organisations they were allied in the struggle for the liberation of the country and the destruction of Fascism and reactionary forces, and were at one for a united people. The declaration had four main points:

i. To achieve greater participation of Italy in the war with the aid of the regular army and of partisans.
ii. A greater purge of local administration from Fascist influences.
iii. Rapid application of the anti-Fascist decrees. 1289
iv. Wages and salaries to be brought into line with the cost of living. Action to be taken against employers who in their hatred of democracy, sabotage the economic life of the country.

The Italian Socialist and Communist parties looked to the great proletarian popular organisations of Soviet Russia, the United States and Great Britain for an understanding of the

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

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The Italian Socialist and Communist parties looked to the great proletarian popular organisations of Soviet Russia, the United States and Great Britain for an understanding of the importance of helping the Italian people in the present grave situation.

Nenni in "Avanti" explained that the time was not yet ripe for a complete fusion of the two parties. Fusion must not be the point of departure but the ultimate goal, and yesterday's meeting had resulted in a more concrete phase of unity.

"Il Popolo" (Christian Democrat) shows little enthusiasm about the alliance. Quoting Don Sturzo it says that Christian Democracy is essentially a Centre Party of checks and balances and is therefore itself in a position to achieve the new form of solidarity and collaboration within which all labour forces

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

must find themselves pledged organically for the work of reconstruction.

MacCormick of the "New York Times" considers that the new alliance portends a preliminary break up of the Bonomi Coalition and the emergence of a real opposition party. Yet political activity hardly interests the huge masses who are more concerned with the sheer struggle for bread and shelter or work, and some assurance of what the future holds for the country.

Buckley (Reuter) says that as a result of the alliance the Christian Democrat party, with its big peasant following which had already accepted a Trade Union alliance with the Socialists and Communists, will be forced to decide whether it is Monarchist or Republican, and within its ranks there is a division on this question.

MICHAEL REYNOLDS (BBC)

....." A.M.G. in Florence is coping magnificently with a sticky situation. It has brought in 180 Tons of food including 120 tons of flour and smaller quantities of milk, sugar and tinned meat. Supplies arrive at the rate of 60 tons a night. The lorries are often shelled on the road, and this morning one of them was blown up."....

PACKARD (UP)

Quoting "Risorgimento Liberale" says that the Allied decision on Lease-Lend aid will show Italy exactly where she stands, either as friends or as a vanquished country. If confidence is refused her she will sink deeper in the moral material mire and become a jungle of ruin and misery in the centre of the Mediterranean.

HAMMOND (Kemsley Press)

As a mark of appreciation of the efforts of AMG officials in getting supplies to them, the 5,000 refugees lodged in the Pitti Palace at Florence sent AMG a case of champagne. TETLOW (Daily Mail) says it was white wine, and that somebody remarked that it tasted like "white wine tickled up with a bicycle pump."

PWB have distributed 10,000 copies of a newspaper called "Corriere Alleati".

PACKARD (UP) reports that negotiations are under way between Russia and Italy for the return of Italian prisoners of war [illegible] to "Il Popolo" Moscow

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

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PACKARD (UP) reports that negotiations are under way between Russia and Italy for the return of Italian prisoners of war taken on the Russian front. According to "Il Popolo" Moscow has agreed in principle but certain conditions still remain to be discussed. BUCKLEY (Reuter) says that Italian official circles deny any knowledge of the negotiations.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

Writing on the food situation quotes Col. Legg "who is Italian Minister of Food" as head of the Food Sub-Commission of the ACC. He handles not only imported food but also local produce which has been "frozen" to ensure fair distribution.

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Each week a committee of senior officers meets to consider requirements. Imported wheat comes mainly from Australia and meat from the U.S.A. A recent contribution from Britain was dried cod. Col. Legg is particularly pleased with the reserve of olive oil he has managed to achieve. This was done by sending out three men on tour in Apulia and Calabria. But for their collection there would be a complete famine in fats since there is no other source. Even so the oil ration is extremely small..... Transport is the main problem. Although there is no wine in Rome yet there is a surplus of 300,000 tons in Apulia which will probably have to be thrown away to make room for the new harvest.

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 August 11 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

Most correspondents are still closely following events at Florence awaiting the fall of the city. They report owing to excessive sniping in the Southern portion of the city held by our forces, it was found necessary to make a house-to-house search. Allied troops, assisted by about 200 Partisans, undertook these mopping up operations. 150 men and women armed with rifles, revolvers and grenades were arrested. It appears that as we drive Northwards the Fascists are more fanatical and better organised than anything we have yet encountered.

KENNEDY (AP)

General Giuseppe Valle, Under Secretary for Air under Mussolini for 5 years has been arrested by the Allied authorities in a round-up of 300 prominent Fascists.

Other arrests include Senator Luigi Rossi, former Under Secretary of State, and Gaetano Polverelli, the last Minister for Popular Culture under Mussolini.

TUCKER (AP) has filed a long despatch by Colonel Poletti. It is intended for the "American Magazine." It reiterates Col. Poletti's views on the problems of AMG and their solution, making the usual points of difficulties of transport, black markets &c. Dealing with his experiences in Sicily when he first landed, Poletti says that violent attacks were made on him in a local newspaper when he refused to give his support to the Sicilian Separatist movement. It was put down to the fact that his ancestors were from Piedmont, in Northern Italy, and that he was biased accordingly. But his Italian descent does not influence his decision in the least. He gets great satisfaction in trying to help these fine, hard-working Italians, and he would get just as much satisfaction in helping Poles or Jugoslavs.

Colonel Poletti says he is delighted to see the resurgence of poetry in Rome, especially that which he himself seems to inspire. One of the best he considered to be:

"Caro Colonnello Poletti
Mene ciarle più spaghetti"

which means:

"Dear Colonel Poletti

1757

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

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General Giuseppe Valle, Under Secretary for Air under Mussolini for 5 years has been arrested by the Allied authorities in a round-up of 300 prominent Fascists.

Other arrests include Senator Luigi Rossi, former Under Secretary of State, and Gaetano Polverelli, the last Minister for Popular Culture under Mussolini.

TUCKER (AP) has filed a long despatch by Colonel Poletti. It is intended for the "American Magazine." It reiterates Col. Poletti's views on the problems of AMG and their solution, making the usual points of difficulties of transport, black markets &c. Dealing with his experiences in Sicily when he first landed, Poletti says that violent attacks were made on him in a local newspaper when he refused to give his support to the Sicilian Separatist movement. It was put down to the fact that his ancestors were from Piedmont, in Northern Italy, and that he was biased accordingly. But his Italian descent does not influence his decision in the least. He gets great satisfaction in trying to help these fine, hard-working Italians, and he would get just as much satisfaction in helping Poles or Jugoslavs.

Colonel Poletti says he is delighted to see the resurgence of poetry in Rome, especially that which he himself seems to inspire. One of the best he considered to be:

"Caro Colonnello Poletti
Meno ciarle più spaghetti"

which means:

"Dear Colonel Poletti
Less talk and more spaghetti"

Telling the story of the sort of corruption we are up against Poletti gives the following instance. A certain contractor wished to get work with the Allied authorities. There was no Fascist record against him, but instead of going through the usual channels he sent a very charming lady to see Col. Poletti personally. The lady entered his office with a winning smile and mentioned her mission. She was told of the proper channel to which to apply and said she knew that, but a word from Poletti would make things so much easier. She was firmly told that her way of obtaining contracts was not the same way as the Allies awarded them.

1737

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

MOORAD (CBS)

....."On the political front Prime Minister Bonomi is facing a general attack for his alleged statement that post-war Italy must fall in the Anglo-Saxon sphere of influence. To practically all of Rome's none-too-independent newspapers this "sphere of influence" has an unpleasantly familiar Imperialistic sound. The words don't quite fit the lyrics of the Atlantic Charter.

"Voce Repubblicana" .....which doesn't like Bonomi too much any day, says "we always suspected that these international conferences ..... particularly Teheran.....concerned themselves with spheres of influence. The Atlantic Charter is not a word for Imperialism. .... It speaks of a new world organised for peoples on a basis of economic justice for every country, great or small, victorious or vanquished. Italians - a Latin people - living in that crucial zone where so many different races converge cannot forget the interests and ideals that bind her to other peoples of the Mediterranean and to the Slavs."

HADFIELD ("Times")

According to a usually reliable source a new political movement in support of the Monarchy in the person of the Prince of Piedmont is now being organised. Its promotors are said to include Senator Bergamini, editor of "Giornale d'Italia" in pre-Fascist days; Enrico de Nicola, president of the former Chamber of Deputies; Senator Frassanti, editor of the Turin "Stampa" before the march on Rome; Azzarita, head of the legislative office of the Ministry of Justice. These men hold that Italy is not yet ripe for Republican experiments. The movement is shortly expected to become a regular party and it is hoped that Orlando will assume the leadership. It will probably absorb the Partito Democratico Italiano the only outstanding party which today openly advocates a Monarchy, plus other smaller political groups. There is some conjecture as to whether this will ultimately create a split inside the Liberal party which consists of both Republicans and Monarchists. Many of the latter are likely to be attracted to the new movement.

The "Risorgimento Liberale" in criticising the new Socialist-Communist alliance and its appeal to the Christian Democrats for collaboration, considers it an attempt to force a balanced situation and to provoke a split among the 6 democratic parties. Should the Christian Democrats fail to resist Communist-Socialist charms, the journal thinks that a very dangerous and paradoxical situation will be created both

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HADFIELD ("Times")

Sweeping proposals were yesterday presented by the Secretaries of the Italian General Confederation of Labour to the Minister of Labour, Commerce & Industry. A copy of the proposals was sent to the ACC. It emphasises that the Italian workers had waited in vain for relief measures, and that today they and their families were suffering hunger. Wages were barely 45% of the minimum to sustain life. The plight of the unemployed was tragic and in order to save workers from moral and physical ruin certain extraordinary measures were absolutely necessary.

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The proposals include: A cost of living addition to present wage scales and to salaries, both for State employees and employees in private firms. This addition to be 50 Lire a day where earnings are below 3,000 Lire monthly. Women to receive 40 Lire per day and boys below 18 to get 30 Lire per day. Old pensioned workers would get 30 Lire daily. The allowance to be readjusted monthly with the variation in the cost of living. Freedom of transport for fruit and vegetables and their sale at authorised markets at fixed prices under the control of police and workers' representatives. A start to be made on large public and private works programme. Preference to be given to the biggest workers' co-operatives in the allotment of State works.

Finally it was proposed that shop committees of all important private establishments should be empowered, in conjunction with the technical staffs, to make inventories of plant and ascertain production possibilities. Where after government investigation it is proved that work can be resumed the establishment in question to be ordered to start without delay. Firms which refuse or quibble to be warned that they will be regarded as economic saboteurs, and subsequently their establishments to be requisitioned and the management entrusted to the workers, technicians, employees &c.

To meet the new immense burden which will fall on the State as a result of the acceptance of these requests, the government is asked to take exceptional measures by imposing super-tax on war industries, and on black market profits; the immediate confiscation of Fascist profits; or the taking of appropriate steps which would place on the shoulders of the plutocratic classes the responsibility for the country's catastrophe and the greater part of the expenditure necessary to ensure existence to the workers and a revival of Italy.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

Many of Rome's soup kitchens will have to close down unless they can get more wood for stoves. At present about 212,000 people are getting a 4d bowl of soup each day at these kitchens.

1736

Three Italian girls and 7 men are to appear before an AMG court tomorrow to face charges of sabotage which will carry death sentences. It is alleged they were trained in a special German sabotage school, and that when arrested they had a large quantity of explosives in their possession. No names were disclosed. They refused the offer of an Italian lawyer to defend them and an Allied officer was assigned to them for the

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PACKARD (UP): Has had an interview with Orlando. The statesman said that the Allies would have achieved more had they treated Italy as a friend and ally from the day of the Armistice, than has been accomplished by treating her as a conquered country. Orlando insists that Italians should know the terms of the Armistice however rigorous they are. He attributed the present Sicilian separatist movement to post-war economic and Political strain, and while recognising its seriousness predicted that it would pass with an amelioration of the situation in Italy. Sicily had never taken to Fascism and had been estranged from the rest of Italy for 20 years. Fascist protectionism allotted

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Sicilian commodities to manufacturers in Northern Italy without any provision for the island's own economy. Sicily had given three Prime Ministers and numerous Ministers to Italy but not a single statesman to Fascism. The feeling for private property was strong in the island and that was why Communism was feared by the Sicilians. Some sort of legislation permitting a form of autonomy would give Sicilians an opportunity to defend their own local interests and would be opportune. However this autonomy must be considered from the viewpoint of Italy as a whole, and in a recent speech at Palermo Orlando had urged the creation of local advisory boards to draw up a concrete form of Sicilian aspirations.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 August 12 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

LONGMIRE (N.Y. Post)

Although thousands of miles away, Mayor La Guardia is squarely in the middle of the latest Italian political fight. Other prominent New York political figures are involved. There are ex-Governor Poletti, now a colonel who runs Allied Control Commission's Rome area, and Brigadier General Wm. O'Dwyer, Kings County District Attorney, now boss of ACC economic section for all Italy.

The fight is all about whether the Allies are handing out enough food, jobs, and other bounties to Italy, and Italian political leaders of all shades are commencing to complain volubly that the Allies have done little to help Italian reconstruction. Thinly disguised brickbats for Poletti and O'Dwyer appear daily in the Rome press. A wisecrack now going round Rome makes play of "Poletti" and "spaghetti".

La Guardia is at present a Roman hero. Last Sunday he made his weekly broadcast to Italy, in Italian, and by implication hinted that he thinks the Allies are not doing enough for Italian reconstruction. The Mayor announced he would not be speaking next week and said "After all, are we friends or are we not ?" "What are we waiting for? I'll not broadcast until I have something of truth to say to you." Virtually every Italian paper leaped on his talk. There were favourable editorials. One paper invited him to come over to see Italy for himself. La Guardia is clearly regarded in Rome today as one of the chief champions of Italy, while officials on the spot are hourly hearing complaints. One paper says some Allied officers seem to base their ideas of Italy on fancy dinners in homes of those who before June 5th entertained the Germans. But Allied Government officials have a difficult task in bringing food to a big city like Rome. For instance Rome needs 40,000 tons of foodstuffs per month, and only 500 civilian trucks exist to haul it. Rome requires almost 300 tons of flour per day, and wheat must be hauled from as far away as Campobasso - 160 miles. Requests for military trucks are generally met with the reply

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A French friend of the correspondent says that Allied officials go around apologising to Italians for not producing enough for them. Isn't Italy a defeated country ? he asks. Why not tell Italians frankly they are defeated and we have the war to fight. We are sorry but they just have to accept the "leaving". Maybe this is cynical but thousands of Allied soldiers feel the same way.

LONGMIRE (N.Y. Post)

Discusses the possibility of an agreement between Tito

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and Mikhailovitch, and says that it is apparent that the Russians have a carefully laid plan for the kind of Europe they wish to see and that plan seems to be one of pouring oil on troubled waters in the social conflicts of European countries, and thus avoiding new explosions which might endanger the job of rebuilding Soviet Russia.

RALPH HOWARD (NBC)

....."With transportation a headache for both Romans and correspondents alike, I toyed with the idea of buying a bicycle..... The only drawback is that since the Allies have requisitioned a majority of the cars in Rome, the bicycle market has boomed..... In fact it has blown its top..... The first dealer I contacted said he had a nice second hand bike he would sell for $125. This seemed out of the question so I went to another shop and was offered a new bicycle complete with tire pump for $200. The third shop would sell me their last bicycle for $300. By the time I gotback to the first dealer he had sold the bicycle he had offered me for $125 to a blackmarket operator at the price of $175. Before the war bicycle prices ranged from $6 to $12.

BUCKLEY (Reuter)

Although nothing is known of the purpose of Churchill's visit to Italy, it has caused keen satisfaction among Italians who feel that amid the larger issues of war Italy's plight has been overlooked. Churchill will be able to see things for himself.

McCORMICK (Times N.Y.)

.....Italians want Allied control not only because they cannot live without outside help but because if left alone under present conditions they face a kind of futile disorder that is not revolution but chaos. Writing of the difficulties of the Allies in Italy the correspondent says "It is the first large scale experiment of Allied combined operation administration. Obviously this sort of joint control requires more than military genius. It requires experience of trained personnel for foreign service, which up to now the United States has felt neither the need nor the inclination to develop. The British have their Civil Service which, more than armed force, helped to hold the Empire together. It works less flexibly and more mechanically, but more surely than our amateurs. Some of them are doing a brilliant job. If America intends to assume international responsibilities to which the war has committed her we have to build up a group of expert

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The happenings at Pisa and Florence are deepening the sense of national impotence in Italy every day.

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1506

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PACKARD (UP)

Togliatti in the Communist "Unita" has protested against the exposure of the monuments of Florence to the hazards of war on account of the Allies employing too few troops to effect a quick capture, when thousands of young Italians are eager to fight to save such destruction. Togliatti said he did not wish to presume to criticise military operations, but it was heart-rending to see one's artistic historical patrimony, as well as one which belonged to the whole world, exposed to such destruction.

The Christian Democrat "Il Popolo" also expresses concern over events in Pisa and Florence.

PACKARD (UP)

When Tito visited St. Peters he was guarded by half a dozen British military police armed with Tommy guns. They prevented some cameramen "who were accidentally present" from taking any pictures.

CHINIGO (and others)

The Vatican News Service officially denies the rumours of a Vatican rapprochement with Russia, and says it is "pure phantasy".

BUCKLEY (Reuter) files a despatch on the deep concern of the Pope regarding the fate of Warsaw. The "Osservatore Romano" for the first time since the war has published a summary of the war news and speculates on Russian silence regarding the fighting in and around the city.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 August 13 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

The fall of Florence came undramatically, the Germans having pulled out to the Northern side on Thursday night. A few ardent Fascist snipers remained but these are being gradually rooted out by the Partisans and are getting swift punishment. AMG has distinguished itself by being first into the Northern part of the city.

ROPER (UP)

Although British troops have not advanced into Florence beyond the Arno, despite the fact that enemy snipers are still being encountered AMG officers have crossed the river to assist the civilian population.

KENNEDY (AP) and other correspondents.

Although 8th Army has not yet entered the Northern section reports from officers who have crossed give the following general picture. The situation was not quite so desperate in regard to food as was believed. There is a shortage but this is being met by strenous efforts on the part of AMG. There is only the Ponte Vecchio remaining of the bridges. The Germans demolished buildings at one end of this and effectively blocked it for wheeled traffic. In addition it is still said to be mined. Food is being brought up to a point near the bridge and is then passed across on a human chain, and this will have to continue until the engineers get a temporary bridge erected. During the last days of the German occupation all male subjects were forbidden to go out into the streets. There was a small amount of looting of jewellery, cameras etc. by the Germans, but no extensive damage has been done to the city. The area of the railway yards, however, suffered severely from Allied bombing last March and again in May. 500 members of the local police who had gone into hiding have now reappeared for duty. A local committee had been working underground, and they had prepared a list of names of experienced public officials who would be ready to assist in restoring normal life in the city.

BRIA (AP)

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BRIA (AP)

Unconfirmed but persistent rumours spreading in Rome today that Bonomi would resign and be replaced by Orlando when Rome Region comes under Italian jurisdiction. Anonymous manifestos posted on buildings in Rome said that the entire government is about to fall and that the British desire Badoglio back in power. One high Italian official attributed the rumours to forces who had persistently attempted to undermine the Government.

CHINIGO (INS) also writing on this rumour says that posters with an emphatic "Badoglio No !" are being posted. These

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posters attack the Marshal. Badoglio on his part says that he is ready if wanted. Right wingers see in Badoglio somebody who might hasten the extension of Lease-Lend to Italy.

NORGAARD (AP)

Churchill's arrival is interpreted by "Il Popolo" as a sign of the importance the Italian theatre of war may assume in the near future. There has been no immediate announcement of the Prime Minister's activities. "Italia Libera" meanwhile has told its readers that the British would be righteously aghast if they only knew that so many Romans complain about some restrictions while London after five years of war is once again under terroristic bombing attacks as well as many stringent restrictions such as rationing.

The British have been receiving with open arms for the last five years millions of Americans, Poles, Czechoslovaks, French, Norwegians and other, and without a murmur bearing in silence all inconveniences from the presence of foreign troops.

BRIA (AP)

Liberals and Liberal Democrats of Rome and Southern Italy have agreed on a fusion. The move is interpreted as a strengthening of the Right forces after the recent Communist-Socialist alliance.

BIENSTOCK (Supernews, NY)

The crisis with the Bonomi Government is caused by doubt and uncertainty of the Allied policy towards Italy, and the Allied failure to give the present Government support and backing. There has been much dallying as to whether Italy is a co-belligerent and friendly liberated territory, or a conquered country. This has been responsible for many conflicting Allied commitments and actions which make the position of the Govt. impossible. There is less belief in the Allies and their intentions towards Italy. The position of the Bonomi Government is certainly not strengthened by the almost contemptuous attitude towards it manifested by high-placed Allied officials, as well as our failure to give the Government the means with which to work. Meanwhile the Bonomi Government is under heavy pressure from the Left on the

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COE (Blue Network)

....."The general unemployment situation is still truly serious and one which has given both ACC and the Govt. concern. Some recent figures published about Naples showed, for instance, that less than 25% of the people formerly employed in industrial and transportation jobs in the Province of Naples are now at work. The same figure of less than 25% also holds true for the employment of artisans,

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including carpenters, glove makers, tailors and shoemakers".....

PACKARD (UP)

The arrival of Churchill in Italy has been followed by a widespread display of posters by anonymous Italian Leftists this morning emblazoning the allegation that the days of the Bonomi's Government in Italy are numbered because it did not enjoy the confidence of the Allies.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 14 August 1944

Trend of Correspondents' Copy.

SEDGWICK ("New York Times") and others.

The position in Florence is still one of stalemate. British troops remain on the South side of the River Arno and AMG officers are in the city striving manfully to relieve distress and get in essential food supplies. Small detachments of Partisans and Fascists seem to be fighting it out in the centre of the city, while Florentines in that section go to and fro striving to carry on their normal daily lives. A German tank is said to have made a lone reconnaissance through the city yesterday and arriving in the vicinity of the Ponte Vecchio fired on those who were engaged in getting supplies across the river. One British officer was wounded and an Italian liaison Officer was killed. AMG's task in this area is described as the most difficult it has yet encountered in all the Italian campaign. But generous tribute is being paid to them by the correspondents.

GODFREY TALBOT (BBC)

.....8th Army troops have NOT advanced across the river into Florence; but AMG officials HAVE and, making exceptional efforts, are doing everything humanly possible to take food, water, and medical supplies to the civilian population North of the river. AMGOT is right in the front line of the battle, to start their task of reconstruction - a particularly difficult job because indiscriminate sniping has continued in the heart of the old city. .....Meanwhile all praise to the Allied Military Government front line men who are working and improvising flat out to revive liberated Florence after the sufferings imposed by the German reign of terror.

LONGMIRE ("New York Post")

"The AMG man was fed up and disgusted, and you can't blame him. During the 15 minutes I had sat in his office the doorman had brought in seven perfumed notes and two visiting cards from Romans, of both sexes, requesting "just an introduction" to Colonel or Major Somebody-or-other who handled Such-and-Such a department of AMG." The correspondent then tells how the AMG officer remarked that it was impossible to make these people realise that the bribery of Fascism was no longer of any avail, but they had got so accustomed to such

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LONGMIRE ("New York Post")

"The AMG man was fed up and disgusted, and you can't blame him. During the 15 minutes I had sat in his office the doorman had brought in seven perfumed notes and two visiting cards from Romans, of both sexes, requesting "just an introduction" to Colonel or Major Somebody-or-other who handled Such-and-Such a department of AMG." The correspondent then tells how the AMG officer remarked that it was impossible to make these people realise that the bribery of fascism was no longer of any avail, but they had got so accustomed to such a system that they knew no other method and would not go through the normal channels. "Browned off" with it all the AMG officer and the correspondent went for a drink, and relaxing somewhat the former exploded: " Heaven help us if we go to the peace table with no better plans than we have today. If anybody has any real policy about putting this country back on its feet I can't see it. The only top man we ever had in real control was General Mason MacFarlane who used to be the head of ACC. He's a straight shooting, shrewd old British general, and now he's a sick man in England and there is nobody here replacing him. When he let this new Italian Government be formed and permitted the Italian liberal parties to throw out Badoglio, what happened? London raised such a fuss that you'd think Badoglio was a tin God about whom

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no word can be uttered. Mason MacFarlane stuck by his guns, though. Badoglio's out and probably won't get back. But what have we done to help this new Italian Government of Bonomi's? Not a blasted thing. If we were not going to help the Italians why did we ever say so in all our propaganda in the first place ? Everybody in Rome is screaming about the lack of food and the lack of jobs. Maybe we have a war to fight and can't help it, but if so why don't we come out and say so. Have we got a policy or not ? Here's another one. Did you see that big department store around the corner? Do you know what's going to happen to it ? The British forces have taken it over as a recreation center for the troops with a service restaurant. Everybody who worked in that store is out of a job for that sole reason. Does that look as if the Allies are trying to play the game astutely so as to help Italy to rebuild the country ? Everybody who worked in that store is today probably cussing out the Allies and saying "Even the Germans did'nt take our jobs away from us."

HADFIELD ("Times") files a despatch saying that there are indications of an improvement in the food situation in Italy. In Rome ACC have announced the distribution, as from August 14, of 275 grammes macaroni an item which the citizens have been eagerly awaiting and which the Germans failed to provide for many months. A similar quantity is fixed for August 28th. In Sicily the High Commissioner has announced that the bread ration is to be raised as from August 12th to 300 Grammes daily and a macaroni ration of 550 Grammes. Two of Italy's most urgent problems, those of transport and supplies, were dealt with by General O'Dwyer, at an Allied Advisory Council Meeting on Friday; also
Captain Stone reported on political developments. Dr.Berlinguer, one of the High Commissioner's assisting Sforza in his fascist purge, has revealed that it has been decided to re-open the Matteotti trial.

HILL ("New York Herald Tribune") files a long despatch on the present political confusion in Italy and on the distress within the country. He gives a general outline of the political development from the time of Badoglio and says among other things : "In the first days after the Allied entry into Rome, Badoglio came here charged with forming a new and better Government. He told the party leaders the conditions imposed by the Allies under the Armistice and that any Government which was formed must adhere to those terms; the question of the Monarchy was not to be raised until after the war. A third condition later insisted on by General MacFarlane was

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McCORMICK ("New York Times") connects Mr.Churchill's visit with that of King George VI a few days ago, and with the presence of Marshal Tito and of Mr.Robert Patterson, U.S. Under Secretary for War. Everybody knows, says the correspondent, that from the beginning Churchill has taken great interest in the Mediterranean Area. She then quotes freely the various hopes expressed in the Italian press in connection with the visit of the Prime Minister, and remarks that the latter must

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be reading these with a certain satisfaction on comparing them with the vituperation poured on him and Mr. Eden by the Fascist press. If Churchill should show himself on the streets of Rome he would receive a heartfelt ovation where the last British Minister to appear here received but a cool reception. Yet when Chamberlain and Halifax went to the Opera even the boisterous horse play of the " Merry Wives of Windsor" failed to overcome the depression of the audience. Today's pleading is one of despair and of Italy begging Britain to once more treat her with the traditional friendship of the two nations.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS)

..."There has been no official hint as to the purpose of Mr. Churchill's visit but the Italian papers here are full of speculation, guesses and comment. Many of them take this occasion to air the grievances of occupied Italy before the Prime Minister ..... Political comment in the papers here is very candid, often very bitter. The Allies permit sharp criticism, plenty of it, but the Italians feel hurt because, while we let them freely criticise we do very little about it. They feel that we do not take them very seriously..... Already Republican parties on the one hand and Royalist groups on the other are beginning to close ranks and consolidate, and prepare for what seems today must be an inevitable conflict.

COOPER Not for publication.

Cables his journal that Mr. Churchill has ordered "no press coverage" of his visit to Italy. His visit is said to be purely of a military character and for this reason has given the order. As a result there are many rumours as to why he really is here. These include that he is to confer with Tito, now in Rome; that he may meet Mr.Roosevelt here; and that there may even be peace talks through the Vatican. Both this correspondent and Jordan ("News Chronicle") protest against the order issued by Mr. Churchill which they consider a political censorship.

HAMMOND (Kemsley Press)

According to Colonel Russell of the Rockefeller Foundation the condition of the Pontine Marshes is back to that of 1880 from the Public Health standpoint. They are now spraying the marshes by aircraft and more than 5,000 people are continuously employed fighting malaria. Civilian

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1730

+ The allusion is to the large C.I.M. building in the Via XX September.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R 10

August 24 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

NOTE: (Since the last trend of copy was issued landings have taken place in Southern France. As a result of these operations the work of Field Censors at A.F.H.Q., has increased three-fold. It became necessary to re-organise their filing system and under the circumstances it was not possible or convenient for this office to obtain immediate access to copy filed by correspondents.

Previous to the opening of the operations by 7th Army came Mr. Churchill 's arrival in Italy. It was announced that the Prime Minister's visit was in connection with military operations only and that no press coverage should be given. This was subsequently confirmed when Mr. Churchill was present in person at the opening phase. The immediate success of the operations ; the fact that it was almost an all-American show; the mass of personal stories on their experiences by airborne troops; and contact with members of the French underground movement, gave correspondents a rich mass of material on which to draw. Even those correspondents who make regular broadcasts (Donald Coe-Blue Network; Mecrad - CBS; Winston Burdett - CBS) and are wont to round off their talks with some comment on the activities of the Italian Government and or short-comings of AMG/ACC, now had more than enough copy to fill out their allotted time. Godfrey Talbot (BBC) had 'won the toss" for a flight in a glider and had enough thrills to broadcast without worrying about earth-bound mortals perspiring in Rome .

At the same time the 5th Army and 8th Army fronts had come to a virtual stalemate and even the heroic efforts of AMG at Florence were swamped in the welter of news from Southern France. The possible fate of the leaning tower of Pisa became forgotten.

The happenings in Southern France still occupy first place with the correspondents, but things are moving so rapidly that the beach-head men are beginning to pad out with local colour and Civil Affairs difficulties. The Rome contingent are once again taking more note of happenings in Italy.)

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1779

SPRIGGE (Reuter)
BRIA (AP)
PACKARD (UP)
BIRNSTOCK (Overseas Agency)

These correspondents covered the Regional Commissioners' Conference.

SPRIGGE: Addressing assembly of ACC Commissioners General Maitland Wilson reminded them that so far we had contacted only half the Italian population and that the work which lies ahead may prove most troublesome and difficult. The Commander-in-Chief said that

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food and unemployment are the two major problems confronting the Allied authorities. There are people in Rome today whose feeding does not reach the subsistence level. Urging Commissioners to concentrate on administration rather than stray into the by paths of politics the C.in.C. said "people look to you to see how we are going to manage the occupation of Germany when it comes, and which may not be far off." The motto for officers should be initiative, impartiality and integrity.

Real Admiral Morgan, head of the Naval Sub-Commission praised the Italian Fleet for its valuable co-operation and declared that there had never been any lack of energy or bravery on the part of Italian ships companies in operations conducted by them in the service of the Allies. He urged that the Italian Navy be considered the basis for building up a new Italy.

A difficult situation exists in Sicily as a result of the failure of the efforts to induce Sicilian farmers to surrender their grain on the nation-wide fixed price. This was described by Col.Hancock, the outgoing commissioner. Col. Hancock stated that in Palermo province the farmers had only surrendered 6% of their crop into the public granaries. Nearly 9.000 people had been arrested in Sicily for the non-surrender of wheat and a critical stage was expected when new measures are enforced. In connection with the surrender of grain the Separatist movement is gaining ground while under the guise of the Separatist movement the "Mafia" is raising its head.

The Commissioners for the other regions mostly reported a better state of affairs though certain economic dislocations were mentioned. For example 300,000 tons of Apulian wine from last year's crop will have to be thrown away as there is no transport to move it. Yet wine is practically unobtainable in other regions.

<u>BIENSTOCK</u> (Overseas Agency)

This correspondent is particularly interested in the Jewish refugee question, and in questions of the stateless refugees. He quotes General Wilson's speech at some length and mentions that Capt. Stone, Acting Chief Commissioner, told the Conference that recommendations had been made on the highest levels for the rehabilitation of Italy's destroyed electric power supplies and transport system.

The Allies were backing the Italian Govt. and the ACC was committed to this policy of support in helping to overcome the many difficulties.

