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P.W.B. - Section "D"

Mar. 1944 - Mar. 1945

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P.W.B. - Section "D" Reports ²²
Mar. 1944 - Mar. 1945

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N° 11.

Psychological Warfare Branch
Headquarters P.W.B. 15th Army Group
P.W.B. Unit N° 14, APO 512 U.S. Army

"D" Section

23rd March, 1945.

N° 11 INTELLIGENCE REPORT FOR LIBERATED ITALY NORTH OF THE
ARMY CONTROL LINE

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23rd March, 1945.

N° 11 INTELLIGENCE REPORT FOR LIBERATED ITALY NORTH OF THE
ARMY CONTROL LINE

SUMMARY

As in other cities liberated by the Allies, after an interval which enables other parties to take the lead in organizing their cadres, some of the monarchists in Florence have formed themselves into a group to promote, or at least to preserve, the institution of the monarchy. So far the group does not show the coherence or the organization which characterize a political party but it is carrying out a poll of public opinion to ascertain what portion of it is in favour of monarchy. This activity may have interesting consequences. It is worth noting also that the Fronte Monarchico aims at uniting within its ranks all adherents to the monarchy who may be members of the political parties, but that in the first test case - that of a Christian Democrat who was a founder of the Fronte Monarchico - the political party has called upon its member to sever his connection with the monarchist group and that he will conform to the party directive, while, of course, not sacrificing his convictions as a king's man.

The Congress of the Federation of the Communist Party for Florence province held in Florence on 10, 11 and 12 March appears from reports in the local press to have been a successful gathering. In a report on this Congress by the Communist Barbieri published in the special edition of the Mazzone del Popolo of 18th March, the figure of 36,000 is mentioned as being the number of party members in the province. It may be recalled that the figure quoted in N° 2 of these reports of 18th January 1945 which was an approximate estimate obtained from non-Communist sources of the number of Communists in the city of Florence was 4,000.

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An interesting report from an Italian government official about the organizing of assistance to partisans points out that amongst Italians there is a lack of co-ordination and prevalence of personal interests in these efforts. A serious attempt is now being made, however, by representatives of the Ministry for Occupied Italy to put an end to this somewhat chaotic state of affairs.

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Psychological Warfare Branch
Headquarters P.W.B. 15th Army Group
P.W.B. Unit No 14, APO 512 U.S. Army

23rd March 1945

"D" Section

No II INTELLIGENCE REPORT FOR LIBERATED ITALY NORTH OF THE
ARMY CONTROL LINE

POLITICAL

1. The Fronte Monarchico.

According to one of its founders, Dr. Fabrizio Boggiano-Pico, the Monarchist Front was started in Florence in early February by himself and a few of his friends. A Provincial Central Committee has been established consisting of:
General Camillo d'Afflitto

Dr. Carlo Roselli

Berado Geddes - who acts as secretary to the Committee
Lt. Col. Paolo Salvadori - orderly officer to Prince Hubert

Dr. Fabrizio Boggiano-Pico

Marchesa Anna Antinori - to represent women Monarchists.

So far only this provisional Committee has been chosen and it acts for the whole of the Florence Province. It is hoped to establish a representation of all the Communes as the movement develops. At present the activities of the Monarchist Front are discreet. They have issued and distributed by hand a stencilled manifesto of their programme. This has also been issued more recently in the form of a handbill (See below). Permission has also been asked for the publication of a booklet with some such title as "Linee programmatiche del Fronte Monarchico". A few members hold meetings in private houses. Perhaps the most fruitful activity is the collection of names of adherents to the movement. The names are collected by circulating copies of the programme and asking people who agree to it to sign a receipt from stating that they agree with the programme of the movement. In this way, says Boggiano-Pico, it will be possible to hold a kind of plebiscite on the Monarchy and after the liberation of all Italy, to present the Government, at the opportune moment, with lists of adherents to the monarchy. When asked by a P.W.B. officer how the many names had been collected, Boggiano-Pico would not disclose the number (it has been found normal in Florence for party leaders to withhold information about the strength of their parties). He stated, however, that he believed that it amounted to some thousands. This may be an exaggeration because a P.W.B. officer in conversation with another person closely connected with the Monarchist Front

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General Camillo G'Afflitto

Dr. Carlo Roselli

Berado Geddes - who acts as secretary to the Committee

Lt. Col. Paolo Salvadori - orderly officer to Prince Umberto

Dr. Fabrizio Boggiano-Pico

Marchesa Anna Antinori - to represent women Monarchists.

So far only this Provisional Committee has been chosen and it acts for the whole of the Florence Province. It is hoped to establish a representation of all the Communes as the movement develops. At present the activities of the Monarchist Front are discreet. They have issued and distributed by hand a stencilled manifesto of their programme. This has also been issued more recently in the form of a handbill (See below). Permission has also been asked for the publication of a booklet with some such title as "Linee programmatiche del Fronte Monarchico". A few members hold meetings in private houses. Perhaps the most fruitful activity is the collection of names of adherents to the movement. The names are collected by circulating copies of the programme and asking people who agree to it to sign a receipt from this way, says Boggiano-Pico, it will be possible to hold a kind of plebiscite on the Monarchy and after the liberation of all Italy to present the Government, at the opportune moment, with lists of adherents to the monarchy. When asked by a P.M.B. officer how the many names had been collected, Boggiano-Pico would not disclose the number (it has been found normal in Florence for party leaders to withhold information about the strength of their parties). He stated, however, that he believed that it amounted to some thousands. This may be an exaggeration because a P.M.B. officer in conversation with another person closely connected with the Monarchist Front was given a figure of 200.

Boggiano-Pico said that adherents to the movement come from all classes and he mentioned barbers, carpenters and shop-keepers as being members. In his view the upper classes would be found to be almost wholly in favour of the Monarchy and the middle-class element was producing a greatly increasing number of adherents. He said it would be necessary to carry on active propaganda in favour of the Monarchy among the parties. This could be particularly fruitful among the Liberals and the Christian Democrats. As to funds, Boggiano Pico complained that the Monarchist Front was very short of money. Boggiano-Pico is a young and energetic man in his late twenties. During the period of the German occupation he was

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a member of a Christian Democrat band and is said to have been both active and fearless. He comes from an old Genovese family and has connections in industrial circles. His position in the Monarchist Front has been made very difficult by the announcement made in the NAZIONE DEL POPOLO of March 12th (see Report Nº 10 para. 4) that the Provincial Executive Giunta of the Christian Democrat Party has decided that a person cannot be a member of the party while adhering to the Monarchist Front. Boggiano-Pisto told a P.W.E. officer that he had decided in loyalty to his party to resign from the Monarchist Front, but that this could not alter his sympathies as a monarchist.

The handbill circulated by the Monarchist Front is as follows:

Monarchist Front.
(Central Committee)
PROGRAMME.

The Monarchist Front proposes:

- 1) To unite in a single front all those who see in a constitutional monarchy freely chosen by the Italian people according to its traditions the only institution fitted to carry out the new democratic resurrection of the country and worthy of the trust and material collaboration of all civilized nations.
- 2) To carry out the honest and elevated propagation of its own ideas, to strengthen the conviction of the majority that if Italy should change her highest institutions, she would be led fatally towards a new dictatorship.
- 3) To act within the law opposing itself, however, decisively to any act of dishonesty or violence, which might be effected to the detriment of individual liberty and of the state.
- 4) To co-ordinate and nourish in that part of Italy still occupied by the Germans the struggle which all the Monarchist forces of the North have been carrying on since 28th September 1943 against the infamous fascist republic.
- 5) To try to merge all monarchist currents in a single Italian Monarchist Front which by its programme and choice of leaders will give secure guarantees of success.
- 6) To receive into its ranks all citizens with a right to vote whether or not they belong to the various political parties and independently of any political prejudice.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

2. Christian Democrat Ban on members of the Monarchist Front.

According to the Provincial Executive Giunta of the Christian Democrat Party, the ban is as follows:

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- 3) To act within the law opposing itself, however, decisively to any act of dishonesty or violence, which might be effected to the detriment of individual liberty and of the state.
- 4) To co-ordinate and nourish in that part of Italy still occupied by the Germans the struggle which all the Monarchist forces of the North have been carrying on since 8th September 1943 against the infamous fascist republic.
- 5) To try to merge all monarchist currents in a single Italian Monarchist Front which by its programme and choice of leaders will give secure guarantees of success.
- 6) To receive into its ranks all citizens with a right to vote whether or not they belong to the various political parties and independently of any political prejudice.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

2. Christian Democrat Ban on members of the Monarchist Front.

A warning by the Provincial Executive Giunta of the Christian Democrat Party drawing the attention of members of the Party to the deliberation of the National Council of the Party which forbade them to adhere to other movements, was published in paragraph 4 of the last of these Reports (No 10).

A leading Christian Democrat of Florence, Avv. Piccioni, who has recently been elected to the Central Executive Giunta of the party, explained to a P.W.B. officer the scope of the above-mentioned warning. It was occasioned by the participation in a prominent rôle of a Christian Democrat, Dr. Fabrizio Boggiano-Pico, in the newly formed Monarchist Front. Although, said Avv. Piccioni, the warning appeared to discriminate against monarchists,

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the decision of the National Council, of which the warning was a sequel, was a general prohibition to members of the Christian Democrat Party against taking part in other political movements whether republican or monarchist. In fact the Christian Democrat Party had already, some time ago, refused a proposal to take part in a republican concentration or coalition of various republican parties.

3. The Third Provincial Congress of Communist Federation of Florence.

The Congress took place on 10th, 11th, and 12th of March in the Pergola Theatre in Florence. There were present 266 delegates from the city and province representing 77 sections and 36,000 members of the party according to the report in LA NAZIONALE DAILY POPOLIO by the Communist Orazio Barbieri, a member of the Federal Committee. On the stage were seen the entire Federal Committee, three members of the Directorate of the Communist Party of Italy, (Pellegrini, Silvati and Berlinguer) and the secretaries of the other Tuscan Federations. A delegation of the Socialist Party was also present.

The Congress opened with the reading of a letter from Togliatti who was unable to attend the Congress. This letter has several interesting passages. In one of them is the suggestion that only the advanced parties in the Government have the confidence of the people and explains the position of the party in the Government following the scandalous flight of the war criminal Roatta as being due to a desire to prevent any breach of unity in the country at war for its own freedom. Togliatti made plain, however, that the Communist Party had requested and obtained from the Government the adoption of energetic measures to extirpate fascism and its residues from the body politic and that they made their participation in the Government conditional on the fulfillment of these measures. He asked, in his letter, that the party organizations should watch vigilantly to prevent "torbid elements" from taking advantage of popular discontent to produce situations which would be detrimental to the democratic and anti-fascist forces in Italy.

He recommended a tightening of the bonds which united Communist and Socialist parties and in a passage of special importance and interest asked party members "to maintain in your province relations of sound collaboration with the Christian Democrat Party, not only in the syndical but in the political field". He told them to strengthen the unity of all anti-fascist parties in the C.I.N. which "remains for us the axis of the political life of the country". It is interesting to note that in the political resolution passed at the conclusion of the Congress meetings, most of the above suggestions were approved.

After Togliatti's letter Giuseppe Rossi made a report on the political activity of the Florentine Federation. There followed reports on the activities of the various

members of the party. The Communist Party of Italy (C.P.I.) was also present. The Congress opened with the reading of a letter from Togliatti who was unable to attend the Congress. This letter has several interesting passages. In one of them is the suggestion that only the advanced parties in the Government have the confidence of the people and explains the position of the party in the Government following the scandalous flight of the war criminal Roatta as being due to a desire to prevent any breach of unity in the country at war for its own freedom. Togliatti made plain, however, that the Communist Party had requested and obtained from the Government the adoption of energetic measures to extirpate fascism and its residues from the body politic and that they made their participation in the Government conditional on the fulfillment of these measures. He asked, in his letter, that the party organizations should watch vigilantly to prevent "torbid elements" from taking advantage of popular discontent to produce situations which would be detrimental to the democratic and anti-fascist forces in Italy.

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After Togliatti's letter Giuseppe Rossi made a report on the political activity of the Florentine Federation. There followed reports on the youth movement and the women's organization by Tito Mazoni, Aldo Braibanti and Teresa Mattei. These reports were followed by discussion among the members. These discussions were lively. 30 members intervened in the political debate and 96 in that of the organization of the party. After the reports came the election of the new Federal Committee which was increased from 13 to 21 members. The proceedings were closed by speeches from two members of the directorate of the party, Silvati and Pellegrini and the Socialist Chief addressed the Congress saying: "The seriousness and realism with which you have raised and discussed important problems show that you have in fact created a new type of party."

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Amongst other resolutions approved by the Congress there were two of special importance, the first a political one, the second on the party organization.

a) The Political Resolution.

The resolution affirmed that the political conduct of the party had been such as to meet the national exigencies and those of the party itself; that the policy of national unity followed by the Communist Party had been realised through its being in the vanguard of all the sound forces in the fight for national liberation and the extirpation of fascism. The Florentine Federation expressed its will to reinforce the policy of the party which aimed at greater participation in the war, the solutions of the problems of the labouring masses through a policy of national solidarity, epuration of the organisms of national life and their effective transformation to democratic forms. The resolution approved the political attitude of the party Directorate following the Roatta incident, confirmed the necessity of an ever increasing collaboration with the Socialists and expressed a wish to maintain and consolidate good relations with the Christian Democrat Party not only in the syndical but also in the political field. Then follows an interesting passage in the resolution which calls for a greater strengthening of the party and a rapid remedy of the deficiencies and lacunae which the Congress has revealed. It calls for great vigilance on the part of the party members in watching the manoeuvres of reactionaries and concludes with sending messages of good will to the army, the partisans and the population of the north, the Directorate of the party and comrade Bogdanov.

b) The Organizational Resolution.

The fundamental basis of the Party remains the cell. In order to assure syndical uniformity among the cells in the same place or work a co-ordinating committee acting under the Section Committee should be formed. Sex segregation should continue to be the rule where street cells are concerned. In view of the scarcity of cadres, the responsible organs of the party are invited to select suitable persons for appointments to posts of responsibility. It is suggested that a Cadres Section should be set up in each Section. While experience does not show substantial information of the Party to be necessary, it is thought that the Sectional Committees should be strengthened and that there should be better liaison between Committees and cells.

c) Action Party Elections.

The election of the Section Party has just finished

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2) The Organizational Resolution.

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3) Action Party Elections.

The Florence Section of the Action Party has just finished holding its elections. As a result, the following members

chosen from among industrial workers, farmers, artisans, clerks and intellectuals, now constitute the Direzione Politica of the Party.

Members: Enrico Bono, Calamandre Piero, Campolun Carlo, Codignola Cristiano, Gallacci Edoardo, Pasola Rita, Parno Carlo,

Barbacci Corrado, Petrolino Alberto, Bonifanti Luigi, Barile

Paolo, Petrucci Bruno, Pelli Giuliano, Levi Carlo, Passaglia Aldo,

Marinelli Piero, Reggiani Carlo, Lindorino, Baccioli Ernesto,

Turilli Norberto. The first nine of the above mentioned form

the Executive Committee; the others the Consultative Committee.

Codignola is the Section Secretary and Reggiani and Baccioli

are President and Vice-President respectively.

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ECONOMIC

5. I.N.C.I.S.A. (Cement Factory) at Incisa (Firenze).

(Interview with Ing. Cesare PELLERI (President),
temporary Manager and one of the Company's three owners.)

Construction of the plant was started in 1938. It was intended to manufacture high-resistance "artificial" cement that is cement made under continual scientific control of the ingredients in order to ensure uniformity and high quality. The war interfered with the completion of the installation and the necessary special machinery, though the lime furnace and the equipment for making ordinary cement were completed. However, as for competitive reasons the company failed to become a member of the Trade Association of the Cement Industry (C.I.T.I. - Consorzio Italiano Leganti Idraulici), it was never given the necessary supply of coal to produce any cement. The equipment aside from the incomplete installation, today consists of one furnace for making "normal cement", a large Hoffmann type furnace for making hydraulic lime and bricks. The Germans destroyed practically nothing nor did they take anything away. All removable machinery was hidden behind a wall in the air-raid shelter. The building containing the new cement making equipment was completely closed in by falling doors and windows with brick work. The shed containing a large grinder for making ordinary cement was partly walled in and the equipment deeply covered with soil. The company's old but useful truck was saved by leaving it without wheels upside down in a far corner of the yard, making it look like a wreck.

Production of hydraulic lime, bricks and tiles was begun in September 1944. Until the end of Feb. 1945, 6,000 qls. of lime were produced; 45,000 bricks and several thousand tiles were made by hand. This work was done without the help of electricity. It meant that in the absence of ventilation twice the normal amount of lignite had to be burned to make the lime. It meant that 2 men had to be kept at work all day long, pulling lignite up a steep incline to feed the

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The Industry Section became interested in the plant because of its potential productive efficiency. Through the good offices two tons of iron were supplied to repair minor bomb and artillery damage to the buildings. 72 sq. metres of glass and 80 metres of leather belting were also supplied. The plant also assigned the plant 30 tons of coal. And since Feb. 22nd 1945, Kw of electricity have been supplied to be soon increased to 170 Kw.

With a consumption of 4 - 5 tons of coal, 13 tons of lignite and 170 Kw of power, the plant now produces daily:

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300 qls. of cement
300 " of hydraulic lime
4,500 bricks.

At present the plant employs 90 workers soon to be increased to 115. Wages average 185 lire a day with an upper limit of 220 lire. Through AMG supplementary food rations are furnished the workers (130 grs. of flour, 21 grs. of dry soup a day).

With the exception of a part of the hydraulic lime all production is for the account of AMG. The necessary cash is supplied by banks at 8% interest.

6. New Bread Price.

The substitution of an "economic" price for the hitherto prevailing "political" price of bread, entailing an increase from 5 to 16 lire a kilo, has not, as far as can be ascertained, given rise to excessive comment. It may be that the population of Florence counts the increase as part of the cost of liberation, and in any case the extra charge is absorbed by the indemnity of 95 lire a month decreed in favour of all workers and each member of their families. Moreover, the rise did not come as a surprise and anyhow people were used to paying fancy prices for the extra bread needed to supplement the official ration. Thinking people were also beginning to appreciate that where-as a rise in price would not weigh unduly on the family budget, the continuation of the bread subsidy would do so on the State budget.

7. Conversion from Petrol to Methane.

A new order regarding the change-over from petrol to natural gas (methane) as a medium of propulsion for motor vehicles in the Province of Florence has been issued by AMG. Previously it was ordered that all vehicles up to 10 quintals had to be converted at the rate of fifty a month, but difficulties in the supply of apparatus necessary to run them on gas having arisen, it has now been provided that AMG will from time to time order a certain number of vehicles to be so converted. The owners of the vehicles included in any particular batch will be notified personally to change over to gas within a specified period.

