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IAF CENSORSHIP CORRESPONDENCE ON
JAN. - JULY 1945

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CONFIDENTIAL

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Headquarters Allied Commission
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP
APO 394, U. S. Army

LTJ/mc

SPECIAL REPORT No. 137

30 July 1945

SUBJECT: Appreciation and Censorship Report on Italian Civilian Mail for four weeks ending 7th July 1945.

TO : G-2 (Communications Censorship), AFHQ, APO 512, U. S. Army.

This report is based on 476,400 letters checked during the four weeks ended 7th July 1945.

In contrast to previous reports, this report does not include statistics of the censorship of mail in stations controlled by this Group ceased during this period. Such statistics as were received were too meagre to justify basing opinion tallies upon them.

Attached is a table (Appendix A) which shows the relation between favourable and unfavourable comments on various subjects over the period. In all cases the lowest number of comments is reduced to one, and the second figure shows the corresponding number of comments of the opposite opinion.

Since our last four weekly report new stations have been opened at Aosta, Trento and Udine. The stations at Bologna, Leghorn and Verona did not operate during the whole period while internal mail censorship ceased at Rome, Naples and Brescia on 15 June 1945. Figures for these three stations are based solely on the operation for week ending 16 June 1945.

The bulk of the statistics given, therefore, represents Northern Italian opinion but external mail passing through Rome and Naples stations can be taken to indicate tendencies in Central and Southern Italy respectively. Where there is a marked divergence of opinion indicated in these areas, separate figures are given under the appropriate headings in the body of the report.

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None of the comments used in this report have been used in any previous report from this headquarters.

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1. FOOD SITUATION

The general position shows a worsening of opinion but again the figures vary considerably in different parts of the country. Whereas, for instance, in Southern Italian mail adverse comments were in the majority by 4? to 1, the Northern Italian provinces have an adverse majority of only 14 to 1. At Aosta it is as low as 4 to 1.

The complaints remain substantially the same as in the last report. High prices fromthe principle subject but once again in the north there are complaints that rationed goods are not available. A few comments from the South show that there has been some improvement in prices in that area. The following extracts illustrate the general type of comment:

"It is now some days that the town has been without food. Housewives rioted to obtain a reduction in prices and obtained the opposite result. The authorities are doing their best but one must stay in line for hours for ½kilo of vegetables." 2/7/45 - Venezia)

"Bread (150 gr. per day) costs 4 lire per kilo with the ration card and does not exist on the black market. Rice (1 kilo per month) costs 10 lire per kilo with the ration card and 40 lire per kilo on the black market. There is no pasta with the ration card and it costs 90 lire per kilo on the black market. Olive oil or butter (100 gr. per month) costs 80 lire per kilo on the ration card and the black market prices are 700 lire per kilo for butter and 900 lire for olive oil. Other prices are: meat 350 lire per kilo, lake fish 250 lire per kilo, potatoes 30 lire and tomatoes 75 lire." (7/6/45 - Aosta)

"The vegetables here have insane prices. For instance, spring potatoes cost 34 lire per kilo." (20/6/45 - Bolzano)

"We are all weak from malnutrition but we hope to recover. The cost of living is even higher than a few months ago. There are some reductions but the racketeers make things rather worse than better." (30/6/45 - Messina)

"...Now we talk about the actual prices, you are still lucky in comparison with us.....eggs nor are at the same

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price as y[illegible]s at 22 lire each, meat 6[illegible]-700 per kilo, wine 100-110 lire a litre, cherries 44 lire a kilo, peaches at 80, butter even at 1000 lire and so on....." (14/6/45-Cuneo)

"There is virtually no rationed food. They didn't give us any more soap. They do not give us any bread. Rationed meat comes only rarely. Without the ration card it costs 300 lire a kilo." (25/6/45 - Cuneo)

"The situation is bad here. The farmers are doing fairly well because money is worthless. One cannot find milk and the sheds are full of cattle. The farmers prefer to give milk to the hogs rather than to give it to the poor. All the farmers have been fined on the milk question, some had to pay 5000 lire, others 10,000 and 15,000 lire but they are not giving in.....a little gosling ten days old costs 300-350 lire." (22/6/45 - Udine)

"Since the arrival of the Allies we have 150 grs. of snow white bread. Fish is cheap. They gave us some bacon grease, a little cheese, a little canned meat, a little sugar - in other words things that we had not seen for months. Black market is on the decrease." (21/6/45 - Cuneo)

"Bread is down very much, it is now 45 lire per kilo instead of 120 and we hope that everything will go down." (13/6/45 - Trapani)

"Here we have good and even abundent bread. We cannot complain about milk." (24/6/45 - Aosta)

"Food is very abundant and one eats well." (27/6/45 - Aosta)

2. CLOTHING

The general situation worsened slightly in the north, the ratio of adverse comments being 19 to 1 against 13.3 to 1 in the previous period. In Southern Italy there was a marked improvement, unfavourable comments being 232 to 1 against 720 to 1 in the previous four weeks. Certain provinces in the north were exceptional and showed better

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figures. Aosta for example showed an adverse ratio of only 3.1 to 1 while Bolzano which had previously shown no favourable comment now produced 6 with an adverse ratio of only 6 to 1.

The complaints were as previously based almost entirely on high prices but the quality of clothes also meets with some criticism. The following are typical comments:

"We found some ready made cloth shoes. If one wants all leather shoes, one must have them made and with good leather and workmanship they cost 3600 and 5800 lire. One can find cloth for dresses but it is ersatz material. A suit without lining costs 4000 to 6000 lire, even 6000. Cloth for ladies' summer dresses is around 300 to 400 lire per metre. (17/6/45 - San Remo)

"Speaking of clothing, here are some prices - medium quality low shoes 2500-3000 lire, better quality high shoes 3500-4000 lire, medium quality suits 12,000-15,000 lire, good woollen suits 20,000-25,000 lire." (27/6/45-Genoa)

"She told me that you got her material for approx at 75 lire per metre." (23/6/45 - Bolzano)

"After those people from south Italy started to come over here prices have been doubled - if you buy a suit you need 10,000 lire, a neck tie costs 200 lire, a shirt 800 lire, a hat 700 lire. Therefore my means do not allow me to buy many things." (21/6/45 - Como)

"Clothes have prohibitive prices. One cannot find a man's suit for less than 15000 lire. Shoes and cloth for women's clothes are at prohibitive prices. Only farmers who have all become millionaires can afford to buy at any price, while wage-earners have a hard time living." (21/6/45 - Genoa)

"Prices are going down daily in Sicily. Suits which could not be bought previously for 30000 lire now sell for 10000 lire and so on." (30/5/45 - Ragusa)

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"A pair of shoes of substitute material cost 1700 lire, pure leather 2000-2100 lire. With a special coupon

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"The hunt for apartments is very intense in Turin because all the people who were evacuated from Turin want to go back there to work. Many cannot get back even the apartment which they had rented and which had remained in their name and for which they had paid the rent. Many in Turin who are believed to live in too big apartments have been forced to give part to the roofless ones but they cannot even choose the sub-tenant according to their convenience to make sure that they are honest and moral people." (30/6/45 - Turin)

"I'll give you an idea of the hopeless lodging situation. In Milan there are a million non-Milanese who should return to their homes and then there will be like wise thousands homeless on account of the destruction." (15/6/45 - Como)

"Every day one sees a new disaster and I have been everywhere. One must actually see it to realise what the situation is like. They promise to rebuild the houses but when? Those who want a shelter are impatient. We are all nervous and excited about what no one can give us. Help will come.....but when? How? Meanwhile the winter is coming and one has grounds for worrying." (25/6/45 - Udine)

"Now we are worse off than ever, we are in a stable where there are 14 animals. Every day we go to the town hall to beg for a little place for us but nobody helps us. My husband is unemployed and we have been 3 months without evacuation dole." (20/6/45 - Udine)

"One can find enough food here because there are no tourists. For the same reason there are several empty apartments." (2/7/45 - Aosta)

4. INCOME

The general opinion on the inadequacy of income to meet current expenditure remained substantially the same as during the last period. Central and Southern Italy produced a heavy majority of unfavourable comments but Turin and Venice also had adverse ratios of 80 to 1 and 39 to 1 respectively. In the North the Allies are blamed in some comments for freezing income in a manner which does not allow for the increase of prices which the union with the South is alleged

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to have brought about. Once again fears are expressed on the necessity for saving on reserves which may exist and consequently fears are expressed for the future. The following extracts illustrate the main points:

"Pats, coffee, sugar, chocolate and meat don't exist.....they can be found on the black market but at prices inaccessible to the purse of the poor employee." (18/6/45 - Rome)

"There are three people in our home, husband, wife and daughter, and we spend daily for food 500 lire but many families with three or four sons cannot get along with 500 or 600 lire a day. All the Italians are almost naked, barefooted. A man earns 250 lire a day despite the still but it is not enough for bread." (11/6/45 - Cremona)

"Production is scarce, the weather is adverse. When there is no production one must go to the black market. It is the ruin of the worker because it absorbs all his income. Expenditure is more than income and we do not have any money for clothes. We do not buy clothes and still it is not enough." (18/6/45 - Cosenza)

"Here in Turin life costs just about as much as in Rome because prices are going up. But they do want to increase salaries as they have done in Rome. We will go on strike in the office if they do not grant us an increase. My salary is still around 5000 while in Rome one is paid 12,000. It is quite a difference." (1/7/45 - Turin)

"Those who have money have everything but the worker is not paid over 150 lire a day and has to pay 60 lire for a kilo of bread." (20/6/45 - Turin)

"The man from the Relief Office brought me my pension for the three month period. Last year they gave us an increase but nothing now. The newspapers say that the cost of living has gone up 12 times since 1938. Pensions should be at least doubled but who thinks of those who are no longer in service." (27/6/45 - Milan)

"Here in Genoa the British have fixed very low salaries as compared to the cost of living and therefore nobody is working." (23/6/45 - Genoa)

"Food is becoming dearer every day and with one's

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pay some is not able to meet expenses ( ) not eating that which they had in reserve....." (2/6/15 - Bolzano)

"We are waiting for pay increases because with the present salaries we can barely buy a litre of milk and a kilo of bread. We are reduced to this level." (21/6/45 - Cuneo)

"Prices are still rapidly rising because with the union with the South goods are flowing to the South, causing an increase in prices. We are no longer able to buy what we need and on top of this they have frozen salaries instead of prices." (1/7/45 - Turin)

"Work is fairly good and the pay is reasonable." (1/7/45 - Aosta)

5. NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

The general opinion showed a slightly less unfavourable attitude than in the past four weeks. In Milan there was a 4 to 1 majority in favour of the government but in Rome a more unfavourable view was taken. The excessive number of parties remains the chief point of criticism but in many comments Parri himself is looked to as a hopeful stabilising force. Some comments show an increased fear that out of the present maelstrom will emerge a new form of fascism.

Comments were not numerous and, as one statement actually put it, there appears on the whole to be little interest in the new government. The following quotations are taken as far as possible from the less proselytising type of letter.

"We have, so it seems, a real government. Prof. Parri is a man of few words but his active past is admirable. We can, or rather must, trust him fully and all start working in silence...." (21/6/45 - Rome)

"At last we have formed a government but the country is not very interested in it.....it does not inspire great confidence in anybody." (21/6/45 - Rome)

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"Unfortunately the atmosphere is still impregnated with grudges, vendettas, egotisms, thirst for power and the future does not seem very encouraging." (25/6/45 - Turin)

"Have you seen that the new government has placed three Communists in the Ministries which are most important for us: Finance, Agriculture and Justice. The future looks very dark, let us hope for the best." (21/6/45 - Turin)

"Now there is a new cabinet. Let us hope they will collaborate for the good of the people. But there are too many parties but I agree with them on one thing - no monarchy, the main cause of our ruin." (23/6/45 - Genoa)

"In politics I can assure you that we are where we were a year ago, the same dirty deals, the same disgustful corruption and before the Allies we are cutting a miserable figure. I do not take any interest in politics because I am deeply disgusted. I do not see a regime of freedom but of totalitarianism." (22/6/45 - Genoa)

"I believe the nomination of Parri was a very wise move because he holds the balance between the red rioting left and the white and formidable Christian side. Have you heard the Christians are for the Republic? The monarchy is dead. The ancient institution has collapsed." (23/6/45 - Genoa)

"I believe the situation is the same everywhere. Give or six parties want to settle the government with the same programme because words are beautiful and the promises are always the same." (20/6/45 - Aosta)

"The new president is a fine man but he will be able to do little more than that very fine person Bonomi who sacrificed himself for the country." (21/6/45 - Milan)

"I am very discouraged. I walked around for a long time through this town which I hate because I think that it is preparing for Italy a new and worse fascism only with a change in the colour of the shirt and deceiving again the poor Italian people with the usual promises." (20/6/45 - Milan)

"The situation here is not bad but it is serious because of the danger of a new totalitarianism....." (21/6/45 - Rome)

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"We are treated worse than slaves. I am beginning to think that the evacuation is punishing the others instead of the Fascists." (3/7/45 - Aosta)

6. PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION

The ratio of unfavourable over favourable reports remained about the same as in the previous report. Likewise useful assessment of opinion was again difficult as the criticism was generally either too vague such as failure to control the black market, or related solely to specific individuals, many of which comments smacked of a personal vendetta. It is not considered profitable to give examples of this type of comment.

7. RELATIONS WITH THE ALLIES

Comment was slightly less favourable than in the previous four weeks. The South still was very favourable with a ratio of 17.2 to 1 but the number of unfavourable comments increased in the North. In Como, Genoa, Turin and Venice opinion was fairly evenly divided.

Favourable comment chiefly concerned correct behaviour of allied troops, their generosity and friendliness (especially the fact that, unlike the Germans, they do not carry arms), and hopes of future benefits from their presence.

Non-realization of some of these benefits produced some adverse comment. There was also some criticism of allied requisitioning of property and of their forcing up of prices. Some writers again revealed a sense of humiliation and treated the Allies simply as new masters. The following are typical comments:

"If it had not been for the United States we should all have died of hunger. They gave us 300 grs. of bread a day, 2400 grs. of pasta a month and so many other things." (18/6/45 - Messina)

"Just imagine that when the first allied troops came we went to bring flowers and they stopped a while. They went on towards Trieste. I cannot tell with what kindness they greeted us. They offered us immediately oranges, sweets and other things." (20/6/45 - Venice)

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Then came the Americans and everything was changed, everything was peaceful and a great deal more beautiful." (13/6/45 - Sora)

"We must trust ourselves to the clemency of the Allies and especially to the protection of the U.S.A. who we hope will keep in mind that we did not want this unfortunate war." (20/6/45 - Catanzaro)

"The British are a serious people. Their soldiers always go around without weapons. Nobody sabotages their electric plants as they did with the Germans. They bring their food from England, they do not steal as the Germans did. We hope that the British will send oil, wine and other food up from Southern Italy, as soon as the parties get together." (18/6/45 - Como)

"They are really nice people, polite and clean. They are the first to greet and they give instead of taking. Besides, they never carry arms." (10/5/45 - Udine)

"I am so glad that the war is over. Whom have we to thank? The brave Americans and English who saved Europe from disaster." (12/6/45 - Bolzano)

"The South Africans (British) remained here. They are extremely correct. They are the most disciplined and correct troops we have known and we have known all sorts of troops (20/6/45 - Aosta)

"We hope that this nation will go under the American protectorate and then perhaps we will have some improvements because we are not in the position to keep an honest government because they are all thieves, none excluded." (11/6/45 - Catanzaro)

"We are living among the British troops who treat us all very well." (23/6/45 - Aosta)

"I have to deal entirely with British Army officers..... They are extremely kind but it is all superficial, in their hearts they hate all of us, much more than we deserve..." (24/6/45 - Rome)

"It seems that the negroes will be replaced by the

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British will have the reputation of being happy people like the Germans but without their cruelty. They are democratic like a lord towards his servants. They want to help us and they busily leave us in the old mud."
(20/6/45 - Savona)

"We hear that we have to leave our house because the British masters have seized everything and they do not want civilians in the neighbourhood. ...All the better houses are for the British. The people are to remain slaves."
(21/6/45 - Udine)

"I was disappointed to find that the Liberators have as a rule a poor opinion of the Italians although here they have modified the views which they had acquired in other parts of Italy." (20/6/45 - Udine)

"We hope to mount allied supplies but nothing comes as yet and it is always more difficult to live. I go out very little and I do not love to see the American and British troops moving about. I went to see a Fascist call and I found negroes in the courtyard in the Duce Italy. Kill yourselves Italians, make room for negroes. I speak less I cry and I cry lest I speak." (20/6/45 - Udine)

"We have decided not to come with foreigners until they become guests and not our bosses in our own home."
(24/6/45 - Aosta)

"It is the usual story, soldiers all the time, no one pays and we go on this way as long as it lasts. We will never get paid. Not even in the town have they been paid."
(4/7/45 - Aosta)

5. INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS

The situation remains very much the same as in the last report without much divergence of opinion in different parts of the country. Some confidence is expressed that with allied aid industry will soon be restored into the immediate position due to lack of power, lack of raw materials and, to some extent, an alleged lack of will to work among the people, together with financial instability has produced a slightly unfavourable trend throughout the country. The following represent the general line of comment:

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"Here in Como there is nothing new, work is almost completely stopped and I don't see any possibility of resumption even in part by the autumn....." (27/6/45 - Como)

"The situation of our industry, as generally for all manufactures, is now absolutely inactive. In the first place due to the block on finished products and in the second place because of the scarcity of raw materials. However, it seems that the Allies are occupying themselves with the above mentioned factors and I don't doubt that their influence will be very effective, so that in a short time we shall work normally....." (14/6/45 - Como)

"We hope.....that work will be resumed and industrial activity developed on sound bases which will permit everyone to apply himself to various activities with satisfaction and fair profit." (12/6/45 - Cuneo)

"A significant renewal of business will be possible only if workers will start work again (they don't feel like doing so and talk only about politics) and if raw materials arrive. The wages are not at all in proportion to the cost of living and here it means that it is impossible to keep going....." (15/6/45 - Como)

"Here we are always going from bad to worse. Taxes are on the increase and we cannot work because they give us electric current only 3 times a week. Since I have only electric machines in the shop I have to work only 3 times a week." (14/6/45 - Palermo)

"There is no work because of the lack of coal and the lack of transportation for the goods produced. Up to now there have been no dismissals but there are persistent rumours that it will take place on a large scale." (25/6/45 - Aosta)

"I have been a week in the Aosta valley because of the resumption of work. I am building an aerial cable way." (26/6/45 - Aosta)

"We are not very happy.....the harbour is ruined, the industry is closed and commerce is still....every now and then the workers go on strike." (27/6/45 - Genoa)

"We are on the eve of monetary reform which might have serious consequences on our wealth and our firm." (21/6/45 - Turin)

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"Everything is to be rebuilt and there is the danger of fiscal burdens and the devaluation of money and stocks." (17/6/45 - Turin)

9. AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS

The continued drought has practically doubled the adverse ratio of comments. In Central and Southern Italy especially writers are very pessimistic. Central Italian external mail shows an adverse ratio of 58.6 to 1. One province alone, Udine, shows a slightly favourable ratio. In addition to the drought the effect of the spring frosts on the fruit crop receives comment. Lack of fertilisers produces many comments. The following comments are typical:

"The crop of hay was very poor this year owing to the excessive drought. Also as regards the vines we shall draw very little from them because we had no copper-sulphate. Anyhow we hope we shall receive it next year. We need rain badly since everything is burnt." (28/6/45 - Aosta)

"Here the land is doing fairly well. Practically all the corn has come up....." (8/5/45 - Udine)

"As for the fruit this year the harvest will be bad because when they were in full bloom 20 cm. of snow came and intense cold. Grain and potatoes promise well." (17/6/45 - Bolzano)

"Here there is a great drought. It is a month when it does not rain. We should cut the hay now but it is all dried, also the potatoes, everything is going to ruin." (24/6/45 - Bolzano)

"Here we have a drought which has completed the work of the frost. The harvest suffers greatly from the lack of fertilisers." (12/6/45 - Cuneo)

"This year we have had a fine crop. How lucky we are compared to the others." (15/6/45 - Cuneo)

"The crop of wheat is very poor this year, probably only 50% of that of last year. Also maize and potatoes which were supposed to be abundant have now been greatly spoiled by the drought." (28/6/45 - Milan)

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wheat is doing fairly well. It needs a little nitrate but it cannot be found. Copper sulphate costs 600 lire a kilo or 10 litres of wine." (25/5/45 - Udine)

"The complete absence of chemical fertilisers and the allied ammunition dumps have ruined my land." (26/6/45 - Udine)

"The land promises well for all crops. Up to now the weather has been favourable." (2/7/45 - Udine)

"We have never had such a drought as this year in Central and Southern Italy. Since February it has not rained. All the crops have been ruined except the corn which will reach 25% of the usual average." (10/6/45 - Campobasso)

"This year we'll have a scarce crop, especially in our zone where from a 5 decametres sown field we have drawn but two bundles of wheat. Wheat is abundant and its price is low since has been imported. Also as regards olive oil we suppose we'll have a bad year." (15/6/45 - Trapani)

"Since February it has not rained. Within 30 to 40 days we'll have the harvest, which will be very scarce owing to the lack of water. We have sown very few beans and maize." (18/6/45 - Catanzaro)

10. EMPLOYMENT

The comments on employment are more pessimistic especially in central Italy where the adverse ratio is 32.8 to 1. Lack of raw materials is the main cause to which lack of employment is attributed. Occasionally a would-be employer finds difficulty in finding persons for a post but this must probably be considered in relation to other statements that the wages offered are often so low as to discourage applicants. Comments as follows are typical:

"At the beginning of July there will be many dismissals including some employees of the foundry." (27/6/45 - Aosta)

"Bruno is always at home. He has applied for a job with the railway but they are not taking anybody on." (20/6/45 - Cuneo)

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"By the end of the month I shall have three jobs open, one at Town Hall, one at the Prefecture and one at the Opera and I do not know which to pick." (13/7/45 - Aosta)

"I wanted to replace my windows in the showroom of the library but one cannot find a worker, not even paying like a Minister." (20/6/45 - Bolzano)

"There is no work. I have been dismissed with 300 other girls." (21/6/45 Bolzano)

"I have found two or three jobs but they are honest employment where the pay is insufficient to pay for cigarettes." (15/5/45 - Turin)

"Labour conditions are very bad today. The workers are dissatisfied, so work poorly. There are no raw materials. We pretend to work more than anything else." (16/6/45 - Turin)

"I do not know how to advise you. There is very little work in Genoa. The unemployed are tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands and their number is increasing daily." (23/6/45 - Genoa)

"I would do any type of work for a piece of bread... Life is impossible in Milan and I cannot find work." (20/6/45 - Milan)

"After some part time work I have been 5 months completely unemployed. I have looked everywhere to supply my children with bread. A few days ago I found a job as a foreman with the Allies and it only pays 150 lire a day, one quarter of my daily expenses." (7/6/45 - Naples)

GORDON W. McKEAN,
Lt. Col., Cavalry,
Civil Censorship Officer.

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2 Incls:
Incl #1 - Radio Table. Four weeks ending 7/7/45.
Incl #2 - Public Opinion Tally 7/7/45.

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SPECIAL REPORT No. 117

APPENDIX A

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE COMMENTS & PERTINENT POINTS (10 J

	FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		IM... P...
WEEKS END- ING MONTH ENDING	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F
7/7/45 CIV	1	22.7	1	125.3	1	58.7	1	30.5	1	1.9	1	3.0	13.0	1	1

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APPENDIX A

TO TABLE BETWEEN FAVOURABLE AND UNFAVOURABLE COMMENTS & PERTINENT EVENTS (10 June/7 July 45)

CLIMATE		HOUSING		FOODS		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		MANAGEMENT	
F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
1	12.3	1	48.2	1	30.5		1.9	1	3.0	13.6	1	1	1.8	1	7	1	11.6

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SPECIAL REPORT NO 157

CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP, PUBLIC OPINION REPORT

30 June - 7 July - 6 194

PROVINCE (VOLUME CENSORED)		FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION	
		F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
AOSTA	21533	108	436	10	31	7	34	9	42	3	8	1	0
BOLZANO	16007	5	45	0	36	0	6	0	0	0	1	6	5
BRESCIA	8564	2	67	0	11	0	64	0	13	0	4	1	3
COMO	29979	2	109	0	30	0	15	0	0	0	3	0	6
CUNEO	20312	4	94	0	4	0	8	0	3	1	2	0	0
GENOA	54587	105	1242	15	452	25	876	12	191	20	81	24	27
MILAN	122833	183	1981	59	1034	66	1351	51	389	130	36	3	2
NAPLES	40244	18	369	9	254	1	148	8	72	4	20	2	112
ROME	16030	8	304	1	234	0	80	0	38	2	58	-	-
TRENTO	4632	1	14	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
TURIN	34747	26	440	7	93	1	348	1	80	10	31	1	13
UDINE	18791	27	100	0	4	1	31	0	12	1	2	0	0
VENICE	23357	11	313	1	159	6	160	2	78	15	36	8	29
EXTERNAL MAIL	1135132	564	13276	105	2150	31	3654	56	3258	285	656	393	1973
	TOTAL	865	21775	213	2849	183	6715	137	4176	469	936	445	2173

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	HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
	1	7	34	9	42	5	6	1	2	90	14	--	--	--	--	29	82	20	30	2	
	6	0	6	0	0	0	1	0	5	23	25	--	--	--	--	0	0	1			
	1	0	64	0	13	0	4	1	2	9	3	--	--	--	--	2	18	1			
	0	0	13	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	4	--	--	--	--	0	9	1			
	4	0	8	0	3	1	2	0	0	6	6	--	--	--	--	0	7				
	2	25	876	12	191	28	61	28	27	423	54	--	--	--	--	38	383	60			
	4	66	1351	51	389	123	36	5	3	239	23	--	--	--	--	194	273	130		120	
	4	1	148	8	72	4	29	3	12	46	10	--	--	--	--	50	42	22		2	
	1	0	20	0	38	2	52	--	--	54	5	--	--	--	--	3	39	2	21	1	
	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	8	--	--	--	0	1	1			
	3	1	349	1	80	13	31	1	13	256	30	--	--	--	--	50	117	28	250		
	4	1	31	0	12	1	7	0	0	8	7	--	--	--	--	0	3	1	22		
	9	6	166	2	78	15	35	3	29	239	20	--	--	--	--	22	52	32			
	50	31	3654	56	3268	295	656	466	2075	1662	583	--	--	--	--	531	1681	550	2150		7108
	28	123	6716	137	4176	469	900	473	3315	2672	493	--	--	--	--	1288	2318	1002	2180		

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Headquarters Allied Commission
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP
APO 394, U. S. Army

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SPECIAL REPORT NO. 133 25 June 1945

SUBJECT: Appreciation and Censorship Report on Italian Civilian and Military Mail for Four Weeks Ending 9th June 1945.

TO : C-2 (Communications Censorship), AFHQ, APO 512, U.S. Army.

This report is based on 38[illegible],200 letters checked during the four weeks ended 9th June. This does not include any military mail from frontier areas.

Attached is a table (Appendix A) which shows the relation between favourable and unfavourable comments on various subjects over the period. In all cases the lowest number of comments is reduced to one, and the second figure shows the corresponding number of comments of the opposite opinion.

Since our last four-weekly report there has been a major change in the location of stations. All of our previous stations, with the exception of Rome, Naples, and the comparatively new station at Bologna, have been given up, and so this report only covers the central areas of the country to a very limited extent.

On the other hand we have opened new stations in the recently liberated North. Thus this report covers Northern Italy through internal mail censorship, and southern Italy, Sicily and Sardinia through external mail censorship, and of course the big centres of Rome and Naples.

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Owing to the various changes, we have not sent out weekly tallies, and the ratio table, in Appendix A, only shows the average figures for the four-weekly period and not for each week separately as has been done hitherto.

A comparison between the figures for the previous period under review is likely to be misleading in many instances,

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particularly on the subjects of food, clothing, housing, and relations with the Allies. Generally speaking the south is much more critical of living conditions than the central areas and the North, but is more favourably disposed towards the Allies. The North, on the other hand is less critical of living conditions than the central areas and more favourable towards the Allies, but not so good-willed as the South. Thus, in the body of this report, under the appropriate headings, separate figures are given for the North, South, and the Rome and Naples areas relating to the four subjects mentioned earlier in this paragraph.

None of the comments used in this report have been used in any previous report.

1. FOOD SITUATION

Civilian opinion on the food situation varied considerably in different parts of the country. In the southern regions, Sicily and Sardinia the position seems to have worsened during the period under review, and the unfavourable comments were in a majority of 81 to 1 as compared with 75.2 to 1 during the previous four weeks. Both Rome and Naples, on the other hand, were decidely less critical than formerly. In the capital the adverse comments were in a majority of 21.3 to 1 as against the huge majorities of 102.3 to 1 and 77.2 to 1 during the two previous periods respectively. There was quite a fair proportion of letters commenting on the fall in the prices of food. Naples, which was adverse to the extent of 10.1 to 1, reflected this feeling to a lesser degree, the figures for the previous period being 33.8 to 1. Northern Italy was less unfavourable as a whole than any other part, the figures being 8.9 to 1, though in some centres the feeling was much more pessimistic, notably in Bolzano, Brescia, Como, Cuneo and Verona. Military mail swung back to a favourable opinion after the reversal of feeling during the previous period.

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The majority of complaints are based on high prices. A wide variety of foodstuffs are available in many places, but the majority of people cannot buy them. However, there have been letters from Rome remarking on the drop in prices, but even so they are still too high for most people. From some centres there are complaints that rationed foods are not available. Bologna, Cuneo and Palermo are examples. The shortage of fats troubles

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many people. A fairly general complaint is that bread has to be bought in the black market, either because the ration is insufficient or not available. The following comments are examples of the above:

"We are lacking everything. We eat a soup of chestnuts and potatoes because we have no rice at all and very little flour. The price of vegetables is increasing every day. I wonder how long we can keep going under there conditions." (2/6/45 - Borgo S. Dalmazzo)

"The cost of living is quite unbearable since everything is being sold on the black market. Fish at the fish-market costs 200 lire a kilo, meat is more than 500 lire, fat over 1000 lire, and butter costs 500 lire." (10/5/45 - VENICE)

"All the promises about rations have not yet been kept. We are receiving 250 grammes of rice per month, 200 of bread per day and no pasta at all. We have to tighten our belts, and we wait for the promised food which never comes." (30/5/45 - GENOA)

"The black market operates in regions. The most important is nearby in a little street by the Post Office. There are hundreds of people selling foods of every kind. Croissants of 100 grammes are 10 lire each, pasta is 130 lire per kilo, beans 100 lire, rice 60, butter 800. It is quite an open black market. Vegetables and fruit are very expensive. Eggs cost 19 lire each, or 20 lire if they are very fresh. Wine is from 70 to 80 lire per litre." (28/5/45 - GENOA)

"A shortage of salt is starting. The price of coarse salt has increased from 140 to 200 lire, and fine salt from 100 to 130 lire. I think it depends on the temporary prohibition of salt manufacture." (5/6/45 - GENOA)

"Olive oil costs 600 lire per litre, sugar 800 per kilo. If the black market is not checked, those who have survived the war will certainly die of starvation." (18/5/45 - S. PIETRO IN CAMPO D' ELBA) 765

"The cost of living here is very high, and there is a shortage of rationed items since nothing is being distributed, either fats or meat or pasta." (2/6/45 - BOLOGNA)

"We hope the shortage of meat and fat will come to an end. Otherwise what will happen to us! Some food prices are as

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follows: peas 60 lire per kilo, eggs 27 lire each, artichokes 18 lire each, dried figs 200 lire per kilo, nuts 180 lire per kilo, the cheapest vegetables are 40 lire a kilo. Meat has completely disappeared." (14/5/45 - BOLOGNA)

"We are continually eating rice since pasta on the black market costs up to 150 lire per kilo. Olive oil costs 900 lire a litre, and cheese has disappeared. Bread is 100 lire per kilo, eggs 21 lire each, meat 500 lire per kilo, and we do not recieve any rationed food." (7/6/45 - PALERMO)

"With the ration cards we no longer get anything. The shops are full of kinds of things at enormous prices. Chickens cost 600 or 700 lire per kilo, lamb and rabbits 300 or 350 lire per kilo, ham 1300 lire. Eggs have dropped to 25 lire each. Vegetables are very expensive. Peas in the pod are 50 lire per kilo, and artichokes 12 lire each at least. I wonder how employees can keep going." (21/5/45 - LA SPEZIA)

"We are no longer receiving rationed food items. We have seen no sugar, pasta, butter, rice or cheese since September. We no longer receive the half litre of milk which we had before. We can't go on like this." (25/5/45 - CUNEO)

"All articles of food are very expensive here. We pay 400 lire per litre for olive oil and 300 lire per kilo for sugar, and so on." (25/5/45 - NAPLES)

"I'll just give you an idea of the present black market prices, for we can live no other way because the food we get with our ration card does not suffice. Bread is 90 lire a kilo, pasta 180, rice 600, sugar 1500, meat 800, potatoes 60, butter 1000, flour 120, beans 200, oil 450 per litre, and wine from 45 to 100." (24/5/45 - LECCO)

"Don't think that we have nothing to eat. You can find nearly everything, but at such high prices that you cannot afford to buy anything." (9/6/45 - ROME)

"A fall in the prices of all foodstuffs on the Rome market has been noticed recently. Let us hope that everything will soon return to normal, and thus we will get along better." (26/5/45 - ROME)

2. <u>CLOTHING</u>

More letters were written on the clothing situation than on any other subject, and, if one can judge by the figuers,

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the position is a cause of greater worry even than tha of food. Nevertheless, the feeling was less adverse than during the previous period. From Southern Italy, for example, the unfavourable comments were in a majority of 720 to 1 as compared with 947.7 to 1 during the preceding four weeks. The corresponding ratio for Naples was 15.7 to 1 as against 39.2 to 1 formerly, and for Rome 45.2 to 1 as against 360 to 1 during the previous period. In Northern Italy the adverse ratio was 13.3 to 1, but in several centres the adverse ratio was several times greater, notably in Brescia where there was only one favourable comment out of a total of 223, and in Como, Turin, Venice and Verona. There were not many military comments, but there was a slight favourable majority as compared with a 3.1 to 1 unfavourable majority during the previous four weeks.