Both Brig. General O'Dwyer, Economic Section, and Colonel Poletti, Rome Region Commissioner, made strong pleas for the feeding of Rome's population. Poletti said that the Allies have brought freedom from fear; freedom of religion; but not freedom from want. O'Dwyer said that the Allies owe something for Italian food

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O'Dwyer said that the Allies owe something for Italian food deficiency. Since October and up to the end of July, Italy had provided the Allied forces with 150;000 tons of food, in addition to 100;000 sheep. By Italian local production the Allied armed forces had been able to reduce the amount of their imports by one million tons.

Sir Clifford Heathcote-Smith disclosed that the Italian Govt.is prepared to grant Italian citizenship for all stateless refugees in Italy on the recommendation of the Commission, but it is not expected that many of the stateless refugees will avail themselves of this friendly gesture of the Italian Government as they consider life in years to come will be difficult from an economic standpoint in Italy.

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Col Findlay stated that UNRRA will take over the operation of large camps in Southern Italy for non-Italian refugees.

ELEANOR PACKARD (UP)

Quotes "Il Popolo" and the satisfaction in Roman Catholic circles at Mr. Churchill's forthcoming meeting with the Pope.

Gronchi, Communist Minister, is stated to have met a Soviet representative to discuss future Italian-Russian commercial relations.

The death of Cardinal Maglioni has started a number of rumours as to his successor.

BRIA (AP) says that the names of Cardinal Giuseppe Pizzardo, formerly of the State Secretariat and new Prefect of the Congregation of Seminaries and Universities, and of Monsignor Dominico Tardini, Secretary for Extraordinary Affairs in the State Secretariat, have been mentioned.

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1778

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R 10

August 26, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

Correspondents are still closely concerned with the operations in Southern France, although the visit of Mr. Churchill to Rome occupied some of their attention. But as the Prime Minister told correspondents that his talk was "off the record" accounts were brief, and surmise as to the purport of his meeting with the Italian Ministers engaged their attention.

MOORAD (CBS)

....."Mr Churchill held a very much off-the-record press conference in Rome on Wednesday. About the only thing we are allowed to say is that he wore a black suit and a Polkadot bow tie. He polished off two cigars in the 40 minutes talk and when Jimmy Kilgallen (INS) asked him how many he smoked per day, he said, "That depends on their length !"

CHENIGO (INS) remarks that the Prime Minister said very little and was very adroit in parrying the questions put to him.

LUMBY (Times): Mr. Churchill's visit has given Italians a feeling that their efforts are being recognised. When the Prime Minister came to Italy the depth of the political talks had not been foreseen, and it is obvious that he must consult with his Cabinet colleagues before anything concrete can be decided.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") ..... Despite the informality of his talks it is thought that he gave Ministers grounds for hoping that some of Italy's oft repeated requests to the Allies may soon be favourably received. He is believed to have indicated that the British Govt. is ready to concur in granting of Lease-Lend to Italy provided the United States agrees. In any case it is probable that the terms of UNRRA's constitution will be modified to permit of aid being extended to the civil population of Italy whose need Churchill has fully recognised during his stay. It is calculated the country must import one million tons of wheat this winter if the people are to be adequately fed and it may be through UNRRA that this deficiency will be met. A rumour is current that Italy will shortly be permitted to increase the

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1777

CHINIGO (INS)

The Pope is to broadcast to the world on September 1st on the anniversary of the German invasion of Poland. It is authoratatively stated that he will make an appeal for a strong sovereign, Catholic Polish State.

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E. PACKARD (UP) says that although the tenor of the Pope's broadcast is secret, it is expected that he will continue his appeal to the victors not to allow feelings of revenge to dominate the peace.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

An expropriation order under the purge law has been made against a number of Fascist profiteers including Giovanni Armenise. Armenise is understood to hold a controlling interest in the "Giornale d'Italia" as well as the "Tribuna".

The re-appearance of "Giornale d'Italia" and the "Messaggero" was expected about a month ago. Both newspapers, however, rejected the proposal of their publication on new lines under the supervision of a Commissioner appointed by the State. In the case of the "Giornale d'Italia" opposition came from ex-Senatore Bergamini, a former anti-fascist editor. The staff supported him. The opposition regarding the "Messaggero" came from the Perrone family who thought that the acceptance of a Commissioner would imply that they had Fascist leanings, a thing they strongly deny. All this has stimulated speculation as to whether the traditional North Italian papers like "Corriere della Sera" will survive after liberation.

The expropriation order increases the uncertainty as to whether the "Giornale d'Italia" will survive, but in the case of the "Messaggero" it is thought that the Perrone family will endeavour to tide over the present impasse. They have retained all the staff and are even paying a cost of living bonus. This latter gesture has gained them popularity with the working classes in spite of the political attacks on them.

E. PACKARD (UP) quotes at some length the press interview given by Soleri on Italy's rehabilitation. He stated that Italy should be given financial assistance and allowed to take a greater part in the war. This would be of advantage to world exchanges and economic stability. Soleri made a strong appeal for the supply of Italy's minimum reconstruction requirements.

If the Allies limited the issue of paper currency and paid their troops only part of their pay in "invasion" lire, as was being done in France, this would be of great help to Italian finances. Italy had only the sun to ripen her crops, and the industry and frugality of her population, on the credit side of her ledger.

SPRIGGE (Reuter) : says that there is every reason to believe that General Maitland Wilson's remarks at the Regional Commis- [illegible] conference last Tuesday, concerning the need for more

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SPRIGGE (Reuter) : says that there is every reason to believe that General Maitland Wilson's remarks at the Regional Commissioner's conference last Tuesday, concerning the need for more food for the Italian population, reflect Mr. Churchill's concern for the betterment of the feeding situation in Italy.

BRIA (AP) : Notes the arrival in Italy of Luigi Antonini, Ameri-

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can Federation of Labor delegate, and George Baldanzi, Vice President of the Union of American Workers, and C.I.C. delegate. +

+ Luigi Antonini is Vice President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. On July 16th the "New York Herald Tribune" published a report that Antonini was proceeding to Italy to attempt to prevent domination of the reviving Italian labour movement by the Communists. The State Department denies that his passport was held up on this account, but State Department officials have pointed out to both delegates that while in the area, any civilian is subject to the authority of the military commander, and American civilians may not interfere in the political situation in Italy.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/ R 10 18 August 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

Correspondents are still mainly concerned with the operations in Southern France. The French Riviera appears to have been well mined by the Germans, but not a great deal of damage has been done and the inhabitants have shown keen joy at liberation. Many women collaborators have been rounded up, according to one correspondent.

MCORAD (CBS) sums it up by saying: "Up to now Mediterranean observers had only three wars and four political revolutions to watch..... but from now on anything can happen..... and keeping up with the news.....from all these nations in chaos will be a superhuman job."

MICHAEL REYNOLDS (BBC): In a broadcast two days ago quoted Major General Browning's remarks at the Regional Commissioners' meeting in which the head of the Army Sub-Commission gave praise to the work of Italian troops.

The correspondent has made a second broadcast devoted entirely to the work of the Italian troops both in the front line and in rear areas at docks and depots. "Their services call for praise not only from the Allied Armies but also from the Italian people" he said.

ROPER (UP): General Mark Clark on the conclusion of a front line tour along the Arno, and after presenting awards to officers and men, replied to the Italian Finance Minister's suggestion that the Army should withhold part of the pay of American troops in Italy to prevent too free spending to the disadvantage of Italian currency. He said that only 17 % of soldiers pay remained in Italy.

1775

ROSPIGLIOU (INS): "A reduction of three billion 171 million lire in the circulation of Italian bank notes is the proud record for the past 20 days of Italian Finance Minister Soleri, who discloses that not a single bank of Italy note has been issued since June 4th."

The article goes on to say that there is little for Italians to buy these days and so they are putting their money into the banks. The banks buy Treasury Bonds (Short term) with these deposits and the bank notes are then destroyed. It is the most efficient method, according to the correspondent, of preserving the volume [illegible] Minister of Finance Soleri says that

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

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1725

ROSPIGLIOU (INS) : "A reduction of three billion 171 million Lire in the circulation of Italian bank notes is the proud record for the past 20 days of Italian Finance Minister Soleri, who discloses that not a single bank of Italy note has been issued since June 4th."

The article goes on to say that there is little for Italians to buy these days and so they are putting their money into the banks. The banks buy Treasury Bonds (Short term) with these deposits and the bank notes are then destroyed. It is the most efficient method, according to the correspondent, of preserving the volume of the money deposited, and Minister of Finance Soleri says that this method is applied. German attacks on the Lira had been broken. They had printed a lot of paper money, but most of the printing presses were in Rome and the Germans now have difficulty in obtaining paper. Proof of this is that in Milan prices are lower than in Rome. An egg in Milan costs 8 Lire; in Rome it costs 50 Lire. In Sicily again it costs 8 Lire. In Rome, a non-producing city flooded with Allied Military currency prices are rushing skyward. What will happen with all the Allied currency. It is not a promise to pay. It depends on how the Allied currency is redeemed whether Italy will become a factor of economic

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equilibitiumor a cesspool of economic trouble. If the Italian Government be empowered to make use of it for purchases bought to recuperate goods consumed by Allied soldiers in Italy, there can be no doubt that Italian economy will be saved.

BUCKLEY ("euter)
BEWSTER ("Daily Herald")
MOORAD (CBS)

Report the incidents outside the French Embassy. Quick action on the part of Lieut. Col. Pollock, AMG police chief in Rome, saved the situation when a crowd of 5,000 tried to rush an Italian police station. It was an all-party demonstration to celebrate the fall of Paris, and took place in Rome's Piazza Farnese. The crowd roared its protest against a flag of the House of Savoy and tried to rush the police station. One demonstrator forced his way in and replaced the flag with one bearing the hammer and sickle. A young policeman dashed out and tore down the red flag and hurled it at the crowd. The crowd rushed the building but Lieut. Col. Pollock and Major John Coxhead, both ex-London police officers, stood completely unarmed in the doorway and kept the seething crowd back. Pollock at once allowed the flag without the Monarchist cross, the French tri-colour and the Red Flag, to be hung out, thus saving the situation. The two Britons prevented the mob from trying to lynch the young policeman, who undoubtedly together with his comrades, would have opened fire.

MOORAD (CBS) : In his account of the incident says that he was accompanied by a veteran French newspaperman and the latter told him that Italy is looking towards France. "Ican feel it everywhere these last two weeks. A lot of people understimate us. France has become the intellectual and political test tube of the world."

E. PACKARD (UP) : Through one of its official mouthpieces the Vatican today, for at least the sixth time, expressed grave doubts of the validity of Allied claims that the Germans used the Monte Cassino monastery for military purposes. The "Osservatore Romano" commenting on a report that Lisieux, in Southern France, had been transformed by the Germans into "a second Monte Cassino" recalled again with pain that no proof had ever been given that Cassino had been used by the Germans.

BRIA (AP) : Has interviewed George Baldanzi and Luigi Antonini, two American labour delegates who have now arrived in Italy. Baldanzi expressed the hope that the Red Army would reach Berlin be-

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BRIA (AP) : Has interviewed George Baldanzi and Luigi Antonini, two American labour delegates who have now arrived in Italy. Baldanzi expressed the hope that the Red Army would reach Berlin before the other Allies, as otherwise there would be another hotel room full ofpeople like these he saw in the Grand Hotel. He saw the prosperous looking Italians around him as Fascist survivors of a purge which the Allies, in complete disregard of the ideological aspects of the war, had failed to carry out. This inaction will lead to a blood bath as soon as the Allies leave Italy.

Antonini expressed himself strongly on Britain's policy. It was Britain's policy to make Italy a "colony" and he appealed to the United States to take greater interest in Italian economic and political affairs. Control of Italy is so top heavy British it isn't even funny, and if the United States leaves Italy to Britain and Russia then American troops will have fought here in

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vain. He was distrustful of Togliatti and of Communist declarations regarding democracy in Italy, and a strong Socialist party was the only way to counter balance the Communists. +

Baldanzi - a younger man - said he was not here to tell Italian labour what to do, but to give advice if desired. Financial assistance would also be needed. He wished to meet Togliatti. Harmony among the workers was the only way to frustrate Fascism.

He had learned that "socialisation of entire economic life Northern Italy was already an accomplished fact" and wondered what the Allies were going to do about it when they got there.

The correspondent adds that a delegation of British labour leaders was expected to arrive soon for a similar survey.

+ See trend of copy dated Aug. 26 page 3

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R 10 30 Agosto 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

Apart from the operations in Southern France the chief interest of correspondents has been in Mr. Churchill's message to the Italian people on his departure.

BRIA (AP): In regard to Mr. Churchill's remarks that he had directed British representatives on international bodies to do their utmost to correct physical hardships brought to the Italian people by war, it is interpreted in informed quarters to mean that he supports the Italian application for UNRRA aid, and that a Commission has been studying the Italian situation and will make a report to the Montreal Conference in September. His remark that the Nation cannot be absolved from the faults and guilt of a regime was apparently meant to emphasize that while Italy will not be treated the same as Germany she naturally cannot expect to sit at the peace table as an ally.

HILL ("New York Herald Tribune"): The only demand which the Italians have been making which Churchill indicated would be met by the Allies is their request to be allowed a fuller participation in the war effort. "I rejoice that large new Italian forces will soon join the Allied Armies."
In one blunt passage of an otherwise extremely friendly message he told Italians they could not entirely escape the responsibility for the crimes of Fascism.

LUBBY ("Times") : Remarks that it is noticeable that 'Avanti" and "Unità" have omitted the Prime Minister's reference to the quest of unscrupulous parties after power.

1773

Ralph Howard (N.B.C.)....."Lively interest has been aroused by the Prime Minister's statement that large new Italian forces will soon be fighting with the Allies and by his formal assurance that British representatives will do their utmost to help Italy out of her present economic difficulties. Press reports are also quick to point out Britain's traditional policy of support for the more conservative elements of Italy."

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MOORAD (CBS) ....."Press reactions to Mr. Churchill's activities vary widely from the warm effulgence of the Vatican "Osservatore Romano" to sharp criticism from the Socialist-Communist groups and the anti-Monarchist "Voce Repubblicana" which says that Churchill's lunch with old Marshal Badoglio is a slap in the face to Italian patriots." .....

MACCORMICK ("N.Y. Times") : Some Ministers fear that [illegible] Churchill's conspicuous gesture to Badoglio points to the possibility of a return of the Marshal if the situation gets out of hand. In any case Cabinet members are aware that it

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will be a long time before Italian policy is made by Italy. This is peculiarly true of the financial situation. The correspondent gives the figure of paper money issued by the Allies at 30,000,000,000 Lire. Nobody, she says, either in ACC or the Italian treasury, has any idea how many more of these 100 lire to the dollar notes, will be circulated. Prices are soaring: an Italian lower middle class family with an income of 1500/3000 lire might just as well be unemployed as try to exist on its earnings. It was not a very bright idea to print the 4 freedoms on the back of these occupation notes. They should include a fifth freedom "freedom to starve" said one embittered functionary.

Recuperation depends mostly, however, on Allied policy. Americans here are asking what kind of Italy we desire to see develop. The British take the larger part in ACC policy making but seem undecided up to now whether their interests are best served by a weak dependent or a strengthened friend. Churchill's statement is a turning point because it indicates he has chosen the latter alternative.

LUMBY ("Times") : Reports the arrival in Italy of Mr. Attlee and his lunch with Pietro Nenni and Gronchi, leaders of the Socialist Party, at the British Embassy.
SPRIGGE (Reuter) : also reports this.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times"): Writing of the Communist demonstration in front of the French Embassy, to celebrate the fall of Paris, says it is clear that anti-monarchical sentiments are now becoming so strong that unless Togliatti can hold his followers in check it will run away with him and force the Communist party into a Republican policy. - which is expected in the long run anyhow. Those who recall the Spanish Republican demonstrations before 1931 find much to remind them of Spain in present day Italy.

LUMBY ("Times") reports that two contemporary portraits of Martin Luther and his wife have apparently disappeared from the Uffizi Galleries at Florence. Professor Giovanni POGGI, art superintendent, says they were withheld by a German Colonel of the Hermann Goering Division from the collection of canvases from the Uffizi Galleries which were held for safety in a villa outside Florence. In response to his protests he was told that the pictures had gone to Goering himself.

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BRIA (AP): Cables his Association on the press conference held by Brig General O'Dwyer of the Economic Sub-Commission and stresses the remarks made about the building of houses just outside the devastated area of Cassino. The old ruins are to be left; there will be no modern plumbing in the 125 houses to be built. He also mentioned that only about one third of the Pontine Marshes is flooded. The food expert, he remarks, said that the poor people in Rome are suffering no doubt, but supplies will improve greatly after September 1st.

SPRIGGE (Reuter): Reports an anti-Monarchist demonstration

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when Signor Mario Berlinguer, Assistant Commissioner for the punishment of Fascists, made a speech. The demonstrators demanded that the Generals who failed to resist the Germans in September, 1943, be also brought to justice. The meeting degenerated into a riot until one of the crowd jumped on the stage and delivered a tirade against the King. The demonstration was obviously planned, and the demonstrators had brought literature for distribution.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R 10 31 August, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

SPRIGGE (Reuter) : Allied plans, and hopes, for stepping up food consignments into Rome sufficiently to mitigate the distress wherein the large part of the population are living were explained to the press by the new head of the Allied, Control Commission Economic Section, American Brigadier General Wm. O'Dwyer.

He strongly disclaimed any desire to conceal the inadequacy of the present nutrition available for Rome, which was due to the fact that Rome presents an agglomeration of 2 million persons without local resources, and at present cut off from its normal sources of supply, of which the most important are in the Po Valley. At the present time food is coming into Rome at the rate of 28,000 Tons per month while the necessary quantity would be 50,000 tons. The food at present available affords around 700 calories per head daily for those unable to pay black market prices for supplementary articles of the rationed and controlled provisions.

O'Dwyer said that Rome's feeding problem was infinitely more complex than that of any other Italian region.

600,000 tons of Allied wheat supplies will be necessary for liberated Italy alone during the next 12 months to ensure the distribution of the present bread ration, O'Dwyer forecast. If Rome and central Italy are placed on the same ration basis as Naples an extra 200,000 tons will be required. The figures relate solely to already liberated territories of Italy which have a population of 24 million people, while another 22 million people are in non-liberated Italy.

O'Dwyer's department is assisting the Italian Government to produce an industrial demographic and agricultural census in order to give a purview of the problems which are due to burst when the last shot has been fired and war employment ceases.

1771

COX (Blue Network) : This correspondent, who asked many questions at the conference, devoted the whole of one broadcast talk to Brig. Gen. O'Dwyer's remarks. He started off by saying that the first steps have been taken to rebuild the shattered town of Cassino. The houses will be built in a new area North of the old town. The Cassino rubble will probably remain as a

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CCC (Blue Network) : This correspondent, who asked many questions at the conference, devoted the whole of one broadcast talk to Brig. Gen. O'Dwyer's remarks. He started off by saying that the first steps have been taken to rebuild the shattered town of Cassino. The houses will be built in a new area North of the old town. The Cassino rubble will probably remain as a war shrine. The Italians wished to build houses with modern conveniences and to use cement for the foundations, but the Allies told them they would have to get along with lime for mortar. Because of the shortage of cement the army has been using lime in the reconstruction of highway bridges. Work will start early next month and the houses should be ready for occupancy in December. The rehabilitation is being done by the Italians themselves. This point has to be emphasized because some people think the ACC is undertaking the economic rehabilitation of the country. It is not, and Brigadier General W. O'Dwyer, head of the Commission's economic section, makes it plain to everyone. The Commission is part of the Army and as such is interested only in the winning of the war. Their part

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in winning the war is to keep Italy on an even keel economically. O'Dwyer is frank enough toadmit that Italy faces a tough Winter. The supply of coal is strictly limited by a disrupted transportation system. Wrecked docks of every port can't handle the speedy unloading of coal shipped in from abroad. In one case it took 53 days to unload a ship. The ACC has obtained some coal from stock piles and it has got some mines going, but here again its prime customer is the Army. The military comes first. (There seems to be no doubt that lots of Italians will starve or come unpleasantly close to starvation before next summer. NOTE: This sentence was first cut by the correspondent, but eventually was included.)

Allied engineers hope to have reclaimed about one half of the flooded area of the Pontine marshes by next Spring. The rest will have to wait until the end of the war.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

Planned reconstruction of wrecked power plants in central Italy now being undertaken by the ACC will, it is estimated, more than treble their capacity within 6 months. The retreating Germans destroyed 94% of all plants in this region. By cannabilising equipment ACC engineers and Italians working under their direction have now secured an output of approximately 57,000 Kws. This is sufficient to meet all military requirements and leave some power available for civil purposes. The six months plan aims at raising the power output to 150,000 and 200,000.

The correspondent also gives an account of the re-building planned for Cassino and adds that specifications provide that no materials for military purposes will be used.

HILL ("New York Herald Tribune") : Also commences his despatch with the re-building of Cassino. He says the statement was made by O'Dwyer in the course of a press conference devoted mainly to giving correspondents a picture of Italy's present economic situation and telling what ACC is proposing to do about it. The picture, says the correspondent, is not a pretty one. For instance, we were told that Rome's ration card holders, of whom there are 1,400,000, receive a daily food allowance whose calorific value varies between 700 and the minimum necessary for subsistence. O'Dwyer put this minimum at 1,500 calories. A healthy diet for a normal adult would contain nearer 3,000 calories. O'Dwyer admitted that people "on the side streets" are having a tough time.

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"Unità" a Communist organ, recently wrote that most working class families whose wages have not risen in proportion to prices, have been forced to sell blankets, clothing, furniture, in order to be able to buy food. When Winter comes "Unità" predicts these people will suffer from cold as well as hunger.

O'Dwyer made it clear that ACC has no obligation or authority to rehabilitate Italy. Its object is to help to win the war. However he said that everything is being done which does not interfere with the war effort.

O'Dwyer indicated some improvement in the food situation in Rome might be expected in the near future as a result of the interest taken by an "important political figure who recently visited Italy" an

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obvious reference to Churchill. Transportation has been the chief bottle-neck in feeding Rome's population. Apparently as a result of Churchill's visit additional army transport will be available for carrying food for civilians.

Maj. Fielden

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R 10 Sept. 4 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

The break through the Goth line has now diverted the attention of correspondents from the fighting in Southern France to that in this theatre.

The repatriation of 1,000 American and other Allied airmen from Roumania also provided a considerable amount of joyful copy. They arrived clad in a varied assortment of uniforms, quasi-uniforms and civilian clothes garnered from Roumanian and German sources and their interrogation on arrival seems to have been hilarious. The first Russian troops into Bucharest arrived in Jeeps and their meeting with the interned airmen was apparently at first a little austere until the juice of the grape broke down the barrier of reserve and overcame the difficulties of language.

A.C.C. activities have come in for little comment.

1789

HADFIELD ("Times")

Has filed a lengthy despatch to his foreign news editor entitled "Rome today". In some respects, he says, the eagerly awaited hopes of Romans after the liberation has been realised. An Italian politician who recently escaped from Milan to Rome said that the freedom allowed the press in liberated Italy would astonish those in territory still under Nazi control. Even the theatre in Rome has its sly digs at the Allies and at Italian politicians. But the fourth freedom has yet to come "Freedom from want". Correspondent then quotes the well known list of complaints i.e., shortage of food, high prices, black market, lack of electricity, and shortage of transport; "Even such an essential item as salt has practically disappeared from the market." In the case of food one cannot say that the situation is actually critical, although according to qualified observers Rome is worse off now for food than ever Naples was. It is cut off from its sources and transport is the chief difficulty, as it is for most of Italy's present troubles. If driven by hunger to the black market the Roman citizen finds he

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4/- a pound for flour
5/6d pasta (weight not stated)
2/6d bread
1/ - potatoes
5/- tomato paste
9/- cheese
8/6d to 9/6d for meat
5/- for salt
11/- to 14/- for sugar
25/- a litre for olive oil.

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The prices may not seem excessive to British eyes but they must be reviewed in relation to wages. Some of these wages the correspondent then quotes. The average workman receives about 1,000 lire per week (Two pounds; ten shillings). Even a senior Government official may draw only 6,000 Lire (Fifteen pounds) a month. The poor are selling everything. When everything is disposed of a breakdown is in sight. It is regrettable that after 3 months liberation a more cheerful picture cannot be given. The A.C.C. does however, realise the gravity of the situation and with the co-operation of the army is taking steps which will go some way towards making conditions more bearable. Correspondent then quotes some of the measures outlined by Col. Legg at the press conference given by Brig. Gen. O'Dwyer. But these are only promises and projects, he says. Unless something is actually done, the Bonomi Government may be forced to resign and it will not be easy to find an administration to take its place which would command the confidence of both the Allies and the Italians. In spite of the transfer of authority to the Italian Government it is the Allied armies which ultimately are responsible for welfare and order in Italy. This is an aspect of Allied administration in occupied enemy territory which must never be forgotten. The problem which is present here will recur when we reach Germany as General Maitland Wilson was careful to remind an audience of A.C.C. officials the other day.

MacCORMICK ("Times" New York)

Has visited Florence and gives an account of the feelings of hatred against the Germans, which is very bitter. One citizen said that there are Florentines who demand a law forbidding the city to German tourists, salesmen and students.

COE (Blue Network)

..... The A.C.C. has had a tough job. Its work has been to maintain order and see that the Italian people have the necessities of life. German destruction has been primarily responsible for Italy's economic loss. The food problem has been pretty well licked, for sufficient food stocks are now coming in. But everyone realises that the Winter will be tough, whether the war in Europe ends or whether the Germans fight on. Italy will keep on suffering.....

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The cruiser "Aurora" created a sensation the other day when it put into Naples port with 40 W.R.N.S. Standing stiffly to attention at the rails.

SPRIGGE (Reuters) : Sends an account of the death of the Italian naval officer, Carlo Fecia di Cossato, and says that his suicide has given rise to vigorous competition for political ends.

Monarchists declare he did it because Bonomi suspended the Ministers' oath of loyalty to the King. "Avanti" accuses the Monarchists of attributing the officer's death to political reasons and says he committed suicide through neurasthenia. "Unità" praises the officer's death and says he was the victim of reactionary forces

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which precipitated the Fatherland into the abyss.

"Osservatore Romano" says the officer's death was traceable to 4 years exhaustive war strain and condemns all parties for making political propaganda of it.....Lieut. Giovanni Sforza, who addressed a letter to the King stating that he considered himself released from his oath and loyalty because the King was an enemy of the country, has been sentenced to 10 years confinement. He is proclaimed a national hero by the "Voce Repubblicana".

BRIA (AP)

Quotes Count Nicolò Carandini's speech on Italian liberal ideals. Liberals include both Monarchists and Republicans, and he hoped all parties which have mutual ideas will enlarge their bases.

Liberals in Italy want Italy to be an element of balance between East and West in Europe "friendly to Great Britain and the United States."

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R 10 6 September 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

A number of correspondents have devoted space to the story of the brutalities of the Gestapo and of the Republican Fascists in the Via Tasso.

BRIA (AP) : Says that the ACC has announced that 800 to 1,000 people were shot, killed, or beaten to death, and more than 6,000 people were severely injured during the Nazi occupation of Rome. He gives the names of the three notorious ringleaders and their general background, and of what took place.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") : Devotes a despatch to the main portion of the story.

PEARCE ("Daily Herald" London) features the story in its broad outlines.

COOPER ("Daily Express" London) sends a briefstory.

BRIA (AP): Allied intelligence agents have smashed a huge Sicilian counterfeit ring, recovering nearly $500,000 in "queer" currency. 37 arrests have been made, and seven plates for making 1,000 Lire notes have been confiscated in breaking up the gang which had its headquarters in Palermo. Information was conveyed to the Allies by a paroled prisoner of war.

KILGALLEN (INS) : Has filed three lengthy articles on the story of the German massacres in the Ardeatine caves, covering practically everything given in the official release on the subject. 1207

BUCKLEY (Reuter) : The appointment of military censors of Italian nationality but under Allied control, in each Rome newspaper office, is the subject of comment in most newspapers. A group of newspaper editors after a meeting with the Allied authorities drew up a long note which was published in the "Unità", "Avanti", "Italia Libera" and "Il Popolo". It said that they hoped the recently established military censorship will not leave its sphere of action and invade the political field. This would undermine that freedom

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On the Allied side it is pointed out that all over liberated Italy it has been Allied practice to attach military censors to each newspaper office. Only in the case of Rome was there a shortage of personnel and this was not remedied until a few days ago. On the Italian newspaper side it is argued that the system worked at present by which all news connected with military operations is received through the Psychological Warfare Board and has already passed the military censors has been satisfactory during three months.

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MILLER (Cleveland Press) : has written a lengthy article on Fascist methods of bribery in order to undermine the democracies. While a considerable number of records had been removed before the Allied entry into Rome yet many important archives had been left behind. He had been shown photostat copies of certain documents giving the names of people living in various countries who were implicated and in order to verify the information he had called on the Allied archivist in charge of impounded Fascist records. The latter had refused to let him see any of the original documents as they were secret, but he had stated that they are being examined and reports being made to the proper quarters in Washington and London.

It is certain Professor Scott, formerly head of the Romance Language Department of Western University, figures in the records. The correspondent points out that he had often described the Fascist activities of this individual. Professor Scott had twice interviewed Mussolini, and the ex-dictator and his subordinate Gayda had often placed some value on the reports which this American citizen had submitted to them.

The correspondent says that there is definite proof that the British Union of Fascists has been subsidised by the Fascist Government, and that Sir Oswald and Lady Mosley were by no means the most prominent people concerned in its activities.

PURRANCE ("Time") has filed a two page despatch on the exploits of a certain T.D. Martin, of Seattle, who posed as a war correspondent in the Italian theatre of operations. Martin is said to be a deserter from the Canadian Artillery. He claimed acquaintance with many well-known correspondents, lived in style at the Majestic Hotel on the Via Veneto, Rome, borrowed money from all and sundry, and was finally cornered by officials of the Canadian Public Relations office while having lunch with an American girl at the Grande Hotel. He tried to keep up the deception right up to the last moment by asking permission to phone various acquaintances that "he would be out of town for some days". Martin is now in a Rome prison and his trial is expected to take place some time this month.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

11 Sept. 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

GOWRAN ("Chicago Tribune") has filed two lengthy despatches dealing with AMG from the invasion of Sicily and bringing the story up to the present time. These are the first of a request series of articles on Liberated Italy which will cover politics, racketeering, education, and the Italian press. Since the first AMGOT officer landed in Sicily on July 10, 1943 the history of military government in Italy has been one of disorganisation which succeeded in functioning sufficiently in its actual dealings with the subject people, in spite of confusion and a division of authority in its own high command. Much of this confusion was brought about by the fact that the war in Italy did not go in accordance with the text books used in military government schools in the United States and England where the present administrators studied. Overnight Italy changed from an enemy nation to a co-belligerent and nobody has yet been able to give a workable definition of co-belligerency. It stands somewhere between enemy and ally - nobody knows quite where. In addition military government officers themselves complain that their organisation is not well dove_tailed into the military one. There are too many bosses. Orders come from too many directions; occasionally countermanding each other. Basically to blame are Washington and London which have as yet not quite decided just what they want to do about Liberated Italy. There is even a comical side, for it was found that the word AMGOT was a ribald one in Turkish. Trouble started in Italy. The head was then Lord Rennell of Rodd, British banker, and former British Ambassador to Italy, who has dropped out of the picture since. His sympathies were naturally upper class, and as this class is almost completely pro-Fascist he found himself in an uncomfortable situation with the world press. Charges flew that AMG was instituting its own brand of fascism to replace Mussolini's. But the storm died down and except for the excitement over Rennell, AMG had comparatively smooth sailing until September 8, 1943. Then its miseries began in earnest. To Italy came a military mission headed by Lieut. General Sir Noel Mason MacFarlane. Its main duty was to determine whether the Allies could make use of Italian troops in combat, but in

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

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vernment officers themselves could not keep track of what was going on, let alone the Italians. The situation became somewhat clarified last January when ACC amalgamated with AMG. The plan defined the studies of each, which works like this. Liberated Italy is divided into three territories. The Northern section at present is 100 miles wide extending from the battle line to a line from Porto Civitanova on the Adriatic and Orbetello on the Tyrhennian Sea. This is under the direct control of AMG, and is known as the Army zone. The middle strip extends from the army zone line and from Termoli on the Adriatic across to the Tyrhennian Sea west of Rome. This is covered by the ACC executive military government and is known as the regional zone. The remainder of southern Italy to Sicily and Sardinia has been restored to a free Italian Government, partly under the benevolent but watchful eye of the ACC; As the military machine rolls North, army and regional zones move with it. Thus bit by bit liberated Italy will be handed over to a free Italian Government.

The correspondent then describes how AMG operates in forward areas in re-establishing local administration, until the zone comes under ACC control.

