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C. L. N. A. I.

Committee of National Liberation of Northern Italy
May. - Sept. 1944

23 September 1944

- General Alexander has*
1. *himself* No objection to broadcasting messages from General Alexander and Sig. Bonomi except that sentence in *his* General Alexander's message stating that he has recently arranged for an Italian Officer to be infiltrated into Northern Italy must repeat must be omitted for reasons of security.
 2. It is not considered advisable that Italian Government should be asked to publish statement that C.L.M.A.I. is their official interim representative. Bonomi's Message goes as far as is useful from an Allied point of view and *Acc* we suggest that *SO.E* you should leave this request without answer or comment.

*Copys given to SOE for dispatch
to London*

541.13

Mr Casar's File
From London to SOE Rome

1. TELEGRAMS 333 AND 339 FROM CHARLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE GIVE REPLIES FROM ALEXANDER AND BONNET TO GENERAL COMMAND WHICH WE HAVE PASSED THROUGH J.G.
2. GENERAL COMMAND WOULD LIKE THEM TO BROADCAST. WE HAVE PASSED THE REQUEST TO FOREIGN OFFICE WHO ARE ASKING ALEXANDER'S PERMISSION.
3. MEANWHILE GENERAL COMMAND WOULD VERY MUCH REPEAT VERY MUCH APPRECIATE CONCRETE ADMINISTRATIVE STATEMENT OVER B.B.C. BY ITALIAN GOVERNMENT THAT C.L.N.A.I. IS THEIR OFFICIAL INTERIM REPRESENTATIVE.
4. CAN THIS BE ARRANGED?

S.M.I.F.T.

General Alex. has approved -

See draft reply attached

Concurred in by Lt N. Charles

Lt Alexander Kirk

5765
HAC

Mr. Caccia for Army 4. X

General ALEXANDER, Commander-in-Chief, Allied Armies in Italy, thanks the Committee of National Liberation of Northern Italy for their message assuring him of their continued and effective support to the Allied Armies in Italy. The Commander-in-Chief is pleased to learn the progress made by the Committee in their efforts to unify all elements in the common cause to liberate their country from the German yoke. (The Commander-in-Chief has been pleased recently to arrange for a high ranking Italian Army Officer to be infiltrated to Northern Italy with the object of making contact with the Committee of National Liberation and maintain continual liaison with the Committee.) The Commander-in-Chief will continue to issue directives to Resistance Groups in the field and to give encouragement and broad instructions to Italian Patriots through the medium of the Italia Combattiva broadcasts which emanate from the Commander-in-Chief's Headquarters. The Commander-in-Chief earnestly hopes that the time is not far distant when the whole of Italy will be liberated.

TRANSLATION

Annex 3

In my own name and in that of the entire government, I thank the Committee of Liberation for Northern Italy for the message sent to us.

All that the Committee of Liberation is doing to coordinate, discipline, and make more powerful the efforts of the Patriots of Southern Italy has our full and complete support.

In addition General Alexander, to whom all your organizations are militarily subordinate, since he is the Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Armies in Italy, has expressed his keen approval and appreciation of your work.

Make it known to all the Patriots in our name that the Government is doing and will do all in its power to give to those of them who are already in liberated Italy and to all those that we find little by little as the battle line moves northward, a proof and sign of the brotherly unity of all Italians. The Allied authorities as well, military and civilian, act and work in full accord with us in the same direction and in the same spirit.

We know your sacrifices, the difficulties of the struggle that you have been carrying on for months, and the obstinate courage which it calls forth and makes necessary.

In this common struggle we know what we owe to your spirit, to your initiative, to your activity in organizing and fighting.

The day is drawing near in which the victorious Allied armies, among which the Italian Corps of Liberation is fighting with arms and men which will be shortly redoubled, will again drive the German oppressor from the soil of our country.

The day is drawing near in which all Italy will again be united and free and all Italians will be able to dedicate themselves to the task of reconstructing and cleansing its bloody and grieving body.