As in the case of food, the clothing situation is criticised chiefly from the point of view of prices. The most notable point, however, is the very wide differences in prices in the various centres, and that even the lowest of these are considered to be exorbitantly high. Shoes, for example, are quoted at the comparatively low figures of 3000 to 5000 lire a pair in Genoa, and so on through various levels till we read that they cost 12000 lire a pair in Catanzaro. The highest price quoted for a man's suit was 35000 lire in Lecco, and the lowest was from 8000 to 10,000 in Turin. The prices of dress material are also a cause of bitter complaints, though in Rome we read that there has been a not inconsiderable drop in prices. But even so, the prevailing figures are beyond most people. The following are typical examples of some of the comments:

"Thousands of lire are not enough to meet the cost of living, and we have to give up any idea of buying clothes or shoes. Such things can only be afforded by those who deal in the black market. A suit costs 30,000 lire, and muslin, which used to cost 7 or 8 lire per metre in the past, now costs 1,500 lire, and so on." (15/5/45 - NAPLES)

"To half sole shoes we have to pay 500 lire. We have reached a point at which only God can help us." (4/6/45 - CINCA)

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"Clothing prices are as follows: wool undershirts for men, with long sleeves, 650 lire and upwards; a suit length of black material about 10,000 lire; a dress length, without lining, from 1800 to 2500 lire; artificial silk underclothes for women from 275 to 350 lire; wool undershirts for women from 450 to

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650 lire; stockings from 200 to 500 lire; men's shirts with short sleeves from 600 to 1000 lire, and with long sleeves from 1200 to 1800 lire; socks from 85 to 300 lire. These prices are really too high." (5/6/45 - GENOA)

"The black market here is very expensive and we can hardly get along. The prices are really amazing. I'm making and mending my shoes myself, since a pair of sandals cost 5000 lire." (13/5/45 - BOLOGNA)

"At the moment the shops are rather empty, and of the few materials available, those of inferior quality cost 500 lire a metre." (4/6/45 - BOLOGNA)

"The few things we can find in the market are very expensive and of an inferior quality. A pair of shoes costs from 4000 to 5000 lire, and the national material 2000 lire per metre. We wonder how we will manage." (28/5/45 - BOLOGNA)

"We have fallen into an absolute misery and are completely without clothes. A pair of shoes costs about 8000 lire, and a spool of thread, which used to cost 10 centesimi, now now costs 350 lire." (6/6/45 - TERAMO)

"A pure wool suit costs 6000 or 10,000 lire, an artificial silk dress 3,000 lire, a pair of stockings 110 lire, and a pair of men's shoes 2000 lire." (7/6/45 - TURIN)

"Life is very expensive here. Shoes cost 12,000 lire a pair, and a suit runs to 25,000 lire." (20/5/45 - CATANZARO)

"We won't talk about clothing. It is sufficient to say that a pair of stockings costs 1,200 lire and a man's suit 35,000." (24/5/45 - LECCE)

"Stockings cost from 250 to 350 lire per pair. Printed silk is 350 lire a metre, and pure silk not less than 300 to 1000 lire." (3/6/45 - ROME)

"There has been a certain decrease in prices, but they are still too high for us. Printed fabrics now cost 500 lire per metre, and pure silk 1,800 lire, but you still need many thousands to be able to make a summer dress." (2/6/45 - ROME)

3. HOUSING

Civilian mail became more critical of the housing situation throughout the period under review, except in Rome

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where the unfavourable comments were in the large majority of 63.5 to 1 as compared with the even larger majority of 117.7 to 1 during the previous period. In Naples the adverse comments exceeded the favourable by 37.5 to 1 as against 33.2 to 1 during the previous four weeks. Southern Italy was particularly critical, and the ratio was 155.5 to 1 as compared with 71.4 to 1 during the preceeding four weeks. Northern Italy does not appear to be so badly affected as regards accomodation on the whole, the unfavourable comments only being in a majority of 6.5 to 1, but these figures are largely due to a high percentage of favourable comments from Bologna, and some centres are just as critical as Rome or Naples, notably Brescia, Turin and Verona. There were only a few military comments, and they were equally divided.

In addition to the usual references to high rents, the destruction of houses during the war, and swolen populations in various centres where refugees have flocked, there was a fair number of letters complaining of the high cost of repairs. Many premises remain uninhabitable because the cost of putting them in order is excessive. Requisitioning by the Allies is commented on, and from Naples there is a letter stating that although the writer's house was requisitioned, he had to go on paying the rent in order not to lose the lease. The following comments are some examples of the above:

"At Sorrento there is no accommodation at all. The place is crowded with refugees whose houses in Naples have been requisitioned." (18/5/45 - Naples)

"There is no sort of accommodation here, either in the town or in the province, and if you do find something one pays enormous sums, and the proprietors impose on you in every way. As soon as the decree was issued the owners doubled and even tripled the rents for shops and premises of every kind including private houses. Our house had been requisitioned for one year, but we had to pay the rent as usual in order not to lose the right of lease." (24/5/45 - NAPLES)

"There is not even a room here. Many premises have been requisitioned by the Allies in the neighbourhood of Posillipo and in the islands etc. Naturally there is nothing to be had unless you take a house by paying off the previous lease at a very high price, either 100,000 or 150,000 lire." (17/5/45 - NAPLES)

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"In order to go back to Genoa we have to solve the housing question. Meanwhile we have to put up with compulsory confinement in this impossible residence." (15/5/45 - GENOA)

"For the time being our situation is quite hopeless. A kind of anarchy is spreading round here. In Leghorn more than 50% of the houses are uninhabitable. Materials are lacking

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ce repair them, and there is a shortage of labour. A brick, which formerly cost 45 centesimi, now costs 9 lire." (19/5/45 - LUCCHARI)

"Your house was damaged and is no longer inhabitable. The furniture has been destroyed. According to recent decree your flat has been requisitioned by the comune. There is a shortage of housing everywhere, and there are hundreds of homeless families." (24/5/45 - BOLOGNA)

"We are still homeless. Too many people are in the same position. We are now living in a garret, a real garret in which one hits one's head on the low beams of the ceiling. We have no water, and it is terribly hot. There is no hope of any improvement in the situation because it will be more than a year before they can rebuild the houses." (16/5/45 - BOLOGNA)

"We can't even start to restore our house because many homeless people entered through the windows and took possession of the place." (21/5/45 - BOLOGNA)

"Our house in Casalecchio was badly damaged, so we moved to the Barilone hemp factory, the so called Talloncino, but having suffered bomb damage there also, we took shelter in the house of a peasant named Dini di Ceretolo, and then once again we suffered in an offensive." (19/5/45 - CASALECCHIO RENO)

"A few days ago I went home hoping to find something left. Everything was burning. Here, near Salvi, the stable and hay loft, where we took refuge, were burnt out. We lack everything except a little straw for beds." (12/5/45 - CERVETO MONTEVECCHIO)

"The landlady of my house, in order not to lose any time, has raised the rent from 200 to 820 lire. Just imagine it!" (3/6/45 - BOLOGNA)

"Prices of building materials and workers' wages are rising higher day by day, and to such a degree that no landlord has the means for proceeding with the necessary repairs. The tenants make repairs at their own expense in order to have inhabitable premises, but with the understanding that, if the State should grant the owners an indemnity, the tenants are entitled to their share. Rents which are not controlled are fixed on a scale of 5,000 lire per room." (6/5/45 - ROME)

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4. INCOME

Civilian opinion on the question of wages, salaries and pensions remained much the same as it did during the previous period, there being no marked differences between the northern, central or southern regions. Unfavourable comments were in a majority of 20.6 to 1. Naples was less critical than formerly. There was little change in Rome or Southern Italy.

Practically all complaints are based on the fact that incomes are not sufficient to meet the cost of living. There are many letters saying that income are only large enough to provide adequate food for a portion of the month. Clothes, in such cases, can not be bought. Although there have been various increases in wages, it has usually happened that these have been accompanied by a corresponding and often greater increase in the cost of living. Thus the gap between income and expenditure ever widens. The less unfortunate people bridge the gap by selling off what surplus possessions they may have, and by drawing on their savings. When the latter are exhausted, there is nothing left but to tighten their belts. The following comments are some examples from many letters:

"The cost of living is very high here, and the black market is always growing. Wages, however, have been increased by so little that we will not be able to buy food for much longer." (5/6/45 - GENOA)

"Our wages are not satisfactory. But we hope there will be an improvement so that eventually a balance may be reached between income and expenses." (4/6/45 - GENOA)

"I'm in a very bad way. It is really necessary to earn more, since my wages last for ten days only." (8/6/45 - GENOA)

"During the 18 months of your imprisonment I received, little by little, 3,000 lire. I also received a subsidy of 19.5 lire per day. With such an income alone, Rollina and I would have starved indeed." (23/5/45 - ROME)

"This morning I bought 100 grammes of butter at 80 lire, i.e., the daily wage my husband receives. If wages don't increase and the cost of living come down, we will not possibly be able to go on." (25/5/45 - ROME)

"Everywhere prices are equally high, and one cannot live. My wages are 100 lire per day, which should be only an

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nuvenco." (7/6/45 - MILAN)

"They cannot go on like, since your federal pension is not even sufficient to buy the bread." (29/5/45 - [illegible])

"Life is quite miserable. Our pay only lasts until the 15th of the month, and from the 16th to the 27th we hardly do not know how to get along." (16/6/45 - [illegible])

5. NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Comments on the National Government were not numerous, and from some centres there were hardly any comments at all. The mail did not reveal any wide difference of opinion between the northern, central and southern areas of the country. During the previous period a less unfavourable opinion seemed to prevail, but during the period under review there was a swing back to a more unfavourable view, and adverse comments were in a majority of 2.1 to 1. Rome, where there was a small majority of favourable comments for the first time during the previous five weeks, changed completely during the four weeks under review, and produced a 2.3 to 1 majority of adverse comments. Naples, which was a little more than 2 to 1 against the government previously, produced a 4 to 1 majority of adverse comments during the period under review. Milan's opinion seemed to be much the same as Rome's. There were few military comments, and they were more adverse than previously.

Many of the comments are very involved, including in such phrases and accusations that it is difficult to assess any definite or constructive lines of criticism. However, two things emerge from this welter of words. Firstly, there seems to be a fairly widespread feeling that there are too many parties, and that each one is more intent on furthering its own interests rather than those of the country. Secondly, and following naturally on the above, it is felt that the Government, or any other similar body of people, can hardly be capable of facing and combatting the problems with which Italy is faced. The following are a few of the less involved comments:

"Things are not going very well in Italy. There is plenty of talk and polemics, but little or nothing is being done. The Italians are so taken up with political struggles that they have no head to the material and moral reconstruction

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of their country. And our neighbours are taking advantage of this. We are now awaiting the construction of the new government, which will be just like the others. The only thing to help us would be the occupation by the Allies for as long as possible." (20/8/45 - BARI)

"The public is not sufficiently educated, and is therefore unprepared to think for itself. It allows itself to be misled by ring-leaders who always preach about man's rights but never about his duty..... It is necessary for the workers to understand that liberty is a great thing, but they must also concede it to their opponents. Meanwhile more than a month has passed, and we still have a Government incapable of governing." (31/8/45 - MILAN)

"During the Fascist regime the thing was usual, but now that Fascism is said to be dead, it seems to me that its ways are still very much alive, because everything is based on corruption. Even the old French saying: "Plus ca change et plus c'est la meme chose," is always true.... Our self-appointed Government tries to do its best, but unluckily the same ministers, who are very wise and tolerant in council, become the opposite when they set as leaders of their parties. What you may call laughable what happens." (22/8/45 - ROME)

5. PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION

The great bulk of the comments on the provincial administrations came from Southern Italy, and in these regions civilian opinion became nearly twice as critical as it was during the previous four weeks. From here there were hardly any comments and these for were about equally divided. Naples, which was unfavourably disposed by 3 to 1 during the previous period, became more critical to the extent of 18.4 to 1 during the period under review. The northern cities produced only 129 comments between them all, of which 61 were favourable and 68 unfavourable.

The comments themselves were frequently vague, and often attributed faults or virtues to the provincial administration in matters which did not concern them. This failing, plus the general paucity of comments, except from Naples and the South generally, makes any assessment of opinion from censorship sources valueless.

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7. RELATIONS WITH THE ALLIES

Civilian opinion of the Allies underwent some curious changes during the period under review, in those parts of the country for which we have previous figures. Southern Italy, for example, where favourable comments were only in a majority of 6.0 to 1 during the previous period, produced a 25.0 to 1 majority of favourable comments during the period under review. Rome and Naples, on the other hand, became distinctly less favourable, each city producing the same ratio of 5.0 to 1 in favour as compared with 10.0 to 1 and 9.1 to 1 respectively during the preceding four weeks. Northern Italy was favourable by 20 to 1. Milan was outstanding. Out of a total of 606 comments only 9 were unfavourable. There were only a few military comments, 46 in all, of which only 2 were unfavourable.

Favourable comments, particularly from the North, are nearly all expressions of gratitude for having been liberated, and for having been supplied with food. There are also remarks about the good behaviour of the troops, and some references to capable Allied administration. Unfavourable comments arise from disappointment at not having received all that had been expected. This does not only refer to material benefits. Some people feel that having the Allies in Italy only means a change of masters. Others resent the humiliations they have to suffer. The following comments are some examples:

A. Favourable

"We must frankly acknowledge that the Allies have been not only our liberators but also our saviours, and that after having liberated us they acted as Allies towards us. If they had not come to our aid we should all have starved after the liberation. As it is the food situation is not so bad, and it is gradually improving." (23/5/45 - [illegible])

"Since whitemotide we have had the British here. They are very good. We have twenty two of them." (23/5/45 - Viterbo)

"We have the Americans camped here. They are so good that they often give us what we need." (8/6/45 - Terni)

"Order has been completely restored. The American and British troops are wonderfully kind to us, and even the negroes are benevolent towards the children. The Allies are completely

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different from those arrogant criminals. Two naval officers dined with us, and I found them perfect gentlemen." (20/5/45- CUNEO)

"The Allies were welcomed with joy. We have English here. They dance with our peasants in the streets, and our flags are waving near those of the Allies." (24/5/45 - VENICE)

"Everybody is quite satisfied with the Allies who have been enthusiastically welcomed by the population. The Fascists have now disappeared and belong to the past." (15/5/45 - VARESE)

"Here we are in the hands of the Americans who are civilised people, and not as they had been described to us formerly, except the negroes, but let us hope that the latter are only here in passing." (6/6/45 - VICENZA)

B. UNFAVOURABLE

"Now we have our liberators who are, so to speak, our masters since we shall have to do what they wish." (25/5/45 - BELLUNO)

"The Americans have occupied the Sanatorium at Carbagnate. It is a clear example that things in Italy have changed little in the past months. We have had only a change of Guards by our masters." (30/5/45 - COMO)

"You Italians in America must fight to spare Italy the ill-treatment and humiliations that seem to be in store for her at the hands of the new masters who, however, wrap themselves with the finest banners of liberty and justice. What hypocrisy!" (19/5/45 - ROME)

"Every day more people are coming into our village, Americans, British etc. But for what reason do they come here? To eat our supplies and to bring about an increase in prices." (27/5/45 - S. MARGHERITA L.)

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8. INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS

Civilian mail revealed no great divergence of opinion on industrial prospects in the various areas of the country, in fact the small unfavourable majority of 1.1 to 1 among the com-

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[illegible] during the previous period was unprecedented during this period under review. It would seem that [illegible] has much more view as the contr[illegible] has did. No comment were markedly favourable or optimistic, except possibly Russia and Czechoslovakia were almost unanimously unfavourable in their opinions, but on a small number of comments. Japan was 2 to 1 favourable as compared with 3.5 to 1 and 3.1 to 1 during the two previous periods respectively. The South as a whole was less pessimistic than it was during the previous period.

Favourable comments speak of quick repairs to factories and resumption of work. Even when factories are not in working order, there is often evidence of confidence in an early re-construction. There is also mention of delays in changing over from wartime to peace time production, but this is not spoken of as causing any serious delay. Unfavourable comments are usually based on fears that destroyed plants and factories may not be rebuilt for a long time to come. But in other cases, where factories are standing, work is held up owing to a shortage of coal or to a lack of raw materials. The following are examples of various types of comments:

"We have begun our work of reconstruction, and we hope to be able to resume operations fairly soon." (8/8/45 - BOLOGNA)

"The Philippine plant has been destroyed, but that of Borneo has been only slightly damaged. We hope to resume our work soon." (10/8/45 - BOLOGNA)

"As the San Giorgio works, after a short interruption and the operation, we started the work again well enough, except for the difficulties of changing over from war to peace production, and other minor troubles that are not of great account." (20/8/45 - GE-FOGLI)

"It is a question of rebuilding a plant which has been reduced to a scrap heap, without having a plan of the original, because all the files have been destroyed. Much enthusiasm and goodwill will be needed to restore the operating conditions all that can be salvaged from the scrap piled up in and the departments." (22/8/45 - LA SPEZIA)

"In our section work has been at a standstill since 8th May owing to the lack of coal. The workers are being used in various

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jobs which are not profitable and which are very costly to us." (4/6/45 - MELTITO TORINESE)

"Our factory has been completely destroyed in the air raids and cannot resume work." (1/6/45 - BOLOGNA)

"At present there is a shortage of materials in our steel foundry, and production is proceeding very slowly." (9/6/45 - CUNEO)

"In the paper mill of Burgo-Verzuolo work has not yet been resumed inspite of the promised Allied help." (9/6/45 - CUNEO)

"Majolica industries in Perugia province have come to a standstill owing to the complete absence of raw materials. The few factories still working are limiting their production to Allied Military Command orders which supplies them with the materials required for certain specified articles." (17/5/45 - PERUGIA)

"The town of Prato has suffered greatly from air raids, and 40% of its industries are completely destroyed." (30/5/45 - PRATO)

9. AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS

There was no change in civilian opinion on agricultural prospects during the period under review. The new stations in Northern Italy, taken as a whole, reflected much the same degree of pessimism as did the stations in the central areas now closed. Thus the sum total of all comments from all parts of the country covered in this report were in a proportion of 3.1 to 1 unfavourable, which is the same as during the previous period. Cuneo was the most pessimistic of all centres with no favourable comments at all. Naples was more pessimistic than last time, and Rome even more so. Southern regions generally were a little more unfavourably disposed than during the previous four weeks.

The prevailing unhappy feeling is due chiefly to the general absence of rain for a long time. Crops will not sprout, or they barely grow at all, and the land in some places is so hard that cultivation is impossible. Round Venice it is said that the shortage of oxen made it impossible to plough. There 7093

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is also the complaint that fields in that area were ruined by military machine and troops. Hoyd Davey, in addition to decrepit conditions, an orchid from dropped the grapes. Some that the crops are so poor that in some cases they have covered over as sheep pastures. From Barstable there is the repeated complaint that crops have been destroyed by plagues of grasshoppers. The following extracts from letters illustrate the various beliefs.

"Owing to the lack of rain there is no abundance in the Inveliare delta fruits and in many other zones. Often one zones the fields." (4/8/45 - WHITE)

"Owing to the absence of rain we have no hay for our cattle this year. The fifth day being Holy Saturday, we hope that God will grant us some water from heaven. Otherwise we will be forced to starve this year. Even the grass will be dried up and there will be a need to buy hay for our cattle with scarce ethane foodes." (20/5/45 - PROSTRATE)

"It has now ended for the last four months, and has brought in its wake a fatal condition. There is not a head of potato to be found, and the wages is exorbitant. Corn and vegetables ever having reached the, are not available to coins to buy some." (27/5/45 - [illegible] WHITE)

"This year it rained in August as, there is such a drought. It has not rained since February. The corn cannot be sown, and the potatoes will not grow. We shall certainly starve if God does not help us." (21/5/45 - PENZA, ASTILA)

"I am also going to tell you about the country which is in a good enough condition, but is very worried because of the lack of rain, and the crops are suffering." (22/5/45 - ELDRITH)

"A terrible invasion of grasshoppers has ravaged the country. Crops, including ours, have been literally destroyed, and it seems to our people that God has abandoned us." (27/5/45 - WARDLAW)

"The corn really cannot last very much longer, some fodder etc. will of course soon be brought in from the Isle of Lewis. In the whole of Scotland we will not have 200 bushels of vegetables. Such a drought has never occurred before."

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It also the complaint that fields in that area were ruined by military vehicles and troops. Fourth Corps, in addition to drought conditions, on certain front sectors has grapes. Round Bari the crops are so poor that in some cases they have been given over as sheep pasture. From Barletta there is the repeated complaint that crops have been destroyed by progress of (illegible). The following extracts from letters illustrate the various fields.

"Owing to the lack of rain there is no wheat in Apulia and in many other areas. After harvest the fields will be very dusty." (4/6/45 - BARI)

"Owing to the absence of rain we have no hay, for our cattle this year. The oats are being fully grazed, we hope that God will grant us some water soon. Otherwise we will be ruined by starvation this year. There is still time for the corn and maize to be saved, but our cattle will remain without fodder." (26/5/45 - FOGGIA)

"It has not rained for the last seven months, and the country is in a pitiful condition. There is not a blade of grass to be found, and the wheat is completely burnt. In one memebers area during period 1st May, and yet everybody is going to this year." (27/5/45 - FOGGIA (2 REPORTS)

"This year Spring wheat is unknown to us, there is such a drought. It has not rained since February. The corn cannot be sown, and the potatoes will not sprout. We shall certainly starve if God does not help us." (23/5/45 - FOGGIA, APULIA)

"I...I am also going to tell you about the country which is in a very serious condition, but we are very worried because of the lack of rain, and the crops are suffering." (22/5/45 - FOGGIA)

"A terrible invasion of grasshoppers has ravaged the country. Crops, including corn, have been literally destroyed, and if things do not arrive from outside, we are done for." (27/5/45 - BARI)

"We are really worried lest vegetables, corn, fodder etc. will all be ruined owing to the drought which has lasted since March. In the whole of Apulia it will not rain 300 millimetre of vegetables. Such a drought has never occurred before.

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The corn and the oats will not shoot, and in many places the sheep have been turned into the fields to eat what is there. And now it is too late to expect the rain to do any good to the fields, especially as far as vegetables are concerned, for they are completely burnt." (15/5/45 - BARI)

"Another misfortune has fallen upon us. Since the melting of the snow it has not rained, and that is bad for the cattle, and for the crops which will be very meagre." (31/5/45 - BOLOGNA)

"This year the crop will be very poor because we could not plough the ground owing to the lack of snow." (31/5/45 - VENICE)

"The meadows have been spoilt by trucks and hundreds of soldiers who passed over them.. It is a difficult problem to feed the cattle." (25/5/45 - VENICE)

"People are worried since frost burnt the greater part of the grapes along the Reinale and a certain amount along the banks of the Reno. The wheat has not grown due to the drought, and the crop will certainly not be as abundant as last year's." (7/6/45 - CUNEO)

"The agricultural prospects for this year are very favourable, though we were afraid that nothing would grow owing to the drought. But I can tell you that the crop will be more abundant than that of last year." (29/5/45 - MANFREDI)

"We expect to have a good crop, though recently a hail storm caused some damage to the country." (28/5/45 - CAMPOBASSO)

10. EMPLOYMENT

The general tone of civilian mail was a little less despondent concerning employment than it was during the previous period, the unfavourable comments being in a majority of 5.6 to 1 as compared with 6.3 to 1 previously. Bologna was the only centre to produce a majority of favourable comments. Naples became more pessimistic during the period. There was little change in Rome where spirits have been very low for some time. Milan was less pessimistic than any of the big centres. Southern Italy as a whole was more despondent than the rest of the country, excepting Rome.

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Difficulty in finding employment is, of course, often due to destroyed factories, and to a lesser extent to the paucity of raw materials.

Employers are not always allowed to dismiss employees when work is short, but in some cases surplus personnel are put off, thus increasing the ranks of the unemployed. Some relief to the situation comes from the Allies who employ a fair number of Italians in various ways, but with the departure of the Allies from different centres, such employees again fall out of work. Some factories, however, hope to resume work in the near future, and this gives room for optimism. Various viewpoints are reflected in the following extracts from letters:

"The English are beginning to leave here, and a crisis is mainly itself felt in all classes. Unemployment has begun already and many activities have been suspended." (23/5/45 - NAPLES)

"In our factory the clerks are working the whole week, and the workmen only part time. We have nothing to do while the Americans give us no work. It seems that they are already interesting themselves in this respect." (24/5/45 - CASSINO ZONE SC)

"It is necessary to pay full wages to our workers while only one third of our factory is actually working. We are not allowed to dismiss or suspend anyone. We continue to run into debt in the hope that the situation will adjust itself, since a full resumption of work will take place as soon as we receive the necessary materials. Will we be able to keep going till then." (24/5/45 - CCMC)

"The future will be far from good, and recently an order has been issued according to which employers will be allowed to dismiss surplus personnel starting from 1st July." (9/6/45 - CURIC)

"I have been looking for a job for eight days, but I cannot find anything. There are no jobs for stonemasons because there is no material." (7/6/45 - [illegible])

"We can find work at S. Giovanni Rotondo. Often

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and I are now working for the Polish troops and are fairly well off." (3/8/45 - BOLOGNA)

CORDON T. REA, JR.,
Lt. Col., Cavalry,
Civil Censorship Officer.

2 Incls:
Incl #1 - Radio Table, Four Weeks Ending 3/3/45.
Incl #2 - Public Opinion Daily 3/8/45.

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SPECIAL REPORT NO. 139

APPENDIX A

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN RACIAL AND NATIONALITY GROUPS IN METROPOLITAN AREAS (1)

	FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		MATERIAL GOVERNMENT		MORTALITY GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		HOSTILITIES HOSTILITY	
AVERAGE FOR SEVEN EUROPEAN 9/6/45 CITIES	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C
	1	24.6	1	114.5	1	15.6	1	30.6	1	2.1	1	3.7	10.0	1	1	1.0
MIL	2.5	1	1.3	1	1	1	1	1.7	1	2.6	0	0	10	1	0	0

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SPECIAL REPORT NO. 125

CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP. PUBLIC OPINION REPORT 13 May - 9 June 1945

This report is ba
6-day weekly basis
321, making a total

PROVINCE (VOLUME CENSORED)			FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION	
			F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
Bologna		56,547	70	335	30	238	243	610	6	44	2	2	10	17
Bolzano		4,024	0	24	0	6	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	1
Brescia		17,500	2	65	1	222	1	47	0	9	3	1	0	0
Como		24,144	6	112	0	30	1	26	0	5	4	5	2	1
Cuneo		10,590	2	140	0	9	0	6	0	1	0	0	0	0
Genoa		69,079	158	908	11	506	17	509	6	124	29	46	12	23
Leghorn		29,662	46	100	31	73	16	77	17	28	19	0	14	11
Milan		76,063	176	1158	29	622	44	605	56	206	32	117	18	2
Naples	(CIV)	90,305	170	1787	76	1136	20	751	20	296	22	87	22	404
	(MIL)	79,200	134	65	46	40	37	46	16	20	7	21	0	0
Rome	(CIV)	87,153	71	1035	11	614	2	127	8	208	65	183	11	12
	(MIL)	63,182	80	14	27	4	17	6	23	35	4	8	0	0
Turin		30,055	17	282	1	67	2	171	3	29	14	7	5	10
Venice		27,046	9	139	2	59	4	72	4	17	1	0	0	1
Verona		8,406	2	96	0	22	0	51	1	7	0	7	0	2
External Mail		305,747	203	1463	35	2763	18	3790	72	3080	326	611	409	1360
TOTAL CIVILIAN:			940	2508	336	7245	368	8760	302	4155	607	1075	503	1864
TOTAL MILITARY:			194	79	61	52	54	52	39	64	11	29	0	0
T O T A L S			1134	2587	397	7296	422	8812	341	4217	618	1104	503	1864

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June 1945

This report is based on 60 letters per censor being checked daily on a 6-day weekly basis. The number of censors employed each week averaged 321, making a total of 385,200 letters examined for this four-week tally.

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HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
243	618	6	44	2	2	10	17	82	6					115	71	2	15	119	72
0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	7	5					0	0	0	0	0	0
1	47	0	9	3	1	0	0	17	0					1	21	4	9	0	7
1	26	0	5	4	5	2	1	020	3					0	18	0	1	0	2
0	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	18	2					0	2	0	25	0	3
17	509	6	124	20	46	12	23	400	24					95	56	52	56	56	103
16	77	17	28	19	8	14	11	28	5					17	12	21	8	11	18
44	605	56	206	32	117	18	2	687	9					207	154	128	65	92	231
20	751	23	295	22	87	22	404	848	62					269	133	179	285	56	325
37	46	10	29	7	21	0	0	28	0					0	0	0	0	0	0
2	127	8	208	85	183	11	12	293	52					11	17	12	121	5	132
17	6	23	35	4	8	0	0	18	2					0	0	0	0	0	0
2	171	3	29	14	7	8	10	146	17					37	47	17	43	8	32
4	72	4	17	1	0	0	1	68	1					16	29	10	10	10	31
0	51	1	7	0	7	0	2	69	4					3	0	8	3	1	4
18	3790	72	5030	328	611	409	1180	6261	203					904	1241	630	893	363	957
																			7085
686	3760	202	4165	507	1075	503	1864	7422	393					1835	1799	1470	1535	611	1532
54	53	39	64	11	29	0	0	46	2					0	0	0	0	0	0
422	3618	241	4217	518	1104	503	1864	7468	395					1835	1799	1470	1535	611	1532

HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

SECRET

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP

STATION ROME
RECORD No.
ITA 9721-45

From:	To:
Telephone 380019 MIANI Luigi Via Trionfale 97 Caller: a man Give place of Postmark where there is no address	Callee: a man

Date of communication or postmark if letter is un-dated	Type mail	Reg. No	Language	Previously censored by	Enclosures
4 Jun 45	Telephone	-	Italian	-	1492 -

Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposal of original communication
W.L. 1497/374 C/S ITA 3832-44 3911-44 3956-44 4043-44 4285-44 4338-44 5786-44	(Rome T/16007) CIC	G-2 (CC) AFHQ ISID Rome AC Info Sec File 1505 G-2 (CI) AFHQ IRB London Dir Int ASF Wash	Held Excised Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed P Condemned Return to sender

COMMENT

PURCHASE OF AIRCRAFT FROM FOREIGN POWER

Caller: Hello, my dear. I have great news for you.
Callee: Tell me what is it about?
Caller: I have three brand new B-18 bought from a foreign power which would also take care of obtaining right to operate them. I am going now to speak to REMONDINO. I will see you down there. You will recognize me right away because I am in uniform.
Callee: I will come down immediately.
Caller: Just imagine how REMONDINO will feel when I tell him about these three new planes.
Callee: I am coming right away.
Caller: I'll be seeing you.

REVIEWER'S NOTE:
MIANI was placed on the Watch List 11/7/44 as a suspect of CIC.

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Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposal of original communication
W.L. 1497/374 C/S ITA 3832-44 3911-44 3956-44 4043-44 4285-44 4838-44 5786-44	(Rome T/16007) CIC	G-2 (CC) AFHQ ISLD Rome AC Info Sec File 1505 G-2 (CI) AFHQ IRB London Dir Int ASF Wash	Held Excised Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed P Condemned Return to sender

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EXAMINER ATCC REVIEWER LTJ EXAMINATION DATE Revie wed 7 Jun 45

SPECIAL NOTICE — The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confided only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Civil Censorship Officer, Allied Commission.

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Headquarters Allied Commission
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP
APO 394, U. S. Army

5 June 1945

SPECIAL REPORT No. 131

SUBJECT: Appreciation and Censorship Report on Italian Civilian and Military Mail for Four Weeks Ending 12th May 1945.

TO : G-2 (Communications Censorship), AFHQ, APO 512.

This report is based on 456,400 letters checked during the four weeks ended 12th May 1945. This does not include any military mail from the front lines.

Attached is a table (Appendix A) which shows the relation between favourable and unfavourable comments on every subject each week. In all cases the lowest number of comments is reduced to one, and the second figure shows the corresponding number of comments of the opposite opinion.

Owing to the large amount of external mail now being handled, more particularly from Naples, this report now covers all of southern Italy, Sicily and Sardinia, as well as those central areas which have been surveyed in our four-weekly reports for approximately the last nine months. Thus the major part of Italy is reviewed here.

As regards living conditions, the southern regions are generally more unfavourable in their comments than are more northerly parts, and thus the average figures shown in the table are affected accordingly. This must be remembered when comparing them with the figures of the previous period. Moreover, the latter period also included a certain amount of external mail figures, so that a comparison is justified. In any event, in the case of large centres, like Rome and Naples, separate comparisons will be made in the body of the report to show the trends of opinion in those areas.

None of the comments used in this report have been used in any previous report.

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1. FOOD SITUATION

Civilian mail continued to become more unfavourable, as it has been doing for some months past, and unfavourable comments were in a majority of 27.1 to 1 as compared with 23.3 to 1 and 21.3 to 1 during the two previous periods respectively. There were no favourable comments at all from Arezzo and Perugia, and only one from Bologna out of a small total of 34 for the latter centre. The position in Rome seems to be worse than ever. Adverse comments, which were in a majority of 77.2 to 1 during the previous period, reached a majority of 101.2 during the four weeks under review. Military mail, on an increased number of comments, showed a 1.9 to 1 adverse opinion as compared with a 2.3 to 1 favourable opinion during the previous period.