Here, although ACC officers still keep authority, attempts are made to have the Italians themselves perform most of the functions of government. In addition the ACC reviews those appointed to office by AMG when the area is first liberated, and either replaces or approves them. In free Italy the Italians have been given free authority with the ACC only acting as liaison, but the ACC retains the right to reinstate military government any time it should feel it necessary. Thus the Italian Government may be said to be emasculated, but after all, only a year ago Italy was an enemy nation. Although the AMG/ACC merger eliminated much confusion, an unfortunate division of authority still exists. At present the ACC is directed by Capt. Ellery Stone, of the United States Navy, who can only "advise" Brigadier General Erskine Hume, the AMG director of the 5th Army and Group Captain G. Benson, AMG director of the 8th Army. Normally such advice is observed, but it is impossible under present setup that Hume, for instance, can follow his own mind if he chose, or might follow a line of reasoning laid down by his superior Lieut. General Mark Clark. There is no one man who has power to say this or that shall be done or shall not be done in Allied military Government in Italy.

C Correspondent then goes on to describe how Italian emissaries went to Lisbon to discuss the armistice terms with the British Ambassador there. According to the writer there was a short

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Tyrrhenian Sea west of Rome. This is covered by the ACC executive military government and is known as the regional zone. The remainder of southern Italy to Sicily and Sardinia has been restored to a free Italian Government, partly under the benevolent but watchful eye of the ACC; As the military machine rolls North, army and regional zones move with it. Thus bit by bit liberated Italy will be handed over to a free Italian Government.

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C Correspondent then goes on to describe how Italian emissaries went to Lisbon to discuss the armistice terms with the British Ambassador there. According to the writer there was a short term armistice giving the Allies full use of Italian bases, and a long term one regarding the punishment of the guilty and reparations.

After some quibbling Badoglio signed the long term armistice on September 29, 1943, and the contents of this are still secret.

On October 13th Italy, obviously seeking to gain favour with the Allies and thus escape some of the punitive measures at last declared the armistice and declared war on Germany. She was immediately given the undefinied position of a co-belligerent. None in Italy knows what this means and Washington and London are not telling. In November Badoglio formed a cabinet now

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known as the Government of technicians. This was scorned by Italy's 6 strong anti-Fascist parties which labelled it variously as Fascist, Monarchist and non-representative and it received a death blow on April 1st, 1944, when a little man returned from Moscow. He was Palmiro Togliatti, leader of Italy's powerful Communist Party. He demanded a new Government be formed representing the 6 parties. Badoglio's second Government came on April 22nd with himself as Prime Minister. It included Togliatti, Carlo Sforza, rabid anti-Fascist, and Benedetto Croce, Liberal Prty leader. It was slightly Leftist with the Communists, Socialists and Action Party receiving 7 seats against 5 awarded to the more moderate Christian Democrats, Labour Democrats and Liberal parties. Like its predecessor the new Government seems to spend most of the time doing two things: 1) Issuing decrees defining Fascists and seeking to punish them and 2) Repeating again and again the conviction that the Italian people had been betrayed and forced into the war and therefore should not be dealt with too harshly. These things are still popular today. June 4th, 1944, came and with the liberation of Rome, King Victor Emmanuel while not abdicating turned over the Royal prerogative to the Prince of Piedmont. A new Government came in headed by Bonomi, 73 years old leader of the Labour Democrats immediately prior to the coming of Fascism. It is this Government which has been given administrative power over Southern Italy under the eye of ACC. Probably never before has there been a stranger Government. First it is emasculated. It is true that Italy south of Rome is directly controlled by the Bonomi Government, but the ACC reserves the right to slap back full military government should a crisis arise. But Italy has been Fascist since 1922 and in all the intervening years the parties have not been tested by election to see their real power. Several in fact did not exist in years prior to Fascism. A Grand Assembly is planned to draft a new Constitution for Italy but this is complicated by the question of whether the country retains the Monarchy or becomes a Republic. The out-of-Government Democratic Party, which is little more than a disguised Monarchist group, demands that an Assembly be preceded by a National Referendum to determine whether the people want a Monarchy or a Republic. They reason widely that simple Italian peasants will mark their ballot papers for the old life. Large factions of Christian Democrats and Liberals lean toward a Referendum. The Monarchist hating Communists, Socialists, Liberal Democrats and Action Party howl at the idea of a Referendum. They demand a Republic with delegates of a Constituent Assembly elected from the ranks of the 6 parties. On paper it appears that the Monarchist hating parties gave strength enough to win. They are

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Lent i. e. What are the contents of the secret Armistice? What does co-belligerency mean? Will Italy be granted status of an Ally? Is it possible Allies will lighten whatever punishment is in store for Italy? Will Italy receive regular Lease-Lend,? Will she be granted help under UNRRA ? Without definite answers to these vital questions the Government can only go round in circles, and apparently Washington and London coyly intend to keep these answers to themselves for the time being, despite the fact that their attitude is certainly not increasing Allied prestige in Italy. High placed officials in both Allied forces and the Italian Government themselves declare United States and England may lose more than prestige here if Roosevelt and Churchill continue to deal with Italy in high sounding words and not concrete facts. The armies of Russia are linking up with Tito's Jugoslavia across the near Adriatic . Officials suggest that Italy may be made desperate by the present treatment and appeal to Russia for help. And Russia might grant that help overnight and become a power of greatest importance in this vitally placed nation on the Mediterranean.

LUMBY ("Times") : Quotes "Avanti" and its premises on the visit of Brig. O'Dwyer to Washington. It seems likely that his visit is to prevent widespread unemployment and distress in Northern Italy when it becomes liberated. There is reason to believe that the Pope has made a plea for prompt and effective assistance. It is known that arrangements have been made to supply emergency electric power in case the Germans wreck all power stations as they did in South of Italy. The correspondent then quotes the Census which the Economic Section has announced is now being carried out to ascertain the extent of possible needs.

Other correspondents who have filed despatches on Nenni's remarks in "Avanti" are:

E. Packard (UP)
BRIA (AP)
MATTHEWS ("New York Times")

HILL (for NBC broadcast) files a script saying that today in Palestine German Jews are already making propaganda to the effect that the Germans are a superior race. German Jewish children in Tel Aviv are being taught this, and one German Jew id said to have remarked that he would not like to see East Prussia go to the Poles.

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MATTHEWS ("New York Times") : Has made enquiries at the Vatican as to its attitude regarding sanctuary for war criminals. He mentions the late Cardinal Maglione's remark said to have been to the former Rome police chiefn General Umberto Presti that "the

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Catholic Church would not close its doors even to Hitler himself". But sheltering war criminals would be an exceedingly awkward thing for the Vatican, and while it is not intended to make an official announcement that sanctuary will be refused, the Vatican will try to discourage any such attempts. But, remarks the correspondent, it is difficult to see how such fugitives can enter the Vatican except by parachute of helicopter.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R 10

15 Sept, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

GOWRAN ("Chicago Tribune"): Continues his series of articles on Liberated Italy and devotes one to the Italian Press.

The Italian press and radio in that part of Italy dominated by the Allies are closely controlled today by Allied supervisors who describe their all enveloping system of control as an attempt to give the country a democratic press and radio at some time in the future. Liberated Italy, Sicily and Sardinia now have 22 daily newspapers and 194 other periodicals serving a total of 20 million persons. These exist through the courtesy of an Allied propaganda organisation called Psychological Warfare Branch for Italy, which, it is explained is an offspring of a combination of the United States Office of War Information and its British counterpart, Political Warfare Executive. The top command includes both British and United States civilians formerly employed with Office of War Information, British psychological warfare services and various newspapers of both nations. Psychological Warfare Board control is exercised through the Allied Publications Board in Rome, of which Lieut. Col. Ian Munro, Psychological Warfare Board Press chief, a Britisher, is the executive secretary. This board is the sole authority to grant and revoke licences for publication of newspapers books, magazines, posters and brochures. It also controls the flow into Italy of imported newsprint upon which the Italian newspapers are dependent and directs distribution of newsprint within the country. Finally it controls all news and radio services. Most papers at present published are under carefully selected anti-Fascist Italian management, but 5 large dailies are operated directly by Psychological Warfare Branch. As number one priority papers in the matter of newsprint and other supplies their circulation far exceeds those of independent newspapers. Circulation figures of the papers and those of the next largest in each city are as follows:

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ROME: P.W.B. controlled "Corriere di Rome" 180,000
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	Socialist controlled "Avanti"	42,000
NAPLES:	P.W.B. controlled "Risorgimento"	1 20,000
	Communist-Socialist controlled "La Voce"	50,000
BARI:	P.W.B. controlled "Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno"	70,000
	Communist weekly "Civiltà Proletaria"	35,000
PALERMO:	P.W.B. controlled "Giornale di Sicilia"	50,000
	Communist weekly "La Voce dei Comunisti"	5,000
CATANIA;	P.W.B. controlled "Corriere di Sicilia"	30,000
	An unimportant medical quarterly magazine	200

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In the last three cities there are no other dailies but P.W.B. papers. The leaders of P.W.B. blandly announce their organisation has acquired control of 5 papers because it was the only way Allied propaganda could be disseminated without seeking favours of the independent newspapers, or without giving orders in the Fascist manner. Directives issued by P.W.B. high command and their men actually running the papers state that five dailies will carry straight news principally based on United Nations News Services releases. The directive further states that the papers will develop Allied directives in editorials and lay-out and will publish material from [illegible] time of political protagonists when space allows. United Nations News Service, it was explained, was organised in Naples earlier this year. Its principal source of international news is Reuters, although other stories are furnished by Office of War Information and very occasionally picked up from American news services. (+)

The question whether A.P. U.P. and Reuters itself be allowed to enter Italy and resume dissemination of news to Italian papers, is one which P.W.B. are extremely reluctant to discuss. One high executive said it must be settled at highest military and diplomatic levels, whatever that means, pointing out that propaganda is a vital war weapon. He says that uncensored news (apparently meaning that of international services) might result in dissemination of information which would aid and comfort the enemy and which might lead to disorder in community life in Italy. Under the present system the United Nations News Service is the only agency in Italy and Italian press and radio receive militarily secure and policy guided news agency service in which Italians themselves can assume an increasingly important role. It is explained that the whole aim of P.W.B. is to make sure the Italian press is free and democratic. Presumably the great freedom enjoyed by the United States and British press these days is a model. Harking back to the four freedoms P.W.B. declare that if these are accepted, the first is freedom of speech, and it is not right of the Allies to relinquish an influence over the press until they have set in motion machinery which will give Italy at least a fighting chance for a free press in the future. Just how far off is not certain.

Another utterance of P.W.B. suggests it intends to request that Allied Publications Board should be succeeded in post war Italy by Allied observers entrusted with the duty of seeing that Italian quotas of imported newsprint continue to be distributed on a democratic basis.

P.W.B. method of dealing with class two priority papers,

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that the papers will develop Allied directives in the ... lay-out and will publish material ... time of political protagonists when space allows. United Nations News Service, it was explained, was organised in Naples earlier this year. Its principal source of international news is Reuters, although other stories are furnished by Office of War Information and very occasionally picked up from American news services. (+)

The question whether A.P. U.P. and Reuters itself be allowed to enter Italy and resume dissemination of news to Italian papers, is one which P.W.B. are extremely reluctant to discuss. One high executive said it must be settled at highest military and diplomatic levels, whatever that means, pointing out that propaganda is a vital war weapon. He says that uncensored news (apparently meaning that of international services) might result in dissemination of information which would aid and comfort the enemy and which might lead to disorder in community life in Italy. Under the present system the United Nations News Service is the only agency in Italy and Italian press and radio receive militarily secure and policy guided news agency service in which Italians themselves can assume an increasingly important role.

It is explained that the whole aim of P.W.B. is to make sure the Italian press is free and democratic. Presumably the great freedom enjoyed by the United States and British press these days is a model. Harking back to the four freedoms P.W.B. declare that if these are accepted, the first is freedom of speech, and it is not right of the Allies to relinquish an influence over the press until they have set in motion machinery which will give Italy at least a fighting chance for a free press in the future. Just how far off is not certain.

Another utterance of P.W.B. suggests it stands to reason that Allied Publications Board should be succeeded in post war Italy by Allied observers entrusted with the duty of seeing that Italian quotas of imported newsprint continue to be distributed on a democratic basis.

The P.W.B. method of dealing with class two priority papers, which include all those but its own five flourishing dailies, is an interesting sidelight on its methods. Firstly the Prefect of an Italian province gets a directive which explains he should forward all requests for authorisation to publish papers in his Province to the normal accredited Italian press commission.

(+) Underlined with remark "Conger told me this as U.P. sell U.N.N.S. a lot of their services."

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This is composed of representatives of the Ministries of the Interior, Press, Justice and Education, and also members of the Newspapers Publishers Association and International Federation of the Italian press. An observer of A.P.B. attends all meetings and any decision not approved by A.P.B. is returned for re-examination. The directive goes on to state that sequestration of any unauthorised publication in the Province may be ordered for any of the following reasons - violation of censorship in news which comments on or which may have any relationship whatever to military matters; any offence towards the prestige and honour of any foreign country or towards its various representatives. If authorisation to publish is granted the publisher receives a what is called a "letter to conduct" from Munro, acting as executive secretary of A.P.B. The letter politely welcomes the new publisher to the field and explains there is no limitation on freedom of press regarding domestic politics and admonishes him to follow the lead of the great papers of the Allies in their dignity. But it goes on to remark that the abuse of this freedom will not be tolerated. It explains that no writing calculated to disturb or foment the public, or calculated to lead to public disorder, will be allowed, and states that infringement will lead to suspension and any further action the Allied authorities deem necessary. Finally Munro appeals to the publisher "to think more of a dignified press than a free one". P.W.B. has extended its efforts until at present it has its own combat teams operating directly with the 5th and 8th Armies. As soon as a city or town is liberated P.W.B. teams go in, and suspend all existing papers. Then one is selected, and a carefully chosen anti-Fascist editor appointed. Under a P.W.B. directive this one newspaper presents news "devoid of all political party editorials and comment except what may be approved or inspired by the Allied Military Government or P.W.B."

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In this next article the correspondent deals with the economic situation in Italy and here the picture is painted in heavy black. Italian economy may be compared, he says, to a badly battered fighter reeling under smashing blows, and wondering dimly where the next one will fall. Telephone and electric installations are first bombed by the Allies and then demolished by the Germans as they retreat. Its proud merchant fleet is divided between the Germans, the Allies or at the

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In this next article the correspondent deals with the economic situation in Italy and here the picture is painted in heavy black. Italian economy may be compared, he says, to a badly battered fighter reeling under smashing blows, and wondering dimly where the next one will fall. Transport and electric installations are first bombed by the Allies and then demolished by the Germans as they retreat. Its proud merchant fleet is divided between the Germans, the Allies or at the bottom of the sea. The worst wave of unemployment in history is looming. Finances are in chaos, with German and Allied occupational currency flooding the nation. Health standards are plunging towards zero. Food is still scarce; water is a problem, and heat for living quarters is something only vaguely remembered. Italians have their energies sapped by a Fascist Government who did all the thinking. They can see nothing but international charity - Lease-Lend and UNRRA. The task of doing it themselves seems too appalling.

He goes on to explain the top-heavy organisation created by Mussolini, and says that even in Mussolini's time everybody knew that the financial posiyion

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what the financial position really was, and today the currency is a shambles. What with Allied and German currency nobody knows who redeems which and it will take years to decide. Agriculture has its own problems; lack of man power; lack of equipment and transportation; lack of oil; lack of petrol; horses and mules taken by the Army, and oxen taken for food; troops swamp the railways; mines kill thousands of peasants.

What will happen when the 100,000 war prisoners return and are thrown on the labour market? Typhus is smouldering and ready to break. Tuberculosis is a threat. Medical supplies are scarce. Allied experts say 3 billion dollars for reconstruction will be necessary in the first 12 months. Where this is coming from nobody, includeng the experts, knows.

HADFIELD ("Times"): Christian Democrat party has declined to take up the challenge of the Left parties to define its attitude towards the Monarchy. Its 3 day meeting in Rome of the National Council decided that the problem must wait until the end of the war when all party members can be consulted at a national congress. But the party declares it has no preconceived bias in favour of the Monarchy as an institution. It declines the invitation of the Socialists and Communists for closer collaboration. Suggests instead the creation of a national advisory commission drawn from all parties for the discussion of fundamental national questions. It is also in favour of allowing women votes in communal elections.

FRANK (Supernews): Devotes an article in praise of P.W.B.'s efforts to undermine enemy morale by dropping news by plane and firing over by shell. Maps showing the advances on the Western front are having a profound effect for Kesselring gives his own troops no news of the fighting.

WALLIS ("Daily Telegraph")

The Germans have violated the neutrality of the Republic of San Marino. 100,000 refugees have flocked there from the surrounding area. The normal population is 14,000

INGRAHAM ("Time") : Has interviewed Orlando who said that it was a historical lie that Italy was mistreated at Versailles. This was one of the causes which led to Fascism. Actually Italy fared better than any of the major powers. The United States retired into Isolationism; Great Britain elected to defend the integrity of the pound rather than her Empire.

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HADFIELD ("Times"): Soviet trade union delegation is coming to Italy to study labour questions. This is in response to an invitation from the Italian Confederation of Labour. The American and British labour delegates return to Rome on Sept. 15th and will attend the Congress of the Italian Trade Union Organisations.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 16 September 1944.

Trend of Correspondents' Copy

E. PACKARD (UP) : Sends a brief summary of the alleged agreement between Italian and Jugoslav partisans on the delimitation of the frontier between Italy Jugoslavia. "Il Tempo" gives the news from an unofficial source that Fiume is to be considered as Jugoslav, while Trieste will be Italian.

LUBY ("Times")
LYNE Mac CORMICK (N. Y. Times)

Deal with the malaria outbreak due to the flooding of the Pontine Marshes and of the areas of the mouth of the Tiber. Flooding of the Pontine Marshes has revived the malaria pest which the draining had practically exterminated. There is incontestable evidence that the Germans did this deliberately, and put the clock back 30 years.

Col Russell, American expert in charge of Allied anti-malarial work says he was reluctant to believe this until he discovered two German scientists had been specially consulted about the degree of the flooding which would best favour propagation of the anopheles mosquito. The flooded area round the Tiber mouth near Ostia Fiumicino is also affected with the result there have been 1279 cases of malaria in the Rome area in the first 7 months of this year, against 571 during the same period of 1943. It is not a malignant type and Allied authorities have undertaken an organised campaign to counter it. Large quantities of special disinfectant have been distributed to kill the larvae. Fortunately an ample supply of quinine (about 4½ tons) was captured from the Germans on their retreat from Rome and this is being put to good use. It is estimated that there is enough to keep the whole of Italy supplied for several years.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") : Describes the pageantry at the 1751 installation of Professor Gaetano Pieraccini as mayor of Florence. The new mayor spoke first in English and then in Italian. He is 80 years old, but spoke with the fire of a man of 50 years younger. He is typical of many of the older generation who are coming forward today in both central and local government. Most of them must inevitably retire when the young parties fight their coming battles, but meanwhile they alone possess the political experience to step into the vacancies left by Fascism,

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MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") : Describes the pageantry at the installation of Professor Gaetano Pierraccini as mayor of Florence. The new mayor spoke first in English and then in Italian. He is 80 years old, but spoke with the fire of a man of 20 years younger. He is typical of many of the older generation who are coming forward today in both central and local government. Most of them must inevitably retire when the young parties fight their coming battles, but meanwhile they alone possess the political experience to step into the vacancies left by Fascism, and they are working loyally and without personal ambition to present [illegible] which the Allies have brought.

GOWRAN ("Chicago Trinune") : Devotes an article to the black market in Italy, which the correspondent says has followed the Allies from Salerno to Rome. It has cost the Allied armies untold hundreds of thousands of dollars in stolen military supplies. AMG has set up a special branch with hordes of Italian detectives and informers to assist it. He then describes the work of this branch has given by Lieut. Lipsius in an interview. It covered the old familiar ground of the Naples experiences including the classic one of the tearing up of a road in

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order to slow up lorries and steal supplies, as well as the use of women and wine to intoxicate soldiers and counterfeit passes for truck drivers. On arrival in Rome it was found that the Germans had encouraged the black market for their own benefit. The article goes on to describe the methods adopted to combat the market, with control of all the roads leading into Rome and police to ensure that supplies went to the central market. As a result food prices are one third of what they were under the Germans and instead of only 100 tons coming daily as with the Germans, today it is almost 300 tons. But the black market is no longer profitable. Many of the dealers had streamed North in the wake of the Armies in the hope of making fortunes.

PEARCE ("Daily Herald") : Has filed an article describing the Fiorenetta Officers Club in Rome.

BERGH (Goteborgs "Handelstidning")

The Sicilian situation is being greatly discussed. The press admits that the position is critical and complicated. It must be studied and fought. Sicily was always dominated by North Italians. When liberation came a few of the big landowners and industrialists seized key positions and started propaganda in favour of Separatism. In the meantime the Papal State still possess a trade fleet, even if it is in ports because so far not allowed to be used. The Pope intended it for bringing Sicilians home and for the transport of Sicilian products to Rome and this in its way is a a partial solution of the Sicilian problem.

Last Sicilian news reports intense propaganda for a tax strike because "we Sicilians will not pay taxes for the continent's silly mistakes". Of course the tax strike is something traditional for Sicily but no doubt Sicilian regionalism must be attentively followed.

BERGH (Goteborg "Handelstidning") : Writes on Italian hopes and fears for the Quebec conference, and a possible realisation of its hopes for Lange-Leni aii. Correspondent concludes "the mischief is that Italy has few helpers in the Anglo-American press, though last week Anne MacCormick started a certain pro-Italian campaign, or at least stressed the numerous difficulties of the starving Italians. (+)

VISHNISKY (Tass Agency) : Sends a Long despatch quoting "SI" interview with the Communist Minister of Agriculture, Gullo, on agrarian policy in Italy.

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(+) It should be pointed out that for many weeks numerous American and British correspondents have made it quite clear that Italy is in a bad way.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/RIC 15 Sep. 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

MATTHEWS (N.Y.Times): Quoting P.W.B. radio monitoring service says that Tito has demanded "amendment of past injustices such as Versailles and other treaties" in connection with the Istrian and Slovene costal areas.

The P.W.B. merely gave the Italian press such parts of Tito's speech as referred to the eradication of Fascism, but "Il Tempo" heard it broadcast from London in Spanish at 2 in the morning. According to this broadcast Tito demanded Istria, Trieste, Fiume and the island of Hvar, part of Gorizia province, and part of Styria and Carinthia. The Italian Foreign Office has no official text yet and so they cannot comment, but many Italians give an impression of dismay and depression. It looks as if the first of the post-war headaches of the United Nations' leaders has broken.

BECKWITH (BBC): Has filed a script for a broadcast from Rome (presumably to be by an Italian speaking in English). Speaking in the first person he says "how pleased he is to hear that the lights in London are to be increased. This means that the Luftwaffe's wings are clipped." Speaker then goes on to praise London for its steadiness during the Blitz and the example its people set to other nations.

"We in Rome still have the black out. But this is because the Germans blew up our power stations before they fled. Our homes are lit one night in four; but that night all our windows are wide open and the light which shines from our rooms is a light of joy. When the Germans were here they used to shoot without warning at any window which showed a crack of light. Millions of Italians soared my thoughts during those 4 tragic years of enforced enmity, during this war which was against our history, our traditions and the very soul of our nation."

Several correspondents have announced the trial of Caruso which opens today.

MATTHEWS (N.Y.Times): Quotes the resolution of the Labour organisations affiliated to the General Confederation of Italian Labour to keep politics out of the field of labour in Italy.

The American and British delegates pledged their associations to assist the Italian labour movement so long as this motion was honoured.

In an interview with the correspondent Antonini found it difficult to talk freely. He came with directives from Green and other American labour leaders to support the Italian Socialist movement as distinct from the Communist, but found that his visit was premature. The Italian Socialists under Pietro Nenni are close to Communism and as long as Nenni remains there can be no question of

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The correspondent also quotes at length from the letter by de Gasperi, Secretary of the Christian Democrat Party, to Togliatti of the Italian Communist party. The latter had approached the Christian Democrats with a suggestion that a political agreement be reached in order to create a "block of popular forces". While agreeing on the necessity for collaboration between all democratic

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and anti-Fascist forces" de Gasperi complained of Communist agitators in the Rome region who broke up meetings of Christian Democrats. If such things happened how could they condemn the spirit of intolerance for which Fascism was notorious. De Gasperi said that the Government must be one of the People, with all their parties, and not one single Party. But he reiterated that Christian Democrats would always give loyal support to the side of democracy and liberty.

The same correspondent files a despatch to the effect that in spite of the efforts of the American military authorities to induce the Russians to allow a group of Anglo-American correspondents to visit the town of Ploesti to inspect the damage after weeks of intense bombing, the Soviet Government steadily refuses its assent. An American air force officer who flew to Bucharest to arrange the visit was obliged to return without gaining this permission.

Reverting to the alleged broadcast by Tito, correspondent expresses Italian dismay at the news. The Italians thought the United Nations would take into account the grave danger to European peace of Tito's demand. The giving up of Trieste is one point upon which Italians are adamant. Sforza recently suggested that Fiume should be a League of Nations port, and Trieste a free port under Italian direction, with the frontier unchanged. Anyone who knows Italy, says the correspondent, can predict what the loss of Trieste will mean for future irredentism.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

19 September 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

The opening of the trial of the former Rome Chief of Police, Caruso, and the events which led to its postponement, form the chief topic for correspondents.

From a perusal of the various accounts it would seem that it was not an organised attempt by any one class or political party. Tremendous interest had been aroused in the trial and a great deal of impatience shown at what was thought to be unnecessary delay in bringing Caruso to trial. This impatience had manifested itself several weeks ago when Rosario Bentivegna, a young Communist, had been brought to trial before an AMG court, charged with the killing of a Finance Guard on the day the Allies entered Rome. At that time the Leftist press had compared his quick trial with the slower proceedings against Caruso. There is some reason to believe that many of the crowd were intent on taking the law into their own hands. But the unorganised manner in which the crowd were permitted to get into the inner courtyard and finally into the courtroom, plus the timidity of the Carabinieri, plus the highly emotional state in which some of the widows and relatives of the victims of the Ardeatine massacres came to the trial, precipitated matters, and the mob became uncontrollable.

Carretta, the former Director of the Regina Coeli prison, who was killed by the mob, was sitting among the witnesses when he was recognised by two of the widows. Their hysterical cries provided the flame which started the conflagration. There is general agreement that the Carabinieri - with the exception of one Lieutenant - were not up to their job, and were either cowed or indifferent. MATTHEWS (New York Times) claims to have been the only correspondent outside the Court who actually witnessed the whole grim scene from the time Carretta was dragged from the courtroom. Most of the other stories are variations on his theme. He is a reliable and experienced correspondent with sound political judgment of a conservative type.

1759

MATTHEWS (New York Times) : The crowds were there very early and it was obvious passions were high. Shortly before 9.30 the crowd broke through the inadequate and timid police cordons and

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he and Mario Berlinguer, Assistant High Commissioner for the punishment of Fascists harangued the crowd and tried to calm them. Caruso, who was lying on a stretcher, heard the mob and went pale. After half an hour's pleading by Pollock, who later told me "he had never in his long police career in England seen such an ugly mob as this", some calm was achieved. Pollock announced the postponement of the trial and the crowd might have dispersed then if two women had not discovered Carretta among the witnesses. He was grabbed by some young men, hit violently, and in a few minutes his face was streaming with blood. He was dragged downstairs and from then on NY Times correspondent was, by chance, alone among correspondents who became a horrified witness of everything that happened.

The notice by Pollock that the trial was being postponed did not cause the mob as a whole to disperse. I hung around the entrance and suddenly heard shouting inside the court. Inside a few Carabinieri were trying without force and without opposing the mob to usher out a short, stocky man, with thick lips and fuzzy hair, and his face literally covered with blood. Near the entrance, while his back was turned, a young man jumped on him with his feet, knocking him down, while others began kicking him. I turned to the Carabinieri and asked why he did not try to stop this. He shrugged his shoulders. Someone grabbed a cane from an old man and began viciously beating Carretta over the head with the curved handle. The Carabinieri were standing around in dozens, not more than a few yards from each other. Carretta tried desperately to get away from the blows and ran down to the end of the courtyard, where he was trapped. This went on for at least 10 minutes, until the only Italian who showed any decency and courage this morning, Carabiniere Lieut. Bergomaneri - managed to exert enough authority to get a few other police to help him rush the badly hurt, but still conscious Fascist, outside and into a cab that was standing in front of the Palace of Justice. He might have been saved then but none had the courage to drive the car away. The mob kept pressing round it with men reaching in to hit Carretta as well as they could. Bergomaneri then called upon a dozen Finance Guards on horseback to clear the crowd away from the car. They timidly pushed their horses up amid boos, and whistles from the mob, but only one of them drew his thin sword and hit a few men gently with the flat of it. The mob kept pushing in and finally someone opened the door of the cab and dragged Carretta out. He was thrown on the ground, jumped upon, and kicked until unconscious. When I bitterly kept telling the crowd round me that this was worse than Fascism; that Italy will get a

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then on NY Times correspondent was, by chance, alone among correspondents who became a horrified witness of everything that happened.

The notice by Pollock that the trial was being postponed did not cause the mob as a whole to disperse. I hung around the entrance and suddenly heard shouting inside the court. Inside a few Carabinieri were trying without force and without opposing the mob to usher out a short, stocky man, with thick lips and fuzzy hair, and his face literally covered with blood. Near the entrance, while his back was turned, a young man jumped on him with his feet, knocking him down, while others began kicking him. I turned to the Carabinieri and asked why he did not try to stop this. He shrugged his shoulders. Someone grabbed a cane from an old man and began viciously beating Carretta over the head with the curved handle. The Carabinieri were standing around in dozens, not more then a few yards from each other. Carretta tried desperately to get away from the blows and ran down to the end of the courtyard, where he was trapped. This went on for at least 10 minutes, until the only Italian who showed any decency and courage this morning, Carabiniere Lieut. Bergomaneri - managed to exert enough authority to get a few other police to help him rush the badly hurt, but still conscious Fascist, outside and into a cab that was standing in front of the Palace of Justice. He might have been saved then but none had the courage to drive the car away. The mob kept pressing round it with men reaching in to hit Carretta as well as they could. Bergomaneri then called upon a dozen Finance Guards on horseback to clear the crowd away from the car. They timidly pushed their horses up amid boos, and whistles from the mob, but only one of them drew his thin sword and hit a few men gently with the flat of it. The mob kept pushing in and finally someone opened the door of the cab and dragged Carretta out. He was thrown on the ground, jumped upon, and kicked until unconscious. When I bitterly kept telling the crowd round me that this was worse than Fascism; that Italy will get a black name throughout the world for this sort of thing, some shamefacedly admitted that it was bad "for poor Italians." One man who was Italian said "Unless the Americans come to defend us they'll kill us all." But there were not any American soldiers around, for it was an Italian trial by an Italian High Court of Justice, and it was imperative to leave everything in their hands. Bergomaneri and another Carabiniere Lieutenant managed to drag the unconscious Carretta toa command car with an American soldier at the wheel that stood a few yards away. The soldier refused the burden and drove off. For a while the crowd stood around the body on the street. One young

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girl with black hair and sunglasses, dressed well in white summer outfit, and looking like a student, had been one of the ringleaders, and she kept kicking Carretta. The two officers made one more effort to get the car away. They picked him up and carried him to where a British truck stood and asked the driver to take them and Carretta. The Tommys refused and drove the truck away. The Carabinieri officers put their burden down hopelessly, and then began the last horrid act. Someone shouted "Throw him in the Tiber!" The limp body was dragged across the street to the Ponte Umberto, then was lifted and heaved into the water 30 feet below. The shock of the cold water apparently revived the Fascist, and as it was near the bank he managed to climb to the side and hung half in and half out of the water just below the bridge. That was not enough. Some men got a row boat to where he was and pushed him back into the water. For a time he struggled back to the bank; they hit him with oars and pushed him back. Hundreds then thousands crowded the Ponte Umberto embankment along both sides, and then the Ponte San Angelo next below, as Carretta floated downstream, his pitiful efforts to survive growing weaker. Many women were in that crowd. Many of the men as well as the women were middle class petty bourgeoisie. This was not a mob of hooligans. Some of course were horrified, ashamed, but they were few and one woman who hysterically protested had to be rushed away lest the crowd mob her. Many laughed, as did two men next to me who were gleeful when they realised that the unconscious Fascist was going to be thrown into the water. The N.Y. Times has seen many terrible sights in years of corresponding even amidst revolutions, but nothing so vicious or sickeningly brutal as this. Carretta mercifully died just about as his body floated under the Ponte Sant'Angelo. Still that was not enough. Vengeance had to be taken on his body. It was dragged out of the water and along the ground to the nearby Regina Coeli prison. There it was got inside theguard somehow and strung up from the bars of a window. By that time the crowd had swelled to an estimated 7,000 and the situation was clearly ugly, for they thought Caruso was inside. Inevitably thoughts of the Bastille arose in all observers' minds. But they were not a courageous mob. The prison police kept the doors closed and soon managed to cut down Carretta's body and cart it off. Then the mob was easily dispersed without more bloodshed.