And it is with profound emotion, in these decisive hours, that I and the entire Government return, in brotherly spirit, your good wishes.

/s/ Ivanoe Bonomi

Trans - Sgt Shenfield/lws

5763

0 4 2 0

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Make it known to all the Patriots in our name that the Government is doing and will do all in its power to give to those of them who are already in Liberated Italy and to all those that we find little by little as the battle line moves northward, a proof and sign of the brotherly unity of all Italians. The Allied authorities as well, military and civilian, act and work in full accord with us in the same direction and in the same spirit.

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/s/ Ivanoe Bonomi

Trans - Sgt Shenfield/lws

5763

OK Am

Following three messages are from recently formed military command of the Committee of National Liberation of Northern Italy for i) Italian Government and Minister of War
ii) General Alexander's Headquarters
iii) French resistance Council and Headquarters of French Forces of the interior.

Texts are transmitted in form received from SOE Berne

Message No. 1 Begins:

While giving notice of constitution of military command which unifies all patriot forces of occupied Italy, first salute is to armed forces of renovated national army by whose side desire to fight last victory battles for liberation of Italy from Nazi Fascist yoke. We look forward to formation of closer and more frequent links to strengthen co-operation with the regular army and volunteer forces. Ends.

Message No. 2 Begins:

Give notice of constitution of single military command of bona fide forces of occupied Italy. Uniting all efforts we intend to assure giving most energetic impulse to struggle and most effective support to Allied armies. To latter render solemn tribute of recognition and admiration of valour and sacrifice bloodshed for liberation of Italy and the world of Nazi Fascist yoke. Request you invite armies and dependent commands establish relations with this command. Ends.

Message No. 3 Begins:

We give notice of constitution of single military command of patriots forces of occupied Italy. Thus intend by unifying all effort to give energetic impulse to struggle for the liberation of Italy from barbarous Nazi Fascist domination. Desire fraternal association with European peoples jointly engaged in struggle for the restoration of free democracies. Therefore send first fraternal salute to French resistance forces who are magnificent example to Italian people of tenacity and sacrifice in the common struggle.

2. Transmission of messages has been held up ⁵⁷⁶² confirmation which has now been received from SOE Berne that great majority of resistance groups in northern Italy are prepared to accept orders from the Committee of National Liberation and its military organisation and that latter are not seeking recognition by Allied armies in Italy as a means of

Office of the British Resident Minister,
Central Mediterranean,

9/150/0.

8th September 1944.

My dear Harold,

Many thanks for your letter of September 3rd about the administration of Piedmont and Lombardy. The Minister telegraphed about this to Noel Charles on September 2nd and asked him to inform you of his views. Your letter crossed this telegram.

2. You will see that we agreed that Military Government should be established in Piedmont and Lombardy although it would be unwise to attempt to do so until some Allied troops were available to enforce it. But we cannot support your plan for the early entry of Allied troops into the area until the proposition has been referred to A.F.H.Q. As far as I know, it has not gone beyond A.A.I.

3. I have no comment to offer on the draft enclosed in your letter except to say that the Minister disagrees with the proposal referred to in the second paragraph of the covering note that A.C.C. should drop a party into the area in advance of the arrival of Allied troops and perhaps even before the Germans have left it. This, as we said in our telegram, would merely incur responsibility without acquiring any adequate means of enforcing our authority.

Yours ever
R. Makins
Roger Makins.

5761

H.A. Caccia, Esq.

Top SecretActing Chief Commissioner.

In accordance with arrangements made at your meeting with Sir Noel Charles and Mr. Alexander Kirk yesterday, I gave to Visconti Venosta yesterday evening a copy of the message to the Italian Government from the Committee of National Liberation in Northern Italy (Annex 1), as well as the suggestions that General Alexander had made for incorporation in a reply (Annex 2). The Under-Secretary has now given me the telegram which Signor Bonomi would like to send in reply, if agreeable to us (Annex 3).