High prices give rise to the majority of complaints. Many letters speak of abundance of various foodstuffs, but go on to say that such supplies are useless because they cannot be afforded. In other cases the rationed foods are so inadequate that people are forced to rely on the black market, and since they can only afford to buy very little, they go hungry. Fats and sugar seem to be items difficult to come by anywhere, though from Sicily there are letters saying that there is plenty of olive oil. The following comments illustrate various sides of the situation:

"Living here is extremely expensive. Just think! For three people we need 1000 lire daily to eat. Meat costs 800 lire per kg. At the same time money circulates in great quantities." (5/5/45 - Naples)

"The prices here are staggering. Sugar is sold sparingly at 1200 lire per kg., olive oil at 370 lire per litre, bread at 120 per kg., paste products at 220 lire per kg., cheese at 550 lire per kg., bottled peppers at 450 lire per kg., and oranges at 62 lire per kg. Meat sells for 700-800 lire per kg., and butter at 350 lire per kg. Who can buy these things at such prices? Can a clerk live on his small salary?" (6/5/45 - Naples)

"The prices of foodstuffs have increased enormously, more during this year than last year. A small suckling pig costs 10,000 lire. As you see, money has lost its value here. We have to buy bread on the black market because the government ration is not sufficient for one's needs." (23/4/45 - Catanzaro)

"You want to know the prices of foods in Italy?? Olive

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cial is 250 lire per 2 litre, dried bread beans 70 lire per kg., lentils 65 lire per kg., runner beans 200 lire per kg., fresh bread beans 40 lire per kg., eggs 25 lire each, meat 400 lire per kg., fish 300 lire per kg. Some items are hard to find." (23/4/45 - Bari)

"Return here as soon as possible and bring some provisions. The food prices here are prohibitive." (5/5/45 - Bologna)

"Apart from bread we lack all food items. They are even scarce on the black market." (5/5/45 - Bologna)

"I shall come to visit you in order to satisfy my hunger a little. Since October I have been living on unseasoned rice and dried chestnuts." (4/5/45 - Genoa)

"So many people here have not even had bread to eat since October, not to mention fats and sugar which no one has had since last July. But the black market has kept up its progress, and is keeping it up even now with an accelerated rhythm." (2/5/45 - Lucca)

"We live on a little white flour, a great deal of hunger and a few pennies in our pockets. Prices here are enormous." (3/5/45 - Cervetoli)

"Here nothing may be found, especially in the way of food. The Germans have taken away everything. It looks like a dead world. There is nothing here." (3/5/45 - Carrara)

"The prices of food items are increasing daily. We can no longer eat. Eggs are 15 and 20 lire each, artichokes 5 lire each, peas 80 lire per kg., and bread some 15 lire per kg." (2/5/45 - Foggia)

"Living is very expensive here too. You can find everything, but at highly exaggerated prices. Cheese sells at 800 lire per kg., ham at 800 lire, lard at 600 lire, fresh peas at 40 lire, and wine at 40 lire per litre. The prices are climbing higher daily. Unless measures are taken to stop prices from rising, no one will be able to eat any longer except millionaires." (30/4/45 - Foggia)

"Here in Rome the food situation is very bad. Nothing is to be found except on the black market, and you need four or five hundred lire a day merely to be able to eat soup, bread and greens." (2/5/45 - Rome)

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"We often buy bread on the black market and pay 120 and even 140 lire per kg. Potatoes are 60 lire per kg., flour 120-140 lire per kg., olive oil 440 lire per litre. Some prices are terrifying. Not only does one spend a great deal, but one eats nothing as everything is so dear. Life in Rome is terrible. We spend about 500 lire per day without eating any substantial food." (8/5/45 - Rome)

2. CLOTHING

Civilian mail has been becoming more and more pessimistic for some time past, and comments, for the first time, were more numerous than those on food. During the period under review the unfavourable comments outnumbered the favourable by 131.7 to 1 as compared with 62.7 to 1 and 44.6 to 1 during the two previous periods respectively. There were no favourable comments from Arezzo, Florence, Foggia or Perugia. Opinion in Rome deteriorated still further, there being only 3 favourable comments out of a total of 1083. Naples was much less critical than formerly, though during the previous period the figures included a certain amount of external mail. During the period under review there were only 15 favourable comments in the external mail out of a total of 14,230, and the great bulk of this represents southern Italy with a certain amount from Sicily and Sardinia.

The great majority of the complaints are directed against prices, which seem to have risen even further during the last month. Thus from both Rome and Naples there are letters quoting prices of shoes up to 12,000 lire a pair, a figure never before mentioned. Between 6 and 10 thousand seems to be the general range. The lowest price mentioned for a suit was 19,000 in Taranto, and the highest was 27,000 in Enna (Sicily). The following comments are typical of many:

"A pair of men's shoes costs 7000 lire. A suit costs over 25,000 lire. A shirt costs 1000 lire, and bed sheets 7000 lire each. A woolen blanket sells at 12,000 lire, and a woman's slip at over 800 lire." (2/5/45 - Naples)

"You can't imagine how staggering the prices of clothes are here. A pair of men's shoes costs 12,000 lire, and a pair of woman's stockings 1,800 lire." (12/5/45 - Naples)

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"Here are the prices of some items of clothing: For men--suit, 24,000 lire; material for a suit, 6,500 per metre; shoes 11,000 lire; shirts, 3,500 lire each; socks 400 lire a pair; and for women - stockings, 700 lire a pair; dress, 10,000 lire; light cotton material, 2,500 lire per metre; shoes 3,000 lire and above a pair." (25/4/45 - Naples)

"I lack everything, especially clothing. How can one buy clothes when behind the shop windows all you see is astronomical sky-high prices?" (23/4/45 - Naples)

"Besides the hunger the war has left us, we are left completely naked and bare-footed. Merely to have a suit made one needs 13,000 lire, and a pair of shoes costs 6,000 lire." (5/5/45 - Taranto)

"Here all of those who can purchase goods on the black market are able to get along. All the labourers are dressed in rags and go barefooted. The reason for this is that one needs over 20,000 lire to purchase a suit." (29/4/45 - Matera)

"The clothing problem is one of our greatest headaches here. A man's suit costs 27,000 lire; a pair of working trousers 2,200 lire; a working shirt 1,990 lire; and a pair of shoes 5000 lire." (28/4/45 - Enna, Sicily)

"As to clothing, we are not doing so well here. There is not sufficient clothing in Sicily, and the clothing available is sold at unbelievably high prices." (4/5/45 - Trapani, Sicily)

"I have no news to give you except that the cost of living is very high. Clothes and shoes are sold at staggering and absolutely prohibitive prices. It is the white collar workers who suffer most." (24/4/45 - Macerata)

"The clothing prices here are staggering. Veil material costs 2,900 lire per metre, and taffeta 2,500 lire. A little skein of wool, weighing 10 grammes, costs 250 lire, and ordinary wool costs 450 lire per hectogramme." (5/5/45 - Lucca)

"There is nothing second-hand for the moment. Guaranteed very strong shoes are from 10 to 12 thousand lire. Don't you think that we are doing well in Rome as regards prices! And this is not the end of it. They are increasing, and who knows when this will cease." (17/4/45 - Rome)

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"With regard to your food and clothing problem you are better off than we are. At least you have food, while we have neither one nor the other. Everything is lacking. I do nothing but mend, patch and renovate, and am longing to return to our home..... In order to live here, much money is needed."
(12/5/45 - Rome)

3. HOUSING

The housing situation, which civilian letters have criticised in increasing numbers for some time past, was commented on even more unfavourably than usual during the period under review when adverse comments were in a majority of 38.6 to 1. This compares with 23.4 to 1 and 19.5 to 1 during the two previous periods respectively. The situation appears to be worst in Arezzo. There were no favourable comments out of a total of 90. Florence, Foggia and Grosseto, with a smaller number of comments, were also totally adverse. Rome was more pessimistic than during the last period, there being only 3 favourable comments out of a total of 356, as compared with 8 out of 453 during the previous four weeks. Naples, on the other hand, was less gloomy than previously. Military opinion remained unchanged.

There are various types of complaint, but they fall into two classes. Firstly there is the general lack of accommodation due mainly to destruction through the war, but accentuated by refugees in certain areas, and by Allied requisitioning. Secondly there are bitter remarks about the exaggerated rents asked for any sort of apartment, even if it be merely a single room. One of the results of the above is that overcrowding is not uncommon, and thus there are complaints that too many people often have to share a room. The following comments are some examples of the general run of complaints:

"At Caserta as well as at Foggia one cannot find a hole in which to live. Rents have reached astronomical heights."
(1/5/45 - Caserta)

"Here I am looking in vain for a house, and one is not to be found." (4/5/45 - Modena)

"The housing situation in Leghorn is very serious. There are more than 50,000 people of Leghorn who cannot return to live in their city. The houses destroyed amount to 50%. Those

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who live in the city manage to exist in numbers of 12 to 14 in each house available. Many people sleep on the ground for want of furniture or space. Even when the Allies go away, the number of lod ings they will leave will be for fewer than the requests for houses in which to live." (12/5/45 - Leghorn)

"Houses cannot be found round here. Our preoccupation is increasing because we have to give up our living quarters. We roam around looking for a house, but we cannot find anything." (12/5/45 - Capua)

"The best families manage to live wherever they can. Some sleep in air-raid shelters, and some in the shops where they work. They have to manage to get along somehow because the Allies have occupied most of the available houses, and the bombs have destroyed much. For the present there is no hope of finding a place to live anywhere." (11/5/45 - Naples)

"I have found a little room to live in but at a fabulous price. I could not remain at the hotel because they wanted from 200 to 300 lire a night." (7/5/45 - Naples)

"Here you cannot find a room anywhere. This does not demoralize me because mine is not the only case. There are thousands of people without a roof over their heads." (7/5/45 - Naples)

"The housing question is the most difficult. Either one cannot find a house at all, or else the few furnished ones are let at impossible rents." (5/5/45 - Rome)

4. INCOME

Civilian letters became more critical during the period under review, and the unfavourable comments were in a majority of 21.4 to 1 as compared with 14.1 to 1 during the previous four weeks. Florence and Lucca were the most dissatisfied centres. Rome opinion again deteriorated. There was little change in Naples.

Complaints follow well worn lines. The basis of nearly all is that salaries are not high enough to meet the cost of living. Clerks and other minor office employees feel the pinch most. Pensioners are in a class by themselves. There pitiful pensions are grotesquely inadequate. Most people who have any savings still left augment their incomes by drawing upon them. Others sell off their possessions. Those who have neither savings nor surplus

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possessions tighten their belts and go about shabby. The following are some examples of the comments:

"You find everything here but at fabulous prices. The salaries are totally inadequate to meet the staggering costs." (4/5/45 - Lucca)

"It is becoming more and more difficult to exist on the wretched monthly income. We have already been scraping along for fifteen months on this meagre salary." (3/5/45 - Lucca)

"As an interpreter for the "Stars and Stripes" I earn 1500 lire a week. It would be a good weekly wage if there were no war and no black market with which to contend. My earnings are not sufficient to meet the expenses required for a decent existence." (19/4/45 - Rome)

"I too find myself rather unwell because the wages I receive are not enough to provide breakfast. Prices here continue to rise day by day. However, let us hope that this crisis will be overcome." (1/5/45 - Pistoia)

"I swear that with my modest salary I can no longer carry on. During the Nazi-fascist occupation we sold the little gold we possessed. Today I have no more to sell. With my salary I can hardly buy a pair of shoes. And as to eating?" (5/5/45/ - Rome)

The following is a letter, unsigned, by a group of old age pensioners to the director of the paper "Il Reporter":

"You ought to take some interest in the hard situation of the state pensioners for disability and old age, to whom much has been promised with no positive result as yet. Shall we die of hunger before we get anything?" (21/4/45 - Rome)

5. NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Civilian opinion seems to be slowly moving in favour of the National Government. During the period under review the unfavourable comments were only in a majority of 1.1 to 1 as compared with 2.5 to 1 and 3.4 to 1 during the two previous periods respectively. Many centres commented hardly at all, but Bologna, Leghorn and Pisa all appear to have a majority in favour of the government. Rome, for the first time, also produced a majority

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of favourable comments. Arezzo and Naples were very much against the government, the latter area by 9 to 1 as compared with 3.8 to 1 during the previous period. The south generally, as reflected in the external mail, was adverse by 1.7 to 1.

It is difficult to find any reason for the more favourable figures by any study of the comments. It is therefore possible that many critics are tired of writing. There is, however, something positive in the unfavourable comments, and in brief it is that the government is not considered capable of handling the stupendous post war problems facing the country. There is also some criticism of the lack of cooperation among the parties who are accused of considering only their own particular interests. The following are a few examples:

"We are hoping that we shall see a new government being formed, which, unlike the present one, may be capable of adopting vigorous measures so as to be in a position to begin the reconstruction in every field." (10/5/45 - Naples)

"You are right concerning what Mazzini said about Italy's being made but that the Italians had yet to be made. In fact the rulers of Italy are always the same no matter what political parties happen to be in power. They are like the fish: the big ones swallow the little ones." (4/5/45 - Catanzaro)

"We are extremely worried as to the fate of our government. The war with its sad consequences has brought a political, economic and social upheaval so great that we do not see where it will finish. You have no conception of what is happening in Italy. The government is unable to cope with the terrible problems that have to be solved. The Lord only knows what will happen unless America soon comes to our aid." (12/5/45 - Bari)

"...All these parties are fighting one another, leading Italy to ruin, and filling those who love their country with disgust." (8/5/45 - Rome)

"It is a government that does not know what it wants, and in which the communists are trying to sow anarchy in order to throw us into the jaws of bolshevism." (16/4/45 - Rome)

6. PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

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Civilian mail was less hostile towards the provincial governments than it was during the previous period, though still more adverse than at any time prior to that. Unfavourable comments were in a majority of 3.2 to 1 as compared with 8.9 to 1 and 4.4 to 1 during the two previous periods respectively. Arezzo was outstandingly critical. There was little change in Naples which

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was more unfavourable than the average. None hardly commented at all. Military mail was equally divided. There is little in the comments themselves. They merely blame the local administration for anything and everything, or, less often, lay any credit to their doorstep.

V. RELATIONS WITH THE ALLIES

Civilian mail was more favourable towards the Allies than it was during the previous period when feeling reached one of its lowest points, favourable comments only being in a majority of 4.8 to 1. During the period under review the figures were 7.2 to 1. Bologna, Lucca and Pisa were the most favourably disposed. Naples opinion improved twofold as compared with the previous two weeks, but the most outstanding change was in Rome which is usually the most critical of centres. Favourable comments in the capital were in a majority of 13.6 to 1 as compared with 4.5 to 1 during the previous four weeks.

Favourable comments are usually based on gratitude for benefits received, or on relief at being freed. Unfavourable comments arise from a feeling of disappointment over the non-fulfillment of hopes or understood promises. There is also an undercurrent of annoyance at the treatment the Italians receive and the fact that all the best of everything seems to be reserved for the Allies. There is a lack of faith in promises for the future, and a certain resentment at the Allies' attitude towards Italian women. The following are a few examples of both favourable and unfavourable comments:

A. Favourable

"We are accomplishing a great deal with the help of the Allies. When the Germans were here we could not sleep at night because of looting, robberies, killings, etc. The Allies have respected private property. He who has only a bicycle left can travel safely, for it will not be taken from him. The Allies are certainly civilized, and can teach us a great deal." (1/5/45 - Viareggio)

"It seems a dream! We must be thankful to the Patriots and the Allies who have done wonders preventing the war from stagnating here." (8/5/45 - Lagnano)

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"I really miss those brave South African boys. Their behaviour was correct, and they were kind hearted." (30/4/45 - Lucca)

"The Allied troops have just come here. With them has come the greatly desired liberation. The joy with which we are possessed at this moment is something indescribable." (2/5/45 - Bologna)

"At last the day of liberation has arrived. You can't imagine the enthusiasm here at Genoa. The population is exultant. We have welcomed the Americans with the greatest joy." (30/4/45 - Genoa)

"Curses upon our ex-leaders, especially Mussolini who caused so many of our Allies to die. The latter saved us and gave us food, and so many other things which we never had before. May God protect the good Allies always." (24/4/45 - Rome)

B. Unfavourable

"Florence is becoming populated with Allied troops. This is not without great displeasure to the civilian population." (26/4/45 - Florence)

"The Americans are always getting drunk. They fall in love easily with Italian women. This is another evil added to all the other ones here." (20/4/45 - Bellto di Napoli)

"We are not acquainted with any of our Allies. After all, we can get along very well without them." (2/5/45 - Naples)

"As to clothes and shoes, we asked the Allies and the American Red Cross. They replied to us with saccharine words, but have given us nothing and will never give us anything. Their words are empty. From the first day they landed here they have comforted us with kindly words, stating that shortly they would give us everything, and that everything would arrive for us. Up to date we have been given nothing." (30/4/45 - Messina)

"We would now be in peace if it were not for these Americans wasting everything. There is nothing left us, not even a grain of wheat, and I do not know what we will eat in the coming year." (21/4/45 - Pistoia)

"As for the Americans, don't worry, because they wont enchant us. We need Italians and not foreigners. It would be fine to see the Americans on a post-card, as you say, and you are quite right." (23/4/45 - Rome)

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"The news which has filled us with joy is that the Germans have not been able to put into practice in the North the plan of destruction which they carried out down here. The industries and the hydro-electric plants are safe. Life will resume its normal work rhythm. The factories will soon have their machinery in operation." (2/5/45 - Naples)

"We are ready, and well equipped to begin our work." (11/5/45 - Bologna)

"Believe me, conditions after the war will be very trying here. Not even one factory remains standing. There will be numberless unemployed. If you could only see Pisa and Leghorn. They are heaps of ruins." (30/4/45 - Leghorn)

"We have serious difficulties in beginning our work due to the lack of raw materials." (24/4/45 - Villa Rovereto, Veneto)

"We are all well, but our factory is at a standstill." 8/5/45 - Bologna)

11. ACRICULTURAL PROSPECTS

Civilian opinion deteriorated still further during the period under review, and unfavourable comments were in a majority of 3.1 to 1 as compared with 1.1 to 1 during the previous four weeks. Arezzo became noticeably more pessimistic with only 10 favourable comments out of a total of 213, as against 31 out of a total of 74 during the preceding Foggia also took a more gloomy view. Naples was fairly evenly divided, but Rome opinion was decidely more pessimistic. External mail reflected a very unfavourable opinion in the South. The only places to produce a majority of favourable comments were Leghorn and Pisa.

The bulk of the unfavourable comments complain of the drought which would appear to have been general in the southern regions. There are two general complaints in this connection: little sowing and planting has been possible; and crops already in the ground are making no progress. In some places the soil is so hard that it has not been possible to till the ground. Crops are withering away. Round Catanzaro it is said that there has not even been enough grass for animal fodder. Although there are somewhat similar letters from areas north of Naples, there are also many others which speak of adequate rainfalls and of good prospects. The following are examples of many letters:

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8 AND 9. PRESENT AND FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION

Although Italian public opinion on the present and future military situation had no practical expression after the cessation of war with Germany, hostilities were still in progress during the major part of the period under review, and it is interesting to note that, right up till the end, there was still a fair proportion of pessimists, particularly in the army. As regards the future military situation, there seems to have been some fear that fresh conflicts would break out, and that the war against Germany was not the whole European story.

10. INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS

Civilian mail, which had revealed a rising note of optimism for some time, swung somewhat in the opposite direction during the period under review. However, many centres hardly commented at all, and it is more profitable to consider individual areas rather than the figures as a whole. Arezzo and Lucca, with 29 comments between them, only produced one favourable comment each. The external mail, representing Italy south of Naples and Sicily and Sardinia, produced adverse comments in a majority of 2.7 to 1. Rome was a little less pessimistic than previously. Pisa increased in optimism, and Naples accelerated its rising tone of confidence, the favourable comments being in a majority of 3.5 to 1 as compared with 2.1 to 1 during the previous period.

Many favourable comments are based on the belief that the industries of the North will be in full swing shortly, and there are expressions of thankfulness that so many factories escaped destruction in that area. On the other hand there are complaints from various parts of the country that the lack of raw materials makes it impossible to resume industrial activity. And of course there are also many cases mentioned of destruction of plants and buildings. The following are some examples of various sides of the picture:

"Nearly all of us are now working for the reconstruction. One works in earnest and takes on all sorts of jobs. It is planned to repair and equip the assembling and turning departments with the help of other stocks from stores in Southern and Central Italy." (6/5/45 - Rimini)

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"No one has planted any corn, beans or potatoes because the soil is all dried up. Next year we will surely starve. The beans are all dried up. It has not rained for three months. The winter has been dry, with lots of cold weather but little rain and no snow." (2/5/45 - Castelbasso, Teramo)

"The peasants have little food supplies left, this being the end of the season... Due to the absolute lack of rain, a very poor harvest is expected. In fact, the beans which were sown a long time ago are not growing because the soil is cold and the sun burning." (28/4/45 - Formia)

"I have again bought some beans to sow, but the crop is very poor. We cannot till the fields because the soil is too dry. We have not had any rain since February. It rained a little at the beginning of February, and then it stopped for good. The fields are burned by the sun." (20/4/45 - Corica della Campania, Naples)

"It has not rained here for the past few months. Such a drought will bring a very poor harvest this season, especially as regards wheat, oats and beans. These crops are almost lost. There is not even enough grass grown for animal fodder." (19/4/45 - Catanzaro)

"You must know that the great drought here is a formidable obstacle to the yield of our fields. We cannot work in the fields, and neither corn nor beans can be sown." (16/4/45 - Casanova di Carinola, Naples)

"This year the drought has been so great the soil has become as hard as marble. We have not yet been able to sow either corn or beans. It has not rained for over three months. We shall have no crops this year, no wheat no broad beans, no corn and no vegetables, since we have not been able to sow anything up to date." (18/4/45 - Grezzanise, Naples)

"We are unhappy because this year the harvest in the Tavoliere delle Puglie (the great Puglie agricultural plains) will be very meagre. This is chiefly due to the fact that it has not rained at all this year, and the sown fields have suffered a great deal, especially in certain spots where they have completely burned out." (23/4/45 - Foggia) 7050

"No rain! We clearly see the disaster towards which we are heading unless the Lord helps us." (25/4/45 - Carlgnola, Foggia)

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"Due to lack of rain, the crops, including the olive growth, have been almost completely ruined. There has been a fairly good fruit crop, but that is all." (25/4/45 - Sarmatico, Foggia)

"We have never lacked anything. The Lord has saved all our harvest for us. Even this year the farms have been very fertile and abundant, and that is a sure sign that we shall have bread this year also." (2/5/45 - Bagnolo S. Vito, Bologna)

12. UNEMPLOYMENT

Civilian mail became increasingly despondent each week during the period under review, and of the total comments for the four weeks the unfavourable were in a majority of 8.5 to 1 as compared with 3.9 to 1 during the previous period. Several centres produced no favourable comments at all, notably Brescia and Lucca. Naples was a little more pessimistic than last time on a reduced number of comments, and Rome was similarly more despondent. External mail, covering the southern regions, Sicily and Sardinia, was more pessimistic than the average for the country as a whole.

The comments themselves do not tell us much, and most of them merely state that unemployment is rife and, that the writers have been out of work for a long time and that it is very difficult to find a job. The following are some examples:

"I am worrying a great deal due to the fact that it is not possible to find a job. It is a struggle that I manage to get along. What shall I do? I shall get used to doing the hardest odd jobs, including that of a maid servant." (5/5/45 - Lucca)

"I have now been out of work for eighteen months." (27/4/45 - Lucca)

"I am well in health, but it is work that keeps me worried. I have tried very hard, but I have not found any work." (25/4/45 - Cagliari)

"As soon as the war ends I want to flee from Italy. Unemployment is beginning to be seen, a forecast of what will take place here in the near future." (27/4/45 - Taranto)

"I must tell you that the situation in Italy is very serious. Unemployment has increased by 100%." (2/5/45 - Naples)

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"Work [illegible]e is very scarce. I have been unemployed for the past few weeks." (8/5/45 - Naples)

"The unemployment prevailing in Siracusa is staggering. The squares are swarming with unemployed labourers." (28/4/45- Siracusa)

"Nine months have passed since I was last employed, because the factory where I worked was almost completely destroyed." (1/5/45 - Pistoia)

GORDON W. McKEAN,
Lt. Col. Cavalry,
Civil Censorship Officer.

2 Incls:
Incl #1 - Ratio Table, Four Weeks Ending 12/5/1945.
Incl #2 - Public Opinion Tally 12/5/1945.

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1 - JIC, AFHQ
1 - Dir. Int. ASF, Washington
1 - IRF, London
1 - PWB, 15th Army Group, P.W.B Unit #14, APO 512, US Army
1 - Files, CCG
1 - OSS (Prov) - R and A Branch, Hq. Det. 2677 Regt. 7065
4 - UNRRA
1 - Director, Agriculture Sub-Commission
1 - Director, Food Sub-Commission
1 - Director, Commerce Sub-Commission
1 - Director, Transportation Sub-Commission
1 - Director, Finance Sub-Commission
1 - Director, Labor Sub-Commission
1 - Director, Industry Sub-Commission

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REPORT NO. 131

APPENDIX A

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE COMMENTS ON PERTINENT POINTS (15/4-

	FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUAT
WEEK ENDING	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F
21/4/45 CIV	1	26.7	1	142.5	1	32.3	1	15.2	1	4.4	1	20	3.9	2	17.6	1	12.1
MIL	1	4.4	1	1.3	1	5.6	0	.72	1	1	1	1.3	3.6	1	7.6	1	6
28/4/45 CIV	1	23.9	1	59.5	1	46.3	1	23.5	1	1.3	1	6	10.9	1	15.3	1	24.3
MIL	1	1.5	1	3.5	1	1	1	13	1	3.4	13	0	5	1	6.5	1	6
5/5/45 CIV	1	21.7	1	128.4	1	36.8	1	15.6	1.2	1	1	5.5	2.4	1	48.5	1	33
MIL	1	1	1	3.1	1.2	1	1	6	1	2.2	0	3	46	1	6	1	30
12/5/45 CIV	1	43.6	1	178.6	1	41.7	1	32.8	1.2	1	1	4.6	35	1	52.2	1	31.4
MIL	1	3.8	1	2.8	1	4	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	1	1.3	1	0
AVERAGE FOR MONTH ENDING 12/5/45 CIV	1	22.1	1	131.7	1	35.6	1	4.3	1	1.1	1	6.6	7.2	1	27.8	1	18.4
MIL	1	1.9	1	3.1	1	1.7	1	3.3	1	1.6	1	1	6	1	5.5	1	16

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APPENDIX A

TABLE BETWEEN FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE COMMENTS ON PERTINENT POINTS (15/4-12/5 1945)

HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
1	22.3	1	15.2	1	2.4	1	15	3.9	1	17.6	1	12.1	2	3	1.1	3	3.2	1	4.5
1	5.6	0	72	1	1	1	1.3	3.6	1	7.6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	2.2	1	23.5	1	1.2	1	6	10.9	1	15.1	1	28.9	1	1	1	3	6.4	1	6.7
1	1	1	13	1	3.4	13	0	5	1	6.5	1	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	8.6	1	15.8	1.2	1	1	1.5	2.4	1	68.5	1	33	1	1	1.2	1	2.7	1	7.2
1.2	1	1	6	1	2.2	0	3	46	2	6	1	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	42.7	2	25.8	1.2	1	1	4.6	35	1	52.2	1	24.4	2	2	1.1	2	2.1	1	7.9
1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	2.6	1	4.1	1	1.1	3	6.2	7.2	1	27.8	1	18.4	1	1	1.1	2	3.1	1	8.5
1	1.7	1	32.9	1	1.6	1	1	6	1	5.5	1	30	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP. PUBLIC OPINION REPORT 15 April-12 May 1945

This report is a 6-day weekly b 382 making a tot

PROVINCE (VOLUME CENSORED)			FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION	
			F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
Ancona		18043	3	17	3	8	0	8	0	3	0	2	1	
Arezzo		10869	0	196	0	124	0	90	2	17	5	17	1	5
Bologna		18014	1	33	3	16	6	33	1	11	15	1	1	
Florence		120805	39	80	0	39	0	17	2	91	0	1	0	
Foggia	CIV)	26585	6	50	0	33	0	13	3	7	0	4	1	
	MIL)	6036	4	9	15	4	1	8	0	0	0	2	0	
Grosseto		9634	6	81	3	50	0	30	1	10	0	4	0	
Leghorn		55608	44	117	14	62	7	77	24	24	33	13	20	1
Lucca		18775	9	252	2	139	3	91	1	76	0	6	5	
Macerata		35767	4	14	0	2	0	1	0	4	0	0	1	
Naples	CIV)	88759	69	2332	40	1567	23	764	26	379	39	94	71	64
	MIL)	83063	200	433	65	335	58	130	0	90	42	67	41	3
Perugia		6358	0	58	0	32	0	8	0	15	0	0	0	
Pesaro		20856	7	12	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Pisa		22481	289	1340	44	130	46	231	0	16	54	35	28	
Pistoia		10605	0	63	4	31	1	15	10	6	1	1	0	
Rome / Lazio	CIV)	88059	27	2752	3	1060	3	353	10	460	168	107	2	
	MIL)	58694	42	52	30	6	12	14	2	6	5	2	0	
Siena	CIV)	19517	11	41	2	14	0	4	0	5	0	0	1	
	MIL)	1271	6	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	
[illegible]		82714	139	10467	15	14215	28	1856	67	3022	163	284	134	98
[illegible]		632856	568	18105	133	17511	125	5504	147	3144	493	561	267	191
[illegible]		150182	262	474	110	342	73	161	3	97	47	77	41	3
TOTALS		815018	920	18570	243	17850	193	5755	150	3241	548	638	302	188

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This report is based upon 50 letters per censor being checked daily on a 6-day weekly basis. The number of censors employed each week averaged 382 making a total of 458,400 letters examined for this four-week tally.

HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
0	8	0	3	0	2	1	4	13	5	1	1	1	1	7	7	2	4	0	2
0	90	2	17	5	17	1	53	22	12	11	6	8	0	1	18	10	203	0	444
6	33	1	11	15	1	1	2	45	4	6	0	0	1	8	10	2	1	6	8
0	17	2	91	0	1	0	0	9	0	1	0	1	0	8	1	0	0	0	0
0	13	3	7	0	4	1	2	12	13	0	11	0	0	2	3	5	47	4	16
1	8	0	0	0	2	0	0	6	2	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	30	1	10	0	4	0	2	2	2	8	0	0	0	2	6	5	7	0	12
7	77	24	24	33	13	20	16	41	12	37	7	37	9	22	15	30	9	19	15
3	91	1	70	0	6	5	9	100	8	4	1	0	0	1	9	0	3	0	41
0	1	0	4	0	0	1	1	8	5	3	1	3	4	4	3	1	3	0	2
23	764	26	379	39	84	71	648	565	40	640	82	221	25	267	77	271	303	69	220
58	139	0	90	42	67	41	39	88	15	329	69	36	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	8	0	15	0	0	0	0	9	0	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	11	0	5
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	9	3	1	0	4	0	3	3	0	9	1	0
46	231	0	16	54	36	23	6	201	5	262	4	248	6	92	85	17	11	21	81
1	15	10	6	1	1	0	1	53	20	42	4	1	0	11	12	8	26	5	20
5	353	10	480	168	107	2	8	420	96	413	5	137	4	22	35	40	191	70	650
13	14	2	6	5	6	0	0	20	2	43	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	4	0	3	0	0	1	0	5	1	2	0	0	0	4	0	3	18	0	5
2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	1856	67	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	1950	36	1558	54	269	440	491	1095	139	1100
126	3504	147	3144	168	284	154	866	2826	338	5391	158	2226	104	624	674	884	2741	273	1768
73	161	3	97	493	61	261	1616	3540	493	3391	158	2226	104	624	674	884	2741	273	1768
193	5755	150	3241	47	77	42	39	114	18	390	71	36	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
				545	538	302	1655	3654	512	3781	229	2262	105	624	674	884	2741	273	1768

Q ALLIED COMMISSION

CONFIDENTIAL
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP

STATION TMS
RECORD No. 3044
22A

From:	To:
MELIS Ettore Direttore Centrale Bancalba Give place of Postmark where there is no address	FICOCCELLI Varracchio Via Vittorio Veneto 61 Bari

Date of communication or post-mark if letter is un-dated	Type mail	Reg. No.	Language	Previously censored by	Enclosures
29/5/45	Ord.		Ital.		

Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposal of original communication
	AFSC GSI(B) 54 Area BAF		Held X Excised Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed Condemned Return to sender

COMMENT

VI - Communication

C 900 6/6/45
755/1/R1

ILLEGAL COMMUNICATION CHANNEL ITALY-ALBANIA

(Trans.)

As you well understand it would be extremely dear to me to receive as soon as possible, even a few lines on my mother's voyage even if only so far as Bari. This message could be sent by means of an Italian or English aviator, or telegraphed to Tenente Montecucco - Balkan Office - Galatina Airport - Lecce, Tenente Montecucco comes practically twice a week to Tirana and through one of this colleagues should be able to notify me. Lastly if you could ask the Albanian Mission at Bari to send me a brief message. It will be best to send two or three messages through different channels at least one of which will reach me.-7064

(Orig.)

