

ACC

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Feb. - Apr 19

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Executive Commissioners Meeting
Feb. - Apr 1944

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 28 February 1944

28 February

Brig Lush said that it was intended to print immediately a book containing the Executive Memoranda of ACC.

Brig Lush asked where HQ 5th Region now was. On being told Campobasso he said he would prefer it to be at Termoli.

Details of the Regional Commissioners meeting fixed for March 3 were discussed.

It was decided that a distribution list should be issued immediately.

Colonel Hulls said that he could get no bread or biscuits for refugees: only flour was supplied. Brig Lush ruled that Supply Officer Region 3 must get bread made.

Colonel Hulls wanted the press and radio used for the issue of appeals by the Italian government to the Italian people to take in refugees. He said villages were uncooperative. Brig Lush pointed out that this would be dangerous as the Germans would pick it up. He said there should be legislation. Colonel Hulls said this would be unpopular and the Italian government would be unwilling to enact it. He was asked to draft out what he thought necessary: it would be taken up with the Prime Minister.

Colonel Bowman said PBS had received a wire from NATOUSA saying that ACC must fix the price of coal and coke.

PBS also desired to set up a store for souvenirs to avoid high prices. Brig Lush was sceptical about this and said that armies would always pay highly for souvenirs but he had no objection to the attempt being made.

Members were asked to put up points for the Regional Commissioners meeting. There would be two meetings, presided over by General MacFarlane and Brig Lush respectively.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 29 February 1944

(2)

Major Atayer raised the question of transport for the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission and there was a general discussion of sources from which transport could be obtained.

Colonel Albright said we should get 50 Italian drivers shortly.

Brig Lush said we had to decide what type of vehicle these could drive and they should stick to those only.

Col Albright raised the question of a holding centre for the group from Tizi-Ouzou, and recommended dropping the idea until 8th Region was formed: he said HQ could look after the group in the meantime.

Brig Lush agreed.

Col Bowman said he had given PBS the prices of coal and they were surprised and grateful. He said there had been disorder and rioting in the Palermo area. He also raised some difficulties of liaison; he said people wanting supplies must know exactly what they want, also our officers must be quicker in giving PBS what it wanted. He also discussed problems of requisitioning between PBS and ACC.

B. gadler Lush's Meeting - 1 March, 1944

Brig Lush produced an official text of that part of the Prime Minister's speech which referred to Italy. He said that it should have been distributed by Information Section. PRO said it had not been available until the Political Section got it by bag. Brig Lush directed the Information Section to have copies distributed.

Brig Lush said there was not sufficient coordination with GI about officers' appointments. Col Fiske said that there was too much loaning of personnel and assignment orders must be made in all cases. This led to a discussion on the movement of the Tizi-Ouzou group and Brig Lush announced that Colonel Spofford had been appointed Chief of Military Government Section at AFHQ.

Col Fiske raised the question of the transfer of communes between the provinces of Matera and Potenza by the Italian government, and said that Regional Commissioners Region II thought it undesirable. It was pointed out that AMG had transferred communes in Sicily. However, in this case it was thought that Reale was making political capital out of the transfer. Brig Lush said that in general changes of this kind by the present Govt were undesirable.

Brig Lush said that the composition of the PR branch had now been decided and a directive would be issued. There would be a Director of Public Relations, two Deputy Directors, and three Public Relations Officers for the present. There would be no Public Relations Officers in the Regions.

Brig Lush said that he wished D.P.R. to discuss with Major Hinkel the desirability of amalgamating the Information Section with P.R. Branch. D.P.R. said he did not think this was necessary or desirable and Brig Lush accepted this view.

Col Hulls said the influx of refugees was continuing and would be 1,000 a day up to 10,000.

Major Attayer raised the question of special transport. Brig Lush said that he must depend on the Motor Pool. Brig Lush added that he thoroughly approved of officers getting about the country: there was no reason why officers should not take a car, or fly, to Bari or other places to get information.

Brig Lush said he wanted an investigation of the treatment of refugees in Bari Camp.

Arrangements for the meeting of Regional Commissioners were discussed.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 2 March 1944

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Brig Lush asked how many officers were leaving this week. Col Albright said about 100; 87 were American. There would be another 100 to go; after that we should not have any more calls.

Brig Lush asked how far ahead the chart of officers had got. Major Driffield White said it would be ready in two or three days. Brig Lush said he wanted Regional Commissioners to see it when they were here for the meeting.

Col Albright said some sub commissions wanted permanent passes issued to Italian Officials employed by them. Brig Lush asked sub commissions to consult Col Young; temporary passes should be limited to 40 or 50 people.

Col Albright said there were no doctors for Col Kirkwood's establishment. Brig Lush said that there were not enough permanent men, but there should be inspecting medical officers for Col Kirkwood.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - March 1944

(5)

Regional Commissioners must get news in more quickly. A negro was shot dead and now took them weeks to reach HQ. Brig Lush asked all officers to let him know if they heard of important happenings.

Brig Lush said Regional Commissioners would meet at 9 to-morrow and Heads of Sub-Commissions would come at 11.

Col Fiske said he had an interesting trip to 10th Corps and found AMG officers doing excellent work. Too many people were going up for fun and too few who ought to go were in fact going. He thought orders were desirable.

Brig Lush said he thought Heads of Sections should deal with it.

Col Fiske insisted that too many officers went.

Col Farley Smith said there was an order that officers should not go without permission.

Col Fiske said he thought we had too few officers on duty in the forward areas and this might be taken up at the Regional Commissioners' Meeting.

Col Fiske said we had lost our archives, but Mr Jenkinson was here and a ~~weekly~~ meeting might be arranged to discuss the question of archives.

Brig Lush agreed, but wondered if we had the manpower for appointments. He asked Col Albright if it was possible to get WAACS. Col Albright said it had been approved in principle, but they did not arrive.

Brig Lush said one officer might be appointed archivist to begin with.

Brig Lush said one officer might be appointed to begin with.

Brig Lush raised the question of establishment and said a rigid establishment for Regions was unpracticable at present.

Col Hulls said PBS had refused him transport and Region 3 had done the same. PBS had said they had given ACC some trucks already.

Brig Lush said the trucks were being used for food. He suggested that Col Bowman should work it out with Col Hulls and Col Legg.

Col Hulls again raised the question of bread.

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Brig Lush said the officers concerned should see him.

PRO asked about seating the press at the meeting.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 6 March 1944

(6)

Brig Lush gave the details about the Balvano accident. He commented that the news had taken 2 days to reach him. Flambo had known and had not informed us. Liaison must wake up. Members also commented on the wild rumours which had been flying around.

Brig Lush said he had been through the minutes of the Regional Commissioners Meeting and hoped that those of the second meeting would be ready soon. Col Farley Smith said they were not yet ready.

PRO raised the possibility of issuing a short resume of meetings before they took place, for the benefit of the press.

Brig Lush said he was not going to pander to the press: they should have the sense to come to the conference.

PRO explained why this was difficult, and pressed for some sort of resume.

Col Farley Smith and Col Albright agreed that a previous agenda would be valuable.

Brig Lush said he wanted to keep the meetings informal, not to tie them down beforehand.

PRO pointed out that this was not necessary.

Brig Lush agreed that something might be done. Col Fiske should work it out.

Col Fiske raised the question of the enactment of legislation for billeting refugees.

Col Hulls said he had prepared a letter for that purpose.

Col Fiske raised the question of troops occupying the Palazzo Reale in Palermo.

Col Bowman said there was a similar situation here: we might defer the matter till both could be considered.

Col Fiske asked if we should take the matter up with ACMF.

Brig Lush said it seemed to him that there should be sufficient room in Palermo without using the Royal Palace.

Capt Stewart said there was also the question of the chapel at Caserta.

Brig Lush said he was not much interested in the Palazzo Reale at Naples, as it was already so much destroyed: but the others might be taken up with ACMF.

/ Col Hulls

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Col Hulls raised the question of transport. He had 1,000 people to move this morning and no trucks. It was an impossible situation.

Brig Lush said movement of refugees was a first priority. Orders must issue.

Col Bowman raised the question of supplies from PBS to ACC. PBS had authority only to issue to US personnel. He quoted the case of the issue of a generator to PRO.

Brig Lush said that all demands for supplies should go through G4.

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Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 7 March 1944

(7)

Col Fiske said Major de Wald had come in to report on military occupation of the Royal Palaces.

Major de Wald said that in each case occupation was a "fait accompli" before ACC was informed. As a result there was damaging and pillaging and the Fine Arts sub-commission got the blame. There had been a special commission in Naples. Recommendations had been made.

Brig Lush asked if they had been carried out.

Col Bowman said not yet.

Major de Wald spoke of the Royal Palace in Naples and said it was intended to put in three units of French, American and British troops. He asked for the appointment of an officer with whom Fine Arts could deal.

As regards Caserta not a great deal of damage had been done. The chapel and six rooms had been received for storage space. AFHQ now wanted to requisition the whole building. He wanted storage space reserved.

Brig Lush said that both matters could be arranged with Regions. Had Major Gardner taken up the Colyer Report with Region III? Major de Wald said he thought not.

Brig Lush said it should be taken up point by point and action taken. Monuments should be clearly marked.

Major de Wald said after the fire in Palermo troops had broken in to the store room and stolen books and pictures. He recommended the troops be billeted elsewhere.

Brig Lush said Major de Wald should put in a written recommendation.

PRO handed in a rewritten directive and said he was quite satisfied to have the Regional staff if he could call them in and would prefer to make no more appointments until or unless he could find experienced men.

Brig Lush agreed and said PRO should take up the matter with Col Albright.

PRO raised the case of transport for Virginia Cowles to go to Bari.

Brig Lush asked whether PWB couldn't give it to her - they had plenty.

PRO agreed but said that PWB wasn't PRO and wasn't responsible for correspondents.

/ Brig Lush

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Brig Lush said PRO was very close to PWB.

PRO objected that correspondents were our responsibility.

Brig Lush accepted the position and said that all officers should give every assistance to Virginia Cowles.

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Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 8 March 1944

(X)

Brig Lush said the 70 British officers for UK had now nearly all been chosen and they should be warned.

Brig Lush said that there would be a semi-independent AMG with 5th Corps. Colonel Ship would be in charge. This, with 5th and 8th Armies made 3 semi-independent AMG units.

The Chief Commissioner had been approached about a conference on Venereal Disease. This had not been thought necessary, but severe measures against prostitution were being enforced. Control of VD, said Brig Lush, was chiefly a matter of discipline. He would write to Regional Commissioners pointing out legal enactments and asking for severe measures. Perhaps the great thing was to get Italian courts to function satisfactorily.

Brig Lush said there was great difficulty in getting Vatican property for hospitals. The Chief Commissioner would send another telegram to the Vatican today.

Col Fiske said Brig Carr felt our interpreters were not of the best and could be improved. Col Fiske agreed. We might perhaps draw recruits from Malta. Italo-American interpreters had not been altogether a success.

Brig Lush said there might be courses of instruction for interpreters. He did not think more were available from Malta. Perhaps we should write to Cairo. Could not we get help from Universities? Establishment should take this up.

Brig Lush said a directive had gone out to the effect that the acceptance of degrees and formation of Italian and Allied Social Clubs is forbidden. The Italians are not yet our allies.

PRO asked about the distribution of newspapers. Brig Lush ruled that this should be done by Information Section, who should collect payment from Heads of Sections monthly.

Brig Lush said he wanted PRO to get British and American newspapers more quickly. The position was appalling.

PRO explained what had been done.

Brig Lush said we might now send telegrams.

5699

Brig Lush said an Archives Section would be set up under the Information Section.

PRO raised the question of notices about dances inserted in the Press. Brig Lush said Establishment had better decide. Col Farren said the notice in question should be modified.

Col Fiske raised the question of an American DDPR. He / said

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PRO said it was of the first importance. American and British should be co-equal, otherwise the Press would make a row.

PRO disagreed and said the present staff was satisfactory and Capt Leacacos was perfectly able to hold the American side.

Col Fiske said Leacacos was not big enough and Brig Lush agreed. Col Fiske said he would like Major Enoch Brown.

PRO agreed that Major Brown would be invaluable, but disagreed absolutely about co-equal status. It would not work administratively. He said he would gladly work under Major Brown if that was desired.

Brig Lush said perhaps Col Fiske was exaggerating the danger. The PWB was almost all American. Col Fiske should however get Major Brown into PR if possible.

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Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 9 March 1944

(9)

(Brigadier Lush absent)

Col Fiske said he had a very interesting morning tracing food from ship to mouth. He thought a remarkable job had been done, though there was still stealing. Several thieves had been shot. The organized gangs were difficult to deal with. Losses had been as high as 20% but were now about 5%.

Col Fiske said there was great difficulty in keeping track of personnel. Transfers were being made by telephone. This would not do. He gave some examples. There must be no more "loaning". Orders must issue for all assignments.