The N.Y. Times went immediately to Sforza. He had not heard 1758
anything more than the first stage of the rioting, and was greatly shocked when I described what I had seen. He immediately telephoned the Director General of Police Ferreri, a former High Magistrate chosen for his impeccable character, but who had no police experience.

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Pollock and other Allied police officials. To them I described what I had seen and what was still happening, since at that time the mob was still round the Regina Coeli Prison. The full seriousness of the situation was realised by all. There was nothing political about this, and no question of class, for some had already tried to blame the lower classes of Trastevere and Testaccio, districts which are the poor quarters of Rome. It was just a Roman mob. The mob went clearly determined to take justice into its own hands and lynch Caruso.

What is likely to happen in the North where mobs are more accustomed to violence? Hatred and passion has smouldered against Caruso and Occhetto for a long time. The Bonomi Government was to-day unable to demonstrate legalised justice and many, including important foreigners to whom I spoke wonder whether Italy will ever be capable of doing so. The lawless fury of to-day bodes ill for the future. Barring satiation of mob fury, or revulsion and shame, it is not going to be possible to keep order and go on with the trial of Caruso and others.

HAMMOND (Kemsley Press): Gives a brief account of events and comments "How Carlyle would have delighted to watch this scene and get it down in his resounding prose."

BRIA (AP): Lieut. John Atkinson, tall, slim Allied Military Government officer from 3447, South Wakefield, Arlington, Va., and formerly of Los Angeles, Cal., stood on a table before a seething court room mob and told them in Italian that the trial could not be held. "The Allies sympathise with your feelings against Caruso and will see justice is done." But justice cannot be done with masses. "Go tranquilly to your homes and an announcement will be made in the newspapers later as to when the trial will be held" Atkinson said. Correspondent then gives brief details of what took place.

COE (Blue Network)....."Even a speech by Colonel Poletti, head of AMG in Western Italy, failed to bring order."....

BRIA (AP) in a later despatch: Poletti announced that he and Capt. Stone, Acting Chief Commissioner, would confer with Bonomi this afternoon on measures to be taken to ensure an orderly trial. Poletti said all eye witnesses' reports agreed that the Carabinieri were unable to maintain order in the court room or outside. He also criticised the disorganised procedure of letting everyone into the court room without apparently making any seating arrangements in advance.

PACKARD (UP): This correspondent sent a series of staccato

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PACKARD (UP): This correspondent sent a series of staccato despatches in which some of the facts were a little jumbled. "A mob of 7,000 tortured and killed Carretta." "Blood maddened Romans". "Carabinieri indifferent." Pollock and Italian speaking Lieutenant called on them to go home. His words greeted with hisses and jeers. Mob wanted to execute justice. As a result of today's affair case will probably be behind barred doors. 100 American and British M.P.'s and Italian troops, some with sub-machine guns, were rushed to the prison.

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INGRAHAM ("Time") who was present in court.

"After Carretta had been taken from the court room a number of fist fights started inside, and at one point a threatened Carabiniere standing beside me tugged frantically at his holstered pistol. With a vision of being caught in the crossfire I shouted at him in my faultless Italian "Piente! Piente! for Christ's sake put that thing away." His action frightened the one who threatened him and the threatener drifted away.

LUCAS ("Daily Express"): ....."Italian police elegantly useless as usual with their black and white uniforms, black riding boots and assortment of lethal weapons, just completely lost control of the crowd. ..... The forward surge carried all before it - chairs, police, widows and their weeds, tables, movie cameras and press. ..... Court officials hurriedly disappeared behind the judge's throne and locked the door behind them..... Fortunately a British Colonel and an American Second Lieutenant arrived. The Colonel was Pollock and the Lieutenant was Atkinson. Law and order was restored.....alone while the whole Italian police cowered or stood helplessly by these two calmed the tempest and finally cleared the court room. By 11 o'clock Italian officials had timidly emerged from their hiding places and the opera bouffe police were energetically going through the motions of locking the stable door after the horse had gone.... It was not really brutality but something deeper and a fear that the present Government is not tackling a thorough purge of Fascists from the administration. This morning the Nazi controlled radio fanned the smouldering flames by broadcasting that the Caruso trial was just a put up job for appearance sake, and that he would never be executed.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 21 September 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

After the events which followed the opening of the Caruso trial on Monday, correspondents have devoted considerable space to the second attempt to try the former Rome Chief of Police. All stress the extreme precautions taken to preserve law and order, and some attempt to draw the utmost drama from what appears to be, so far, a very undramatic trial.

MATTHEWS (New York Times) who claims to have been the only Allied correspondent outside the court to have witnessed the actual throwing of Carretta into the Tiber, continues to insist that the mob was of no particular class and that there was nothing in the way of an organised political demonstration.

MATTHEWS (New York Times): Quotes "Unita" which more or less justifies the action of the mob, and gives the comments of other leading Rome newspapers. He remarks "It was not a political mob; it was a typical Roman one of many classes, with no politics involved and that was one reason why it was so serious."

He quotes Sforza as saying that this will have no effect either on the trial or on the position of the Government..... Capt. Stone of the A.C.C. saw Bonomi, together with Brigadier General Thorburn Brown. Sforza says that it is evident the Carabinieri cannot keep order and a new police force will have to be created. The events of Monday mark a turning point. Either the Government takes a firm control, thereby arousing great unpopularity but winning respect, or frankly the structure of order will have to be held together by the Allied armies. This is the first case of actual lynching in Italy. Even during fascism there were no such cases, although there were many deaths in riots. This was especially the evidence of white heat mob passion.

1756

"As I appealed again and again with the more responsible members of the crowd, one sentence occurred, "What is going to happen to us when the Americans leave Italy?"

Yesterday's blood letting seems to have quietened the mob. There were no demonstrations today. There have been no arrests and

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"As I appealed again and again with the more responsible members of the crowd, one sentence occurred, "What is going to happen to us when the Americans leave Italy?"

Yesterday's blood letting seems to have quietened the mob. There were no demonstrations today. There have been no arrests and presumably none are intended. The test of the Government's ability will come later when the bigger figures of Fascism are put on trial.

MYERS ("Time"): Wires his journal giving the name of a corporal of A.F.H.Q. Photographic section who was on his way to the court to pick up some films, and who took pictures of the throwing of Carretta into the Tiber. Allen (AP) also took pictures with a "Rolleicord" camera. The films have been rushed to Washington. Capt. Tanner of the Army Film Unit also got some shots of the chair hurling inside the court and also of Carretta's body hanging outside the Regina Coeli prison. This latter material has been sent posthaste to London.

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MOORE ("Daily Telegraph"): Everywhere today I have been hearing admiring comments on the conduct of Lieut. Atkinson and Col. Pollock during the court room riot. But for their presence of mind and authority, it is certain that the disorder would have been worse and probably many people would have been trampled underfoot as the crowd pushed into the chamber. For the first hour after trouble began Atkinson handled the situation almost single handed with the help of some Allied newspaper correspondents. Unfortunately he is not gifted with a strong voice, and although he speaks fluent Italian and shouted until he was hoarse, it was only during occasional lulls that he was able to make himself heard. His presence in uniform, standing on a table, had however the effect of making the rioters realise that at least some authority was being exercised. It was only during the later stages of the disorder that Pollock appeared. His grasp of the situation was at once obvious as he strode down the chamber clearing a way through the mob. Pollock however speaks no Italian and was obliged to ask Atkinson to interpret all his orders. The comment I have heard made is that if only Pollock had been able to talk Italian and had been sent for earlier the trouble could have been checked at the outset. Another friend remarked that two London policemen could have cleared the court in five minutes.

The Communist paper "Unita" in a prominently printed editorial declares that it was thanks to Pollock that the Italian police were restrained from firing on the crowd. An official statement issued since the incident, denies that the Italian police chief ever advocated that his men should shoot as the newspaper alleges. Nevertheless the tribute to Pollock, considering its source, is significant.

In a further despatch this correspondent says that Pollock has taken over the responsibility for keeping order. There is little doubt Caruso will be found guilty, and that sentence of death will be passed and execution will follow swiftly. Caruso pleads that he did it in pursuit of his duties as an official. Yesterday's lynching may lead to an increase of the frequent petty disorders which have taken place since the liberation of Rome. Three such incidents occurred today in the immediate vicinity of correspondent's Hotel. One was by a pedestrian who raised a cry of "Fascist" against a passing cyclist. People immediately rushed on him from all directions, knocked him off his bicycle, and attacked him with fists and sticks. The victim was saved from worse injury by a car which

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LUMLEY ("Times"): Caruso trial has evoked a chorus of criticisms of the Government in the morning newspapers for its tardiness in the

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execution of justice and its failure to maintain order. The papers in varying tones of severity accuse the Government of shilly shallying over these trials and of failing to realise the strength and bitterness of popular feeling which has accumulated as the months passed and no justice was done.....The authorities were charged with a lack of grip in handling the crowd when it got out of hand. "Unità" says the Government has to thank Col. Pollock, British police officer present on behalf of ACC that the Carabinieri did not fire on the crowd and cause a massacre. The newspaper alleges that the Italian police chief wanted to send for troops with machine guns. These criticisms which come mainly from parties pledged to support the Government illustrate its inherent weakness. Though democratic is has no Parliament on which to base its authority. Anti-fascism and a desire to increase the war effort are all it can show in the way of policy. On all other matters its 6 component parties are constantly at loggerheads. As the moment approaches when all Italy will be liberated and with it the primordial question of whether the country shall remain a monarchy or become a republic has to be solved, yet its members have become more and more miscellaneous, a collection of party nominees charged with the responsibility for administration of current affairs. The outcome of Churchill's visit temporarily raised Bonomi's prestige in the eyes of the country, but generally speaking the Government is painfully deficient in authority. Here is another example. The parties which compose the moderate wing of the Government have been accusing the Communists of resorting to Fascist tactics, employing gangs of toughs to break up their rivals' meetings. After closing its eyes for some time, the Government eventually issued a statement that it had no knowledge of the alleged incidents. Yet a few days ago the Government member De Gasperi of the Christian Democrats raised this very subject in a letter addressed to the Communist leader Togliatti saying that a cessation of these Communist tactics must be a condition of any collaboration between the two parties.

MATTHEWS (New York Times): Vienna and Budapest when occupied will have to be administered by a combined organization of Americans, British and Russians, and not by an American-British clone as was thought. This is being done at the request of the Russians who feel they have the right to handle the situation in South and Central Europe as much as the Allies. It seems to demonstrate the intention of Russia to play a role in Central and Southern Europe which is more than some circles had expected.

RALPH HOWARD (NBC): Describes the scenes at today's Caruso trial. No civilians allowed nearer than three blocks. At every street [illegible] to show one's pass. A British security officer searches [illegible] court. Caruso

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RALPH HOWARD (NBC): Describes the scenes at today's Caruso trial. 1755
No civilians allowed nearer than three blocks. At every street one has to show one's pass. A British security officer searches for possible arms. Only about 50 in the improvised court. Caruso was chain smoking and voluble. Occhetto nervous and constantly writing notes.

LUCAS ("Daily Express"): In his description says that Caruso stood in the dock with his head bowed and hands crossed as if in prayer.... No widows and no weeds..... Only 50 people admitted. Chosen from representatives of the people and from political parties..... Ivanoe Moreni is the judge. .....Caruso asked for a crucifix.....Bust of Victor Emmanuel had been turned to the wall so as to provide no excuse for a demonstration.

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PACKARD (UP): Sent a lengthy despatch on today's events and said that the Court adjourned for a brief period to give a ruling on whether cases for civil damage could be made by dependents of the Argentine victims against the accused. It was eventually decided that such cases were barred as Caruso is being tried under military penal code because after Sept. 8 his services were under the illegal Fascist Government and in aid of the German invaders.

The correspondent says that the economic collapse of Italy was reflected in the fact that only two of the nine judges wore the traditional black silk robes with velvet collars and loops of gold with tassels on shoulders. There is no material to make new gowns.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

23 September 1944

Trend of Copy filed by correspondents.

The final scenes at the Caruso trial and the scenes at the execution take up a considerable part of the copy filed, while interest in the operations on the Adriatic front with an imminent break-through at Rimini are being closely followed. Don Sturzo's broadcast on a possible loan to Italy has also attracted some notice.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times") : In describing the scene at the trial of Caruso says that some of the correspondents, during the interval when the Judges had retired to consider the case for civil damages by relatives of the Ardeatine victims against the accused, went up to Caruso to get a statement from him. After a few words, Mario Berlinguer, the Prosecutor, raised objection to any statement being made to correspondents, and an officer of the Carabinieri intervened to prevent any discourse.

The execution scene has been described by many of the correspondents. Eleanor Packard (UP) the only woman present sent off a series of seven cables and her account, with slight variations, is repeated by most of the other press representatives.

PACKARD (UP) : Caruso arrived in a grey van in which were eleven Italian soldiers as a safety measure. This was followed by a bus load of armed Metropolitan police, and a car load of officials. Italian Government officials, representatives of the A.C.C. and Allied police officers, press correspondents and photographers, were the only spectators present. One American newsreel company made a sound film of the proceedings. Owing to a hitch in the hour fixed for execution several arrived one hour before the time and had the gruesome pleasure of watching Italian workmen phlegmatically erecting and making fast the home-made chair on which the prisoner was to be executed. It was one of the sunniest days that Rome had experienced for many weeks, and the sun was shining brilliantly at Fort Bravetta, 3 miles from Rome. When the grey van arrived Caruso was lifted down and helped to the chair. He held a rosary in his hand. It was 2.10 pm precise.....His mother's plea for clemency had been refused by Prince Umberto..... The exe-

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Correspondent added that death was absolutely instantaneous and gave a few grim details of the sight, and added : "When ever I found my knees shaking....However, several American colleagues were also looking very green.

According to this correspondent the priest had spent many hours with Caruso the previous night, and the condemned man had made all preparations for his death. He had made his will....He gave a last letter to his wife to an Allied police official who had visited him in his cell.....No Italian reporters were present at the execution.

The priest was afterwards said to have told correspondents that Caruso remarked "I hope God will forgive me my sins, and that my death will be of some use to Italy."

Cachetto, in the meanwhile, is said to have broken down completely. He had expected a sentence of 2 to 3 years instead of the 30 years one imposed.

LUMBY ("Times") : Good news for Italy was contained in a broadcast by Don Luigi Sturzo from Washington.....Sturzo stated that he had ascertained from leading Allied representatives that it had been decided at the Montreal Conference that Italy be given facilities for spending £ 125 million of occupation currency on purchases in the United States of goods urgently required in Italy. This decision,if confirmed,will go towards easing Italy's financial and economic problems by enabling her to exchange goods and services rendered to the Allied armies in Italy for commodities which she most requires. The veteran anti-Fascist has evidently been trying to do his best for his country and has constituted himself its unofficial Ambassador by convincing leading American and British personalities in Washington of Italy's needs. He says, inter alia, that it has been decided that Italy is not to benefit under Lease-Lend, but he envisages the possibility that the Allied armies be empowered to expend large sums on carrying out work of reconstruction which has both military and civilian utility, thus relieving unemployment, and that facilities may be given Italy contracting a foreign loan based on a "clear and solid technical and financial programme which would be free against political shocks of any kind, either internal or external.". Sturzo says he had suggested the despatch to the United States, and to this end, of financial experts to prepare the ground. This adds interest to the news published unofficially that two Italian bankers have been selected to go to America to discuss the question of Italian currency.

LUMBY ("Times") in another despatch mentions that two Rome newspapers

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LUBBY ("Times") in another despatch mentions that two Rome newspapers had published a statement that Quintiero Quintieri, former Minister of Finance in the Badoglio Government, and Raffaele Mattioli, managing director of the Banca Commerciale, will proceed to New York shortly to discuss the stabilisation of the lira. The news, if confirmed, is to say the least premature. It is apparently true, however, that the Italian Government is hoping to send the two men, who are both bankers, to the United States, in a strictly unofficial capacity, with a view to contacting Allied financial quarters and sounding the possibilities for a solution of Italy's monetary problems. The journey naturally cannot take place without the consent and approval of the Allied authorities.

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MATTHEWS("New York Times") : Writes that Prince Maria Emiliano of Wittelsbach (Bavaria) was found to be living in Florence. He has now come to Rome and is living with the princely Pignatelli family. H. is stated to have expressed himself as very interested in the reports that Germany may be divided into separate States as he has never renounced his claim to the Bavarian throne.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times") as the only correspondent who claims to have witnessed the actual killing of Carretta, still evinces considerable interest in his story, and continues to keep his journal informed on reperoussions. H. says that resentment is felt in some Italian quarters at the reports sent by American correspondents and that the accounts were not fair to Italy. Under the circumstances it is only fair to allow an eloquent Italian spokesman , Randolfo Pacciardi repeat what he said in the newspaper " Voce Repubblicana". "Some foreign newspapers, says this Italian spokesman, and among them some who had understood everything in Europe, Spanish Revolution, Yugoslav radical revival, and the present sanguinary installation of the Fourth French Republic, but who never understood that even Italians have blood and souls, were horrified by the Carretta episode, and in their dispatches will cause further harm to our poor country....We were promised an autonomous free Italian Government and we've nothing but a group of men without autonomy, without prestige, without authority. We were promised a struggle against the black market, but restaurants are full of rich foreign soldiers and officers who enjoy every good thing amidst the general misery. We were promised work, and at least two thirds of the population of Italy will pass this winter in houses without roofs, on barracks without fire, in deadening inertia. We were led to expect a definite position in war and peace while perhaps a royal army is being created, but partisans are being thrown on the sidewalk with no consolation but a certificate. All from behind the frontier come sinister voices of monopolistic claims to Italian land. We were promised epuration but it loses itself in investigations which do not touch those chiefly responsible for our misery and shame. This is the picture which should be in the minds of journalists and foreign observers. And if one day the mob breaks loose thirsting for legitimate vengeance and overruns the police and hits out, we have the duty to deplore the episode, but we can place our hands on our hearts and judge those responsible. Vengeance explodes when justice fails.

The correspondent adds, the Italian question is serious, extremely serious. The Carretta episode is symptomatic of an unbelievable situation. Behind a floriticus facade is a people which is beginning to seek its own destiny.

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1753

In a further lengthy dispatch this correspondent mentions "the thirst
open public demand that A.C.C. should leave Italy and let Italians
"administrate our misery by ourselves." This was made by Pietro
Nenni in the journal "Avanti". It came on the same day that the
Executive Committee of the Socialist party, which includes Socia-
lists and Communists, issued a statement denouncing what it calls
"exceptional plot against the country" to give the impression that
Italy is incapable of governing herself, and hence to "provoke co-
lonization of the country". The "New York Times" says the corresp-

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lent, is in a position to say that the Socialists are not alone in their criticisms of A.C.C. Italy, without exaggeration, is in an alarming state of misery and popular unrest, with a consequent degree of lawlessness that can only be understood by the piling on top of each other of insane and dozens of known instances throughout the whole liberated zone. He then goes on to quote a case of brigandage on a regular autobus run from a provincial town to Naples one night about a week ago. The passengers were robbed and when leaving one of the brigands told them "We forgot to tell you, but you will find the chauffeur's body under the front wheels."

Nenni specifically bases his demand on the question of raising salaries. This was promised for August 24, but was turned down because the A.C.C. will not permit it. The A.C.C.'s reasons are, first that the black market cannot be fought by increasing wages which would simply further depreciate the currency, but by finding where hidden products are, and secondly that the proposal would oblige the Allies to raise the wages of Italians working for them.

The second reason, writes Nenni, has no value, since Italy is the one who will have to pay. The time has come, he says, to put forth concrete plans for demobilising the A.C.C. That the Allies control railways and goods transport; that they should interest themselves in maintaining public order, at least so long as their armies fight in Italy, and that they should have the right to keep an eye on the monetary circulation, is clear. But when control becomes a case of land, then elementary good sense requires that policy be revised " to permit us to do things ourselves." This plea is not chauvinistic, but is based on the knowledge that we are at least capable of "administering our misery alone". The Socialist party also claims that the Monarchists are not hesitating to provoke a permanent state of crisis in order to create the impression of the country not being able to govern itself and to provoke colonisation of the country.

By "colonisation" the correspondent adds, is presumably meant the continued presence of Allied troops.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

25 Settembre 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

Interest has shifted to the fighting on the Gothic line, the capture of the Futa Pass, and the possibilities ahead on the broad valley of the Po over which Allied troops are now looking.

Some attention has been given to statements on future Greek policy as outlined by Mr. George Cartelis, the Greek Minister of Information, at a press conference yesterday. In the meantime some correspondents are filing small items such as the call by Dr. Ferruccio Dominio for Hebrew youth to take up more work on the land instead of remaining in industry and commerce ; or the fact that the Italian Government has decided to stop the pensions paid to widows of former prominent Fascists.

ELEANOR PACKARD (U.P.) and others.

The Greek Minister of Information, George Cartalis at the first Press Conference to Allied and neutral correspondents in Rome, officially voiced the Greek Government's post-war territorial claims on Bulgaria, Albania, and the Italian Dodecanese Islands. Liberation was near, very near. He stressed the losses which Greece had suffered and pointed out her legitimate claims to prior consideration in rehabilitation if a national calamity was to be averted. He turned down Tito's proposal for the creation of a separate Macedonia composed of parts of Greece, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. He said " Greek Macedonia is inhabited entirely by Greeks. We consider the Macedonian question as a purely Yugoslav-Bulgarian problem." He stated Greece's territorial claims on Bulgaria, Albania and the Dodecanese were based partly on a desire for military security and were not limited to territory wherein Greeks represented a majority of the population. The Greek Government would insist on having the Dodecanese Islands. The population was mainly Greek, although they had been under Turkish and Italian sovereignty. Turkey had relinquished her claims.....When Italy had made clear, through deeds, that she no longer had Imperialistic designs in the Eastern Mediterranean he thought there was every reason to hope for a sincere Italo-Greek friendship. He was most emphatic that the Bulgars should get out of Greek Macedonia and Thrace.

The Greek Government would return from exile, but the King would remain away for the

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The Greek Government would return from exile, but the King would remain away for the present until the Monarchy-Republic question was considered.

E. PACKARD (U.P.)

1752

The Italian Government has officially announced that copies of the newsreel films of the mob inside and outside the Palace of Justice, taken by Allied photographers last Monday, during the lynching of Carretta, were now in the hands of the Government, and would be placed at the disposal of the investigating commission which will use them to ascertain which persons were responsible for the lynching. Although the lynching itself was only photographed by still photographers, the newsreel photographers took pictures of the

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beginning of the mob hysteria which led to the lynching and these are expected to reveal all the agitators and instigators of the riot. Original copies of the film have already gone to the United States and England.

Commenting on the announcement, the Christian Democrat "Il Popolo" said it deplored the films depicting these scenes of barbarism would be shown in American and British theatres. We would also like to express our concern, says the paper, over the sensational publicity given Caruso's trial by persons with movie and floodlight cameras whose presence so often interfered with the trial proceedings that Col. Pollock himself several times was obliged to intervene.

BUCKLEY (Reuters) : Reports the Fascist news of the execution of 20 people in Bologna and Turin. They are all anti-Fascist and are Army officers, professional people or workers. It is not known whether Badoglio's son or Togliatti's brother are among those executed. No official comment is available.

"Osservatore Romano" reports that before Caruso died he told the priest he feared there would be reprisals in the North. Same paper also reports that Caruso sent a message to the Pope asking forgiveness for having violated the extra-territorial rights of St. Paul's Basilica. The Pope forgave him and sent the condemned man a rosary with a special blessing. This rosary was held by Caruso during his execution and was buried with him.

Milton Bracker ("New York Times")

Quotes the effect of the war on vital statistics of Rome's population as given in figures by Prof. Lenfranco Marci.

Whereas in 1940 there were 10,941 marriages in a population of 1,347,780 the total dropped to 8,831 in 1943 although the population had risen to 1,486,943. On the basis of the figures for the first quarter of this year, the total will only be 6,054 in a population of nearly 1,500,000. Similarly births dropped from 30,911 in 1940 to 26,502 last year. It would appear that the birthrate may just about keep pace this year. At the same time Lanci asserts that death rates have gone up seriously although no figures are given.

COE (Blue Network)

....."Everyone who discusses the economic situation in Italy these days feels like the man who has been accused of a crime. Anything he says may be used against him.....It is the Germans, of coures. Their propaganda machine seems to get a great kick out of [illegible] twisted reports from Allied correspondents here in Rome.

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Milton Bracker ("New York Times")

Quotes the effect of the war on vital statistics of Rome's population as given in figures by Prof. Lanfranco Marci.

Whereas in 1940 there were 10,941 marriages in a population of 1,347,780 the total dropped to 8,331 in 1943 although the population had risen to 1,456,543. On the basis of the figures for the first quarter of this year, the total will only be 6,354 in a population of nearly 1,500,000. Similarly births dropped from 30,911 in 1940 to 26,302 last year. It would appear that the birthrate may just about keep pace this year. At the same time Lanci asserts that death rates have gone up seriously although no figures are given.

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....."Everyone who discusses the economic situation in Italy these days feels like the man who has been accused of a crime. Anything he says may be used against him.....It is the Germans, of course. Their propaganda machine seems to get a great kick out of repeating twisted reports from Allied correspondents here in Rome, particularly on the economic situation.

One of the diversions we have in Rome these days is to listen to the German radio and read the monitoring reports of both the German and Fascist Italian radio stations..... They are more entertaining than most of the movies which are showing for soldiers and civilians in Italy. (The following passage was cut.) " Unfortunately some of the German and Italian radio stories have a slight connection with the truth. That is because the Allied correspondents here have been free to tell the story of the Italian economic problems in full, without censorship. This was not always so. In North

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Africa many true stories were killed by censorship on the ground that German propaganda would make use of them."

BRIA (AF)

At the invitation of the Italian General Confederation of Labour, a Soviet delegation has arrived in Italy to undertake a survey of Italian labour conditions.

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1604

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14.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 28 September 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

Some interest has been shown in the firm stand made by Bonomi to curb the criticisms made against the present Government by parties of the Left; little interest has been shown in the riots at the Regina Coeli prison; a certain amount of attention has been given to the Roosevelt-Churchill decisions at Hyde Park.

HAMMOND (Kemsley Press) : The Italian Prime Minister Bonomi at a cabinet meeting put as a condition for his remaining in office that all 6 political parties should abide by the truce. All Ministers accepted his appeal and Togliatti, the Communist leader, said he would see to it that the present Coalition holds good after the liberation of Northern Italy. The Socialists and Communists don't wish to take full responsibility for the country's administration at this difficult time. Their negotiations for a political alliance with the Christian Democrats broke down recently and the leader of this party declined a proposal that Bonomi should be replaced.

RALPH HOWARD (N.B.C.)

....."Politically and militarily events in Italy are moving uphill. There the semblance ends. While Allied troops overcome one mountain obstacle after another, Governmental efforts towards a new Italy shamble along, blocked by divided authority and stymied by political hilltops. Count Sforza hit the nail on the head when discussing with correspondents the lynching of Carretta recently. We asked Sforza if this mob action, and the failure of the local police to put it down, might not bring about a new Government. Sforza thought a second and then, with a sad smile said : "No one wants to enter the Italian Government."

Now it is true that the present Bonomi Government is nearing an end of its trial as an effective body, and reports are gaining confirmation that a new Cabinet will be formed next month. Marshal Badoglio and Vittorio Orlando are being mentioned as possible Prime Ministers. But the fact remains that any new Government will feature the same old faces. There seems to be no aggressive young men willing to step into the Government.....It admittedly is like stepping on a hot stove. Even more tragic is that there are few

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1750

Among my acquaintances here in Rome I know 6 men ranging from 25 to 35 years of age. They are college graduates, or attending Universities. But their plans and ambitions are not tied up with Italy's future. All six are unanimous in their desire to leave their own country to ply their professions in America or England ... ..Any place but Italy, which they feel will be politically and economically unstable for years to come. Under present conditions these trained men have no desire to stay and aid their country with their knowledge and skill. And I'm afraid these 6 are no

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exceptions. Whether it is Fiorello La Guardia or Colonel Polatti... unless we can settle down in our matters of policy and the Italian Government can straighten up in matters of courage and guarantee, these young men are scared that the nation's future is about as bright as a lead nickel."

MATTHEWS ("New York Times") in commenting on Bonomi's statement said that he had won a political battle and averted a governmental crisis by insisting that he would stay only if all 6 parties supported him loyally. He was in a strong position since he knew that nobody wants the thankless task of running the Government until Northern Italy is free. The only sour note of the day was by Nenni who, in a speech at Aquila, said the Socialists did not want civil war but declared that they will accept it if is imposed. He was referring to his charge that the country is divided into Leftists and reactionaries, and one reason there was almost a political crisis today was that the Socialists accused the Government indirectly of fostering reactionary plots.

BUCKLEY (Reuter) enumerates the four points on which Bonomi insists in order to continue the Government. The Prime Minister's statement, writes the correspondent, finishes by saying that the Government intends to set up mixed commissions of technicians and political representatives in order to seek a solution of social, financial and economic problems. Bonomi's demand was necessitated not only by the recent riots in Rome, but also by the general weakening of the Government's position in recent weeks.

MacCORMICK ("New York Times") in a lengthy despatch says that every insignificant move by the United States is weighed and scrutinised for a clue for future intentions. Here in Rome the British seem to be settling down while frequent changes in American personnel gives an effect of transiency and impermanence. The administrative set-up of ACC is organised to divide authority about equally, but in practice insiders think that key posts tend more to fall to the British, not so much by design on their part as because of what some observers characterise as "abdication" on ours. The recognition of the fact that British interest in Italy is more vital than ours strengthens the impression that the United States means to leave the British in control. The impression is unfortunate because this is not the time to introduce a vague uncertainty as to our position into the political fogs of Europe. We have an enormous stake in Italy. Thousands of American boys here lost their lives.....Italians say that their graves are the best argument for allowing Italians to fight.....They underline our investment in the country.....Even in a weak, defeated Italy, it is clear

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FAGENCE ("Daily Mail" ; "Daily Herald")

....."As I write these words the 8th Army are fighting the greatest battle of the war. 80,000 Italian civilians, many women holding their babies in their arms, have spent the night in railway tunnels or ditches while two armies have poured fire on each other with everything they have got.....The conditions in the tunnels must be indescribable.....I have not the heart to find out because every time I approach they cry out so frantically for bread..

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GUGLIELMO EMANUEL (INS staff correspondent) states that the diary of Mussolini's mistress has been found. It was said to have been taken by Col. Giovanni Frignani of the Carabinieri when he went to arrest Mussolini on July 25th 1943. The Colonel was later among those shot in the Ardeatino Caves. But Claretta Petacci's diary was already in safe hands. It reveals, says the correspondent, that the ex-Dictator was a vain and third rate man who, when he pushed Italy into war showed already some signs of senile decay.

When he first took Claretta to the Palazzo Venezia, it was shortly before a Council meeting was due to begin. He showed her the Council room with the remark "30 chairs, 30 bottoms, and not a single brain. But then I come in and take the debate in hand, and they do whatever I want."

His telephone calls to his mistress cost a small fortune, but as he was very jealous of her, he used this means of controlling her movements.

BRIA (AP) reports that Claretta Petacci and her sister have fled to Spain under the name of Marini.

BRIA (AP) says that the Italian press generally has commented favourably on the Roosevelt-Churchill declaration with the Catholic paper "Il Popolo" hailing it as a "decisive step toward returning Italy to the Italians." The Communist journal "Unità" says that a democratic government capable of putting the united interest of the country above all other preoccupations deserves the confidence of all free peoples and their friendly governments. Such and none other is the real meaning of the Hyde Park declaration. The Monarchist "Italia Nuova" said the declaration presages the final redemption of Italy but declared "we still are far from that alliance which our efforts deserve and that parity to which we are entitled by right."

BUCKLEY (Reuter) also quotes the Rome press comments on the Roosevelt-Churchill statement on Italy and Allied relations. The Monarchist "Italia Nuova" says the correspondent, describes it as " a modest success" and deplores that no mention is made of prisoners of war.

Sir Noel Charles, who will now have Ambassadorial rank, has visited Bonomi. At present foreign affairs between the Allies and Italy have been handled through liaison officers of A.C.C. except in the case of Russia who recognised Italy some time ago and sent Mr. Michael Kostilev.