Come Ella ben comprende mi sarebbe estremamente caro poter avere al più presto anche brevissime notizie sull'andamento del viag-

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0761

Previous relevant record	Station allocation		communication
	AFSC GSI(B) 54 Area BAF		Held X Excised Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed Condemned Return to sender

COMMENT

VI - Communication

< 900 6/4/45

7551/181

ILLEGAL COMMUNICATION CHANNEL ITALY-ALBANIA

(Trans.)

As you well understand it would be extremely dear to me to receive as soon as possible, even a few lines on my mother's voyage even if only so far as Bari. This message could be sent by means of an Italian or English aviator, or telegraphed to Tenente Montecucco - Balkan Office - Galatina Airport - Lecce, Tenente Montecucco comes practically twice a week to Tirana and through one of this colleagues should be able to notify me. Lastly if you could ask the Albanian Mission at Bari to send me a brief message. It will be best to send two or three messages through, different channels at least one of which will reach me.- 7051

(Orig.)

Come Ella ben comprende mi sarebbe estremamente caro poter avere al più presto anche brevissime notizie sull'andamento del viaggio di mia madre anche fino a Bari. Tali notizie potrebbero essermi inoltrate a mezzo aviatori italiani o inglesi, o altrimenti telegrafando al Tenente Montecucco - Ufficio Balcanico - Aeroporto Galatina - Lecce; il Tenente Montecucco viene praticamente due volte alla settimana a Tirana, e comunque a mezzo di qualche suo collega potrebbe farmi avere notizie. Infine si potrebbe pregare la Missione Albanese a Bari di farmi avere brevi notizie. Sarà bene mandare notizie con due o tre mezzi in modo che almeno una delle comunicazioni arrivi.-

EXAMINER 0101 REVIEWER EXAMINATION DATE 1-6-45

SPECIAL NOTICE — The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confided only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Civil Censorship Officer, Allied Commission.

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Headquarters Allied Commission
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP
APO 394, U. S. Army

GWM/vm

4 May 1945

SPECIAL REPORT NO. 123

SUBJECT: Appreciation and Censorship Report on Italian Civilian and Military Mail for Four Weeks ending 14th April 1945.

TO : G-2 (Communications Censorship), AFHQ, APO 512.

This report is based on 234,000 letters checked during the four weeks ended 14th April 1945. This does not include any military mail from the front lines.

Attached is a table (Appendix A) which shows the relation between favourable and unfavourable comments on every subject each week. In all cases the lowest number of comments is reduced to one, and the second figure shows the corresponding number of comments of the opposite opinion.

None of the comments used in this report have been used in any previous report.

1. FOOD SITUATION

Civilian mail, which has been becoming increasingly unfavourable for some months over the food situation, deteriorated still further during the period under review, and unfavourable comments were in a majority of 25.5 to 1. This compares with 21.3 to 1 and 14.8 to 1 for the two previous periods respectively. Perugia, Rome and Naples were particularly gloomy. There were no favourable comments from the first named; Naples again produced a majority of over 50 to 1 adverse comments; while Rome opinion deteriorated very sharply, and the adverse comments were in a majority of 77 to 1. Military mail became a little less favourable.

Specific items are often mentioned, such as the lack of salt, fats, meat etc., and some centres go further and say that

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155/1/1/P1

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It is not possible to procure the foods listed on the ration cards. At Leghorn the Americans are accused of corrupting everything and thus leaving only bread and cereals for the local population. Other towns apparently have what things available, but the prices are so high that very few people can afford to buy. Generally speaking the matter of price seems to be the chief complaint. The following comments are some examples of various types of complaints:

"As to our rationed food, they have given us nothing during March, and we don't expect anything in April. If you come, bring half a kilogram of salt and some lard." (6/4/45 - Macerata)

"Here life is harder than at Florence. To give you an idea I shall tell you that potatoes cost 80 lire per kg., lettuces 80 lire, wine 100 lire for two litres, cheese 400 lire per kg., fish 200 lire, lettuce 2 lire a head, and onions 80 lire per kg." (6/4/45 - Leghorn)

"Life in this city is becoming gradually more difficult. The Americans are cornering whatever they find and pay any price. We are forced to live on greens and 200 grams of bread daily. The rest of the food items written on the ration card are not distributed except in very small quantities and at long intervals." (13/4/45 - Leghorn)

"Except for bread we lack almost everything. Eggs prices are sky high. We get some powdered soup with the ration card, and 100 grams of sugar. No meat." (12/4/45 - Pesaro)

"Here there is famine. Women, children, and even nurses come to our home continuously asking for some food." (10/5/45 - Pesaro)

"Believe me, the food situation here is a serious matter indeed. One has to buy everything on the black market if one wished to eat. Otherwise one finds nothing." (4/4/45 - Siena)

"As to food, I must tell you that for months we have been living on vegetable soup, vegetables, greens, and an occasional egg, because our finances do not permit us to subsist to black market prices. The rationed meat we get every 15 days or so, and wine is only available on the black market." (5/4/45 - Macerata)

"Here life is still extremely expensive. A kg. of meat costs 800 lire, and flat 500 lire. We cannot get along on our salary." (8/4/45 - Naples)

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"You ask me how we are living? Believe me, everything is obtainable but at quite prohibitive prices. One costs 1000 Lire a kilo. I will not continue, as by doing so you may not be permitted by the censor to receive this letter." (15/5/45 - Rome)

"Life now has become terrible, but I fear that before long we shall feel the lack of actual food and of fresh meat. These have become unprocurable to our purses. Such things, hence flesh has reached 900 lire, and as you can conceive what other prices are." (20/5/45 - Rome)

"My poor husband is killing himself with work in order to earn a few pence, but he only receives 300 Lire a day, and we spend 300 without eating properly, since we have to buy everything on the black market. (25/5/45 - Rome)

"Oh! My God! When will this hunger cease? You should see the state the Roman men in. Horrible here, especially among children, is enormous. Fubies from 1 month to 2 years are all dying in Paradise. Poor little creatures - but it is only natural for they have nothing to eat. The poor families have nothing to give them. Besides this there is a lack of coffins, and for a small baby one charges 1 2000 lire. How can a family spend such a sum for only a coffin? And where do you think they put them? In the paper boxes." (26/5/45 - Rome)

2. CLOTHING

The clothing situation appears to be going from bad to worse, according to civilian media. For some time past the commercial banks, including more especially the Banco di Roma, have been receiving more applications for the opening of credits in favour of Italian importers and during the previous week or two the number of requests received has been considerable. Many of these have been for relatively small amounts for the purchase of textiles, usually between 1 and 2 million lire. Several requests have been for 5 thousand contracts put of a total of 875. Naples was the leading city from which applications were received, followed by Rome and Milan. Most of the applications were for the purchase of woollen goods, but there was also a considerable demand for cotton goods. In the first week of January 1945 the advance sales for the month amounted to 1. There was only one application received during the previous month.

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In the great majority of cases the complaints were based on prices. It is not uncommon to read letters stating that the shops are full, but that the goods are quite out of reach of the writers' purses. Only a minority of letters complain of any real shortage of clothing in the shops. Some of the prices quoted show a marked advance on those allegedly obtaining a month or two ago. For example, from both Rome and Naples there are letters saying that a man's suit costs up to 50,000 lire. The following comments illustrate the general feeling in a variety of centres:

"A suit of clothes for a man costs 20,000 lire at a minimum without counting the manufacture. Shoes sell at 6000 and 7000 lire according to the quality." (29/3/45 - Naples)

"In Naples life is expensive, extremely expensive. The prices of clothing materials make you dizzy. I have visited various shops. They have more than enough goods, but at prohibitive prices. Just imagine that for a length of cotton material to cut a man's suit, the price is about 10,000 lire. And 5000 more for the lining, and you get a complete unwearable article without counting the cost of making it up." (26/3/45 - Naples)

"As to clothing material, I had better not talk about it. The lining alone of a man's suit costs 900 lire a metre." (15/3/45 - Naples)

"Among this medley of sky-rocketing prices, the prices of clothing and foot-wear are the most scandalously high of all prices. It is a real disaster, especially for those who live on a salary. Unless the war ends, and trade becomes normal again, we will all be wearing wooden clogs and patched up clothes." (7/2/45 - Naples)

"Here living is very expensive. We no longer have material for clothes. If any stuff is available, it costs 2500 lire per metre, and is of very poor quality." (29/3/45 - Perugia)

"As to material for many clothes you can't find it here. There is some material at 1200 lire per metre, but I would not advise anyone to get it. Wool costs 3000 lire per m., and its price is rising. The ready goods of real wool are sold at impossible prices." (5/4/45 - Siena)

"I wanted to go to Rome in order to buy at least summer clothing for the summer and winter, because here materials are

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articles of clothing are not to be seen anywhere. I have been reduced, like the fish in the sea, to my skin only." (7/4/45 - Macerata)

"Everybody wears British clothes, ladies, peasant women, labourers etc. You wont find a person who does not wear British stuff, especially overcoats. The shops are full of clothing articles, but one cannot buy them, firstly because we don't have the money, and secondly because no one ever buys them." (7/4/45 - Macerata)

"You mention the price of clothing in Sicily. Here clothing is not to be found, even if you wanted to pay high prices for it." (7/4/45 - Pesaro)

"The situation here, instead of improving, becomes worse every day. If things continue like this, who knows how we shall end. The biggest problem now is how to clothe oneself considering the prevailing prices. Just think, 20,000 lire are required for the making of a very indifferent suit. Therefore tell me how we can spend such a large sum when the money one earns is not enough to buy sufficient food?" (18/3/45 - Rome)

3. HOUSING

Civilian mail became more pessimistic over the housing situation during the period under review, and the unfavourable comments were in a majority of 25.4 to 1 as compared with 12.5 to 1 during the previous four weeks. These figures, however, do not tell the full story, for more than half the total favourable comments came from Riva, as they did during the previous period. Leaving the latter centre out of account in both cases, the ratio for the period under review was 46.6 to 1 as compared with 40.1 to 1 for the preceding four weeks. There were no favourable comments from Florence, Perugia, Pesaro or Siena, and only one each from some other centres, notably Grosseto. Naples was noticably more gloomy, and the unfavourable comments were in a majority of 75.9 to 1 as compared with 31.1 to 1 during the last period. Military mail was a little more unfavourable than during the previous period.

There were many, and sometimes bitter, complaints about high rents; and there was a certain amount of grumbling about requisitioning by the Allies. The shortage of houses also came in for mention, and in Pesaro it is alleged that the authorities quartered families in pigsties till the Allies interfered. In

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Rome there seem to be various money making conditions imposed by landlords or outgoing tenants. Huge deposits are asked of incoming tenants in addition to the rent. In other cases the new tenants are asked to take over the furniture at very high prices. Thus acquiring a home is often financially impossible. The following comments are some illustrations:

"As soon as the liberators arrived in this town, they requisitioned all the lodgings, and then they applied them of all contents, including the glass in the windows. As a result there is a great shortage of dwellings." (5/4/45 - Arezzo)

"The Housing Commission of Pesaro, in order to remedy the shortage of lodgings, has even found pigsties into which to put families. Fortunately the Allies have interferred, and they prohibit the refugees from entering the stables." (10/4/45 - Pesaro)

"I am now at Bagno because it has not been possible to find a house in Naples at any price." (11/4/45 - Naples)

"As to houses, it is very difficult to find a lodging place. If an empty house is found, they ask you astronomical sums for it in rentals." (20/3/45 - Naples)

"The most serious problem here is housing. You can't find a hole in which to live, even if you were willing to pay its weight in gold." (4/4/45 - Siena)

"You can't find a house to rent in Siena, and the hotels have all been requisitioned." (3/4/45 - Siena)

"The question of lodgings is a very worrying problem. To find a house is an extremely difficult thing, if not an impossibility." (29/3/45 - Florence)

"So far my attempts to find an apartment have proved unsuccessful, since the out-going tenants make absurd requests which are out of one's reach. I had several chances of getting a house, but they asked deposits of several thousand lire. For example, I was asked for a deposit of 12,000 lire for a two roomed apartment with kitchen, plus the rent." (21/3/45 - Rome)

"I am desperately looking for a house to accomodate my family and furniture. . . Everything proved hopeless. It is a difficult problem to solve because there is a racket. Either

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they demand a deposit starting with a minimum of 150,000 lire, or they want the furniture to be taken over, and this involves an expense ranging from 300 - 600,000 lire! A crazy thing! (21/3/45 - Rome)

"I am desperately searching for a furnished room, and the search is anything but easy. Just imagine, I was asked 4,500 lire for a room with two beds." (20/3/45 - Rome)

4. INCOME

There was little change in civilian opinion on the question of incomes, the adverse ratio being 14.1 to 1 as compared with 14.3 to 1 during the previous period. The position seems to be worse in Florence than anywhere else, there being only 1 favourable comment out of a total of 142. Rome opinion was less unfavourable than previously, nevertheless it was twice as adverse as the average.

The real source of all complaints is that wages and salaries bear no relation to the cost of living. Living expenses cannot be met. There are many references to rises in wages, but they are accompanied by the observation that the cost of living had taken a greater step upwards. Thus the chase only results in costs drawing further ahead. Many people, who had savings, have now used them up in trying to balance their budgets. Others have sold their possessions, or are still selling what they have left, and they have nothing but fear for the future. Those who are already reduced to living on their salaries alone can buy no clothes because they do not have sufficient even to buy enough food. The following are typical comments:

"Life is becoming gradually harder. The price of everything is rising higher and higher. That little money we had saved up must be used now because our salaries are not sufficient to meet expenses." (7/4/45 - Macerata)

"Although salaries have increased, they are never sufficient to meet daily expenses." (7/4/45 - Stevoplitana, Secretariat)

"Life here is more expensive than where you are. Nothing can be found at a reasonable price. We cannot go on existing on our salaries." (5/4/45 - Ancona)

"Things are not at all well, because the prices of goods are entirely too high in comparison with the wretched wage of a labourer or a clerk." (11/4/45 - Scolesi

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"Let us hope that things will soon take a turn for the better, and that salaries will become proportionate to living expenses. At present our income is not sufficient to buy water and a dried fig." (26/3/45 - Florence)

"Living is very dear, and with the salary alone it is absolutely impossible to live. All the employees have a secondary occupation. All this is ridiculous, but unfortunately it is so." (20/3/45 - Rome)

"They increase your wages by a quarter of a lire, and the day afterwards the price of everything you can find is doubled. We are always in the same position. You earn 200 lire, and you need 500 in order to eat like a human being." (20/3/45 - Rome)

5. NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Civilian opinion was less hostile towards the National Government during the period under review, the adverse comments being in a majority of 2.5 to 1 as compared with 3.4 to 1 during the previous four weeks. Many centres hardly commented at all, but of those which produced over 100 comments, Pisa was equally divided, which was an improvement, Naples was adverse by 3.8 to 1, being more unfavourable than previously, and Rome had an unfavourable majority of 2.8 to 1 as compared with 3.9 to 1 during the preceding four weeks. There were few military comments.

As far as can be gathered from the mail, the majority against the Government feel that it shows little evidence of having the country's interests at heart. It is said that the interests of the various parties come first. The writers complain that Fascists are still in responsible positions, and that there is not much hope for Italy while self interests take first place. The following comments are some examples:

"I would like to know how the free citizen can possibly trust a government which seems to take absolutely no interest in the public welfare. All of us in liberated Italy are fed up with fine promises and controversies which are damaging the cause of Italy." (22/3/45 - Naples)

"They are blowing the bugle to the four winds with their purging, purging, purging. What really happens is that the old clique is still in power and is acting worse than before. Who knows when the real hour of liberation will ever strike." 7(5-6

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Is it possible to think that with such a system of thought and action Italy will ever be able to rise to her feet? I doubt it very much." (28/3/45 - Naples)

"It is deplorable that our government does nothing to suppress the interests and egotism of individuals and political parties." (31/3/45 - Naples)

"Life continues at its normal pace as though no misfortune had befallen us, nor any damage done to us. Our statesmen keep on thinking of themselves. That applies to Bonomi, Togliatti, De Gasperi and company." (12/4/45 - Pesaro)

6. PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Civilian mail was more hostile towards provincial administration than it was during the previous period, and the adverse ratio of comments was 8.9 to 1 as compared with 4.4 to 1 during the preceeding four weeks. Many centres produced but few comments. Of those that commented freely, Arezzo was the most hostile with only 3 favourable comments out of a total of 94. Naples was 10.8 to 1 against, which is slightly more critical than last time. Roma, on the other hand, was less critical than previously. There were hardly any military comments.

Criticism centres mainly on the feeling that provincial administrations do not worry themselves over the welfare of the people. They are accused of making many promises to correct various abuses, but without actually doing anything. The two following comments are examples:

"The cost of living is gradually rising, and that is what worries us most. Our salary is inadequate, and we are withering day by day. Our city and provincial authorities do not give a damn about us as long as they have plenty to eat and drink themselves." (26/3/45 - Naples)

"Conditions are still the same, and are gradually becoming worse here. All the provincial authorities do is to promise drastic action against the black market and the general delinquency which has flooded our city in an alarming way." (20/3/45 - Naples)

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7. RELATIONS WITH THE ALLIES

Civilian letters revealed a less favourable attitude towards the Allies than during the previous period, and in fact the popularity of the Allies slumped to the record low point reached two months back. Pisa was preponderantly favourable, and Florence much more so than the average. Naples opinion deteriorated sharply, but Rome was slightly more favourable. Foggia was the only centre which produced a majority of unfavourable comments. Military mail did not contain many comments, but the proportion of favourable comments was higher, particularly in Ancona and Rome.

Favourable comments spring mainly from gratitude. Being liberated counts more with some people than anything else, and they are also thankful for clothes and food that has been given them. Others are happy because they find they get on well with the Allies. Unfavourable comments are frequently the product of weariness with the duration of the Allies stay in Italy. There are sarcastic references to the liberators who, the writers feel, are more like the occupying troops of conquerors, and with this there is some bad feeling on account of the various types of coloured troops in the country. Other complaints are that the Allies have not lived up to their promises. Some people are resentful at the destruction of industrial plants, for they feel that the Allies, as well as the Germans, are ruining Italy, not only industrially but morally. The following are examples of various shades of opinion:

(a) Favourable

"To tell the truth the Allies are very kind and well mannered. You can always manage to get along well with them." (1/4/45 - Pesaro)

"I repeat that here we are all faring well, and run no danger whatever. Let us thank the Allies who have come to liberate us after so much suffering." (1/4/45 - Pesaro)

"Ancona is still swarming with Allied troops, but their correct behaviour has not caused the least unpleasant incident up to date." (21/3/45 - Ancona)

"As to the Allies, we have nothing but nice things to say about them. They have been extremely kind and charitable. May God bless and protect them". (6/4/45 - Perugia)

"If it had not been for the Allies, and Kindred please souls, we would all be going naked." (23/3/45 - Macerata)

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"... You will however find some comfort in the thought that the English are sensible and good hearted men who grant their prisoners a pretty fair treatment." (26/3/45 - Rome)

"The Americans are very generous, and I am certain they will not make you lack anything. I have known the English well, and I lived with them fraternally for nearly 8 months, and they treated me like an old friend." (28/3/45 - Florence)

"Really the Polish are those who can better understand us. They are all very kind to me, and even if not so lavish as the others; the little they give you does not represent their surplus but is a gift from their hearts that they give with some sacrifice. This has completely conquered me and made me a very sincere friend of theirs. It has raised my spirits very high." (18/3/45 - Rome)

(b) Unfavourable

"These Allies are as follows: They promise a great deal and give nothing." (28/3/45 - Fonaro)

"A lady was telling me the other day that the Germans ruined us materially, and the Allies morally." (31/3/45 - Florence)

"Universal joy and relief pervade all souls due to the imminent cessation of hostilities. Let us hope that each will get what he justly deserves, and that the liberators will liberate our houses from their "beloved" presence." (5/4/45 - Macerata)

"Merely to think that the harbour and industrial sections have been destroyed by the Allies! It is painful to see how people stupidly, acceptically adapt themselves so easily to courting and amazing those who are here to recall to us our woeful conditions." (27/3/45 - Naples)

"I am happy to hear of your intense dislike for the multi-coloured races which have liberated us. We agree on this score. I can no longer behold our city so dominated!" (29/3/45 - Naples)

"We hope the whole of Italy will soon be liberated, and that we shall get rid of all those unwelcome guests we are compelled to bear. Believe me, no one is our friend." (10/4/45 - Rome)

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"The question of cobelligerency is a consequence of the famous "either the stick or the carrot" principle. These gentlemen rightly say: If we allow Italy to become an Allied Nation, who will pay for it when the war is over? They started with their landings, and who knows when they are going to stop, because, let us be honest, we are also fed up with the Allies and their ACC. It would be better if they said: we will not give you anything. But they provoke us with their three hectograms, their sugar that has to come from America, and then the coffee from Brazil."

B. PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION

Civilian mail was more optimistic about the present military situation than it was during the previous four weeks, but no very marked increase in optimism was evident. Military mail was likewise a little more enthusiastic. Comments during the early part of the period were apt to be despondent over the fact that northern Italy was still in German hands, and some writers accused the Allies of not wishing to make too much of an effort. This and other more optimistic opinions are typified in the following comments:

"For a long time I have dreamed about a strong Allied offensive to liberate Italy, but this hope has vanished. I don't understand why they do not move. They are selfish, live like lords, and are afraid to die." (23/3/45 - Naples)

"The war is in its final stage. Hitler's Germany is about to crumble, and with it will crumble the entire German race. You cannot imagine what great joy I feel in learning all the news about the valiant Russian and Anglo-American troops. This last offensive will be decisive in the defeat of Germany and of the Fascists." (26/3/45 - Perugia)

"According to the latest bulletins, things are going along very well. The Allied armies are racing at full speed. Therefore the war will be over before long." (6/4/45 - Naples)

C. FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION

There was little change in civilian opinion regarding the future military situation, and there were hardly any military comments at all. There seem to be two main trends of feeling: One of faith in an early end to the war and a return to normal life; and another of fear in the future. Even if the war ends soon, some people feel that there will be no real peace, and that civil disturbances will break out. The following comments are some examples of different opinions:

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"Here we feel that the war will end at any moment now. Let us hope it will be so. It won't be long before the Allies will win a complete victory, for the German army are already been defeated. Then things will become normal again soon, and peace will re-enter the hearts of men." (5/4/45 - Naples)

"As to peace, we shall not even have it when the war has come to an end. An energetic intervention on the part of the Allies is needed for the purpose of bringing order everywhere. Otherwise we shall have civil war." (4/5/45 - Florence)

"We hope that the war will come to an end this month. But what will happen then? To begin with the Germans will use gas as their last resource. Then we expect a revolution, because the labourer cannot go on existing with prices so high that they are out of his reach." (7/4/45 - Grosseto)

10. INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS.

Civilian mail, which became less unfavourable during the preceeding period, rallied sufficiently during the period under review to produce a majority of favourable comments. This was largely due to Naples, from which centre more than half of the comments came. A more optimistic feeling has been prevailing there for some time. Bari was also more than fair to favourably disposed. There were no military comments.

Favourable comments speak of the reopening of factories and the rebuilding of others, and at Pesaro it is stated that the fishing industry is getting on its feet again. From Naples there are letters speaking of resumption of manufacturing wood and glass products. Unfavourable comments refer to destroyed factories, closed mines, and the lack of raw materials. The following comments are examples of the above:

"As to the industries, some of them have been put back into shape, and those that are not been restored can very well be restored soon." (4/4/45 - Tolentino, Macerata)

A somewhat contradictory letter from the same centre says: "The Ruselli mill has been completely destroyed, without any possibility of rebuilding it. The Conserbrari mill at Torrovalle has likewise been destroyed. The Ville Potenza mill, also destroyed, is being rebuilt as a pasta factory. When shall we begin to work again? I have little hope, since we lack everything." (3/4/45 - Macerata)

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"Here life is gradually becoming more and more normal. The fishermen are beginning to return to fishing the precious food. But in everyone the desire for more normal times is ever great, and the latest events seem to augur well for the fulfillment of our desires." (5/4/45 - Pesaro)

"Here many factories are opening, since the other cities have been greatly devastated, while we are well on our feet. This will become a highly industrialized city judging by the beginning and by what the people say." (4/4/45 - Siena)

"It is now almost a year since the mine was last working. The miners work about four or eight days each month. There are quite a few of them who have not been able to work at all since they were laid off." (5/4/45 - Cabernardi, Ancona)

The following are some examples of the Naples mail from which most of the comments came:

"We have begun once more to manufacture our principal products, perphosphor phials, bromunin pills, etc." (27/3/45 - Naples)

"The Naples Naval Steel Mills (F.O.N.N.) is now capable of doing work in cast-iron, bronze, aluminium, etc., besides mechanical constructions of all kinds." (28/3/45 - Naples)

"We have organized in Naples a glass producing company, financed by some millions of Lire. We have already ordered machinery, molds etc., and have chosen the locality for the factory." (29/3/45 - Naples)

"We are loaded with orders taken a long time ago. Our great difficulties lie in the shortage of raw materials and labour." (20/3/45 - Naples)

11. AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS

Civilian mail lost some of its optimism concernig agricultural prospects during the period under review, and there was a slight majority of unfavourable comments for the first time. This was in spite of the fact that there was an unusually large number of favourable comments from Pisa. The latter centre, in fact, produced no adverse comments at all. Apart from Pisa, no centre revealed any very marked opinion except Pesaro, which was definitely pessimistic. 7030

There are complaints about the lack of fertilizers, and the fact that crops have been destroyed by past, fire or by acts

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of wep. From some centres, such as Grosseto, Naples, Macerata, Perugia and Pesaro, there are letters decrying the lack of rain. Wheat and other grains are therefore backward or worse. On the other hand it would appear that fruit crops are good, and there are also letters about the good condition of vineyards. The following comments illustrate the two sides of the picture:

"A terrible drought is threatening all our crops and forage. The price of hay has gone up to 1500 lire a quintal, higher than the price of wheat. And it is not raining yet!" (7/4/45 - Macerata)

"Here it has not rained at all, and the forage problem gives us reason to worry." (6/4/45 - Forgola, Pesaro)

"As to the farmland, it is in poor shape because there has been scarcely any rain, and the little we've had has not been sufficient. Nothing is growing. The weather is beautiful, but the farmland is suffering. Even pasture land is in bad shape, and the time to think of forage has already arrived." (2/4/45 - Ciciella, Perugia)

"We have had no rain for two months now. The wheat is growing so low that it cannot be perceived. Unless it rains, the harvest will be very poor." (26/3/45 - Ruviano Reano, Naples)

"Here the weather is not propitious to the farmland. In fact, it has not rained since the beginning of February, and ploughed fields are feeling the need of water." (5/4/45 - Grosseto)

"The farms are in poor shape this year. It will be a weakened harvest because there are no fertilizers. But we hope to raise enough wheat to exist." (19/3/45 - Mondolfo, Pesaro)

"The crops this year have been practically nil, having been destroyed in various ways, such as by looting, fires, bad weather and destructive insects." (18/3/45 - Pesaro)

"As you know, the threshing took place too late. The wheat was spoiled by the rust, in the wheat heaps. Of the corn, only the husks were left. The yield was less than 50%. We did not even get any seed grain out of it because hardly 10% of it could possibly grow. The grape harvest has been slight due to the lack of sulphur and copper sulphate." (20/3/45 - Pesaro, Pesaro) 7049

"Fortunately countrymen are turning a deaf ear to

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politicians' sermons, and are silently working. However, crops will be inferior to last year's owing to the lack of fertilisers." (27/3/45 - Teramo)

The following strike a more optimistic note:

"The farmland is magnificent this year, and the fruit trees promise a great crop." (25/3/45 - Naples)

"The farmland has improved, especially in tree planting. The vineyards and apple orchards will yield most satisfactory crops." (22/3/45 - Galluccio, Naples)

"We are all well, and the country this year is going along splendidly." (31/3/45 - Siena)

12. EMPLOYMENT

There was scarcely any change in civilian opinion regarding the position of employment. Although the average figures show that unfavourable comments were in a majority of 3.9 to 1, many centres were decidedly more pessimistic that that. Foggia, Grosseto and Perugia produced no favourable comments. Arezzo was about 12 to 1 unfavourable, and Rome 16 to 1. Naples, on the other hand, was less pessimistic than the average.

The comments, for the most part, do not speak of much beyond the bare fact that it is difficult to find work. Some writers state that it is necessary to have influence to be employed at all. And there are a number of letters referring to firms laying off employees rather than taking on new ones. The following are some examples of the above:

"I received my letter of dismissal, not because I did not do my work well, but as a result of the provision made to lay off all women from offices. The comune has been the first to adopt this measure." (5/4/45 - Siena)

"For the present work cannot be found, unless one works with the Americans. My father works for them, because the Metallurgica has not yet begun to work again, although it is in the possession of the Americans." (27/3/45 - Leghorn)

"As to employment, it is something very difficult to find. One has to know people, and one needs excellent references in order to get a job." (28/3/45 - Naples) 57(1)b

"I am still working in the harbour, although the work

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is diminishing daily. More than 5000 people have been laid off, and unemployment is increasing." (27/3/45 - Naples)

"I am again out of a job. It is certainly a trial. I have tried several other places, but there is nothing doing. Yesterday I stood in a queue for three hours in front of the ex Arma factory (Breda) in via Cuneo Reni in order to be taken on as a mechanic. But no one will look at you. For almost a month I have been standing in queues in front of factories." (15/3/45 - Rome)

"I am so worried, dear friend, about my future, and the job I do not seem to find. I have made various applications but with negative results, for offices are not employing but dismissing employees." (27/3/45 - Rome)

Colonel W. Bernard
Lt. Col. Cavalry,
Civil Censorship Officer.

2 Incls.
Incl #1 - Public Opinion Tally 14/4/1945.
Incl #2 - Radio Radio, Foto Reale ending 14/4/1945.

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Report
No. 26

CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP. PUBLIC OPINION REPORT 13 March-34 April 1945

This report is b
a 6-day weekly basis
520, making a total

PROVINCE (VOLUME CENSORED)			FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION		RELATIONS	
			F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	
Ancona	(CIV	22,899	14	66	1	42	7	49	7	28	0	4	0	7		
	(MIL	1,809	5	31	0	6	1	6	1	3	0	1	0	0		
Arezzo		20,343	30	455	5	331	3	137	3	9	4	7	2	91		
Florence		81,264	29	336	2	27	0	10	1	141	1	6	0	8		
Foggia	(CIV	21,892	3	97	2	60	1	32	6	10	2	11	0	6		
	(MIL	9,052	37	13	2	1	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Grosseto		21,371	11	202	2	10	1	80	1	35	0	6	1	6		
Leghorn		38,650	49	141	10	21	0	79	11	33	13	9	6	6		
Macerata		7,286	5	10	1	10	0	1	0	4	1	3	1	1		
Naples	(CIV	325,124	617	253	25	32	18	166	13	340	59	282	11	2065		
	(MIL	58,856	137	60	12	10	05	68	1	7	5	28	1	7		
Perugia		84,504	0	168	0	102	0	23	3	33	0	0	0	0		
Pesaro	(CIV	33,934	10	64	0	22	0	32	3	15	0	0	0	0		
	(MIL	580	7	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0		
Pisa		62,393	140	732	21	207	61	167	25	18	62	83	14	30		
Rome	(CIV	628,054	14	255	3	125	8	145	22	824	30	183	12	62		
	(MIL	15,270	37	30	20	8	10	14	0	9	0	10	0	0		
Siena	(CIV	30,954	30	110	6	14	0	28	0	19	0	0	1	3		
	(MIL	3,988	13	1	3	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0		
Terni		6,590	5	82	0	38	2	13	0	7	17	0	0	0		
TOTAL CIVILIAN:		620,198	1063	545	38	823	106	1460	119	1813	194	486	107	1479		
TOTAL MILITARY:		164,081	225	122	36	40	20	98	3	33	15	30	1	7		
T O T A L S :		805,633	779	1167	121	863	264	1562	152	1831	207	516	108	1486		

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CONFIDENTIAL

HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
2	42	7	36	0	4	0	7	23	10	3	0	8	3	26	19	6	28	5	19
1	8	1	1	0	1	0	0	13	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	337	1	9	4	7	5	91	23	0	11	70	6	6	1	1	21	45	9	25
0	38	1	141	1	5	0	5	30	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	5	2	13
2	32	0	10	2	11	0	3	21	29	2	32	0	0	0	2	10	23	0	27
1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	50	1	35	0	5	1	4	11	3	30	2	3	0	8	0	7	10	0	21
5	70	11	33	13	0	6	5	23	3	14	14	12	4	11	22	13	13	27	35
0	1	0	4	5	3	2	1	37	0	0	0	3	1	1	3	7	1	0	0
18	1165	52	848	58	282	137	1583	523	140	378	65	525	42	283	1385	181	328	133	473
35	65	1	7	5	12	2	2	25	7	23	38	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
0	23	0	85	0	0	0	0	37	3	13	0	29	0	2	4	1	13	6	10
0	32	3	38	0	0	4	5	17	8	1	8	13	0	3	31	5	34	6	8
5	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	15	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
47	167	25	38	22	83	14	30	182	38	247	62	192	87	98	28	231	0	70	45
8	549	32	834	32	166	24	64	46	20	157	10	149	4	19	35	2	34	19	302
30	36	3	4	0	30	0	0	32	0	27	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
0	28	0	39	0	0	1	3	11	2	15	3	3	0	7	32	35	15	3	24
0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
0	13	0	7	0	0	0	0	4	4	8	3	0	0	0	12	0	0	9	5
206	2466	120	1013	164	486	137	1479	1152	281	1021	212	967	119	414	2855	1	4335	293	1134
35	98	5	18	10	30	1	7	50	12	103	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
164	2462	102	1031	207	516	159	1403	1111	292	1147	165	967	119	414	2855	105	4335	291	1134

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Report
No. 123

APPENDIX A

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE COMMENTS ON PERTINENT POINTS
(24 March - 14 April 1945)

	FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION
WEEK ENDING	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F
24/3/45 CIV	1	28.3	1	63.1	1	15.6	1	16.4	1	3.2	1	13	4.3	1	1.4	1	3
MIL	1.6	1	1	1.6	1	4.8	0	0	0	6	0	0	4	1	11	1	0
31/3/45 CIV	1	22.6	1	57.5	1	23.2	1	9.3	1	1.7	1	9.6	5.1	1	4.1	1	3.9
MIL	4	1	1.7	1	2	1.4	0	0	2.3	1	0	0	3	0	2.1	1	0
7/4/45 CIV	1	18.8	1	45.5	2	32.3	1	15.9	1	2.1	1	6.8	5.6	1	7.1	1	13.4
MIL	1.3	1	1	2.7	2	1	1	6	1	1.7	1	7	1.9	1	1	2.5	5
14/4/45 V	1	24.2	1	70.3	1	30.1	1	16.3	1	3.7	1	7.8	4.6	1	9.4	1	21.9
MIL	2.1	1	1	1.1	1	2.4	0	0	0	6	0	0	20	1	4.2	1	0
AVERAGE FOR MONTH ENDING: 14/4/45 CIV	1	23.3	1	62.7	1	23.4	1	14.1	1	2.5	1	8.9	4.8	1	4.9	1	7.8
MIL	2.3	1	1	1.4	1	1.7	1	6	1	2.3	1	7	5.3	1	3	1	5

0785

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

APPENDIX A

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE COMMENTS ON PERTINENT POINTS
(24 March - 14 April 1945)

CONFIDENTIAL

	HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
1	1	15.6	1	16.4	1	3.2	1	13	4.3	1	1.4	1	3	1	1	1.1	1.3	1	1	3.2
6	1	4.8	0	0	0	6	0	0	4	1	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	1	23.2	1	9.3	1	1.7	1	9.6	5.1	1	4.1	1	3.9	1	1.7	1	1.5	1	1	4.6
	2	1.4	0	0	2.3	1	0	0	23	0	2.1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	1	32.3	1	15.9	1	2.1	1	6.8	5.6	1	7.1	1	13.4	1	1.3	1	1.2	1	1	4.7
	2	1	1	6	1	1.7	1	7	1.9	1	1	2.5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	30.1	1	16.3	1	3.7	1	7.8	4.6	1	9.4	1	21.9	1	2.4	1	2	1.7	1	4
	1	24	0	0	0	6	0	0	20	1	4.2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	23.4	1	14.1	1	2.5	1	8.9	4.8	1	4.9	1	7.8	1	1.5	1	1	1.1	1	3.9
	1	1.7	1	6	1	2.3	1	7	5.3	1	2	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

0784

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

ROME/T/14675 20A
(Serial number)

CONFIDENTIAL

CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP

TELEPHONE

mm

ROME (Station)

Date Mailed MAY 3 1945

From: PALERMO - Telephone 12245 AERONAUTICA (Caller: Col.Spedini)	To: ROMA -MINISTERO AERONAUTICA (Callee: Ten.Col.Gandini)
Number of previous comment sheets: Caller R/T/10078 Callee R/T/14661	Disposition: Passed Refused Caller warned Callee warned Call cut off
Language: — Italian Recording No. None	Observation started 11.27 Total time: 3 Mins. Date MAY 3 1945 INTERURBAN CALL

COMMENT

TYRE DEAL

Il chiamante - Chi è che parla?
Il chiamato - Ten.Col.Gandini.
Il chiamante - Candini, sono il Col.Spedini; non c'è Pellacci?
Il chiamato - No, è fuori.
Il chiamante - Io volevo dirgli delle gomme. Ho trovato 4 gomme per "626" di cui tre tedesche ed una italiana. Sono nuovissime. Ne vogliono 70.000 lire l'uno. Io voglio la risposta.
Il chiamato - Sì, puoi comperarle. Guarda colonnello che qui c'è il Tenente Vinci che parte domattina in volo e porta 4 gomme per "626".
Il chiamante - Va bene, ma queste le posso comperare?
Il chiamato - Sì, compera anche quelle.