Col Fiske drew attention to a report from Brig Duchesne, recommending his war establishment. Col Clough said there could not be separate T/Os. The whole thing was far too fluid.

Col Fiske handed the matter over to Colonels Clough and Farren.

Col Clough asked if we were to provide personnel for the Advisory Council. Col Fiske said he feared so, and they would need more and more. ACMF should really provide personnel.

There was a discussion regarding the status of Italian refugees born in America but domiciled in Italy. Col Fiske said advice should be sought from the American consul-general.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 10 March 1944

(10)

Lt- Col ^{Hulls} ~~Howells~~ reported that PBS are not getting on with the work at the Capua Refugee Camp which it was agreed they should do. Col Bowman said channels had not been followed with PBS. Col Bowman and Major Matthews will visit the camp. Col Fiske will look through the correspondence and see General Pence.

Major Bullock raised the question of transport for Public Relations. Col Fiske said the question of transport must be clarified.

Major Attayer asked about accommodation in Naples for Allied National refugees withing to leave for Bari. There may be as many as 25 in the city at one time. If arrangements cannot be made to have them lodged in villas in POW camps, Col ^{Hulls} ~~Howells~~ will put them up. A small imprest account was recommended to meet urgent expenditures. Region 3 will be asked to supply necessary transport between quarters and the trains.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 11 March 1941

(11)

Brig Lush said he had been to the beachhead. AMG were doing good work. C.O. had told him that all civilian problems had disappeared since AMG arrived. 9,000 out of 17,000 had been evacuated. Malaria would be a problem.

Brig Lush spoke about mail delays and said that the Postal Clerks needed warming up.

Brig Lush said Group Capt Benson was here to discuss AMG 6th Army changes.

Brig Lush said it was important for executives to keep in close touch with Heads of Sub-Commissions, especially at Salerno.

Col Albright raised the question of employment of Italian medical personnel by ACC. Brig Lush said he thought Col Kirkwood was exaggerating his demands, but proper scales of pay should be laid down for Italian personnel.

Col Albright read a telegram from Cosenza requesting transport for refugees. Brig Lush said it was a matter for the Regional Commissioner.

Col Farren reported that no interpreters had been taken on in the last fortnight, but the Universities would be combed.

Brig Lush said he thought interpreters were not well enough paid; the point needed consideration.

Major Attayer again raised the question of medical personnel. Brig Lush said he wanted to make it clear that Italians should be employed wherever possible.

Col Shipp raised the question of Italian drivers and requisitioned cars. Col Albright said that requisitioned cars were a headache. Brig Lush said that in towns they were useful and saved military vehicles.

Col Bowman said he wished to make it clear that all requests for civilian supplies must go through Industry and Commerce. He also thought that ACC Sub-Commissions should not do operative work which properly belonged to Regions. Brig Lush agreed and said ACC must not take over the duties of Local Government.

Brig Lush's Meeting - 13 March 1940

(12)

Brig Lush said the party meeting yesterday had passed off peacefully. Nothing new in politics had emerged. It did not seem to him that there was any striking enthusiasm.

Brig Lush said that office procedure needed bucking up. Action was being delayed. Letters and telegrams should be answered quickly. He gave various instances. The float file was not an action file.

Brig Lush said the Food Commission needed two more officers and ten other ranks for wheat-milling. He suggested that for such work it might be possible to use shell-shocked cases. He asked Establishment Branch to consider this.

Brig Lush said we were feeding 84% of the Italian people instead of the expected 50%. There was something wrong. At least 50% ought to be self-sufficient. It would take three months or more to check ration cards. In the meantime he would like Regional Commissioners to be asked to give an opinion as to how many of their people should be self-supporting.

Col Fiske said he had visited 2nd Corps, who were out of the line, also the French Corps, and had found things working satisfactorily. He had also visited Campobasso. There were some difficulties about jurisdiction. The Regions must assist the Army by administering any area that the Army wished to get off its hands.

Brig Lush said we must particularly avoid dual control. Inside the army area all our personnel came under army AMG, not under the Region. In Chieti province, 5th Corps Area, the whole province came under 5th Corps AMG. Half of Campobasso was the same. In the army area the Prefects had no jurisdiction. Part of Benevento went into an army area: Colonel Poletti and Group Captain Benson were discussing its jurisdiction to-day. There should be no gradual handing over of communes; the frontiers should be clearly defined always.

Col Farley Smith said the Advisory Committee on Archives would be meeting to-morrow. There was to be one representative of C.A. Branch. Colonel Shipp was assigned to this.

PRO raised the question of the reports of sub-commissions, and pointed out that PR Branch needed these quickly. Brig Lush said that a copy of each should go at once to Information Section and everyone should consult the reports there. PRO objected that this would be difficult as he wanted to sift the reports. Brig Lush said he himself came to the Information Room and found no difficulty; other members agreed. PRO asked if correspondents could be sent to the Information Room. Brig Lush agreed, but said Information Officer would have to exercise censorship.

PRO raised the question of office space for PR Branch. Colonel Albright said that some office space in the Provincia was becoming available. Brig Lush asked him to discuss this with PRO.

/ Capt Gillett

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Capt Gillett said Information Section was setting up a fiction library.

Colonel Albright said Colonel Parker had been appointed Commanding Officer of the 267th Regiment and outline his responsibilities. There was a discussion about his position. Brig Lush said that apparently he did not come under General Mason MacFarlane and this would not work. There could not be two commanding officers. The matter must be squared up.

Colonel Albright said it was chiefly a question of administration, maintenance and discipline of personnel: in these matter Colonel Parker might get direct orders from the American army authorities.

Brig Lush said it seems extraordinary that Colonel Parker should come here and see General Lemnitzer and not see either General MacFarlane or himself.

Col Fiske said that the Chief Commissioner had created a great impression by arriving in a sandstorm at Campobasso in shorts.

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Brig Lush's Meeting - 14 March 1944

Col Fiske said Gp Capt Benson had written him a letter expressing fear that changes in titles at ACMF will confuse the Signals people. Brig Lush thought CAOs in forward areas might be called Provincial Commissioners. He would ask the General to decide also whether the designation ACC/AMG should not be dropped and the whole organization known only as ACC. Col Farron raised the question of a distinctive arm patch for ACC personnel. After brief discussion the point was dropped.

Brig Lush announced the lid on movement of civilians except by motor lorry in all areas except army spearheads was being lifted.

Lt Col Hulls reported on a trip to the Polish sector of the Front. No drastic mass movement from the area was expected except possibly from one village (unnamed) which is right in the line and another one 20 miles west of Isernia which was used by both sides as a jumping-off place for patrols.

Lt Col Hulls complained that another officer had been taken away from him without warning.

Lt Col Bowman reported on a Law Enforcement conference between Region 3 and the Provost Marshal of PBS. PBS will have its officers instructed by Legal Officers of Region 3 on the proper preparation of evidence. Lectures will be given. Brig Lush said he thought British MPs might be similarly trained. Col Fiske said the British MPs were all right.

Col Fiske said that Capt Talbot was drafting a monthly report on ACC which would be ready by 20 March.

Lt Col Hulls wants the Information Section to gather population figures not only by provinces. He thought figures could be gathered to show the population of areas administered by the Military and those communes which were our responsibility. Col Fiske said this was a proper request provided specific questions were drafted.

Lt Col Shipp inquired whether the vacant position of Archivist were important enough to justify pulling a man out of another job to fill it. Col. Farron said there was a writer named Magnus in ACC who might do the work. Brig Lush said the job was not so much one of writing as of detailed research and close work. Lt Col Shipp said the name he had in mind was now G-1 at 5 Army, and his name was Bennett. Brig Lush said the job was important enough for him to be pulled out.

Major Bullock read a letter to DPR from Capt E.B. Smith pointing out that officers from the Field are refused meals in ACC/AMG Messes in Naples and that this creates hard feeling. Capt Smith's letter suggested more and better located Transient Messes and plain signs on ACC/AMG Messes pointing out that they are private. Brig Lush said the signs on some ACC/AMG Messes are too flamboyant and should be reduced in size. He thought that ACC officers should extend hospitality to officers from the Field. Col Fiske agreed that ACC officers should go out of their way to be hospitable to officers from the Field. Major Bullock suggested that PBS might be asked to put up signs pointing the way to Transient Messes and that there should be signs on ACC Messes indicating where the nearest Transient Messes are located.

Major Bullock reported on steps being taken by Public Relations and the food people to induce Italians to use dehydrated soup which is not moving well. The

Civilian Supply people 5 Army AMG had worked out reciprocals for the use of Italians and when PWB reorganization was completed, they would be asked to co-operate in getting the information to Italians.

Capt Gillette said correspondents were going directly to heads of Sub-Commissions and asked if this should not be stopped. Brig Lush said the question was one for Public Relations. Capt Gillette said too many correspondents were coming individually and taking up too much time. Major Bullock said consideration was being given to the possibility of holding conferences between Sub-Commission heads and correspondents but that the difficulty was each correspondent wanted to get his own story in his own way and did not want to reveal to other correspondents what he was after. The problem was being worked out.

Major Attayer said the Russian Mission wanted to send two Russian Displaced Persons from Bari to Cairo for Russia via Iran. Russian air transport would be provided. Brig Lush said to wire the Middle East and ask for instructions. Policies on such matters as this and Yugoslav recruiting would be sorted out from Col Fiske's files for the Sections concerned.

Col Farron questioned the existing channels for promotion of American Officers. Col Fiske declared that all recommendations should be addressed to the Chief Commissioner and sent by him to the Regimental Commander. The Regimental Commander should not recommend promotions independently. Brig Lush referred to an order put out by the Headquarters of 2675 Regt announcing that promotions of U.S. officers were now unfrozen; he said it was not right that the knowledge should come first to the Chief Commissioner in such a way. Brig Lush and Col Fiske would seek clarification of the question. Col Farron said that all recommendations by Regional Commissioners affecting specialists should be referred to HQ ACC. Brig Lush said he wanted remarks from Regional Commissioners on specialist officers. Col Fiske said a memo would be issued on channels for promotions. Brig Lush said Col Parkin's memo must be cancelled.

Brig Lush announced that the Black Market situation was being tackled firmly. Both AFHQ and Regional Commissioners were being stirred up. Italian courts must be asked to impose stiff sentences on large-scale offenders. There had been 14 lorries with Black Market commodities intercepted in a single day. MPs and Road Controls as well as the Courts must be gingered up, the Chief Commissioner feels very strongly on the subject.

Brig Lush said that in the matter of Venereal Disease he had written to Regional Commissioners asking that Italian Courts and Italian Police be gingered up in the curbing of prostitution. Punishments must be imposed.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 15 March 1944

Brig Lush introduced Col Taylor and Col Bontash, who had come from ME to study refugees and Balkan questions with reference to possible operations there. They should be given all possible help.

Brig Lush said CA Branch should take up the question of clothing for the Carabinieri. They were very short.

Brig Lush said Flambo had demanded 4 clerks from Displaced Persons Sub-Commission. This could not be allowed.

Brig Lush said No 3 District had taken up the question of V.D. strongly and asked CA Branch to study their memorandum. The work of No 3 District in rehabilitation might also be brought to the notice of Regional Commissioners. A real clearing-up drive was necessary before the weather heated up.

Brig Lush said that the 8th Corps was now on the right flank, 8th Army in centre and 6th Army on left and at the beachhead. Fifth Corps AMG would come under 8th Army AMG for operational orders but would be fairly autonomous. Col Lord Grimthorpe would be in charge. Half of Campobasso (E Coast) would now come under Region V, the other half under 8th Army. In the case of Benevento Region III's jurisdiction would run into the 8th Army's area. The same applied to a small strip of Naples province.

Brig Lush said he had written to Regional Commissioners to the effect that a real drive must be made against the Black Market. It was useless to try to control luxury goods.

Col Bowman said that an effort was being made to control luxury goods and outlined the PBS scheme as published this morning.

Brig Lush said that we ought to begin with basic foodstuffs. He felt that the troops were somewhat to blame. They were offered 35,000 lire and a woman per lorry. Luxury goods always would be sold at unreasonable prices: that didn't hurt the population.

PRO said that there was considerable feeling about luxury goods and it did react unfavourably on AGC.

Brig Lush said he certainly wanted all possible help from PRO and Col Bowman on stamping out all black market activities.

Brig Lush announced that the CC had learned with pleasure that the ban on American promotion had been lifted. An establishment order would issue. The procedure must be related to the facts.

PRO raised again the question of correspondents going direct to sub-commissions. Brig Lush said PRO should draft a letter to Vice Presidents for Col Albright to sign.

Col Bowman said he had taken up the question of notices outside officers' clubs. He had also visited refugee camps and found they were getting all necessary supplies from PBS.

/ Col Hallis

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Col Hulls said he should have visited them a week ago.

Col Farren said Region III had 300 civilian drivers under training and we hoped to get some of these.