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Meanwhile anybody in possession, or who was in possession before the arrival of the Allied Forces, of apparatus for enabling motor vehicles to run on gas is required to report such possession, or alternatively to show to what use the apparatus has been put, to the Commune of Florence or to C.C.R.R. stations in country districts.

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PUBLIC OPINION8. Alexander's Address to Italian Soldiers.

Italian officers interviewed by a P.W.B. official concur in the view that Field Marshal Alexander's words to the Italian troops have given considerable satisfaction in military circles. They are taken as an appreciation of the Italian war effort by a fighter whom Italians greatly admire. His praise of the Italian troops even when fighting on the other side, is regarded as very timely owing to the Italian soldiers' uncertainty as to whether he was doing right in taking pride in past achievements and sacrifices.

The persons interviewed did not omit to seize the opportunity of pointing out that relations between Allied and Italian Forces would be vastly improved if Italy were granted the status of an Ally. Until this happened, there would still remain a doubt in the mind of the Italian soldier whether the new effort he was called upon to make was worth while. "What are we fighting for, if our sacrifice is not to improve the position of our country in the international field?", or words to that effect, is a thought often expressed by serving soldiers. There is also the much debated question of Italian P/Ws. Practically one out of every five soldiers has a relation in an Allied concentration camp and the knowledge aggravates the feeling of inferiority born of defeat in the field.

9. Mussolini's Radio Speech of 16th March.

Although the recent speech of Mussolini is regarded as the "sproloquio" of a madman who refuses to face facts, his allusion to German secret weapons has produced a certain impression bordering on apprehension. The two dictators have been harping on this string for some time now and their utterances are considered here as being the prelude to the initiation of gas and chemical warfare. The virtual absence of the Luftwaffe in German skies is taken as an indication that planes are being held in reserve, and meanwhile converted, for a general onslaught with new weapons. The words with which Hitler terminated a recent address -- "God will forgive me the last twenty four

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10. Press Meeting.

One of the questions asked of A.M.G. officials at this week's Press Meeting in Florence was whether there would be a special issue of foodstuffs for Easter. The reply was in the negative although it was added that the distribution of pasta would be ante-dated so that the population could receive it before Easter.

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In reply to complaints that sugar was being used by cafes and confectioners which might have gone to increase the allowance for children it was stated that the sugar in question must have been bought prior to the liberation of Florence as no supplies has been issued by A.M.G. to such users.

Among the many questions put to A.M.G. officials, that relating to the prices of cloth probably ranked first in importance, as with 2,500 to 6,000 lire a metre being asked for suit and dress lengths the matter is one in which most ordinary citizens have a direct interest. The reply was to the effect that the remedy lay in the hands of the consumers themselves as all they had to do was to report cases of overcharging to the authorities. The prices of cloth, it was explained, were controlled by the Consiglio Provinciale dell'Economia and shopkeepers were required to indicate the prices of the various materials exposed for sale. These prices were from 700 to 900 lire a metre and were applicable not only to new production - a million metres of cloth are lying at Prato ready for distribution - but also to existing stocks.

11. V.I.

It is rumoured in Florence that flying bombs launched from the far bank of the Po fell in the countryside round Pistoia on March 17th. The rumour, which has gained wide credence in all circles, has aroused considerable apprehension, as it is feared that these unwelcome attentions will not be confined to Pistoia and that the rest of Tuscany will eventually come in for its share.

12. Independence of Radio Florence.

The Commissione Interna ("shop committee") of Radio Florence has passed a resolution expressing its apprehension in regard to the wholesale dismissals of radio workers from South Italian stations which have come under the jurisdiction of R.A.I. The resolution affirms that the Florence station is perfectly capable of operating as an independent unit and states that it must not be sacrificed on the altar of Roman centralisation.

The desiderata of Radio Florence personnel are supported by the C.F.I.N. and the C.C.I.

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GENERALI3. Maternity and Infant Welfare in Florence.

(An interview with the President of the O.N.M.I.I.)

Maternity and Infant Welfare in Italy was organized in 1926 under a National scheme known as "Opera Nazionale Maternità ed Infanzia", (O.N.M.I.I.) Its primary aim has been to give health and medical assistance to mothers and to children up to about the age of four, with additional material aid in case of need.

In Florence, a city which has always taken particular pride in its welfare organizations, the ONMI carried on under war conditions, and during the period of emergency was able to supply its centres with food from stores expressly built up and hidden from the Nazi-Fascists.

In an interview with a PWE collaborator, the President of the ONMI in Florence, gave the following facts about the work of the Centres:

Welfare Centres

There are 18 Consulting Centres in Florence, of which 14 are for sick children and 4 for maternity care. Here, patients irrespective of social station, may receive expert advice and treatment free of charge. Food is also distributed at the Centres at a minimum charge for infants under one year, and consists chiefly of milk, cornflour, oatmeal etc. Vitamins were also distributed at one time, but these are at present unobtainable. Their lack is widely felt and requests for them come from doctors in every quarter.

There is also a Crèche for children whose mothers are at work. It is open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and serves the children with breakfast, mid-day lunch and an afternoon snack.

Food Centres.

Food Centres for Mothers and Infants are run by the ONMI for expectant mothers, nursing mothers up to 7 months, and mothers with children in needy circumstances. They receive one large meal daily of extra bread, soup, meat and vegetables, jam and fruit, for which no coupons are required. If transport were available more fruit and vegetables could be fetched from the countryside which would help to replace some of the vitamins which are lacking.

There are also two Institutes for mothers and children in the town, each equipped with its own Consulting Centre, Food Centre and Crèche.

ONMI also provides for the care of children in the local Homes kept by nuns, where complete assistance is given at very low charges.

Food Problem.

The food problem has been solved largely through the help of the ONMI. From 2nd August to 31st December,

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Food Problem

The food problem has been solved largely through the help of the Allied authorities. From 3rd August to 31st December, 1944 the following quantities were distributed:-

Powdered milk	515750 kg.
Evaporated milk	8686 tins
Dietetic flour	8256
Vitamins	256 phials (left over from the emergency period)

Various distributions of jam, sugar, semolina and rice.

Owing to the control taken by AMG and SEPRAL, a periodical assignment of fresh milk has been made available, which is extremely valuable for expectant mothers.

During the period of emergency ONMI continued to function

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without interruption, and when it was impossible to serve cooked food, fortnightly parcels of food were distributed from the supplies which had been saved.

Mortality.

Immediately after the period of emergency, cases of infantile enterocolitis with symptoms of jaundice were reported. Fortunately the cases were not excessive in number and mortality was not heavy. The disease has now been completely overcome. Diphtheria which followed and was traced to the Refugee Centre where a few cases had broken out, reached its height in October with a total of 99 and 81 deaths respectively. This too has almost completely disappeared.

Numbers Benefitting.

Approximately 850 persons are examined weekly at the Consulting Centres, of which about 650 receive assistance.

In the Food Centres about 900 meals are provided daily.

14. Report from the Acting School Inspector of Florence.

The running of the schools during the German occupation was especially obstructed in the 1943-1944 scholastic year, on account of the many requisitions of school premises for military purposes - billets for the troops, as hospitals, etc. - and also as a result of air-raids. In point of fact, during that period, many schools in important local centres of the province, like Pontassieve, Borgo S. Lorenzo, Figline Valdarno and Certaldo were opened for only a few weeks and then definitely closed because of damage.

The teachers were the same as those now in service, except for those who have been suspended for reasons of epuration or who have fled to the North. Apart from those who are absent on military service or because they were former members of the G.I.L. or because they are on regular leave for private reasons, there are no absentees. Indeed, it is known that, especially in 1944 some teachers did all to avoid enlistment and when the emergency period drew near in the summer of the same year hid themselves to escape the Nazi-Fascist comb-outs. In the same year, a few cases of open revolt against Nazi-Fascism occurred, as at the Saffi school, which was picketed for a long time.

Such scientific and educational equipment was lost or destroyed but there was also a large quantity which was put in a safe place and hidden (to the great personal danger of many a headmaster or teacher) in order to save it from German looting.

The alterations in the curriculum of the elementary and secondary schools are in accordance with the official programmes approved by the A.C. and already circulated to the schools.

The present condition of the schools can be considered satisfactory in Florence city, and good in the province, although there are many schools which are occupied for military purposes, as can be seen by the statistics attached. Nevertheless, it can be said that nearly all, with the exception of a very small

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The present condition of the schools can be considered satisfactory in Florence city, and good in the province, although there are many schools which are occupied for military purposes, as can be seen by the statistics attached. Nevertheless, it can be said that nearly all, with the exception of a very small minority, are functioning regularly either in their own premises or in temporary ones. The time-tables are curtailed when more than one school has to use the same school-rooms on the same day.

The following are some figures, which while not absolutely exact, give a good general picture:-

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Figures of the opening of State Schools in Florence and Province:-

	Kindergarten	Elementary	Occupational	Intermediate Schools	Ginnasi, Licei Institutes
Total Number of schools.	16.	597	21	7	18
Number of schools open.	10	466	15	7	18
Normal attendance.	827	58765	5275	3797	6080
Present Attendance.	406	44349	3671	3318	4843
Teachers on permanent Staff	26	2013	158	148	234
Teachers actually on duty.	26	1371	266	204	403

Condition of the school buildings:-

	Elementary Buildings	Occupational Buildings	Intermediate Buildings	Ginnasi, Licei Buildings
Normal Total number	597	1948	21	189
Total number open	465	1098	15	99
Occupied by the Allies.	77	466	4	22
Occupied by the Carabinieri	1	1	=	=
Occupied by the Italian Army	4	27	=	=
Occupied by Evacuees	39	91	3	=
Occupied by Firms or Parties	2	4	1	=
Awaiting to be disinfected	135	858	=	=
Awaiting minor repairs	159	341	5	43
Seriously damaged	60	231	3	32
Destroyed	28	129	3	32

Schools open.
 Normal atten- 827 58765 3797 6080
 dance.
 Present Atten- 406 44349 3318 4843
 dance.
 Teachers on
 permanent Staff 26 2013 148 234
 Teachers
 actually on 26 1371 204 403
 duty.

Condition of the school buildings:-

	Elementary Build- ding	Occupational Build- ding	Intermediate Build- ding	Ginnasi, Lice Build- ding
Normal Total number	597	1948	117	331
Total number	465	1098	7	184
open	77	466	1	8
Occupied by the Allies.				
Occupied by the Carabinieri	1			
Occupied by the Italian Army	4	27		
Occupied by Evacuees	39	91		
Occupied by Firms or Parties	2	4	1	20
Awaiting to be disinfected	135	858		
Awaiting minor repairs	159	341	4	24
Seriously damaged	60	231		11
Destroyed	28	129		
Not in use for other reasons	9	17		
Conditions not known	29	42		

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Figure on the opening of private and quasi-state schools in Florence and Province.

	Kindergarten	Elementary	Occupational	Intermediary	Ginnasi Licei
Total	169	133	6	43	=
Number of					
Schools opened	138	103	6	38	=
Normal					
Attendance	10804	8867	431	6282	=
Actual					
Attendance	8734	7423	436	5150	=
Teachers on					
permanent	=	=	=	=	=
Staff					
Teachers on					
duty	241	237	54	518	=
N.B.	These schools are privately run but on the State pattern.				

Condition of the school buildings:-

	Elementary Build- ding	Occupational Build- ding	Intermediate Build- ding	Ginnasi, Licei Build- ding
Normal Total	140	=	43	=
number				
Total number	110	6	27	562
open				
Occupied by		6	25	518
the Allies	=	=	=	=
Occupied by the			3	=
Italian Army	=	=	=	=
Occupied by			=	=
the Carabinieri	=	=	=	=
Occupied by			=	=
Evacuees	=	1	3	=
Occupied by			=	=
Firms or Parties	=	=	=	=
Awaiting disin-			=	=
fection	4	=	=	=
Awaiting minor			=	=
repairs	6	1	12	=

attendance 8734 7423 436 5150 =
 Teachers on permanent Staff = = = =
 Teachers on duty 241 237 54 518 =
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Condition of the school buildings:-

	Elementary Build- ding	Occupational Build- ding	Intermediate Build- ding	Ginnasi, Licei Build- ding
Normal Total number	140	6	43	562
Total number open	110	6	38	518
Occupied by the Allies	=	=	3	=
Occupied by the Italian Army	=	=	=	=
Occupied by the Carabinieri	=	=	=	=
Occupied by Evacuees	=	1	3	=
Occupied by Firms or Parties	=	=	=	=
Awaiting disinfestation	4	=	=	=
Awaiting minor repairs	6	=	12	=
Seriously damaged	1	1	2	=
Destroyed	=	=	=	=
Not in use for other reasons	=	=	=	=
Conditions not known	21	=	=	=

15. Aid for the Devastated Regions.

A vigorous drive is being made in Florence in aid of the people of the devastated regions. A Committee has been formed under the presidency of avv. Fessombroni who defined the plan for the systematic collection of clothes, blankets and money throughout the city at a meeting at the Supercinema on March 5th.

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In his appeal the president stressed particularly the plight of the villages along the front and the distress in the nearby town of Pisa, Leghorn, Pontedera, Pontassieve and Poggibonsi.

Collections in the different zones of the city began on March 15th. Groups of volunteer workers with trucks and other vehicles are working in different quarters of the town daily, and results are exceeding all expectations. It is worthy of note that the response is more ready and generous from the poorer streets: the popular quarter of Santa Croce, for example, has given 150,000 lire and there have been many touching instances of sacrifice on the part of those who have very little to give. Men confined in the city gaol heard of the collection and spontaneously contributed 8000 lire.

In addition to house to house collections, subscriptions are open in banks and other public centres; special performances and entertainments are being organized, and owners of windows overlooking the Cathedral square have placed them at the disposal of the Committee to be let for the traditional Easter Eve ceremony of the "Scoppio del Carro."

Up to 21st March, contributions in money have reached 1,052,930 lire.

The press and the Allies are cooperating in the drive.

16. Fascists never.

The other day a P.W.B. Italian collaborator was stopped by two children who begged him with tears in their eyes to escort them out of reach of a lad who was throwing stones at them. Upon being asked the reason for this conduct, the stone-thrower, who could not have been more than 8 years old, answered that the other two children had called him a fascist. Laughingly the P.W.B. collaborator asked if this was so and received the following reply: "Why of course I am, and I'm not alone. There are many of us as you'll learn one of these days."

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APPENDIX I.

THE PARTISAN QUESTION.

A Practical Survey and Plan for Organised Assistance by the Ministry of Occupied Italy.

The following survey was supplied by an Italian Government official in close touch with the Minister for Occupied Italy:

The question of the Partisans should be examined from three aspects:-

- a) Ex-Partisans resident in territory controlled by the Italian government.
- b) Partisans resident in German-Occupied territory.
- c) Partisans resident in territory which is liberated but still under Allied military control.

In the first instance, the transfer of powers from AMG to the Italian government should have already resulted in the absorption of these Partisans into civilian or military life.

The second is a matter of politico-military regularisation which calls for careful examination and execution in accordance with the opinion of the government and the course of the war.

The third is of great importance for this report in that it should automatically solve the first problem and contribute largely towards solving the second.

It is reasonable therefore to conclude that a solution of the Partisan problem in territories still administered by the Allied military authorities could have a decisive influence on the conduct of the war as well as on Italian politics, both at home and abroad. For whether the Partisans, once in liberated territory, become an active orderly element or a passive disorderly one, will depend entirely on a good organisation to meet their needs.

This problem deserves the serious attention of the Allied and Italian governments.

Assistance given to date

Everyone takes a certain amount of interest in the Partisans, but no one tackles the problem radically.

All cultural and political associations, most bodies in fact, include assistance to the Partisans among their activities. The result

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Assistance given to date

Everyone takes a certain amount of interest in the Partisans, but no one tackles the problem radically.

All cultural and political associations, most bodies in fact, include assistance to the Partisans among their activities. The result is a plethora of different aid groups competing and often conflicting with each other, none of which will ever succeed in improving the situation as a whole.

For example, assistance to the Partisans was first started by the C.T.L.N. and, directly or through the Tuscan Military Command, was very active. It has gradually declined and is now almost negligible.

Cardinal Elia DALMA COSLA, Archbishop of Florence, personally or through his clergy, gave considerable assistance at first, but this too has become little more than occasional and sporadic.

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Every party of the Right, Centre or Left started to help the Partisans; but with the sole object of proselytizing. There are flagrant cases of aid given only to those inscribed in the parties, and shameful cases of exploitation of the dead and wounded for political ends.

The Italian military authorities have also attempted to head assistance groups, but have met with as little success as the attempts of the 210th Division and others.

The Patriot Department which was established at the Prefecture and emanated directly from the Government has barely kept its head above water and is now dying without honour or glory.

The Prefect himself, with the help of the city authorities has tried as far as possible to provide aid, and the Province has assigned various sums to the Partisans' Aid Fund.

The Commune, after a somewhat chaotic system of aid, has now taken the sensible line of considering the Partisans as refugees and evacuees and gives them a daily subsidy.

All these efforts however are inspired less by the groups themselves than by their heads who, through their efforts, hope to impress those likely to be prominent in the future political, economic and military life of the country. In the same category are men and women, particularly of the aristocracy, who have promoted assistance by individual effort.

The Unione delle Donne Italiane, though lacking coordination, has done good work, especially in organizing a centre for receiving and distributing clothes.

Side by side with these efforts, other so-called Partisan aid groups have sprung up, such as the Movimento Partigiani, headed by the Comando Superiore Partigiani - an importation from Rome and representing personal interests more than anything else; the Associazione Partigiani d'Italia, an honest attempt on the government's part to gather the Partisans into a single association which would defend their interests.

Broadly speaking, aid is limited to gifts of money, cigarettes, clothing and words of encouragement. The complete lack of

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Broadly speaking, aid is limited to gifts of money, cigarettes, clothing and words of encouragement. The complete lack of organization and coordination, while benefiting the ne'er-do-wells who go the round of the aid centres getting money or clothes which they immediately sell, creates dissatisfaction and disillusionment among genuine and honest Partisans. The Allies are aware of this. The result is a general lack of confidence on their part in the Italian people's ability to recuperate, one proof of which is the diffidence with which they give their approval - approval so necessary at this time - to any kind of

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effort in connection with the Partisans. The Allies' confidence must be regained. They must see that there are signs of recovery. This is work for the Ministry of Occupied Italy. First and foremost a radical change of system with a centralization of pro-Patriot assistance is needed.