C83 7043

155/1/P.I.

Comment by—
Monitor 134

Reviewed by—
Joseph P.Garrotto
Capt. Inf.

Copy to—
TCS CCG
FILE

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W. D. A. C. O. Form No. 912b
February 14, 1943

A. C. March 1945

0785

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Mas. ROME/T/14661 (Serial number) 19A

CONFIDENTIAL

CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP

TELEPHONE

ROME (Station) Date Mailed 3/5/45

From:	To:
- ROMA - MINISTERO AERONAUTICA (Caller: Cap.De Maria)	- NAPOLI - COMANDO AERONAUTICA (Callee: Cap.Sollazzo)

Number of previous comment sheets:
Caller R/T/13187
Callee R/T/14459

Disposition:
Passed
Refused
Caller warned
Callee warned
Call cut off

Language: — Italian Observation started 1002
Recording No. Total time: 4 Mins
Date 3 May 1945
None
Interurban call

COMMENT

BRITISH SUPPLIES

Il chiamante - Sollazzo, sono De Maria. Volevo sapere come stavano le cose circa la polvere.
Il chiamato - Ne abbiamo avuta 40 barattoli dagli inglesi, ma sono barattoli da 50 grammi. La gran parte è buona, c'è soltanto il 10% di scarto.
Il chiamante - Me ne prenderei un 10 - 15 barattoli.
Il chiamato - Ne chiederemo dell'altra agli inglesi.
Il chiamante - Se avete la possibilità di farvene dare dell'altra, io non la compro, tanto più che,libera ta l'Italia del Nord, si potrà trovare qualcosa lassù.
Il chiamato - Va bene...
Il chiamante - E la tela olona?
Il chiamato - Non ci sono ancora andato. Il prezzo lo debbono stabilire gli inglesi.
Il chiamante - Va bene, interessatene.

7042

C82

Comment by—— Monitor 122

Reviewed by—— Joseph P.Garrotto 755/1/P.L.
Capt. INF

Copy to—— TCS CCG
FILE

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CONFIDENTIAL

W. D. A. G. O. Form No. 912b
February 15, 1943

A. C. March 1945

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

184
(F)

FROM : ITALIAN AIR MINISTRY

TO : A.F.S.C.

DATE : 1/5/45

REF. : 12903/2895/ GOLL

I.A.F. DISCIPLINE

W A

Reference is made to letter AFSC/755/1/P.1 dated 25th April.

2. It would appear to this Ministry that the Aviere D'Amore's statements are no doubt exaggerated as far as the food is concerned (your Sub Commission knows perfectly well the food ration). Enquiries will be made about his actual work and if he really has nothing or almost nothing to do he will be found something to do.

ALLIED SUB-COMMISSION
B 947
755/1/P.1.

IL CAPO DI GABINETTO
COL. M. BORRO

7041

1 B.

Translated by P.Bompard

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

- 1 MAG. 1945 1945

MINISTERO AERONAUTICA
GABINETTO DEL MINISTRO

Segreteria

Prot. N. 12905 / 2835 Gabb.

Al Comando
ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE AERONAUTICA - A.C.
(tramite Ufficio Collegamento)
R O M A

Oggetto: Disciplina nella R.A.

Si fa riferimento al foglio n°AFSC/755/1/T.I in data 25 Aprile c.a..

2. Si ha ragione di ritenere che le affermazioni dell'Aviere D'AMORE sono, senza dubbio, esagerate per quanto concerne il cibo, la cui composizione è perfettamente nota a codesta Sottocommissione, mentre, per quanto riguarda l'olio, sempre che non risulti una stupida millanteria, il D'AMORE sarà messo in condizione di non doversene più dolere.-

d'ordine
IL CAPO DI GABINETTO

7040

179

HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

CONFIDENTIAL
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP

STATION RECORD No. ROME 1991 ITA 8782-45

From	To
Airman CARONI Pietro 5 Gruppo Distaccamento R.A. c/o 4 F.S.U. R.A.F. C.M.F.	Miss FAIS Vincenza Isola per S.Antonio Cagliari, Sardinia

Give place of Postmark where there is no address

Date of communication or postmark if letter is un-dated	Type mail	Ref No	Language	Previously censored by	Enclosures
Date illegible	Ordinary Surface	---	Italian	---	---

Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposal of original communication
---	-Comando Nucleo IIIZ.A.T.Rome -S.M.G.Ispett.Cens. Mil.Uff.I P.M.38. 000 -S.M.Regia Areonautica.Uff.I P.M. 38.000	~~C-2~~ (CC) AFHQ RAF No.6 BC-CMF FILE N-2 AFHQ MAAF INT(CEN)	Held Excised Photographed Sent with comment to: —RAF No.6 Base Cen.Unit CMF Passed Condemned Return to sender

COMMENT

DISCLOSURE OF MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS

".....we did not leave by land, but by sea. We embarked at BARI and disembarked at ANCONA, after many hours spent on board..... ANCONA is destroyed....."

7039

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Surface

Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposal of original communication
---	-Comando Nucleo IIIZ.A.T.Rome -S.M.G.Ispett.Cens. Mil.Uff.I P.M.38. 000 -S.M.Regia Areonautica.Uff.I P.M. 38.000	~~G-2~~ (CC) AFHQ RAF No.6 BC-CMF FILE N-2 AFHQ MAAF INT(CEN)	Held Excised Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed Condemned Return to sender — RAF No.6 Base Cen.Unit CMF

COMMENT

DISCLOSURE OF MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS

"....we did not leave by land, but by sea. We embarked at BARI and disembarked at ANCONA, after many hours spent on board..... ANCONA is destroyed....."

7039

EXAMINER Italian Censor REVIEWER T.S.M. EXAMINATION DATE 19 April 1945

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

CONFIDENTIAL
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP

ROME 1990
ITA 3733-45

STATION RECORD No. 16A

From:	To:
Airman NIOI Riccardo 5 Gruppo Distaccamento R.A. Presso 4	Carabiniere NIOI Antonio Battaglione Allievi CC.RR. 2a Compagnia Inglesias

Give place of Postmark where there is no address

Date of communication or postmark if letter is un-dated	Type mail	Reg No	Language	Previously censored by	Enclosures
7 April 1945	Ordinary Surface	–	Italian	–	–

Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposal of original communication
–	Comando Nucleo III Z.A.T. Rome S.M.G. Ispett.Cens. Mil - Uff.IP.M.38000 S.M.Regia Aeronautica Uff.I PM 38000	G-2 (CC) AFHQ. RAF No.6 BC-CMF FILE MAAF INT(CEN)AFHQ	Held Passed Excised Condemned Photographed Return Sent with comment to: to sender No.6 RAF Base Censorship Unit - CMF

COMMENT

1.) MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS DISCLOSED.

2.) USE OF CONVENTIONAL EXPRESSIONS.

"We have now been in the usual place for more than a month and a half, always working for the R.A.F. I am fine. We had 3000 Poles here for rest; now they have left and it ended just as at CAGLIARI (SARDINIA).

7035

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

0791

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Mes. ROME/T/14446 15A
(Serial number)

CONFIDENTIAL

CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP

TELEPHONE

ROME
(Station)

Date Mailed 27/4/45

From:	To:
- ROMA - Telephone:42661 MINISTERO AERONAUTICA (Caller:Col.Porro)	- BARI - UNITA' AEREA COMANDO AERONAUTICA (Callee:Gen.Gaeta)

Number of previous comment sheets: Caller ..... Callee R/T/14027	Disposition: Passed ..... Refused ..... Caller warned ..... Callee warned ..... Call cut off	Language: — Italian Observation started 1150 Recording No. Total time: 2 Mins Date 27 April 1945 None Interurban call

COMMENT

SEEKING INFORMATION OF OFFICER'S ARRIVAL FROM RUSSIA

Il chiamante - Il generale Daddino ha ricevuto notizia che a Bari è sbarcato un ufficiale di aviazione proveniente dalla Russia. Si chiama Colucci.
Il chiamato - Non ne so niente. Quì non si è presentato.
Il chiamante - Quì hanno bisogno urgente di parlargli. Viene dalla Russia e più precisamente dalla Siberia.
Se si presenta fallo venire subito a Roma al Gabinetto.
Il chiamato - Va bene.

Action Unit
Action by
Collation by
B.C.(S) & U.K.A.F.
2 Copies

ALLIED FORCES SUB-COMMISSION MEDITERRANEAN
0831
ORDERLY ROOM
755/1/P.I.

7057

Comment by—
Monitor 141

Reviewed by—
E.C. Austin
Capt. I.C.

Copy to—
TCS CCG —
FILE

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W. D. A. G. O. Form No. 913b
February 16, 1943

A C. March 1945

0192

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

14A

From : Air Forces Sub Commission,AC. Rome.

To : Italian Air Ministry.

Date : 25th April 1945

Ref. : AFSC/755/1/P.1.

DISCIPLINE I.A.F.

The following extract of a letter written by aviere D'Amore Gennaro,33 Comp. Specialisti R.A. San Severo,Foggia, to aviere Piletti Raffaele,54 Deposito R.A. Turanto,has been sent to this Sub Commission by the Civil Censorship Group.

Idleness and wastage of food in I.A.F. units

"....I am very well off here,we are living like kings. There is no discipline at all,so we are always strolling around town. Here I do the same work I did at the Deposito,just one hour's work a day. I am really enjoying it. It is a good life and I never thought that I would find a place like this after four years in the army. To think that here stuff is thrown away:the meals are as they were in 1940 and 1941."

2. It is clear that the aviere concerned should be found something more to do.

7036

F.L.BRADSHAW A/LDR
AIR VICE MARSHAL
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

FOGGIA 2294
ITA 8763-45

HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

CONFIDENTIAL
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GR' P

STATION
RECORD No. 13 A

From	To
Aviere D'AMORE, Gennaro 33 Comp. Specialisti R.A. Sal Severo, Foggia, Italy	Aviere PILETTI, Raffaele 54 Deposito R.A. Taranto, Italy

Give place of Postmark where there is no address

Date of communication or postmark if letter is un-dated	Type mail	Reg No	Language	Previously censored by	Enclosures
10 April 1945	Ordinary Surface	–	Italian	–	–

Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposal of original communication
–	Comiter S.M.G. - Uff. "I" S.M.R.E.	G-2 (CC) AFHQ. AC HQ. FILE MAAF INT(CEN)AFHQ. IRB LONDON DIR.INT. ASF WASH.	Held Excised Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed P Condemned Return to sender

COMMENT

IDLENESS AND WASTAGE OF FOOD IN

ITALIAN AIR FORCE UNITS.

".....I am very well off here, we are living like kings. There is no discipline at all so we are always strolling around town. Here I do the same work I did at the "Deposito", just one hour's work a day. I'm really enjoying it. It is a good life and I never thought that I would find a place like this after four years in the army. To think that here stuff is thrown away; the meals are as they were in 1940 and 1941."

7035

AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION ALLIED COMMISSION
B701
ORDERLY ROOM
755/1/P1

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Surface

Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposal of original communication
-	Comiter S.M.G. - Uff. "I" S.M.R.E.	G-2 (CC) AFHQ. AC HQ. FILE MAAF INT(CEN)AFHQ. IRB LONDON DIR.INT. ASF WASH.	Held Excised Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed P Condemned Return to sender

COMMENT

IDLENESS AND WASTAGE OF FOOD IN

ITALIAN AIR FORCE UNITS.

".....I am very well off here, we are living like kings. There is no discipline at all so we are always strolling around town. Here I do the same work I did at the "Deposito", just one hour's work a day. I'm really enjoying it. It is a good life and I never thought that I would find a place like this after four years in the army. To think that here stuff is thrown away; the meals are as they were in 1940 and 1941."

7035

AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION ALLIED COMMISSION
B701
ORDERLY ROOM
755/1/P.1

EXAMINER Italian Censor REVIEWER I.J.A. EXAMINATION DATE 12 April 1945

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

12A

HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

CONFIDENTIAL
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP

STATION FLORENCE 2134
RECORD No ITA 8612-45

From:	To:
BUSCEMI Giovanna Via S.Egidio N.9 Florence, Italy Give place of Postmark where there is no address	ASCOLI Ugo Dr. Via Cola di Rienzo 52 Rome, Italy

Date of communication or postmark if letter is un-dated	Type mail	Reg No	Language	Previously censored by	Enclosures
24 March 1945	Ordinary Surface	---	Italian	---	---

Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposal of original communication
---	A,M.G. (P.C.) F.S.S.	G-2 (CO) AFHQ AC HQ FILE Dir.Int.ASF Wash MAAF INT(CEN)AFHQ G-5 AFHQ IRB London	Held Excised Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed P Condemned Return to sender

COMMENT

CIVILIAN TRANSPORT SERVICE BY AIR FROM ROME TO PALERMO (SICILY)

".....I know that at ROME there is an unofficial transport service by air, for PALERMO. Please let me know on what days the 'planes leave and from which air-port, where one can book the tickets, and what the price is. A cousin of mine told me that she travelled with this service..!

The transport service [illegible] Centocelle to Palermo [illegible] an official one [illegible] by SM 79's three times a week. Passages can be arranged through AFSC

7034

Information + Retention

13478
1514

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposal of original communication
---	A.M.G. (P.C.) F.S.S.	G-2 (CC) AFHQ AC HQ FILE Dir.Int.ASF Wash MAAF INT(CEN)AFHQ G-5 AFHQ IRB London	Held Excised Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed P Condemned Return to sender

COMMENT

CIVILIAN TRANSPORT SERVICE BY AIR FROM ROME TO PALERMO (SICILY)

".....I know that at ROME there is an unofficial transport service by air, for PALERMO. Please let me know on what days the 'planes leave and from which air-port, where one can book the tickets, and what the price is. A cousin of mine told me that she travelled with this service..!

The transport service from Centocelle to Palermo is an official one & run by Sec 7911 thru [illegible] a week. Passages can be arranged through AFSC

7034

Information + Retention

10478
15/4

755/1/R1.

EXAMINER Italian Censor REVIEWER T.S.M. EXAMINATION DATE 5 April 1945

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Headquarters Allied Commission
CIVIL CONSORTIP CIRCUIT
APO 394, U. S. Army

7 April 1945

SPECIAL REPORT NO. 11:

SUBJECT: Appreciation and Demoralip Report on Italian civilian and Military Morale for four weeks ending 17th March 1945.

TO : C-G (Coordination Consortium), AFHQ, APO 512.

This report is based on 300,000 letters checked during the four weeks ended 17th March 1945. This does not include any military mail from the front lines.

Attached as a Table (Appendix A) which shows the relation between favourable and unfavourable comments on every subject each week. In all we the largest number of comments is recorded to one, and the second figure shows the corresponding number of comments of the opposite opinion.

None of the comments used in this report have been used in any previous report.

1. FOOD SITUATION

Civilian letters indicate that the food situation deteriorated still further during the period under review. Unfavourable comments had shown an increase during the previous four weeks, and they increased still further to a marked degree during the four weeks ending 17th March, the adverse ratio being 21.3 to 1 as compared with 11.6 to 1 and 10.1 to 1 during the two previous periods respectively. Rome, Naples, Foggia, Perugia and Naples appear to be the most distressed centres. There was a huge increase in comments from Naples, and the proportion between unfavourable and favourable comments was 51.5 to 1 as compared with 10.7 to 1 during the last period. The position in Rome seems a little, but the adverse comments were still very numerous, and were in a majority of 30 to 1. The comparison with 23 to 1 and 36 to 1 for the two previous periods respectively. Incoming letters, letters and other texts a far less gloomy view than the average, and in none of these centres were the unfavourable comments in a majority of more than a little over 3 to 1.

Many writers complain that they can not get along on

So far as most from Italian Service personnel is concerned, this report contains nothing of interest

- 1 -

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

particular focus, and that in any event the letters are not always available. There are often bitter remarks about the absence of salt and fats, and the fact that milk is not available for young children. People living in, or close to, country districts resort to the unpleasant use of money to raise the peasants' price other goods in exchange for food. The black market give rise to the usual discontent. The great majority of people can not afford to buy food from time to time, and since it is the principle, and often practically the sole source of supply they fare very badly indeed. In the whole the question of price is of greater worry than that of supply. Most of the favourite comments speak only of the availability of food stuffs. Prices do not enter into it. The following examples are representative:

"Here at least life is very expensive. One lives not-sep at home. Love is forced to depend on the black market to eat. Because there is little to be bought for open rationed foods." (11/2/44 - Rapoli)

"We have had to give up the last pretentious few items such as tea, cake, candy, milk, white flour, salmon and etc. We live on bread, rice, pasta and vegetables that are extremely expensive. Fruits are not to be [illegible] - Terracina)

"We use every thing to exchange here. In this place rice, pasta are rarities and treats. Yesterday we got 100 lire a litre for it, and for that can buy a kg. of rice and two kg. of potatoes, and [illegible] and [illegible] to have [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] (nuts) is not sold on [illegible]. The black market at the time [illegible] (8/2/44 - Piano)

"Life is more expensive here than it is in Sicily. Rabbit meat costs 200 lire a kg., eggs 10 lire each, chestnut flour 150 lire a kg., [illegible] a kg., and pork meat 800 lire per kg." (10/2/44 - Lucrino)

"If you only know what a great amount of goods (over-coats, suits of clothes, woolen goods, shoes etc.) I had to give the peasants in exchange for [illegible] of eggs! Eggs reached a price of 80 lire each. And this was because the peasants, a class of people [illegible] by the war, did not want money but more and more goods." (13/3/44 - Aversa)

"The scarcity of foodstuffs is also being keenly felt here at Rome. They have taken the milk ration away from 3 years old babies. I help my children with an occasional egg. Fortunately a few eggs can be found on the black market at 45 lire each. With rice, apples and dried figs I manage to feed the children."

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Recently I bought 200 grams of honey for 110 lire." (11/3/45 - Grosseto)

"As to the very high cost of living, it is useless to speak. It is the same everywhere: hunger and wretchedness, wretchedness and hunger." (17/3/45 - Rocolla Terme, Grosseto)

"Here life is extremely difficult. Foodstuffs are found only on the black market. The peasants will not part with anything in the way of olive oil, flour, etc., unless you give them other goods in exchange. Things are terrible, I can tell you for us labourers." (15/3/45 - Siena)

"At Siena now there is a scarcity of everything, and there is no salt. Milk, flour cannot be found, not even on the black market. They give us rasta procedures, and that is why we always eat polenta here." (18/3/45 - Siena)

"Here life is very expensive. Bread in Rome, bread costs 120 lire per kg., but 500 and 600 lire, and flour 170 lire." (13/3/45 - Naples)

"Once upon a time, whenever one wished to tell something or somebody to be contempt, you would say that he was not worth a dried fig. That expression would be used in a contrary way to indicate something of great value. Life here is becoming more and more difficult." (16/3/45 - Naples)

"See if you can send us some food for we are unable to live here on your Lamport's salary. I only bought 1 egg at 320 lire per kg, a pole that is liable to be taken away from us in consequence of the new price of bread which has been raised to 18 lire per kg. Lard costs 700 lire per kg. Here's starving how we are living." (5/3/45 - Rome)

"We keep going from day to day hoping things will improve, but instead they get worse. We are entitled to 1 egg with the ration card, and are therefore obliged to live on the black market. Last year we were badly off, but are living are far worse." (20/2/45 - Rome)

2. CLOTHING.

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Civilians still present increasingly unfavourable clothing during the period under review, and adverse comments outnumbered the huge majority of 44.6 to 1. There was not a single favourable comment from Arezzo, Ancona, Udine, Foggia, Trieste and Naples.

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and only one road from Ipperato and Tenai. The port on the Naples would open to the peoples. Out of a total of 1668 [illegible], only 2 were [illegible]. This amount is considerable as compared with the port [illegible] capacities of the Naples port [illegible] of 1,000 tons per day. Military and [illegible] Kesselring.

Most casualties are due to the prohibitive cost of clothing. Some wizards are already very [illegible] even if they could afford them, [illegible] while. The shoe shops, still [illegible] to be operating in some centers, but [illegible] they are one of the rarest of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] nothing to wear. Most children have [illegible] [illegible] enough garments to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] clean them. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

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"You can't imagine how difficult it is to find textiles in Rome city, and how high the prices are." (9/8/45 - Florence)

"The clothing available is very poor and very expensive. The prices are entirely too high, and the people cannot buy." (9/7/45 - Florence)

"It is impossible to buy new things. I need a pair of shoes, but I never have so much as 100 lire to put aside, and a pair of shoes costs 6,000 lire. You have no idea how much more expensive living has become in Rome. It is unbelievable. Every day prices become more exorbitant." (24/8/45 - Rome)

3. HOUSING.

Civilian mail was very responsive over the housing situation. Although the radio shows that unfavourable comments were only in a majority of 10.3 to 1 during the period under review, as compared with 31 to 1 during the previous period, this was due to a high proportion of favourable comments from Rome. Leaving the latter centre out of account, two to one for the rest of the country was still to be. There were no favourable comments at all from Arezzo, Florence, Forlì, Grosseto, Ancona and Perugia. Naples took a very gloomy view, and 8 to one comments were in a majority of 31 to 1. Opinion in Bari was worsened, there being only 4 favourable comments out of a total of 473, a higher adverse ratio than ever before. Milan was a little less unfavourable than during the previous four weeks.

Apart from destruction of houses due to the war, there are many complaints about the increase rents for houses, flats and rooms. Overcrowding also gives rise to bitter remarks. Many people often have to crowd into one room in some places. Other buildings are in such bad repair that they can scarcely be classed as habitable. In Rome it seems to be a practice to pay a huge deposit on a flat in addition to the rent. There is also the complaint that the Allies pay high rents and thus squeeze out the local population from quarters they might have occupied. The following comments are some examples:

"It is extremely difficult to find a furnished room. They ask at least 1,500 lire a month if you do find one. In our house four people sleep in small rooms." (13/9/45 - Grosseto)

"We found the entire apartment dereliction. For lack of living quarters we have had to adapt ourselves to living in a

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small storehouse." (10/7/45 - Newsweek)

"Believe me, we could go along like this any time. There are ten of us living in one room. ... I could enjoy myself in time if only we could go and live apart." (10/8/45 - Newsweek)

"The passing of the war here has been drab. There are more than seventy families without homes." (9/8/45 - Newsweek)

"They have given me a home but it is not a real one. It is really a garage, a two-bedroom one ... We are I do not mean to exclude a private one, but by no means do most have." (12/2/45 - Time)

"Over 75% of the residences of Kure have been destroyed. The number of people who have returned here is the main problem as those who were evacuated. There are 3 like" (12/2/45 - Time)

"We have been in Japanese places before which we like and how good luck to find a home." (12/7/45 - Time)

"With the Japanese surrendering without fight and the demobilizing of troops by the Allies, there is not available one room in which to live." (11/30/45 - Newsweek)

"The only way to finding a home is to come back in by pay from 200,000 to 300,000 yen and buy a house ready occupied apartment." (11/3/45 - Time)

"Overhead are dozens of big rocks and about 1,000 live a month, with a death of 30,000 live and 10,000 are a day. This is what Kure's population has to pay." (10/3/45 - Time)

"My lady friends, who go for gay nights with the Allies, do not yet dish to let them do so because the Japanese parents have a fit and the whole household is thrown out a day or 10 days a month, and for this the Allies have to be cashed legally." (11/2/ - Time)

4. Unrest

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Severe criticism of Japanese behavior in civilian internment camps, leaders of which are now in custody, and unfavorable comments on the conduct of U.S. troops appeared with U.S. troops during the previous week. There are no

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favourable comments at all from Perugia and only 5 from Florence out of a total of 136. Naples took a more gloomy view than previously, but Rome was less pessimistic than during the previous period though still far more so than the average, the unfavourable comments being in a majority of 30.2 to 1. There were hardly any military comments.

Every complaint rests on the inescapable fact that the cost of living has far outstripped incomes. It is only the few, including those whose activities are doubtful, who can balance their budgets. The pensioners are the worst off. The white collar workers are also in a very bad way. The following comments are some examples:

"Neither clerks nor teachers could ever make both ends meet without using up all their savings in addition to their meagre salaries." (17/3/45 - Ancona)

"With the high cost of food, the salary we earn is not enough for us to eat." (20/2/45 - Florence)

"It is extremely hard to exist for us wretched wage-earners. There are people who think only of enriching themselves without bothering about the honest clerk and labourer who can hardly have a decent meal with what he earns." (18/2/45 - Naples)

"Life here is very expensive. Even if one earns a great deal, the money earned is not sufficient to get along." (23/1/44 - Grosseto)

"The economic improvement proposed by the government for wage-earners and pensioned people does not substantially change our situation. Even if the government, with the best possible intention, were to double our salaries and pensions, the fact is that the cost of living has doubled and redoubled ten times over, especially in regard to items of vital necessity." (9/3/45 - Ancona)

"The times become ever worse. The more we work the less we eat. Food is very dear. We workers cannot get along because of our small pay." (6/3/45 - Rome)

"I get the subsidy of 13.50 for myself and 5.10 for each child, so I get 23 lire a day. I pay 15 lire for bread and 7.50 for milk every day. I am left with half a lire to eat. I don't know where to turn. During the night, when I stay awake, I weep. I never longed for death as I am doing now." (6/3/45 - Rome)

"The only class which is well off is that of the racketeers, the class which gives itself up to the black market. In order to do that one must be a born swindler. He who is honest and an employee is condemned to starvation. And so shall die of hunger. It is no good having 30% wage increases. We ought ot have an increase of 1000%." (22/2/45 - Rome)

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"Saturday was increased by 500 while the cost of flights increased by a hundred. Therefore in proportion is possible." (7/5/40 - Rome)

5. NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

There was a marked reduction in the number of comments on the National Government during the period under review. Civilian mail, which had become increasingly hostile for some time, was less unfavourable. Adverse comments were in a majority of 6 to 1 during the previous four weeks decreased to a 3½ to 1 majority, though this figure is still higher than any previous ratio except for the immediately preceding period. Many centres hardly commented at all, out of those which did, none was more unfavourably disposed. There were few military comments, and they were nearly equally divided.

Although the number of comments fell off, the anti-Italians showed no instability. It is said that the Government is not living up to promises and pronouncements, and that the many parties, each of which exists that provokes party in any mood, quite apart to further their own interests. They are pictured as presenting an ignoble and selfish spectacle, not only to Italy but to the Allies. Nothing is accomplished, nor do the writers expect anything to be done. The following comments reflect the general tone of most letters:

"In our Government all are fighting around, all are making speeches and flying lectures, all proclaim each day their unions and the defenders and protectors of the people. But no one accomplishes anything, to save the sorrowful condition of this unhappy land of ours." (3/3/45 - Perugia)

"Fascism did much evil; but greater evil is being done today. I now understand, in these troubled times, how wretched men and politics are. All I have to do is to study our present Government. Under the most beautiful words and promises you can see all the greed and malice of the powers who know how to exploit the terrible situation." (6/3/45 - Assisi)

"So many past crimes are being repeated that this is a worse government than the one which came to power after the first world war." (14/3/45 - Forlì)

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"The behaviour of many of those who compose our so-called Government is indeed discouraging. Instead of giving evidence of dignity and firmness of purpose before the Allies, in the midst of this onslaught of disaster, they carry on in an

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[illegible] (8/5/43 - Arnold)

"[illegible] to reach [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

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who take decisions of the sort to find their own solution."
(28/2/45 - Kennedy)

"It does the Americans no credit or the distribution of relief in the combat zone to have women [illegible] to aiding the population, while the Italian girls in Naples do not give a damn, or, many of them openly despise, they don't worry about us." (28/2/45 - Kaplan)

7 - Relations with Allies.

Once again, while the staff of the Allied commands consist [illegible] the Allies, the [illegible] Italians, the [illegible] Allies [illegible] Italians [illegible] Allies [illegible] Italians [illegible] Allies [illegible] Italians

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well." (10/5/45 - Leghorn)

"Ancona does not look like the old town it was. There is a great deal of movement both military and civilian. Here there are soldiers of all races, all nice people, kind and very polite. It is a real pleasure to talk to them. They are all unarmed, unlike those assassins who were armed to the teeth. Now we live peacefully without any worries." (11/5/45 - Ancona)

"The Canadians went away, but they were all good people unlike the Italians. It is too bad that they stayed here only a few days." (16/5/45 - Antoli-Piceno)

"The Allies are striving very hard to make living conditions less harsh for us, but it is not possible for them to succeed fully, because there is a shortage of the means of transport" (15/5/45 - Florence)

U. B. Unfavourable

"My father, together with numerous other Italians, was right about the Allies. One must honestly admit that our "liberators" have freed us from absolutely nothing." (11/5/45 - Ancona)

"Do you recall Brennus, the one who put the sword on the scales in order to weigh the gold which the Romans owed him? The present conquerors are even worse than enemies." (9/5/45 - Sasso di Serra S. Quirico)

"Things are taking a turn for the worse. We were much better off before. If those Germans were assassins, these Allies are even more so." (9/5/45 - Cesenatico)

"The Allied Command has installed two Brazilian majors in my house. They have reduced it to a pigsty. You can't imagine my feelings towards the Allies." (13/2/45 - Naples)

"As to the British, they are doing all for themselves and nothing for us. This is a good medicine for the Italian people. We have been defeated by everybody: first by the Fascists, then by the Germans, and now the Lord only knows who it is who rules us." (12/5/45 - Ancona)

"I have known majors, captains, colonels, and other officers of the American army, and I have not gained a good

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impression of any of them. They are ignorant of the elementary rules of good education. They are too rowdy and seem to be unable to do without drunkenness, even the most serious among them." (25/2/45 - Pisa)

"I believe that to overcome our "liberators" we don't need much. You agree with me on this score, don't you? I would take great pleasure in hitting them on the head with a stick. It would make me feel better. As to the negroes, they make me laugh..... It would not take much to beat them.... I am fed up with seeing those ugly mugs.... All we can hope for is to wait for our victory." (12/3/45 - Grosseto)

8. PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION.

Civilian mail reveals a more optimistic feeling concerning the present military situation. This is particulary true of Pisa which underwent a complete change of feeling. Naples was more optimistic than formerly, but Rome moved in the opposite direction. Military mail reflected a less happy view. The comments are not very informative. The following are examples:

"If you pin your hopes upon the Allies, Bologna will be taken much later than we think, because the Allies are too fond of having a good time." (17/3/45 - Siena)

"Here also a little confusion arises in regard to the war. This morning a rumour ran round to the effect that the war had come to an end. They always deceive us. The Lord only knows when that day will come when we shall die of sheer joy." (18/3/45 - Naples)

"In this war which is so strange and so different from all others, what expectations can one have? Every now and then the end of the conflict seems imminent, but after a short time one's illusions fade. The enemy strengthens resistance, and even counter-attacks here and there, so that the war for the Nth time presents itself as long and arduous." (24/2/45 - Rome)

9. FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION.

Civilian letters became more optimistic during the period under review, and favourable comments were in a majority of 7.4 to 1 as compared with 2.7 to 1 during the previous four weeks. The bulk of the comments came from Naples and Pisa, and both centres were much more optimistic than previously, particularly Pisa which was very pessimistic during the preceding period.