Capt Gillett said that Food Sub-Commission had received by indirect methods a report by VICA on Black Market activities in Naples. Brig Lush said he would like to see it.

Col Hulls said that there would now be separate organizations in his camps under General Biglino to sort out men of military age.

Brig Lush alluded briefly to the Russian approach to the Badoglio Government.

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Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 16 March 1944.

(15)

Brig Lush said he wanted maps of the Russian front put up in the Information Room.

Brig Lush said papers were slow getting to the Regions. He instanced various cases and said the Dispatching Room was not satisfactory. PRO gave some examples of delay. Col Farren said a supervising officer was necessary.

Brig Lush said Brigadiers Carr and Dunlop were to exchange posts.

Col Farren said he had got three good interpreters from education for the courts.

Brig Lush said the Red Cross had approached him about some destitute British women married to Italians. He thought they might be used as interpreters.

Col Farren said he had arranged for Capt Bennett to come to Archives. Brig Lush said that people should remember that the ETO list is confidential. There had been too much public discussion of the list.

Col Farley Smith said the Belgian representative to Displaced Persons had arrived at Bari yesterday. Brig Lush said he would like to see the terms of reference of these representatives. Also we wanted to find out for Col Taylor the number and units of Italians in Greece and Albania.

Col Shipp said he had seen Col Kirk about clothing for Carabinieri. It was a matter of priority between Carabinieri and other Italian Army units. Brig Lush said he thought there was a dump of clothing in Sicily. The matter should be taken up on ACF level.

PRO raised the question of transport for correspondents to Potenza and further afield. Brig Lush said Col Cheyne would take Virginia Cowles, but he thought in general that transport of this kind could not be provided by ACC; the army should do it. PRO said it was a definite responsibility for ACC if they wished ACC activities to be covered. Brig Lush said there was not sufficient transport at present.

PRO raised the question of office space for PR Branch. Col Albright said that it was impossible to allocate the mezzanine rooms to PR Branch as they were essential for liaison. He would try to make room in the G-4 office space.

Col Albright said PBS had changed their office hours. Our office hours were now 8.30 to 17.30, with 1 hour for lunch. PBS would now have 8.00 to 17.30 with 1½ hours for lunch. Brig Lush said that we should stick to our present hours. Later we might arrange things so that there was time for physical exercise in the evening.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 17 March 1944

(16)

Col Fiske reported on the Chief Commissioner's trip to the Anzio Beachhead. The General went to within 200 yards of the front. He saw all divisions, had lunch with the corps commander and spoke to the 17 ACC officers in the area. We have evacuated 10,000 refugees. Food is no great problem, there was considerable flour in concealment and meat is abundant. ANZIO should be an excellent centre for the Rome party when it ceases to be under fire. It has a 300-bed hospital. Anzio and Nettuno have been evacuated. There is room for numbers of refugees with evacuation by sea and road.

Brig Lush had ordered all RC and MGS chiefs to attend the meeting. He told them their function was to serve 1,200 officers and twice that number of EM/OR in the field. He said he had noticed a lack of imagination and initiative in dealing with paper work. Documents should not be initiated or passed on without thought. There was an HQ tendency to become "wall-minded". Everybody should go out into the Field and heads of branches must see to it. There must be no delay in answering communications from Regions. Requests must be clear and explanations should be attached if necessary. When sub-commissions ask for information make very sure it is not at HQ before questioning the Field. Personnel must be moved only after Regional Commissioners have been consulted.

Brig Lush announced that Sir Harold Macmillan is back from England and is having discussions with the General. There is a POW commission out from England, but it is hush-hush.

Brig Lush has had several discussions on the Black Market with the Chief Commissioner. Ordinary foodstuffs produced in Italy, including oil, must be sold on the open market at controlled prices rather than as rationed goods.

There is threat of a strike at Taranto. The Prefect has been advised he must stop it and Allied Commanders have been forbidden to deal with Labor themselves.

Lt Col Hulls said he wanted assurance from AFHQ of a flow of shipping to Sicily to handle 750 refugees, 3 or 4 times a week. There were difficulties. Major Enoch Brown was helping. Brig Lush said he doubted shipping would be available on more than 24 hours' notice, but he was prepared to see anybody Col Hulls wanted him to see.

Brig Lush, Col Fiske and Lt Col Albright are preparing personnel ceilings for HQ, Sub-Commissions, Branches and Regions. Tentative figures drafted yesterday are 50 over strength of 1222. Any surplus personnel will be held in a pool or attached to Regions.

Col Taylor reported that he is preparing a handbook for Civilian Supply Officers defining their duties. He intends to deal with only Supply and Transport, leaving accounting to the Finance people. Brig Lush said he would probably find he could not get out from under the accounting end.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 15 March 1944

Brig Lush said Malfetto and Benevento seminaries were needed. Bishop at Malfetto was willing to move out to alternative quarters. AFHQ might have to intervene at Benevento. These are Vatican properties. It is a delicate position.

Col Young announced that screening of Italian officials was being tightened up.

Capt Gillett said that activity in Information was increasing. Lists of material in hand will be issued. This morning conference interferes with the work of the interpreters and holds up visitors seeking information. Brig Lush said we would meet in the big Conference Room.

Col Fiske said Legal Dept wanted copies of all orders and regulations issued in Regions and by Armies affecting Italian nationals. Brig Lush said there was no reason why this should not be done. Col Fiske pointed out this entailed establishment of another library. APS will send censorship regulations for Italian papers to Legal Sub-Commission.

Col Hulls said flow of refugees from forward areas was decreasing. Col Fiske said the Corps commander at beachhead wanted to keep them for labour.

Brig Lush said that military commitment on lorries would have to be increased and asked Col Bowman how priority would be established.

Major Bullock announced that the Legal Sub-Commission had agreed to arrange for release of full details of trials and punishments for Black Market offences. The Public Relations Branch was anxious, as were the troop papers and PWB, for authority to publish sentences imposed on military personnel for similar crimes. It was not clear whether names should be used in these cases. The Provost Marshal of PWB had already been approached on the subject, but had refused to allow any publication except in military orders. Public Relations felt the time had come to get this ruling changed.

Lt Col Shipp said a precedent had already been set by the British in East Nairobi, where full details of punishments, including names of military personnel convicted, were given the widest publicity.

Brig Lush instructed Public Relations to draft a letter to A.A.I. for his signature asking that the required facts be made available for publication. He added that he desired to congratulate the troop papers for their splendid cooperation in the campaign against the Black Market. He said he thought the editorial in today's STARS AND STRIPES was very good.

Major Attayer would like to have interested people see the work of Displaced Persons Sub-Commission.

/ Brig Lush

5079

-2-

Brig Lush would like Food and Agriculture people to visit the bridgehead.

Major Attayer said 3 of the 6 Italian doctors who had been brought in would be retained by him and 3 will be loaned to Col Hulls. There is friction between Italians and Yugoslavs. Brig Lush said discipline would stop this nonsense in the camps. We will not have Yugoslavs refusing to be treated by Italian doctors. Col Hulls said he did not need the 3. Brig Lush said the 6 must go across to release Allied medical personnel.

Col Albright called attention to a communication from A.A.I. on classification of documents. It would take a great deal of paper to publish it. Brig Lush ordered that it be circulated. Col Fiske asked if it could not be condensed. If it can go on one page it should go out, because it must reach Regions.

Col Shipp said present wage for interpreters barred first-rate people. Brig Lush said British Red Cross had a number of British wives of Italians who could be used. Col Fiske said a decent wage would be needed. Brig Lush directed that Displaced Persons Camps set up interpreters' schools.

Major Attayer said it was desired to know if an Albanian committee could be formed to direct Albanian refugees and accredited to ACC. Brig Lush said it was not necessary to make them a mission, but merely an informal group under the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission.

5078

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 20 March 1944

Brig Lush referred to a letter from Regional Commissioner Region 3 to the Co with a copy to CC. He said this was a wrong procedure.

Brig Lush said a strike was threatened in the Messina electrical industry. A warning had been issued that this would be treated as sabotage.

Col Fiske said the Parco Hotel was turning out its residents in favour of visitors.

Col Bowman said there was no great urgency about this.

Brig Lush said the duty of a billeting officer was to billet people and not to turn them out. Why did PBS want a monopoly of the Parco?

Col Bowman asked who would operate the Excelsior Hotel.

Brig Lush said Col Kincaid could do so. It would be run by Italian management under the Province of Naples. We must be perfectly clear about the purpose of this hotel.

Brig Lush asked if there was any danger from Vesuvius.

Col Bowman said that the lava was moving at 1,000 feet an hour and slowing down. He did not think there was danger. Col Kincaid was going up this morning.

Col Shipp said one or two houses might be engulfed.

Col Farren said that the party for England was expected to go about the 6th. Brig Lush said all members of the meeting should now have the list. He would like to know what feeling there was about it. He still had a few places up his sleeve.

Col Hullis complained that PBS was not getting on with the equipment of the refugee camp at Capua. He needed a mobile camp urgently for 4,000 people and had not got it.

Col Bowman said he was under the impression that PBS were doing all that was required. He did not understand Col Hullis' complaint.

Brig Lush said that it seemed PBS were preparing only for 1,000.

Col Bowman read a letter from PBS stating that 4,000 would be prepared for, starting with 2 units of 500 each. 5077

Brig Lush said that that seemed quite clear. The policy now would be to write to PBS and ask for more. That was for Col Hullis to do.

/ Col Bowman

-2-

Col Bowman said that in his opinion much more could be done by the refugees themselves.

Col Hulls objected to this. Refugees were mobile and could not be used for camp labour. Comparatively few were able bodied.

Brig Lush said civilian labour must be used. He suggested a permanent staff from displaced persons. We must try to meet PBS in this matter.

Col Hulls raised objections. He thought PBS should be responsible.

Brig Lush asked Col hulls to discuss the whole matter with him after the meeting.

Col Albright discussed rates of pay for interpreters at some length.

5075

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 21 March 1944

Brig Lush reported San Sebastian evacuated. It is likely Carcola population 10,000 will probably have to be evacuated. The DPR will be out with Region 3 and go out with the idea of helping. Lt. Col Hulls is asked to take 5000 refugees from Vesuvius. Region IV is joining Region III on the job. Colonel Fiske reported that the military were doing most of the work under AMG supervision. Colonel Poletti and Colonel Kincaid are working very hard and have been at Vesuvius all of the time.

Major Bullock reported that he was refused transport to Caserta Sunday evening by the Orderly Officer. Brigadier LUSH said this was happening too much and must stop. Major Fielden said he tried to get transport yesterday noon, was sent to G-4 for a signature and there was nobody there.

Major Attayer said Major Driffeld-White told him no food from Army sources was available for civilian servants. Brig Lush said we are on a different basis from the Army and thought the answer might be to keep dumps of civilian rations at Provincial Headquarters. Major Attayer said the dried peas, beans and similar rations supplied by Colonel Hulls' Division for displaced persons going to them were not good enough.

Brig Lush said for Major Attayer to come up with a plan for cooking food for these people and it would be approved. Arrange with a restaurant. Colonel Hulls said a small unprest account would help but Colonel Kirkwood had not agreed.

Colonel Fiske suggested that ^{in any} Press Release on Vesuvius ^{the military} authorities should be mentioned. Major Fielden said this had been done.

Brig Lush said the Duty Officer should have power to authorize transport for G-4.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 22 March 1944. (20)

Brig Lush gave an account of the Vesuvius situation. Polina, San Sebastiano and Massa had been evacuated. The evacuation of parts of Portici, San Giorgio and Torre del Greco was under consideration. Salerno was receiving a rain of lava. Brig Lush was in close touch by telephone (55129) with Professor IMBO at the Observatory. A car had been placed at the disposal of the Professor and better quarters in the Observatory assigned to him. He was advising on the probable flow of the lava. It might be necessary to call on sub-commissions to provide personnel to help in the evacuation. The road to the observatory would be closed from to-day to all except officers on duty with passes from their Commanding Officers. There had been far too many sightseers on the mountain last night.

Brig Lush asked Col Bowman to thank the PBS very warmly for the great help they were giving.

Capt Gillett asked again that the information room should not be used for Conferences.

Brig Lush said that the big Conference Hall was impossible. Capt Gillett could perhaps work out with establishment an arrangement for using another room.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 23 Mar 1944

(31)

Brig Lush read a Sitrep which he was sending to AFHQ regarding the Vesuvius eruption.

Major Attayer said he had timed the lava flow at Torre del Greco (about 2 miles from the town) and it was then moving (Wednesday, 1 p.m.) at 7 feet an hour.

Brig Lush said that Professor Imbo had said the eruption was not over yet and we "must expect some surprises". We had sent 40 officers to Region III yesterday. The danger now was to Torre del Greco and Torre Annunziata. Damage to crops was great and this should be surveyed by the Agricultural Sub-Commission. He asked about the food situation at Cercola: a lot of people were eating freely there.