To achieve this the following suggestions are submitted:-

- 1) A distinction to be made in territories under Allied Military Government between the question of a) Partisans in the front lines, b) Partisans in the rear and towns. The first is essentially a military problem and should be considered as such; the second, though not purely a military problem, should be examined and solved entirely with the unconditional aid of the Allied Military Government. Much will depend on results achieved in this field as to future possibilities of cooperation in the front lines.
- 2) The various aid centres to be given a sound financial basis: contributions to be fixed by the Ministry, funds, food, clothing, medical supplies to be centralized and every effort made to ensure distribution.
- 3) Men appointed to branch offices to be chosen for their capacity for honest loyal work and for gaining Allied sympathy.

The new organization must hinge on these three points: the result should be a strengthening of the powers of the Ministry of Occupied Italy and so, of Italy as a whole.

PLAN

MINISTRY OF OCCUPIED ITALY

provincial commissions

LIAISON CENTRE

COLLECTING CENTRE
5TH ALLIED ARMY

COLLECTING CENTRE
8TH ALLIED ARMY

in the front lines, b) Partisans in the rear and towns. The first is essentially a military problem and should be considered as such; the second, though not purely a military problem, should be examined and solved entirely with the unconditional aid of the Allied Military Government. Much will depend on results achieved in this field as to future possibilities of cooperation in the front lines.

2) The various aid centres to be given a sound financial basis: contributions to be fixed by the Ministry, funds, food, clothing, medical supplies to be centralized and every effort made to ensure distribution.

3) Men appointed to branch offices to be chosen for their capacity for honest loyal work and for gaining Allied sympathy.

The new organization must hinge on these three points: the result should be a strengthening of the powers of the Ministry of Occupied Italy and so, of Italy as a whole.

PLAN

MINISTRY OF OCCUPIED ITALY

Provincial commissions

LIAISON CENTRE

COLLECTING CENTRE

5TH ALLIED ARMY

hospitals

convalescent homes

enrolment in army

transfer to work

return home

COLLECTING CENTRE

8TH ALLIED ARMY

hospitals

convalescent homes

enrolment in army

transfer to work

return home

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Explanatory notes.

PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONS

A Provincial Commission to be set up in every liberated province under A.M.G., consisting of:

President	-	an official of the Ministry of Occupied Italy
Members	-	a representative of the Prefettura
	"	" A.M.G.
	"	" C.L.N.
	"	" Deputazione Provinciale
	"	" Ass. Naz. Partigiani
	"	d'Italia
	"	" Unione delle Donne Italiane

Duties

- 1) Set up immediately Ass. Naz. Partigiani d'Italia.
- 2) Centralize funds, clothes, medical supplies etc., in each province.
- 3) Promote aid of all kinds, and give emergency help to Partisans sent from Collecting Centres and in hospitals and convalescent homes in their own province.
- 4) Arrange with C.G.L., Ass. Industriali; Ass. Commercianti; Allied offices, state and commune offices etc., for the transfer to work of Partisans discharged from Collecting Centres.
- 5) Contact Liaison Centres for distribution of funds, clothing etc., according to needs.
- 6) Afford assistance to families of fallen Patriots in their own province, or temporarily resident there.

The above to be carried out during period of administration by A.M.G., at the end of which the Provincial Commission to form part of the Commissariato Naz. Patrioti and Reduci di Guerra, and the President (Ministry official) to be assigned fresh duties by Liaison Centre.

LIAISON CENTRE (one Centre for the 5th and 8th Allied Armies)

To be set up where expedient and mobile with the front, consisting of: Head - official of the Ministry of War.

Duties

- 1) Set up immediately Ass. Naz. Partigiani d'Italia.
- 2) Centralize funds, clothes, medical supplies etc., in each province.
- 3) Promote aid of all kinds, and give emergency help to Partisans sent from Collecting Centres and in hospitals and convalescent homes in their own province.
- 4) Arrange with C.G.L., Ass. Industriali; Ass. Commercianti; Allied offices, state and commune offices etc., for the transfer to work of Partisans discharged from Collecting Centres.
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The above to be carried out during period of administration by A.M.G., at the end of which the Provincial Commission to form part of the Commissariato Naz. Patrioti and Reduci di Guerra, and the President (Ministry official) to be assigned fresh duties by Liaison Centre.

ATTACHMENT (one Centre for the 5th and 8th Allied Armies)

To be set up where expedient and mobile with the front, consisting of: Head - official of the Ministry of Occupied Italy; and 42 members - officials available for Provincial Commissions and inspecting and administrative work for the Liaison Centre (subordinate personnel).

Duties:

Collect from Provincial Commissions all material needed for distribution to Collecting Centres; keep in touch with Allies, National Army, Ministry of Occupied Italy and Provincial Com-

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missions; keep in communication and control of Collecting Centres; file personal particulars of Partisans; assist Partisans in zones under A.M.G., estimate family needs of fallen patriots; report on work accomplished to Ministry of Occupied Italy; prepare ground for organized assistance in zones to be liberated; reporting details to Ministry; inform Partisans fighting beyond the lines of what to do in liberated zone and provision made for them.

COLLECTING CENTRES - one for each Allied Army.

To be set up where expedient and mobile with front, consisting of: Commandant; Vice-Commandant (Allied officer); medical officer; employee for financial assistance; National Army officer for enrolment; official for transfer to civilian employment; employee for measures for return of Partisans to their homes

The Collecting Centres to be as comfortable as possible - preferably in large requisitioned buildings - and provide food, lodging, clothing, medical aid, recreation. Patriots to remain 14 days. On arrival each to receive a sum to be fixed by Ministry of Occupied Italy; the mess to be provided free or at a minimum charge. The Centres to arrange to send Partisans to: hospitals, convalescent homes, National Army, civilian employment or their homes. Arrangements for mess and lodging to remain fixed, the rest of the organization to be mobile with the front.

Equipment: beds, 3 blankets per person; 2 sheets per person; 1 pillow and case per person; abundant clothing; mobile kitchen; wash-basins; bath, obligatory once a day; well-kept lavatories; mobile first-aid apparatus; motor-ambulance; cine-camera; folding theatrical stage; cars and lorries for commanding officer and officers.

Such material to be calculated according to receiving capacity of the Centres, and all equipment to be collected from Collecting Centres, Prov. Commissions, National Army, Allies, Italian Red Cross and American Red Cross.

IDENTITY BOOKS.

COLLECTING CENTRES - one for each Allied Army.

To be set up where expedient and mobile with front, consisting of: Commandant; Vice-Commandant (Allied officer); medical officer; employee for financial assistance; National Army officer for enrolment; official for transfer to civilian employment; employee for measures for return of Partisans to their homes

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IDENTITY BOOKS.

Each Partisan on crossing the lines to receive an identity book from an official of the Ministry stationed with first line Allied units. The book to consist of: 1st page: surname and name; names of parents; date and place of birth; present address; profession or trade; conditions of family; group to which he belongs. 2nd page: dates of arrival at and departure from first line Allied Command; destination; provision given by Allied Command; 3rd and 4th pages: provision given by Ministry and its branches. The book only valid for: Collecting

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Centres, Prov. Commissions and groups depending from them, hospitals and convalescent homes, employers, C.G.I. and similar associations, Commissariato Naz. Patrioti and Reduci di guerra, Allied Commands for travelling orders to return home. The book ceases to be valid on cessation of aid and return of Partisan to civilian or military life. Partisans not furnished with the book to be considered either as not authentic, or to have crossed the lines uncontrolled and are therefore to be sent back to the Allied authorities to apply for assistance and identification in the approved way.

The foregoing scheme is drawn up with the sole object of facilitating the workings of the assistance groups of the Ministry, and contacts between the Centres and districts, particularly in view of the fact that shortly over 100,000 Partisans may be requiring care and guidance. On the eve of liberation the Ministry should be in a position to cope with the fluid situation and direct the work of coordination behind the front lines. The Liaison Centre is directly responsible to Rome, its function being to form a centre of active assistance in Occupied Italy, and an organization ready to carry out the directives of the Under-Secretary of State when the time comes.

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APPENDIX IIFLORENTINE PERSONALITIES

The biographical details of one of the most important men among the Christian Democrats of Tuscany were not available when those for other members of this party were given in Report No. 8. His name is ATTILIO PICCIONI and the following is the information it has been possible to obtain on him:

PICCIONI was born at Rieti 14th June 1892, became a law graduate at the University of Turin in 1916; fought in the 1915-18 war as an officer of the bersaglieri and then as a pilot-officer in the air force. After the war he busied himself with politics in the Partito Popolare in Turin - which was the cradle of the movement headed by Piero Gobetti.

He was a member of the Consiglio Nazionale del Partito until it was dissolved, was communal assessor (assessore comunale), he wrote political articles in many papers and magazines. He was editor of the paper IL PENSIERO DEL POPOLO through which he fought against Fascism until 1925, when press liberty was suppressed, and was a candidate for the Partito Popolare at the last elections.

Fascist persecution became too strong for him and he fled to Tuscany where he lived during the fascist regime, keeping up liaison with members of the Partito Popolare of Rome and the whole of Italy.

He took part in the clandestine movement of Christian Democracy even during the fascist regime; after the 25th July 1943, he became Political Secretary of the Christian Democrat Party in Florence. After the 8th September, while hiding he contributed very actively to the clandestine movement, and dictated the political writings of the party.

After the liberation of Florence he became a member of the C.T.L.N. and still holds this position. He was named political Secretary of the Florentine Section, a member of the National Council of the Christian Democrats; now he is a member of the Central Direction of this party. He has published various political articles.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).20th March, 1944.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
UNIT No 14.
APO 612.

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SECRET

W.D. Section Italy (Cec).

20th March 1945.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 14
APC 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 39.

Note. Owing to the reorganisation of P.W.B. and to the fact that events may move so rapidly that weekly reports may become impossible, it has been considered advisable to effect some changes in the form of this report. In future it will be considered curtailled and will appear in the form of a summary, issued fortnightly. It will deal with the same subjects as before, but verbatim extracts from original sources will not be given. More detailed information on particular points will be available on request.

RESISTANCE

I. Partisan Organisations.

The formations in the Appennines fall into two groups from East to west; the Comanco Unico Emilia-Romagna and the Comanco Unico Parma.

A. Comanco Unico Emilia-Romagna

Modena Division

	<u>Strength</u>
27th Brigade "Salin" Torrente Dolo. L. 2836-13444	230
33rd or 34th "Minghin" Torrente Dregone L. 3030-3138	200
S. Giulia Group Monte S. Giulia L3539	160
S. Martino " Monte S. Martino L. 3637.	130

Fiamme Verdi Brigade

Battalions or Detachments at

VIGNOLA L. 2039
CORNETO L. 2641
M. M. C. L. 2739
M. M. C. L. 2838

0496

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

in the form of this report. In future it will be considerably curtailed and will appear in the form of a summary, issued fortnightly. It will deal with the same subjects as before, but verbatim extracts from original sources will not be given. More detailed information on particular points will be available on request.

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Fiamme Verdi Brigade

Battalions or Detachments at

VIGNOLA	L. 2039
CORNETTO	L. 2641
LAZZATE	L. 2739
MASSA	L. 2538
GCV.	L. 2233
STRIVATI	L. 2131

26th Garibaldi Brigade.

Battalions or detachments at

NOVELLANO	L. 2030	PRI. ACRE	L. 0336
CERVARETOLO	L. 1927	SOLAGNO	L. 1337
FIGGIONE	L. 0332	BONDOLO	L. 1341

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32nd Garibaldi Brigade

4th Bn at CASTAGNETO L 0142. CARRIGGIO L 10446.
 5th Bn at L. FUSCO L 0453
 6th Bn at IL CASONE L 1050 PINETO L 1350.
 SPIGONE L 1150

B. Comandó Unico Parma

143rd Garibaldi Brigade West of TORRENTE ELZA
 L 0048 L 1058

This includes a band of 60 Russians, under a certain "Modena" between P. 9440 and L. 0141.

3rd Julia Brigade East of TORRENTE PARMA P. 9232-
 L 0260

Pablo (ex Val Parma) Brigade West of TORRENTE PARMA
 P. 1370 10000

12th Garibaldi Brigade TORRENTE PAGAZZA P. 8355-
 P 9064

The Emilia-Romagna partisans, particularly the Modena Division, are well-organized and armed and morale is high. In addition they can count upon the assistance of the numerous GAP and SAP in the cities and towns of the plains. It is claimed that BOLOGNA and MODENA can each muster 4 to 5,000 armed GAP and SAP apart from sympathisers.

C. The Apuan Alps

A Garibaldi Brigade, under Carmelo, operates in this district, with H.Q. at LICIANO NARDI.

D. The partisans in the area of the 1st Ligurian Division, North of SPEZIA from AULLA P 7821 to CISA P 7751, are reported to be of low morale and poorly organized, with the exception of the BUCCHIONE and RICETTA bands and the CENTOCROCE Brigade. Extremist bands cause trouble and complain of "allied influence" in their area.

II. Recent Partisan Activities

General Situation.

This includes a band of 60 Russians, under a certain "Modena" between P. 9440 and P. 9142.

3rd Julia Brigade East of TORRENTE PARMA P. 9232-
L. 0260

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P. 9440

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II. Recent Partisan Activities

General Situation

While in N. Italy the number of Partisan Formations has been much reduced owing to mopping-up operations and the winter, resistance is increasingly taking the form of acts of terrorism and sabotage.

A Berne report of 16th February declares that owing to the increasing number of victims, the Fascist Press can no longer mention individuals, but has to content itself with publishing a daily list of losses.

In the Apennines and Liguria, however, the bands are daily becoming bolder and in some quarters have even passed to the offensive and attacked German columns and detachments.

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Recent Events.

1. PIEMONTE. "La Riscossa" about 12th February reports the "Attoes Capelli" Black Brigade from TORINO as constantly engaged in severe encounters with large resistance formations in the VAL CHISONE.

"Libera Stampa" of 15th February reported that a strong attack against patriot formations in the BIELLA region was launched on January 13th. By January 27th the attack subsided without appreciable gain. The attacking forces, numbering about 4000 suffered severe losses and "lost many arms", which were captured.

SUSA. On 5th March patriots damaged the TORINO-BARDOLLOCHIA railway line at the entrance of the tunnel east of LEANA DI SUSA. Four coaches were derailed. Since then civilians can only use the TORINO-BUSOLENCO track and the Germans check all passengers with great care. On 21st February patriots stopped a train on the TORINO-CALASSO-CASALE CONFERRATO line and captured 50 Germans and 50 fascists after a short resistance.

ECOSANO. On 1st March patriots broke the CUNEO-ECOSANO line at four points. This led to the destruction of a locomotive and three goods trucks.

2. NORTHERN ALPS. VAL D'OSSOLA 21st February. The situation is becoming increasingly tense. Partisans, taking advantage of the fine weather, continually descend from the mountains to procure supplies. Near ISELLE the situation is so unsafe that the German post withdrew to VALGO. Near the Swiss frontier, Fascist operations have forced the patriots to lose ground. Several hundreds of arrests have been made by order of the Police Commissioner. Talletto and 15 patriots were shot. Fighting is still proceeding.

STELVICO PASS. 22nd February. Partisans interrupted the Stelvio Pass funicular used by the Germans, who have started removing war material via the Stelvio and Tonale passes.

BASSANO DEL GRAPPA Patriots destroyed the old road bridge over the river Brenta which was being used in place of the new bridge, recently destroyed by air raids. The bridge over the R. Ausone (24 km to the east) was also destroyed by patriots.

3. LOMBARDY. MILAN 18th February. the Fascist press stated that five partisans shot the drivers of a republican lorry in the centre of Milan. The lorry was loaded with food supplies and was eventually driven back to the partisan centre in the mountains.

MONZA. 22nd February. while "Aldo Resega"

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MONZA. 22nd February. While "Uldo Resega" Black Brigade men were checking identity documents in the Teatro Pontepartiosi made a surprise attack on the police barracks, capturing 20 carbines, much ammunition, 280 hand-grenades and many blankets and bicycles. Three policemen were killed and the patriots had no losses.

4. LIGURIA. NORTH of ONGLIA. From 15th February severe fighting took place between partisans and Fascist SS for the possession of an important cross-roads N. of ONGLIA. Fighting lasted for more than 5 days and partisans captured 50 prisoners and war material.

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5. VENICE. On 16th February serious trouble broke out in VENICE and clashes in the streets took place between patriots and Germans. The SS occupied the principal hotels and public buildings. Acts of sabotage occurred throughout the city and 15 hostages were publicly shot as a reprisal.

6. 6th zone - Actions from 30th Jan - 5th Feb.

1. CARREGA. P 1870. 100 Germans were attacked and left 12 dead after a three hour's battle.

2. At CARTASSEGNA P 180729 an attack resulted in the capture of 26 Germans, including 1 officer and 5 NCOs.

3. Four Germans killed and two wounded in an attack on the German garrison at PIANCARETO P 140749.

4. At CARTASSEGNA an attack by 70 Germans led to their retreat after losing many wounded in bitter fighting.

5. In a German attack at CANTALUPO 50 Germans surrendered with all their arms.

6. An attack at CAPANNE DI CARREGA P 200689 resulted in three Germans killed, 11 wounded and 5 captured.

7. An attack against an enemy column at MCNTCGGIO P 060600 resulted in 10 dead and 30 prisoners.

8. 1500 Germans attacked from five directions towards CARREGA. They occupied CARREGA FASCIA P 2166, CAPRIE P 1765 and ALPE P 0966 after suffering heavy losses. 20 Germans remain in FASCIA and CAPRIE, but they are surrounded and surrounded is imminent.

III. Enemy Mopping-Up Operations.

PIEDMONT. ASTI. Fascists claim that on February 5th the Black Brigade mopped up the SETTLE and CINAGLIO ALTA zones, killing 3 "bandits" and capturing 6. On their return they were fiercely attacked in SERRAVALLE D'ASTI, but routed the "bandits" with heavy losses.

On 27th February it was reported that the enemy proposed to undertake important mopping-up operations in the VAL BORMIDA. It is thought that these were intended to obtain control of this area in view of the possible troop-movements on a large scale. These movements were suspected on account of an exceptional curfew of 50 hours which was expected in the MESSANDRIA-MONDOVI-CEVI zone, and of the severe police control of civilian movement in the area. Members of the GNR and Black Brigades were also requested to renew their oath following to follow their

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Other reports spoke of moppings-up in the CHIVASSO-ASTI-CASALE triangle and General Wolf and Captain Becker are said to have arrived in TURIN from Germany to commence operations on a vast scale against partisans in the MCFFERATO. On the 9th March it was reported that the above operations had started and were encountering a tenacious resistance on the part of the patriots. At the same time exceptional police

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measures were taken in TURIN.