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Rome also reflected the general rising of spirits. There were hardly any military comments. The following comments are some examples of reviving hope:

"Everything seems to indicate that this most cursed war may end very soon. We shall soon be able to drink to the victory of the Allies and to liberty." (23/2/45 - Naples)

"Here we all have great hopes that Germany may ask for an armistice. We expect the end of the war in a few weeks." (22/2/45 - Ischia)

"Nothing new in Naples except that we wait daily for the announcement that Germany has given up..... Even I, who do not pay much attention to the usual empty chatter, feel that the crumbling of Nazism is very near, since Germany has reached the end of her tether now." (20/2/45 - Naples)

"I have great hopes that the war will come to an end very soon." (10/3/45 - Grosseto)

10. INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS

Civilian mail, which had become more pessimistic during the previous four weeks, was not so unfavourably disposed during the period under review. Arezzo, Grosseto and Pesaro commented more unfavourably that most, and Rome was more pessimistic than previously. Naples, on 100% increase in the number of comments, changed from a majority of adverse remarks to a majority of favourable comments. Military mail was practically silent on the subject.

Unfavourable comments speak chiefly of destruction of plants and factories due to the war, and to a shortage of raw materials. Favourable comments tell of new constructions and restorations. The following are some examples of both sides of the picture:

"I am sorry that I am unable to satisfy our friend Sciamer in supplying my products. It is impossible now to resume work due to lack of power as the result of demolitions made by the Germans to the generating plants in this zone." (18/3/45 - Ancona)

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"Things here in Tuscany and elsewhere are very different from what you imagine. In fact, all the industries have been

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[illegible] Conference [illegible] Conference and to the General Public" 12/2/35, Annex).

"The factories in the city have been operated on [illegible] all employees are employed [illegible] Annex)

"There is no prospect of restoring the export [illegible] to the former position. Our functioning depends upon [illegible] manufacturers." (1/2/36 - Post)

"At present we can not sell our products [illegible] because our factory has not resumed work due to [illegible] even if we do the work we cannot be [illegible] have not been ordered." (12/2/35 - Post)

"One principal factors of reduced [illegible] and Trade, including the [illegible] has decreased [illegible] serial transactions of this [illegible] We are [illegible] [illegible] be rebuilt, a work requiring several [illegible]." (12/2/35 - Harrison)

The following extracts relate to [illegible]:

"The United States [illegible] We have [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] of our [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] as soon as possible." (12/2/35 - Consulate)

"The [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

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due to an unusual number of letters [illegible], and the country as a whole reflected a similar outlook to that obtaining during the four weeks reviewed here.

Appeal and Leghorn took a very optimistic view. Tenacity, on the other hand, was equally gloomy. Military mail was practically silent on the subject. The comments are decidedly favourable in tenor, which is to be extended at this time of the year. The favourable climatic events of promising autumn prospects and of good crops last were [illegible] some time back. Unfavourable comments speak of the scarcity of chemicals and seeds and agricultural aids generally. The following are a few extracts of various points of view:

"As to the country, we are ploughing, and the earth appears to be quite promising, but up to date we have not even had a kg. of fertilizers." (12/5/45 - Arezzo)

"The weather here has made a good beginning. We have had a great deal of ploughing, but we are not finished yet. The season seems to augur well." (12/5/45 - Imperia)

"I am about to [illegible] well. We fertilized it with ammonia nitrate." (11.5/45 - Naples)

"In the contents [illegible] have had a great effect [illegible]." (7/5/45 - Naples)

"I must know whether the sulphur and vitriol (copper sulfate) are available. We need it very badly, and it is difficult to find. Unless we have the vitriol the season will turn out poorly." (30/4/45 - S. Maria degli Angeli)

"The peasants look ready and all agricultural activities are conducive of the difficulties [illegible] by the Germans, but no one comes to their help. All they get is words. Italy is cooked with empty words. It is disgusting." (10/5/45 - Naples)

"As to the country, the season is good, but it is a little too arid for the wheat. The sowing was poor, and there is a saying that he who sows badly, eats in a worse way... A little wheat has grown, but it is very weak, and there are no means to help it along." (13/5/45 - Siena)

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10. INFLATION.

Civilian mail was less extraordinarily concerned with [illegible] during the period under review, and the unfavourable comments were in a majority of 3.8 to 1 as compared

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with 8.3 to 1 during the previous four weeks. Nevertheless, some centres were more gloomy than ever, notably Arezzo and Perugia. Naples was also slightly more pessimistic. There was practically no change in Rome. Military mail had nothing to say on the matter.

Apart from the many complaints that there is no work to be found, and that months are spent in the vain search for jobs, there are letters about temporary work that is little more than a brief spell between periods of unemployment. Other letters speak of longer jobs that are now coming to an end. Graduates and professional men are finding it hard to obtain any kind of position. The following are some typical sentences:

A prefect writes: "I am here in the midst of great hardships. Just imagine what it means to administer a census of 30,000 people in such troubled times, with more than 700 people unemployed. I am extremely anxious to get away from here and to abandon this hell." (15/2/45 - Benevento, Grosseto)

"We came here with the hope of finding work, but all we do is to run around aimlessly." (5/2/45 - Frosinone)

"The mines are still closed. We don't even imagine that they will ever open." (9/2/45 - Monte Verdi, Grosseto)

"I have arrived in Naples and have begun to work, but the work is temporary. We scarcely manage to earn enough to eat. Work is very scarce. The work on the ships must were here before and finished. At the present time we are waiting for more ships to come otherwise we shall be idle, working a day now and then merely to exist." (27/2/45 - Naples)

"I have tried very hard to find a job here, but it has not been possible. Life is quite disorganised here." (15/2/45 - Florence)

"Work is not available here anywhere at any time." (12/3/45 - Florence)

"For the present the sea folk are engaged in our ship-building yards building fishing craft. But this will not last long, and we shall be unemployed again." (3/3/45 - Pesaro)

"There is appalling unemployment in here. Many thousands of young people are jobless, particularly graduates. Those who came to Rome from Southern Italy bitterly regret it." (5/2/45 - Rome)

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"France is making a desperate search for a job. Here in Rome unemployment is increasing, as was natural and anticipated among clerks." (6/3/45 - Rome)

"My search for work here has resulted in nothing. I have appealed to all my acquaintances, and only today I heard from the last one that he has found nothing.... My brother-in-law in the Ministry of Public Works has done what he could for me.... Applications for work have been made by the thousand, and still lie reposing on the shelves at the Ministry." (23/2/45 - Rome)

The following extract remarks on a peculiar situation: "But now I will speak to you a little about our C. Vecchia. Life has taken on its normal character. There is work, but it is all unskilled labour. There are more people without work than employed, because those who have stolen, and who have been engaged in black market activities, will work no longer; and there are many of these." (5/3/45 - Civitavecchia)

GORDON T. NORRAY,
Lt. Col. Cavalry,
Civil Censorship Officer.

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP. PUBLIC OPINION REPORT [illegible] 194[illegible]

PROVINCE (VOLUME CENSORED)	FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION	
	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
[illegible]												
[illegible]												
[illegible]											

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	HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
	U		F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U

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APPENDIX A

Report No. 112

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE COMMENTS ON PERTINENT POINTS

(17 March 1945)

		FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION
WEEK ENDING		F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F
24/2/45	CIV	1	20.1	1	30.5	1	15	1	32.1	2	2.6	1	3.0	11.1	1	3.6	1	12
	MIL	1.5	1	1	1.4	1	1.2	0	0	1.4	1	0	0	2.3	1	1.4	1	5
3/3/45	CIV	1	21	1	96.5	1	27.2	1	99.9	1	3.7	1	3.2	4.1	1	3.3	1	4.0
	MIL	2.7	1	2.4	1	1	1.9	0	0	2.7	1	0	0	2.6	1	3.8	1	1
10/3/45	CIV	1	23.1	1	31.9	1	24.3	1	14.3	1	4	1	2.4	4.6	1	3.8	1	4.6
	MIL	3.4	1	1.6	1	1	2.1	0	1	0	23	0	0	4.2	1	2.4	1	4
17/3/45	CIV	1	21.3	1	44.1	1	19.6	1	30.2	1	3.8	1	9.1	5.9	1	3.6	1	6.9
	MIL	3.9	1	2.7	1	2.7	1	1	3.3	1	1.3	0	0	7	1	2.2	1	1
AVERAGE FOR MONTH ENDING 17/3/45	CIV	1	23.3	1	44.6	1	19.5	1	34.5	1	3.4	1	4.4	7.3	1	3.5	1	7.1
	MIL	2	1	1.4	1	1	1.3	1	1.2	1	1.1	0	0	3.2	1	2.6	1	2.1

0817

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APPENDIX A

CONFIDENTIAL

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE COMMENTS ON PERTINENT POINTS
(17 March 1945)

ING	HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		MISCELLANEOUS	
U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
9.5	1	15	1	32.1	1	2.6	1	3.8	14.1	1	3.6	1	12	1	1	1.7	1	1.4	1	1.3
1.4	1	1.2	0	0	1.4	1	0	0	2.1	1	1.4	1	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.5	1	22.0	1	29.9	1	3.7	1	3.2	4.1	1	3.3	1	4.9	1	1	1.3	1.2	1	1	1.8
2	1	1.7	0	0	1.7	1	0	0	2.5	1	3.0	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.9	2	24.3	1	24.3	1	4	1	3.4	4.6	1	3.8	1	4.6	1	1	2.1	1.5	1	1	3.0
3	1	2.1	0	2	0	23	0	0	4.2	1	2.4	1	4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
4.1	1	19.6	1	10.2	1	3.0	1	5.2	5.9	1	3.4	1	6.9	1	1	1.2	1.2	1	1	5
3	1.7	3	1	1.3	1	1.3	0	0	7	1	12	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
4.6	1	19.5	1	14.5	1	3.4	1	4.4	7.3	1	3.5	1	7.4	1	1	1.6	1.1	1	1	3.8
2	1	1.3	1	1.2	1	1.1	0	0	3.2	1	2.6	1	2.4	1	1	0	1	1	0	1

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Form C 10A

Ser.No. 180

Name of Passenger: ~~Angelini~~ Mario ANGELINI

Rank or designation: Aviere

Number: No. 6.3.SP

Parent Unit or establishment: Elmas

Travelling from: Elmas

To: Siena

Flight No. 443

Aircraft No. 334

From: Algiers

To: Naples

I request that the attached communication for censorship and (if required in the case of films) for processing: (delete in the case of official matter) the following action:-

1 private letter

official use only.

Doc.vol.

Film

(a) be forwarded, in the case of letters, through postal channels to the respective addressees.

(b) be forwarded through official channels to the undermentioned address:-

letter censored & passed

(c) be returned to the writer or addressee.

Date 14/3/45

Signature [illegible] F/L

7014

NOTE: Any of the above-mentioned letter is liable to confiscation under military or disciplinary rules and regulations.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

9A

Form C

No. 179

(MODEL OF SPECIAL OR OFFICIAL LETTER.)

Name of Passenger: Agostino TIGRINE — Flight No. 447

Rank or designation: Aviere Gen. — Aircraft No. 334

Number: —

Parent Unit or occupation: No. 63 S.P. — From: Algiers

Elmas (employed) — To: Naples

Travelling From: Elmas

To: Siena

I request that, after application for censorship and (if required in the case of films) for processing, (a) also in the case of official letter) the following articles:-

2 private letters

official use only.

Dec.vol.

(a) be forwarded, in the case of letters, through postal channels to the respective addressees.

(b) be forwarded through official channels to the undermentioned address:-

(c) be retained [illegible] until called for or [illegible] instructions.

Date 14/3/45

Signature [illegible]

17 MAR 45 No. 10

NOTE: Any of the above-mentioned letter is liable to confiscation under Security or Disciplinary rules and regulations.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

8A

From : Air Forces Sub Commission, AC. Rome.

To : Chief Base Censor R.A.F. Rome . CMF - Office of the D.P.W.O.

Date : 30th March 1945

Ref. : AFSC/755/1/P.1.

CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS

4 A

Herewith enclosed are two copies of the Censorship Regulations now translated into Italian.

2. May these be checked by your Office, and this Sub Commission advised as to the result, and if passed, instructions will be given the Italian Air Ministry to proceed with their distribution.

F.L.BRADSHAW S/LDR
AIR VICE MARSHAL
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

Original given to Flt Lt BENTLEY - 30.3.45

7012

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

4A

FROM : ITALIAN AIR MINISTRY

TO : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION

DATE : 29/3/45

REF. : 2437 Coll

CENSOR REGULATIONS

6A

With reference to letter 755/1/P1 of the 23/3/45 enclosed herewith documents (in triplicate) refferred to therein.

IL CAPO UFFICIO

B 67
755/1/P1

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

FROM : ITALIAN AIR MINISTRY

TO : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION

DATE : 29/3/45

REF. : 2437 Coll

CENSOR REGULATIONS

With reference to letter 795/1/P1 of the 22/3/45 enclosed herewith documents (in triplicate) refferred to therein.

IL CAPO UFFICIO

7016

0 8 2 3

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

FROM : ITALIAN AIR MINISTRY

TO : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION

DATE : 29/3/45

REF. : 2437 Coll

CENSOR REGULATIONS

With reference to letter 755/1/P1 of the 23/3/45 = enclosed herewith documents (in triplicate) refferred to therein.

IL CAPO UFFICIO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

0824

MINISTERO DELL'AERONAUTICA
GABINETTO DEL MINISTRO
UFFICIO COLLEGAMENTO CON L.A.C. - A.F.S.C.

Roma, 29 marzo 1945 Anno

Ministero dell'Aeronautica

All'A.F.S.C. - A.C.

= R O M A =

Divisione Sez.
Prot. N° 2437 Coll. Allegati

Risposta al Foglio del
Div. Sez. N°

OGGETTO : Censura.

In risposta al foglio n° 155/1/P1 del 23/3/45,

si acclude alla presente quanto in esso richiesto. (3 copie)

MINISTERO DELL'AERONAUTICA - UFFICIO COLLEGAMENTO CON L'A.C. - A.F.S.C. - GABINETTO DEL MINISTRO

IL CAPO UFFICIO
(Tem. Col. A.A.A. [illegible] Walter Adrover)

7009

Si prega trattare per ogni lettera un solo argomento e indicare nella risposta
il N. di Protocollo e la Divisione a cui si riferisce

REGOLAMENTI DEL SERVIZIO DI CENSURA DELLA ROYAL AIR FORCE PER LA CORRISPONDENZA PRIVATA DEL PERSONALE DELL'AERONAUTICA ITALIANA NELLA "ZONA DI OPERAZIONI".

I. DISPOSIZIONI GENERALI.

1. La censura della Royal Air Force si effettuerà su tutte le comunicazioni private provenienti da tutto il personale dell'Aeronautica Italiana nella"Zona di operazioni", ivi compreso i civili che accompagnano o prestano servizio con le Forze Armate.

2. Per rendere effettivo il servizio di censura, è necessaria la completa e leale cooperazione di tutto il personale. Il personale di ogni grado dovrà rendersi conto che anche quelle violazioni alle regole di censura che possono sembrare minime possono in realtà essere pericolose.

II. CORRISPONDENZA PRIVATA AUTORIZZATA E PROCEDURE.

1. Il personale dell'Aeronautica Italiana nella "Zona di Operazioni" userà esclusivamente, per la corrispondenza privata:

Cartoline postali,
Lettere, del peso non superiore ai 90 grammi.

Tali comunicazioni verranno trasmesse senza l'uso di francobolli. Non sono ammessi pacchi, lettere raccomandate o assicurate.

2. Le comunicazioni private provenienti dalla "Zona di Operazioni", o ad essa destinate, saranno trasmesse solamente con i mezzi del servizio postale militare delle Forze Alleate. (E' rigorosamente vietato al personale della Forza Aerea di inviare comunicazioni private a mezzo del servizio postale civile, ad eccezione di quanto espresso sul paragrafo IX (3).

3. Servizio postale per l'Estero. Il personale dell'Aeronautica Italiana usufruirà delle stesse facilitazioni di cui usufruiscono i civili italiani, ma tutte le lettere (con affrancatura postale) verranno trasmesse solo a mezzo dei servizi postali militari delle forze Alleate, e non tramite il servizio postale civile, ad eccezione di quanto espresso nel paragrafo IX (3).

4? Non sono ammessi, telegrammi personali, cablogrammi e radiogrammi, provenienti dalla "Zona di Operazioni" o ad essa destinati.

III. ISTRUZIONI AL PERSONALE.

1. Tutta la corrispondenza privata dovrà essere in chiaro italiano. Il permesso per scrivere lettere in una lingua straniera deve essere ottenuto dal Capo della Censura Militare, C.M.F. Il personale autorizzato a scrivere in una lingua straniera indicherà in lapis sulla busta la lingua della comunicazione.

2. E' proibito l'uso di codici, cifrati e stenografia od ogni altra for-

0825
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vrà rendersi conto che anche quelle violazioni alle regole di censura che pos
sono sembrare minime possono in realtà essere pericolose.

II. CORRISPONDENZA PRIVATA AUTORIZZATA E PROCEDURE.

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rà esclusivamente, per la corrispondenza privata:

Cartoline postali,
Lettere, del peso non superiore ai 90 grammi.

Tali comunicazioni verranno trasmesse senza l'uso di francobolli. Non sono ammessi pacchi, lettere raccomandate o assicurate.

2. Le comunicazioni private provenienti dalla "Zona di Operazioni", o ad essa destinate, saranno trasmesse solamente con i mezzi del servizio postale militare delle Forze Alleate. (E' rigorosamente vietato al personale della Forza Aerea di inviare comunicazioni private a mezzo del servizio postale civile, ad eccezione di quanto espresso sul paragrafo IX (3).

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2. E' proibito l'uso di codici, cifrati e stenografia od ogni altra forma di scrittura segreta.

3. Dichiarazioni proibite. I principali oggetti sui quali è proibito dare informazioni nella corrispondenza privata sono i seguenti:

(i) Forza

(a) Numero di personale di tutti i servizi o di qualsiasi reparto, in ogni dislocazione, sia militari che civili (per esempio) guardie presso stabilimenti aeronautici).

../..

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(b) Numero di apparecchi, navi, carri armati, cannoni etc.

(c) Perdite e danni subiti dalle nostre forze, comunque causati. Ciò non comprende i danni al materiale bellico, navi, rifornimenti e stabilimenti, sieno essi il risultato di azione nemica o meno.

(ii) Organizzazione.

(a) Disposizione, composizione e funzioni operative del personale addetto ai Comandi e Reparti di tutti i servizi, ivi compresa la mensione dei principali tipi generici di apparecchi, per esempio bombardieri, cacciatori etc. in uso presso ogni Comando Reparto, organizzazione, stazione o aeroporto.

(b) Dislocazione di aeroporti, depositi, riservette, unità di difesa aerea, stazioni sperimentali o radiotelegrafiche o apparecchi, munizioni e stabilimenti bellici.

(c) Misure di sicurezza relative a documenti segreti e riservati, ivi compresi telegrammi ed altri mezzi di comunicazione.

(d) Misure di sicurezza in connessione col trasporto di rifornimenti e materiale prime.

(e) Misure di sicurezza in connessione col trasporto oltre mare di personale, ivi compresi i movimenti di navi.

(iii) Piani.

(a) Intenzioni, operazioni e movimenti, sia in preparazione che in sospeso, completati o abbandonati.

(b) Metodi tattici impiegati dal nemico o da noi stessi.

(iv) Equipaggiamenti.

(a) Dettagli riguardanti il tipo, armamento, manutenzione, rifornimento, magazzinaggio, e le caratteristiche di aeroplani, mototi o altro materiale bellico.

(b) Dettagli di informazioni riguardanti l'armamento e l'equipaggiamento che si sta sviluppando o che si trova in fasi sperimentali.

(v) Generalità.

7067

(a) Critiche, paragoni o affermazioni aventi lo scopo di dare discredito alle nostre forze, aeromobili o a quelle dei nostri alleati, o suscettibili di produrre lo stesso risultato.

(b) Attività della V^a colonna, sabotaggio, ecc., ed inoltre Inf-

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ca o meno.

(ii) Organizzazione.

(a) Disposizione, composizione o funzioni operative del personale addetto ai Comandi e Reparti di tutti i servizi, ivi compresa la mensione dei principali tipi generici di apparecchi, per esempio bombardieri, cacciatori etc. in uso presso ogni Comando Reparto, organizzazione, stazione o aeroporto.

(b) Dislocazione di aeroporti, depositi, riservette, unità di difesa aerea, stazioni sperimentali e radiotelegrafiche e apparecchi, munizioni e stabilimenti bellici.

(c) Misure di sicurezza relative a documenti segreti e riservati, ivi compresi telegrammi ed altri mezzi di comunicazione.

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(e) Misure di sicurezza in connessione col trasporto oltre mare di personale, ivi compresi i movimenti di navi.

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(a) Dettagli riguardanti il tipo, armamento, manutenzione, rifornimento, magazzinaggio, e le caratteristiche di aeroplani, mototi o altro materiale bellico.

(b) Dettagli di informazioni riguardanti l'armamento e l'equipaggiamento che si sta sviluppando o che si trova in fasi sperimentali.

(v) Generalità.

7067

(a) Critiche, paragoni o affermazioni aventi lo scopo di dare discredito alle nostre forze, aeromobili o a quelle dei nostri alleati, o suscettibili di produrre lo stesso risultato.

(b) Attività della V^a Colonna, sabotaggio, ecc., ed inoltre l'effetto di qualsiasi azione da parte del nemico ed ogni osservazione che potrebbe tendere, se pubblicata, ad incoraggiare il nemico.

oo/oo

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(c) Riferimento alla presenza in questo teatro di qualsiasi Ufficiale di grado superiore a Colonnello o grado equivalente in altri servizi, se tale informazione lo connette con una Unità o attribuzione, a meno che tale notizia è stata già fornita dalla stampa.(Dall'identificazione di una persona conosciuta per un'attività specializzata potrebbero venier rivelate possibili future operazioni).

(d) Qualità o quantità di razioni.

(e) In aggiunta a quanto sopra, tutti i gradi devono evitare di spargere voci di qualsiasi natura, sia tramite la corrispondenza o altrimenti.

(vi) Dislocazione di Unità,ecc.

(a) Le località nelle quali è stazionante un Reparto o un individuo possono venir rivelate soltanto nel senso che si tratta di qualche luogo in Italia,Sicilia, Sardegna e Corsica. Nell'eventualità di personale che presta servizio in qualsiasi altro luogo che non sia fra quelli summenzionati, non si potrà far riferimento a tale paese nella corrispondenza privata a meno che esso non sia stato ufficialmente riferito.

(b) Il personale può rivelare i ~~esatti~~ nomi di luoghi visitati in Sardegna, Sicilia, Corsica ed in Italia a sud di una linea tracciata tra Livorno ed Ancona, comprese entrambe questa città, ed inoltre la città di Firenze, purchè non sia rivelata la dislocazione di qualsiasi Unità nè espressamente nè per implicito.

4. Corrispondenza proibita.

(a) Corrispondenza con prigionieri di guerra nemici.

(b) Comunicazioni alla stampa.

(c) Trasmettere o portare corrispondenza non affrancata, evitando così la censura.

5. Allegati. Sono proibiti i seguenti allegati:

7006

(a) Documenti ufficiali, militari o civili, ivi compreso ordini, rapporti, carte geografiche, ecc.; documenti nemici di qualsiasi genere, o copie di essi.

(b) Giornali locali, ma possono essere inviati ritagli di giornali, se essi non indicano l'ubicazione di un Reparto.

(c) Pubblicazioni di Reparto e bollettini di notizie.

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te possibili future operazioni).

(d) Qualità o quantità di razioni.

(e) In aggiunta a quanto sopra, tutti i gradi devono evitare di spargere voci di qualsiasi natura, sia tramite la corrispondenza o altrimenti.

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(b) Il personale può rivelare i ~~kuoghi~~ nomi di luoghi visitati in Sardegna, Sicilia, Corsica ed in Italia a sud di una linea tracciata tra Livorno ed Ancona, comprese entrambè questa città, ed inoltre la città di Firenze, purchè non sia rivelata la dislocazione di qualsiasi Unità nè espressamente nè per implicito.

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(a) Documenti ufficiali, militari o civili, ivi compreso ordini, rapporti, carte geografiche, ecc.; documenti nemici di qualsiasi genere, o copie di essi.

(b) Giornali locali, ma possono essere inviati ritagli di giornali, se essi non indicano l'ubicazione di un Reparto.

(c) Pubblicazioni di Reparto e bollettini di notizie.

(d) Francobolli.

(e) Valuta italiana o straniera.

(f) Materiale fotografico di qualsiasi genere; pellicole positive e negative, quast'ultime siano o non siano sviluppate.

(g) Diari e promemoria privati.

co/oo

0830

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(h) Ogni altro allegato che abbia natura di servizio.

6. Indirizzi.

(a) Il personale di ogni grado dovrà conoscere l'esatto indirizzo postale e di servizio della rispettiva Unità. Esso non userà un indirizzo civile, ad eccezione di quanto espresso al paragrafo ~~6~~ 6 (c).

(b) Il reparto dello scrivente verrà indicato all'esterno della busta, ma non sulle cartoline postali.

(c) Gli scriventi non indicheranno l'indirizzo della loro Unità in qualsiasi luogo nè in comunicazioni indirizzate a prigionieri di guerra italiani. Invece, gli scriventi di tali lettere indicheranno l'indirizzo di un parente o amico nell'Italia occupata dagli alleati presso cui può essere inviata la risposta per la successiva ritrasmissione.

(d) E' proibito l'uso di carta da lettera che sia intestata o stampata con indicazioni qualsiasi idonea a rivelare la dislocazione di uno scrivente o quella del suo reparto.

7. Cartoline illustrate.

Saranno soppresse le cartoline illustrate qualora esse possano, in qualsiasi maniera, rivelare l'attuale o passata dislocazione dello scrivente, o l'itinerario attrverso cui abbiano avuto luogo i movimenti del reparto dello scrivente. Saranno inoltre soppresse le cartoline illustrate che mostrino una località o una veduta identificabile in Italia.

IV IMPOSTAZIONE.

1. Truppa, civili. Tutta la posta della truppa, come quella dei civili che accompagnano o prestano servizio con le forze armate, verrà depositata in cassette postali nelle furerie delle Unità, non sigillata e pronta per la spedizione.

2. Ufficiali. Tutta la posta degli ufficiali verrà depositata negli uffici postali militari sigillata e pronta per la spedizione.

7065

V CENSURA DI REPARTO

1. La censura di corrispondenza in partenza è effettuata entro gli uffici ed i servizi di Reparto esaminando ed affrancando tutta la posta privata. L'esame della corpispondenza sarà fatta da ufficiali del Reparto o formazione alla quale gli scriventi appartengono o sono aggregati. Ogni comunicazione sarà affrancata da un ufficiale, prima che il timbro del vensore sia impresso, con le eccezioni dettagliate nel paragrafo 6

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paragrafo 6 (c).

(b) Il reparto dello scrivente verrà indicato all'esterno della busta, ma non sulle cartoline postali.

(c) Gli scriventi non indicheranno l'indirizzo della loro Unità in qualsiasi luogo nè in comunicazioni indirizzate a prigionieri di guerra italiani. Invece, gli scriventi di tali lettere indicheranno l'indirizzo di un parente o amico nell'Italia occupata dagli alleati presso cui può essere inviata la risposta per la successiva ritrasmissione.

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2. Ufficiali. Tutta la posta degli ufficiali verrà depositata negli uffici postali militari sigillata e pronta per la spedizione.

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V CENSURA DI REPARTO

1. La censura di corrispondenza in partenza è effettuata entro gli uffici ed i servizi di Reparto esaminando ed affrancando tutta la posta privata. L'esame della corpispondenza sarà fatta da ufficiali del Reparto o formazione alla quale gli scriventi appartengono o sono aggregati. Ogni comunicazione sarà affrancata da un ufficiale, prima che il timbro del vensore sia impresso, con le eccezioni dettagliate nel paragrafo 6 vi (2).

2. La parola "in partenza" si riferisce a tutta la corrispondenza spedita entro "la zona operativa" inclusa quella destinata ad essere consegnata in altri posti entro la zona.

3. E' compito degli ufficiali che affrancano la corrispondenza di

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trattenere e se è il caso distruggere ogni comunicazione privata che contravviene alle regolamentazioni di censura o di sopprimere qualsiasi dichiarazione senza informare il mittente. Qualsiasi questione contravvenente ai regolamenti di censura deve essere resa completamente illegibile. Il metodo più efficace e quello di ritagliare la parte a mezzo di forbici o lama di rasoio, ma qualora il ritaglio causa la distruzione di questioni innocenti dall'altra parte del foglio, il ex censore può cancellare mediante inchiostro o lapis indelebile, tenendo presente che cancellatura inefficace è contraria al fine proprio e altra particolare attenzione alla questione censurata.

4. Gli ufficiali non devono scrivere alcun commento sulla corrispondenza che essi censurano, e sono del pari rigorosamente vietate discussioni o divulgazioni del contenuto delle lettere che censurano ad eccezione dei casi dei quali essi nel corso del loro servizio devono riferire ad una autorità superiore.

5. Il censore di Reparto affrancherà le comunicazioni private dei suoi uomini opponendo la sua firma prededuta dalle iniziali del suo nome di battesimo - senza grado - alla fine del testo ed all'estremità inferiore sinistra della busta. Le iniziali non sono sufficianti. Non sono permessi clichè.

6. Il timbro di censura di Reparto verrà impresso all'estremità superiore sinistra della busta dopo l'affrancatura. E' severamente proibita la stampigliatura di buste vuote o senza indirizzo. Piccoli Reparti privi di timbro passeranno la loro posta affrancata per essere timbrata ed impostata presso il più vicino Reparto in possesso di timbri.

7. Ogni timbro di censore è contraddistinto da un numero ed i timbri non sono trasferibili. Essi saranno usati solamente dal Comandante del Reparto, Formazione, Gruppo o posto alla quale sono consegnati o da un ufficiale da lui designato. Prima di apporre il timbro del censore di Reparto su qualsiasi comunicazione, l'ufficiale responsabile del timbro si assicurerà che essa sia affrancata da persona autorizzata a farlo.

8. Il servizio postale alleato è autorizzato a rifiutare di accettare per la trasmissione, comunicazioni che non sono conformi alle regolamentazioni per la timbratura e l'affrancatura. Allorchè comunicazioni non sono accettate per tale ragione, il servizio postale le restituirà al Reparto del mittente.

9. Ogni precauzione sarà presa per evitare che timbri cadano in mano non autorizzata o vengano smarriti. Allorchè si sia in pericolo [illegible] distrutto. La perdita di un

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distruzione di questioni innocenti dall'altra parte del foglio, il censore può cancellare mediante inchiostro o lapis indelebile, tenendo presente che cancellatura inefficace è contraria al fine proprio e altra particolare attenzione alla questione censurata.

4. Gli ufficiali non devono scrivere alcun commento sulla corrispondenza che essi censurano, e sono del pari rigorosamente vietate discussioni o divulgazioni del contenuto delle lettere che censurano ad eccezione dei casi dei quali essi nel corso del loro servizio devono riferire ad una autorità superiore.

5. Il censore di Reparto affrancherà le comunicazioni private dei suoi uomini opponendo la sua firma prededuta dalle iniziali del suo nome di battesimo - senza grado - alla fine del testo ed all'estremità inferiore sinistra della busta. Le iniziali non sono sufficienti. Non sono permessi clichè.

6. Il timbro di censura di Reparto verrà impresso all'estremità superiore sinistra della busta dopo l'affrancatura. E' severamente proibita la stampigliatura di buste vuote o senza indirizzo. Piccoli Reparti privi di timbro passeranno la loro posta affrancata per essere timbrata ed impostata presso il più vicino Reparto in possesso di timbri.

7. Ogni timbro di censore è contraddistinto da un numero ed i timbri non sono trasferibili. Essi saranno usati solamente dal Comandante del Reparto, Formazione, Gruppo o posto alla quale sono consegnati o da un ufficiale da lui designato. Prima di apporre il timbro del censore di Reparto su qualsiasi comunicazione, l'ufficiale responsabile del timbro si assicurerà che essa sia affrancata da persona autorizzata a farlo.