Signor Bonomi's draft reply goes a good way to meet General Alexander's proposals, and in particular stresses the point that all the organisations in the North are militarily subordinate to the C.-in-C. For my part I should be inclined to let it go as it is. General Alexander's message to them has already been despatched (Annex 4), and the sooner the Government follow suit, the better.

If you agree with the message, the mechanics for its transmission are via the British Embassy to London and thence to North Italy, i.e., the ~~same method in reverse as the~~ one by which the message was received.

W Hopkins ✓/dr
for H. A. Caccia

Political Section,
3rd September, 1944

AK
S -

Italian draft given to Mr. Halford evening 3/9

6/2 7/9

5760

Army 1

Message from the Military Command of the Committee of National
Liberation of Northern Italy.
to the Italian Government and Ministry of War.

While giving notice of constitution of military command which unifies all patriot forces of occupied Italy, first salute is to armed forces of renovated national army by whose side desire to fight last victory battles for liberation of Italy from Nazi Fascist yoke. We look forward to formation of closer and more frequent links to strengthen co-operation with the regular army and volunteer forces.

Annex 2

After suitable wording of thanks for the message from the Committee of National Liberation, the Government should recognise the value of the Committee in unifying the efforts of all Patriots in Northern Italy in their common struggle to liberate their country in conjunction with the Allied Armies in Italy from the Nazi-Fascist yoke. The reply should stress that the direction of all Patriot organizations in this common struggle must rest with General ALEXANDER by reason of his position as Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Armies in Italy. It should also stress the Government's approval of the progress already made in the rehabilitation of Patriots passing into liberated Italy. It should stress the progress made by A.C.C. in this connection and add that the Government is concerning itself with this problem in the areas under their control. The Government looks forward to the time when all Italy will again be free and North and South Italy will again be unified and all can take their part in rebuilding their country.

5758

te unita e libera e tutti gli Italiani potranno dedi-
carsi al compito di ricostruire e risanare il suo
corpo sanguinoso e dolente.

Ed é con commozione profonda che, in queste ore
decisive, io e tutto il Governo ricambiamo con fra-
terno animo il vostro saluto augurale.

Luigi Einaudi

General ALEXANDER, Commander-in-Chief, Allied Armies in Italy, thanks the Committee of National Liberation of Northern Italy for their message assuring him of their continued and effective support to the Allied Armies in Italy. The Commander-in-Chief is pleased to learn the progress made by the Committee in their efforts to unify all elements in the common cause to liberate their country from the German yoke. [The Commander-in-Chief has been pleased recently to arrange for (a high ranking Italian Army Officer) to be infiltrated to Northern Italy with the object of making contact with the Committee of National Liberation and maintain continual liaison with the Committee.] The Commander-in-Chief will continue to issue directives to Resistance Groups in the field and to give encouragement and broad instructions to Italian Patriots through the medium of the Italia Combattente broadcasts which emanate from the Commander-in-Chief's Headquarters. The Commander-in-Chief earnestly hopes that the time is not far distant when the whole of Italy will be liberated.

V. P. Political Section.

May I have the draft today?

-MS/8/14/55

5745

IMMEDIATE
ACTION

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

HH
HS

Ref: 6502/40/COS.

29 December, 1944.

SUBJECT: Political Set-up in Northern ITALY.