Rumors persist that a 72 hour curfew will shortly be imposed in the provinces of MILAN, NOVARA and VERONA and sources consider that this is connected either with troop movements or with big-scale mopping-up operations.

IV. The Committee of Liberation prepares for a German retreat.

The Committee's General Directive states that German HQ has ordered certain preparatory moves to be put into execution to facilitate the working of the Emergency Plan. This plan covers the withdrawal from PIEMONTE and LIGURIA under the protection of Grazioli's republican army. The Committee's directive covers the following points:

Demolition and Destruction.

It is hoped that as the German withdrawal will be protected by Grazioli's army and by demolitions at strategic points, will not resort to wholesale destruction. In any case partisan forces are ordered to protect to the utmost power stations, bridges etc.

The Republican Army. Grazioli's forces are expected to desert or surrender en masse. Every effort must be made to induce them to do so and only the officers will be kept in concentration camps.

The Black Brigades. These and other Fascist formations are to be treated with the utmost rigour. These men are expected to form strongpoints in the various cities and towns in order to surrender to the Allies rather than to the patriots. Partisans are advised to concentrate their efforts on the smaller Fascist groups first.

The Germans. These must be harassed as much as possible in their retreat and every effort made to communicate to the Allied Airforce the position of targets such as slow-moving horse-drawn transport, artillery columns and traffic bottle-necks.

FASCIST FORCES.

V. Morale of the Republican Army.

The morale of the Republican Divisions is notoriously low. A typical instance of their propensity to desert is the escape of 200 soldiers of the MCNTE RCM Division, who took advantage of some disorder while elements of the Div. were passing through ASTI.

The V Plotmas are reported to be

The Committee's General Directive states that German HQ has ordered certain preparatory moves to be put into execution to facilitate the working of the Emergency Plan. This plan covers the withdrawal from PIEDMONT and LIGURIA under the protection of Graziani's republican army. The Committee's directive covers the following points:

Demolition and Destruction.

It is hoped that as the German withdrawal will be protected by Graziani's army and by demolitions at strategic points, the enemy will resort to wholesale destruction. In any case partisan forces are ordered to protect to the utmost power stations, bridges etc.

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Even the X Flotmas Disaffected. The X Flotmas are reported to be very annoyed with Mussolini and particularly with MEZZASOMA, the Minister of Popular Culture for suppressing their newspaper "Orizzonte" and also because Commander FULVI who had been removed from the Flotmas for irregularities has been promoted General in command of the Black Brigade "8 settembre" (H.C. at Dolo). The excuse given for suppressing the paper was that the paper had exceeded its quota of newspaper, but it is believed that the real reason is that there were politically independent elements on the Editorial staff.

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VI. 2nd Division of Flotnas.

A 2nd division is being formed out of the Battalione Serenissima, Ardimento, S. Giusto, and Lisse, and others from the 1st Div. The formation of the Ardimento and Lisse bns., which were to be constituted in CORIZIA and ISTRIA, has been suspended owing to heavy losses in the recent fighting in VENEZIA GIULIA. Commander GROSSI was to command the new Division, but the Germans distrust him and imposed their veto on the appointment.

VII. The "Leonesse" Armoured Group.

This G. M. R. Armoured group is now reported to be in PIACENZA.

VIII. Effect of propaganda on the "Italian" Division.

Deserters from the "Italian" Division claim that of all the Italian Divs. trained in Germany, theirs was the worst. Even in Germany they were called the Partisan Division. They say that about 50% of the Division has deserted and companies are reduced to about 80 men. Far greater numbers would have crossed the line, but they fear ill-treatment at the hands of coloured troops. This has been actually observed by them or reported by escaped prisoners and Fascist propaganda takes full advantage of this stupidity; (2) fear reprisals at the moment of desertion (3) fear reprisals on their families although some say that there is too much confusion in the Div. to be able to distinguish deserters from prisoners of war. (4) fear that they will not be treated as P.Ws. but sent to labour camps or to the Far East to fight Japanese.

It is hoped that the new leaflet to the "Italian" Div. will reassure them on these points. Officer deserters suggest specifically that propaganda should be addressed to the officers to invite them to bring their men over.

GERMANS

IX. Withdrawal or Resistance?

It would appear that the German High Command has changed its mind about withdrawing from the Po Valley. At the beginning of February the general opinion was that the retirement had been ordered for the 30th March as Kesselring was supposed to have held that the Allied offensive, believed due about that time, could not be stopped along the FERRARA-VERONA axis. Consequently orders were issued:

(1) For the 2nd Flotnas Div and some Black Brigades to move to the Apennine front.

VII. The "Leonessa" Armoured Group.

This G. M. R. Armoured group is now reported to be in PLACENZA.

VIII. Effect of propaganda on the "Italic" Division.

Deserters from the "Italic" Division claim that of all the It. lian Divs. trained in Germany, theirs was the worst. Even in Germany they were called the Partisan Division. They say that about 50% of the Division has deserted and companies are reduced to about 80 men. Far greater numbers would have crossed the line, but they (1) fear ill-treatment at the hands of coloured troops. This has been actually observed by them or reported by escaped prisoners and Fascist propaganda takes full advantage of this stupidity; (2) fear reprisals at the moment of desertion (3) fear reprisals on their families although some say that there is too much confusion in the Div. to be able to distinguish deserters from prisoners of war. (4) fear that they will not be treated as P.Ws. but sent to labour camps or to the Far East to fight Japanese.

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- (1) For the X Flotilla Div and some Black Brigades to move to the Apennine front.
- (2) For the destruction of the chief industries and the transfer of their workers to the task of fortifications.
- (3) For the complete paralysis of all electric power and lighting stations.
- (4) For the removal of all electrical appliances and particularly radio sets.

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The volunteers of the Republican army, ie. Black Brigades, units of the G.N.R., the X. Mas, and Parachutists, were destined to put up resistance to the last, while in Turin Fascists began to organize secret centres for a future clandestine war. Whether it was due to fascist pressure and fears of being abandoned, or whether to orders from Germany not to yield in an important source of food and raw materials, it now seems that the order has been cancelled and the withdrawal of divisions from Italy suspended.

Nevertheless Kesselring is leaving nothing to chance, and full preparations have been made to retreat in an orderly manner if an allied offensive proves successful.

Piedmont. In any case it seems probable that Piedmont will be abandoned by the Germans, and that the defence will be entrusted to German's army and the allied advance delayed by the numerous obstacles. All the bridges in the various valleys, leading into Piedmont, have been mined as well as the tunnel of the COL DI TENDE.

German Divisions leave Italy. It is not quite clear how many divisions left Italy before the movement was suspended. The general opinion seems to be that 4 or 5 have left.

Routes employed. Long columns passed the Brenner via VERONA, while motorised regiments were observed passing TREVISO and POSTUMIA. Troops leaving Piedmont made for the STELVIC and TONALE passes.

Owing to allied air activity these latter were diverted via the V. ITALLIA and DOLO pass, though the shorter but more exposed route would have been through BERGAMO, BRESCIA and the V. L. CAMONICA. Roads bordering Lake COLO were chiefly used and camouflaged boats were ready to carry out transshipments in case of interruptions caused by bombs.

More precautions. An important German H.Q. is being moved from VERONA to TRIESTE. These may be the offices of General Toussaint, the High German Plenipotentiary in Italy. Another important office has moved from CARDOLE RIVIERA (17 km N.E. of Brescia) to Vittorio Veneto (18 km S.E. of Belluno). This may be the Ministry of the Republican Armed Forces.

Another Port as Stronghold. It is credibly reported that in the case of any thinning out of the defenses along the Ligurian coast the port of SAVONA will be used as a fortress.

X German Looting of N. Italy.

Y. All the reserves of Tungsten and Chromium in the "Cognac" works have been removed. A large quantity of iron ore is being

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German Looting of N. Italy.

VALLE. All the reserves of Tungsten and Chromium in the "Cogne" works have been removed. A large quantity of iron ore is being held up until the line to IVREA is repaired.

IVREA. The aluminium works at BERGOFRANCO have practically closed down. The Germans have removed great quantities of aluminium in ingots.

VERCELLI (15 km S.E. of Vercelli). Every day 35 railway trucks loaded with rice leave the station en route for Germany.

BERGAMO. At the command of German H.Q. the Fascist Ministry of Communications ordered 4,000 railway trucks to be concentrated at

BERGAMO

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Saronno (NW of Milan) for undisclosed reasons. On 3rd March it was reported that owing to unforeseen difficulties, the order was cancelled. It seems that up to the present some hundreds of trucks and "Breco" waggon have been sent to Germany.

TORINO Greater and greater quantities of ball-bearings are being bought up by the Germans.

MILAN German occupation authorities have "asked" Milan authorities to supply about 3,000 trowsers, of which by the end of 1944 760 had already been sent to Germany, where they are converted into civilian lodgings.

GAETA The whole olive production of this region has been requisitioned. Produce was put on barges and transported along the VERONA bank of I. Garda into Germany.

Traffic through Switzerland.

Train traffic has been resumed through Switzerland via CALASSO. Goods, figuring as wine, but actually valuable materials and food are ostensibly consigned to Switzerland, but are unloaded at the German frontier at SINGEN (48 km NNE of Zurich), whence they are moved to Germany by lorry.

Gas-masks.

The General Staff of the Republican Army has urgently requested return from its dependent units reporting their requirements of gas-masks.

XI. Atrocities.

While, on the whole, partisans report a considerable improvement in German behaviour towards the civilian population, the following is reported from SALO SUL GARDA:

In a mopping-up operation in the region of VESTONE by Fascists and German SS 4 patriots of Salo sul Garda were burnt alive. The names of three of the victims are: BENETTI of Salo, LISSIERI of Salo, D. COLLI of Campo Verde.

POLITICS

XII. Fascist Party

The sobering effect of German defeats has produced strange developments in the political situation of the Fascist party.

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POLITICS

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The sobering effect of German defeats has produced strange developments in the political situation of the Fascist party.

(1) Ruffini-Guidi's substitution by Paolo ZERBINO as Minister of the Interior is symptomatic. Ruffini-Guidi was able to maintain his position owing to his complacent acquiescence with German demands and his cynicism with regard to repressive measures. He was, however, never much trusted by the other gerarche and the change in the military situation rendered his ultra-German tendency obnoxious. Paolo Zerbino has always been considered moderate, so much so that he has even sought indirect contacts with the CIN to solve various regional problems. He has also shown a certain amount

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of independence towards the Germans. When he was Regional Commissioner of Piedmont, during the period when the Allies appeared to be about to liberate the Region, he took up a realistic attitude about handing over to the expected Allied authorities and on the question of making Turin an open city he came into opposition to the Federal Commissioner, SOLARO.

(2) The National Socialist Group. The birth of this group -- not called "Party" -- has been followed by the publication of its newspaper "Italia e Popolo". It is supposed that the recent situation of its "Socialist" trend is meant to attract elements from the clandestine parties, and officially the group is labelled "Republican and anti-Reactionary".

(3) Mussolini flirts with Communism. Various sources indicate that Mussolini is contacting elements of extreme left tendencies. Other symptoms are E.C.B.C.C.I.'s intensified propaganda, replacing the slogan "Italy, Republic and Socialisation" by "Italy & Communism" -- the watering down of anti-Bolshevik propaganda -- the maintenance of a decided Leftish trend in new social legislation.

(4) Press Controversies. "Le Stampi" and "Repubblica Fascista" took up the attitude that there should be better concord between Parties and Minors, and, approving of the newly formed party, asked for more open discussion on the policy of the Social Republic, "Regime Fascista" (of Farinacci) furiously attacked the two papers for neglecting the hard reality of war and encouraging the "rebels". The "Stampi" replied and its editor, Concetto Pettinato, was deferred to the Commission of Discipline and replaced as editor by Francesco SCARDONE, former editor of "Il Popolo di Roma" and no great journalist.

Conclusion. In view of an imminent evacuation of Italy by the Germans it seems that the Fascist administrators who will be left are showing moderate tendencies, as opposed to the Party fighting men who presumably will retire to Germany. There is also a tendency to come to a compromise, if not to actual agreement with the Parties of the CLN who will replace Fascists in the government of the liberated regions. Finally, there is a tendency on the part of certain Fascist elements to obstruct and oppose German "scorched earth" plans.

XIII. Political Situation in Milan.

Mussolini is now residing in the Villa Tagliabue in the park at MONZA. In the meantime the Fascists intend to convert Milan into a fortress and have been converting Sforzesco Castle with its bomb-proof basement into an ammunition and food depot. It is thought that when the castle is ready Mussolini will move in.

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ECONOMICS.

XIV. Food situation.

Reports from MILAN, TURIN and GENOVA agree that the situation in these three cities has greatly deteriorated. Owing to the drain of German requisitioning, reserves are alarmingly low.

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TURIN flour stocks are hardly sufficient to last three days. In MILAN Fascists attributed the bread shortage to the lack of coal, but concealed the fact that 500 tons of flour consigned from FERRARA were requisitioned by the Germans. In GENOA the bread ration is 100 grammes per day and stocks are sufficient for a few days only.

XV. Transport.

In close connection with the food situation, the disruption of the railway system has obliged Italian authorities to rely on motor-transport for the feeding of the cities. But here again, most lorries need urgent repairs while all are in desperate need of tyres. If the Germans evacuate Piedmont, it is known that they will requisition all lorries in good working order, destroy all those under repair, and carry out systematic destruction of all local food reserves.

XVI. Finance.

The sinews of war. A recent decree of the CLN imposing a levy on large fortunes, legalises an already existing practice. The procedure is as follows. The various partisan committees, invited by the CLN, get in touch with the capitalist and are invited to go to clandestine offices and reveal the amount of their fortunes, both Real and Personal Estate. A levy is then fixed on the total capital, not on Income. The amount of the levy varies from zone to zone. Source spoke of 25% in his area. If the capitalist has not got the necessary amount of liquid capital to pay his levy, banking institutions advance the money and safeguard themselves in whatever way they think best on the estate. In the case of share-croppers the peasant's share is usually not touched, the owner's share is appropriated by the representative of the CLN, who then leaves the owner's agent an agreed sum.

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No. 59

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12
APO 512

Central D Section, Liberated Italy

15 March 1945

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 59

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APPENDIX I - RECONSTRUCTION MEETINGS IN NAPLES

Explanation of reliability rating:	Source (reliability)	Report (probability)
A	Always reliable	1 Confirmed
B	Usually reliable	2 Probable
C	Sometimes reliable	3 Possible
D	Frequently unreliable	4 Doubtful
E	A bad source	5 Improbable

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PART II - ANNEXES

A - CURRENT EVENTS.

1. The Rome Riot Subsequent to the Escape of Roatta - Press Reactions

The Rome papers, for the first time since the liberation of Rome, passed over the war communiqués in order to concentrate their attention on the bloody incident at the Quirinale on 6 March.

The Communist Party, in an order of the day, made an appeal to the National Committee of Liberation actively to contribute to the radical change of the internal politics of the government. In its leading article the UNITA' approved the dismissal of General Orlando and the suppression of the S.I.M. and affirmed that the Communist Party would have obtained the total punishment of fascist criminals.

The Socialist and Action Parties, however, called for the dismissal of the Government and the constitution of a new democratic government in accordance with the will of the people. While the Christian Democrats and Labour Democrats made an appeal to the sense of responsibility of the parties, the Liberals, in a leading article in RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE attacked the Communists for their participation in the meeting and the subsequent incident. "What is the real policy of the Communist Party? It is not possible to enjoy both the benefits of the Government and of the Opposition. The time has come for them to define loyally and clearly their real attitude... We invite those among them who are moved more by passion than by reason to consider the responsibilities they are incurring."

IL TEMPO (Independent) and L'ITALIA NUOVA (Monarchist) attack the left parties, accusing them of trying to exploit the escape of Roatta to their own advantage. L'ITALIA NUOVA said that the government should not have permitted the manifestation and that encounters between armed citizens and armed squads against the forces of public order are representative of a prelude to civil war, if the

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IL MOMENTO (Independent) says that the situation which has come about shows the absolute necessity to proceed with the democratization of the country. "One thing is certain, that it is not possible to deny the thirst for justice of the Italian people and that a big step has been made towards the democratization and defascistization of the country."

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(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only.)

perate condition to the Celio Military Hospital.

After the explosion of the second bomb, the Carabinieri who were guarding the palace entrance, fired a few warning rounds over the people's heads. The crowd fell back but the demonstration continued with disorderly whistlings and yellings. A third bomb was thrown and fell near the palace wall without exploding. When the crowd recoiled under the pressure of the mounted carabinieri, the manifestants picked up and removed the body of Mancini.

Nothing further occurred in the Piazza del Quirinale and the crowd slowly dispersed.

While these events were taking place, a group of about 100 manifestants had gone straight from the Colosseum to the Piazzale Viminale, in front of the Ministry of the Interior. This was already guarded by several cordons of police placed on the two ramps leading to the entrance of the building.

After the demonstration in front of the Quirinale was over, the bulk of the crowd joined the advance detachment of manifestants at the Viminale, and resumed their demands for the dismissal of Bonomi and of his government. Shortly thereafter, a light truck approached the left ramp, and followed by a large number of manifestants, forced its way through the cordon. The truck was transporting the body of Mancini, who had been killed by the bomb before the Quirinale. The body was deposited in the ante-room of the Chief of Police, on the second floor of the Ministry of the Interior.

A delegation composed of Velio Spano (Communist) and General Azzi (Action Party) was received by S.F. Molè, Undersecretary of the Interior. The demonstration ended and the crowd slowly dispersed, without further incident.

Six PWB officer attended the demonstrations at the Colosseum and in front of the Quirinale, taking up different positions and mingling with the crowd. The following is a composite account of the observations of these officers which amplifies, and in general confirms the foregoing "police" report.

The meeting in the Piazzale del Colosseo had been organized by the following parties and groups: Communists, Actionists, Socialists, Christians of the Left, the Partisans, the Veterans, Unione delle Donne Italiane, and the Rome Chamber of Labour. There were a number of camions which brought the demonstrators to the Colosseum and later conveyed them to the Piazza del Quirinale. In addition to

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PART II - ANNEXES

A - CURRENT EVENTS.

1. The Rome Riot Subsequent to the Escape of Roatta - Press Reactions

The Rome papers, for the first time since the liberation of Rome, passed over the war communiqués in order to concentrate their attention on the bloody incident at the Quirinale on 6 March.

The Communist Party, in an order of the day, made an appeal to the National Committee of Liberation actively to contribute to the radical change of the internal politics of the government. In its leading article the UNITA' approved the dismissal of General Orlando and the suppression of the S.I.M. and affirmed that the Communist Party would have obtained the total punishment of fascist criminals.