8. Il servizio postale alleato è autorizzato a rifiutare di accettare per la trasmissione, comunicazioni che non sono conformi alle regolamentazioni per la timbratura e l'affrancatura. Allorchè comunicazioni non sono accettate per tale ragione, il servizio postale le restituirà al Reparto del mittente.

9. Ogni precauzione sarà presa per evitare che timbri cadano in mano non autorizzata o vengano smarriti. Allorchè si sia in pericolo di cattura da parte del nemico, esso sarà distrutto. La perdita di un timbro verrà immediatamente comunicata a mezzo telegramma direttamente al Ministero R.A. ed al censore militare capo, C.M.F.

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se un Reparto uv to il timbro è sciolto, i timbro sarà restituito al censore militare capo, C.M.F.

VI CORRISPONDENZA DA NON ESSERE CENSURATA DAI REPARTI.

1. I seguenti tipi di posta non saranno censurati presso i Reparti e non devono portare il timbro del censore di Reparto. Essa sarà inoltrata sotto busta separata come posta ufficiale al censore militare capo, C.M.F.: -

(a) corrispondenza ai prigionieri di guerra italiani.

(b) Comunicazioni in lingua straniera che non possono essere tradotte dai censori di Reparto.

2. Il seguente tipo di posta non sarà censurato dal Reparto, ma porterà impresso il timbro del censore di Reparto: -

(a) Posta di ufficiali. Gli scriventi segneranno il loro nome senza grado alla fine del testo e sull'estremità inferiore sinistra della busta come certificazione che essi hanno letto, compreso e si sono attenuti alle regolamentazioni della censura.

VII POSTA IN ARRIVO.

Posta in arrivo che giunga nella "zona operativa" da fuori sarà solamente soggetta alla censura di servizio quando specialmente ordinato dal Quartier Generale delle Forze Mediterranee. Indipendentemente da codesto ordine eventuale, i censori di reparto notificheranno al Capo della censura militare, C.M.F. quei casi nei quali è considerato necessario di censurare la posta in arrivo di qualche individuo.

VIII CENSURA MILITARE CENTRALE

1. Tutte le comunicazioni private di tutto il personale R.A. nella "zona operativa" sono soggette alla censura del censore militare capo, C.M.F.

2. Eventuali informazioni sulla censura postale dovranno essere dirette al censore militare capo, C.M.F.

IX ACCORDI PER LA SPEDIZIONE E RICEZIONE DI POSTA

1. Posta privata di personale della R.A. facente servizio nell'esercito britannico o nelle zone dei corpi sarà inoltrata negli uffici postali militari italiani della zona. Quando ciò non è possibile tale posta sarà messa in un sacco postale o busta sigillata indirizzata al censore militare capo, C.M.F. e consegnata agli uffici postali dell'esercito britannico per inoltro conforme all'indirizzo. Posta private indirizzata a civili italiani o destinatari militari non sarà accettata

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inoltrata sotto busta separata come posta ufficiale al censore militare capo, C.M.F.: -

(a) corrispondenza ai prigionieri di guerra italiani.

(b) Comunicazioni in lingua straniera che non possono essere tradotte dai censori di Reparto.

2. Il seguente tipo di posta non sarà censurato dal Reparto, ma porterà impresso il timbro del censore di Reparto: -

(a) Posta di ufficiali. Gli scriventi segneranno il loro nome senza grado alla fine del testo e sull'entrambi inferiore sinistra della busta come certificazione che essi hanno letto, compreso e di esser attenuti alle regolamentazioni della censura.

VII POSTA IN ARRIVO.

Posta in arrivo che giunga nella "zona operativa" da fuori sarà solamente soggetta alla censura di servizio quando specialmente ordinato dal Quartier Generale delle Forze Mediterranee. Indipendentemente da codesto ordine eventuale, i censori di reparto notificheranno al capo della censura militare, C.M.F. quei casi nei quali è desiderabile e necessario di censurare la posta in arrivo di qualche individuo.

VIII CENSURA MILITARE CENTRALE

1. Tutte le comunicazioni private di tutto il personale R.A. nella "zona operativa" sono soggette alla censura del censore militare capo, C.M.F.

2. Eventuali informazioni sulla censura postale dovranno essere dirette al censore militare capo, C.M.F.

IX ACCORDI PER LA SPEDIZIONE E RICEZIONE DI POSTA

1. Posta privata di personale della R.A. facente servizio nell'esercito britannico o nelle zone dei corpi sarà inoltrata negli uffici postali militari italiani della zona. Quando ciò non è possibile tale posta sarà messa in un sacco postale o busta sigillata indirizzata al censore militare capo, C.M.F. e consegnata agli uffici postali dell'esercito britannico per inoltro conforme all'indirizzo. Posta privata indirizzata a civili italiani o destinatari militari non sarà accettata presso gli uffici postali dell'esercito britannico.

2. Posta in arrivo. Per quanto possibile, la posta indirizzata al personale R.A. nell'esercito o corpi sarà inoltrata tramite uffici postali militari italiani; ma ove gli uffici postali militari italiani trovino ciò impossibile, la consegna sarà effettuata tramite gli APO britannici (uffici postali alleati) che servono il reparto interessato.

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3. Posta privata da e per personale R.A. facente servizio dietro le zone dell'esercito e dei corpi non sarà accetta o inoltrata dagli uffici postali britannici. In tali zone il servizio postale è ottenibile tramite la posta civile italiana o uffici postali dell'esercito.

4. L'inoltro di corrispondenza privata da o per membri della R.A. operanti in zone avanzate con mezzi che non sia quelli enunciati più sopra, è prbibito.

5. Il servizio si limita a cartoline postali e lettere non eccedenti il peso di 90 grammi. Non c'è possibilita di spedire raccomandate.

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6A

From : Air Forces Sub Commission, AC. Rome.

To : Chief Base Censor R.A.F. Rome.

Date : 23rd March 1945

Ref. : AFSC/755/1/P.1.

CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS I.A.F.

Enclosed herewith for information, copy of letter AFSC/755/1/P.1. dated 23rd March, addressed to the Italian Air Ministry, giving Censorship instructions, together with Note of Receipt of No. 3 Copies of Censorship Regulations R.A.F., issued by the Italian Air Ministry, and of No.1 to 100 Censor Stamps.

F.L.BRADSHAW S/LDR
AIR VICE MARSHAL
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

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Sub Form 591A

5A.

Reason for forwarding documents..... Serial Number.....

RECEIPT FOR DOCUMENTS.

To Officer...Italian Air Ministry.....
Please receive the documents as indicated below.

Unit and Station...Rome.....

Date...23 March 1945. Signature and Rank...Sh. JBrodahan AFSC...

Official Number.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Description of Documents.
			3 copies Censor Instructions.
			Nos 1 to 100 Censor Stamps (inclusive)

From: Unit and Station.....

Received the above documents.

Date...23 March 1945...Signature and Rank...Clarence, Major AUS.

MINISTERO DELL'AERONAUTICA-GABINETTO CONTROLLO

40

From : Air Forces Sub Commission, AC. Rome.

To : Italian Air Ministry

Date : 23rd March 1944

Ref. : A 50/755/1/A.1.

CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS AND STAMPS

Please receive herewith three copies of R.A.F. Censorship Regulation for private correspondence of I.A.F. in "Operative Area" together with Censor stamps No.s 1 to 100 inclusive, and return the receipt attached, duly completed.

The necessary action to be followed is:

1. (a) Prepare translation of Regulations and send three copies to Air Forces Sub Commission as soon as prepared. These will be checked by Chief Base Censor, R.A.F. and returned to you via A.F.S.C.

(b) When received by Italian Air Ministry, checked as in para (a), one set of regulations (in Italian) must accompany each Censor stamp sent out to any unit.

2. One Censor stamp and copy of regulations to be sent, and a receipt obtained, to each I.A.F. unit requiring them.

3. An additional copy of Regulations must be sent to
(a) Italian Chief Base Censor.
(b) Allied Postal Service (c/o Lt Ursins)

4. A list must be prepared showing which I.A.F. unit is holding a Censor stamp - for example:

6999

Stamp Number
1 held by 4th Z.A.T.
2 " " 5th Z.A.T.
3 " " etc...

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6999

Stamp Number
1 held by 4th T.A.T.
2 " " 5th T.A.T.
3 " " etc..

and submitted in duplicate to Air Forces Sub Commission as soon as possible.

F.L.BRADHAM S/LDR
for A.I. VICE MARSHAL
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

Copy to:
Chief Base Censor Rome R.A.F.

Original taken by hand 23/3

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ROYAL AIR FORCE CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS FOR PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE OF ITALIAN AIR FORCE PERSONNEL IN THE "OPERATIVE AREA".

I GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Royal Air Force censorship will be effected over all private communications from all Italian Air Force personnel in the "operative area", to include civilians accompanying or serving with the Armed Forces.

2. To render censorship effective, the full and loyal co-operation of all personnel is necessary. All ranks should be made to realise that even apparently minor breaches of censorship regulations may be dangerous.

II AUTHORISED PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE AND CHANNELS.

1. Italian Air Force personnel in the "operative area" will exclusively use, for private correspondance:

Postcards.
Letters, no more than 90 grams weight.

Such communications will be forwarded without using postage stamps. Parcels, registered or insured letters, are not allowed.

2. Private communications originating in, or destined for, the "operative area" will be transmitted only by means of the Army Postal Service of Allied Forces. (Air Force personnel are strictly forbidden to despatch private communications by Civilian Postal Service, except as referred to in para IX (3).

3. Mail to other countries. Italian Air Force personnel will have the same facilities as Italian civilians, but all letters (postage prepaid) will be transmitted only by the Army Postal Services of the Allied Forces, and not through the Civilian Postal Service, except as referred to in para IX (3).

4. Personal telegrams, cablegrams and radiograms originating in or destined for the "operative area" are not allowed.

III INSTRUCTIONS TO PERSONNEL.

1. All private correspondence will be in plain Italian. Permission to write letters in a foreign language must be obtained from the Chief Military Censor, C.M.F. Personnel authorised to write in a foreign language will indicate in pencil the language of the communication on the envelope.

6995

2. The use of codes, cyphers and shorthand, or any other form of secret writing, is forbidden.

3. Prohibited Statements. The main subjects on which disclosure of information in private correspondence is forbidden are as follows:-

(i) Strength.

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6995

2. The use of codes, cyphers and shorthand, or any other form of secret writing, is forbidden.

3. Prohibited Statements. The main subjects on which disclosure of information in private correspondence is forbidden are as follows:-

(i) Strength

(a) Numbers of personnel of all the services or any unit, in any location, whether military or civil (e.g. guards at aircraft factories).

(b) Numbers of aircraft, ships, tanks, guns, etc.

(c) Casualties and losses incurred by our forces, however caused. This includes damage to war material, ships, supplies and factories, whether as a result of enemy action or not.

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(ii) Organisation.

(a) Disposition, composition and operational functions of headquarters staffs and units of all services, including mention of main generic types of aircraft, e.g. bomber, fighter, etc. used at any headquarters, unit, establishment, station or airfield.

(b) Locations of airfields, depots, dumps, air defence units, experimental and W/T stations and aircraft, munitions and war factories.

(c) Security measures regarding secret and confidential documents, including signals and other means of communication.

(d) Security measures in connection with transport of supplies and raw materials.

(e) Security measures in connection with the transport of personnel overseas, including movements of ships.

(iii) Plans.

(a) Intentions, operations and movements, whether in preparation, in abeyance, completed or abandoned.

(b) Tactical methods employed by the enemy or ourselves.

(iv) Equipment.

(a) Details regarding type, armament, maintenance, supply, storage, and the performance of aircraft, engines or other war material.

(b) Details of information concerning armament and equipment being developed, or in the experimental stages.

(v) General.

(a) Criticism, comparison, or statements calculated or likely to bring into disrepute our forces, aircraft, or those of our Allies.

(b) Fifth column activities, sabotage, etc. also the effect of any action by the enemy and any remarks which might tend, if published, to encourage the enemy.

(c) Reference to the presence in this theatre of any officer above the rank of Group Captain or equivalent rank in other services, if such information links him with a unit or assignment, unless such information has been already released to the press. (Possible future operations might be revealed by identifying an individual known for a specialised activity). 6997

(d) Quality or quantity of rations.

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(d) Security measures in connection with transport of supplies and raw materials.

(e) Security measures in connection with the transport of personnel overseas, including movements of ships.

(iii) Plans.

(a) Intentions, operations and movements, whether in preparation, in abeyance, completed or abandoned.

(b) Tactical methods employed by the enemy or ourselves.

(iv) Equipment.

(a) Details regarding type, armament, maintenance, supply, storage, and the performance of aircraft, engines or other war material.

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(d) Quality or quantity of rations.

(e) In addition to the above, all ranks are to avoid spreading rumours of any kind, whether through the medium of correspondence or otherwise.

(vi) Location of Units, etc.

(a) Localities in which a unit or individual is stationed may be disclosed only as somewhere in Italy, Sicily, Sardinia or Corsica. In the event of personnel serving in any country other than those named above such country will not be referred to in private correspondence unless officially released.

(b) Personnel may disclose names of places visited in Sardinia, Corsica, Sicily, and in Italy south of a line drawn between Leghorn and Ancona, inclusive of both these cities, and also the city of Florence, provided the location of any unit is not disclosed either expressly or by implication.

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4. Prohibited Correspondence.

(a) Correspondence with enemy prisoners of war.

(b) Communications to the Press.

(c) To transmit or to carry unfranked correspondence, thereby avoiding censorship.

5. Enclosures. The following are prohibited enclosures:-

(a) Official documents, military or civil, including orders, reports, maps, etc; enemy documents of any kind, or copies thereof.

(b) Local newspapers, but clippings from newspapers may be sent, if they do not indicate the location of a unit.

(c) Publications of unit and news bulletins.

(d) Postage stamps.

(e) Italian or foreign currency.

(f) Photographic material of any kind; positive and negative films, these last whether developed or not.

(g) Diaries and private memoranda.

(h) Any other enclosure of a service nature.

6. Addresses.

(a) All ranks will know the correct postal and service address of their unit. They will not use a civilian address, except as in para 6(c).

(b) The writer's unit will be indicated on the outside of envelope, but not on postcards.

(c) Writers will not indicate their unit's address anywhere on or in communications addressed to Italian prisoners of war. Instead, writers of such letters will indicate the address of a relative or friend in Allied occupied Italy to whose care a reply can be sent for reforwarding.

(d) The use of stationery which is headed or printed with any matter calculated to disclose the location of a writer or any of his unit is prohibited.

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7. Picture Postcards.

Picture Postcards will be suppressed if they may, in any way, disclose the writer's present or past location, or the route by which movements of the writer's unit have taken place. Picture postcards showing an identifiable place or view in Italy will also be suppressed.

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(b) Local newspapers, but clippings from newspapers may be sent, if they do not indicate the location of a unit.

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IV POSTING.

1. Other Ranks, Civilians. All mail of other ranks, such as that of civilians accompanying or serving with the Armed Forces, will be deposited in mail boxes in unit orderly rooms, unsealed and ready for mailing.

2. Officers. All mail of officers will be deposited in Army Post Office channels sealed and ready for mailing.

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V UNIT CENSORSHIP

1. Censorship of outgoing correspondence is carried out within units staff and service by examining and franking all private correspondence. The examining of correspondence will be carried out by officers of the unit or formation to which the writers belong or are attached. Every communication will be franked by an officer before the unit's censor stamp is impressed, with the exceptions detailed in para VI (2).

2. The word "outgoing" applies to all correspondence despatched within the "operative area" including that intended for delivery at some other place within the area.

3. It is the duty of officers who frank correspondence to delay and, if necessary, destroy any private communication which contravenes the censorship regulations or to suppress any statement therein without informing the sender. Any matter contravening censorship regulations must be made completely illegible. The most effective method is excision by scissors or razor blade; but where excision is likely to destroy harmless matter on the other side of the page, the unit censor may obliterate by ink or indelible pencil, bearing in mind that ineffective deletion defeats its own end and directs particular attention to the censorable matter.

4. Officers must not write any comments on the correspondence which they censor; they are also strictly forbidden to discuss or divulge the contents of letters which they censor except when in the course of their duty they have to report to a senior authority.

5. A unit censor will frank the private communications of his men by signing his name preceded by the initials of his christian name - without rank - at the end of the text and on the lower left hand corner of the cover. Initials are not sufficient. Rubber signature stamps are not permitted.

6. The unit censorship stamp impression will be placed on the upper left corner of the cover after franking. The stamping of empty or unaddressed covers is strictly forbidden. Small units holding no stamps will pass their franked mail for stamping and posting to the nearest unit holding a stamp.

7. Each censor stamp is distinguished by a number and stamps are not transferable. They will be used only by the Commander of the unit, formation, staff or post to whom they are issued or by an officer appointed by him. Before imprinting the Unit's censor stamp on any communication, the officer responsible for the stamp will assure himself that it is franked by a person authorised to do so.

8. The Allied Army Post Service is authorised to refuse to accept for transmission, communications which do not comply with

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3. It is the duty of officers who frank correspondence to delay and, if necessary, destroy any private communication which contravenes the censorship regulations or to suppress any statement therein without informing the sender. Any matter contravening censorship regulations must be made completely illegible. The most effective method is emision by scissors or razor blade; but where emision is likely to destroy harmless matter on the other side of the page, the unit censor may obliterate by ink or indelible pencil, bearing in mind that ineffective deletion defeats its own end and directs particular attention to the censorable matter.

4. Officers must not write any comments on the correspondence which they censor; they are also strictly forbidden to discuss or divulge the contents of letters which they censor exmept when in the course of their duty they have to report to a senior authority.

5. A unit censor will frank the private communications of his men by signing his name preceded by the initials of his christian name - without rank - at the end of the text and on the lower left hand corner of the cover. Initials are not sufficient. Rubber signature stamps are not permitted.

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8. The Allied Army Post Service is authorised to refuse to accept for transmission, communications which do not comply with the regulations on franking and stamping. When communications are not accepted for this reason, the postal service will return them to the sender's unit.

9. Every precaution will be taken to prevent a censor stamp from falling into improper hands or being lost. If in danger of capture by the enemy, it will be destroyed. The loss of a stamp will be reported by telegram immediately direct to Italian Air Ministry and Chief Military Censor, C.M.F. If a unit which holds a censor stamp is disbanded, the censor stamp will be returned to Chief Military Censor, C.M.F.

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VI CORRESPONDENCE NOT TO BE UNIT CENSORED.

1. The following types of mail will not be unit censored and must not bear the impression of the unit censorship stamp. They will be forwarded under separate cover as official mail to Chief Military Censor, C.M.F:-

(a) Correspondence to Italian prisoners of war.

(b) Foreign language communications which cannot be translated by unit censors.

2. The following type of mail will not be unit censored, but will bear the impression of the unit censorship stamp:-

(a) Officers' Mail. The writers will sign their names without rank at the end of the text and on the lower left corner of the envelope as a certification that they have read, understood and complied with censorship regulations.

VII INCOMING MAIL.

Incoming mail arriving in the "operative area" from without will only be subjected to service censorship as when specially ordered by HQ Allied Central Mediterranean Forces. Independently from this eventual order, unit censors will notify Chief Military Censor, C.M.F. of cases where it is desirable or necessary to censor an individual's incoming mail.

VIII MILITARY CENTRAL CENSORSHIP.

1. All private communications of all Air Force personnel in the "operative area" are subject to censorship by Chief Military Censor, C.M.F.

2. Eventual inquiries on postal censorship should be directed to Chief Military Censor, C.M.F.

IX ARRANGEMENTS FOR DESPATCH AND RECEIPT OF MAIL.

1. Private mail of Italian Air Force personnel serving in the British Army or Corps areas will be posted at Italian Field Post Offices operating in that area. When this is not possible such mail will be placed in a mail bag or sealed envelope addressed to Chief Military Censor, C.M.F., and handed over to British Army Post Offices for transmission as addressed. Individual items of private mail addressed to Italian Civil or Military addresses will not be accepted at British Army Post Offices.

2. Inward Mail. As far as possible mail addressed to Italian Air Force personnel in Army or Corps will be delivered through Italian Field Post Offices; but where the Italian Army Postal Service finds this impossible, delivery will be effected through British A.P.O. serving the

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2. Inward Mail. As far as possible mail addressed to Italian Air Force personnel in Army or Corps will be delivered through Italian Field Post Offices; but where the Italian Army Postal Service finds this impossible, delivery will be effected through British A.P.O. serving the unit concerned.

3. Private mail for and from Italian Air Force personnel serving behind Army and Corps areas will not be accepted at or delivered through British A.P.O's. In these areas postal facilities are available through Italian Civil or Army Post Offices.

4. Conveyance of private correspondence for or from members of Italian Air Forces serving in forward areas by means other than those outlined above is forbidden.

5. The service is confined to postcards and letters not exceeding 90 grammes in weight. No registration facilities are available.

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AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION ALLIED HEADQUARTERS A812 10/3 ORDERLY ROOM 755/1/PJ

Headquarters Allied Control Commission
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION GROUP
APO 512, U.S. Army

SPECIAL REPORT NO. 1

Prov. Ref.
Next Ref.

SUBJECT: Appreciation and General Estimate of Italian Situation and Military Aid for Four Weeks ending 17th February 1945.

TO : G-5 (Commissioners Conference), AFHQ, APO 512, U.S. Army.

This report is based on 300,000 letters received during the four weeks ended 17th February 1945. This does not include any military mail from the front lines.

Attached is a table (Appendix A) which shows the relation between favourable and unfavourable comments on every subject each week. In all cases the lowest number of comments is reduced to one, and the second figure shows the corresponding number of comments of the opposite opinion.

None of the comments used in this report have been used in any previous report.

1. FOOD SITUATION.

During the previous four weeks the food situation deteriorated as compared with the preceding period, and this deterioration was maintained and increased during the period under review. The unfavourable comments outnumbered the favourable by 14.5 to 1 as compared with 9.4 to 1 in the last period. Florence, Perugia and Rome seem to be the most dissatisfied centres. Opinion in the Capital became markedly more adverse, and the unfavourable comments were in a majority of over 23 to 1 as compared with 16 to 1 during the previous four weeks. In the other hand, Ancona, Ascoli-Piceno and Taranto appear to be comparatively well off, the unfavourable comments only being in a proportion of between 2 and 6 to 1.

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Such prices are typical most of the complaints, and coupled with this is the theory that ration cards are often useless, since forcing people to rely on the black market for food. The following comments are some examples of the in-

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greater devastation in some areas and the need of transfer into in centres.

"Our living conditions are always bad enough, but are being made worse by the black market which we have to rely upon to avoid cycles of starvation. This is the truth, whether censorship likes it or not. We are not allowed anything through the censor office, and therefore we are compelled to resort to the black market." (5/2/45 - Home)

"During the last month the cost of living has doubled. I am enclosing two pieces of some foodstuffs so as to let you at least know how terrific they are. Cheese 200 lire per kilo, potatoes 60 lire, dried vegetables 140 lire, onions 200 lire, eggs 300 lire, and eggs 30 lire each." (5/2/45 - Ormes)

"The cost of living is very high, a piece of rice bread you are (enclosed). An egg costs 35 lire, a kilo of oil 600 lire, meat 400 lire a kilo. Of course this is all black market stuff. Many people become rich during it, and on the whole from such a situation." (5/2/45 - Pisa)

"Food distribution has greatly improved. Lately we have been given enough bread, and more (also = SD) grain per person." (15/2/45 - Rieti)

"We have quite well to do all. The price of [illegible] one [illegible] lire each. All [illegible] lire per [illegible]. We have been allowed a small quantity for the winter months. Fuel can be obtained from the Municipio for [illegible] lire per [illegible]. We have no news as to [illegible]." (21/1/45 - Internee)

2. CLOTHING.

Although the media table shows that the [illegible] comments upon civilian letters were only in a majority of [illegible], this is clearly due to a very large number of comments [illegible] which were [illegible]. The [illegible] dealt with the cost of [illegible], the [illegible] in [illegible], material, and the adverse comments on [illegible] of [illegible] in connection with food [illegible] weather. There were no favourable comments at all from any [illegible]. For [illegible], Rome [illegible]. [illegible] positive satisfaction with [illegible]. Letters [illegible] [illegible], and favourable [illegible] with [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with an adverse majority of [illegible]

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during the previous period.

Nearly all letters complain about prices rather than a shortage of clothing, though shortages are mentioned at times, particularly in respect of shoes. Prices seem to very considerably in different parts of the country, though all are high. Shoes, for example, are priced at anything from 2000 lire in Ascoli-Piceno to 7000 lire in Terni. The following are examples of complaints:

"In order to give you an idea of the cost of living I will just tell you that men's shirts cost 2000 lire and a suit 10,000 lire! What do you think of it? If it goes on like this we will have to go about undressed." (9/2/45 - Florence)

"I am without shoes, and aunt cannot find any either, new or old. I have been wearing her shoes, but now they are worn out. There is a lot of snow, and my feet are always wet. Let us hope that the summer season will be here soon so that I'll be able to walk bare-footed." (8/2/45 - Ancona)

"In order to buy just one pair of shoes one has to spend 7,000 lire. For a suit one requires 15,000 lire, and for a shirt 2,000. To complete one's attire at least 50,000 lire would have to be spent. That is why it is impossible to live honestly. One has to become an outlaw." (23/1/45 - Terni)

"Here shoes cost about 2,000 lire, a pair of men's drawers 600, and a set of ladies' underwear 4,000. Stockings cost 800 lire a pair, and gloves 550." (6/2/45 - Ascoli-Piceno)

"Our bed-sheets, pillow cases and linen in general are wearing out. A new pair of sheets would now cost not less than 20,000 lire. The price of men's leather shoes is 5,000 lire, and ladies' petticoats at least 700." (29/1/45 - Florence)

3. HOUSING.

Among civilian letters there was a more pessimistic note on the housing situation. Unfavourable comments were in a majority of 31 to 1 as compared with 24.4 to 1 during the previous period. Arezzo and Grosseto appear to be the worst off for accommodation, neither centre producing any favourable comments. Florence, Macerata and Perugia were equally void, with a smaller number of comments. Naples was less pessimistic (6491) than during the previous period, but Rome opinion deteriorated, and the adverse comments were in a majority of 53 to 1. There

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were not many military comments, but on a much reduced number the figures were less unfavourable.

Letters from Ancona, Arezzo and Pisa invariably refer to bombing and the destruction of houses. Generally speaking the other causes of complaint are to be found in requisitioning, refugees and high rents. The following are some examples:

"The housing problem at Ancona is becoming more and more serious. God knows where we shall have to go. It is possible that nobody has any care for all the unlucky ones who were left homeless on account of the bombings." (2/2/45 - Ancona)

"I cannot give you my address because I have not yet been able to settle down. For the time being I am the guest of a family. It is so difficult to find a house in good condition. Arezzo has been bombed very heavily." (10/2/45 - Arezzo)

"Living conditions here are as hard as anywhere else. The housing problem especially is becoming a very serious matter. I had to make the best of a school-room as a dwelling place. I was not able to find anything else." (7/2/45 - Macerata)

"Owing to the innumerable air-raids suffered by this town, and to the fighting that went on for two months around here, the number of houses left in good condition is very small, especially when compared with the number of people who want to live in them. Moreover, many houses have been requisitioned by the armed forces." (6/2/45 - Pisa)

4. INCOME.

Civilian mail revealed a slightly less pessimistic view of wages and salaries, and the unfavourable comments, which were in a majority of 16.5 to 1 during the previous period, fell to a majority of 13.2 to 1. Leghorn, with only a few comments, had actually a small majority of favourable comments. Florence, Perugia and Rome were the most dissatisfied. Perugia produced no favourable comments out of a total of 72, while Rome became even more pessimistic than it was during the previous period, and produced only 6 favourable comments out of a total of 1,118. Military mail had nothing to say on this subject.

Complaints are along the usual lines, which can be summed up by saying that incomes lag far behind the cost of living. Clerical workers and pensioners feel the pinch most. 6998

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There is some reference to wage and pension increases, but usually in a sarcastic vein because of their inadequacy in alleviating the position. The following comments are examples of many:

"Living is twenty times as expensive than it was three years ago, and we still get miserable wages. Where will all this lead to? Our family needs at least 400 lire a day in or order to live a very modest life, but it is not always possible to afford that. The wage increase has been so inadequate that it would have made us laugh had we felt like it." (27/1/45 - Florence)

"We work from 9 a.m. to 8.30 p.m., and we only get 200 lire a day. As you can easily understand it is impossible to live on such an income, considering the cost of living in Naples. No less than 500-600 lire a day would be required to struggle on." (30/1/45 - Naples)

"I heartily thank you for the communication referring to the increase in pension rates granted by the Government to our praiseworthy class, now reduced to such pitiful conditions. But the increase is so inadequate in comparison with the high cost of living that our class remains doomed to starvation." (27/1/45 - Lanciano)

"We do nothing but work, and yet we lead a life of suffering and hardships. The cost of living is steadily increasing, and my wages are hardly sufficient to light a fire in the kitchen." (1/2/45 - Ascoli-Piceno)

"My monthly wages, including the recent increase, amount to 8,000 lire, while I need at least 12,000. What a situation." (20/1/45 - Macerata)

5. NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

Feeling against the National Government, which has been becoming slightly and steadily more adverse for some time, took a more rapid turn for the worse during the period under review when the unfavourable comments in the civilian mail reached a majority of 5 to 1 as compared with 3 to 1 during the previous four weeks. There were only a few military comments. Leghorn was unique in producing a majority of favourable comments. Many centres did not comment to any great extent. Rome became a little more unfavourable. Pisa commented freely, and was nearly 9 to 1 unfavourable.

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Criticism for the most part is general rather than particular. The government is considered weak and incapable. In the latter respect some writers blame both their government and the Allies as being unable to reach understanding. The following comments are some examples:

"Let us hope for the best; but our government is so weak that, inspite of its good intentions, it is most unlikely to succeed in giving any relief to the Italian population." (25/1/45 - Ancona)

"In Rome things are going from bad to worse. Everything is in the hands of buffoons and good-for-nothings worthy of the past regime. Political parties now number 20 or 30, and the distress of the population has reached the limit." (26/1/45 - Rome)

"If responsible people gave up political struggles and devoted themselves to sound administration of the country, many things would turn out better. The confusion caused by all the newspapers, combined with all the talking done by politicians, will not help the work of reconstruction." (31/1/45 Naples)

"The situation is growing worse. Both the Allied and Italian Governments leave things just as they are: brigandage, prostitution, poverty. They seem willing to do something, but good-will alone is hardly enough. In the first place the two Governments lack mutual understanding." (3/2/45 - Grosseto)

Giving an account of a meeting held by old age pensioners, the sender writes:

"Almost all the orators expressed their disapproval of the Government which, although well aware of the pitiful condition of old age pensioners, causes them to die of starvation on a pension which is only sufficient to buy a newspaper every day." (11/2/45 - Rome)

6. PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION.

Civilian letters contained a reduced percentage of unfavourable comments during the period under review, due almost entirely to the figure from Pisa. Leaving the latter centre out of account, the rations much the same as it was during the previous four weeks. Military mail was silent on this subject. Arezzo was particularly hostile towards its

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provided administration with only a favourable comment or of a total of 113. Florence was also markedly critical.

Apart from general complaints about the administration there are a number of charges that men in administrative positions are little short of criminal or at least very bad ministers. The following are illustrative comments.

"Here is another piece of news I want to give you. Our "beloved" veterinary surgeon has been appointed Town Mayor. I would not believe how wicked this man is. He made many people unhappy at Zoppola." (P/F/43 - Arezzo)

"In this town we are ruled by people absolutely unfit to be in leading positions. The Syndic of the various political parties have to be consulted before anything is done." (11/6/43 - Ancona)

"As a result of complaints against Major Scotti-Douglas of Northern Ireland he was withdrawn from Bari and replaced by Colonel Hall. The latter was received with relief by Colonel Poletto that he would be able to work with him. Major Scotti-Douglas was a man of considerable ability and energy, but he was unfortunate in the manner in which he dealt with Italians. He was not interested in Italian politics and made no effort to understand the Italian point of view. He was also unfortunate in his choice of interpreters. Colonel Poletto was a man of the highest integrity and character, but he was not a strong man and was unable to withstand the pressure brought to bear upon him by Major Scotti-Douglas. He was also unfortunate in his choice of interpreters. Major Hall was a man of strong character and was able

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- further, and favourable comments were only in a majority of 2.3 to 1. Perugia provided a striking contrast with no unfavourable comments at to all of 25.

Favourable comments most of the joy of being freed from the Germans and the Fascists, and of the help the Allies have given the Italian people in various matters. Conservative comments follow the usual lines, and there is nothing new except a more intolerant attitude generally. The following comments illustrate the common feeling:

"Fascists are no longer here to bother us. After the coming of our liberators, things have changed, and life is looking up again. We are happy now." (6/2/45 - Grosseto)

"Luckily the Allies have been very quick in rebuilding the iron bridges and in re-establishing water and electric light services. During the first days they had to support us in every way. If we did not die of starvation, we owe it to them." (9/2/45 - Florence)

"I have read the article you wrote for the "Liberazione Liberale". Unless you are a perfect idiot you should know that, whatever sacrifice Italy may cause, she is and always will be the Allies' slave." (26/1/45 - Rome)

"Germans are still here, and there is no indication of their being about to leave, much to the disappointment of the population who, I would almost say, adore them." (8/2/45 - Macerata)

"Siena greeted the Allies with unforgettable rejoicing, but very soon people began to be disappointed, and a feeling of distrust towards our liberators is now spreading." (28/1/45 - Siena)

"You excel to see the way our dear friends, the so anxiously awaited Allies, treat us. I felt very friendly towards them at first, but they treat us like their servants, and this makes me repent of my friendly disposition." (21/1/45 - Aquila)

"Business is not bad, but it could be much better without all the restrictions imposed by the Allied Command. In Tuscany we cannot even go from one town to the other." (1/2/45 - Florence)

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8. PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION.