This correspondent also reports the riots in the Regina Coeli Prison in Rome, stating that one was killed and 4 seriously injured. 1749

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His telephone calls to his mistress cost a small fortune, but as he was very jealous of her, he used this means of controlling her movements.

BRIA (AP) reports that Claretta Petacci and her sister have fled to Spain under the name of Barini.

BRIA (AP) says that the Italian press generally has commented favourably on the Roosevelt-Churchill declaration with the Catholic paper "Il Popolo" hailing it as a "decisive step toward returning Italy to the Italians." The Communist journal "Unita" says that a democratic government capable of putting the united interest of the country above all other preoccupations deserves the confidence of all free peoples and their friendly governments. Such and more other is the real meaning of the Hyde Park declaration. The Monarchist "Italia Nuova" said the declaration presages the final redemption of Italy but declared "we still are far from that alliance which our efforts deserve and that parity to which we are entitled by right."

BUCKLEY (Reuter) also quotes the Rome press comments on the Roosevelt-Churchill statement on Italy and Allied relations. The Monarchist "Italia Nuova" says the correspondent, describes it as " a modest success" and deplores that no mention is made of prisoners of war.

Sir Noel Charles, who will now have Ambassadorial rank, has visited Bonomi. At present foreign affairs between the Allies and Italy have been handled through liaison officers of A.C.C. except in the case of Russia who recognised Italy some time ago and sent Mr. Michael Kostilev.

This correspondent also reports the riots in the Regina Coeli Prison in Rome, stating that one was killed and 4 seriously injured. Prisoners set the roof on fire with straw mattresses. This is the third serious riot in the last few weeks among the ordinary prisoners. Political prisoners have not been involved. The prisoners allege overcrowding and that they are held for months without trial. 4,000 non-political prisoners escaped from goal on June 4th when Rome changed hands. 1749

BRIA (AP) The Bonomi Government announces that it considers the Munich Pact null and void and all other acts which violated Czechoslovakia's independence. Czechoslovakian interests in Italy are now in the hands of Vladimir Jenek, Consul General and Minister Plenipotentiary, who arrived in Rome a few days ago.

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 Sept. 30, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

While operations on the Adriatic coast near Rimini are claiming close attention, a certain amount of interest has been shown in the Roosevelt-Churchill declaration at Hyde Park and its reactions both on the Italians and on the Allied Control Commission. The visit of Cardinal Villeneuve, of Quebec, has aroused some speculation, although Vatican circles expressly state that it is merely one of the routine visits which Cardinals make to Rome every five years.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS)

....."Here in Rome the Hyde Park declaration envisaging greater responsibility for the Italian Government, and greater Allied help in Italy's economic reconstruction, has been widely welcomed by the Italian press. A member of the Italian Government has even called it " a supreme act of justice". But officials of the A.C.C. here are unable to explain what policy changes, if any, will result from the declaration. They say that they have received no instructions from Washington or London. They say that they learned only from the papers that their name had been changed to Allied Commission, dropping the onerous word "Control". Officials say they have requested an explanation.....Until they have received it the Allied Control Commission will continue to operate under its old name."

COE (Blue Network) : Commenting on the "mixed emotions" with which the Roosevelt-Churchill declaration was received in Rome says more than anyone the officials of the A.C.C. and A.M.G. are frankly worried owing to the short comings of the Italian Government. He quotes the inept handling of the Caruso trial on its first day, and the riots in the Regina Coeli prison at Rome....."The Italian police refused -refused mind you - to enter the prison to restore order." A personal visit of Colonel Poletti, still suffering from a cold, was necessary in order to calm the prisoners. Repeatedly the Allies have had to step in to help the administration. Even wood for the city's bakeries could not be solved - unaided - by the Italian Government. ".....Soon they will take over the distribution of food, including the food sent from the

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In a broadcast of the previous day the same correspondent had pointed out how the various Italian Ministries were still "riddled" with Fascists. The administration will need a long period of education to divert it from the corrupt type of set-up it was under Mussolini.

BRIA (AP) : Also cables his association that A.C.C. officials are puzzled at their new name and possible status and have asked

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Washington and London for explanations.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") : The Allied Commission, now shorn of its former designation of Control Commission. The Commission is still without a chief. Since the resignation of Lieut. General Sir Noel Mason MacFarlane, his American deputy, Capt. Ellery Stone, has been in charge. The appointment of a successor was discussed at Quebec, and I understand an announcement is imminent.

HAMMOND (Kemsley Press) : Cables that Cardinal Villeneuve is said to have brought a message from the Roosevelt-Churchill meeting. It is of considerable importance and is in reply to views expressed by Pius XII when Mr. Churchill visited him on August 23rd. The Hyde Park declaration is generally considered to have cleared the Italian political horizon. It is some coincidence that Prime Minister Bonomi only learned about it over the radio. It is asserted that the declaration is the result of patient work by a small group of Foreign Office personalities backed by political leaders, but the visits of British statesmen had a decisive influence. During next month Italy must demonstrate her ability to pay her passage home.

HADFIELD ("Times") : The Roosevelt-Churchill declaration that the Allies expect Italy to extend her war effort to action against Japan seems to have surprised the Italians. Most commentators here say that the problem needs careful consideration as it involves many serious questions. The Right press welcomes it, but the Left is more cautious, taking the general line that Italy has no direct interests in the Far East. "Unità" asks what serious contribution can Italy offer. Before asking Italians to fight against Japan why not let them do more towards freeing their own country? Italy is ready to collaborate with the Allies in the Far East, but will wish to make a bargain before acting. As part of this she would require a change from co-belligerent to ally in her status, and the release of her prisoners of war.

E. PACKARD (UP) : Quotes the "Bergini Newsagency 'Servizio Informazioni' as the source for the report that Cardinal Villeneuve has brought the Pope an answer to "certain proposals regarding peace and present conditions in European countries" which the Pontiff voiced when Mr. Churchill was in Rome. Other well informed sources opine that not only the European war but also in the Pacific were brought up with Churchill, and the possibility that Russia might support the Allies by declaring war on Japan.

CHINIGO (INS) : Says that Cardinal Villeneuve had denied that he has brought a message either from Roosevelt or Churchill, while

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CHINIGO (INS) : Says that Cardinal Villeneuve had denied that he has brought a message either from Roosevelt or Churchill, while the Fucci Vatican news service also denies it.

HADFIELD ("Times"): Reports that prominence has been given in the Italian press to the story that the Germans have executed 77 citizens of Trieste as a reprisal for the killing of 7 German soldiers. The victims are said to have been hanged on trees in the main streets of the city.

E. PACKARD (UP) : Cables the story of the two rival Jesuit priests who have been preaching for and against Fascism in the fashionable San Roberto Bellermino church, in the Piazza Ungheria in Rome.

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Their sermons caused an uproar and it came to fighting in the church.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times") who also sends this story, quotes it as symptomatic of the prevailing hysteria in Rome today. In addition the correspondent informs that a Commission, headed by Prof. Bernard Berenson is to make a survey and report on the damage done to Florence and its monuments.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") states that Sir Noel Charles and Mr. Alexander Kirk, the British and American representatives on the Allied Advisory Council will not assume status as Ambassadors until Italian representatives are installed at Washington and London. Both retain their present appointments and the proper channel for diplomatic and other communications remains as heretofore.

OSBORNE ("Time") : Sends a scathing comment to his journal on a recent article by Mr. William Bullitt, former American Ambassador. The article appeared in "Time" on September 13th and was strongly Catholic and anti-Communist in tone. The correspondent remarks that he considers the article a "travesty and a disgrace to "Time". Anyone who pretends that "the Romans" or "Italians" think collectively, is guilty of a cheap journalistic device or of outright lying. To throw out such a report as Bullit's at this time, and in this scene, without the slightest comprehension "is in my opinion" he writes, "to commit an offence against our world and our poor chance of making it liveable for the next half century." The correspondent concludes that he will do his best to give a fair report later when he has had time to probe deeper. #

CHINIGO (INS): Reports that Princess Dora Ruspoli, an English-born Labouchere, died accidentally at the front lines, while serving as a Red Cross volunteer. Her father was editor of the British weekly "Truth".

A copy of this article is in the newspaper cuttings in the Public Relations Branch.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/ R10

October 2 1944

Trend of Copy filed by correspondents

Reperussions on the Roosevelt-Churchill declaration at Hyde Park are being closely followed by correspondents, as well as the reported appointment of Mayor La Guardia to a post in Italy. The fighting for the Po Valley is now claiming more attention, while there is some speculation as to developments from the recent landings on the Dalmatian coast.

ERIA (AP) : When, and if, La Guardia arrives in Rome he will find himself already satirised in "Cantachiaro", an Italian musical comedy which has been drawing capacity crowds in Rome for the past two months. La Guardia appears in a sketch on propaganda and is shown holding a microphone and saying :" Quest è l'amico La Guardia" (This is friend La Guardia) - and not much more. La Guardia used to make weekly broadcasts to Italy.

Allied Officials are in the dark about the post "Little Flower" would occupy, but the report that he is coming soon is causing a stir in A.C.C. where the top post of High Commissioner is vacant. Capt. Stone has been Acting High Commissioner since MacFarlane returned to England. With Italy receiving 50 million dollars UNRRA grant it is possible that La Guardia is coming as head of the UNRRA set-up, or if O'Dwyer is not returning here from the United States La Guardia can replace him as head of the Economic Sub-Commission of the Allied Control Commission. It is also possible he can have a brand new "trouble shooting" job.

ERIA (AP): Allied-Italian political relations appeared still as confused as ever today despite Churchill's speech at Hyde Park. The A.C.C. is at a loss to interpret it after a staff conferences. The Hyde Park declaration promised the Italians a greater degree of self government but no - repeat no - official at ACC headquarters is able to say how this is to be accomplished without election, and it is emphasised no - repeat no - election will take place until all Italy is liberated. At present liberated Italy is governed by a 6 party coalition resting on no popular mandate. Behind the Government is the A.C.C. in an "advisory" capacity whose military function it is to see that order is kept while the war is prosecuted. Its political function is to carry out the provisions of the Moscow Conference that a "democratic" government be restored to Italy. Officials

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Allied Officials are in the dark about the post "Little Flower" would occupy, but the report that he is coming soon is causing a stir in A.C.C. where the top post of High Commissioner is vacant. Capt. Stone has been acting High Commissioner since MacFarlane returned to England. With Italy receiving 90 million dollars UNRRA grant it is possible that La Guardia is coming as head of the UNRRA set-up, or if O'Dwyer is not returning here from the United States La Guardia can replace him as head of the Economic Sub-Commission of the Allied Control Commission. It is also possible he can have a brand new "trouble shooting" job.

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lians of all classes regard him as compromised with Fascism. Observers are seeking the political implications behind Churchill's words.

PACKARD (UP) : Bonomi's "Ricostruzione" speaking of Japan says : "We wish to confirm Italy's desire to increase her war effort against Germany. Italy can also effectively participate, both with her fleet and land forces, in an assault on Japan. But we must not yet consider ourselves at war with Japan. It is only just that when we enter such a war we should be considered Allies on a footing of equality, and under conditions wherein our efforts will be taken into account." This directly contradicts a statement made by Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs Giovanni Visconti Venosta at a press conference three days ago where in the first enthusiasm for the Roosevelt-Churchill declaration he stated that Italy considered herself in a state of war with Japan.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS)

....."There are several guesses today as to what New York's mayor will do here. The post of High Commissioner..... or head of the A.C.C.....has been vacant for 3 months. It has been held during that time by the American Acting Chief. A second open post is that of UNRRA organisation which will handle the distribution of food and medical supplies in Italy. A third possibility is that of Chief of A.C.C.'s Economic Section if Colonel Wm. O'Dwyer does not return here from America. But this is all guesswork. As in the case of other high policy decisions affecting Italy, and recently announced in the United States, the announcement of Mr. La Guardia's mission has come as complete news to the officials who are handling our relations with this country."

PACKARD (UP) : Scelba has reported to the Italian Cabinet that the total Italian Government deficit - mainly a heritage of the Fascist Government - amounts to 55 Billion lire without counting the currency emissions of German-occupied Italy which are estimated at between 5 and 6 billions monthly. Paper currency circulation in liberated Italy amounts to 180 billions. The deficit for the Italian Government's fiscal year will be 100 billion, not counting the political price of bread which is only a fraction of what is being paid the farmers for wheat. Scelba suggested however that the moment was not propitious to try to re-establish sound finance. This should be postponed till all Italy is liberated.

BUCKLEY (Reuters) : Quotes considerably from Scelba's report

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PACKARD (UP) : Soleri has reported to the Italian Cabinet that the total Italian Government deficit - mainly a heritage of the Fascist Government - amounts to 65 Billion lire without counting the currency emissions of German-occupied Italy which are estimated at between 5 and 6 billions monthly. Paper currency circulation in liberated Italy amounts to 180 billions. The deficit for the Italian Government's fiscal year will be 100 billion, not counting the political price of bread which is only a fraction of what is being paid the farmers for wheat. Soleri suggested however that the moment was not propitious to try to re-establish sound finance. This should be postponed till all Italy is liberated.

BUCKLEY (Reuters) : Quotes considerably from Soleri's report on Italy's finances and concludes by saying that in considering the picture exposed by Italy's veteran Treasury minister, it should be remembered that the figures look better when turned into sterling with 400 to the pound, than when considered in Lire. Also there is no knowledge of the whereabouts of 97 tons of gold, comprising the national reserve, which Azzolini of the Bank of Italy, is accused of having handed over to the Germans. Soleri's figures are only approximate as many vital statistics were taken North by the Fascists.

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MORGAARD (AP) : Official reports show that there is evidence that the patriots in Northern Italy are responding to Alexander's call for intensification of their battle behind the German lines. In Milan machine gun posts have been erected in banks and hotels as attacks by the Garibaldi Brigade are feared. In Turin the situation is confused. It is believed that two German demolition squads are in the city in order to destroy factories and installations in the event of a forced withdrawal.

BRIL (AP) : Quoting the anti-Fascist clandestine radio "Milano Libertà" on the Hyde Park declaration : "First of all we shall have to see how the Allied Military Government question will be solved, that is to say, whether the Allied Military Government refrains from meddling with Italy's internal affairs. We shall see if Italy is granted the benefit of Lease-Lend and in what measure. And finally we shall have to see if in future we shall be treated as an Allied country."

BUCKLEY (Reuters) : Reports alleged anti-democratic actions by troops of the Italian Parachute Division stationed at Teramo. He quotes "Voce Repubblicana" that they beat up a member of the Republican Party, seized newspapers, and forced people to kiss Fascist party membership cards and to cheer for Mussolini and the King.

BRIL (AP) : "Il Tempo", an independent newspaper, quoting a London radio Spanish broadcast, said that the former Austrian Minister to London, Sir George Frankenstein, had requested the United Nations to restore the Southern Tyrol to Austria. This region is known as the Alto Adige and comprises Bolzano-Merano-Dressanone and the Brenner, and was recently incorporated into the German Reich.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS) : Quoting the Milan "Radio Libertà" says that the Germans have threatened to starve out the people of Turin and have begun to make good the threat by the wholesale exportation of the stocks of grapes, wine and vegetables.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 4 October 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

Copy filed by correspondents stresses the appalling conditions of mud and rain which are holding up operations on the 8th Army Adriatic sector. One or two see in this a general slowing down of the Italian campaign and the possibility of the enemy benefiting from the bad conditions, even when the fighting gets out on to the open country of the Po Valley, thus dragging the fight on into the winter.

Some preliminary interest is being shown in the forthcoming Azzolini trial, and the alleged attempt to kidnap the body of Caruso has been widely reported.

PACKARD (UP)
BRIA (AP)
HAMMOND (Kemsley Press)
MATTHEWS (N.Y. Times)
MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

Report the attempted removal of the remains of Caruso from the Verano cemetery, together with the fact that the police are said to have found clues in finger prints on the shovels used in the attempt.

CHINIGO (INS): Has the following explanation of the Caruso story.

"Extremists" who engineered the lynching of Rome's jail warden Carretta as a "warning" on Caruso's trial opening day are demanding Azzolini's "head". Investigation by Rome's Police Prefecture allegedly reveal them as "planners" of an attempt to steal Caruso's body from its grave as part of a plot to hang it in one of the city's squares with placards reading "We want more Caruso's". Timely police intervention thwarted this. It was planned to coincide with the opening of Azzolini's trial. But there is no telling what these well organised elements will do to exact their kind of justice....."

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D. PACKARD (U.P.)

Rome woke this morning to find the walls placarded with thousands of type-written leaflets put up by an anonymous secret society signing itself "P.G.A.I." threatening a widespread campaign of hair cutting of Italian girls who indulge in immoral activities with American soldiers. The society, which is composed of Roman young men particularly promises punishment to young women who are caught in compromising position in public places such as doorways, parked cars etc.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS)

"..... Back here in Rome with the winter coming on to cold weather the Allied authorities are facing other problems.....

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How to feed and clothe nearly 20 million Italians..... How to get thousands of refugees back to their homes..... How to tide these people over the winter..... Here in Rome there are still several thousands of refugees living like horses in stables, in windowless, unheated, unlighted rooms in barracks about the city..... sleeping on straw on the stone floors.....with no blankets and scant clothing.....only what they could take with them when they left their homes in places like Cassino, Formia, Gaeta, months ago. Rome normally looks for her food to the Po Valley and the southern provinces. The Germans hold the Po and insufficient transport has been made available to bring needed supplies from the south. Many high American representatives here feel that our policy and our plans for Italy need to be clarified. All they have to go on now is last week's Hyde Park declaration, and our officials are frankly puzzled by this statement. They do not know what it means. The pledge of greater responsibility for the Italian Government might mean a greater degree of self government and it might merely mean that the Italians ought to do more to help themselves. The pledge of Italian representation in Washington and London might indicate the resumption of full diplomatic relations between Italy and the Allies..... or it might just mean that Italy will be allowed to send provisional representatives to each capital.... More technical experts are promised to help Italian reconstruction; officials here point out that we have a great many economic and industrial experts here already..... What Italy needs is not more experts but 2,000 trucks to help distribute food. The questions which Allied officials as well as Italians are asking here are these: How much shipping will be liberated to bring in what is needed to meet Italy's minimum food requirements? What transportation will be made available in the country? What change will be made in the inter-regional rules which so far have badly hampered the free distribution of supplies from one part of the country to another ? Allied officials here on the spot feel that the Hyde Park declaration will boomerang if it is not followed by concrete acts.

COT (Blue Network) : In recent broadcasts this correspondent has dealt with the "squawks" being aired by American troops and officers regarding the rotation leave scheme; the re-opening of a local night club at Anzio (which is mainly patronised by members of the Graves Registration services who are still digging up bodies at the rate of about 60 per week in the old bridgehead area, the muddy conditions on the 8th Army Adriatic front; and the activities of P.W.B. Speaking of the latter he says that their effects

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provinces. The Germans hold the Po and insufficient transport has been made available to bring needed supplies from the south. Many high American representatives here feel that our policy and our plans for Italy need to be clarified. All they have to go on now is last week's Hyde Park declaration, and our officials are frankly puzzled by this statement. They do not know what it means. The pledge of greater responsibility for the Italian Government might mean a greater degree of self government and it might merely mean that the Italians ought to do more to help themselves. The pledge of Italian representation in Washington and London might indicate the resumption of full diplomatic relations between Italy and the Allies..... or it might just mean that Italy will be allowed to send provisional representatives to each capital.... More technical experts are promised to help Italian reconstruction; officials here point out that we have a great many economic and industrial experts here already..... What Italy needs is not more experts but 2,000 trucks to help distribute food. The questions which Allied officials as well as Italians are asking here are these: How much shipping will be liberated to bring in what is needed to meet Italy's minimum food requirements? What transportation will be made available in the country? What change will be made in the inter-regional rules which so far have badly hampered the free distribution of supplies from one part of the country to another ? Allied officials here on the spot feel that the Hyde Park declaration will boomerang if it is not followed by concrete acts.

COT (Blue Network) : In recent broadcasts this correspondent has dealt with the "squawks" being aired by American troops and officers regarding the rotation leave scheme; the re-opening of a local night club at Anzio (which is mainly patronised by members of the Graves Registration services who are still digging up bodies at the rate of about 60 per week in the old bridgehead area, the muddy conditions on the 8th Army Adriatic front; and the activities of P.W.B. Speaking of the latter he says that their efforts promising food to the inhabitants of Naples when the Allies took the city caused much difficulty when the promises were not implemented; mentions that the Italian press can only get its news through the United Nations News Service run by P.W.B.; that P.W.B. controls all movies for civilians and decides what Italian audiences are to be allowed to see and what not to see. Even films provided by the U.S. Office of War Information, or the British Ministry of Information, says the correspondent, are sometimes turned down. "The film "Thanksgiving in July" for instance, was not shown because it pictured Americans eating from well-laden tables at a time when some Italians were not getting enough food.

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Some of the staff employed by P.W.B. have even been flown to Italy at a cost of $600 per person. There is one young lady, for instance, who contributes a weekly review of the cinema...., just how this contributes to the winning of the war I cannot quite say,particularly when the reviewer is concerned with pictures issued from Hollywood some months ago which have previously been reviewed in all the newspapers from New York to San Francisco..... This young lady is connected with the Hollywood film industry..... But will someone please tell us over here now that has anything to do with the winning of the war, and why a high priced Government employee must be sent over here to review the movies".....

E. PACKARD (UP) : The head of the Sicilian Separatist movement, Marquese Giovanni Finocchiaro-Aprile, in the course of a recent trial in which he acted as the lawyer for the defence, publicly declared that he was being supported by the Allies. (The correspondent quotes the "Unità" for this statement.) He was defending a separatist being tried for distributing pamphlets denouncing the Italian Government. The trial took place in the penal court at Messina. Without adding any comment, the "Unità" publishes the following statement which it alleges Aprile made. "We will republish this pamphlet without asking anyone's permission because in Sicily we don't recognise governmental powers of any Italian authority. I want to publicise the fact that when Bonomi wanted to arrest me, the Allied authorities laughed. The reason I am here to-day is because the Allies wish it."

PACKARD (UP) : The Pope has granted audiences to two Yugoslav ex-prisoners of war in Italy, i.e., Generals Alexander Markovic and Mark Mihailovich (not the Chetnik leader). Audiences have been given to many officers of Tito's army recently, as the Pope is thoroughly familiarising himself with the Yugoslav situation with a view to determing Vatican attitude for post war relations with that country.

Cardinal Radeschini has accepted the post of Vatican Secretary of State in succession to the late Cardinal Maglione. He had first declined the post, but will now take it up as from October 10th.

CHINIGO (INS) : The anti-Mussolini press propaganda balloon has been surprisingly deflated by the pin pricking of the counsel for the defence. Badoglio is said to be implicated in this defence. 1743

Sforza admits that he foresees complications for the State's case should the death sentence be demanded.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10

6 October 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

The stalemate in the fighting for the Po Valley has given correspondents little scope for copy dealing with operations. Interest has switched to the first landings of Commandos and R.A.F. personnel on the Greek islands, and the overwhelming enthusiasm with which they were greeted by the natives. The picture of what has been happening in Greece during the past three years is beginning to unfold.

There has so far only been mild interest shown in the forthcoming Azzolini trial, but a fair amount of attention has been paid to the indefinite postponement of the proposed Italian commission of investigation into the events immediately preceding the fall of Rome to the Germans.

The misdeeds of French Moroccan troops in Liberated Italy are again in the limelight.

BRIA (AP) : The Vatican through the "Osservatore Romano" has protested in the strongest terms against the conduct of Moroccan troops in Italian territory and has stated that it is truly time this state of affairs be resolved and finished. The newspaper asserted "There is no military or political reason to justify the permanence on this territory of undisciplined and undisciplinable - and thus useless - troops." It declared that the means cannot be lacking to repatriate them. The journal stated that Moroccans stationed in certain places in the provinces of Rome, Littoria, Naples, Salerno and Trapani, were violating women and children, and endangering property and public safety, and their commanding officers were saying they are unable to prevent or suppress them. "This is truly absurd for the principles and aims which inspire the Allied forces;" remarks the "Osservatore". "Just as other French troops have passed rapidly to other fronts, so means cannot be lacking whereby Moroccans follow those with whom they came and upon whom they depend."

BUCKLEY (Reuter) : Has also filed a despatch in the same vein.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") : Has filed a despatch on the success of the People's Granary campaign, considering the difficulties of wartime harvesting and shortage of labour and transport. Sicily has shown itself the most reluctant to collaborate and the island has only turned in about 55% of its quota. In spite of

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HADFIELD (Times) sends the figures for the grain collection and also comments on the economic and political factors which have led to the resistance of farmers in Sicily to the scheme.

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RIA (AP) : The Bonomi Government, on the advice of the A.C.C. has indefinitely postponed the special investigation by a commission of nine members into the causes of the capitulation of Rome to the Germans after the armistice in 1943. The A.C.C. is understood to have told the Italians that it was inadvisible at the present moment because many witnesses were still in Northern Italy and because it might have a harmful effect on the morale of the Italian armed forces. The Commission of investigation was likely to have raised the question of the responsibility of the King and Badoglio. Their hurried departure from Rome has been one of the key points of the anti-Monarchists in their campaign against the Monarchy.

HADFIELD (Times) : Reporting on the possibility of the liberation of the North of Italy and the choice by Italy of a Republican or Monarchical form of government, says that Catholic circles are already speculating on the maintenance or otherwise of the Lateran Treaty of 1929. Paragraph 1 of this Treaty recognises Rome as the capital of the "kingdom of Italy" under the House of Savoy. If a Republican form of Government came into being this article would have to be re-examined. Fears that the anti-clerical tendencies of the Left might lead to a discussion of the whole of the Treaty and Concordat, are freely expressed. On the other hand continuance of the House of Savoy would mean the automatic continuance of the Lateran pacts. The Christian Democrats have not yet indicated their true stand in the Monarchy-Republic question, but this party will always have the support of the Holy See. This party might well turn the scale in the institutional question. Unless the parties aiming at the establishment of a Republic can show the Christian Democrats that the Lateran pacts will be maintained, it is believed the main body of the party would throw its weight towards the Monarchy.

DUNBY (Times) : Devotes a 3-page despatch to the destruction of the treasures of Florence, and what was done to safeguard them and is now being done to restore and repair.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS) : Devoted half of his broadcast talk to the decision of the Italian Government to postpone the work of the Commission of investigation on the events connected with the fall of Rome to the Germans. "Had an investigation been held it might have had the greatest political consequences.....Incidentally not a word about the projected investigation has so far been published in the Italian press".....

RALPH HOWARD (NBC) : Gives a broadcast talk on the interest shown by thousands of GI's in the short wave broadcast of the First World Series in St. Louis. "For them the war came to a temporary halt".

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RALPH HOWARD (NBC) : Gives a broadcast talk on the interest shown by thousands of GI's in the short wave broadcast of the First World Series in St. Louis. "For them the war came to a temporary halt". The broadcaster concludes that many GI's are fighting so that they can get home to see a World Series game once again. The average GI leaves the planning to others, and the talking to the politicians, but "woe betide the man or men who temper with the soldier's right to throw a pop bottle at the umpire or tear down the goal posts." In short, our men overseas want to return to the same things they left behind. Any changes that are to be made they want to have a hand in.

BUCKLEY (Times) : Comments on the Congress of the Italian Catholic Communist movement. The Congress said it was possible to combine

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modern Christian practice with Leninist Communism. The party is led by France Reiano and is composed of young energetic Catholic intellectuals and workers. The Pope recently condemned the party. The party changed its name when it appeared that the ecclesiastical authorities would order the ex-communication of its members. It is warmly supported by the Communists and Socialists and is much attacked by the Christian Democrats and the whole Catholic press. The Congress voted in favour of joining the Socialist-Communist alliance.

BRIA (AP)

MOORE (Daily Telegraph") : Report that two escaped German prisoners of war ; one a captain and the other a sergeant, were arrested in the Piazza Barberini, Rome, in broad daylight. They were dressed in American officers' uniforms and each had a girl friend. The arrest took place outside the American Officers Red Cross Club. The men were recognised by an Italian civilian who informed the policeman on traffic duty. One of the Nazis drew a revolver but the crowd which gathered soon surrounded them. American military police were called and the two men arrested.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") : Preliminary investigation of Azzolini before the trial comes on, shows that the Italian crown jewels and gold and silver treasures belonging to the House of Savoy were saved in the nick of time when the Germans took the Italian gold reserve from the Bank of Italy. These had been secretly transferred to another branch of the Bank in Rome only a few days previous to the visit by the Germans, and the precaution had been taken of making no entry in the books of the Bank which would enable them to be traced. It appears that Introna, the assistant governor, was responsible for this as well as for other things which thwarted the Germans.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 October 8 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

Correspondents are filing a considerable amount of copy from the Greek theatre. High lights are the tremendous enthusiasm, the sometimes pathetic desire of the natives to help in any possible way, even with the meagre food supplies at their disposal; the only too apparent hardships which many of them have suffered; and, so far, the weak resistance offered by the Germans.

Operations on the Italian front have reached a stage where the weather has proved a friend to the enemy's need and correspondents are duly recording the appalling conditions. According to correspondents Mr. Eden's comments on Italian colonies have aroused speculation by their vagueness, the Italian Right parties, fearing the worst, and the Left apparently indifferent.

HADFIELD (Times) : Bonomi has visited Sir Noel Charles to seek clarification of Mr. Eden's recent statement on the Italian colonies.

Right wing papers express concern, but the Left are expressing few regrets. But the terms of the Atlantic Charter are being quoted about the Anglo-Saxon nations seeking no territorial gains, and in view of this who will eventually get these Colonies. There is a criticism that Eden's words are "hard and injudicious" today, and it is coupled with a demand for greater good-will in return for all Italy has accomplished to put herself on the road indicated by the Allies. It is reported that the Egyptian Prime Minister has received El Said Idris of the Senussi and a statement was issued saying that the Libyan situation was examined. This news, says one paper, completes the picture of the question of Italian colonies.

OSBORNE (Time) : Reports that generally there are still no specific directives on the Churchill-Roosevelt declaration. There is still no official reply to the request for Allied status at the European peace table. The prime domestic and political essential fact is the progressive revelation of the appallingly thorough destruction and removal to Germany of Italy's machinery and portable wealth. Gold-seal industrial stocks, quoted at high levels throughout the war are now at history's lowest on the Milan exchange. It is clear that power plants and lines,

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BRIA (AP) :
BUCKLEY (Reuter) : The Bonomi Government has named Tommaso Gallerati Scotti, Milanese writer who fled to Switzerland after the Armistice, as Ambassador to Spain, replacing de Calboli, whose recall was recently announced. It is also announced that Giambattista Guarnaschelli, who was formely at Helsinki, has been named as Minister to Sweden, replacing Giuseppe Renzetti, who served a long term as consul general in Berlin. Other appointments include Giuliano Cora replacing Guido Rocco as Ambassador to Turkey; Alberto Rossi Longhi, Minister to Portugal, replaces the Chargé d'Affaires Blasco Lanza d'Ajeta, the friend and collaborator of Ciano. Other appointments at Ankara and Dublin still await the agreement of the respective Governments. It is also expected that Ambassadors to London and Washington will soon be named in accordance with the Churchill-Roosevelt declaration. There is some criticism from Left political circles at the predominance of career diplomats being named by the Cabinet. "Avanti" asks that genuine representatives of the Trade Unions should be sent abroad as diplomatic representatives. This journal says that "the Government sends a worthy and distinguished literary figure to Madrid but names for the important Lisbon post a young career diplomat whose outlook and whose past history do not merit any confidence whatever.

BRIA (AP) : The Italian Cabinet has enacted a law granting Peasants' co-operatives and other peasant organisations the right to expropriate private or public owned land deemed uncultivated, or insufficiently cultivated.

A commission has been set up to hear claims for the amounts demanded by former owners where there may be disagreement.

MATTHEWS (N.Y. Times) reports the closing of the Rome "Caccia" Club, allegedly due to gambling. But Roman aristocratic circles are not satisfied with this explanation and social salons are humming with pros and cons. It is generally believed that the move was demagogic and was in response to radical press attacks which claimed that the Caccia Club was the centre of reactionary Fascists. At the same time members of the Club point out that during the Fascist regime they were just as heavily attacked for being anti-Fascists. Moreover they claim the chief gambling goes on at the Bonacchi Club where a week or two ago a well known Florentine is said to have lost 600,000 lire playing roulette.