Col Fiske said that Col Legg had just returned from the beachhead, where he had been arranging for the stockpile of food for Rome.

Brig Lush said it would be unwise to put in too much until the port was out of shell fire.

Col Fiske said that shipping was earmarked for 15 days. Labour was to be provided at the port.

Brig Lush asked who was our Liaison Officer with ACMF.

Colonel Farley Smith said the French General appeared to be lost and Major Doe concurred. He had arrived at the airport and disappeared.

Brig Lush said there was no proper accommodation for such visitors. The matter might be taken up at a high level. Why not reserve rooms at the Parco?

Col Bowman said that was difficult, but the Excelsior might solve the problem.

Brig Lush suggested that Brig Hume's villa be handed over to ACC for this purpose. Col Bowman concurred. Col Albright was asked to fix this up.

Capt Gillett said that Col Brenner was lecturing on Vesuvius on Sunday night.

Brig Lush said he wanted Information Section and FPO to make a complete readable narrative of the Vesuvius eruption. He wanted all photographs put together, aerial and others, and photographs of the seismographs etc. This would brighten up our archives in the days to come. He wanted it to be really well done: a complete story. Major Fielder and Capt Gillett should work together on it.

5073

Col Hulls complained of lack of transport and food. He was not getting enough information and he thought arrangements / arrangements

-2-

arrangements in distant localities were breaking down.

Col Bowman said 210 trucks had been furnished out of the 300 promised by PB3.

Col Fiske said Col *Reber* from 8th Army had joined us and would take over the maintenance of all cars. He was an expert.

Col Halls said he was doing everything possible, but they had not sufficient information from Region II.

Brig Lush said he was not quite happy about the handling of refugees in Region II. He would like a resume of the position from Col Halls.

Col Halls said the main difficulty was lack of transport to distribute refugees among the villages.

Brig Lush said that that was being dealt with, but it was necessarily slow.

Col Halls asked how he could get material (i.e. motor tyres) for his Italian military staff.

Brig Lush said this could be done through Col Quinn-Smith.

Col Albright asked if that sub-commission was to be called Army or Land Forces.

Major Doe said General Order No 1 had given it as Army Sub-Commission.

Col. Farrow said that the central heating would be off for two days.

Brig Lush thanked him for that gloomy news.

PRO said that it left him cold just the same. He still wanted office space.

Brig Lush said that the French General must have Room 23.

Col Albright said he would try to make room for PRO on the mezzanine floor. PRO should discuss with Col Clough.

5672

Brig Lush said the Vesuvius lava flow seemed to have stopped. The lava dust had caused a lot of damage to crops. The food situation was well in hand.

Brig Lush said there was an impression that CA Branch was assuming the functions of a Chief of Staff's office. This was not so. CA Branch was on the same level as other sections.

Brig Lush said that there was a feeling that CA Branch had allocated too many cars to itself. Again, fair treatment to all sections was necessary.

Col Farren said that there were a lot of complaints about cars. Col Adams was complaining about cars and personnel. Brig Lush said the whole matter needed clearing up.

Col Farren said Region IV had taken away Col Halls' car. Col Roberts had now allotted him another.

Brig Lush read a report from Sam stating that dust had begun to fall early yesterday morning.

Brig Lush referred to General Order No 1 and asked what "General Orders" covered.

Major Doe said they covered matters of general interest. Brig Lush repeated that these general orders must be channelled through Establishment Branch.

Brig Lush asked about the Library being moved. Capt Gillett said he would rather stay where he was.

Major Fielden said the Conference Hall might perhaps be acoustically treated. Brig Lush asked him to go into the matter.

Brig Lush referred to the price lists published this morning. He did not believe this would work. Shoddy goods would appear in place of good ones.

Col Fiske said too much Displaced Persons business was going to CA Branch. Major Attayer should be empowered to deal with this and act.

Brig Lush agreed and said he would fix it up.

Col Fiske said communications for the Army Subcommission should not go to Salerno but to Lecce.

Brig Lush said it should be understood that the Army Subcommission dealt with the Commander of the Forces and the Minister of War, not with the Comando Supremo.

Major Fielden asked whether it would be in order for Col Poletti to broadcast about the Viadranti.

5071

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Brig Lush said yes, so long as the talk was strictly local and did not mention Sicily at all and PRO vetted the script.

Major Fielden asked where the refugees had gone to. Apparently only 12 had appeared in the camps. Major Bristow said that only 6 had been received and 20 tons of furniture. Brig Lush asked Major Bristow to find out the facts at once.

Major Fielden asked about the two spies at Anzio. Col Flaxe said that it was a good story: they had landed in a rubber boat full of dynamite. Brig Lush said PRO should get the story from 6th Army.

-2-

Major Fielden asked again about office space. He suggested the partitioning of the transverse hallway on the General's floor. Brig Lush said this was a good idea which might be looked into.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 25 March 1944

Brig Lush said he had just spoken to the Observatory, who thought the eruption was over. He wanted a report from Region 3 on how many people had been made homeless and what was the extent of the damage.

Brig Lush said General de Sevin had arrived. He would want a car and an office. He said the office had been very badly prepared.

Brig Lush said there was something very wrong with the PO. He gave various instances where complete apathy was shown. Major Fielden and Colonel Shioop also gave examples. Brig Lush said some reorganization was necessary.

Brig Lush said that Col Kirkwood was not sending back the personnel demanded. They must learn to use Italian personnel.

Colonel Farren referred to yesterday's discussion on orders. He said there were two - Daily Orders issued by the Adjutant and Special Orders of postings, assignment and travel issued by GI and Heads of Sections.

Brig Lush said that all secret documents, if they travelled from office to office, must always be in a sealed envelope. Security must be tightened up.

Brig Lush asked Col Bowman to arrange for Professor Imbo at the Observatory to be given more space.

Col Hulls said there had been a decrease in the number of refugees. The stream was now only about 1,400 a week. Shiooping had now been laid on for Sicily at the rate of 1,000 a week.

Col Fotnergill said they had 16,000 now in camp. About 10,000 were due to go in mid-April.

Brig Lush said the Archbishop of Melfetta had agreed to vacate the seminary for a military hospital. He hoped to get the Benevento one also.

Col Albright said he had attended the 3th Army AMG Conference, which had been very good. General Hume had said there had been far too many visitors at the beachhead and in future everyone must have General Clark's permission.

Brig Lush said people must go up. He did not think there were really any "visitors". He would like instances.

Col Albright said there was a muddle about the Region 3 Proclamation about movements. Nobody knew where the "army line" was and nobody seemed clear as to where the order had originated.

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Col Hulls said there had been a decrease in the number of refugees. The stream was now only about 1,400 a week. Shipping had now been laid on for Sicily at the rate of 1,000 a week.

Col Potnamgill said they had 18,000 now in camp. About 10,000 were due to go in mid-April.

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Col Young said he had discussed movements with ACMF.

Col Albright said that General Hume was holding these meetings on Fridays. Brig Lush said he would go to the next one. We should know the dates of all Regional Meetings.

Col Albright said Lord Stansgate and Col Kirk had attended the meeting. It had taken place at Caserta.

Bradier Lush's Meeting - 27 March 1945.

Brig Lush said he had been to Salerno and decided that in all sub-commissions there must be a nucleus of staff with field experience. Exchanges of personnel would be made between HQ and the field. He thought signal procedure laid down by AFHQ was too elaborate. We have our own sigs and should simplify our messages. Capt Gillett and Col Farren said it could not be changed because it is procedure laid down from London and Washington. Brig Lush wants any cuts that can be made looked into. Col Fiske said General MacFarlane's name was used too often.

Brig Lush asked what letters are to go out "By Command of Lieut-General MacFarlane". Col Fiske said we could develop our own technique. Col Fiske said everything goes up "For" and down "By Command of", according to American procedure. But he thought we might change it. Col Fiske will investigate.

Brig Lush asked how far the requisitioning of cars had gone. Col Albright said everything that could be found was being taken, but some are very well hidden, others have essential parts missing. Three or four are needed to keep one on the road. Col Fiske said PBS requires ACC to register its cars there. Brig Lush agreed this was all right for our requisitioned cars. Col Young said that when rules are made clear Public Safety will act on registration of Italian cars. He will consult Lt Col Bowman.

Col Fiske said PWB was developing its activities in Fifth and Eighth Army areas and had offered him their loud speaker facilities. They have been in touch with Brig Gen Hume. Brig Lush offered to put them in touch with Benson, but they must work with the CAOs.

Col Fiske brought up the question of awards for gallant action by co-belligerents. He cited two cases of great bravery and asked if medals of merit could be awarded. Lt Col Bowman said not. Brig Lush said he was afraid it would come down to an illuminated citation.

Col Farren went to the ~~BS~~ and reported ACC mail was losing three days by going to Bari and Brindisi. This was being corrected.

Maj Bullock said APS would open a photo pool in Naples shortly and PRO would enter the pool. Brig Lush thought it was a good idea.

Capt Gillett said delivery of daily sitrep is not fast enough.

Brig Lush asked Capt Gillett to arrange for Professor Imbo to be flown around Vesuvius.

Lt Col Bowman asked that all AMG signs be taken down and replaced by ACC signs. Col Fiske said Allied Control Commission should be spelled out. There is confusion with the Allied Claims Commission and the Army Catering Corps.

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Col Albright asked if the ranks of heads of Commissions should be in a TC/WE. Brig Lush said promotions would be made on merit rather than by rule of thumb.

Col Fiske asked about the change of time in Italy. Brig Lush said the General would tell Baccoglio it must be done.

Brig Lush asked Maj Bullock if General Order No 1 had been publicized.

Col Fiske asked if it would be useful to have the Army sub-commission represented at the meetings. Many questions, e.g. rations for carabinieri, which concerned them, came up for discussion. It was agreed that this should be done.

Col Fiske said that Col Parkin had cleared the recommendations for promotion below Field Grade and hoped to clear the others shortly. Recommendations should go to Col Parkin's office.

Major Fielden asked if there was any guide to these promotions. Col Albright outlined some points, but said the important point was that promotion in non-combat organizations could not be faster than in combat units.

Col Fiske said it was necessary to work out some plans regarding accommodation in Rome.

Col Fiske said that Col Collins had arrived and he thought he ought to supervise all vehicles.

Col Farren said that it was proposed to have a maintenance wing commanded by an RAC major. Col Collins should be advisory.

Col Fiske said it must be straightened out by Col Adams, Col Parker, Col Albright, Col Farren and Col Collins.

There was a prolonged discussion between Col Albright and Col Fiske on the status of a Major Fisher who belonged to Region III and had been assigned to Region IV and was working in Region V. Col Albright said that there was a muddle about assignments generally. The whole meeting grew exceedingly bored during this discussion.

Col Farren said Col Ratborne was back as G3 at AFHQ to deal with manpower. His job was to take away every single man who was not really needed.

Col Albright said there was a drive on to take away all officers who were fit for active combat.

Col Fiske said he would like to be on the list.

Major Attaver raised the question of payments to foreign representatives on the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission. He said the whole matter had been held up for a long time. He 506

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Maj Dca said that passes should be shown.

Capt Stewart said visitors' passes were issued but never checked when visitors left.

Col Fiske said the matter must be tightened up.

Col Albright said there was not sufficient manpower.

Col Fiske said a memorandum should be issued.

Maj Bristow said 2,000 refugees were being evacuated from the Police front.

/ Col Borman

Col Bowman said there should be people on duty at lunchtime at all telephones.

Col Fiske said there was always someone on his.

Col Bowman and Maj Doe said that that was not so.

Col Fiske said he would correct it. A notice had better go out.

Maj Fielden reverted to the Rome question and asked if ACC had a plan for accommodation.

Col Fiske said there ought to be a plan. Perhaps ACC should have a Rome planning group.

Col Alwright said there had been a plan made under General Crane, but it was out of date.

Col Fiske said it was extremely important. Gen MacFarlane would want to go in on D day and would want his PRO with him. Someone should study ACC requirements and represent us with General Johnson's group. He would speak to the CC about it.

Col Alwright said Capt Scotter had been in charge of it.

Col Fiske read a message from Capt Stone saying that 100 Italian civilians from PADULA camp were dumped at Salerno after having been kept for 3 months for screening. They had not been properly screened. They arrived late. There was no food or accommodation. It was a shocking state of affairs. An enquiry was necessary.

Col Fiske said it was not an ACC matter. It was for Major Brown or Major Friend-James. He would hand it to Col Bowman.

2087

Brig. Lush said this was a high-level question.

Col. Shipp said the prospective wives had to be screened. He then referred again to the difficulties of teletypophese. Was this being simplified? He gave instances.

Brig. Lush said the telegrams nowadays were neither English nor reasonable. They were almost unintelligible at times. Could not this be simplified? Telegrams through FILPOF were perfectly clear; what was their system? Could we not adopt it? Information Officer and Signals should go into this. Major Doe might go to AAI and ask Friend-James to show him their system. Something must be done at once.