The Socialist and Action Parties, however, called for the dismissal of the Government and the constitution of a new democratic government in accordance with the will of the people. While the Christian Democrats and Labour Democrats made an appeal to the sense of responsibility of the parties, the Liberals, in a leading article in RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE attacked the Communists for their participation in the meeting and the subsequent incident. "What is the real policy of the Communist Party? It is not possible to enjoy both the benefits of the Government and of the Opposition. The time has come for them to define loyally and clearly their real attitude... We invite those among them who are moved more by passion than by reason to consider the responsibilities they are incurring."

IL TEMPO (Independent) and L'ITALIA NUOVA (Monarchist) attacked the left parties, accusing them of trying to exploit the escape of Roatta to their own advantage. L'ITALIA NUOVA said that the government should not have permitted the manifestation and that encounters between armed citizens and armed squads against the forces of public order are representative of a prelude to civil war, if the government does not change its policy.

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IL MOMENTO (Independent) says that the situation which has come about shows the absolute necessity to proceed with the democratization of the country. "One thing is certain, that it is not possible to deny the thirst for justice of the Italian people and that a big step has been made towards the democratization and defascistization of the country."

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2. Details of the Riot

The following is a summary of a report dated 7 March of a police authority in Rome, which may be accepted as the more or less official version of the events which occurred at the Colosseum, at the Piazza del Quirinale, and at the Viminale (Ministry of the Interior) on 6 March 1945.

From 16:15 to 17:45 o'clock a meeting in protest of the escape of General Carotta was held in the Piazzale del Colosseo. The meeting had been organized by the parties of the left. A crowd of about 20,000, bearing flags and placards with various inscriptions, such as "Death to Carotta and his accomplices", "We want a People's Court," "We want a Committee of Public Safety instead of the High Court of Justice", "Do you want another Carrotta case?", was addressed by various speakers. Among these were Massini, De Vittorio of the Chamber of Labour, Reale (Action Party), Rodano (Action Party), Sbardella (Movimento Comunista), De Dominicis (Federazione Comunista Libertaria), and Maggi (Unione Donne Italiani). The speakers in turn attacked the government and the Monarchy, and demanded the dismissal of the Bonomi Government for having been too mild in carrying out epuration.

Throughout the meeting, and even during the speeches, voices from the crowd demanded a demonstration of protest in front of the Quirinale. (It is to be noted that PWB officers present at the Colosseum meeting observed placards inscribed with the text "Avanti Popolo - al Quirinale").

As a result, after the meeting the crowd adjourned to the Piazza del Quirinale. The Palace was guarded by detachments of Carabinieri and State Police. The manifestations soon became rowdy and noisy, and the crowd began to throw stones, fragments of placards, etc. The pressure of the crowd, now numbering some 8000, was such as to necessitate the intervention of mounted troops in order to protect the entrance to the Palace. These, which had been stationed in the courtyard of the Palazzo Rospigliosi, crossed the Piazza obliquely, and pushed their way through the crowd to a point in front of the Palace gate. When the mounted detachment reached its objective, it faced about. At this moment, a bomb was thrown by a manifestant, near the fountain in the center of the Piazza, and exploded in the midst of the crowd, killing a civilian named Mancini (not as yet more specifically identified.)

In the meanwhile, police reinforcements had been sent for and arrived in trucks at about the time when the bomb exploded. The

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In the meanwhile, police reinforcements had been sent for and arrived in trucks at about the time when the bomb exploded. The trucks came to a halt near the entrance to the Palazzo della Consulta and had hardly begun to discharge the policemen when a second bomb thrown by a manifestant exploded, wounding several policemen and a Polish soldier. The latter was subsequently removed in a des-

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perate condition to the Celio Military Hospital.

After the explosion of the second bomb, the Carabinieri who were guarding the palace entrance, fired a few warning rounds over the people's heads. The crowd fell back but the demonstration continued with disorderly whistlings and yellings. A third bomb was thrown and fell near the palace wall without exploding. When the crowd recoiled under the pressure of the mounted carabinieri, the manifestants picked up and removed the body of Mancini.

Nothing further occurred in the Piazza del Quirinale and the crowd slowly dispersed.

While these events were taking place, a group of about 100 manifestants had gone straight from the Colosseum to the Piazzale Viminale, in front of the Ministry of the Interior. This was already guarded by several cordons of police placed on the two ramps leading to the entrance of the building.

After the demonstration in front of the Quirinale was over, the bulk of the crowd joined the advance detachment of manifestants at the Viminale, and resumed their demands for the dismissal of Eonomi and of his government. Shortly thereafter, a light truck approached the left ramp, and followed by a large number of manifestants, forced its way through the cordon. The truck was transporting the body of Mancini, who had been killed by the bomb before the Quirinale. The body was deposited in the ante-room of the Chief of Police, on the second floor of the Ministry of the Interior.

A delegation composed of Velie Spano (Communist) and General Azzi (Action Party) was received by S.E. Molè, Undersecretary of the Interior. The demonstration ended and the crowd slowly dispersed, without further incident.

Six FVB officer attended the demonstrations at the Colosseum and in front of the Quirinale, taking up different positions and mingling with the crowd. The following is a composite account of the observations of these officers which amplifies, and in general confirms the foregoing "police" report.

The meeting in the Piazzale del Colosseo had been organized by the following parties and groups: Communists, Actionists, Socialists, Christians of the Left, the Partisans, the Veterans, Unione delle Donne Italiane, and the Rome Chamber of Labour. There were a number of camions which brought the demonstrators to the Colosseum and later conveyed them to the Piazza del Quirinale. In addition to the

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That the great majority of the manifestants were Communists was evidenced by the preponderance of red flags and placards with

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the hammer and sickle, and by enquiries made of members of the crowd by the PWB officers. The crowd periodically took up in unison the cry "Death to the King". The crowd was well organized and calm during the Colosseum meeting, even though the people seemed sincerely indignant at Roatta's escape. One of the speakers, who was not identified by the PWB officers, during his address cried out "Al Quirinale!" over the loud speaker.

While the Socialist speaker was still talking, the crowd began to move away and get into the waiting trucks. As the meeting was nearing its end, and as it was obvious that the crowd proposed to adjourn to the Piazza del Quirinale, the PWB officers left and drove to the latter spot, arriving there before the crowd. At about 17:30 a detachment of about 100 carabinieri in campaign uniform entered the Piazza and stationed themselves in a semicircle in front of the entrance of the Palace. Soon thereafter the crowd began to arrive in increasing numbers, and at once became ungovernably, waving their banners and crying "Death to the King". The manifestants pressed in on the Carabinieri, shouted abuses, and presently began to throw missiles of every description at them. These included stones of the size of a man's fist, which had obviously been previously gathered and brought by the crowd. There were no heaps of stones, or stones lying loose in the piazza, which is paved and neatly kept up. The stone-throwing was not a spontaneous act attributable to mob-psychology, but seems to have been premeditated.

At this moment, mounted troops with drawn sabres appeared in the Piazza and pushed their way through the crowd to a position near and to the left of the entrance to the palace. Their obvious purpose was to relieve the pressure on the Carabinieri guarding the latter. The mounted troops in turn became targets for the missiles with which the crowd was still well supplied.

The police account of the explosions of the two bombs -- or handgrenades -- is confirmed by the PWB officers, except that it was impossible for the latter to tell whence the bombs were thrown. One PWB officer who had stationed himself in a second story window whence he had an unimpeded view of the whole square, is of the opinion that the bomb was not thrown by one of the dismounted Carabinieri. At the time, the mounted troops were between the palace entrance and the spot where the bomb exploded, so that had the bomb been badly aimed or fallen short, it would have endangered the horsemen.

No PWB officer saw or heard any evidence that any manifestant

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No PWB officer saw or heard any evidence that any manifestant had been wounded by the bomb which killed Mancini.

After the Carabinieri had fired a number of rounds over the people's heads, the crowd was quieted down, and little by little dispersed, not however without making numerous and violent accusations against the Carabinieri and the police of having thrown the bombs. A member of the Communist Party, Signor Longo, was overheard by a

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PWB officer endeavoring to calm such of the manifestants as were near him.

The body of Mancini was wrapped in a red flag and subsequently removed by truck to the Ministry of the Interior, where it was deposited in the office of Ferrari, the chief of Police, which was transformed into a "chappelle ardente".

The crowd in front of the Viminale was excited and rowdy. It was addressed by several speakers from the balcony of the Ministry from whose windows hung red flags. There was much shouting and waving of clenched fists. One of the speakers was the Communist Velio Spano. The windows of the building were crowded with manifestants who had forced their way into the Ministry in the wake of the truck which carried the body of Mancini, and who were listening to the speeches.

Prior to the speeches from the balcony, a delegation from the manifestants had been received by Bonomi. The delegation was composed of the Communists Velio Spano and Agostino Novella, of the Socialists, Saul Mediano and Trivelli, of the Actionists, General Azzi and Gallo, of Giovanni Barbin ("Mutinati"), a Partisan, a representative of the Army of Liberation, and Signor Tavagnino (Italian Women's Union.)

Two members of the Communist Party (one of the Government Parties) somewhat illogically joined the delegation of the manifestants who were demonstrating against the Government. One of these, Spano, an important Communist leader, spoke to the crowd from the balcony.

After the speeches from the balcony and after the manifestants had evacuated the Ministry, a meeting of the Council of Ministers was held. At about 1:30 a.m., a communiqué was issued to the press which appeared in the papers the next morning. Amongst other things, the communiqué announced the appointment of a new commission for Epuration, composed of four ministers, Brosio, Tupini, Scoccimarro and Covelto, and denied that the hand grenades at the Quirinale had been thrown by members of the public forces to which no such weapons are issued.

The Carabinieri in the Piazza del Quirinale, whether mounted or afoot, behaved admirably. The only criticism of the police made by the PWB officers, was that when they stepped from the trucks which had brought them to the piazza, some of them knelt on one

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A thoroughly reliable source who spent two hours (20:00 to 20:00 o'clock) in the Ministry of the Interior on 6 March and conversed with several of the Ministry's officials, gave the following details to a PWB officer:

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After forcing its way into the Ministry, the crowd overran the entire building, without however perpetrating any damage, in search of Bonomi. When the people reached the office occupied by the Premier, Molè stood in front of the door, addressed the crowd with great coolness, and thus prevented it from entering the room.

The S.P. agents who were guarding the Ministry made no pretense of resistance. The men did not know what to do, and there was no officer present who assumed the responsibility of giving orders. Although some one in authority had foreseen the possibility of a demonstration taking place at the Viminale, adequate detailed orders had not been given. The invasion of the Ministry spread panic and confusion which lasted well into the night.

It was generally believed by officials at the Viminale that night that the day's events would lead to the fall of Bonomi, whom the Communists, Socialists and Actionists wished to replace by Sforza. With the latter in power, the Communists hoped to obtain a larger number of Cabinet posts, including that of Minister of the Interior.

Rumors and reports were rife. Among them were reports that the mob intended to invade the Quirinal in order to hoist the red flag, and that Mancini, having pulled the pin of the grenade, had failed to throw it and had thus blown himself up.

A Colonel of the Carabinieri, who has been decorated by General Clark, was interviewed by a PWB officer on 7 March and gave the following information:

Three Carabinieri were injured at the Piazza del Quirinale by stones thrown at them.

It is now a fairly well established fact that Giuseppe Lamagna Mancini who was killed in the Piazza del Quirinale on March 6, was the possessor of the first bomb which exploded in the Piazza. He was about to hurl it at the Carabinieri when someone seized him in an attempt to stop him. Mancini drew in his arm and at that moment the bomb exploded, killing him instantly. The autopsy reveals that the arm was completely severed from the body. An eye witness voluntarily testified to the Carabinieri to the above effect. An officer of the Pubblica Sicurezza who was in civilian clothes and

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It is known that three bombs exploded and that a fourth which was thrown at the Carabinieri near the entrance of the Royal Palace, failed to go off. The last was a Breda bomb, and has been removed by the Direzione Artiglieria.

The funeral of Mancini was announced for Thursday, 8 March, but no mention of the time and place of the ceremony appeared in the left press. It would therefore seem that the left parties which

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are not participating in the Government did not wish to attempt to capitalize on the death of Mancini, who was alleged by their press organs to have been killed by a hand grenade thrown by the Carabinieri.

3. Reactions of Christian Democrats to Roatta's Escape, and Riot

The following is an account of a conversation with several representatives of the Rome Section of the Christian Democratic Party at the Party Headquarters on the Corso Umberto, 7 March, 1945.

All the men interviewed were shocked by the riot of 6 March. They mentioned their party's platform: "We are for order, for due process of law, and peaceful epuration." They agreed however that for all practical purposes, epuration as it has been carried out up to now is a thing of the past. They disapprove of the manner in which Berlinguer has conducted the Roatta-Suvich trials, which was too dilatory. The people's sense of justice was offended in the delays in epuration which the Government had tolerated.

"The only way in which epuration can become effective is to appoint a commissioner and High Court which will place national ahead of party interests: so far the Government has failed to find the right man. It is to be hoped that it will succeed, for otherwise there will be bloodshed."

They flat-footedly denied the rumor that Roatta had sought refuge in the Vatican, and referred to the many rumors current in Rome to the effect that the Allies had helped him to escape, that he was concealed in the Quirinal, etc.

It was their opinion that a consultative assembly would be very helpful at this particular moment, as it would give more popular support to the government whose authority would thereby increase.

According to them, most of the Christian Democrats in the Rome area favor a republic. The party has given its word to the British not to make the institutional question an issue prior to the total liberation of Italy. It is for that reason that the party has temporarily given its allegiance to the monarchy.

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B. GENERAL REPORTS

POLITICAL

4. The Unione Monarchica Italiana Party

Headquarters: 83 Via dell'Umiltà, Rome

Office holders: On. Prof. Misuri, President
Ecc. Gen. Augusto de Pignier, Administrator
Dott. Giuseppe Trotta, Secretary

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The head of the Party is Prof. Misuri (recently attacked for his monarchist activities by "AVANTI"), whose two books "Con La Monarchia o verso la Repubblica?" and "Giustizia e Rappresaglia?" are largely used for propaganda by members of the Party.

Organization: In addition to its bureau, the Union has a Central Committee whose members are elected by the National Assembly of the Union. From the Committee depend an "Orientation and Research Center", and a Youth Movement Center. The Union has organized "Sections" in Naples, Bari, and Palermo, and in the capitals of the liberated provinces.

Programme: The party believes that a truly democratic state can best be assured by a monarchy which is the best safeguard against a dictatorship or the autocratic rule of a given class or political group. Its leaders hope to convince all classes of Italians that the monarchical institution is essentially the symbol of national unity, and that it is a guarantee of liberty and order, themselves the two prerequisites of insuring work for the people, and for the reconstruction of Italy. The Union appeals to all (regardless of the party or political group to which they belong) who believe in the monarchical principal, to cooperate in a common effort to support the monarchy as an institution.

Press organ: None at present, but the Union is planning one for the future.

Youth organizations: The Union has organized an alleged active Youth Movement under the name of "Azione Giovanile". It also has a Women's Movement, the "Lega Assistenziale delle Donne Italiane," with headquarters in the Union's offices in Rome.

Membership: The Union claims 150,000 adherents in Liberated Italy.

5. Communist Meeting at Castel Gandolfo

On Sunday afternoon, 4 March, a PWB officer went to the village of Castel-Gandolfo; the summer residence of the Popes, where a "Women's Day" meeting had been organized by the Communist Party.

A group of people had collected around the ironwork cross at the junction of the road from Albano and the main street which runs along the ridge to the Piazza on which the windows of the palace of the Popes give. A tousle-headed, ragged man with a nervous tick was

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suddenly yelled "Long live Stalin!" and was answered by a few cries of "Long live the Red Army!" From the road beyond the Palace came another group of women carrying red banners with the hammer and sickle, and up from the valley and neighboring towns trucks drove in carrying partisan soldiers, girls, hardy women, and a sprinkling of men to swell the crowd. On inquiring of an inhabitant, who was looking on from her dilapidated doorway, whether there were many Communists in Castel-Gandolfo, the somewhat scornful reply was, "I would not know; these are all foreigners." (I.e., foreigners from outlying villages.) "Women's Day" under the aegis of the Union of Italian women, sponsored by the Communist Party, was getting underway at Castel-Gandolfo.

The crowd marched through the main street which was decorated with red flags hung over the doors of the Communist and Socialist Parties' offices, up to the piazza and the approaches to the Papal palace, and gathered in front of the balcony of the post-office. From this cordon of vantage, Signora Montanaro Togliatti, wife of the Communist Vice-President of the Consiglio, made a kindly though spirited address.

In the meantime the stalwart women were waving Communist banners with devotion and determination, grinning down triumphantly at the good-natured crowd. The speech dwelt principally on the all-out participation of women in Italian political and public administrative life, and on women's valuable contributions to the democratic reformation and liberation of Italy during the clandestine period. The speaker demanded, in view of the dangers they shared and the work they performed, more pay and an equal status with men for women office employees and factory workers. The argument wittily presented by Mrs. Togliatti in favor of her theory was that Italian women do twice as much work as the men anyway; after a hard day's work in the office or factory, with less pay and no privileges, they return home exhausted and weary only to begin another full day's work, cooking and serving dinner, washing and ironing, sewing and mending. They thereby prove themselves not only entitled but twice as capable as their men to handle civic affairs efficiently and with a firm hand. Signora Togliatti did not specify as to just what time the women could conveniently allot to public life, but it seems that the Union of Italian Women is working on this problem.

Beyond one slight exchange of words leading to fisticuffs, and the church bells calling the faithful to prayer in the parish church,

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Beyond one slight exchange of words leading to fisticuffs, and the church bells calling the faithful to prayer in the parish church, thereby interrupting one of the other two women speakers for about 3 minutes, no significant incidents were noted. Towards the end of the meeting, S.E. Palmiro Togliatti, leader of the Communist Party, passed through the crowd in the back of a jeep, and drove down under the archway at the foot of the palace, presumably to wait for his wife.

Beyond the fact that the summer papal palace is here, Castel-Gandolfo, with 3000 inhabitants or less, does not seem politically important.

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6. Communists Accused of Fascist Methods in Salerno

The Provincial Secretary of the Italian Communist Party in Salerno, Doctor Pietro Amendola, is at the same time the local Provincial Commissioner for Epuration. At the time of the appointment the Secretary of the Christian Democrat Party, Avv. Carlo Petrone, strongly opposed the choice.