SMITH (New York Herald Tribune) has filed a lengthy despatch on education in Italy. Fascism is being rapidly expurged from

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SMITH (New York Herald Tribune) has filed a lengthy despatch on education in Italy. Fascism is being rapidly expurged from the Italian School system, but there is a gap created in the curricula. The history of Italy since 1918 has not been taught in liberated Italy since the Allies arrived, and will not be taught in the academic year, because no texts are available except those written by Fascists. This was a statement by Major Carleton Washburn of the ACC Education Sub-Commission. In high schools no instruction is given in civics or in Government and politics to replace the Fascism formely taught, but student controlled ex-curricular activities have been introduced. It is a new departure in Italian education and the students have taken to it

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very enthusiastically and, although some school authorities were sceptical, many support this. Italian education is 50 to 75 years behind American, but no far reaching attempts at reform are yet being made. Major Washburn hopes to revive the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements in Italy. He also hopes to induce educators from the United States, Great Britain, Russia and China to come to Italy as consultants to aid a proposed Italian National Commission to complete a reform of the School System. Like other ACC heads of Sub-Commissions, Washburn receives no guides or policy directives from Washington, and the problem of bringing democracy into Italian schools was not even considered at the school of Military Government at Charlottesville. As regards history: Italians are not in a position to write about it objectively in this critical period; the Allies don't want to write it for them; there are too few schools, many having been destryed, many of troops in them, and last winter the troops burned desks, doors and window frames in order to keep warm.

GENE REA ("Il Progresso" Italian-American) Has filed a series of articles recently. They have dealt with all the well known conditions in Italy in general and in Rome in particular, such as food shortage, lack of light, power, fuel and transportation, high prices, black market and people living mainly on fruit and vegetables and a little bread. One article also deals with the "Refugees - a colossal problem".

This correspondent's earlier articles were highly critical, and one dated September 29 was marked "Critical and inaccurate". It was submitted to ACC for checking as to accuracy, and was finally re-written. Later articles are more objective in tone as if the correspondent had recovered from the initial shocks, but there is a strong pro-Italian flavour for Italo-American consumption.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 October 10, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

Considerable interest was shown in the opening of the Azzolini trial and many correspondents filed copy describing it. The general impression was one of disappointment at the lack of sensational developments, the scene in court being quiet and dignified, reminiscent of a meeting of a Board of Directors. Considerable police precautions had been taken, but outwardly public interest was not great.

The Black operations continue to draw attention.

CHINIGO (INS)

Azzolini concluded a 4 hour deposition wherein it was revealed that 24 Tons of gold was salvaged. The Nazis granted permission to ship this to Switzerland via the Brenner, but Azzolini despatched it via Como. The Nazis stopped the train at Chiasso on Swiss territory but were unable to get it to return.

International pressure in favour of Azzolini was evidenced by 2 telegrams from Swiss bank heads.

Azzolini asserted that he had helped Jewish employees of the bank by keeping up payments to them following their dismissal under the racial law. He had also contributed 50 Kilos of gold to the amount demanded by the Nazis from the Jews. His evidence revealed how the Crown jewels were removed to another Rome bank, while the Nazis were searching for them in the Quirinale Palace. Azzolini's evidence also disclosed that the State's chief witness, Introna, the present Governor of the Bank of Italy, had been forced to yield 2 Million of Gold to the Nazis. This had been hidden in Northern Italy. General impression is that Azzolini is sentenceable to 10 or 20 years imprisonment.

E. PACKARD (UP)

Azzolini was calm, well groomed and well dressed. His lawyer raised no objection to the Bank of Italy constituting itself "parte civile" to the trial by filing a civil claim against Azzolini for the recovery of the Bank's gold, implying that acquittal of accused would quash the damage suit as well. The audience appeared to be mostly from financial circles and high State officials. The trial is expected to last 3 to 4 days. The evidence is highly technical. It is very dignified as all the judges have managed to acquire black silk robes since the Caruso trial. There were a considerable number

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Azzolini gave testimony in a calm, clear voice. He said he was not afraid to die as he was an old soldier.

BRIL (AP) :

Azzolini passionately defended himself while on trial for his life. The white-haired 62 year old was decorated for valour in the last war. He asserted his passion for his country all his life.

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Azzolini said he was never anti-Fascist. He was an Italian first. He made repeated attempts not to allow politics in the bank. The bank's policy was one of treating the State with all deference but at the same time to bend all its efforts towards retaining maximum independence. Dombri, the Fascist treasury official told him to hand over the gold to the Reich on an ultimatum and been met. The Directors were summoned and all agreed that nothing was possible but to hand over the gold. He said that in August, before the Armistice, Badoglio had advised him to transfer the gold to Piedmont, near the Swiss border, and he agreed to do so. He did not act swiftly on Badoglio's instructions as he thought the gold safer in Rome than in the North where it was too near Germany.

SPRIGGE (Reuter)

Azzolini claimed that early in the war Mussolini wanted the gold to go to Verona, but he (Azzolini) frustrated this. The prosecution is making 3 points.

(i) Why did Azzolini delay conforming to Badoglio's instructions in August.

(ii) Why did he hesitate before accepting the suggestions of subordinates to conceal part of the gold from the Germans.

(iii) Why did he finally give the order to send the gold to the North.

Azzolini said he knew the Germans were aware of the amount of gold, and any concealment would have brought severe reprisals. Badoglio's hurried flight from Rome caused considerable confusion.

WILLIS (NBC) devoted a broadcast talk to the scene at the trial, with little comment. Correspondent said that he himself had been sitting in the prisoner's chair in the dock for over one hour before an attendant drew his attention to the fact.

HARLOW (Reuter) found the proceedings unemotional and staid, and except for the uniforms of the Carabinieri, not particularly colourful.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS) merely recorded the fact that the trial had started.

HOWARD (NBC) cabled his association that Bonomi had completed a 10 minute recording of a speech to be broadcast at the Italian-American Labour Council meeting on Columbus Day.

INGRAHAM (Time) sends a lengthy despatch on the work of the Italian Navy now under Allied control. Much of the despatch has been cut. It is, in general, in high praise of the work of the Italians and [illegible] to be the poor treatment the Allies are

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SPRIGGE (Reuter)

Mazzolini claimed that early in the war Mussolini wanted the gold to go to Verona, but he (Mazzolini) frustrated this. The prosecution is making 3 points.

(i) Why did Mazzolini delay conforming to Badoglio's instructions in August.

(ii) Why did he hesitate before accepting the suggestions of subordinates to conceal part of the gold from the Germans.

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MATTHEWS (New York Times) has had an interview with Bonomi. The Italian Prime Minister expressed the profound emotional reaction which all Italians have felt as a result of Eden's statement. Bonomi regretted Allied insistence on treating Italy as a conquered enemy despite everything she had done. He said he could not pass judgment as he was uncertain whether Eden referred merely to Ethiopia, but

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Whatever the tenor of Mr. Eden's speech it had aroused profound emotion. There was a feeling that "others are disposing of us entirely against our will" and as conquerors disposing of the conquered. The Prime Minister continued in this sorrowful vein and he asked not only for material aid from the democracies, but also their spiritual understanding. He asked for justice.

The correspondent afterwards visited Sforza who agreed with all Bonomi had said and expressed the hope that those Italian colonies taken before Fascism came to power would not be taken away from Italy. Sforza would like to see an international consortium, under a mixed administration, take over all African colonies, no matter to whom they belonged.

The "New York Times" understands that if the exact meaning of Eden's words are not cleared up very shortly the Italian Government may make a formal official declaration of its unanimous sentiments in the matter.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS)

".....Here in Rome, Allied economic chiefs are worried about the coming months in Italy - about the 22 Million Italians in the North whom we may have to feed this winter. The first reaction here to President Roosevelt's statement on increased aid to Italy came from the Acting Chief of the A.C.C.'s Economic Section, Anthony Antolini. He announced that 150,000 tons of wheat were scheduled for shipment to Italy. Regardless of this shipment the A.C.C. would have to face the grave question of reducing the bread ration scale in Italy if our armies on moving North find that the Germans have largely destroyed or taken away the grain harvest of the Po Valley.

The President's statement did not say when the grain shipment for Italy should arrive. According to Mr. Antolini basic food requirements demand the importation of 100,000 tons monthly. Just now we are juggling our limited stocks and straining our transport to the limit to carry supplies from bases in the South to deficit areas in Central Italy. In some places near the front, in Florence, for example, we have reached the bottom of our local resources and have had to feed the city on a day to day basis..... Allied economic chiefs believe we should be able to get through the winter if the front remains where it is..... If we move to the North and find destruction in the Po Valley a general reduction in the bread ration may be necessary..... All our reports from Northern Italy indicate that the human and social conditions we will find there will be without parallel even in this idle, restless, hungry and war-ravaged country.

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MATTHEWS (N.Y. Times)

Gigli, the tenor has been accused by a former partisan of having assisted at a questioning and of having been abusive during the German occupation. The partisan was Giuseppe Albani, called "the Hunchback" who had a big price put on him by the Nazis. Gigli's brother-in-law, a former N.C.O. in the Italian African Police has been arrested.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 12 October 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

The Azzolini trial and the operations in Greece continue to be the chief topics of interest, as well as the statement on the possible future of Italian colonies.

BRIA (AP)
SPRIGGE (Reuter)
HADFIELD (Times)
PACKARD (UP)

The Azzolini trial continues. Nearly a dozen witnesses have so far been introduced by the prosecution. Azzolini's counsel requested a postponement of the case and said that the line between collaboration and resistance to the Germans was so delicate that witnesses were needed to clarify the position, and many of these witnesses were still in Northern Italy. The principal ones are the King's son-in-law Calvi di Bergolo, and the Commissioner for Finance Gambi, both of whom are "presumed" to be in German occupied Italy. The Court rejected defendant's plea on the ground that the evidence of these witnesses is not vital to the trial.

The chief witness to date has been Acanfora, who became Minister of the Treasury in the Badoglio Government. There have been heated exchanges between this witness and Azzolini.

Sforza has replied to appeals on behalf of Azzolini from international banking circles by saying that he considered these indiscreet and in the nature of contempt of court. The Court was not to be influenced in any way.

To-day the Bank of Italy will state its case against Azzolini. It will demand that he be condemned for collaboration with the Germans, with malicious intent and not merely with culpable conduct. Legal experts consider that on the basis of the malicious intent charge the sentence would imply death.

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LUCEY (Times) : has filed a 3 page despatch on "Building a new

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SPRIGGE (Reuter)
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LUCAS (Times) : Has filed a 3 page despatch on "Building a new Italy: Florentine Experiment". The political air of Florence, says the correspondent, is refreshing after that of Rome. "Rome conveys little sense of a corporate existence. Half its inhabitants are officials and their families from other parts of Italy." In Rome observers bewail the country's plight, but no one attempts to provide a remedy. There is a more vigourous and realistic attitude in the North and especially in Florence where a spontaneous experiment in self government is being carried on which may have considerable influence in determining the political future of the country. This experiment in Florence is due to the strong personalities of the

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Committee of Liberation who took a leading part in keeping the administration going at the time when the city was partly occupied by the Allies and still not clear of Nazis and Fascists.

WILSON BURDETT (CBS) : After he had erased some of the following passage from his original script, this correspondent reinstated it.

"Back here behind the lines there is disappointment too. Two weeks after the Hyde Park declaration envisaging greater Allied help to Italy, officials admit frankly that economic conditions are approaching a state of chaos which they are unable to control. There is no price control at all here on rationed foods. There is no police here that could enforce control if the attempt were made. A tin of sardines here costs 700 Lire... $ 7 at the rate at which we have pegged the Lire. A man's suit costs 18,000 lire.....$180.... or 18 times the pre-war price. A pair of shoes costs $ 5 and prices are still soaring. Behind this complete chaos in prices here is the general shortage of essential goods. Allied officials say the only way to meet the situation is by bringing in supplies.....And first of all, the food....There is no starvation in Italy; not now; but there is hunger and mounting bitterness and unrest and while the wage earner tightens his belt, the rich of Italy continue to live almost fabulously well.

GENE FEA ("Il Progresso") : Sends a personal report (not for publication) on his reactions after spending a few weeks in Italy. It consists of a passionate appeal to his editor to do all in his power to help the Italians over the present crisis.

On his arrival, he writes, he had no idea of the magnitude of the task to be performed in Italy. A survey of the situation had struck him so deeply that he had decided to work 7 days a week in order to try to do something to let the American public know the truth. He hopes to visit Southern Italy in the near future and to give the picture from there. But he feels that the United States and England are losing Italy, and losing it so fast that they are not aware of the real trend. He felt constrained to make this personal report. Many Government officials had spoken freely to him. Some of the things they had told him could not be published now. But he believed that these unpublished items "formed a veritable black splotch in the record of the United States and England." In this strain the correspondent says that it is considered opinion that Italy is being trampled on: that everything is being sacrificed to military necessity: that promises have been made and not one

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to Italy confused about the whole situation. Today that confusion is solidified into concrete knowledge of the Italian situation. I implore you again, and again, and again, and again, and again. Through "Il Progresso" through every means at your disposal, fight this thing to victory."

The same correspondent has had an interview with Cianca and this Minister has added his voice to an appeal to the United States for a better psychological understanding of the Italian people, and for immediate help. Cianca said that the Italian people as a whole should not be held guilty for all Fascist misdeeds, and in the political field the Allies now have a chance to prove to the Italians that democracy gives everyone a chance. By proving to the Italian people that they, and they alone, will decide what form of Government they want, the Allies will be able to win their everlasting gratitude.

LUMBY (Times) : Reports Roosevelt's announcement that Italy will be able to use her occupation currency to pay for goods bought in the U.S.A. and thus relieve her financial situation. It is not known what amount of credit will be given, but it will prove a boon.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") : The Rome Fascio Club will be reopened shortly, but its gaming room will not be licensed. There was no political move behind the recent raid by the police and the closing of the club at half an hour's notice. It was felt that the raid on the gaming room might have involved members of the Diplomatic Corps and have caused complications. It was only a coincidence that the head of the raiding party happened also to be the head of the political section.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED COMMISSION

PRB/B10 14 October 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

MATTHEWS (New York Times) : Reports the Pope's first speech in Germany since the liberation of Rome. It was to the superiors and students of the Collegium Germanicum. He said that he would "follow the developments of post war Germany with love and, if necessary will give her his help". The occasion was the inauguration of a new building of the college and the beginning of the school year. He also said that the "effects of the present terrible phase will go so deep on all countries involved and also on their religious life that your religious institution, in the very midst of central Europe can hardly remain untouched."

The same correspondent mentions a report in the "Osservatore Romano" that thousands of people are gathered in Aachen Cathedral to pray while American forces are bombing and shelling the city after it refused to surrender. Catholic priests are working under great difficulties and amidst falling bombs in carrying help to the population.

LUCAS ("Daily Express") : Sends note on the decree by Col. Poletti regarding the restrictions on the use of telephones by civilians in Rome. The checking of the length of time of conversations is done by a meter and about 4,000 subscribers telephones are inspected daily. If the meter shows an unreasonable duration for any call an explanation is required. A warning is given at first, and further abuse leads to a cutting of the line.

BUCKLEY (Reuters) : Sends long report on the financial and economic position in Italy, dealing inter alia with the " political squabbling" over the fate of the Institution of Industrial Reconstruction which took over the Banca Commerciale, the Credito Italiano, and other concerns which fell into financial difficulties in 1930-1931. It also deals with the question of the "Luogotenenza" and the opposition from the Left parties which are preventing its reinstatement.

On the question of transportation the correspondent says "Rome's few remaining motor buses might well have some other function than of serving Allied sight seeing tours of Rome at 5/- per head while workers who earn 5/6d a day and are half famished, walk

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ERCAS ("Daily Express") : Sends note on the decree by Col. Bolotti regarding the restrictions on the use of telephones by civilians in Rome. The checking of the length of time of conversations is done by a meter and about 4,000 subscribers telephones are inspected daily. If the meter shows an unreasonable duration for any call an explanation is required. A warning is given at first, and further abuse leads to a cutting of the line.

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On the question of transportation the correspondent says "Rome's few remaining motor buses might well have some other function than of serving Allied sight seeing tours of Rome at 5/- per head while workers who earn 5/6d a day and are half famished, walk 6 or 7 miles daily going to and from work. "For long months the hard working officials of A.M.G.O. have cried to London and Washington for electric machinery and for transport in order that food lying idle in the countryside can be removed to the towns. But only recently have declarations by Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill indicated that something is to be done.

Agriculture has fared better than industry, although fertilizer are scarce.

He deals with the recent seizure of lands by the peasants and

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the Cabinet's authorisation for the taking over of uncultivated land.

"Political tendencies on the whole tend sharply towards the Left". Events of recent years have destroyed the whole moral foundation of society. Socialist and Communists tend to look towards Russia for the sponsoring of a Western European federation of Republics with a strong Socialism in their ascendant. Catholics and Liberals look vaguely towards the Allies. Fascism only recal in the North. From the Allied point of view it is very unhappy that the political side of the Italian problem has not been given sufficient attention. Many of the things done (fixing of the exchange at 400 lire to pound; strong pressure of the Government to keep down wages; and the seizure of motor transport, have doubtless had a technical justification of military necessity. But it seems doubtful if the political effects of such measures and the suffering they have caused have been properly realised. "No honest observer in Italy today can fail to be deeply depressed by the amount of criticism, and only too often justified, which is directed against us by persons whose anti-fascist ideas are unchallengeable. Russia is the only ally steadily gaining in popularity in Italy today."

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")
THOMAS ("Daily Express")
REUTER (AP) and others.

Full brief accounts of the Ansaldi trial to date. The withdrawal of large sums on Bankers of Vittorio Mussolini and the Public Prosecutor's demand for the death sentence are the high lights. The conduct of the trial shows that Italian justice is now settling down to an orderly and normal procedure after the outburst at the Caruso trial. The verdict is expected over the week end and the consensus of opinion is that the accused will not be sentenced to death but will receive a term of imprisonment.

THOMAS ("Daily Express") describes the Greek political situation. Any bitter fighting between Greek partisans and German troops or Greek guerillas is not the case as one is expected to believe. The truth is that internecine strife is rampant. Practically all Greeks are pro-British in an almost fanatical way, and hate the Germans. But they would like Allied assistance to help restore internal order. But Greece does not want to be treated like Italy. She considers herself an ally and she wants immediate help on a large scale. Greece will be a touchstone for the depth and breadth of Allied statesmanship.

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Send brief accounts of the Amolini trial to date. The withdrawal of large sums on behalf of Vittorio Mussolini and the Public Prosecutor's demand for the death sentence are the high lights. The conduct of the trial shows that Italian justice is now settling down to an orderly and normal procedure after the outburst at the Caruso trial. The verdict is expected over the week end and the consensus of opinion is that the accused will not be sentenced to death but will receive a term of imprisonment.

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REIA (AP) : Sforza is being mentioned as the Italian representative in Washington. The form of representation is at present undecided but is likely to be that of Ambassador. Gerardi is mentioned for London. Alberto Tarchini, former Minister in the Badoglio Government at Salerno, and Giuseppe Paratore, Finance Minister in the Orlando Government, are also discussed as possible representatives for the United States.

REUTER (Reuters) : Cables his association on the way the news of Eden's statement on Italian colonies had reached the Rome

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press. It came from the U.N.R.R.A. through P.W.B. P.W.B. says the news was received from the OWI and was cleared by the P.B.C. censored before it was released to the Italian press.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") Reports the statement from Bonomi's office concerning the communication of Sir Noel Charles. From the minutes of the session it appears quite evident that Eden, in reply to the question, did not make any specific statement on the Italian empire and colonies as public opinion in Italy has been led to believe from news agency reports. The words had been incorrectly attributed to the British Foreign Secretary, and Italian public opinion is likely to be calmed by this statement.

MATTHEWS (New York Times): Marchesio left Rome today for New York, after 3 weeks in Italy spent in ascertaining Italian needs and in planning co-operation of his relief committee's work with the Italian organisation created by Myron Taylor. Judge says there is still much work to be done, but his presence in New York is much better in order to organise. All shipments are contracted for and it is understood that one is on its way and will be arriving very soon. It is hoped in future to have at least one ship monthly devoted solely to relief material for Italy.

ERLA (AP)
SPRIGGE (Reuter)

Quote the statements of both Bonomi and Sforza on the occasion of Columbus Day.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRE/R10 16 October 1944

Trend of copy Filed by correspondents

The result of the Azzolini trial is widely reported, with slight comment, as interest had begun to wane: the operations in Greece and the liberation of Athens have received some attention, and the slogging match on the Italian front is duly recorded.

BRIA (AP) : Says that uproar occurred in the Court when the Public Prosecutor made a slip of the tongue and referred to the court as " a special tribune". Counsel for the defence was quick on the uptake and said that the Public Prosecutor had certainly given the correct name. The President had difficulty in restoring order. Azzolini received the sentence stoically and was immediately led away.

LUCAS ("Daily Express") writes that in spite of the passionate speech by Azzolini's counsel for the defence a sentence of 30 years was imposed. The accused had bowed somewhat more deferentially to the President of the Court on the last day of the trial, but as the President and judges filed out after giving the verdict he did not bow to them. But he remained calm and a little pale. It is not yet known whether he will lodge an appeal to Prince Umberto, the Lieut. General of the Realm.

MATTHEWS ("New York Times") : Azzolini expressed a few words of sorrowful resignation to his counsel. In order to condemn him the High Court had to go through formalities of ordinary legal trials, whereas judgment was not based on legal grounds. All such courts throughout liberated Europe are facing this and it has aroused some demand for a more clean cut form of justice.

This correspondent also quotes the slip of the tongue by the Public Prosecutor, and said that the court consisted of 8 judges of which only 3 were professional magistrates while the other 5 were representatives of political parties. But the president was also a magistrate.

HADFIELD ("Times") : Sends a despatch on the Azzolini result and says "while tribute is paid on all hands to the firmness [illegible] the trial was conducted, impartial observers

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

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HADFIELD ("Times") : Sends a despatch on the Agnolini result and says "while tribute is paid on all hands to the firmness and calm with which the trial was conducted, impartial observers are inclined to the view that as extenuating circumstances were admittedly present, the heavy sentence imposed must, on the whole, be regarded as harsh.

ERIA (AP)
MATTHEWS ("New York Times")

Report the return to Italy of Ignazio Silone, author of "Fontamara" and "Bread and Wine" as well as of Emmanuele Modigliani, one of the most important leaders of Socialism in Italy before the coming of Fascism.

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The "New York Times" adds that both have come to take up political work in opposition to the extremist Nenni, he until now has had a close relationship with the Communists led the moderate wing of the Socialist party to seek the return of Saragat to lead them. Silone, although so famous abroad, is hardly known in Italy.

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph") : Says that since President Roosevelt's promise to allow Italian occupation currency to be used for Italian credit purchasing in the United States, some Italian Government bonds have appreciated. Gold in the black market is now Lire 400 the gramme, the lowest ever recorded. The British pound sterling and the United States dollar have depreciated slightly since the announcement was made.

MATTHEWS (New York Times") : Has filed an 18 page despatch entitled "The Vatican and the Kremlin" which deals with the rumoured negotiations taking place in secret between "two astute and powerful antagonists for a common ground on which to make up." He quotes the journal "Cosmopolita" of Oct. 7th saying that such secret negotiations are in fact taking place. What both the Vatican and Moscow want is freedom to work on a day to day basis as events arise. The correspondent quotes the Encyclical of Pius XI "Encyclical on Atheistic Communism". He surveys the historic quarrel between the Vatican and Communist Russia which was not on political but religious grounds, and deals with the Russicum founded by the Pope in Rome and the hostility of the Soviet Government to this institution. On trying to elicit the Soviet attitude towards religion he could get little satisfaction at the Russian Embassy in Rome. But Mgr. Dimeons Berberoff of the Russian Orthodox Church in Rome was quite clear in conviction that there is no true freedom of religion in Russia today. Churches were open and services were held but the freedom to proselytise, and to print books and pamphlets etc was withheld. In general the correspondent feels that there is still much hostility in Russia towards the Catholic church and that younger members of the nation treat Communism as their religion, and that unless this spirit changes there is little hope of an accord with the Vatican. In addition, the Vatican has openly spoken hostilely to the Catholic Communists who have since changed the name of their party, but it is still closely watching to see whether this change of name presents any change of substance. Even Togliatti's approaches to the Vatican are treated warily. Nevertheless the presence of a powerful Italian Communist party,

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RE: (Il Progresso) devotes two lengthy articles in praise of the work of Italian troops who are helping Tito in Yugoslavia.

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OSBORNE ("Time") : sends a despatch on the personalities of both Sforza and Zarandini who are mentioned in connection with the posts of London and Washington. Zarandini speaks perfect English, and is running one of the most modern dairy farms in Italy to supply Rome with milk; Sforza is bitterly anti-Fascist and is rumoured to have designs on Bonomi's post.

KUBBY ("Times") : Writes of the agreement which has at last been reached on the difficult question of raising wages in liberated Italy to meet an increase in prices. The new arrangement holds good till the New Year when the position will be reviewed. The terms do not meet the workers demands but are accepted as bringing some relief in a situation which had become practically intolerable. It is clear that the same critical position will recur so long as present conditions, particularly transport shortage, make it impossible to organise adequate supplies of food and essential consumption goods.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 October 18, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

MOORE (Daily Telegraph) : Azzolini has no right of appeal, but he can get his sentence of 30 years imprisonment revised if later on he can adduce fresh evidence, when the court might permit a re-trial of the case. His lawyers may apply for this re-trial after the liberation of the remainder of Italy, as one of the points raised was the absence of essential witnesses in Northern Italy.

Although Sforza thought the capital sentence should have been passed, he refrained from exerting any pressure on the court's deliberations. Some Italian observers acknowledge that the sentence has been a compromise between the political demand for the death sentence and judicial considerations which did not warrant a charge of irremovable intent. Azzolini, incidentally, has become the biggest private debtor known to history - well over 300 million sterling at the present rate of exchange.

PACKARD (UP)

Reports the arrest of Cornelia Tazzi-Pisso, described by "Risorgimento Liberale" as one of Mussolini's favourite mistresses. She is accused of collaborating with the Nazis and Fascists, and of denouncing Italian patriots hidden in the Villa Borghese Park. She was arrested when the Allies first entered Rome but was later released on account of lack of evidence which has now come to light.

Same correspondent also reports that the Crown Princess Marie Jose and her son, the Prince of Naples, have arrived in Italy from Switzerland.

REA (Il Progresso)

Sends a series of four articles on a visit to Frosinone. He describes the destruction caused in the town and the difficulties under which the people are said to be living. He interviewed the Mayor, Domenico Marsi, who begged the correspondent to use his influence and that of "Il Progresso" to bring the plight of the people of the town to the notice of those who had migrated from the district to the United States. The mayor is reported to have made the following remarks: "Our people are on the verge of starvation. They have no clothes and no shoes. We need medical supplies, beds and doctors to take care of the people ... Mothers

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PACKARD (UP)

Reports the arrest of Cornelia Terzi-Pissuto, described by "Risorgimento Liberale" as one of Mussolini's favourite mistresses. She is accused of collaborating with the Nazis and Fascists, and of denouncing Italian patriots hidden in the Villa Borghese Park. She was arrested when the Allies first entered Rome but was later released on account of lack of evidence which has now come to light.

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There follows a long description of the work of the partisans, and of the treatment of the inhabitans under the Nazis-fascists.

The correspondent reports that he is working on further partisan articles.

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OSBORNE (Time): Reports the release of Selati. It is officially confirmed that he has been released after his arrest last August. The A.C.S. security division certify that he is no longer a threat to Allied security since the military line has moved forward. Allied officials have been notified of his release but take no responsibility. It is all very "Hush - Hush" and probably will not be announced. Selati is telling his friends that he will reopen his old home in Rome and will have his old job back within two months.

MOORE (Daily Telegraph) Reports that Sir Ronal Ross, High Commissioner for Australia, is making a short stay in Italy, chiefly to gather information about German atrocities. He is staying at General Alexander's H.Q. He has already visited the Ardeatine caves.

MOORE (Daily Telegraph)

The announcement of the appointment of Count Nicolò Carandini as Italian diplomatic representative to London, and of Count Sforza to Washington, is likely to be made this week. They will have the personal rank of Ambassador but will not present formal credentials to the King or President. In this respect their position will be analogous to that of Sir Noel Charles and Mr. Alexander Kirk, British and American representatives in Italy. Both men are members of the Cabinet, though without portfolio. Arrangements may be made for them to retain these positions during their absence abroad.

Carandini is 49 years old and the Italian Liberal Party's most outstanding personality next to Croce, the latter receding more and more into retirement. He is anxious that the break in his political career shall only be temporary. Carandini has travelled in England and America chiefly to study agricultural methods, and speaks fluent English. He and his brother in law, Leonardo Albertini, own a model estate which they reclaimed from swamp at Terre in Pietre between Rome and the Sea.

LUCAS (Daily Express)
MOORE (Daily Telegraph)
PACKARD (UP)

Send the story of the arrest of Colonel Vincenzo Ferrone, an ex-Colonel of the Fascist Militia. He had let his flat to a lady who discovered a human ear, pickled in a bottle. The Colonel maintained that it was a souvenir of the war in Ethiopia, but it was proved to be a white man's ear and the Colonel was detained pending further investigation.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R10 October 21st, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

The operations in Greece are being closely followed and a considerable amount of copy is being filed. The fighting for the Po Valley is arousing more attention as the Armies draw slowly closer to the main Rimini-Bologna Highway. The incidents in Palermo have been widely reported with a strong stress on the political implications of Separatism and the bad economic situation in the island.

BRIA (AP) : Sent a hurried wire marked as "URGENT" as soon as the news become general. "13 persons slain, 104 wounded in a street battle between a mob and Italian troops at Palermo this morning" was how this correspondent broke the news after an Italian government announcement. A later communique said that the troops were compelled to fire on the crowd when shots were fired at them during a demonstration against living conditions. The demonstration took place before the office of the High Commissioner for Sicily. A vaguely worded bulletin asserted that "unknown groups" seized the initiative during demonstrations by bank employees for economic improvements, to "stage a seditious demonstration." Before the H.Q., of the High Commissioner shots were fired against units of the army which therefore compelled to react. Public order was re-established.

(The correspondent gradually elaborated on the story in a series of short cables. At one point he interrupted to inform his association that the details would not come through at a regular rate as there was a heavy volume of Government messages.)

The Provincial Committee of National Liberation immediately met and declared it placed itself at the disposal of the local governing authorities to seek those responsible for the seditious demonstration. Sicily has been one of the principal problems for the Bonomi Government which has repeatedly expressed concern with the Separatist movement. A recently issued Government communique announced that Sir Noel Charles has told Bonomi that reports that Great Britain is encouraging the Separatist movement are utterly without foundation. Another Government communique likewise denied that the United States was behind the movement. Sicily is under Italian jurisdiction with the Allied Control Commission in an advisory capacity. Aldisio had been in Rome conferring with the Government reconstruction Committee on economic reconstruction plans for the island.

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ERIA (AP) : Sent a hurried wire marked as "URGENT" as soon as the news became general. "16 persons slain, 104 wounded in a street battle between a mob and Italian troops at Palermo this morning" was how this correspondent broke the news after an Italian government announcement. A later communique said that the troops were compelled to fire on the crowd when shots were fired at them during a demonstration against living conditions. The demonstration took place before the office of the High Commissioner for Sicily. A vaguely worded bulletin asserted that "unknown groups" seized the initiative during demonstrations by bank employees for economic improvements, to "stage a seditious demonstration." Before the H.Q., of the High Commissioner shots were fired against units of the army which therefore compelled to react. Public order was re-established.

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Aldisio at his press conference stated that local government employees had demanded a wage increase equalling those granted to State employees and had staged a one day strike on Wednesday, returning to work yesterday. He emphasised that Sicily is not self sufficient in grain and declared that statistics showed the island always imported grain from Italy and abroad before the war. He added that the Allies were not opposed to furnishing supplies other than grain to Sicily but that the transport problem was difficult. Demonstrations which had been put down by troops occurred 4 months ago at Licata and Villalba, but no casualties had taken place.

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.....Figures of those dead rose to 10 yesterday as a result of the conflict between the mob and Italian troops. Aldisio expressed grave concern for Sicily unless supplies of grain were sent there immediately. The island had only enough grain to last until the middle of December. No additional grain had been shipped there from Italy, he said, because the Allied authorities hold the view that Sicily was self sufficient in grain production. In this, Aldisio added, the Allies appear to hold the same view as the Sicilian Separatists who want Sicily independent of Italy on the ground that she is economically self-sufficient. .....Aldisio left for Sicily immediately. .....So far no Separatist elements have been identified in the demonstration. Aldisio gave this description of the riot. "Crowd was joined by low elements. They marched on the Headquarters of the High Commissioner and the police called on the troops when it was evident that the mob was too big to handle. As a truckload of troops arrived a bomb was hurled and shots were fired at them. They retaliated killing 15 and wounding 105, of whom 3 died later. 9 soldiers injured, of whom three seriously." .....The crowd was estimated at about 3,000 and after about three quarters of an hour order was re-established with troops patrolling the streets and the city partly illuminated last night. Allied military police were included in the patrols, but Aldisio said that the Allies normally patrol streets, and their appearance last night was not unusual. The Italian communique last night said that the demonstration was "seditious" and Aldisio asserted that the word was normally used to describe any demonstration against established order.