Major Driffield-White said that ^{disintegration} ~~secret~~ of billets should now be done again.

Major Hinxel said he was taking his files to Salerno one day a week.

Major Fielden said the question of the relaxation of curfew should be raised at the Regional Commissioners' Conference. Also the Regional Commissioners' Weekly Bulletin should this be a secret document?

Brigadier Lush said no. The bulletin had not so far been quite what he wanted. It ought to be possible to give the Regional Commissioners a picture without using secret stuff.

Major Fielden said it was not easy to collect the information.

Brig. Lush said he knew that. What was why he asked D.R.R. to do it.

Col. Bullie said the Italians were not helping to feed refugees with home produce. The soup kitchens could not shoulder the whole burden. Regional Commissioners should be told what Region I had done.

5066

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 12.

16 April 1944

BRIGADIER LUSH'S MEETING.

Brigadier Lush said he wanted all officers who could attend the Conference Friday to be there. Various sections are to sit together. Advisory Council and AAI and General Wilson P33 will be there & CC's main address will be in the afternoon.

Saturday's meeting will be an AGO and LGS affair. If it is not concluded on Saturday we shall sit Sunday morning.

Brigadier Lush says he knows we are still moving officers without asking the Sub-Commissions.

Col. Albright said U.S. promotions board was now sitting on captains, majors and higher ranks. Many subjects which are made the subject of correspondence could be settled by phone.

Col. Albright said 5 Army AGO wants Major Lush to take over operation of plants. Are liaison officers on loan and ought we to plan replacements or should we keep them? Brigadier Lush said the policy was that experienced people should be LOS. In the case of Lushie Rome Sub-Region must wait. Col. Bowman would see Col. Farren and would ask the Rome people to wait a month.

~~Col. Albright announced that a number of French AGOs were to be taken to the Sub-Commissions, 10 April for discussion.~~

Sept. McKay reported relations with P33 are improving definitely. A nice Fascist nest has been found in Reggio Calabria.

Brigadier Lush wants policy of removal of everybody from Anzio bridgehead locked into. Can we remove all but 1000 of 18,000 heads of cattle there?

Col. Bowman reports that principal business forward now was evacuation of villages. Major Walker (A) would probably be decorated by the French for his remarkable work in that connection.

Major Bullock asked if press being prepared for the mission should also be run off for Commissioners and Sub-Commission heads. Brigadier Lush said no. Major Bullock is to see Secretary General and is Commandant on press arrangements and help for running stenoids.

Brigadier Lush announced that

Wilson PBS will be there & CO's main address will be in the afternoon.

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Col. Albright said 3 Army AGS wants Major Murchie to take over operation of plants. Are liaison officers on loan and ought we to plan replacements or should we keep them? Brigadier Lush said the policy was that experienced people should be LCOs. In the case of Murchie Rome Sub-Region must wait. Col. Sowden would see Col. Farren and would ask the Rome people to wait a month.

~~Col. Lush announced that advanced Regio. Ag. were to be taken at the same time as April for business.~~

Capt. McKay reported relations with RSS are improving definitely. A nice Fascist nest has been found in Reggio Calabria.

Brigadier Lush wants policy of removal of everything from Anzio bridgehead looked into. Can we remove all but 2000 of 15,000 heads of cattle there? 5065

Col. Sowden reports that principal business forward now was evacuation of villages. Major Walker (A) would probably be decorated by the French for his remarkable work in that connection.

Col. Bullock asked if people being prepared for the press should also be run off for Commissioners and Sub-Commission heads. Brigadier Lush said no. Major Bullock is to see Secretary General and HQ. Commandant on press arrangements and help for running studios.

Brigadier Lush announced there would be no meeting tomorrow.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(40)

PRB 18. Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 16 April 1944.

Col Albright said that Displaced Persons must have a representative at HQ.

Capt Stewart said Brig Lush had written to Bari about it.

Major Fielden said he wanted more notice about staff changes.

Col Farren said they were published in orders.

Major Fielden said that was too late. What about Major Browning?

Col Fiske said he did not think he was yet appointed. There was a discussion about dates of appointments. Col Fiske said that Commodore Bowen-Buscarlet had become an Air Vice Marshal. It was agreed that Col Farren should send all changes and appointments to PRC before publication.

Major Fielden raised the question of précis for RCs Conferences. It was agreed that this must be tightened up before the next meeting which would take place about June 1.

Col Shipp said Capt Gillett had suggested that we should send our signals in straight English to the Message Centre to be transposed as required and they would be filed in clear.

Major Doe said it would be a great strain on the message centre.

Col Shipp said it was only 45 telegrams a day.

Major Doe said that nevertheless each office should do its own transposing; each could also make clear copies for filing.

Col Fiske said he appreciated Col Shipp's point, but agreed with Major Doe on procedure.

Major Brister said he had 2,500 refugees frozen at Aversa owing to typhoid.

Col Farren reported the transfer of the Civil Censorship Group to AGO.

5664

Col Fiske said that these should not be carried on our strength.

/ There

-2-

There was a discussion on the point.

Major Doe said that Capt Stone had made the arrangement.

Col Farren said that an order had come out that British should wear KD after April 25 and before May 12. A date should be fixed.

Col Albright said no American order had come through; we should wait for that. He asked Col Bowman to check with PBS.

Col Albright said there had been confusion about the activation of Regions VIII and IX. Col Fiske should talk to Brig Lush and settle the matter.

Col Fiske said the Sec-Gen of the Italian Red Cross, Marcuse Teodoli, had arrived recently. He should be helpful to us.

Major Doe said he thought he was a Fascist.

Col Fiske said he had known him for some time and he did not think so.

5062

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 18

Brigadier Lush's Meeting 19 April 1944

Brigadier Lush had nothing to report.

Maj. Fielden raised the question of the Rome booklet.

Brigadier Lush said payment should be taken up with Finance.

Col. Bowman said we had our own printing press-why use PWB?

Brigadier Lush agreed and asked Maj. Fielden to take this up

Capt. Fielders said there was a conference of CIC today in Naples.

Maj. Hinkel said he had arranged to get up a little information branch in Salerno.

Col. Robertson alluded to accommodation for censorship. 3 officers had arrived here and 15 in Salerno.

Brigadier Lush said they were not on our strength and would come under Telecommunications Sub-Commission.

Col. Clough described ACC markings on cars

Col. Saico alluded to the question of free cigarette rations to Yugoslav refugees.

Brigadier Lush said this was inadmissible: they got free cigarettes if they enlisted, not otherwise.

Brigadier Lush said he had spoken to Gen. Robertson about evacuating prisons: they would quit prisons and other municipal buildings as far as possible but not the prison at Brindisi. Brigadier Lush said he thought that the whole prison situation was rather a mess. The Army needed prison space: possibly they could use the big prison at Calcuttina.

Col. Halls said he had seen Minister Reale yesterday at Salerno, and also Col. Robertson. There was a muddle about Displaced Persons: some staff was required. Reale had been told that the Italian Government must do more to feed refugees, but he was not much interested in anything yesterday. Col. Halls also said that the camp at Reggio was nearly ready and he thought in all these camps the medical staff should be under

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Brigadier Lush agreed.

Brigadier Lush drew attention to the minutes of the FC's conference and said they needed action. They should be read carefully and all necessary action taken without delay.

Col. Clough asked about Regional HQ.

Brigadier Lush said Region II would definitely be at Bari, and Region VII at Grotone he thought but it was not yet decided.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PAB 16. Brig Lush's Meeting - 20 April 1944

Brig Lush and Col Albright had a long private conversation.

Brig Lush said he wanted everyone to see that CA Branch did not give orders to sub-commissions. CA Branch was not a Chiefs of Staff organization.

Brig Lush said he had heard of an officer trading 2 Jeeps and a 3-ton lorry for 50 eggs.

Col Albright alluded to translation mistakes in General Order No 20.

Major Brister said the claims officer wanted to know how to deal with receipts given to refugees by AMG officers for livestock requisitioned.

Brig Lush said this had better be discussed with Group Captain Benson, who was here today.

Major Brister said Brig Duchesne was leaving today.

Col Clough said he thought we had too many officers in Sicily; we had 116 but could do with less.

Brig Lush agreed.

Col Clough said he had found a number of catboats which he proposed to requisition for rest homes.

Brig Lush said we must now study the scheme for moving this HQ forward.

Col Albright said the scheme was in being but the date was not settled. Many details had been worked out.

Major Fielden said he would like to clear the arrangements for PRO establishment in Rome.

Brig Lush said that one or two PROs should go up immediately; they would have to be attached to 8th Army.

5061

Brigadier Lush's Meetings - 25 March 1944

Major Attaver said 6 U.S. and 4 British citizens need help and the terms of grant do not permit the use of funds for their relief. There is neither British nor American consular representation in Italy. Brig Lush said he would authorize a grant, suggested Red Cross should be seen, and thought the political people might help.

Gen Solodovnik has asked for information on the Italian Government's structure and powers; activity in occupied territory.

Brig Lush said the answer to the first question was "NIL" - to the second "Residual". Refer him to copies of monthly reports.

Capt Gillett is working on simplification of cable procedure. Adm section said they prefer cables going direct to sub-commissions. Brig Lush said this was all right, provided copies go on the float file.

Col Fiske said the Italian Government had announced recently that Italians could apply for return to Africa. There was a broadcast to this effect. ACC was not consulted. PRO was asked to find out who reported the broadcast and inform Col Fiske.

Brig Lush said he wanted to know if Foglia Camp would be ready at the end of the month or not. There seems to be doubt.

Lt Col Bowman announced that a portion of A.A.I. will move soon to Caserta. Brig Lush asked Col Albright to look out for space in their present quarters in Naples.

Col Fiske said 180 Italian refugees arrived in Salerno yesterday with no arrangements having been made, and reported to ACC. They had been taken care of. Brig Lush said no refugees must be released until their reception had been arranged for. Many refugees from Naples want to return, but that is a case for Region III.

Col Fiske announced Fifth Army AMG meets at 0945 every Friday. Region III every alternate Wednesday.

Brig Lush wants all officers to give their private phone numbers to the signals people.

5060

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 30 March 1944

Brig Lush said the monthly report was going through a difficult birth. Capt Talbot was writing it. He thought that the Information Office should take it on. Information was not sending enough to Regions. Regional Commissioners needed to be kept informed about what was going on. He thought they should have a weekly resume of 500 words. Brig Lush said there were now 68 officers for U.K. One or two cases still remained under discussion. Col Fiske said he heard rumours of officers of ACC/AMS who had nothing to do. Who were these people?

Col Farren gave an example of a man who had been here seven weeks doing nothing. Brig Lush said they were mostly cases in Fifth Army and Rome sub-region. Cases of this kind should be reported immediately. He proposed to tell Brig Dunlop to get his HQ out of Naples and under canvas. The same applied to Rome sub-region.

Col Fiske said that he thought an Italian engineering and maintenance unit might be attached to HQ ACC. Brig Lush agreed.

Brig Lush said there was a strange new set-up of Yugo-Slav officers who were supposed to take care of partisans in the Naples area. This was unnecessary. They should go back to Bari. A multiplicity of such officers could not be permitted.

Col Bowman said these people were described as Liaison Officers and this was confusing.

Col Fiske said there should be a directive on Liaison Officers. It had been held up for six weeks. He had passed it to Brig Lush. 5059

Col Daires said they had managed to have four spies condemned to death at Santa Maria and he hoped to have three more by tonight.

PRO asked if précis of reports of officers for the Regional Commissioners' Conference could be given to him the day before.

Brig Lush said he supposed PRO would then release them before the Conference took place. Why have the Conference at all?

PRO said he wished to photograph the Conference, so that was one reason for having it.

Col Fiske said that the procedure asked for by PRO was a perfectly normal one.

Brig Lush asked Col Skippo to send a telegram to all concerned.

Brig Lush said ACC was becoming a car and furniture store for visiting foreigners. It would not do. He would like ideas about it. Who was Colonel Regis?

Col Fiske said he was Camp Commandant to the Advisory Council.

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Col Fiske said he was Camp Commandant to the Advisory Council. He had five cars.

Brig Lush said he thought perhaps the Advisory Council should look after foreign representatives.

Major Hinkel said people were swarming up Vesuvius and it was still dangerous.

Brig Lush said No 3 District should be warned and a notice posted at the Observatory telling people not to go further.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 16.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 31 March 1944.

Brig Lush said the CC had issued the directive for the PRB. Major Fielden would be DPR with two deputies and a total staff of 7. This abolished Regional PRBs. Information Section and PR must have very close coordination.

Brig Lush said he had got a draft of our ceiling, which worked out at 251 officers at HQ, 50 officers at HQ Regions and 561 officers in the field. Of the 251 about 70 are in CA Branch and Economic Section was the largest. The whole plan was to be discussed by Vice-Presidents on 7 April. The CC proposed to tell AFHQ that we could manage on this up to the Rimini-Pisa line, but we could not take any further responsibilities. Brig Lush said he was not so happy about OR/EM: it was obviously necessary to employ Italians and this was not being done enough. Everyone must try to do it.