Avv. Petrone is an intelligent man, who for several years was a political refugee in London from where he frequently broadcast during the war period. Petrone maintained that the cumulation of the two posts might be conducive to mixing both functions, to the detriment of the one which calls for open-mindedness and independence. Petrone's expectation that Amendola might make use of his post as Epuration Commissioner to favor and develop his party in the province appears to be well founded. The "ORA DEL POPOLO" of Salerno, the organ of the Christian Democrats, in its issue of 28 February, publishes a copy of an intimidating letter addressed by Dr. Amendola to the Secretary of a Comune in Salerno Province. Here is the text of the letter:

"The Provincial Delegate for the High Commissioner for Epuration.
Salerno, 16 Jan. 1945.

"To Signor G., Communal Secretary of X.....

"Dear Sir:

My attention has been called to the fact that, for some time past, you have been showing signs of hostility towards my party and towards the local 'Camera del Lavoro', reaching points of actual persecution of my 'comrades' who are all sound, simple, laborious and quiet people.

"And as I find in the occurrences reported to me circumstances which, if their existence be proved, would render you liable to the rigors of epuration, I warn you in the most formal manner that you must desist. 'Uomo avvisato è mezzo salvato' (when a man has been cautioned he has been partly saved.)

"The person who is courteous enough to warn you is Pietro Amendola, son of Giovanni Amendola (who died in consequence of being beaten by the fascists), Provincial Secretary of the Italian Communist Party and Provincial Commissioner for Epuration.

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"The person who is courteous enough to warn you is Pietro Amendola, son of Giovanni Amendola (who died in consequence of being beaten by the fascists), Provincial Secretary of the Italian Communist Party and Provincial Commissioner for Epuration.

"It is now up to you to see that I shall not have to make another visit to X..., a visit which might prove very costly for you; the loss of a livelihood for you and your family.

Pietro Amendola".

The above letter is the subject of comment all over the town

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and Province. The entire staff of the office of the Epuration Commissioner are said to be Communists. The tone of Amendola's letter is one which, in fascist days, would have been adopted by a local "Federal", and confirms the widespread opinion that, although many things may have changed since those days, the fascist mentality is still frequently to be found, especially among young men of Amendola's age.

(B-3)

7. Woman Suffrage

Address by Prof. Elida Mazzoni on "Woman and Democracy". The lecture was given in a large library at No. 17 Via Principeessa Clotilde, 4 March 1945. It was sponsored by the "Partito Democratico del Lavoro", of which Miss Mazzoni is a member. The audience consisted of about 75 persons, mostly young women of the better class.

Miss Mazzoni, an intelligent and cultivated young woman of about 36, spoke for about an hour during which time she held the attention of her audience. She went at length into the history of democracy from the ancient Greeks to the present day, and told of the little importance men have generally attached to women throughout the ages. Even though the concept of equality was affirmed by early Christianity, democracy has generally neglected women. It was only since the Industrial Revolution that women have begun to be recognized as "persons". She paid tribute to Socialism for having advocated woman suffrage throughout Europe.

Italy being the first Latin country to grant suffrage to women Miss Mazzoni spoke of the new importance of Italian women. Contrary to the opinion of many, this is a very opportune moment for Italian women to have obtained the vote. Socially, intellectually, juridically, women are taking her rightful place in society, and she will be a very important factor in the creation of a better world.

Although women suffrage will not solve everything, it will raise the general level, and family ties will be strengthened. Women will have much more to say about marriage, and they will not be as docile as in the past. Mutual comprehension will mean greater happiness for both sexes. At the end of her address Miss Mazzoni was warmly applauded and personally congratulated by members of the audience.

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PUBLIC OPINION

9. On Churchill's Speech in the House of Commons

Many cultured persons were asked to express their opinions on the above subject. There was almost unanimity in the belief that Mr. Churchill was sincere when he said that Great Britain desires Italy to regain its place among the leading nations of Europe. Not many

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of the persons questioned thought that there is any relation between the Yalta Conference and either the greater autonomy granted the Italian government, or the resumption of Franco-Italian relations. Here are some of the comments:

- 1) A journalist, age 60: "I am sure Churchill is sincere. I think the thorny questions at the Yalta Conference were those regarding Poland and Yugoslavia, rather than Italy. The granting of greater autonomy to us is a step in the right direction, but there is a great deal to be done yet."
- 2) A bank employee, age 50: "There is no doubt about Mr. Churchill's sincerity. However, I do not think that there is any connection between Yalta and the resumption of relations between France and Italy, which is the result of previous accords between France and Russia."
- 3) A professor, age 30: "I believe that Churchill is sincere in his desire to help Italy. I think, however, that Gen. De Gaulle has decided to re-establish diplomatic relations with Italy to prove to the world that France still has many friends in spite of the fact that she was not invited to the Crimea Conference."
- 4) A woman professor, age 45: "I think Mr. Churchill is sincere. The granting of greater autonomy to Italy and the re-establishment of Franco-Italian relations, however, have nothing to do with the Yalta Conference, but are the result of previous agreements which are now being fulfilled."
- 5) A woman journalist, age 40: "Mr. Churchill is sincere not because he loved Italy but because he does not want to risk losing America's friendship. While the agreement with France is not a result of the Yalta Conference, it is a step forward toward the establishment of European solidarity."
- 6) A university professor, age 31: "Mr. Churchill is sincere. He realized that Italy's return to the family of nations will contribute to the political and economic equilibrium of Europe and of the world. This equilibrium is necessary to England in order to maintain her position. The re-establishment of Franco-Italian relations is an indirect result of the Yalta Conference, for France was not invited, and Italy was not discussed. This may be the first step towards a European federation of nations."

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- 7) A bank clerk, age 30: "Churchill is sincere, but his sincerity has a purpose behind it. According to his own previous words, his policy towards Italy is that of 'the carrot and the stick' (della carota e del bastone). We must interpret his declarations in this sense until results prove the contrary. The resumption of Franco-Italian relations is probably a result of the Yalta Conference. On the other hand, the absence of relations between the two countries could not have been prolonged much longer."

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8) A journalist, age 25: "Mr. Churchill's psychological attitude towards Italy is one of cold indifference. This explains the errors of his diplomacy towards Italy. The British, and Churchill, all know the Bible and the law 'a tooth for a tooth', and they intend to let Italy pay for her entry into the war. They are right, from their point of view. England will take an interest in Italy only to the extent that her own political and economic needs will thereby be furthered."

ANTI-BRITISH CAMPAIGN OF THE ROME DAILY "VOCE REPUBBLICANA"

It is the opinion of some that the violent anti-British campaign of fascist days is still having a delayed effect, and is influencing a large number of people. The current Anglo-phobia may also be partly attributable to the envy which the poor man feels for his rich neighbor. The following opinions are those expressed to a PWB officer by two young Italians, who have known no other than the fascist regime, with respect to the anti-British campaign of the "VOCE REPUBBLICANA":

- 1) A government white-collar employee, age 28: "I am glad that the organ of a party which is untainted with fascism should express freely what the people think. It is a sign that the liberty of the press is not a dead letter, if in spite of Italy's position of inferiority, people can write things which cannot but be displeasing to a power such as England. However, the "VOCE REPUBBLICANA" sometimes goes too far, and I often have the impression of reading an out-and-out fascist paper."
- 2) A university student, age 24: "The VOCE REPUBBLICANA undoubtedly represents the point of view of a large portion of the people, and its articles are in refreshing contrast to the meaningless phrases of 'UNITA!'. However, the newspaper is too extreme, particularly at a time when the international situation is extremely delicate and when the future of Italy is at stake. Italy should be able to count on at least some friends among the victorious nations. In order not to alienate completely British sympathy a paper of the importance of the VOCE REPUBBLICANA, in our own interests, should not be allowed to go to extremes."

L A B O U R

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L A B O U R

10. Membership in the Rome Camera Del Lavoro

Under the fascist regime, Trade Union membership was obligatory for all workmen, and the Camera del Lavoro did not exist. It was founded only after the Allies had dissolved all fascist unions. The following classified list shows the number of workmen who have voluntarily joined the Camera del Lavoro after its formation in

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June 1944, and up to and including 31 DEC. 44. The figures cover Rome and Lazio:

Water works	226
Clothing	473
Alimentary	1,775
Chauffeurs	1,104
Truck Drivers	643
Tram workers	8,125
Porters	2,559
Linemen	1,996
Paper and press	2,079
Hack drivers	6
Chemical workers	3,054
Assistants to professional men	39
Construction	6,886
Miners	71
Electricians	1,644
Gas plants	1,010
Shipyards	23
Brickyards	13
Aviation workers	144
Clerks	71
Hospital employees	2,635
Wood cutters	736
Mechanics	5,363
Fishermen	1
Port workers	44
Postal telegraph workers	5,386
Stonemasons	76
Stage and screen workers	5,014
Glass and ceramics	199
Furniture workers	1
Farm workers	18,623
Commerce	9,225
Credit and Insurance	8,953
Public employees:	
State Employees	11,900
Teachers	3,393
Provincial	396
Commune	5,507

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Provincial	396
Commune	5,507
Commune roads	1,024
Railroads	7,500
TOTAL	121,113

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11. Strikes in the Rome Area

Local newspapers have recently occasionally mentioned strikes, or impending strikes in and near Rome. The following information, indicating that in spite of the high cost of living and the suffering of all classes of society, the Roman workman to date seems to be awaiting better times with praiseworthy patience, was obtained on 5 March by a PWB officer from the Rome Camera del Lavoro.

Since 27 February there have been two minor strikes of short duration, and one threatened strike. On 28 February 120 employees of the S.I.A.M.E., an automobile repair concern, struck because they had not been paid the increase of wages called for in their contract. The strike ended after 36 hours, when the firm gave the men an advance on their wages, and agreed to negotiate a new contract.

On 2 March, 140 workmen of the local FIAT plant struck for an increase of wages. The strike was settled 48 hours later with an advance on wages pending the negotiation of a new agreement.

On 1 March, 5000 of Rome's 20,000 "portieri" (janitors) organized a demonstration in the Brancaccio Theatre, in protest at not having been paid the high cost of living bonus to which they were entitled by law. After the demonstration, a delegation paraded to the Viminale where they presented a petition to Premier Bonomi. The matter has been submitted to Gronchi, Minister of Industry, Labour and Commerce, and the threatened strike called off pending his action. The issue involved is as follows:

The portieri claim that they cannot meet living expenses unless they are paid the bonus. The owners of the buildings claim that they cannot pay the bonus because all rents have been frozen for the duration of the war and the soaring costs of repair and operation of the buildings more than offset the income therefrom.

The portieri are furthermore demanding the repeal of the fascist law which required them to report to the police for whom they were virtually forced to act as spies.

R E L I E F

12. Italian Relief Organization

A PWB officer obtained the following information from a thorough-

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The portieri are furthermore demanding the repeal of the fascist law which required them to report to the police for whom they were virtually forced to act as spies.

R E L I E F

12. Italian Relief Organization

A PWB officer obtained the following information from a thoroughly reliable and unprejudiced source. The report may be of interest as being indicative of a growing desire on the part of many Italians of the poorer classes, in spite of their very limited means, to help their more unfortunate compatriots, and not to depend entirely on the Allies for relief work.

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In the middle of December 1944 Signora Charis de Basis, who worked as Secretary in one of the Allied offices in Rome, suggested that a drive should be initiated in Rome to collect blankets and clothing for the war refugees and the poverty stricken people in the Abruzzi, (Provinces of Aquila, Chieti and Pescara) which is one of the poorest and most devastated areas of liberated Italy, and also for Litteria and Prosinone Provinces. A small meeting was held to discuss the idea; it was attended by Prince Doria, Mayor of Rome, Signora de Basis, Zanotti Bianco, President of the Italian Red Cross, and an American officer of I.C.

A larger Committee was thereafter organized which, after its first meeting forewarned the difficulties of collecting blankets and clothing in Rome. It was winter, there was no heat in the houses, and Rome was filled with refugees from all parts of Italy who themselves lacked clothing and blankets. The Germans had removed many blankets with them, and what clothing there was in the shops was selling at fantastic prices. In spite of the seemingly hopeless prospects the Committee decided to organize a campaign along the following lines.

An intensive publicity program was initiated under the direction of Dott. Giorgio Arbreliello. Every form of publicity was used; a short film was made of the devastated areas, and was shown in all the theaters in Rome; appeals for contributions were made by newspaper articles, broadcasts, posters and stickers; an appeal was made by the mothers in Abruzzi to the mothers in Rome.

The publicity campaign lasted for about 3 weeks and the actual drive another 3 weeks. Avv. Carmine Caiola headed the collecting committee. The city was divided into 12 zones and each zone was assigned to a woman administrator; the zones were in turn divided into districts and sub-districts. 5000 women and 7000 students and Boy Scouts were organized into teams and were assigned small areas under instruction to call at every house; each volunteer was given an identification card. All the blankets and clothing collected were accumulated in 40 different storage depots in Rome which the committee had provided. The removal of the clothing and blankets from the depots to the Central Italian Red Cross warehouse, was accomplished by means of trucks and cars which were lent for a few hours to the Committee by Italian firms and individuals.

One of the poorest zones in Rome had not been organized because the Committee felt that rather than a potential contributor, it was itself more in need of help. However, the people of this zone sent a delegation to the Committee.

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One of the poorest zones in Rome had not been organized because the Committee felt that rather than a potential contributor, it was itself more in need of help. However, the people of this zone sent a delegation to the Committee to ask to be allowed to contribute their share; when the drive was over this zone had given 100 blankets and 14,000 lire.

The Committee collected a total of approximately 6,000 blankets, 30,000 articles of clothing, and 1500 pairs of shoes. In addition the Italian government contributed 10,000,000 lire in cash, and a credit of 20,000,000 lire. Part of the cash was spent by a

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sub-committee composed of Carlo Alberto Rossi and Colonel Dova in the purchase of 35,000 blankets and shawls from factories in Prato. Some 30 tons of wool were sent to Prato to be made into more blankets, most of it contributed by the government.

The drive was such a success that the committee has constituted itself into a national organization, and plans are under way for similar drives in all districts of liberated Italy which have not been too greatly devastated by the war. A drive similar to the one in Rome is now in progress in Florence.

The following are anecdotes in connection with the Rome drive and were told the PWB officer:

A child of about 5 gave his entire savings of 37 lire because he could not sleep after seeing the film showing the suffering and destruction in Abruzzi.

A man and his wife, who are the owners of a small leather shop, worked three days and nights to make seventeen pairs of shoes for babies as their contribution.

A woman whose son had been recently killed by the Germans gave an old uniform of his.

A woman clerk upon whom her invalid husband is entirely dependent, knitted sweaters to which she added notes of greeting and sympathy to their ultimate recipients.

T A X A T I O N

13. The National Unity Fund

Comm. Papaldc, "capo di Gabinetto" of the Minister of Finance, was interviewed by a PWB officer on 4 March 1945. He gave the following information concerning the "Fondo di Solidarieta Nazionale."

The fund is being set up because of the urgent need to increase Treasury receipts in order to meet the obligations created by the UNRRA agreement and in order to provide liquid funds for the relief of the liberated populations. The fund is in the nature of an experiment, because it adds an appeal to patriotism to the mechanism for the levy and collection of taxes. The innovation will be a means of testing the patriotic conscience of the Italian people. If the latter answers the appeal which is made to them, the task of

in Rome is now in progress in Florence.

The following are anecdotes in connection with the Rome drive and were told the PWR officer:

A child of about 5 gave his entire savings of 37 lire because he could not sleep after seeing the film showing the suffering and destruction in AbruZZi.

A man and his wife, who are the owners of a small leather shop, worked three days and nights to make seventeen pairs of shoes for babies as their contribution.

A woman whose son had been recently killed by the Germans gave an old uniform of his.

A woman clerk upon whom her invalid husband is entirely dependent, knitted sweaters to which she added notes of greeting and sympathy to their ultimate recipients.

T A X A T I O N

13. The National Unity Fund

Comm. Papal , "capo di Gabinetto" of the Minister of Finance, was interviewed by a PWR officer on 4 March 1945. He gave the following information concerning the "Fondo di Solidariet  Nazionale."

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Two principal taxes are provided for: 1) a special capital levy of 1%, and 2) a series of indirect "luxury" taxes.

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The fund is administered by a committee composed of the Prime Minister (Chairman), the Vice-Premier, the Ministers without Portfolio, the Ministers of Finance, Treasury, Interior, Public Works and Occupied Territory, and the High Commissioner for Food ("alimentazione"). It is hoped that the fund will be further swelled by voluntary contributions or payments in excess of the amounts which are obligatory. An early draft of the law imposed upon fascists the following imposts:

100 Lire on every registered member of the fascist party
150 " " " " " " " " " " " "
200 " " " " " " " " " " " "
1000 " " " " " " " " " " " "

Furthermore, every firm or individual who had contributed money to the fascist party organizations, was to have been required to contribute like amounts to the fund. The draft of the law met with considerable opposition in the committee, and was ultimately discarded.

The decree creating the fund is at present in its final form and is awaiting signature by the Lieutenant General. It provides that every Italian citizen of over 18 years of age is to make a single flat contribution of 30 lire. All earned income is taxed as follows:

Earned Income (monthly)	Tax
From 5000 to 10,000	130
From 10,001 to 15,000	230
From 15,000 and up	530

The following are the rates for the capital levy:

Capital	Tax
10,000-20,000 Lire	50 Lire
20,000-30,000 " "	100 " "
30,000-50,000 " "	150 " "
50,000-100,000 " "	200 " "
100,000-150,000 " "	300 " "
150,000-200,000 " "	400 " "
200,000-300,000 " "	600 " "
300,000-400,000 " "	900 " "
400,000-500,000 " "	1200 " "
500,000-600,000 " "	1600 " "
600,000-700,000 " "	2000 " "
700,000-800,000 " "	4000 " "
800,000-900,000 " "	6000 " "
900,000-1,000,000 " "	

1000 " " all other "gerarchs".

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400,000-500,000 "	1200 "
500,000-600,000 "	1600 "
600,000-700,000 "	2000 "
700,000-800,000 "	4000 "
800,000-900,000 "	6000 "
900,000-1,000,000	8000 "
1,000,000 and over	1% flat rate

Individuals employing servants, owners of automobiles, of dogs,

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etc., as well as commercial firms and partnerships are subject to special taxes. Theatres, cinemas and other public amusements are taxed at the rate of 10% of the price of the ticket up to 2.00 lire, above which a flat rate of 40 lire is applied. Owners of cafés, bars and wine shops are taxed 3 lire for every 25 lire value sold. Women's hairdressers, manicures and beauty-parlors pay a tax of 6 lire for every 50 lire received. Meals served in restaurants and hotels are taxed as follows:

Restaurants of the 3rd and 4th categories	9 lire per meal
" " " 2nd category	15 " " "
" " " 1st "	30 " " "

A daily residential tax of 15.30 and 50 lire is due from Class 2, 1 and "de luxe hotels respectively.