LUCAS ("Daily Express") : Asks his journal if the riots in Sicily and the general problems of the island, particularly with regard to the Separatists who wish to join the British Empire, are not fruitful soil. Should he proceed there?

It is thought in some quarters that the reasons for this demonstration were in part due to promises which have been made from time to time by Allied statesmen that more food was being sent to Italy. So far these promises have produced no noticeable results in the Sicilian list.....The correspondent describes in general terms what happened, says the cause was that private employees demanded the same increases as State employees. Aldisio says it was mainly due to economic causes and that there is a grave shortage of food. Prices have risen almost as high as on the mainland, but the average wages in Palermo for workers was about 1,000 lire per month lower than in either Rome or Naples. There are no grain substitutes in the island, and potatoes and even vegetables were scarce. The present wheat stocks would only last till December 15th after which, if something is not done, there might be actual starvation. This

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MATTHEWS (New York Times) : "All Italian eyes are turned anxiously toward Sicily today to learn whether the "seditious demonstration" which cost 18 lives and more than 100 wounded, will be followed by

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new uprisings. Aldisio, the High Commissioner, has flown back to the island in Humbert's plane, after making a frank statement. The Cabinet is meeting nearly all day, for it is now realised that the Sicilian question is the gravest problem in Italy and must receive some kind of solution. Through inexperienced handling the official version of the riot did not reach correspondents.

The "New York Times" was told this afternoon they the trouble makers were genuine "agents provocateurs" and it was this element which the Government communique called "seditious" in alluding to the uprising.

Quoting the official casualties among the troops as nine wounded, three of them seriously, the correspondent says that it is obvious that 40 rounds and a few bombs would not cause 120 casualties. Moreover, the Republican leader Benicio Peccicardi, who knows a great deal about such things from Spain, was the first to point out that while 19 workers were killed no soldiers lost their lives. The whole incident is symptomatic of a serious situation. It was no accident that this took place at Palermo, and the New York Times has, in the past, called attention to Sicily's state of unrest. In part it is due to economic misery and a shortage of food. Aldisio told the press of this shortage which he partly blamed on the Allies' false belief that Sicily is self-sufficient. But the basic cause is political. The Separatist movement, led determinedly by Finocchiaro Aprile, and backed, according to opponents, by big Sicilian landowners, aims at an independent Sicily.

Police and troop reinforcements are on the way to the island. The black out in Palermo has been lifted. The situation is serious for the Government in Rome, but it is hoped that, as after the Carretta lynching, the mob will be satisfied. The Italian Government is facing the same problems as the Spanish Republicans after 1931 revolution. Whether it is firm or weak, the Bonomi Government will be attacked. So far all the Roman press deplores the incident. The correspondent then quotes briefly from the leading Rome papers, including the bitter remark of the "Voce Repubblicana" "that Italians are solving their greatest problems by shooting each other."

REA ("Il Progresso") : Describing the Palermo riot as a "mass demonstration" says it struck like a bomb-shell in Allied and Italian Government offices. He then quotes the substance of Aldisio's statement.

Describing what was supposed to have happened correspondent writes "Then from out of the crowd someone threw a hand grenade at the soldiers. The grenade exploded near the truck but did no damage to the soldiers". The soldiers immediately opened fire on the

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A representative of the Allied Control Commission declared that such a statement was completely wrong, because the Sicilians had 500,000 quintals of grain hidden which they were going to sell to

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the black market. " If we switch over food stocks to Sicily which has more than the average amount than is now on the mainland than we will have to deprive the people of Italy proper;" he said.

Professor Giambattista Rizzo, an authority on the island of Sicily, said that the problem actually represents the problem of all Italy. He said the rural areas of Sicily were sufficiently self-supporting in foodstuffs, but that the main centres lacked these items because there was no transportation. "Sicily", he said,"depended almost entirely on its export trade for a livelihood. Today it has not that trade. It is completely isolated from the mainland except for a small amount of communication."

The main agitators are the members of the Sicilian Independence Movement at the head of which is Finocchiaro Aprile, once a lawyer in Rome. The Secretary General is another lawyer, Antonio Varvaro. The problem is that of the landed aristocracy who are supporting the movement in the hope of retaining their lands. The subversive elements are the Communists and Leftist-Socialists.

The A.C.C. has no further news and is waiting new developments. "But for the first time since the liberation of Italy blood has been spilled. There are two groups sizing up the situation. One fears that this is the beginning of a general uprising of the masses throughout liberated Italy. The other group believes that this demonstration was planned for the purpose of discrediting the Allies and the Italian Government by subversive elements.

The demonstration has caused grave anxiety among Allied and Italian officials. An investigation is taking place. Correspondent finishes his despatch : "F.B. Duty calls. Taking down plane for Sicily. Only correspondent going on the spot. Because of lack of communication will not hear from me for a few days."

RICHARD (UP) : After describing the incident in the general terms of the official statement comments that Aldisio is considered by Sicilian observers to be an able administrator, but is hopelessly handicapped by a lack of reliable assistants and official functionaries. A few weeks ago Nenccio Rosi, Labor Democrat of the Bonomi Government attempted to speak at Palermo "but was shouted down with hisses and raspberries amid cries of Independent Sicily". After this the crowd went to the C.N.L. and called frantically for the leader of the Separatists, Marquess Andrea Finocchiaro Aprile, who finally appeared at a window and addressed the crowd saying in part " You have returned from a meeting wherein with fierce Sicilian pride you have inflicted merited mortification on a representative of a dishonest and liberty-killing government which has sold out to the Northern industrialists."

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Meanwhile from reliable quarters recently arrived from Sicily it is learned that the Separatist movement has grown to such proportions at present that it numbers 300,000 inscribed members, many of whom are said to be armed. Many hold offices in various Government bureaus and carry on their functions to suit the Separatist cause.

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Observers say most of the Police are incompetent and the competent ones are backing the Separatists, with the result that armed bands rove the country seizing goods and occasionally intimidating people. The conditions are sufficiently chaotic that masses of the peasants threaten to pass en bloc to the Separatist movement in order to gain security from depredations as once in a bygone century they joined the Mafia.

HADFIELD (Times) : Sends the official story with little comment, as does
MOORE (Daily Telegraph)

REA ("Il Progresso) has interviewed more than 44 people resident in Frosinone who are appealing to their Italian relatives in the U.S.A. for help. He has constituted himself an appeals bureau and gives the names and addresses of those making the appeals and of those to whom the appeals are addressed. Extracts from these appeals are "Rosa Antonucci, 61 years old. A pathetic case. Gone out of her mind because of the war. Sister taking care of her. Sister went down on her knees and kissed my hand, begging for help."

"Maria Francesca Palmessi, 81 years. A kind old lady in rags."

Correspondent writes that when he interviewed some of them they cried so bitterly that he himself was moved to tears. He says that a whole staff is required to keep up with it all. It is putting years on him and he is dying. But he is on the verge of filing 10 more articles.

In addition to this long list of appeals he sends a further long story from Ferentino where he interviewed the Italian Government Commissioner, Dr. Tomaso Tartaglione, who gave him an account of the difficulties under which the people had suffered through the war. From Angelo in Ville the correspondent dated another long despatch. This last one was more cheerful in tone and the place was said to be slowly recovering from the effects of war.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
CMF
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/P10 October 31st, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

GENE REA (Il Progresso) :

Palermo is outwardly calm. The investigation is going on but it is reliably reported that there will be no punishments, for nobody knows exactly what happened. The arrest of 10 Separatists at their headquarters was just a political move. The Government is trying to pin it on to the Separatists. Behind all the calm a terrific storm is brewing. The political game is being played to the hilt. The Allies promised to the Italian people a democratic form of government, but up to this day no democratic procedure has taken place. Officials are hand picked just as in a dictatorship. The correspondent then goes on to say that A.M.G. first picked the people for the different posts and then told the people these men were the governing body. If a man did not please A.M.G. "he was ousted not by the will of the people, but by the Allies. When A.M.G. stepped out A.C.C. stepped in. This procedure is nothing different from the tactics that were used by Mussolini".....

The Allies specifically told the people that they were to be treated as co-belligerents and that they were to be governed by their own people. Yet no elections are allowed to be held and Sicilians feel that they have absolutely no say in the Government.

1726

The article goes on to say that the land-owners, the political chiefs, and the Mafia are behind it all. "The Mafia is riding high again." Pressure is brought to bear against the A.C.C. the basic weapon being food. Actually, says the correspondent, the Lascc Brothers are behind Finocchiaro Aprile, who is merely a tool. The oldest brother is Alessandro who is president of the Consorzio Agrario. Giuseppe manages the estates, and Lucio is the politi-
cal man. The latter was formerly Prefect of Palermo and was

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Trend of copy filed by correspondents

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The article goes on to say that the land-owners, the political chiefs, and the Mafia are behind it all. "The Mafia is riding high again" Pressure is brought to bear against the A.C.C. the basic weapon being food. Actually, says the correspondent, the Tasca Brothers are behind Finocchiaro Aprile, who is merely a tool. The oldest brother is Alessandro who is president of the Consorzio Agrario. Giuseppe manages the estates, and Lucio is the political man. The latter was formerly Prefect of Palermo and was ousted by the Allies. Lucio is frequently seen visiting the offices of (THE NAME HAS BEEN CUT OUT WITH SCISSORS) of A.C.C. in Palermo. When the time comes Aprile will be dropped. Talk is rife that the three brothers are in close contact with the British. Evidence is shown that many British officers have wined and dined at the Tasca villa. It is from this that the rumour has spread that England is behind the Separatist movement.

In addition to the Tasca group is the Viscini group, referred to locally as the "pro-Americans" on account of their using an imitation of the American flag surrounded by the Sicilian emblem. It is led by the 30 year old Don Calogero Viscini of Caltanisetta.

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Besides these there are various bands who are really nothing but a lower branch of the dreaded Mafia. There is ample proof that these bands are associating with the political parties and that the latter are using them for their own ends.

The correspondent finishes by saying that "if today there is calm in Palermo it is only because the forces are gathering for the storm that is bound to break this coming December or January if the food situation is not solved.

In a further despatch the correspondent sends the complete names and addresses of the dead and wounded: 25 of the former and 156 of the latter.

In a general comment he says that the grave situation in Sicily is symtomatic of the entire Italian picture. The question is basically economic, but was used by the political agitators and delinquent elements to bring pressure to bear against the Rome Government. Basing his comments on an interview with Dr. Paolo d'Antoni, Prefect of Palermo, he says that Sicily is not self sufficient in grain. A.C.C. officials are frank in discussing the matter. One official said "Washington and London make a lot of promises to these people. They are reported in the daily press and then Sicilians come to us for the materials they were promised. 'We know absolutely nothing about such supplies. We have no directives".....Most A.C.C. officials are disgusted with the present situation. They have seen it coming for months and have been unable to cope with it.

MATTHEWS (New York Times) thinks that it was no accident that the Russian Ambassador was the first to visit Bonomi and announce his appointment and to state that Italy was to have an Ambassador to Moscow. He beat the Americans and British by three or four hours. The Russian have always been the first to show friendliness to Italy in recent months.

HERIA (AP) :.....Regency with the Prince of Naples is being advocated in some quarters as a means of preserving the Monarchy in view of the belief that Umberto is discredited.

LUCAS (Daily Express) : Quotes the recognition of Italy by the South American Republics and Bonomi's plea for recognition of Italy as an Ally. He points out that with Ambassadors in Washington and London, a Control Commission is incompatible, yet there are certain difficulties until the whole of the country is liberated. But the dual administration (Allied Commission) and Italian Government slows down authority at a time when vigour and bold decisions are essential. The dual administration undermines the political unity and "brings Allied administrative ability and economic ef-

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Writing of the Sicilian problem this correspondent says that Sicily has always been treated like a Cinderella and that Sicilians fear their wheat will be taken to feed the mainland.

There is a feeling of inferiority in Sicily brought about by 100 years of the island being treated as if it were backward. Sicilians resent being exploited. Moreover Sicilian troops fought in Greece and Russia and elsewhere and when the invasion came the Sicilians were left almost alone to defend themselves. It is completely false that the British are behind separatism. Under the Allies the Sicilians enjoyed a measure of regional autonomy and now they are under Rome again they resent it. They want their local resources developed and used for the Sicilians' benefit and not "siphoned off into some madcap scheme for draining Pontine marshes outside Rome." There are various elements in the background of separatism exploiting it for their own ends. But the solution of the problem lies entirely with the Italians themselves.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS) : Interviews Paul Morton of the "Toronto Star" who has just returned after two months in the North of Italy with the Partisans. He went in by parachute. Says the Patriots are stout fighters even though ill-equipped.

In a separate broadcast this correspondent says that Allied officials are baffled at the formal recognition of the Italian Government by the United States. They point out that under the terms of the Armistice, which is still in force, there is a virtual absolute measure of control over Italy's internal affairs, in order to assure maintenance of order behind our armies fighting on Italian soil, and the Italian Government has been operating on the 'advice' of the Allied Commission. But in the last analysis the Commission itself has been the real governing authority in this country. The situation as it now stands, Commission officials say, is confusing and contradictory. We have granted full diplomatic status to a Government whose relations with us are still regulated by an Armistice imposed after unconditional surrender. With the resumption of formal relations with Italy it is still not clear as to which body.....Italian Government or Allied Commission.....is to govern Italy, and how they are going to share responsibility.....The Allied Commission is waiting instructions from Washington and hopes to have them within the next few days.

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E. PACKARD (UP) : British refusal to give full diplomatic recognition to Italy at the same time as the United States and Russia has high-lighted the sharp cleavage between Britain and the other two members of the Big Three, particularly the United States, since Britain and the United States run the Allied Commission wherein Russia is not represented. According to a British Foreign Offi-

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/P10

November 1st, 1944

Trend of copy filed in correspondents.

MATTHEWS (New York Times): Correspondent cables his journal that after 5 weeks work and 9 visits he has interviewed Prince Umberto who gave the Crown's view of the programme for the first time since the fall of Fascism. Three aides were present at the interview. The correspondent writes that his article has been "fine tooth combed by Umberto, his Minister of the Royal House, Bonomi, Visconti Venosta, Orlando, and much Governmental opposition has been overcome." He asks his paper to publish his article without any alteration and not to leave out a single word. As nobody will forestall him there is no hurry for its publication, and he asks to be informed when the article is published as the Palace wishes to get its own official version for an Italian translation. The article is given verbatim.

"The Monarchy, like all political institutions in post-war Europe should move to the left" Umberto told the New York Times this morning in a private audience that lasted fully one hour. The Lieutenant General in a casual talk that ranged over every phase of internal and foreign policy spoke out fully and frankly, making it possible for the writer to get an authoritative idea of the political position of the Crown which has been so difficult to obtain due to a lack of new organs for prominent spokesmen.

Life begins at 7 in the Quirinal Palace and my appointment was for the unusual hour of 8.30 am. The Lieutenant General got up from his desk in a corner of a fine old room where he works, with its superb view over all Rome and out to sea. A large photo of his wife's children is on the desk and is one of the first things which catches the eye. The bright sun and our nearness made me realise for the first time how much he resembled his [illegible] ancestors. In photos one gets a general impression that makes him look like his mother, but in detail the resemblance to his father is striking, particularly the nose and that unmistakable Hapsburg lower lip. His voice, too, with his slightly guttural intonation, strikes one

1724

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1724

The Prince talks excellent English. He was dressed in the simplest sort of uniform, with nothing but bars worn on his sleeve to show his rank. In fact simplicity, unaffectedness, was so evident from the first moment that it made the audience easy. His complete lack of ceremony, his sense of humour, his fluent way of talking showed that he knew what he wanted to say on any given topic and permitted a great deal of ground to be covered in one hour.

Umberto had just returned the day before from a two day trip to

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the Cassino district where he found conditions in some of the villages distressing. That was the most fought over area of Italy and the destruction still has not been greatly repaired. In some of the villages the peasants had had no bread for 5 days. "While your soldiers were there it was easier" the Prince said. And it is always gratifying how well liked they are by the Italian people. But when they move on and people get little help. Still I cannot tell you how much Italy, and of course myself, appreciate all the things which your President and people are doing for us in these days." Our talk touched on many and vast problems which are facing Italy during its difficult reconstruction period ahead. It seemed to me whenever I have discussed the subject of the question of the monarchy in Italy that the question of time is a vital one and I got that impression today. For obvious reasons Umberto cannot be quoted directly, and anyway, as stated before this audience was not an interview. What is written here is my own interpretation of the position of the monarchy after talking to the Prince. I remarked that everything I have heard points to republican sentiment being even stronger in the North than it is in the liberated zone and that if a solution of the institutional question were sought immediately the results might be unfavorable. The Prince without saying anything in agreement gave the impression that there might well be a distinction between political parties whose attitude has been made clear and popular sentiment which is still unknown. There has been a long controversy in Italy between those who want a Plebiscite and those who want a Constituent Assembly charged with deciding on the institutional form of the State.

In general the monarchist solution would be to have a Plebiscite in accordance with the principles of the Atlantic Charter wherein all people without exception have a chance to express their desires. That is what they want and they don't want to see it take place while the country is in ferment with people desperately seeking for homes to live in, food to keep them alive, jobs to do, but when the nation are turned to some state of normality. There are hundreds of thousands of soldiers and prisoners still outside Italy and it is felt they have a right to express their feelings. The Prince as I see it believes that if there is a Plebiscite it should represent a straight choice of Republic or monarchy. Then there would be a Constituent Assembly to decide on the exact form which the Republic or Monarchy would take, how Parliament would be constituted, how elected, whether there would be a Senate or single Chamber. That will mean most will be a new Constitution and that will obviously take months to draw up as did Spain after the Republican revolution. I brought up the delicate but important question of the Statute which Umberto's great grandfather Carlo Alberto formulated in 1848. It

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people, by the people.

For some time the discussion turned to foreign affairs wherein I found the Lieutenant General both well informed and keenly interested. He especially wanted to know what Americans in general, and Washington in particular, though about Italy and what American policy was. My somewhat pessimistic replies did not appear to surprise him. In discussing Russia the talk naturally came back to Italy and its now strong Communist party. The Prince spoke pleasantly about Communism and Socialism in Italy and seemed eager to hear the personal opinions of men I have known since the Spanish civil war like Togliatti, Nenni, and Pacciardi. He has had a number of talks with Togliatti, finding him clever, agreeable and easy to discuss problems with. The general fact that Communists are not at present anti-Monarchist brought me to ask whether some types of support might not be more embarrassing than useful, and I pointed to Roosevelt's recent repudiation of Communist support in the Presidential elections. Umberto would not commit himself on that question but gave the definite impression that he agreed that one of the Monarchy's chief dangers is that certain elements linked to Fascism feel they must rally to the monarchy for safety. He certainly does not want that from what I understood. Umberto fully realises that the weight of the past is the monarchy's greatest handicap and what he and his best followers want is to demonstrate that in future Italy can be just as democratic under a monarchy as under a Republic. (FOLLOWING SENTENCE WAS CUT OUT : Like others with whom I have talked he argued that under present circumstances not monarchy but republic could lead to a dictatorship in Italy). He felt that many people are beginning to realise that, and these sentiments I gather will soon take political form. However, the Lieutenant General does not believe that the monarchist question should take the form of political parties. He considers his position to be above political parties and does not want to see the monarchist party and republican party fighting each other. But in general the Prince bases his fundamental stand in the belief that the form of government does not affect the problem of democracy since Republic's like Germany can be dictatorial and monarchies like England democratic. The most important impression I received during the whole hour's talk is that he considers it obvious that in future any Italian Government must move towards the left and there is no reason why that should conflict in the slightest with the monarchical institution. In fact he gave the impression that he wants to see it happen and will do everything he can to bring it about in what he called an ordered Liberal way. It will be a natural development in his opinion. All political parties will

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[redacted] civil war like Togliatti, Nenni, and Pacciardi. He has had a number of talks with Togliatti, finding him clever, agreeable and easy to discuss problems with. The general fact that Communists are not at present anti-Monarchist brought me to ask whether some types of support might not be more embarrassing than useful, and I pointed to Roosevelt's recent repudiation of Communist support in the Presidential elections. Umberto would not commit himself on that question but gave the definite impression that he agreed that one of the Monarchy's chief dangers is that certain elements linked to Fascism feel they must rally to the monarchy for safety. He certainly does not want that from what I understood. Umberto fully realises that the weight of the past is the monarchy's greatest handicap and what he and his best followers want is to demonstrate that in future Italy can be just as democratic under a monarchy as under a Republic. (FOLLOWING SENTENCE WAS CUT OUT: Like others with whom I have talked he argued that under present circumstances not monarchy but republic could lead to a dictatorship in Italy). He felt that many people are beginning to realise that, and these sentiments I gather will soon take political form. However, the Lieutenant General does not believe that the monarchist question should take the form of political parties. He considers his position to be above political parties and does not want to see the monarchist party and republican party fighting each other. But in general the Prince bases his fundamental stand in the belief that the form of government does not affect the problem of democracy since Republic's like Germany can be dictatorial and monarchies like England democratic. The most important impression I received during the whole hour's talk is that he considers it obvious that in future any Italian Government must move towards the left and there is no reason why that should conflict in the slightest with the monarchical institution. In fact he gave the impression that he wants to see it happen and will do everything he can to bring it about in what he called an ordered Liberal way. It will be a natural development in his opinion. All political parties will have programmes which will be essentially very advanced and monarchy will move with them. Umberto's goal I gather is Liberal democratic democracy - qualitatively like that of England, Sweden, Norway, Denmark - which might be called a monarchy of the left.

We walked out on the balcony to enjoy the sun and wonderful view. The talk turned to Caruso who was executed, and Azzolini who was just sentenced to 30 years for giving Italy's gold to the Germans, and that brought up the subject of epuration in general. I found in this as in other cases that the Prince had thought seriously and keenly about Italy's many problems. He has no illusions either

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about the unhappy period ahead of the difficulties the House of Savoy faces in keeping above water during the stern months of reconstruction, but certainly there was a clear impression of a man who has a programme and knows what he is fighting for. On the basis of this audience republicans would appear to have a foe who is stronger than they realise. Whether he wins or loses out is going to be a good fight.

In a supplementary cable the correspondent adds : On the general subject of Constitutional and institutional questions I sensed a feeling that under the present disturbing circumstances people have not had a chance to think deeply or to place them in the forefront of their occupations. Umberto like other Italian leaders sees the urgent need for educating the masses along political lines and he talked frankly of the difficulties which the monarchists are having in presenting their case. There is only one monarchist newspaper in Rome. During the present Allied occupation there still is no freedom of publication since every newspaper or magazine must have Allied consent in advance. The Lieutenant General appeared to me to be somewhat critical of the policy of restricted issuance of more publications.

The same correspondent says that priests at the Russian College in Rome believe that an important political move has been made by Moscow, as an Orthodox Chapel has been opened in the former Soviet Embassy and general consulate in Istanbul. This move cannot have been made without Moscow's direct order. All eyes are now turned towards Belgrade where the Chief Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church, the Metropolitan Anastasius, has been making his headquarters.

REA (Il Progresso) . Files articles on the partisans, with the numbers and names of the various "bands". In Rome, he says, it was the "Banda Interna di Roma". The city was sub-divided into three sectors. It also contained a mobile group and a reserve group. 25,000 men formed the main fighting force. In Lazio was "La Banda Esterna" consisting of 3,800 men in 72 party bands.

In a further article he deals with Nazi atrocities throughout Italy, giving the alleged numbers of Italians killed and wounded, while a still further despatch deals with education in Italy and quotes an interview with Bernardo Mattarella, Under Secretary of National Education. Many children cannot attend school as they have no boots and clothes.

This correspondent also gives the inside story of the Nazis

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This correspondent also promises the inside story of the Mafia in Sicily which for the first time will reveal facts and names. It is for publication in the "American Mercury".

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

November 4th, 1944

R10/PRB

Trend of copy filed by Correspondents

SMITH (New York Herald Tribune)

Eden's visit to Italy has caused a stir in the Rome press. The papers declare with one voice that Eden was only an enemy of Fascist Italy. The Conservative papers saw hopeful signs when the British Foreign Minister had dinner with Bonomi, Tenosio and Carandini at the British Embassy.

"Risorgimento Liberale" hopes that Mr. Eden's visit so soon after the Roosevelt-Churchill declarations and the exchange of diplomatic representatives means a change of climate and a gradual change in the relations between England and Italy. The newspaper did not mention that whilst the United States exchanged Ambassadors with Italy according to the usual protocol, England merely empowered its representative here to act as Minister without crediting him to Prince Humbert, or asking if he would be acceptable as Ambassador, a procedure which is regarded by those who should know as meaning that the British Foreign Office still regards Italy as a conquered nation.

"Risorgimento Liberale" added, however, that the "Italian people" did not - repeat not - want Eden's visit to pass without leaving some hope that the "Italy of today" will be recognised by England as an improvement on Mussolini's Italy.

MATTHEWS (New York Times) : Quotes Soccimarro's remarks to the "SI" agency that epuration is proceeding "extremely slowly". (Note: According to the agency report Soccimarro is said to have made 222 pointed remarks about some of the Italian Ministries and the difficulties he is having in getting their co-operation. "We have put up a particularly hard fight in the purge of public service institutions depending from the State where big financial interests are involved and where persons chucked out by the door come back through the window, thanks to their friends."

VLASNEVSKY (Tass Agency) : Quotes the official Government communique [illegible] the press attacks on the Carabinieri and their

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SMITH (New York Herald Tribune)

Eden's visit to Italy has caused a stir in the Rome press. The papers declare with one voice that Eden was only an enemy of Fascist Italy. The Conservative papers saw hopeful signs when the British Foreign Minister had dinner with Bonomi, Venosta and Cerruldini at the British Embassy.

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VISHNEVSKY (Tass Agency) : Quotes the official Government communique protesting against the press attacks on the Carabinieri and their chief. The communique says that instructions have been issued to the Carabinieri to abstain from manifesting in favour of any political party or for any rivalries.

The correspondent also sends the full story of the food stuffs brought into Italy by the Allies, as well as the "Avanti's" demand for epuration of officers of the Italian Navy.

KAPPLER (Bundredaktion - Bern) (in German) : No one in Rome denies the honesty of intentions of Bonomi personally, but the Government over which he presides is being viewed more and more with mixed feelings. As a Government, in the Provinces liberated from the

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Germans each party must bring about its own programme. The members of all the parties together represent only one fifth of the electorate, and it is estimated that the strongest party, the Communists, numbers about 300,000. Bonomi has declared that all internal social and political reforms will be set aside till the end of the war. Togliatti complains in "Unita" of the patience of the Italian people and asks openly when this patience will break. The left press says that if it comes to a conflict between the police and the people the so-called reactionary elements will be to blame.

HODEL (Zurchersceitung) (in German) : The Rome press greets Eden's presence in Rome. The belief is becoming more and more apparent that Italy has crossed the diplomatic Rubicon and that her relations with the Allies will give her a place with the United Nations.

SCAMBIANI (Telegraphiaue, Berne) : Quotes, inter alia, "Il Tempo" on attacks by gangs in Rome. The journal points out that Allied military personnel were thought to be implicated in these attacks and it is now established that one gang was composed of deserters from the Allied forces together with Italian elements. Of the 22 arrested one was French and 5 Spaniards, deserters from the French Foreign Legion. The head of the band was a Jugoslav named I-en Natosik, also a deserter. The correspondent quotes the threatened strike of newspaper workers because of the attacks.

BERGH (Handelstidning, Gothenburg) sends a despatch on the difference between the work of the Rome Committee of Liberation and the one set up in Florence. The Committee in Florence is really a local government composed of members of 5 parties. Each party elects two members making a Committee of 10, and there are another 30 members who work in 15 different subordinate organisations "acting as Ministries". All give their services free. Florence considers the institution of Prefects as sheer nonsense. When Bonomi said that the Prefect was the local ruler together with AMG, while the CNL should act as a council to the Prefect, the Florentines replied "We have created our own government, working excellently. We do not recognise this centralisation which for 80 years has been a brake on Italy. Italy needs, and wants, self government and such government starts only with local self government."

The correspondent goes on to say that the Florentines would like the capital moved from Rome to Perugia, or Aquila or Urbino, and to be finished with the myth of Rome. They want to get rid of the Prefects who are a Napoleonic institution, and they wish to return to the mediaeval Communes. Italy has become a colony of Rome. Since

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BERIGGE (Reuter) : Thinks it is improbable that Eden's visit will alter the relations between Italy and England, as those were laid down at the Hyde Park meetings. But he left an impression of goodwill towards Italy.

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REA (Il Progresso) : Has filed a lengthy article for publication in the "American Mercury" in December. It is entitled "The Mafia Rides Again" and deals with the Sicilian situation.

The leaders of the present Mafia, he says, are outwardly responsible citizens. There is no single organisation but there are probably 500 Mafia bands throughout Sicily, ranging in groups of twos to dozens, each with its own sphere of influence. There are daily murders, but the peasants are cowed and refuse to denounce the culprits for fear of reprisals. Those responsible for the revival of the Mafia's former activities are the former Fascists who still enjoy freedom, the Separatists, the Communists (WERE SOME WORDS WERE CUT FROM THE COPY WITH SCISSORS) together with the barons who own vast estates and the "gabellatto" class or middlemen who lease acres from the barons and then sub-let them to the peasants at a profit.

The Fascists use the Mafia to oppress those who oppose them. The Communists wish to see chaotic conditions occur to the point where a revolution becomes inevitable. It is then their plan to seize power. (FURTHER WORDS WERE CUT OUT HERE). Many of the present barons owe their wealth to the former Mafia. Arms were mainly stolen from the Allied forces. "Tons of thousands of arms and unlimited amounts of ammunition were robbed and hidden in the 'macchia'." At first the bands worked independently in their robberies. The political situation led to their organisation on an island-wide basis.

When the Allied military police left, the Italian police was ill-clothed and ill-armed. They were badly paid and had no transport. The gangs were then organised into a political instrument. "The big game of gaining power in political circles began."

AMG could not find experienced leaders among the illiterate masses, and so they turned to classes who had enjoyed the blessings of Fascism. From these they selected mayors and commissioners.

1721

Foremost of all "anti-Fascists" is Lucio Tasca. With his two brothers he is the richest landowner of Palermo, and possibly of all Italy. He had wined and dined with Fascist officials. Yet he was selected by AMG to be mayor of Palermo. "It was at his home that high British and American officials spent many a gay evening being lavishly entertained." But Lucio's record was too well known. He had to resign. But he was not eliminated from the game of politics. Although not members of the Mafia, the Tasca clan pull many Mafia strings; Alessandro Tasca is President of the Consorzio Agrario. Giuseppe, another brother, manages the estates. They are the real power behind the Sicilian independence movement. "They have [illegible] the Allied Commission"

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In Villalba the Allies selected another man directly connected with the Mafia. He is a young lawyer named Beniamino Farina. He is a nephew of a Mafia chief, Don Calogero Vizzini, a rich baron with acres of land.

.....Inasmuch as Lucio is frequently seen in the company of British officials of the Commission, it has led to the assumption that the British are supporting the Tasca-Aprile group.

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Vizzini's separatists are better organised than are those of Aprile.

Today there are 400,000 separatists throughout Sicily.

The article continues : The Communists saw the Mafia were better organised than themselves, so they contacted members of the Mafia who were independent of any group and offered them better rewards than did either Aprile or Vizzini. The Communists in Sicily had already seized numbers of Nazi weapons and they also obtained others from Allied sources. These they gave to friendly members of the Mafia.

"The Mafia is a Frankenstein created by selfish, greedy elements, who hope to keep their ill-gotten gains, as well as those political forces who intend using it for the day of revolution." The Mafia is largely responsible for the lack of sufficient grain to feed the people of Sicily. The organisation has been used to force the peasants to hide the grain. Lack of transport has choked normal Sicilian exports, and economic life is disrupted with much unemployment. A storm is brewing.

The Mafia ride in bands. A certain romance is being woven round some of them. Occasionally they throw a "bone" to some starving family and the word spreads, and soon the countryside knows that this or that band is feeding hundreds of starving families. The rumour grows that they plunder the rich to feed the poor. Out of the Mafia and such talk, the Fascists, the Separatists and the barons all hope that one strong man will arise who will control Sicily in the way they want. " Hidden in the mechnic of Sicily today are enough arms, artillery and ammunition to supply an army of 100,000 men. Fantastic? No one denies the gravity of the situation, least of all the authorities. Once the grain ends the trouble will start. A whole army of occupation will then be necessary to quell the riots. Until men of political honesty and high ideals are found to govern, and the whole rotten feudal system is wiped out, the Mafia will continue to rise, continue to kill, continue to rule."