Brig Lush said he was going to Sicily to-morrow until Wednesday night. Col Fiske said he would be visiting the New Zealand Corps to-morrow.

Major Winkel said the resumé for Regional Commissioners would be ready to-day. He asked everyone to help in getting such news. Major Attayer asked if social news could be included, e.g. the Gliders Club. Brigadier Lush said no. He said that perhaps this was a job for PRB: perhaps PR and Information would work it between them.

Brig Lush said there ought to be a villa for visiting officers to stay in. He asked Col Farrer to go into this. He referred to the villa at Ravallo which Lord Grimthorpe had placed at the disposal of ACC officers. It was not for the use of the Political Section only. That had better be put in writing.

Brig Lush said he thought DPR must have a complete book of Vesuvius photographs for ACC and another for Region III. DPR explained how the pool worked and said that we hoped soon to have duplicate negatives. Brig Lush said it seemed strange that people vitally interested were not allowed to have photographs. Other officers said they would like to buy them. DPR promised to do what he could.

Col Clough said 70 to 80 cables came in every day and were increasing. There were only two men to deal with this. It was not enough. He read a memo from the Adjutant outlining a new procedure. Brig Lush did not agree with this. He said the Messare Centre had done very well indeed: the procedure should not be changed, but the staff would have to be increased.

Col Hulls said that the reception of refugees in Sicily was going extremely well. Brig Lush said DPR should at once put out this story for RISOGLIMENTO. Col Hulls said transport was not so good: there was a bottleneck at the Straits. Col Fiske said there had been a misapprehension with AAI, who had expected 20,000 refugees

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Col Farren said 23 Italian drivers for HQ were arriving to-day. Brig Lush said they should be smartly dressed.

DPR said the agricultural report on Vesuvius damage was finished, and he would like to have it at once. Brig Lush asked Col Snipp to get it.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(29)

PRB 18.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 1 April 1944.

Col Albright said he had been asked to take over the meeting for Brig Lush.

Col Hullis said that refugees were being landed at Syracuse and they needed a camp there. Displaced persons would have to make room.

Col Albright asked Major Attayer to take the matter up.

No other points were raised.

Col Albright said he had been to visit 8th Army and was very much struck by the work being done in San Vittore by the CAO there. There had been 3,500 inhabitants and 1,900 had now returned. The town was constantly under shellfire, but life was almost normal.

5057

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(30)

PRB 18.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 3 April 1944.

Col Fiske said Poles have applied to attach 5 Civil Affairs Officers to Polish Corps. If this is done it will create a precedent complicating ACC work.

The Chief Commissioner is going to visit the Rome planning people.

Col Hulls said he was not yet ready to meet Reale, as Lord Stanagate suggested, on Italian participation in Refugee areas. He wants more definite information first.

Major Hinkel said the Information Branch was not being sufficiently used. Col Hulls said he asked for information about population 3 weeks ago and still had none. He requires only approximate figures.

Col Shipps said the questions had been sent to Regional Commissioners. Col Fiske said the Regional Commissioners were the only people who could supply the information.

Col Hulls wants the facts before the 14 April meeting.

Col Farren reported demonstrations in Bari against continuation of Fascists in office. In Cosenza the inhabitants are not looking after refugees. The Prefect is selling milk at 130% profit. Medical supplies are also being sold at excess prices. Col Fiske said this was a job for our local police officer. Our junior officers have not the authority under ACC that they had when we were called AMG.

5056

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 16.

Briandier Lush's Meeting - 4 April 1944.

Col Hullis said he thought the criticisms aimed at Cosenza were probably meant for Potenza. All these complaints would be discussed with the Italian Government.

Col Fiske thought Army Sub-Commission personnel, as well as Navy and Air, should have their own TC apart from 267th Regt. Army will deal through AAI except in matters of high policy only, which will come through the Sub-Commission.

Col Hullis said 6-8,000 people were to come down unexpectedly from the Brigandage.

Col Hullis reported Italian military employed by Refugee Branch were becoming immobilized because the tires were worn out. Col Shipp said he was faced with the same situation. Col Fiske said it would be more economical to issue tires than vehicles.

After considerable discussion of the way AGC personnel disregard movement orders, Col Fiske suggested the Articles of War should be read to all personnel to remind them we are at war and orders must be obeyed.

Col Bowman reported that as a result of a recent trip he would make some suggestions later.

Capt Gillett said the Message Centre closed too early. Col Farren said there had to be a closing hour. Col Fiske said the peak always came at the end of the day.

Capt Gillett felt all documents of Intelligence value should go to AFHQ and not be kept in Unit or private collections.

Major Attayer said he was in touch with the Political Section for clarification of status of Allied representatives to Displaced Persons. Lt Col Shipp said he would check on the situation.

5055
Lt Col Shipp desired to underline the shortage of tires for transport in the dockyards, especially on Italian naval transport. Army sources will not issue from their stocks. Brig Lush has asked that this be looked into. The situation now is that unless the decision can be reversed there will be no transport running. All data concerning transport should be collated and submitted to Maj-Gen Robertson. Col Farren said the question was on a very high level. Col Fiske said it was a question for CCS and called for a survey of all Italian military transport.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(32)

PRB 18. Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 5 April 1944.

Col Farren said he had to take the meeting as Col Fiske and Brig Lush were away.

Col Hullis said he had had a cable asking if he could accept invalided POW. He thought it was not his business. Whose was it?

Col Farren said the Army Sub-Commission should handle it.

Col Hullis said the number of refugees was increasing again and they were expecting a great influx.

Col Shipp said that the CC wanted a meeting with PRO Security PWB on Professor Dodd's party from Sicily.

Col Farren said the British MT was in a thoroughly unsatisfactory state. Each car must be put aside for maintenance one day a week. This applied to all cars.

5054

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PAB 18. Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 6 April 1944.

Col Fiske said he had some notes from an officer who had been turing. He had suggested a service of books. Colonel Clough said Special Services dealt with that. Colonel Fiske said there was also a shortage of lamps and candles in the field. Colonel Clough said these could be drawn. Colonel Fiske said there was a shortage of flags. Colonel Clough said that there were plenty in store; they should requisition. Colonel Fiske said Mail, PX and MAIL were very late in the field. The officer had also suggested that there ought to be regular leave and a rest camp established. Colonel Fiske asked what the policy was. Colonel Clough said the villa at Ravello would accommodate 8-10 officers at a time; there was a rest centre for British C2.

Col Clough said for all these things there should be an IG for the ACC. Colonel Fiske said he quite agreed and this ought to be set up at once. Could we have a team of two American and two British officers for this? Col Clough said he thought two would be enough; they should be senior. Col Shipp disagreed and said they should be junior; they would know more, and get down to it. Col Fiske said the officer had also reported that in many cases officers were messing with EM. This was wrong, but perhaps in some cases it could not be helped. Also there were complaints that officers relieved did not overlap with their relief. Also there were complaints about shortage of interpreters. Col Clough said that the interpreters pool had been hard hit by drafts for other theatres.

Col Fiske said he had discussed with the CC the question of rank as against jobs. Could we work something out? There would have to be some elasticity, ie two possible ranks for each job. Col Shipp and Col Clough said that this was practicable by British and American Army regulations. With regard to sub-commissions Col Fiske said it must depend on the importance of sub-commissions. The whole matter needed some study.

Col Shipp asked if there was any arrangement for Easter office hours.

Col Clough said he thought we could work with a skeleton staff.

Col Fiske said he thought Chiefs of Branches should handle it.

Col Shipp said something might go into Orders today.

Col Fiske agreed.

Col Clough said that the Excelsior Hotel was now 2/3 complete. There would be 75 rooms available and it was a fine place. It would be open on 15th May. Region III did not want to manage it. Why could not ACC take it over? We should have to advance half a million lire for furnishing. The Vesuvius hotel was also under repair, but would not be available for 6 to 8 months. These two hotels would solve most of our problems.

Col Fiske said the Advisory Council would probably need a whole hotel very shortly. However the idea was good and Colonel Borg might be taken from Region III to manage the Excelsior, Vesuvius and Toledo.

Major Hinkel said he was very short of translators and interpreters. Major Doe alluded to the two excellent translators who had been with General Lush and who were now with the Labour and Education Sub-commissions (Jakes).

Fiske asked what the policy was. Colonel Clough said the whole thing would accommodate 8-10 officers at a time: there was a rest centre for British officers.

Col Clough said for all these things there should be an IG for the AOC. Colonel Fiske said he quite agreed and this ought to be set up at once. Col Clough said we have a team of two American and two British officers for this? Col Shipp Clough said he thought two would be enough: they should be senior. Col Shipp disagreed and said they should be junior: they would know more, and get down to it. Col Fiske said the officer had also reported that in many cases officers were messing with him. This was wrong, but perhaps in some cases it could not be helped. Also there were complaints that officers relieved did not overlap with their relief. Also there were complaints about shortage of interpreters. Col Clough said that the interpreters pool had been hard hit by drafts for other theatres.

Col Fiske said he had discussed with the CC the question of rank as against jobs. Could we work something out? There would have to be some elasticity, ie two possible ranks for each job. Col Shipp and Col Clough said that this was practicable by British and American Army regulations. With regard to sub-commissions Col Fiske said it must depend on the importance of sub-commissions. The whole matter needed some study.

Col Shipp asked if there was any arrangement for Easter office hours.

Col Clough said he thought we could work with a skeleton staff.

Col Fiske said he thought Chiefs of Branches should handle it.

Col Shipp said something might go into Orders today.

Col Fiske agreed.

Col Clough said that the Excelsior Hotel was now 2/3 complete. There would be 75 rooms available and it was a fine place. It would be open on 15th May. Region III did not want to manage it. Why could not AOC take it over? We should have to advance half a million lire for furnishing. The Vesuvius hotel was also under repair, but would not be available for 6 to 8 months. These two hotels should solve most of our problems.

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Major Hinkel said he was very short of translators and interpreters. Major Doe alluded to the two excellent translators who had been with General Joyce and who were now with the Labour and Education Sub-commissions (Jakel and Garisi). Col Clough said they could not be taken away from their present jobs. He thought a definite pay rate for interpreters was badly needed - not less than 135 dollars a month. Col Fiske said this would never be agreed to. He wondered whether secretary-interpreters might not be got by name from USA and UK: he knew plenty who wanted to come. Col Shipp said there were difficulties about civilians: Brig Lush had tried to get one from Cairo and had been refused. Col Fiske asked Col Clough to go into the matter.

Major Fielden said he had noticed a distinct separatist tendency forming at Salerno. The meeting on Tuesday had been characterized by criticism of HQ and a feeling that Salerno was ignored.

Col Fiske said that this was an important point. Someone should always attend the Salerno meetings. He knew that a bad feeling was developing.

Major Doe said it was the case even with his offices: it was extremely difficult to keep constant liaison.

5053

PRS 16. Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 7 April 1944

Brig Lush said things were going as well as could be expected in Sicily. There were great difficulties in getting over to the advisory stage. Muscetti's appointment would be a help. One important thing was to remember the difference between what we could do as allies, governors and what effects as natives of the country could do. There was still much lack of coordination. Food rationing in Sicily had not followed the rules made here and they were in a jam; they had kept to 150 grammes because stocks were insufficient, but Region I had not consulted HQ. Much the same applied to Calabria. Brig Lush said he had found that the Local Resources Board in Sicily had bought 2,500 tons of olive oil in Calabria and shipped it to Sicily for Army needs when there was a famine here. Army police had also taken to scavenging prostitutes' goods, which was a bit steep. He had seen the camp for Jews at Ferramonti, which was O.K., but orders had gone out that it should be moved on account of malaria and nothing had happened, nor had any steps against malaria been taken. Sicily and Region II had relied greatly on private cars and had done well but now had no tyres. Who was taking this up?

Col Farren said G4 had referred it to AFHQ.

Col Salpo said he had seen Economic Section about this and it was being taken up with AFHQ.

Col Fiske said TOP SECRET was reserved for things of utmost operational importance: ACC would hardly ever use it.

Col Farren said 25 Italian drivers and 1 officer had arrived.

Col Fiske said he had got 3 first class interpreters. How much would they be paid?

Col Farren said 120.

Col Fiske said it was not enough.

Brig Lush said a rate must be laid down. He asked about promotions. The boards must get on with this at once. 5052

Major Attayer said he would like to have authority to purchase cigarettes for the Yugoslavs.

Brig Lush said this was a matter for the Yugoslav Mission. What would the expenditure be?

Col Snipo said it would have to be tied up with the Army, owing to stocks.

Brig Lush said we wanted a Liaison Officer at Catania. Liaison was badly needed there.

Brig Lush said the refugee problem was being well dealt with in Sicily - better than anywhere else.