All objects and supplies classed as being "de luxe" are taxed at 10% (3 lire for every 25 lire value.)

The decree-law, when signed by the Lieutenant General, will become effective immediately and will be promulgated throughout liberated Italy by bills and posters. The taxpayers will be required to pay the sums owing by them to the local accounts of the "funds", the payments being in each case accompanied by a form filled in and signed by the tax payer. Evaders, who are subject to severe fines, will be checked only after three months, by which time taxpayers' lists will have been established.

PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

14. Cessation of PWB Press Control in Liberated Italy

The four remaining PWB editorially controlled newspapers were instructed to publish last numbers under PWB control on Sunday, 4 March. The papers concerned are:

Riscrigimento (Naples)
Giornale di Sicilia (Palermo)
Corriere di Sicilia (Catania)
Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno (Bari)

All these papers, including Riscrigimento, will continue under their present titles according to contract.

15. Note on Riscrigimento

"	"	"	2nd category	15	"	"	"
"	"	"	1st	30	"	"	"

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15. Note on Risorgimento

The release of the daily "RISORGIMENTO" from PWB control has been well received as a further proof of the Allies' intention of returning to the Italians the running of their own affairs. The newspaper will continue on the same political lines, careful and steady, according to the assurance of its editor Del Secolo, in a leading article by him entitled "Continuando" (Continuing) published on 6 March.

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The author states his intention of continuing the task he started a year ago when called on by PWB to superintend the publication of "IL RISORGIMENTO". After giving prominence to the public-friendly and useful collaboration of all the PWB offices, Del Seolo brings into relief that epuration, in the true sense of the word, is essential and urgent, has not yet been carried out in liberated Italy. The writer concludes with the promise to readers that "IL RISORGIMENTO" will always fight for liberty and democracy.

T H E A T R E

16. Gigli to Sing in Rome on 12 March

Beniamino Gigli, the subject of much controversy in recent months, is to sing again in public on Monday, 12 March. He will take part in a concert in aid of Italian war victims at the Adriano theatre. Gigli has sung privately since Rome's theatrical union agreed to work with him again, but this will be the first time he has sung in public since the Allies came to Rome.

17. Plays in Palermo

(Report by a Sicilian member of PWB)

In spite of the misery in the city and complaints on all sides about the difficulty of life today, the National Theatre has been crowded during the last two weeks to see Annibale Ninchi and his company. In spite of the high prices for seats, which now cost from 5-è times what they did before the war, there seem to be many people who can afford to spend their money for a play.

The crowd was made up of various types of persons but the dominant group was that of the educated classes in the city who are accustomed to going to the theatre. There were also many of the "nouveau riche" class, now in funds because of the "intralazzo" they have carried on. For example, some boxes in the first tier were occupied by a fruit seller from the street who is now rich, and who attended with all his family, and by a fish monger. These, although they do not understand the play, go because it seems to them to be in good taste, and before the present time they did not have the means to attend anything more than the movies.

About 50% of the audience was made up of women. It could be observed that the habit of smoking has greatly increased among the women of Palermo since about 1940.

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About 50% of the audience was made up of women. It could be observed that the habit of smoking has greatly increased among the women of Palermo since about 60% of them were smoking, mostly American cigarettes. They were all elaborately dressed with furs, silk stockings and excellent shoes, although everyone knows how much clothes such as these cost today: a pair of stockings is 1000 lire, and a meter of artificial silk 2000 lire.

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The crowd that was there was in part justified because it has been deprived of the prose theater for many years and the desire to hear good drama interpreted by excellent actors is great. The public is particularly anxious to hear plays new to them. During fascism many ~~works~~ by foreign dramatists were forbidden in Italy. There are many good plays by American, English, French, and Russian authors which could not be given, and no works by Jews or any nationality could be produced in the theater under fascism.

Minchi's company is an excellent one, and in spite of his age the actor himself won rousing applause for the great skill of his interpretations. Most of the plays were by Italian authors. There was one French work, Francis Mauriac's "Asmodeo", and Eugene O'Neill's "Anna Christie" was the only American work presented.

C U L T U R A L

18. Arcoabaleno, Palermo

"The Rainbow" is neither an association nor a party, but simply a group of intellectuals which meets every week in the house of avv. Di Pietra for cultural purposes. At these meetings poets recite poetry, actors read brief comedies, dialect experts recite or tell stories or poems in Sicilian, pianists and violinists play. So this group spends two hours a week at these meetings with everyone offering what he is able to do to an audience of about 60 or 70 persons. Contributions are voluntary and not requested, and none of the members of the "Arcoabaleno" must pay anything; the meetings are attended by the intellectual elements of the city in the musical, poetic and writing fields.

LOCAL CONDITIONS

19. Crime and Police Raids on Gambling Dens

According to EPACA, the crime wave is on the increase, not only in Rome itself but in the Campagna Romana as well; it suggests more citizens should be armed. Rome's police chief declared that a force of 30,000 policemen would be required for Rome alone. He intends to fight juvenile delinquency. The police have arrested some gangs but not all; a handgrenade was found on a windowsill of the Palace of Justice; two bombs were thrown against a Carabinieri barracks.

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The Press comments favorably on the closing of the Rome night club "Il Cocogrillo" where a meal for 9 persons cost 110,000 lire, equivalent to a workman's earnings for 30 months. This step was taken by Rome's new police chief. Other gambling places were raided as well.

A railway guard service has been created to keep a watch on car-

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riages and railway equipment. The police arrested a gang of 10 boys, specializing in this kind of theft; they operated between Rome and Naples.

20. New Types of Restaurants

The Press is not unanimous in its approval of the new type of Restaurant which is to serve three dishes only at fixed prices. IL TEMPO believes that this measure will meet with no success if the assigned food supplies are not increased, and if 30 kg. of bread will be assigned monthly, for instance, if this quantity is consumed in a day.

21. Shopkeepers Denounced for Fraud in Business, Palermo

The city food agents are working to control the market situation in spite of the complaints of the population that they do nothing to try and check the black market. During the week of 5-11 February, 176 shops were denounced for frauds in business: selling at too high a price, illegal weights and measures, lack of cards giving the prices, etc. 294 shops were listed as being without licenses, certificates of sales, etc. During the same week 50 bakeries and 125 "pastifici" and bread vendors were checked, and 5 samples of bread and 75 samples of pasta were taken.

16,700 kg. of fish, 38,900 kg. of bread, and 8,500 kg. of pasta were sequestered because they were sold at too high a price. The foods were given to charity institutions. 134 kg. of grain and 16,500 kg. of cereals were sequestered and turned over to the ammasso.

The Director of the Food Office made a recommendation to the Prefect that 31 stores should be shut down temporarily.

During the week of 12-18 Feb; 157 shops were denounced for fraud in business, illegal weights and measures, illegal trade in rationed goods, etc. 264 shops were listed as being without licenses, certificates of sales, etc. Two samples of bread and three of pasta were taken from the many bakeries and "pastifici" visited.

11,900 kg. of bread and 185,900 kg. of fish were sequestered because they were sold at too high a price. 47,850 kg. of cereals were sequestered and turned in to the ammasso. It was recommended to the Prefect that 16 shops should be shut down temporarily.

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Citizens' committees on food activities are to be formed in Palermo.

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CONDITIONS IN THE NORTH

22. Interview with a Refugee from Milan

A PWB officer on 2 March interviewed Dr. Oscar Masi (a chemical engineer and member of the Action Party) who had recently arrived in Rome from Milan by passing through the lines. Dr. Masi, who is a man of about 35 years, is intelligent and seemed well-informed of the conditions in Milan and adjacent districts. The following is a résumé of his remarks:

(1) Living and Industrial Conditions: Living conditions and prices in Milan today roughly correspond to those which existed in Rome in May, 1944. Gas is available 5 hours per week, and there is some restriction in the consumption of electricity. The city has greatly suffered from Allied bombings but industry in general is still relatively intact. Dr. Masi estimates that 5% of the machinery in the factories has been sent to Germany, 10% has been evacuated to country districts and from 5-10% has been destroyed by air raids. It is officially reported that 60,000 people are unemployed but the actual number is unquestionably greater.

(2) Public Order: Public order is maintained entirely by Italian fascist police working under the command of the Germans, who remain in the background as much as possible.

(3) Political Parties: It is difficult to evaluate the strength of the various political groups who are necessarily working underground. However, there seems little doubt but that the Communists and the Socialists are very strong in the industrial districts, while the Christian Democrats and the Socialists to some extent are strong in the country districts. The Partito d'Azione is next in order of importance in both the industrial and country districts. All political parties are solidly united behind the Committees of National Liberation and have a strong "unit consciousness" in their support thereof.

(4) Newspapers: The newspapers seem well informed of the conditions in Rome and liberated Italy and have daily columns of United Nations news from N.W.U. sources (Notizie Nazionali Uniti).

(5) Radio: Reception is very difficult for Radio Roma, but

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- (4) Newspapers: The newspapers seem well informed of the conditions in Rome and liberated Italy and have daily columns of United Nations news from N.N.U sources (Notizie Nazioni Uniti).
- (5) Radio: Reception is very difficult for Radio Roma, but the Sardinian Radio can be sometimes heard in spite of poor reception and jamming by the Germans. Dott. Masi believes that more effective "news" leaflets could be dropped over the Milan area to supplement the Radio propaganda programmes. BBC continues to be the best source of world news.

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(6) Attitude to Rome Government: The people of Milan are in accord with the principle of the composition of the Rome government but believe that the Socialist and Action Parties should be included in order to make it a real coalition government. They are critical of the fact that it "talks too much and does too little". They desire more effective participation of Italy in the war. In the north there is no real news available of the extent or manner of Italian participation. The majority desires after their liberation an evolution to the left -- but not a revolution. They wish a more rigorous policy against the fascists; "Epuration must be a moral fact, not a legal fact."

(7) Attitude towards the Allies: A marked difference has developed in the attitude of the Milanese towards Great Britain and the United States. The British attitude to Count Sforza and their intervention in Greece have led many to fear lest the reactionary forces in Italy find help from the Conservative leaders in the British government. They do not fear this danger from America.

(8) Reaction to Air Raids: Most Milanese believe that greater care should be exercised by the Allies (especially by dive bombers) in bombing their objectives. The lack of precision of the airmen has created considerable resentment, especially during the past few months, because of the extent of damage to property of no military significance, and because of the resulting unnecessary loss of life.

(9) Allied Military Operations in Italy: The Milanese are alarmed by the slowness of the Allied military advance which spells greater loss of life and property.

NOTICE OF CORRECTION

Item 18, Page 16, Report No. 55, Interview with Prof. Gustavo Colonnetti on 2 February, should read "He came to Rome in December, 1944, on invitation of the Italian Government and has just been requested by Ruini, Minister of Public Works, to suggest plans for reconstruction."

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APPENDIX I NO. 59

RECONSTRUCTION MEETINGS IN NAPLES

(This is the 2nd of a series of reports on Reconstruction specially requested by P.I.D. on individual towns in Italy)
The Port:

Meetings were held in Naples on 2 and 3 March to discuss reconstruction plans for the Naples Zone. The following Ministers were in Naples for the purpose; Rodino, Vice President of the Cabinet; Ruini, Public Works; De Courten, Navy; Cerabona, Transport; Gronchi, Labour, Industry and Commerce.

Their first approach to the important task was an inspection of Naples port and the industrial zone, both of which suffered very severely from Allied air attacks and German destruction. In these tours they were accompanied by the Naples Prefect Salvaggi and Mayor Fermariello, the Commissioner to the Banco di Napoli Ricciardi and various other important local people, among them Engineer Rivelli of the Unione Industriali, and Capozzi, head of the Union of War Victims.

When they arrived at the entrance to the port, the party, which had become about 100 strong, was refused admission by the guard. This caused considerable annoyance to the ministers and some sharp expressions from Ruini directed to the Prefect who in the meantime had disappeared. He reappeared shortly with a permit from the Allied authorities, on the strength of which ten motorcars and their passengers were given admission. Apparently the misunderstanding was due to some blunder on the part of the Prefecture staff who disregarded the instructions of the Zone Commissioner. The visit to the port lasted about one hour and the whole party then walked through the industrial zone where they got a very good idea of the vastness of the disaster.

In the afternoon a meeting was held in the hall of the Chamber of Commerce to discuss plans for the settlement of the port on its release by the Allies. The above-mentioned authorities attended together with about 100 representatives of the various classes interested in the matter. The chair was held by Rodino who greeted the assembly on behalf of the Italian Government.

Ricciardi, of the Banco di Napoli, stressed the importance of the port to the whole population, and submitted an order of the day on behalf of the Neapolitan Reconstruction Committee requesting the Government to appoint at once a technical and representative committee to elaborate a practical plan for solving the serious problem of Naples Port;

Ruini said that he was anxious to state that the Italian Government was not pleased at the declarations of the American Secretary

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Ruini said that he was anxious to state that the Italian Government were not alarmed at the declarations of the American Secretary of the Treasury as to the fate of AM lire, because they had received positive assurances in the matter, and Italy had available a credit of ten or twelve milliard Italian lire. This statement was received with great satisfaction by the assembly over which it spread an atmosphere of optimism. Ruini went on to say that the Italian Govern-

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APPENDIX I NO.59

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ment will endeavor to obtain for the time being from the Allies control of some portion, even if small, of the port. He added that recent estimates put at 2 milliard lire the amount of damages sustained by the port.

De Courten, Navy, said that Italy's merchant fleet is reduced to about 10% of prewar strength. It was important to endeavor to obtain from the Allies the de-requisition and return of at least a portion of Italian ships. Another course that could usefully be followed is the salvage of ships which had been sunk, especially those in the various harbors.

Granchi, Industry and Commerce, gave assurance that the Government will help Southern Italy but that it is necessary for the South to stick together, to organize and to learn to rely on its own efforts.

Corbino (Liberal, Professor of Economics, Naples University), stated that Naples has a feeling that the Government wants to concentrate too much in their hands while instead it is necessary to give the provinces greater autonomy. For purposes of reconstruction Italy must be based on an economic system of true Liberalism, assisting private initiative and not supporting certain industries which, like heavy industry, have always been a weight on the nation's budget.

Dini (Communist, Auto-transport) says that the Allies' treatment of port workers is bad, and that they have not organized them technically, while it would be necessary for their dignity to organize them in order to avoid chaos and social conflicts when the time comes for the port to pass from the hands of the Allies into those of the Italians. Besides this, workers should have their representatives in both the technical and directive organs of the port.

De Stefano (Communist, representing port workers) endorses what has been said by Dini regarding unfavorable treatment of workers by the Allies. He says it is necessary at once to organize cooperatives of port workers, and explains what their tasks should be and how they should operate.

Avella, representing the category of traders, wants his people to participate in the management of the port.

Ruini, Public Works, sums up the discussion, expressing satisfaction at the correct, democratic and constructive manner in which the meeting has proceeded. He stated that the Government would accept the proposals.

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those in the various harbors.

Granchi, Industry and Commerce, gave assurance that the Government will help Southern Italy but that it is necessary for the South to stick together, to organize and to learn to rely on its own efforts.

Corbino (Liberal, Professor of Economics, Naples University), stated that Naples has a feeling that the Government wants to concentrate too much in their hands while instead it is necessary to give the provinces greater autonomy. For purposes of reconstruction Italy must be based on an economic system of true Liberalism, assisting private initiative and not supporting certain industries which, like heavy industry, have always been a weight on the nation's budget.

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Ruini, Public Works, sums up the discussion, expressing satisfaction at the correct, democratic and constructive manner in which the meeting has proceeded. He stated that the Government would accept Ricciardi's order of the day and would at once appoint a Committee, the task of which will be to formulate precise plans for reconstructing and activating the port. Representatives of the Ministers will form this Committee together with representatives of the various categories of operators and concerns interested in the port. The formation of the Committee was approved by the meeting.

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One fact emerged very plainly from this meeting, and that is, the whole fabric of reconstruction in the south of Italy is centered around the Banco di Napoli and the outstanding figure of its Commissioner, Ricciardi.

Industrial:

The meeting was held in the hall of the Chamber of Commerce, and was attended by Rodinò, Vice President of the Cabinet; De Courten, Navy Ministry; Cerabona, Minister for Transport, Gronchi, Minister of Labour; Ruini, Minister for Public Works; Socca, Assistant Secretary for the Treasury; Ricciardi, Commissioner to the Banco di Napoli; the Prefects of the Campania region, Fermariello, Mayor of Naples; Lombardi, President of the Naples Liberation Committee and many other authorities of the city and region. There were also representatives of industry, of political parties, of the General Confederation of Labour, and of many other categories concerned. The meeting was presided over by Rodinò.

The first speaker was Ricciardi (Banco di Napoli) who read a lengthy report prepared by the Provincial Commission for Industrial Reconstruction, of which he is Chairman. The report, after sketching a broad picture of the present position of industry in the Campania, and explaining that the Commission is no longer Provincial but regional, states the requirements which the Commission considers necessary for the industrial reconstruction of the Campania region. These requirements may be summed up as follows:

- a) Government approved to the establishment of a special section of the Banco di Napoli for financing industries which need reconstruction; Government guarantee for the operation of this special section.
- b) Creation of a Regional Commissariat for Industrial Reconstruction to be assisted by a consultative body formed by representatives of the various categories, institutions and authorities concerned. The task of these organs would be to prepare a practical plan of reconstruction and to allocate finance and raw materials; the Government to allocate to the Commissariat all available materials for the region.

The report, which the meeting attentively followed, became the subject of discussion.

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The report, which the meeting attentively followed, became the subject of discussion.

Ruini, (Public Works) was the first speaker. In considering the country's reconstruction, the Government makes three divisions: 1) ascertainment of damages, requirements and possibilities; 2) emergency remedies to bolster the most pressing needs; 3) definite plans. Ruini then gave some figures to show how enormous were the damages, and the importance of what has already been accomplished.

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In the 38 provinces where a census was taken, 2 million rooms were destroyed or seriously damaged. It is estimated that in the whole of Italy this figure will rise to 15% of the existing rooms. Regarding liberated Italy, the railways have had damages amounting to 80% of the rolling stock, 10% on lines and 50% on equipment. Of electric installations, only 17% were standing, but much has already been done. 30% is working after being patched up, and it is hoped that by the end of 1945 the figure may be brought to 70%. In this connection the Government hopes to secure the Allies' permission to import machinery and spare parts from Switzerland, whose people are ready for such export.

Regarding the Province of Naples, destruction of rooms was 250,000 of which 200,000 are in the city of Naples; even today there are still about 35,000 homeless persons, while a considerable number of other people are living under terrible conditions. The aggregate amount of war damage in the Province of Naples is far above 20 milliard lire.