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRC/PRB November 6th, 1944

Trend of copy filed by Correspondents

With the campaign in Greece virtually ended and very slow progress being made on the Italian front there is a falling off in the amount of copy being filed, and a certain amount of attention is being devoted to Italian affairs in liberated territory. Many correspondents quote the denial by the British Embassy in Rome that no attempt was made on the life of Mr. Eden, and the Monarchist demonstration at the Quirino Theatre during Orlando's speech is widely reported.

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS): Devotes a broadcast talk to the demonstration at the Orlando meeting and the implications of Italian political propaganda.

After describing what took place the correspondent says: "This is the first public demonstration the Monarchists have staged here in Rome, but for a long while it has been obvious that the Monarchists have not been napping. In several provincial towns the Royal Carabinieri have raided Republican party centres and looted their propaganda. In Rome the Carabinieri have been known to buy up the Republican party paper as soon as it appeared on the stands. Today after the Armistice ceremony and the fist fights a rash of Royalist manifestoes signed "the Monarchist movement" broke out on public walls in Rome. For the past week the anti-Fascist papers here have been denouncing the Rome police which they say has been untouched by any purge and is still in the hands of the Royalists and reactionaries who have allegedly ordered the Carabinieri to break up all Royalist demonstrations."

"It is a national crime" says one paper, "to incite the Royal police against the population." Officially there is a political truce between the Italian Government and the Monarchy. The question has to be settled when all Italy is free and the people can decide. But behind the truce blocs are forming and Monarchist agitation is growing. The Monarchists admit privately they have everything to gain during this period of uncertainty. They were certainly encouraged by the kind words of Winston Churchill who spoke recently of Crown Prince Umberto's "growing stature in Italian eyes." For the great majority of Italians the Prime Minister's words had a very sour sound.

In Italian politics the Monarchy today plays a significant off stage role. The Bonomi Government is afraid to face any crisis squarely partly because a crisis might force a Cabinet shake-up and a shake-up would automatically place the task of forming a new Cabinet in the hands of the Crown Prince who is Lieutenant General of the Realm. With the Monarchy always in the background, and with [illegible] political events here in

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LUCAS (Daily Express)
MOORE (Daily Telegraph)

Send a story that Guiseppe Bottai, a well-known Fascist who is sought by the Italian Government for trial, is serving as a Colonel with the Italian Corps of Liberation under an assumed name, and with Allied permission. He is an ex-Mayor of Rome and one of the leaders in the march on Rome. This information was given by his wife when the Court sequestrator came to take over Bottai's property. His wife states that she is practically without funds as Bottai always spent on a lavish scale.

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In contradiction of this story
ERIA (AP) says the Italian authorities discount the report that Bottai is indeed fighting with the Italian Corps of Liberation under an assumed name on the 8th Army front. Aurelio Calauti, the lawyer in charge of the confiscation of Bottai's property in Rome, states that Bottai's wife told him this story, but much more reliable reports state he has taken refuge in some religious institution in liberated Italy.

SPRIGGE (Reuter) and others
Send accounts of the ceremony at the Victor Emmanuel Memorial on November 4th, in celebration of the Italian Armistice in World War I.

SPRIGGE (Reuter): Rupprecht Wittelsbach, former Bavarian Crown Prince, understood to be staying at the Quirinal as the guest of Prince Umberto. Rupprecht has been living for many years in Florence, and at one time was nearly arrested by the Gestapo in connection with the attempt on Hitler's life. He came to Rome after the liberation of Florence. He is addressed by a small circle as "Majesty" but his friends do not believe that he harbours any restoration designs. It is believed that the Pope recently discussed with Rupprecht what is likely to become of Austria and Bavaria, Germany's Catholic regions where Monarchist feelings are believed to be lively.

The same correspondent reporting on Orlando's speech in the Quirino Theatre said that the statesman brushed aside as a juridical subtlety Italy's relations with the United Nations, and claimed they were that of a sister nation. Directly addressing British and American officers in the audience Orlando said "You and I looking each other in the face cannot feel enemies, or even co-belligerents - only friends."

There was a great demonstration when Orlando mentioned the name of Trieste as being one of the Italian cities still awaiting liberation. There were shouts of "Down with Sforza" from a rowdy group of juvenile Monarchists who later staged a series of street fights outside the Quirino Theatre.

CHINIGO (INS)
PACKARD (UP)
Report the Orlando speech and demonstration without comment.

MILTON BRACKER (New York Times)

Sends a despatch on the question of relief for Greece based on remarks by General Hughes at a recent press conference. General Hughes is in charge of Allied military liaison in Greece. The Allies are striving to give the Greeks more assistance than they have given the Italians and so avoid a political and moral error. Yet shipping space will be the deciding factor and the Allies are anxious to avoid making any promises which they cannot fulfill.

Writing of relief for Italy the correspondent quotes Mr. Myron Taylor as saying "The entrance of UNRRA as a separate agency would only intensify competition for shipping space." Governor Roy [illegible] representative at Allied HQ

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Writing of relief for Italy the correspondent quotes Mr. Myron Taylor as saying "The entrance of UNRRA as a separate agency would only intensify competition for shipping space." Governor Roy Cochran of Nebraska, who is UNRRA's representative at Allied HQ saidtoday that UNRRA - which has $00 million for work in Italy - would have to reserve the right to deal directly with the Italian Government even though as a working expedient it might prove possible to choose to work through the distribution committee.

POBBER ("Die Tat" Zurich - in German)

Writes a lengthy despatch on whether Communism will or will not achieve supremacy in Italy.

The correspondent says that in destroyed or half destroyed villages and towns North of Rome the Communist party is often the only one to start any sort of political organisation when the battle recedes. Its members follow close on the heels of the departing troops, and the wandering journalist often remarks as the only sign of life

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in such places - a red flag. The question of the supremacy of the Communists can be answered by what sort of organisation the Socialists raise in opposition, but in the long run the problem will be solved by three things. (1) Whether the Allies can bring in enough food to stave off the hunger of the masses (2) Whether machinery and raw materials can be brought in to revive Italian industry (3) Whether the Allies will help the present Government by word and deed in keeping public order.

These three things will decide whether Italy goes over entirely to Communism.

If they are not done Communism will come to Italy "wie Amen in der Kirche" (as "Amen" in church).

BERGH (Handelstidning - Goteborg) sends a despatch on the disastrous situation facing many Italian officers who have been without pay since the Armistice and have sold everything in an endeavour to keep alive, or have been receiving about 50% of their pay while waiting examination of their political background. Those who took the oath to Mussolini's Republic are in the worse plight as they receive nothing. Officers are calling for a speeding up of epuration. It was easier for officers in Rome to escape taking the oath than it was for officers in the North of Italy at the time of the Armistice. Two officers who were on their way to Florence from Rome at the time of the Armistice with 3 million lire for officers pay were captured by the Germans.

The problem has its political side. The Communists are without officers but maybe in the near future, urged by disillusion and hunger, officers may join the Communists, with interesting consequences.

Most correspondents send the official British denial of the bomb attempt on Mr. Eden as broadcast by the Fascist radio. It is pointed out that Mr. Eden never entered any hotel during his stay in Rome.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

November 6th, 1944

R10/PRS

Trend of copy filed by correspondents

VISHNEVSKY (Tass Agency, Moscow) : Has interviewed Mikhail Tarasov, the leader of the Soviet Delegation who have been touring Italy for the past month. Tarasov stated that 70 meetings with workers were held and more than 20 reunions with militant syndicates. He and his three companions addressed about 250,000 industrial workers, peasants &c. Hundreds of thousands of workers gave them an extremely enthusiastic welcome. According to his observation numerous Italian workers showed proof of a recognition of the just and sincere policy of the Soviet State and its great leader, Marshal Stalin, as well as an appreciation of Russia's war effort against the German invader and the social progress and well being of the people of the U.S.S.R. Besides this comprehension the delegates noted the lively sentiments of friendship of the mass of the Italian workers and their confidence in the people of the Soviet State. Tarasov especially noted that everywhere in South Italy the labouring masses are conscious of the painful situation of their brothers and sisters in the North still under the Hitlerite yoke and the efforts of the heroic partisans are the object of their love and interest.

Speaking of the syndical political activity of the South, Tarasov mentioned two unfavourable points which he had noticed. Although working women of Italy have given proof of their interest and enthusiasm for activity in public and social work, the leaders of the local syndicates hesitate still to invite them to take a resolute and active part in syndical life. It appeared to him that local leaders do not place a just value on the important force which Italian womanhood presents for the development of a democratic country. The insufficiency of epuration and the punishment of fascist war criminals is, in his opinion, the object of inquietude and suspicion on the part of the workers, above all when one considers that these two points figure in the Moscow declaration of 1943 on the subject of Italy. This lack of epuration is all the more deplorable as anti-democratic elements are hindering the development of united Italian syndical movements.

BERIGER (Reuter): Tables that the delegates attended over 80 public meetings including one at Taranto where it was stated the attendance was 30,000. It is reckoned that the delegates addressed audiences totalling a quarter of a million. Di Vittorio, of the CGIL, their

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BERIGGE (Reuter): Asides that the delegates attended over 80 public meetings including one at Taranto where it was stated the attendance was 30,000. It is reckoned that the delegates addressed audiences totalling a quarter of a million. Di Vittorio, of the CGIL, their principal chaperone, writing in "Unita" says that every time the delegates spoke of the necessity for Anglo-American-Russian [illegible] the crowd burst into applause, but when at some meetings local representatives mentioned the generous conditions granted by Russia to Roumania, Finland and Bulgaria, the crowds rose to their feet and cheered for minutes on end, thus expressing the special significance they attached to this tribute to the Soviet. Di Vittorio said that this was the most grandiose manifestation of political activity on the part of the supposedly backward South Italian workers ever witnessed, adding that reactionaries who have hoped to find a rallying

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around in South Italy for their forces, must now abandon hope.

HOUSE (Zurcherzeitung) (in German)

Thinks that the abolition of the Italian General Staff will cause no tears to be shed, and hints that many of its officers were engaged in widespread mysterious machinations.

(Hotel has been elected Vice President of the Swiss Club in Rome.)

LUCAS (Daily Express) : "Carlo Appelius - the will man of Fascist radio has at last been unearthed."

The same correspondent sends a long despatch on the forthcoming trial of Bubich, Carlo Emmanuelli and Francesco Jacomoni. "Somewhere in the bundle of legal documents of the Public Prosecutor "will be a story of dark plottings and strange murders that happened years ago all over the face of Europe. "When this trial takes place the ghosts of the Ghestai dead will jibber and squeak round the dusted tapestried hall of justice in old Corsini Palace." The correspondent says that the 3 accused men "have talked" and then gives "some of the revelations which will come to light during the trial." The revelations will cover much of the secret diplomatic history of the last years from the time of the assassination of Berthou and King Alexander and it may be that even "the murder of Darlan, in Algiers, may throw its shadow across the Roman court room."

KINGSTON BURDETT (CBS) gives another talk on conditions in Rome. "The rich continue to live and eat extravagantly well, thanks to the black market, while professional people and office workers are tightening their belts and selling their clothes or furniture to buy food, and a large section of the working classes face continued unemployment this winter. There is no starvation, but there is hunger and discontent. Over everything presides an Allied military bureaucracy and an Italian government which most Italians regard not as their government but as an emanation of the Allies.....nowhere in liberated Italy have we given the Italians the opportunity of real political experience by electing their own local officials, their own police. The Italians neither respect nor trust their police or Government. The Government does not trust itself.

It is a sick state of affairs not helped by the Monarchists in the background playing a sinister role. Italian papers are writing of the possibility of civil war in Italy after the Allies leave and it is true that many Italians are thinking in these terms..... The rich of Italy are also looking ahead. Many wealthy people are already making their plans for leaving Italy after the war and transferring their fortunes abroad. They envisage with fear the liberation of the North. They talk of civil war and Communism;

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BURRANCE ("Time") has sent a cable criticising the P.W.B. He says that PWB pulled the biggest "boner" of recent months when it released General Alexander's press conference talk to the Italian press and radio 24 hours ahead of the pre-arranged publication time, scooping news hungry reporters of the best yarn in several weeks and violating careful security. In the ensuing investigation AFHQ, PRC got nowhere and it "petered out in the fog of passing the buck, shoulder

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shrugging and animated confusion." The story finally came to rest on a naughty three-type machine which "jumped" into upper case while slugging "not for publication before 23.00 hours." The correspondent remarks that the bureau news operation is large, clumsy and amateurish.

SPRIGGE (Reuter): The lynching of Carretta on 10th September, which drew the strong approbation of Mr. Churchill, was primarily provoked by two women, one of whom was described as psychopathic in the report of the enquiry commission which has now leaked into the press. The deranged women harangued the crowd alleging that Carretta had demanded a price of 200,000 Lire for saving the life of her son, who was actually executed by the Fascist police on May 5th. Interrogated, the woman confessed the story was a pure invention, saying she had acted under the influence of a dream the previous night. The Commission also ascertained that two youths who principally manhandled Carretta, were ex-convicts. Carretta, states the enquiry, was a humane man who in performing the function of prison governor under the German occupation took grave risks in assisting political prisoners.

Same correspondent has also filed a lengthy despatch on the destruction and looting of art treasures in Florence.

BERGH (Handelstidning, Goteborg): Not to hurt the Germans, the Italians did not celebrate the 4th November, but now that the Allies are in Rome the Cabinet "though with chilly interest on the part of the Romans" ordered a national festival.

Five months have passed since the occupation of Rome. Italians have asked "What will England do? Or Russia? Or the United States?" But almost never "What will Italy do?" 84 year old Orlando answered it by calling for quick action, a firm belief in good results, and sincere energy. Bonomi expressed his contempt for yesterday but no hope for tomorrow. Although practically everything in Italy must be rebuilt, the parties still discuss as if the country were intact. In the meantime the invalids of Rome's largest hospital celebrated the 4th November Armistice day in their own special way i.e., by demonstrating for more food.

LAPKIN (Tass Agency, Moscow) has sent a very complete account of General Alexander's press conference, quoting most of the facts and figures.

SPRIGGE (Reuter): Cables that the Court of Appeal has declared null and void the trial of the murderers of Matteotti in 1926. This signifies the re-opening of this most notorious of all trials held under the Fascist regime. The court refused bail to Cesare Rossi, Mussolini's former press chief, who is now in prison implicated in the murder.

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VISHNEVSKY (Tass Agency - Moscow) : Quotes an article in "Voce Repubblicana" replying to Mr Bullit's article which appeared in "Life" last September. Italians will not be easily swayed by such propaganda a second time, and it rests with Bullit to prove that the influence of the English or of Anglo-Americans differs, or is preferable, to the domination of Soviet Russia. The future problems of Europe, concludes the journal, must not be put in the old terms of either a love or hatred of a civilised society, or of the barbarious Leninists, as certain people are again about to put it, but

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in European terms, with a view to a united peaceful Europe and world.

Reporting on the meeting in the Brancaccio theatre in honour of the Soviet delegates, correspondent says that 7,000 militant syndicalists were present. The theatre was decorated with Soviet flags and slogans in honour of Stalin and Lenin and the Red Army. Parasco and his companions confirmed the sincere friendship and confidence which the Italian people had shown towards the people of the Soviet State. After greeting the partisans in the north, Parasco noted the consciousness of the Italian people of the importance of syndical union under the direction of the Italian Confederation of Labour. Thanking the Confederation, Parasco extended an invitation to send a delegation to the Soviet Union.

The three secretaries of the C.G.I.L. spoke in praise of the Soviet and the heroic defence it had made for the liberty of the world, and Di Vittorio said that the Italian people were finished with Fascism for ever and claimed rigourous epuration and an increased effort against the German invader. After the meeting a banquet was held at which Togliatti, Saragat, and others were present.

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R10/PRB

November 10th, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

CORRECTION : In the trend of copy filed by correspondents, dated November 8, under SPRIGGE (Reuter) - Page 3 - line 5 read " disapprobation" instead of "approbation".

The Presidential elections and their reactions among American troops in Italy, as well as on the Rome press, provide correspondents with a certain amount of copy. There is little to report from the operational front: Prince Umberto's interview with the "New York Times" and the furore it has created, fill in the rest of the picture. MATTHEWS (New York Times) who achieved the interview, seems to be sitting back watching the reactions, and so far has not ventured into any further discussion.

MATTHEWS (New York Times) : Mentions the Bonomi communique which says that the institutional question must be settled by a Constituent Assembly and not by a Plebiscite as the Monarchists desire. The correspondent cables his journal that "the authorized translation of his article was delayed by various developments until today when the entire press devote great and heated space to it." Regarding "Italia Nuova" statement that it believed Bonomi was behind the whole move, the correspondent remarks that this is not true. Anyway he concludes "the result was that the Government had to come out for a Constituent Assembly or face an immediate crisis, and it naturally acted to calm the atmosphere."

WINSTON BURDETT (CBS)
MILTON BRACKER (New York Times)

Report that there was little excitement among American troops as the election results came through. Many had long since sent in their ballot papers, and to thousands it was just another day's war in Italy. Both correspondents state that at 1 a.m. in the American Red Cross Officers Club there were exactly five people present when the final results came through. Two of these were a couple who had spent a considerable part of the evening leaning on the wireless; one other was an Italian civilian employee.

1716

The correspondents report the reactions of the Rome press, most

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CORRECTION : In the trend of copy filed by correspondents, ... November 6, under SPRIGGS (Reuter) - Page 3 - line 5 read " dis-approbation" instead of "approbation".

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1716

Several correspondents report the reactions of the Rome press, most of which seemed to have breathed a sigh of relief that Roosevelt was re-elected and that aid to Italy would thereby not be interrupted.

PEA (Il Progresso) : Continues to tour Italy and send back reports of hardship and suffering from every place he visits, making appeals to Italian-Americans and promising lists of names of Italians who send their greetings. From Afragola where he spoke with the Sindaco, Don Raffaele Sotola, after quoting the latter's remarks on life under the Nazis he said that the town was finally entered by American troops on October 2, 1943.

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"Today however" said Istvla, "the people of Afragola are not satisfied with the way things are going.:.....It is not safe to travel through the streets at night.....The black market reigns.....Our people are walking the streets bare-footed. Transportation is terrible and we cannot get enough food into the city to feed the people." The mayor made an appeal to Americas for help....."12 months have passed and our people are suffering more than they were on the day your troops came here. We don't blame the Allies for the conditions that existed in Afragola. But the people are beginning to get tired of the promises that were made and which were not kept. A litre of oil cost about Lire 20 before the Allies came into the town. Today the same litre of olive oil costs Lire 450. We got grain for about Lire 15 the kilo more than a year ago. Now we have to pay Lire 125 per kilo."

From Santa Maria correspondent reports....."It is a city of 42,000.." "There is confusion everywhere and we do not know where to turn for help" says one of the leading citizens. Today the streets of Santa Maria are filled with women and children begging for help. Innocent infants walk through the muddy, cold streets, without shoes..... The city sends an appeal for help.

From NOLA much the same story is reported. "Its people are crying for food. Its children are barefoot and without clothes to warm them." Again an urgent appeal is addressed to America for help.

At NAPLES the correspondent says that he had his pocket picked while walking in the Via Roma. He caught hold of the hand as he felt it in his pocket. It turned out to be a mere boy who immediately burst into a torrent of excuses saying that his mother and brothers and sisters were without food. A gang of other urchins gathered round the correspondent in defence of their compatriot, but when REA spoke in Neapolitan and said that he would accompany the boy to find out the real facts, the latter escorted him to the home of his parents where the correspondent was able to confirm the truth.

Today Naples " says the correspondent " is a city where thieves, black marketeers and prostitutes are the only ones that can make a living. Organised gangsterism flourishes here even under the watchful eyes of our military police."....."Now one can see that the people are turning away from the Allies and trying to find some strong leader who will take them out of their misery".

In a further article on Naples the correspondent writes "The Allies have tried their best to bring Naples back to some sort of normalcy. Stories have been told of ships bringing food and clothing, but Allied help is now a matter for pulpiteers in the press and on the stage. [illegible] the head of the black market

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In a further article on Naples the correspondent writes "The Allies here tried their best to bring Naples back to some sort of normalcy. Stories have been told of ships bringing food and clothing, but Allied help is now a matter for ridicule in the press and on the stage. The feeling that the Allied troops are at the back of the black market is widespread. The Allies say that robbery, murder, the black market, and prostitution can be stopped by the Italians themselves. This attitude is creating terrific resentment among Italians..... People are disillusioned.....The work being done by the Allies does not even scratch the surface."

Further articles are promised to his journal.

BERLGGE (Reuter) : Cables that Matthews' impressions of conversations with Umberto have largely occupied two days of Ministerial discussions. The Prince made no direct statements and Matthews reports in indirect speech what he gathered Umberto was driving at when discussing the political outlook. The Christian Democrat "Il Popolo" reprinting the

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article complains that its form renders it impossible to judge exactly what the Prince did, or did not, say. "Italia Nuova" says the contents were too full of importance for the Prince to have spoken without the Government's authorisation and the paper claims that the article is a document of Government policy in the form chosen by Bonomi. Bonomi is said to have seen the article before publication. Among other members of the Government the article has aroused a storm similar to that when Umberto granted an interview to the correspondent of the London "Times" before the liberation of Rome.

Violent exception is taken to the view attributed by Matthews to the Prince that there is a distinction between "parties whose views about the Monarchy are known and the great mass of people whose views are still unknown. Also to the view attributed to the Prince that the form of the state can best be decided by direct consultation with the people in a plebiscite leaving the subsequent Constituent Assembly which would then merely have the task of implementing the people's decision. Under strong pressure from Ministers who accuse Umberto of political campaigning, Bonomi consented to publication of a Government statement controverting the Prince's alleged views on these two points. Statement affirms that parties whereon the Government is based are an expression of the Italian people's will and declares it is already fixed by law that the future form of the Italian State will be determined by vote of the Constituent Assembly. Although Prince's benevolent views towards the Communist leader Togliatti are emphasised by Matthews, Togliatti on this occasion himself insisted with the demands of the other parties, which at present are more uncompromising than the Communists against alleged Monarchist intrigues.

"Avanti" says the Government passed a resolution on Umberto's interview with the "New York Times", adding that Bonomi was instructed to convey the terms of the resolution to the Prince.

"Unità" and "Avanti" commented severely on the interview, reaffirmed the party commitments to the programme of an overthrow of the Monarchy by vote of the Constituent Assembly as soon as elections can be held. Croce on behalf of the Liberals says the party refuses to pronounce itself on the Monarchy question, considering the time not yet ripe. A Republican manifesto fixed on certain walls in Rome is indignantly quoted by the Monarchist press. It calls on soldiers and workers to abandon service of a Monarchist tyrant. The ranks of the people's guards await you. The Monarchists demand that the authors of the manifesto be arrested under the charge of sabotaging Italy's and the Allied war effort against Nazi Fascism.

1715

Same correspondent also reports the shooting of a Communist in Rome by a policeman. The Communist was painting slogans on walls.

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Correspondent says that acres of Italian city walls are now covered with "Long live....' Down with.....'" of every description. In one Naples street exasperated citizens have put "Abbasso tutti!".

BRIA (AP) : The 27th anniversary of the Russian October Revolution was observed in this first liberated capital with a noon-hour reception at the Soviet Embassy attended by Bonomi, High Italian and Allied officials.

It is the first full fledged diplomatic reception since Bonomi Government was recognised by most of the United Nations. Among Allied guests were Kirk, Charles, Taylor, Stone and Poletti.

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PRB/PRB

November 12, 1944

Trend of copy filed by correspondents.

SPRIGGE (Reuter) : Has sent a cable saying that Italian newspaper printers are again thrown into agitation by an assault committed on a worker of the "Italia Nuova" who is now in hospital with serious head injuries. It is stated that the assailants were in Allied uniform. A movement is on foot among printers to insist they are conveyed to work by car as well as being fetched home. Homeward transportation was guaranteed them by the Allies on November 1st in order to avert a threatened strike of printers.

Assaults in Rome streets are over 8 nightly according to city statistics and 30 journalists and printers stated to have been victims recently. The Allied authorities are known to be seriously preoccupied with the situation one feature of which is the impairment of the authority of the police who are constantly stigmatised by the Left as survivals of the Monarchist-Fascist regime, or Monarchist partisans. Under-nourishment of police also considered playing a part in incapacitating them from following their job properly. After quoting the shooting of a Communist and the Left press demand for action against "the homicidal policeman" correspondent says that a Liberal organ lauds the organisation of an armed special constabulary to assist the police in coping with night aggressions. The organ says that Rome was once the most peaceful city and is now becoming tragically blood-stained.

1714

BRACKEN (New York Times) : Also sends a lengthy despatch on lawlessness in Rome. says that in view of the sensational reports on gangs operating in Rome the latest crime figures from Lt. Col. Pollock's office show that crimes committed by Allied personnel are not really large. The fact that Allied uniforms are being worn by some of the offenders is not conclusive proof that they are from the Allied forces. The overall crime rate is now increasing. For October the figures were lower than in September. Most of the gang crimes were committed in September. Pollock says that the desertion problem is likely [illegible] next winter. Everyone

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BRACHER (New York Times) : Also sends a lengthy despatch on disturbances in Rome. Says that in view of the sensational reports on gangs operating in Rome the latest crime figures from Lt. Col.Pollock's office show that crimes committed by Allied personnel are not really large. The fact that Allied uniforms are being worn by some of the offenders is not conclusive proof that they are from the Allied forces. The overall crime rate is not increasing. For October the figures were lower than in September. Most of the gang crimes were committed in September. Pollock says that the desertion problem is likely to get worse as conditions at the front reflect winter. Everyone here is hoping for the best, but the fact remains that nobody likes to roam the streets alone after dark. Suggestions for the overhauling of the whole of the Rome police forces have been made. The trouble is that of the 17,000 members of the police only 8,500 are true local policemen - Metropolitans - and they face popular disrespect, and in some cases hatred, that largely ruins their usefulness. The basic fact is that they still wear the uniforms they wore during the German occupation, and to many Romans this makes them Fascists; that is all there is to it. The correspondent says that he spoke to a senior patrolman and a sergeant and both agreed without hesitation that the attitude of the public is the greatest handicap they have to face. The correspondent quotes some of the wages paid to the Italian police.

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MATTHEWS (New York Times) : Sends a lengthy account of how Ettore Muti, ex-Secretary of the Fascist party was killed "thus frustrating a plot which would have prevented the Armistice with the Allies." The story was told to the "New York Times"

- a Lieutenant of Carabinieri, Ezio Taddei - one of two officers who arrested Mussolini, and on whose head the Fascists put a price of 1 ½ million lire. Correspondent says that Taddei had become a legendary figure who fought with the Maquis after the Armistice, and who, since the liberation of Rome, lay low to protect his wife, baby, and father, whom the Nazis had jailed. His story was related to the correspondent in the house of Marchese Achille Fumasoni Biondi. It gives a long account of Taddei's journey to Fregene in order to arrest Muti and of how the latter was killed during a gun battle. Taddei was said to have disclosed the true story in view of the fact that the Fascist-Republicans have charged him with having defiled Muti's body. "The Badoglio Government" says the correspondent, "did not dare give the true facts about the flight and arrest of Muti since this took place before the Armistice and Italy was still nominally an ally of Germany."

BERIA (AP) : Reports an interview with Ruggeri Bourbon del Monte, Prince of San Faustino, who has now been released by the Allied authorities after having been arrested last July pending investigation of his activities as a broadcaster for the Fascists. The Prince maintained that he had nothing to do with the writing of the broadcast scripts but that he was chosen to read them because of his knowledge of English. The Allies had let him go "with no strings attached". As soon as he had rested he hoped to get work with the Allies "in which he could help his country".

MOORE (Daily Telegraph) : Sends a lengthy account of the arrest of the two gangs in Rome.

Same correspondent cables a story that electric current is now an item for black market activity. Householders are being approached by men who offer as much electricity as required. The method is to run a lead from the street by-passing the domestic meter.

LUMBY (Times) : Says that conflict has arisen between Baron Paterno, Prefect of Florence, and the members of the Florence Committee of Liberation. The Committee took charge and acted promptly and efficiently in the period between the departure of the Germans and the arrival of Allied troops, and by the time AMG had arrived it had established a makeshift but workable administration which had the full support and confidence of the population. The Prefect has

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Armistice, and who, since the liberation of Rome, has now been reunited with his wife, baby, and father, whom the Nazis had killed. His story was related to the correspondent in the house of Marchese Achille Funaroni Biondi. It gives a long account of Bellei's journey to Pregone in order to arrest Muti and of how the latter was killed during a gun battle. Bellei was said to have disclosed the true story in view of the fact that the Fascist-Republicans have charged him with having killed Muti's body. "The Badoglio Government" says the correspondent, "did not here give the true facts about the flight and arrest of Muti since this took place before the Armistice and Italy was still nominally an ally of Germany."

DERIA (AP) : Reports an interview with Ranieri Bourbon del Monte, Prince of San Faustino, who has now been released by the Allied authorities after having been arrested last July pending investigation of his activities as a broadcaster for the Fascists. The Prince maintained that he had nothing to do with the writing of the broadcast scripts but that he was chosen to read them because of his knowledge of English. The Allies had let him go "with no strings attached". As soon as he had rested he hoped to get work with the Allies "in which he could help his country".

MOORE (Daily Telegraph) : Sends a lengthy account of the arrest of the two gangs in Rome.

Same correspondent cables a story that electric current is now an item for black market activity. Householders are being approached by men who offer as much electricity as required. The method is to run a lead from the street by-passing the domestic meter.

AUBREY (Times) : Says that conflict has arisen between Baron Paterno, Prefect of Florence, and the members of the Florence Committee of Liberation. The Committee took charge and acted promptly and efficiently in the period between the departure of the Germans and the arrival of Allied troops, and by the time AMG had arrived it had established a makeshift but workable administration which had the full support and confidence of the population. The Prefect has declined to deal with the Committee despite the fact that AMG had recognised its competence. The Committee of Liberation has now come to Rome to request the Government's official recognition. They have brought a suggestion for a pro-tempore arrangement and a proposal for the creation of a national consultative body -Consulta - to assist the Government, which until elections have been held should be based on existing Committees of National Liberation. It is reported that the Government gives the Florentines a sympathetic hearing and that their demands are receiving the warm support of the Rome democratic press.

BERGH (Goteborgs Handelstidning) : Also gives the story of the visit of the members of the Florence Committee.

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SPRIGGS (Reuter): Telling the story says that the Committee was headed by Carlo Pagliantini, president of the Florence C.L.N.I. The Committee demanded the transference of a wide measure of authority from the hands of the Prefects into those of the local Committees. A prolonged debate took place between the Commities from Florence and the Ministers. The Florence Committee's demands are backed by the "vehement leader of the Socialist Avanti" who asks for recognition of the Committees as authorities in each province, replacing the Prefects named by the central Government, and also to attribute to the Committees powers on a plan of large geographical regions like Tuscany which comprises 9 provinces. The demands of the Committee from Florence will be debated by a full Cabinet shortly.

Correspondent says that "strikingly strong resentments are at work within the Bonomi Government" as shown by Scoccimaro's accusation launched against Sforza's purge commission, and a charge of "sabotating" the whole purge programme. Scoccimaro says he has entered over 1100 demands for suspension of high officials and only 345 have been actually suspended. The high burenuocracy is using all sorts of trickery to evade purge orders. At the other end of the political spectrum "Italia Nuova" complains that the purge is proceeding without rhyme or reason and the same journal says that the certification of Partisans is also proceeding without rhyme or reason. Official recognition has been granted to about 40,000 persons in Rome alone.

That appears to be a Centre Monarchist party standing between the official Liberals who refuse to commit themselves on the form of the State and the so-called Italian Democratic party of Right Wing Monarchists, has been formed under the leadership of Senator Alberto Bergamini. Bergamini formerly edited the "Giornale d'Italia" previous to the coming of Fascism, but Left wing influences prevented him from continuing this after the liberation of Rome.

1713

The party is called "Democratic Liberal Concentration". It will oppose all dictatorship and support pro-democratic Monarchy.

BERGH (Goteborgs Handelstidning): Cables that a great Republican demonstration may be expected today (Sunday, Nov. 12) when the Communists and Socialists will stage their first big open air meeting on the Piazza Navona. Togliatti and Nenni are speaking and there is a great influx of party friends from the whole of Latium.

Correspondent says that there is general sympathy for the fine work of the Florence Committee of Liberation, and it has made the head of Sicilian separatism "turn astern". Today he suddenly states his

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Correspondent says that there is general sympathy for the fine work of the Florence Committee of Liberation, and it has made the head of Sicilian separatism "turn astern". Today he suddenly states his willingness for a Federal solution very much like the regional autonomy already "realised" by Florence and other Tuscan cities.

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