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Col Snippo said Capt Talbot was going by plane to Sardinia tomorrow if anyone wanted to send messages.

Major Attayer said Col Kirkwood would be here on April 11.

Major Fielden said the cuttings which Brig Lush had brought back were all in the PRO book. He instanced the fact that no officers were present in CA Branch at luncheon. Brig Lush said they were back by 2 o'clock, weren't they?

Major Fielden suggested that pictures of Vesuvius be sold by PX - Col Bowler noted this. Major Fielden took up the question

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question of sentences on Allied soldiers. Col Shipp said he thought the Americans had refused to divulge them, but the British did so.

5001

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 18. Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 8 April 1944.

Brig Lush announced that the Chief Commissioner had approved the division of Region 2 into two Regions. Calabria becomes Region 7 with a Headquarters staff of five. The rest of the Region remains as it was. The reason for the change is lack of communications in Southern Italy which made centralized operation over so large an area difficult.

Brig Lush said that in Sicily the APB has not realized that the newspapers come under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government and not of Allied organizations.

All railways in Sicily are now being run by ACC with Col. Lindberg as General Manager. Nearly all the lines are in operation.

United States and British Consuls General have been appointed for Palermo and Naples, but will not for the time being exercise all the functions of Consuls General.

A.M.G. postage stamps are still being used in Sicily while Italian stamps are in use in Naples. This is a paradox.

Brig Lush said Lord Stansgate rang up yesterday to know if Tuturano camp was still being used as it was wanted for a prison camp. Major Attayer said it had been inactive for a time but was now used as a disinfection centre. Lt.-Col. Bowman said in his opinion the camp could not be dispensed with, he thought it should be made instead into an important distribution centre. Col. Young said military personnel were still being lodged in Italian civilian prisons. This condition had been brought to the notice of General MacFarlane and remedial action was expected. The military should have their own prisons.

Col. Farren announced that the Board for promotion of British officers would sit as soon as Col. Findlay arrived. Brig Lush said Col. Findlay was on his way.

Brig Lush asked if Special Order 59, giving names and locations of ACC officers, would become a monthly publication. He thought it should be not only a nominal roll but a complete picture of Headquarters and Regions. All Regional Commissioners should be instructed to bring their latest complete lists to the Conference next Friday.

Brig Lush said difficulties were being encountered in fixing ceilings for ACC personnel. The Economic Section had informed him they could not function unless their ceiling figure were doubled.

Major Attayer reported that Col. Kirkwood was in dire need of clothing for refugees, mostly women and children. The need was about 100 tons of clothes. Col. Hullis said that was nonsense, that was clothing for 100,000 people. Brig Lush said Displaced Persons must recognize that there were other people to be clothed. 50.50

Brig Lush said the refugee organization in Sicily was excellent.

Col. Albright said one list of recommendations for promotions of Americans had already gone in. Brig Lush was of the opinion an ACC Board as well as a Regimental one should sit on all promotions.

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Col Hulls said there had been a great deal of publicity recently about refugees which gave him deep concern. The Boche are taking advantage of information we are giving them, particularly by radio but also in local newspapers. Both ACC and the Army must be careful and refugee publicity should be minimized. Brig Lush asked that PRB take note of this and said he would ask General MacFarlane to speak about it to the Army.

Brig Lush announced that the ban on interprovincial movements of civilians in Army areas had been reimposed as a counterespionage measure. ACC personnel must cooperate with the Army in this. Col Young said Public Safety had a draft memorandum on the subject prepared yesterday which would go out from Salerno.

Col Shipp wanted to know if the Army Sub-Commission might write direct to A.A.I. on technical matters. The answer was yes.

Brig Lush said that we had received a note from A.A.I. asking us to maintain Staff procedure in our correspondence.

Brig Lush asked if the Information Branch had a good map of India. Major Hinkel said one was on order but had not arrived.

Col Farren asked if there were any policy about limited leave in this Theatre of Operations. Brig Lush said such a policy would probably have to be considered when hot weather began. The question may come up at the Regional Commissioners' Conference. General MacFarlane took the attitude that in wartime officers kept going until they dropped; but Brig Lush said he thought it was up to Senior Officers to see that their personnel didn't drop.

Brig Lush said the Political Section were quite upset over a recent circular issued for the Education Sub-Commission. He himself could see nothing wrong with it and had approved its release.

Brig Lush announced that on Monday the procedure with Sub-Commissions would be discussed and the 29 January Memorandum would be reviewed.

5040

PRB 15. Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 10 April 1944.

Brig Lush announced No 4 Region would move into the field on Wednesday.

Brig Lush announced PRB needs more officers and will have them.

Brig Lush reiterated that all letters to HQ AAC must be written correctly and sent through channels. The proper address is HQ AAC.

Brig Lush announced that Col McCaffrey has been sent for for ETC. Col Kirkwood takes over Region 7; Col Marschall takes over Region 8. Col Charles Findlay takes over Displaced Persons. Regions 2 and 7 together will have more officers than Region 8 had. The transfers will be arranged at the Regional Commissioners' Conference.

Col Albright said that for Rome administration and other duties assigned by the Army, American personnel in AAC should be increased. Brig Lush said AAC should take the name of City Sub-Region for its part of Rome City Administration. Brig Lush said provincial staffs must be sifted and EM/OR personnel might be moved forward. Col Albright said they have been sifted. Region 2 is quite short now. Brig Lush said Region 3 should be combed now. In the rear Regions Italian personnel are becoming skillful enough now to allow our EM/OR to be released. A scheme should be submitted to the Conference.

Brig Lush said sub-contractors in Regions should not have "AMG Official" cards on their cars.

Major Brister reported four cases of typhus in Aversa. Doctors are on the job and the block where the cases are has been isolated with 300 persons in it. There are 2,400 refugees there. They are coming in at 800 a day from the bridgehead. There are 1,000 in the Naples Area.

Major Bullock asked that Field Phone communication be established between the Despatchers and the British Motor Pool. He reported that strangers are wandering round the Provincia Building without passes. Major Hinkel says his branch gets 3 or 4 a day. Brig Lush said he wanted this tightened up and asked all officers to turn in to the guard any people found wandering around.

Major Attayer said he would appreciate it if these people were all sent to him for questioning.

Major Attayer submitted a specific request for clothing for 4,000 a month.

5048

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 18. Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 11 April 1944.

Brig Lush asked about tickets for MI to see Irving Berlin's show. Col Albright said a few were available. Col Bowman said there were no exceptions to the system for issuing tickets.

There was considerable discussion on a place for the Regional Conference on Friday. Col Albright reported on proposals for soundproofing Room 28 and said there were doubts if the results would justify the cost. It was decided to look into the possibility of using the San Brigida Club or the Board Room in the Banco di Lavoro Building.

Brig Lush wanted to know who put out recent orders on Regions. Col Albright said Col Fiske had done it.

Col Hulls said 800 a day are coming from the bridgehead. There will be 6,000 in all. They are in bad shape. They go straight to Sicily. In Aversa camp there are 2,400. Brig Lush said Region 3 is doing everything possible for these people. He hoped a letter of thanks could go to PRS and AAI for their cooperation.

Capt McKay said prosecutions of enemy agents were going well. 10 had been sentenced to death. 2 are expected to be sentenced today. IRS would decide on publicity for these convictions.

Col Shipp said there was still confusion in correspondence addressed to AAI or AAI Adv Adm Loh. Col Albright said new instructions were being issued. Brig Lush said that the GC would probably direct that correspondence going up must be signed for him. Col Bowman said Sub-Commissions must go through channels to the Local Resources Board or other similar bodies. Brig Lush thought Vice-Presidents of Sections should be made responsible.

Brig Lush said the personnel ceiling might not work. Discussions were going on. Specialist officers have been kept out of Regions. The time had come to reduce CACs and step up specialists in the field. What CACs are left will work largely in the forward areas. Col Albright said he agreed.

Brig Lush said he wanted a sharp scrutiny of RC and MGS at HQ to make sure that everybody was fully employed.

Col Hulls said he saw no purpose in liaison officers. Brig Lush did not agree. If the Liaison Officers hadn't enough work at HQ they might go into the Regions and help Commissioners in their relations with the other services.

Brig Lush said the Interior Sub-Commission should have lists of Italian officials. Col Shipp said Regions had been asked to supply this information. Maj Winkel said he was not having much success in getting names of Italian officials. 5047

Brig Lush asked Maj Doe to see the Chief Commissioner about an Agenda for the Conference on Friday.

Maj Bullock reported that maintenance of cars was still not satisfactory. Col Albright said the US Pool was being reorganized.

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Brig Lush said he wanted PBS to be very careful to give all credit possible to military units in writing up the Vesuvius story. He asked how Vesuvius was coming along. Maj Hinkel said he was in touch with Professor Imbo and all was quiet.

Brig Lush asked how PBS was doing. Maj Bullock said the volume of work and of releases was constantly increasing and more and more information on AGS was going out to the world.

Maj Attayer said Col Kirkwood was coming today.

Col Farren wants a discussion on transport at the Conference Friday.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

223 16. Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 12 April 1942

Brig. Lush said the difference in the acoustics of the Conference Hall was amazing. He thought it would now be for the Conference especially if the windows are filled in.

Brig Lush said he had had nine files of great interest last night from the Information Division and he couldn't get through so much. Information Division must make extracts or tag items of particular interest. Some of the material should go to Regional Commissioners.

Col. Albright said the Hq. Commandant had suggested a procedure for giving passes to visitors. Each visitor would have a pass and the officer he was visiting would be notified by telephone.

Brig. Lush said each visitor must be escorted even if it meant extra staff.

Brig. Lush said Hq. Commandant should attend these meetings. He thought all officers should show passes every time they come in. There was a long discussion on types of passes.

Col. Farver raised the question of the F.A.U. should they be attached to the official mess?

Col. Hulls said he had times of these people. They should be treated as officers.

Brig. Lush agreed.

Col. Farver read out points for the Regional Commissioners' Conference. Promotion of officers. Efficiency of officers. Efficiency of drivers. Maintenance of cars. Visiting of G-1 and G-2 representatives. Employment of Italian soldiers.

Brig. Lush said he wanted confidential reports on officers. He had far too little knowledge of the qualities of officers. He thought we might have quarterly reports, not on Army forms and not formal. Also there should be reports on every transfer.

Col. Farver said this could be done as "Notes on Officers" attached to the ordinary military report.

5046

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Brig. Lush agreed.

Col. Farren read out points for the Regional Commissioners' Conference. Promotion of officers. Deficiency of officers. Deficiency of drivers. Maintenance of cars. Visits of G-1 and G-4 representatives. Employment of Italian soldiers.

Brig. Lush said he wanted confidential reports on officers. He had far too little knowledge of the qualities of officers. He thought we might have quarterly reports, not on Army forms and not formal. Also there should be reports on every transfer.

Col. Farren said this could be done as "Notes on Officers" attached to the ordinary military report.

Col. Shipp said he wanted to raise the control and distribution of medical supplies on the basis of Colonel Poletti's proposed order.

Col. Shipp said another point to raise would be the question of transport and spares for Regions. Another point would be Security Control.

Brig. Lush said he wanted to raise the question of Regional HQ. staffs which were much too big. They must cut and out and out.

Col. Shipp said there was also the question of soldiers marrying Italian wives.

5046

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PBB 15. Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 21 April 1944.

Brig Lush reminded the meeting that the minutes of 2 and 3 days of Conference would be out today. Action should be taken quickly.

Major Fielden gave the meeting a resume of political moves.

Capt Fielden gave the figures for trials and executions of spies.

Major Fielden asked about publicity for these.

Brig Lush said it was not our affair.

Major Fielden said there was a leakage of our confidential documents to the Communist Party of Italy. He thought they had got hold of a Regional Commissioners Bulletin.

Major Fielden said he had not given them one.

Brig Lush said that he couldn't think that they would get hold of much worth having. We had not many secrets. Still, the question of security was important. Officers should remember that cleaners came in and should be careful about loose papers and particularly waste-paper baskets.

Col Bowyer alluded to difficulties which had arisen over the proposed decoration ceremony to be held tomorrow in the amphitheatre at Pompeii.

Col Shipp discussed the priority of operational telegrams.

Brig Lush said this was the business of the duty officers.

Col Shipp said General Hume wanted a survey by Professor Dodd and asked if the five Sicilians wanted by PWs could come from Sicily.

Brig Lush said the CC and he were against Public Opinion Surveys. He asked PRO's opinion.

Major Fielden said he did not like the idea at all. 5045

Brig Lush said PRO should find out from PWs why they wanted the civilians. They could be allowed to come if it was not for a Public Opinion Survey; that must be understood. General Hume should be told that that could not be allowed.

Col Shipp asked if the next RGS Meeting would definitely be on May 30.

Brig Lush said yes, but it need not be announced till May 1.