Repairs effected cover 23,000 rooms (about 1%), 600 public buildings, 179 kilometers of railway line, etc., and the Government has already offered assistance to owners who are willing to rebuild, in the form of guarantees for special loans and a contribution of part cost of work effected.

Ruini closed his speech stating that the Italian Government encourages the people to rely only on themselves, but hopes at the same time to receive considerable help from the Allies.

Gronchi (Labour) in the course of remarks on general policy, stated that the Italian Government hopes that the Allies will give Italy further assistance by granting the Government autonomy in the economic field which they have already granted in the political field generally. The Government hopes therefore that apart from priority war claims, the Allies will bear in mind, especially in their requisitions, the urgent requirements of Italian people.

Regarding the demand for greater regional and provincial autonomy, the Government are favorable, in principle, to the institution of a Regional Commissioner for Reconstruction, but it will be necessary for this Commissioner to act within the limits laid down by a special organ of the Central Government, whose task will be the coordination of regional activity.

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Cerabona (Transport) described the work of reconstruction carried out by the State Railways, and stated that in Sicily and Sardinia the railways are in full working order, and that in Southern Italy 85% of the work has already been done. He added that soon direct connections would be re-established with Sicily, and it is hoped that by next summer all lines in Southern Italy will be in working order.

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Discussion then started on the Micciardi report and on the Ministers' statements.

Dini (representing motor-carriers) made some lively criticisms on the Action of the I.I.O (Ente Autotrasportanti Gose) which is a Government-instituted concern for carriage by motor lorries. Dini said that ENAC might have been of the greatest help to the nation in three ways:

- a) that the carriers should have realized how desperate the condition of the country is and accordingly should have been satisfied with legitimate profits;
- b) that the Government should have produced an organization with sufficient elasticity and without too much bureaucracy;
- c) that the management of the concern should have been placed in the hands of technical and incorruptible persons. Contrary to this, the majority of carriers have shown no feeling for the conditions of the country, they are only greedy for money, and the Government has not shown the necessary strength to command obedience to the regulations which have been issued in the matter. Dini concluded by saying that ENAC is controlled by inept and corrupt officials, and that the Government is aware of this fact.

De Stefano (representing port workers) expressed himself as being anxious that reconstruction should not be carried out for the benefit only of capitalists, and that the financial weight of it should not fall on the shoulders of the workers. Reconstruction should have a social character.

De Pascale drew attention to the fact that a good portion of Neapolitan industry is made up of small establishments and that artisans play a considerable part in the economic life of Campania. It is necessary, therefore, that the Government should bear this in mind and should be generous towards small establishments and artisans in the allotment of raw materials, also in consideration of the fact that they are obliged to pay their workmen two or three times what is paid by the State or large industries.

Lombardi (President of the Naples Liberation Committee) expounded on the need of houses for the people and on the duty of all banks and State administrations to give every possible assistance to workers' cooperatives. This would be a real contribution towards industrial reconstruction in a truly democratic and social spirit.

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Corbino (University Professor of Economics) illustrates the need for the Government to protect the currency and stem the existing inflation. It is also necessary to bear in mind that it is important for a rapid reconstruction to encourage and secure private enterprise.

After Corbino's speech the meeting adjourned for luncheon. The

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afternoon sitting was attended by the same authorities, except the Minister for the Navy.

Maglietta (Camera del Lavoro) described the serious difficulties, both financial and as regards food supplies, in which workers are living. He stressed the need that reconstruction should be based on a definite plan, and that workers should be widely represented on all economic organs. Maglietta drew the attention of the meeting and of the Transport Minister to the action of the "Grigofer" who are groups of railwaymen, recently established, who voluntarily and gratuitously have been reconstructing large sections of railway lines, displaying an admirable attachment to their work, their country and their duty.

Diletto, representing the 'Ferrotanvieri', stresses the importance of re-activating the secondary railways of Campania, and explains how it would be possible by a little more elasticity and organization to quickly bring to efficiency a number of lines. He also stresses the importance of workers in the field of railway reconstruction.

Capozzi, President of the National Union of War Victims, gives a broad outline of the serious problem of war victims. It is true that the damages are heavy, but it is also true that many proprietors have lost nothing, and others have seen the value of their property enhanced. It is only fair, therefore, that their estates should be heavily taxed and in progressive measure, which would enable the State to give full compensation to those who have suffered losses. It is equally fair that such losses should also be compensated in progressive order, starting with those who have lost everything and those without means. Likewise it is fair that all damages should be compensated, so that the benefit may be felt by the whole nation and not by the individual victims alone. This would be not only an act of justice but would also be of assistance in reconstruction by increasing the possibilities of industrialists and their peace of mind.

Scoca (Treasury) rejects Capozzi's demands, stating that the Government for the time being at least excludes the possibility of full compensation for war damages barring, of course, small sufferers. However, the Government will assist victims by guaranteeing special loans, on condition that such loans are used for reconstruction. In any case a final decision cannot be made until after the complete liberation of Italy and after a precise statistical survey.

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Valenzi, Bertoli and Cosenza say that it is necessary to ascertain what is the kernel of the industrial reconstruction of Naples; this kernel, they maintain, is in the mechanical industry which it is necessary to activate immediately and in every way, since it will in turn enable the revival of many other industries and the production of machines and spare parts which are necessary to marine and

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land transport, agriculture, etc. The industry however must proceed on lines of national, and not private interests. In Naples, the most important of these industries is the Navalmeccanica, the workers of which are in the front line as regards the technical and social fields. On this subject, it should be noted that last September, the workers of the Navalmeccanica submitted to their managers a quick and rational plan for the reconstruction of their plants based on the friendly cooperation of workers and employers, but the workers have so far received no reply. In any case it is necessary that, in all committees for reconstruction, a full representation should be included in the framework of national plans for economic reconstruction.

Jorio, metal worker, stresses the fact that a good part of the destruction of Neapolitan industry is due to Allied requisitions, and that in his factory at Pozzuoli Allied soldiers, in order to free a shed, cut valuable and irreplaceable machines with an acetylene lamp. This causes despair among workmen for whom the machines represent their daily bread: from the Germans they defended their machines regardless of consequences, and they know that destruction carried out by Allies soldiers does not help the anti-Nazi war. They request the Italian government to bring this matter to the attention of the Allies authorities. Should this state of affairs continue, reconstruction will not be possible, nor will it be feasible to bring any real assistance to the anti-Nazi war and, lastly, Neapolitan workers might one day lose their tempers and react to wanton destruction performed by Allied soldiers.

Procaccini, of the factory committee of "Ansaldo", Pozzuoli, confirms the statements made by Jorio.

Rodino intervened in the discussion and reminded the meeting that if it is true that Allied soldiers may at times be rough or violent, it is also true that they are in Italy for the purpose of liberating the country from the Germans and fascists and they are shedding their blood for Italians. (Loud applause).

Engineer Vanzi, Manager of the "Circumvesuviana" railway, stated the necessity for the Government to increase rents, otherwise house-owners will not be able to pay even the interest on loans they will have to contract to repair damaged houses; therefore unless a rent increase is allowed, reconstruction will be retarded. Lastly, it is necessary that the Government should authorize limited companies to

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Mazzella, representing ship owners, advocates the reconstruction of the merchant fleet and stresses the advantages the country would derive from the purchase of ships.

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Mazzoni, of the National Union of War Victims, confirms the arguments already set forth by his chief Capozzi.

D'Ambrosio, of the same Union, read an order of the day voted by the full meeting of the Union demanding that they shall be represented on all reconstruction committees. They also demand the confiscation of all illicitly-acquired wealth and heavy progressive taxation of undamaged property, for the benefit of war victims, especially those who have lost everything or who possess nothing.

Ricciardi summed up the discussion and defended the Reconstruction Committee from the criticisms aimed at it during the meeting, and stated that all constructive proposals which had been submitted in the course of the discussion could easily be included in the report presented by the Commission.

Cerabona, Transport, replying to remarks about railway reconstruction, stated that the remarks and proposals had been noted and would be considered. He added that all his assistants were people of high standing. On the other hand, he did not reply to criticisms on the subject of the ENAC.

Gronchi, Labour, closed the discussion and announced the imminent creation of the National Council of Production for the coordination, in a practical national plan, of the country's productive forces which, on the one hand, will be at liberty to develop according to the interests of their region, and on the other hand will have to avoid interfering with each other. In principle he accepted the proposal of a Regional Commissariat for Industrial Reconstruction assisted by a consultative body. He assured the meeting that attention would be given promptly to the organization of the special branch of the Banco di Napoli for industrial reconstruction. Lastly he asked the Regional Commission for Industrial Reconstruction to submit to the Government detailed proposals for the suggested Regional Commissariat for Industrial Reconstruction and its consultative body, both as regards their establishment and their tasks and functioning. He expressed the hope of a close and harmonious collaboration between industrialists and workers for the prompt and rational reconstruction of the country.

Fermariello, Mayor, thanked the members of the Government for the interest they have shown in the welfare of Naples.

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Ricciardi thanked all those who had taken part in the meeting for their constructive contribution to the discussions and declared the meeting ended.

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... The Opinion of a Demo-Christian Leader on Reconstruction

The leader when interviewed, stressed the point that "reconstruction" in the general meaning of the word is not likely to proceed except very slowly. It should not be overlooked that "reconstruction" does not merely imply the structural building of factories or houses, but especially in the case of the former, it calls for tools, machinery, transport, etc., of which we have no local sources of supply. Besides this, we have to import all those things as well as the raw materials required by our factories, and at present we lack the foreign exchange with which to buy abroad.

The picture is not bright, but although the destruction of which we are aware is very extensive, we dare not even think of what we shall find in the North. The Government, however, is firmly determined to accomplish what it can with the means at its disposal. The programme can be summed up in a few words: to start on the most essential work of reconstruction in the order of national and industrial priorities.

The speaker finally referred to the question of wage increases: "It is all very well", he said, "to criticise such increases, but I defy anyone to find a more suitable policy, unless he first overcomes the food problem which is mainly, if not exclusively, the result of lack of transport".

B.2.

Industrial Reconstruction in Naples Province

(From a report by the Regional Labour Office)

Evidently, the province of Naples should retain and eventually develop its industries, bearing in mind also its labour problem. In order, however, to meet the new situation which has arisen as a result of the war, it is considered necessary to create new centres where industries could best be established. Special consideration has been given to the choice of the most suitable location for the development of different industries.

The areas suggested for the various activities are the following:

- (a) NAPLES. The most important industries should be spread out along the coast to Pozzuoli, Naples, Portici and Rosina, and in the immediate hinterland of these localities, as near as possible to sea and land transport.
- (b) TORRE-CASTELLANARE. The same considerations as for Naples would also apply to this area.
- (c) CASERTA-CAPUA. This is an extensive area and its industries should be centralized towards Marcianise, which is approximately the centre of the area from which the majority of the workers would be recruited.

The present characteristics of the above three areas are as follows:-

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Industrial Area	Area Sq. Km.	Population	Density of Population per sq. Km.	Power Consumed per Head Kw.H.	Industrial Workers	Percentage of employed in industry
Naples	634.42	1,280,329	2,018	181.3	177,926	13.9
Torre Castellammare	436.29	416,935	955	146.1	50,881	12.3
Caserta	887.04	335,013	401	43.3	33,949	9.5
Totals	1,957.75	2,053,177	1,049	150.2	262,756	12.8

These figures show that industrial reconstruction and/or expansion should only take place in the less industrially-developed areas. The transfer of workers, for instance, from Naples proper would have the beneficial effect of reducing overcrowding there. Besides this advantage, labour would not be diverted from the agricultural activities on which it is engaged in the less crowded localities where new industrial organisations might be set up.

The housing problem which would arise as a result of the transfer of workers, could be met by the creation of a corresponding number of large villages. If possible, these villages should be in the neighbourhood of transport centres and their population should not be less than 40,000.

An alteration is also being considered with reference to the industrial area immediately east of the present Naples main railway station. Destruction by air raids has been particularly heavy in that locality, and the new plan is to take advantage of such destruction to create a new industrial area further east, building a new station near S. Giovanni a Teduccio; extending eastwards the present Corso Umberto I, and along this extension, building new houses, partly of the better class type and partly for poorer-class people. These new buildings could house about 120,000 people.

Any westward expansion of industries towards the Flegrea area (except for essential requirements in connection with ILVA) is to be excluded, since the necessary residential expansion in that direction would otherwise be stifled and, at the same time, the archaeological and tourist attractions of that area would be minimized.

The above are the broad lines of the plans which have been prepared with an eye to present as well as future developments in the province of Naples.

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These figures show that industrial reconstruction and/or expansion should only take place in the less industrially-developed areas. The transfer of workers, for instance, from Naples proper would have the beneficial effect of reducing overcrowding there. Besides this advantage, labour would not be diverted from the agricultural activities on which it is engaged in the less crowded localities where new industrial organisations might be set up.

The housing problem which would arise as a result of the transfer of workers, could be met by the creation of a corresponding number of large villages. If possible, these villages should be in the neighbourhood of transport centres and their population should not be less than 40,000.

An alteration is also being considered with reference to the industrial area immediately east of the present Naples main railway station. Destruction by air raids has been particularly heavy in that locality, and the new plan is to take advantage of such destruction to create a new industrial area further east; building a new station near S. Giovanni a Teduccio; extending eastwards the present Corso Umberto I, and along this extension, building new houses, partly of the better class type and partly for poorer-class people. These new buildings could house about 120,000 people.

Any westward expansion of industries towards the Flegrea area (except for essential requirements in connection with ILVA) is to be excluded, since the necessary residential expansion in that direction would otherwise be stifled and, at the same time, the archaeological and tourist attractions of that area would be minimized.

The above are the broad lines of the plans which have been prepared with an eye to present as well as future developments in the province of Naples.

(A.2)

... Reconstruction in Battipaglia (Salerno)

One of the names which will certainly remain in the history of the Allied landing in Italy is Battipaglia: it belongs to a small rural town in the centre of an agricultural zone which is one of the richest in Italy, and was the scene of one of the most bitter fights of the invasion campaign. It changed hands six times in the furious battle between the gallant American 3rd Assault Division and the German forces. When it was finally relieved, Battipaglia showed only a huge pile of debris. The town, as an important road and rail junction, had suffered heavy damage from Allied air-attacks, but it was almost totally destroyed in the tank battles, and when its unfortunate 8,000 inhabitants came down from the neighbouring mountains where they had taken refuge, there was no place left in

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which they could live.

But in spite of the hopeless appearance of things, the people were not discouraged; individual initiative appeared, and with the energy of despair everybody set to work in rebuilding, in industry and in agriculture.

On September 23rd eighty per cent of the buildings were destroyed, and the remainder damaged. The owners of the houses, without awaiting help from anybody - in fact at that moment nobody could have rendered any - started the work of rebuilding. By December 31st 1944, forty-five per cent of destroyed houses had been rebuilt and were inhabited, and the remainder are undergoing reconstruction, all done by individual initiative. By the end of 1944 drinkable water was being distributed to three-quarters of the population, while electricity was distributed all round. The hydro-electric plant at Olvenno sul Fucino provided the electricity, thanks to the prompt intervention of the Allies who, in two months, had brought back the installation to efficiency. By the same date roads were also in order. It is expected that by December 31st 1945 reconstruction of houses, with the exception of those belonging to people who had not the money for rebuilding, will be practically completed.

The revival in agriculture is equally worthy of note. As early as October-November 1943 all land in the zone over which the destruction of battle had passed, had been combed for mines. This was done at first by pioneers of the Allied forces to whom the farmers pointed out mines, the removal of which was carried out most speedily and efficiently. Later on after the Italian surrender, farmers employed groups of disbanded Italian soldiers from the North who could not get home; they housed, fed and paid them, and were helped by them to remove the mines which the Allied men did not have time to remove. Thus, after little more than two months, all fields had been put in order, and the greater part of them were under cultivation. The agricultural part of the country around Battipaglia is today in full cultivation as it was before the war, only the shortage of fertiliser makes it difficult to get a full return from the soil.

Local industries are likewise in full revival: the cheese dairies have been working to capacity since December 1943, and recently the two plants which had been totally destroyed have also re-started work. Packing plants are also in full activity, with a difference, however. The largest local packing plant having been damaged to the extent of 90 per cent, many agriculturists holding large agrarian concerns, have installed small individual plants for packing produce from their own land. In this way the tomato crop produced has not been lost, but having been packed, has supplied the needs of various provinces of liberated Italy.

It may be said of Battipaglia that all traces of the passage of war which had destroyed everything, have largely been obliterated, thanks to the initiative and energy of the inhabitants who, without any assistance whatsoever from local or central authorities, and by using their own means and hands, have performed this miracle.

(B.2)

.. "Consorzio Importazioni per Imprese di Costruzioni" (Importation Consortium for building undertakings)

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The "Bollettino Economico" reports that this organisation has been formed in Rome and includes the following companies: "Forroboton", "Fratelli Gonrand", "Societa Italiana Lavori Marittimi", "Societa Italiana Strada Ferrata Medioranica", etc. etc. The object of the organisation is to unite into one economic structure the various companies whose activities are connected with the building of houses, roads and harbours, in order to assist the Government by guaranteeing the purchase and allotment of machinery, tools, motor transport etc. All building firms may join the organisation. The formation of the organisation is justified by the fact that all foreign commercial exchanges are at present prohibited except through the medium of the Italian Government.

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Conversation with a Banker

The speaker said that it was not the magnitude of the task, in spite of its enormity, which caused him misgivings, but the attitude of the people. Labour was available in abundance; the materials required could be found, the problem of finance was not unsurmountable, but the apathy of the people, as a mass, seemed unshakable. Instead of facing up to the colossal problems which confronted them, they were trifling. The example came from the men who posed as leaders of the nation and who instead of leading along the thorny path of national duty, were taking part in a national game of chess which was being played among the umpteen political parties; playing for position, prestige and power.

The people had no conception of democracy - they are totally unfit, unprepared for it. A people who have never before enjoyed or even known democracy, cannot have liberty thrown to them all at once in a lump. It would take years to educate them to it by degrees, in slow stages, and meanwhile they should be ruled by a strong Government. The presence of the Allies and their guidance has been a great blessing but the Government does nothing but bleat for the Allies to get out and leave the running of things to them! The Allies are leaving the running to them, and heaven help our Government and the nation!

Reconstruction? Who is thinking of reconstruction? Under present conditions the people in the South are absolutely indifferent to everything except their own individual daily struggle for existence. Everyone is too busy talking about how to settle the question of the Crown, what Togliatti and Nenni are doing and other matters even less important. There is no lead to be followed, and for this the main fault lies with the Government. They are too weak, they have to consider too many people, too many parties, so they cannot act with the required energy.

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