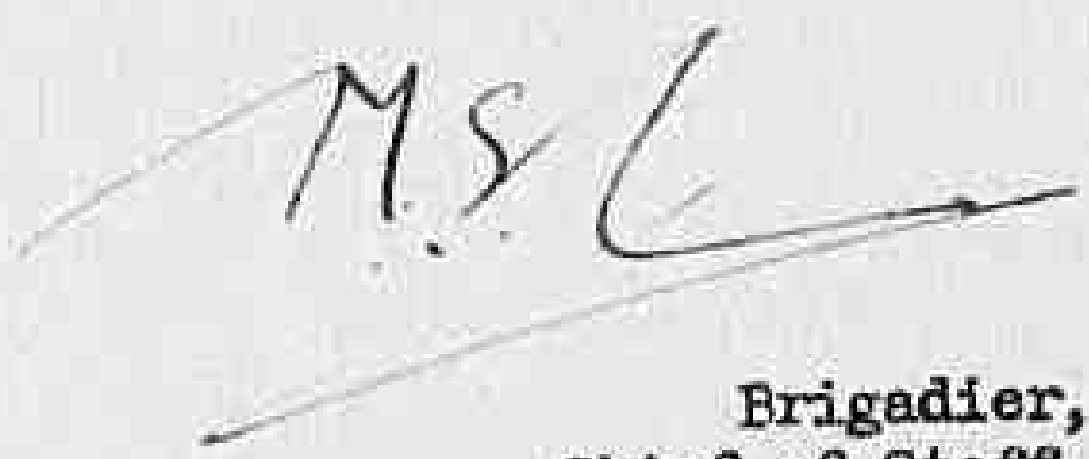
TO : VP, Political Section.

1. I think the time has come when we should give the Regional Commissioners designate for Northern Italy some idea of the political set-up in their Regions, the relations between the C.L.N.A.I. and (a) the Italian Government; (b) the Allied authorities, and a prognosis of some of the difficulties which may be encountered.

2. I think the paper should be of such a nature that it can be distributed to Provincial Commissioners and Provincial Officers, so that it may be necessary to omit some of the more secret commitments.

3. Would you prepare something on these lines?

MSL/JG.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

0 4 5 3

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

W.S.

(OK
O and

I think this
can go forward.

ds
25/1/81

FROM: Bern
DATE: 24 Jan 45

SUBJECT: Motion of the C.L.N.A.I. ✓

No. 85: I am requested to transmit following text of motion approved by C.L.N.A.I. on 17 January upon proposal of the Action Party: "C.L.N.A.I. recognizes the system of physical terror, brutalization, etc of political prisoners held at the San Vittore Prisons in Milan by German Sgt. Franz and German Sgt. Major Klimps, denounced by public opinion and United Nations and their General Comands the above-named Franz and Klimps as war criminals and reserves the right to apply reprisals in their case."

BERIO

5740

JAK/dfc

W/S
A/14

CC 3201

3 January 1944

Subject: Newspaper Bulletin Re C.L.N.A.I.

To: Major F. A. Hamister, Secretary
Inter Service and Political Secretariat
Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512

Following your request, I attach a copy of the bulletin published in the papers on December 21st after the meeting of the Council of Ministers on December 20th.

J. A. QUINN
Major, R. A.
Staff Officer to CG

1 Incl.

cc: G-5, AFHQ
Sir Noel Charles
Hon. Alexander Kirk

Political Section
Chief of Staff
CC Files

54113

5736
3733

TOP SECRET

23
Outgoing Message S-401, ~~23~~ to 44, continued:

I AM INFORMED THAT THIS ASPECT HAS BEEN STRONGLY STRESSED IN TELEGRAMS FROM THE
FOREIGN OFFICE TO THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR AND TO BRITISH RESIDENT PD
PARA GRATEFUL FOR REPLY AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE ~~WHETHER~~ ^{EITHER} AS TO APPROVAL OR
SUCH MODIFICATIONS AS YOU DESIRE ME TO REQUEST PD

AUTHENTICATED:

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION:

Sir Noel Charles
Hon. Alexander Kirk
Political Section
Chief of Staff
'G' Files

TOP SECRET

5729

- 1 C.L.N.A.I. accepts to act to this end as delegate of the Italian Government, whose authority it fully and freely recognizes and with whom it will maintain contact through its President.
- 2 The C.L.N.A.I. fully accepting the authority of the Italian Government established in Liberated Italy and recognized by the Allied Government undertakes to act to this end as the delegate of the Italian Government with whom it will maintain contact through its President.
- 3 The C.L.N.A.I. accepts to act to this end as delegate of the Italian Government, whose authority, as the successor to the Italian Government which signed the armistice terms with the Allied Governments, it fully and freely recognizes and with whom it will maintain contact through its President.