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Brig Lush said PRC should find out from PWB why they wanted the civilians. They could be allowed to come if it was not for a Public Opinion Survey. That must be understood. General Hume should be told that that could not be allowed.

Col Sallop asked if the next RCE Meeting would definitely be on May 30.

Brig Lush said yes, but it need not be announced till May 1.

Brig Lush said we should try to invite people to the next meeting; he thought the Air Force might be brought in.

Major Doe said that officers without business should not attend the meeting.

Brig Lush said the room had not been full.

Col Farren said that evacuation from the beachhead and the French corps was practically finished. 18,000 had been taken out.

Col Farren said that 10 out of our 20 Italian drivers had been found inefficient.

/ Col Robertson

5045

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Col Robertson said that KD for OR would not be available until May 12. It had not yet arrived in this country. He said OR would go into shirtsleeves on April 25.

Col Clough said the General Order would be issued today announcing General Brownings and Air Vice Marshal Bowen-Buscalet's appointments and the change in name of the Land Forces Sub-Commission.

Brig Lush said Marchese Teodoli would be chief executive of the Italian Red Cross.

Brig Lush said Mr Shurtock had got permission to send 300 Jews to Palestine.

5044

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

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PRB 18. Brig Lush's Meeting - 22 April 1944.

Brig Lush said we had something to learn about the writing of minutes. He gave an example. He also commented on certain points of bad drafting in orders. With regard to the new Govt he said the first thing to do was to get on quickly with the Ammassi problem. It was possible that Regional Commissioners would want extra transport and officers. He said the ACC was going to ask for 1,270 officers, but he doubted if we should get them. We should be short and all officers should be ready to turn their hands to anything. In territory where lines of communication were important we had to maintain a high efficiency whatever the cost; as we moved forward we could let the standard drop in places where military needs diminished.

Col Shipp said the writing of cables had now been cleared. The address would be out at the top.

Col Albright showed the meeting the ACC placards to be issued for all ACC cars.

Col Robertson said two cars with the new signs on would be on view this morning.

Brig Lush said Salerno had worked out their own plans for moving and could move under their own steam, with the Italian Government.

Col Bowyer said it was impossible to get photographic material to print the Vesuvius cards and he thought the idea must be dropped.

Brig Lush agreed but said it made no difference to his request to PRO.

5642

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB 18 Brig Lush's Meeting - 24 April 1944.

After some discussion, Brig Lush decided that ACC monthly reports would be forwarded to AFHQ as usual, but all superfluous material would be eliminated. Divisions in Regions would report to their Sub-Commissions at ACC. Regional reports would not exceed six pages and must be factual. Digests of Sub-Commission reports should be made by Sections. Independent Branches would report directly to the Executive Commissioner rather than have the Secretary-General condense and combine their reports. Major Driffield-White would draft instructions covering preparation of monthly reports.

Brig Lush announced that Friends Ambulance Units must work in conjunction with the American Red Cross. They are doing a marvellous job. Major Brister said the Relief people would rather have them than anybody.

Major Brister announced that the first Refugee train for Reggio will leave today. Other trains will follow on Wednesday and Friday.

Major Bullock reported under several heads of information gathered in Sicily. Brig Lush said it was obvious that DDPB has wasted no time during his trip.

Brig Lush told Major Hinkel that ACC reports were open to all official organizations which wanted to see them.

Brig Lush directed that all ACC requirements of Italian Military personnel, on which there is a high priority, should be submitted to the Establishments Branch for co-ordination and forwarding to A.A.I.

Lt.-Col. Robertson announced that the courtyard of the Provincia Building is sinking rapidly and no cars must be allowed to enter it. Construction of the underground shelter has weakened the building.

Major VanDusen, from AFHQ, said that HQ considers the ACC show is running smoothly. MGS will now be known as G-5. The whole world is looking at ACC as an innovation which may be a pattern for future developments, and from that point of view it seems as if ACC were a success. Col. Spofford wants to see that (a) ACC gets all it needs from London and Washington and (b) that no unwarranted criticism or interference from London and Washington are directed at ACC. "All sections at Algiers feel," he said, "that General MacFarlane has done a wonderful job in getting the whole show forward at a smashing pace."

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PPS 16 Brig Lush's Meeting - 10 April 1944.

Brig Lush introduced Major Giles PC for Syracuse.

Brig Lush said Col Poletti wanted an order which should be generally adopted to the effect that public meetings should not be held without permission.

Brig Lush said the C-13-C wanted Black Market sentences on Allied troops published but PPO should wait till this came through officially.

Brig Lush asked PPO to check up with Col Adams on changes in retention orders for the Annexes.

Brig Lush said the CC had ruled that where promotions had been held up on the American side and not on the British side and this might make a change of seniority in a section the British promotion would be held *up*.

Brig Lush said the CC had directed that monthly reports should not be more than 10 pages.

Col Albright said a full list of American promotions had been given to Major Van Lusen and Col Spafford had promised to push it on.

Major Fielden raised the question of the Confederazione del Lavoro's proposed broadcast on Col Poletti's work.

Brig Lush said he saw no objection, but thought it was entirely a matter for the Italian Govt. We need not express an opinion.

Major Hinkel said there had been 7 direct hits at the airfield last night.

Brig Lush asked if there had been an earthquake last night.

Major Fielden said he thought it was a delayed bomb.

Major Doe, Colonel Farmer and Col Brown said the *5041* were sure it was an earthquake.

Capt Fielden asked if the Italians could now put up British military ribbons. This would help the Carabinieri.

Brig Lush said he thought the time for this had not come. He agreed with the principle and thought the Carabinieri might wear Army flashes. He would put the whole matter up to the CC.

Brig Lush thanked Major Hinkel for his valuable information on checking up telephone communications with every Region.

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Brig Lush thanked Major Hinkley for his valuable information on checking up telephone communications with every Region. He had talked to all except Region VI.

Col Offenmaier raised the question of Italian officers at the San Brigida mess. The charges were too high for them.

Brig Lush said an arrangement should be made to charge according to their pay.

Brig Lush said a ceiling of 1,270 officers had been asked for from AFHQ. He wanted all sections to send up their deficiencies and the qualifications wanted.

/ Major Giles

-2-

Major Giles said he would like to have a new Prefect. Nothing has really been done about defalcation. They were exporting beans, oranges and wine to Malta. There was little political activity. Saccoglio's visit had had a good effect. For Black Market was bad. Wine was traded for goods. There was a good deal of theft, especially of explosives for fishing. The Italian counts were very slow. This made the Army reactive. More Carabinieri were needed.

Brig Lush said the practice of having Carabinieri guard military installations was wrong and should be dropped.

5035

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Brig. Lush Meeting - 26 April 1944

Col Albright took the chair.

Col Farren said A.A.I. claim there is not enough co-operation between the Army and ACC on labour matters. They are advertising in Foggia for 25,000 harvest workers and offering excessive rations. Col Shipp will check on the situation.

It was reported that Col. Whitley, R.C. for Region 5, is in hospital in Naples for a malaria check-up.

Col Shipp said he had received complaints of the multiplicity of reports required by Sub-Commissions from Provincial Commissioners in AMG Eighth Army and Region 2. He said the Army was introducing a "Q" Statistical Branch which would cut down the number of army returns called for, and thought ACC might consider a similar arrangement.

Major Hinkel reported that Prof Imbo had told him persons in shelters near Vesuvius had died of fumes working out underground from Vesuvius. Prof Imbo had given warning of this when the eruption came, but apparently the public had not been informed.

5039

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

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PBS 13. Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 27 April 1944.

Brig Lush says the Rome party wants GAOs and SCAOs plus a Labour Officer and would like some of them from the Eighth Army.

Brig Lush kidnapped two Army officers who flagged him yesterday for a ride and they are both on ACC strength today. One is a lawyer and the other an engineer. He wants more specialists and administrators picked up the same way.

Brig Lush said Region 3 is going too far in having all cases tried by AMG Legal Officers. This is setting up a bad precedent and the military will be on the spot when we move forward. The Italian Courts should be put to work from the beginning.

There was considerable discussion of rationalizing reports demanded from the Field.

Col Albright called attention to an order changing some non-secret short title unit designations. Brig Lush said he was sorry Freedom was gone, it was quite historic.

Major Hinkel said a very valuable library was discovered yesterday in the Post Office Building. The Germans had destroyed all but five.

Col Sorman said he hoped PR would not back Prof Imbo's "terreneous decision" that the earth tremor Monday night was not an earthquake. Many AMG officers have decided that Imbo is wrong.

Brig Lush wants a short explanatory note attached to all orders sent him for signature.

Brig Lush wants to go through the minutes of the Conference Item by Item on Saturday.

Col Briester reported that some prostitutes, both professional and amateur, had been sent to Capua camp as refugees. He wanted it understood AMG was not running a brothel there. 5038

Major Hinkel reported that Col Kincaid had had shelters, where people were killed by gas from Vervius, boarded up. The people had been warned but paid no attention and two had died at Reims.

Colonel Zellars left Monday to take over Region 2, Col Albright announced.

/ Brig Lush

-2-

Brig Lush said that when AFHQ orders out key AGC men some attempt should be made to keep them. He thinks there should be notice and consultation.

Major Bullock announced he was going to Sardinia and would be glad to look into anything which wanted news or photographic coverage.

5037

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(49)

PRB 16.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 28 April 1944.

Brig Lush said that even in the abridged copy of the monthly report there was far too much on sub-commissions and far too little from the Regions. The picture was out of balance. We had not enough contact with the field.

Colonel Albright called attention to the change in the offices of Col Fiske and Col Bowman and Ol.

Brig Lush asked PRB to give the meeting a digest of the Government's declaration. Major Fiersten stressed the lack of space in Salerno. Brig Lush asked him to help the Italian authorities as much as possible.

Brig Lush said he wanted to find a senior officer with experience of business and labour problems.

Brig Lush said we should remember that we were in Region III territory and we must not interfere with their business.

Col Bowman said there was going to be a general clean-up of the city shortly and POC would like to see the British Motor Pool moved.

Col Robertson said this would be difficult: he had looked for another place and would continue to do so.

Col Shipp said he was going to Region VII and Region II. If anyone wished him to do anything they should let him know by 8.30 tomorrow.

Col Shipp said there were 17 cases of smallpox in Naples. Everyone should be vaccinated.

5036

PBB 16.

Brigadier Lush's Meeting - 29 April 1944

Brig Lush reminded officers of the order regarding telephone conversations. Telephones were not secure. This applied to inter-office telephones. Officers must avoid speaking at all about forthcoming operations. Not even views or speculations should be spoken in offices or messes or anywhere. There was evidence that the work of this Commission was of great interest to the enemy. Nothing must be left lying in offices. This was a serious matter.

Col Albright said the lack of EL/OR was desperate. ECM were taken for motor vehicles alone. Officers were having to do clerks' work. It seemed impossible to get efficient Italian clerks and drivers. They were trying to work out a plan for officers to drive cars themselves. There were demands for EL/OR on every side. The Secretary-General was asking for more.

Brig Lush said that was inadmissible: he had watched Major Doe's clerks: he had quite enough.

Col Albright said the shortage was our greatest emergency now.

Brig Lush said he had asked that Educational Sub-Commission should train Italian clerks. What had happened?

Col Albright said he did not think anything had been done. He would take it up.

Brig Lush asked if we were certain that every clerk was doing a full 8 hours every day.

Col Albright said they were making a check.

Brig Lush said that far too many had rushed out punctually at 6.30. There was a war on and people had got to work.

Major Fielden said that meal-times made things difficult.

5035

Brig Lush said that clerks must come back after their evening meal whenever necessary. They must work if there was work to be done. The day off was a good thing, but it must go if there was work to be done. We were employing too many people at HQ.

Col Robertson said it was untrue that meals were a difficulty. There were cooks on duty until ten o'clock at night.

Brig Lush said we should have to thin out EL/OR at HQ.

Major Winkal raised the question of pay scales for interpreters. They were too low.

Col Albright said we were setting up a standard to determine grades for pay.

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Col Albright said we were setting up a standard to determine grades for pay.

Brig Lush said there were many time-expired soldiers in Sardinia and some of these might be tried.

Major Hinkel described the new procedure for cables and said the message centre staff should be increased.

Brig Lush said that that was obviously impossible.

Col Albright said the message centre was undoubtedly overloaded. Cables even now were delayed.

Major Hinkel said he had had a conference at Caserta with G-2 and S Force in regard to their tasks in Rome. He had a list of these.

/ Brig Lush

-2-

Brig Lush asked if arrangements had been made for accommodation in Rome.

Col Albright said Col Fiske had this in hand.

Major Fielden said he now had a copy of the Armistice decree which would be signed by Badoglio at 10 a.m.

Major Fielden asked whether officers might drive cars. There was a long discussion on this point and Brig Lush said he did not want officers to drive cars, they should train drivers patiently.

Major Fielden said some drivers could not be trained. He hoped the CC would obey Brig Lush's order.

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