The ratio table shows that unfavourable comments among civilian letters were in a majority of 8.4 to 1, but this is entirely due to a mass of comments from Pisa which took a very gloomy view, the adverse comments from this centre outnumbering the favourable by over 40 to 1. Disregarding Pisa, the figures for the rest of the country show a more optimistic feeling than was prevalent during the previous period. Military comments share in this optimism. The comments themselves do not tell us much.

9. FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION.

Feelings about the future military situation in civilian letters which had been gradually becoming less optimistic for some time, started to move in the opposite direction during the period under review. Favourable comments were in a majority of 2.7 to 1 as compared with a minority of 1.1 to 1 during the previous four weeks. Pisa was the only centre which produced a majority of unfavourable comments. Military mail only supplied 8 comments, all of them favourable

This improvement in outlook seems to be due largely to the Russian victories. The following comments are examples:

"I think that everything will soon be over. The Russians are nearing Berlin, and at Bologna the Allies will not have to fight at all, for the Germans will be forced to retreat. This would be a great piece of luck." (9/2/45 - Terni)

"The war news is excellant. The astounding Russian advance makes us hope that this cruel war will soon come to an end." (7/2/45 - Arezzo)

"I am perfectly sure that Germany will soon be defeated by the glorious Russian Army against which fascist propaganda always tried to stir up feelings of hate. The Allies are also progressing on the Western front, and the final defeat of Nazi-Fascism is rapidly approaching." (6/2/45 - Naples)

The following comment is illustrative of a certain trend of feeling among many: 6985

"I take a great interest in listening to war news on the radio, but I can't tell you how worried I get when I hear

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of Russian victories." (5/2/45 - Ancona)

10. INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS.

Civilian letters reflected a more unfavourable view than was the case during the previous period. This was accentuated by a large number of comments from Pisa where opinion is more pessimistic than the average. Arezzo and Grosseto have an even more gloomy outlook. Military mail had nothing to say on this subject.

Most comments refer to destroyed factories and to machinery that has been taken away by the Germans. The following are some examples:

"The war which swept through the Fibernia valley caused enormous damage to our plants which are now absolutely inactive. In July last, our factories "Alfa" and "Beta" (Translator's note: The writer is Buitoni Co., one of the largest macaroni producers in Italy) were plundered and set on fire by the Germans. They were entirely destroyed. We have no idea when our activities will be resumed." (24/1/45 - Arezzo)

"Our arms factory is a complete wreck. All the best machinery was taken away by the Germans or plundered by the Republicans." (28/1/45 - Terni)

11. AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.

With the exception of Pisa, which takes a fairly optimistic view of agricultural prospects, the country as a whole was about equally divided during the period under review, though the ratio table shows a 3.7 to 1 majority in favourable comments. This figure was due to the mass of comments from Pisa. Foggia and Grosseto were the only centres to take a decidedly pessimistic view. Military mail was silent on the subject.

Favourable comments speak of good crops. Unfavourable comments refer to scanty crops in certain areas, but more particularly to poor future prospects owing to the difficulties of sowing, and to the weak growth of newly sprouted wheat, etc. The following comments give various sides of the picture: 6984

"The olive crop has been really excellent. We had to employ many labourers for the harvesting." (5/2/45 - Ancona)

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"I inform you that we have had a plentiful crop of all kinds of products." (29/1/45 - Ascoli-Piceno)

"The crop has been scanty and of very poor quality. We are having a season worse than any previous one." (31/1/45 - Ancona)

"During the sowing season the weather was terribly rainy. We had storms and floods which caused much damage." (27/1/45 - Arezzo)

"This year we had a lot of trouble with the harvesting of the olives on account of the weather being so cold. The crop was more scanty than we thought it would be. Agricultural prospects for the next season are not at all promissing. The newly sprouted wheat is so small that it can hardly be seen, whereas it should be fairly tall by now. On the pastures there is no grass, and sheep cannot feed." (?/2/45 - Grosseto)

"Things look rather bad in the fields. Few people are able to proceed with the sowing, and even tilled fields show very little sprouting." (1/2/45 - Grosseto)

12. EMPLOYMENT.

Civilian mail was a trifle less unfavourable concerning employment during the period under review. Nevertheless, the following centres were very pessimistic on the subject: Arezzo, Florence, Grosseto, Perugia and Siena. On the other hand Naples revealed a brighter outlook, the adverse comments being in a majority of less than 2 to 1 as compared with over 11 to 1 during the previous four weeks. There was hardly any change in Rome. Leghorn was the only centre to produce a majority of favourable comments.

There is not much in the comments. Most of them reiterate the endless grind of looking for work. Some speak of reductions of staff owing to the lack of raw materials, and others mention the destruction of certain factories. The following comments are typical:

"Since I returned to Florence I have been doing nothing but going around looking for a job. Nothing comes of it. I am terribly depressed." (30/1/45 - Florence)

The writer of the following is the owner of Spinedi Factories, Florence: "The little work we had slackened down so much, owing to shortage of raw material, that we were compelled to dismiss all our personnel." (9/2/45 - Florence) 6983

"I am out of work now, for my job with the Prefecture has come to an end. Nor do I see any possibility of finding another one. Do you think I would have a chance to work at all?

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another one. Do you think I would have a chance to work at all? I would take up anything." (22/1/45 - Aquila)

"I am out of work. I have been looking for a job on land or sea, but all industrial plants are at a standstill on account of the destructions caused by the war." (2/2/45 - Terni)

"I called on countless offices in order to find a job. Nothing doing. The only way out for me is to go down to the wharf and be a longshoreman to the Americans. Do you think it is fair that I should put up with such a humiliation after all I have done since the armistice?" (7/2/45 - Leghorn)

GORDON W. McKEAN,
Lt. Col. Cavalry,
Civil Censorship Officer.

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Report No. 102

This report is based on 6-day weekly basis. Total of 3

CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP. PUBLIC OPINION REPORT 21 JAN - 27 JAN. 1945

PROVINCE (VOLUME CENSORED)			FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION		RELATIONS
			F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F
Ancona	(CITY	15,730	43	153	0	37	7	60	23	47	1	16	0	7	5
	(PROV	2,106	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	
Arezzo		17,756	28	416	1	228	0	169	0	0	0	0	4	145	2
Ascoli-Piceno		7,745	43	88	1	56	1	13	2	2	0	1	3	1	
Florence		25,068	3	164	0	15	0	16	2	108	1	2	1	32	2
Foggia	(CITY	16,200	4	67	0	26	1	31	4	10	3	5	0	1	2
	(PROV	9,218	21	9	12	2	9	13	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Grosseto		23,437	14	224	1	137	0	87	9	14	2	12	6	8	5
Leghorn		41,709	33	166	16	79	6	87	22	16	31	19	16	26	2
Macerata		7,012	33	71	0	52	0	8	3	10	0	6	3	1	1
Naples	(CITY	105,054	91	1798	13	736	30	478	24	184	27	30	13	44	44
	(PROV	34,079	208	73	96	37	58	130	0	0	1	16	0	0	2
Perugia		21,627	5	277	0	160	0	49	0	72	0	4	3	1	6
Pisa		22,444	206	4312	484	3631	119	3875	23	79	128	1130	75	116	15
Rome	(CITY	213,565	69	4405	6	782	12	635	6	1110	46	203	25	86	10
	(PROV	44,326	44	41	14	6	8	1	0	3	4	4	0	0	
Siena		48,605	195	453	81	225	9	234	23	134	9	36	0	5	
Terni		18,410	12	234	0	49	1	44	0	5	0	5	0	0	
TOTAL CENTRAL		881,994	958	32870	754	6198	186	5764	136	1600	248	1490	147	449	22
TOTAL ITALY		60,081	274	284	122	46	69	152	0	0	5	27	0	0	
TOTALS		672,075	1142	15002	656	6244	255	5916	136	1600	253	1520	147	449	25

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This report is based upon 50 letters per censor both checked daily on a 6-day weekly basis. The number of censors employed each week averaged 321, making a total of 3[illegible],200 letters examined for [illegible]e four-week tally.

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	HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
[illegible]2	7	60	12	47	1	16	0	7	30	11	24	7	27	2	13	23	6	13	8	20
1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
[illegible]5	0	189	0	0	0	0	4	145	21	2	10	7	2	1	2	61	23	36	0	87
6	1	15	2	9	0	1	3	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	1
3	0	16	2	108	1	2	1	31	22	18	1	8	0	0	5	20	2	1	1	31
6	1	31	4	10	3	5	0	1	20	26	7	39	1	2	2	3	4	17	4	19
8	0	15	0	2	0	1	0	0	15	0	20	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
37	0	97	5	14	2	12	6	3	50	3	11	7	0	2	1	37	7	33	0	21
9	6	37	28	16	31	19	16	26	26	32	22	15	24	12	34	25	20	11	35	29
2	0	6	3	10	0	2	3	1	14	10	0	0	0	0	2	0	10	1	0	5
5	30	178	24	184	27	60	13	14	146	48	214	93	132	35	52	79	40	50	132	220
7	58	130	0	0	1	16	0	0	24	16	116	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	49	0	72	0	4	3	1	63	0	4	1	18	1	2	10	16	3	1	25
1	119	3875	23	79	125	1130	75	116	1319	86	106	4240	7	125	191	894	1358	154	216	1493
8	12	635	6	1110	43	203	25	56	196	27	98	30	44	12	25	63	52	49	24	440
3	0	1	0	0	4	4	0	0	15	11	51	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	80
8	9	214	22	134	6	56	0	5	74	20	30	25	18	10	47	122	124	96	11	150
6	1	44	0	5	0	5	0	0	7	1	3	6	5	5	5	8	0	0	0	13
3	186	8764	136	1600	248	1490	147	149	2236	356	529	4481	277	404	383	1334	1672	448	442	2584
5	69	152	0	0	5	27	0	0	35	27	186	54	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
4	255	5916	136	1600	253	1520	147	149	2251	383	715	4535	285	204	383	1334	1672	448	442	2597

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APPENDIX

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE CURRENT OPINION PERTINENT POINTS
(21 January to 17 February 1945)

	FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION
WEEK ENDING	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F
27/1/45 CIV	1	15	1	49.6	1	37.7	1	26.3	1	2.9	1	4.4	7	1	1	2.3	1.3
MIL	2.2	1	1	2.7	1	6.2	0	0	2	1	0	0	2.8	1	2.6	1	
3/2/45 CIV	1	16.3	1	29.6	1	52.9	1	22.7	1	2.4	1	2.7	4.5	1	1	14.1	1
MIL	2.4	1	5.3	1	1	2.6	0	0	1	5	0	0	3.4	1	1.9	1	0
10/2/45 CIV	1	17.1	1	7.2	1	21.8	1	10.7	1	9.1	0	2.4	9	1	1	15.9	4
MIL	1.9	1	1.6	1	1	2.2	0	0	0	5	0	6	1.8	1	7.8	1	5
17/2/45 CIV	1	13.1	1	42.9	1	20.1	1	10.3	1	2.9	1	5.3	4	1	1.7	1	3.7
MIL	4.6	1	50	1	1	1	0	0	1	6.5	0	0	1	2	3.5	1	3
AVERAGE FOR MONTH ENDING																	
17/2/45 CIV	1	14.8	1	11	1	31	1	13.2	1	6	1	3	6.8	1	1	8.4	2.7
MIL	2.2	1	2.6	1	1	2.2	0	0	1	5.4	0	0	2	1	3.4	1	8

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APPENDIX

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN FAVOURABLE AND UNFAVOURABLE COMMITMENT POINTS
(21 January to 17 February 1945)

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	HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
	1	37.7	1	26.3	1	2.9	1	4.4	7	1	1	2.3	1.3	1	1	2.9	1	1.9	1	17
	1	6.2	0	0	2	1	0	0	2.8	1	2.6	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	1	32.9	1	22.7	1	2.4	1	2.7	4.5	1	1	14.1	1	2.7	1	6.4	10	1	1	9.1
	1	2.6	0	0	1	5	0	0	3.4	1	1.9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	21.8	1	10.7	1	9.1	0	2.4	9	1	1	15.9	4	1	1	1.2	1.3	1	1	3.4
	1	2.2	0	0	0	8	0	0	1.8	1	7.8	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	1	20.1	1	10.8	1	2.9	1	5.3	4	1	1.7	1	3.7	1	1	2.1	1.2	1	1	7.6
	1	1	0	0	1	6.5	0	0	1	2	3.3	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	31	1	13.2	1	6	1	3	6.8	1	1	8.4	2.7	1	1	3.5	3.7	1	1	5.9
	1	2.2	0	0	1	5.4	0	0	2	1	3.4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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29(T)

ITALIAN PILOTS DISCLOSING LOCATION OF AIRFIELDS.

On the 25th inst., a fighter aircraft bearing allied markings was flying low over Vallona;all at once I saw that it was leaving a white trail,a signal that it was damaged and as a matter of fact a few moments afterwards it was over the town,it glided down on the flying field,now destroyed by the germans;the aircraft was piloted by a young italian officer who is based on Iacce airport:as I knew this,I thought at once of writing to you, and here I am reporting.

I don't take a very
serious view of
this

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HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP

STATION TMS
RECORD No 25 5

2A

From:
MARZANO Giuseppe
VALONA (Albania)

To:
MARZANO Giovanni
Via Duca d'Aosta 25
COLLEPASSO (Lecce)

Give place of Postmark where there is no address

Date of communication or postmark if letter is un-dated	Type mail	Reg No	Language	Previously censored by	Enclosures
27/11/944	ord.	---	Ital.	Alb.	----

Previous relevant record	Station Allocation	C C G Allocation	Disposal of original communication
----	AF S-C	---	Held Excised X Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed X Condemned Return to sender

COMMENT

IT LIAN PILOTS DISCLOSING LOCATION OF AIRFIELDS

Il 25 c.m. un aereo da caccia dalle insegne alleate volava sul cielo di Valona a bassa quota ; tutto ad un tratto ho visto che lasciava una scia biancastra, segno chiedente che aveva un guasto a bordo ed infatti pochi minuti dopo che era su quella citta, planava sul campo d'aviazione oramai distrutto dai tedeschi ; il velivolo era pilotato da un giovane ufficiale italiano che è di base all'aeroporto di Lecce : come ho saputo ciò, ho subito pensato di scrivervi, ed infatti eccomi a voi.

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TRANSADRIATIC MAIL SECTION

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Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C C G Allocation	Disposal of original communication
----	AF S-C	---	Held Excised X Photographed Sent with comment to: Passed X Condemned Return to sender

COMMENT

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TRANSADRIATIC MAIL SECTION
Civil Censorship Group
APO 512 U. S. Army

EXAMINER N.506 REVIEWER ACCO EXAMINATION DATE 17/2/1945

SPECIAL NOTICE — The attached information was taken from private communications and its extremely confi racter must be preserved. The information must be confided only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings o public way without express consent of the Civil Censorship Officer, Allied Commission.

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Headquarters Allied Commission
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP
APO 394, U. S. Army

GWR/vm

17 February 1945

SPECIAL REPORT NO. 94

SUBJECT: Appreciation and Censorship Report on Italian Civilian and Military Mail for Four Weeks Ending 20 January 1945.

TO : G-2 (Communications Censorship), AFHQ, APO 512, U. S. Army.

This report is based on 319,200 letters checked during the four weeks ended 20th January 1945. This does not include any military mail from the front lines.

Attached is a table (Appendix A) which shows the relation between favourable and unfavourable comments on every subject each week. In all cases the lowest number of comments is reduced to one, and the second figure shows the corresponding number of comments of the opposite opinion.

None of the comments used in this report have been used in any previous report.

1. FOOD SITUATION.

After a slight elsewhere fall in the proportion of unfavourable comments noticed during the previous four weeks, civilian mail became more unfavourable during the period under review, and adverse comments were in a majority of 10.1 to 1 as compared with 10.8 to 1 during the preceding period. The situation in Terni seems to be particularly bad, there being no favourable comments at all as against 116 unfavourable; and Florence out of a total of 107 comments, only produced two that were favourable. Rome and Naples took a much gloomier view than they did during the previous period, and the adverse comments were in a majority of roughly 50 and 33 to 1 respectively. Military mail was also more unfavourable than during the preceding four weeks, though Naples, which is always favourably disposed, became even more optimistic to the extent of about 7 to 1.

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Many letters speak of the 200 grams of flour or bread per day as being a totally inadequate ratio, particularly since it is so difficult for many people to get other food stuffs. The absence of oil or other fats is also a constantly recurring complaint. Above all looms the oppressive cloud of high prices.

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Again and again the writers refer to this evil in one way or another. Even among letters admitting that there is a comparative abundance of food items available in various centres - Rome, for example - there is the bitter, qualifying criticism that the prices place these items out of reach. Favourable remarks nearly all come from people who can afford to patronise the black market. The following are a selection of comments illustrating the above complaints:

"As regards food we are in a really bad way. All we get is 200 grams of flour, no pasta, no rice, no fats. Meat is never seen because the Germans took away all the cattle. There are no pigs, or hens, no rabbits. Milk, sugar and salt have also vanished. The black market is spreading, and the price of salt, for one thing, is 500 lire per kilo." (29/12/44 - Fabriano)

"We are ensuring real starvation. We eat what we can find but it is without any possibility because we are given neither oil nor fats. Something can now be bought in the black market, but prices are fabulous, and I can't cope with them." (7/1/45 - Arezzo)

"Living conditions here are becoming more and more difficult. Food prices have gone sky high, to say nothing of goods in the black market. Honest people like us can only attempt on by tightening their belts." (17/1/45 - Florence)

"Every day I look forward to the evening with great eagerness so that I may be able to sleep until 9 a.m. the following morning, by this way lessening both hunger and cold." (14/1/45 - Florence)

"It is a long time now since I tasted anything but chaff. Nothing else is available." (29/12/44)

"They give each person one kilogram of paste products a month and 200 grams of bread daily, nothing else, just paste products and water. A kilogram of lentils costs 160 lire. Formerly we were well off, but now, believe me, existing causes headaches." (13/1/45 - Grosseto)

"The food situation is always the same, that is, nothing or almost nothing to eat may be found, not even greens. The little food that occasionally comes to the market has fantastic prices." (18/1/45 - Sancasciano, Pisa)

"Here in Rome life goes on amidst discomforts and the well known privations. I might almost say that the situation has become worse, especially as regards food, with a tremendous

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rise in the price of the few food stuffs found on the market, which are only within the reach of swindlers and inveterate black market dealers." (3/1/45 - Rome)

"When you have to go out early in the morning, your teeth chattering from cold and hunger, without a cup of hot milk and a piece of bread, and you have to stay till three o'clock without eating -- when children go to school without picnic lunch and see some of the in school follows eating has sandwiches, what must an innocent child suffer! (11/1/45 - Rome)

2. CLOTHING.

Unfavourable comments among civilian mail increased considerably during the four weeks under review, and outnumbered favourable comments by 30-1 to 1 as compared with 22.7 to 1 during the previous period. Ascoli, Foggia, Macerata and Terni produced no favourable comments at all, and there was only one from Arezzo out of a total of 85 for that city. The position in Naples seems to have deteriorated considerably, there being only 5 favourable comments from a total of 753. Rome also revealed a markedly more pessimistic feeling. Except from Naples, there were hardly any military comments, and Naples, usually favourable, was about equally divided during the period under review.

There was a little mention of any shortage of clothing, shoes etc., though that has been the case hitherto. Nearly all the complaints were based on the prices of the various articles on the materials themselves. The following are typical examples:

"To have to buy a suit is a terrible problem nowadays, not to mention shoes and shirts. Five months ago I bought a shirt for 700 lire. Recently a similar shirt, which I had to buy, having run out of underwear, cost me 3000 lire. Materials to make such shirts cannot be bought for less than 300-900 lire per yard." (28/12/44 - Civitella Marittima)

"A pair of trousers, made of material that will come to pieces in a very short time, cost me 2000 lire. The price of a man's suit is 10,000 lire, and that of a pair of shoes 3000." (29/12/44 - Macerata)

"There is no joking about the clothing situation here. Shoes cost 2000 or 3000 lire a pair; the price of ladies stockings ranges up to 2000 lire, and a spool of thread of about 100 yards costs 100 lire." (30/12/44 - Terni)

"Those who have clothing material to sell also have the audacity to ask 3000 lire a yard for it." (4/1/45 - Staffolo, Ancona)

"We lack clothing, which can only be obtained at astounding prices. Just think that a man's suit of the poorest

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material costs 25,000 lire. How can we office workers afford such expenses? In order to buy three pairs of shoes for my children I had to pay 6,000 lire." (5/1/45 - Fermo, Ascoli-Piceno)

"We are greatly in need of collaren's clothes and socks, of which we are entirely without. The prices of clothing materials are really out of all proportion. If anyone wants to buy a suit he must spend 10,000 lire at least." (14/1/45 - Caserta)

"Our fellow countrymen are all devoting themselves to black market activities. One yard of dress material will not cost less than 1000 lire, and a pair of man's shoes 4000 to 5000 lire. It is terrible to think of how one is to clothe oneself." (12/1/45 - Appignamo, Macerata)

3. HOUSING SITUATION.

Civilian opinion on the housing situation took a turn for the worse during the four weeks under review, unfavourable comments being in a majority of 24.4 to 1 as compared with 20 to 1 during the previous period. There were no favourable comments from Arezzo. This also applies to several other places which produced very few comments. But it is in Naples that the situation seems to be worst, there being only 9 favourable comments out of a total of 685. Military mail was also more unfavourable, but since nearly all the comments came from Naples, the figures cannot be taken as indicating any general opinion.

Complaints are based on a variety of causes, though most of them really rest on the actual shortage of houses. Destruction due to the war is naturally the fundamental cause of complaint. Along with this there are letters that speak of too many families crowded into one house, or even one room. Soaring rents are also mentioned, and there is the inevitable grouse against requisitioning by the Allies. The following comments are typical:

"Life is very slow in reawakening, and this keeps us worried. There are still 1,500 families who cannot come back to town, for they have no homes. About another thousand live sharing their lodgings with other people." (2/1/45 - Pisa)

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"Mamma and I have come back to town, but just when we thought we were safely home after so many vicissitudes, the English came and occupied half of our house." (5/1/45 - Arezzo)

"Leghorn is in a terrible state. Half of it is razed to the ground, and there is no light, water or gas. All the

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houses left standing have been requisitioned by the Allies. The only things left to us are collapsing walls and the rubble." (24/12/44 - Livorno)

"Our house was bombed, and most of our belongings were stolen. Now there are four of us living piled up in one furnished room. Such a housing situation makes our conditions even worse." (15/1/45 - Arezzo)

"It is impossible to live in boarding houses; besides, they have nearly all been requisitioned. Houses to rent are not to be found anywhere, and those that are going to be rebuilt will certainly be let at enormous rents." (9/1/45 - Florence)

4. INCOME.

Civilian opinion on the subject of wages, salaries and pensions became a little more unfavourable during the four weeks under review, and unfavourable comments were in a majority of 16.3 to 1 as compared with 14.1 to 1 during the preceding period. In many cases the number of comments was small, and no fair deduction can be made from the figures. In the case of Rome, however, there is no doubt that public opinion views this matter with growing concern, and adverse comments were in a majority of 52 to 1. There were no military comments from any centre.

Clerks, office workers generally and pensioners are the worst hit. Letter after letter complains that salaries are not nearly adequate to meet the cost of living. Many people have already used up their savings, and have now joined the ranks of those who are slowly selling anything saleable they can spare. Those who have neither savings nor anything left to sell write in resignation, and speak of tightening their belts, of losing weight, and of becoming run down. Some, in defience, speak of intending to increase their incomes by dishonest means. The following are samples of the comments:

"We go along blindly, that is, without being able to depend on our salaries. One day we spend 200 lire and another 500 lire, but the salary is only 100 lire a day. It is useless to make any comments. As long as there is something to sell, one sells it; then we shall do as others do. There are people who steal, cheat, deal in the black market or prostitute themselves, and people who starve because they are not capable of doing any of these things. But nobody can get along on their salary alone." (9/1/45 - Rome)

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"Hunger is so pressing that, to satisfy one's need, a salary at least six times as high as the one we earn would be required. Nobody takes any notice of the situation of office workers. I have already "eaten up" my share of inheritance as well as all the money I had been saving over many years. I also sold my radio, but the profit has already disappeared." (12/1/45 - Ancona)

"Wages have been increased, but this is not sufficient to cope with the black market. On the other hand, one cannot do without the latter, for what one gets with ration cards is just enough to die from starvation." (29/12/44 - Forli)

"Every day the situation grows worse on account of the prices. One's monthly wages are barely enough to keep one going for a couple of weeks." (27/12/44 - Florence)

5. NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

From most centres there were very few comments on the National Government in the civilian mail, but the sum total revealed a more unfavourable attitude than during the previous period. Rome and Naples were the only two centres that produced comments in any numbers. There was not much change in Naples, but Rome became a little more unfavourable. Military comments were so few that the ratio figure are of little value.

The mail is not very helpful in giving any specific reasons for the adverse feelings of the majority towards the Government. A general condemnation rather than particular charges are brought against it, though there is some complaint that fascists are still active, that there are too many political parties, and that there is no united driving force. The following comments give an idea of the general run of letters:

"We had better not make any comments on the sad political and social condition of our poor country. Just when it is necessary to devote every effort to reconstruction, they do nothing but make the situation worse. All that we have gone through has taught no lesson to those who intend to rule the country." (27/12/44 - Ascoli-Piceno)

"The new plutocrats created by the fascist regime, and emboldened by our so-called Government which calls itself democratic, want to strangle starving people." (15/1/45 - Ancona)

"I wish there were not so many parties in Italy. I would like to see just two of them, united and strong enough to avoid further mishap to our country, especially revolutionary insurrections resulting in a new dictatorship for the people.

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The present situation of Italy could break the heart of anyone who stopped to consider it. Only hard work and harmony can lead, in due time, to the rebuilding of all that has been carelessly and wickedly destroyed." (5/1/45 - Florence)

"The Government ought to do away with so much politics and do something sensible. All the parties should disappear and come back later on." (27/12/44 - Florence)

"We will recall it when the war is over, in the way of a fire-side chat — but will we enjoy such nesoires? I don't think so, because the situation will grow still worse. The parties will spoil everybody and everything." (23/12/44 - Lacerata)

"Ministries are in the hands of old men. The survivers of the first twenty years of this century. Stubborn, hard-headed and temporizing, they are not able to do anything, and they do not want others to do anything." (25/12/44 - Rome)

6. PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION.

Civilian mail was not so adverse towards the provincial administration as it was during the previous four weeks, but this is due entirely to a big reduction in the number of unfavourable comments from Rome. Seven centres produced no favourable comments at all, notably Arezzo which returned 32 unfavourable ones. Military mail was not concerned with this subject.

The comments themselves are of little help in explaining the reasons behind the unfavourable attitude towards the provincial administrations. The latter are often blamed for conditions for which they are not responsible, and are sometimes praised in like manner. Little can be said beyond the fact that the provincial administrations are not generally popular.

7. RELATIONS WITH THE ALLIES.

The popularity of the Allies, which has been waning for some months, deteriorated still further during the period under review, and civilian comments were only 4.7 to 1 in favour as compared with 5.8 to 1 during the previous four weeks. Aquila, Florence, and Lacerata seem to be the most favourably disposed with only 6 unfavourable comments between them out of a total of 76. Naples was more favourable than the average, and was even a little more so than during the previous four weeks. Rome opinion, on the other hand, again became less favourable. Mili-

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tary opinion remained much the same, and was more than twice as favourable as civilian opinion.

Favourable comments are based on gratitude and relief; unfavourable chiefly on disappointment. But adverse opinion is also growing because of Allied behaviour with Italian women, and because of requisitioning. The following comments give some idea of the tone of many:

(A) Favourable.

"The Allies have been working miracles, and they have shown themselves to be real gentlemen, generous and kind-hearted. But what could they do after the Germans and their Fascist mates had robbed the town of everything." (16/1/45 - Florence)

"Here in Florence the Allies are preparing gifts which will be given to 500 needy children." (5/1/45 - Florence)

"We seem to live a new life with the English and the Americans who behave very well." (20/1/45 - Florence)

An Italian lieutenant states: "The Americans under whom we are working are very kind towards us, and they help us all they possibly can." (24/12/44 - Foggia)

(B) Unfavourable.

"This war is taking all our strength away. Here the Allies keep on requisitioning the Hotel, and nobody pays. The Canadians were lodged here during one month. They left the other day and did not pay either." (2/1/45 - Aquila)

"One thing is certain, wherever the Allies go there is terrible corruption among women; instead it does not exist where they are absent." (30/12/44 - Rome)

"Here in Rome there are so many Americans and nearly all the girls go out with them. I don't know why they are not ashamed at the figure they are cutting. I am so angry that, if I were a man, I would take all those who go with the Americans, and also those who go with those ugly negroes, and brand them with a red hot iron." (15/1/45 - Rome)

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8. PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION.

Civilian opinion, which had gradually become less optimistic until, during the previous four weeks, it became

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actually pessimistic, revealed a slight swing towards optimism again during the period under review, and comments were almost equally divided. Rome, Siena and Terni were definitely pessimistic. Military mail, though still optimistic, was less so than during the previous period; but the bulk of the comments came from Naples, and the figures can hardly be taken as representative of the country as a whole. Rome, for example, only produced 3 unfavourable comments out of a total of 22.

There is nothing much in the comments themselves except a sort of resignation at the apparently static state of the Italian front. The position may be summed up in the following brief extract from a letter:

"It seems to me that the Germans are deeply rooted in Northern Italy." (26/12/44 - Grosseto)

3. FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION.

Optimism in the future military situation declined further during the period under review, and in fact the unfavourable comments were in a slight majority. However, most centres hardly commented at all, and only Naples, Rome and Siena produced sufficient comments to provide some indication of the trend. Siena was about equally divided; Naples was over 2½ to 1 optimistic; and Rome was about 5½ to 1 pessimistic. Military comments were negligible.

Favourable comments are based on the belief that the Allies must win eventually, and that their victory will be Italy's victory too. Unfavourable comments arise from disappointment that Italy must go on enduring war. The following are some examples.

"The Allied armies have had some stormy moments as they have had to sustain violent German counter attacks on every front. They have now regained the initiative and are again advancing, slowly, but they are advancing. Have no fear, therefore. Do not allow yourself to be influenced by any secret agent of the Fascist fifth column." (30/1/45 - Rome)

"Everything will be all right. We are hopefully waiting for the Allies to give the Germans the final blow on all the fighting fronts; and that will bring peace to the world, for the Allies' victory will be our victory too." (6/1/45 - Naples) 6968

"Have you heard how bad is the general news about the war? Unfortunately it can be surmised that the war will not end

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in the new year; thus our fate is still not decided, poor us! There is no longer any peace or safety." (4/1/45 - Bolsena)

10. INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS.

Civilian mail took a slightly less gloomy view of the industrial situation as compared with the previous four weeks. Leghorn was the only centre that produced a majority of favourable comments. Naples remained about twice as pessimistic as the average, and Rome opinion deteriorated during the period. There were no military comments of any kind.

War damage to factories is the predominant theme in unfavourable comments. The following are examples:

"We are sorry to have it working for some years to come." (12/1/45 - Arezzo)

"As you may already know, almost everyone of us is out of work. The Epitoni factory was destroyed, so you can imagine to what a condition S. Sepolcro has been reduced." (10/1/45 - Sansepolcro)

"Personally, I was uninjured, but my factory at Certaldo was entirely destroyed, which caused a loss valued at more than ten millions. Anyhow, we have already started rebuilding it." (4/1/45 - Florence)

The two following comments from Florence provide a contrast:

"Too many goods are still blocked, from textiles to dyeing products, from woollen-wear to drugs. Such a system is very like the old Fascist theories, and the leaders do not seem to realize that the fundamental laws of free commerce are stronger than controlled economy. The situation thus remains very serious, and in the long run the difficulties which producers and sellers have to face lead to nothing but steadily increasing prices." (27/12/44 - Florence)

"The Allied Government has adopted a resolution as to the release of textiles, so I'll soon begin to do something. Let us hope that this release will be the first step towards free commerce." (18/1/45 - Florence)

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11. AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.

Civilian opinion showed little change throughout the

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period under review, being very slightly less favourable as compared with the previous four weeks, the ratio being 1.3 to 1 as against 1.4 to 1 in favour during the preceeding period. Naples was the only area which was pronouncedly pessimistic. Rome, which was more than 2 to 1 unfavourable last period, swung the other way and was 1.6 to 1 in favour. Military mail was almost devoid of comments.

Favourable comments speak of good yields, particularly of olives, and of the high prices brought by livestock. Unfavourable comments refer to flooding and hail, and of vines suffering for the lack of chemical manures. The following are some examples:

"Thanks to the Lord we have already gathered the olives, and they have been plentiful." (17/1/45 - Arezzo)

"Aunt tells me that they have harvested plenty of olives and have also produced a great deal of wine. Now they have also sown the ground, so they will be quite well off." (24/12/44 - S. Oreste, Rome)

"Don't worry because we have enough to satisfy our needs. It turned out quite well with pigs and cattle. Also 300 quintals of beetroots ripened. The highest profit was yielded by pigs which were sold at 40.000 lire, and two heifers were sold at 100.000. Wine, beans, potatoes and sweet corn were rather scarce, but high profit was shown by all the rest." (8/1/45 - Arezzo)

"Vintaging has been very poor this year. Crops suffered from lack of copper and sulphur, and damage was also caused by hail." (28/12/44 - Grosseto)

"Soon after the fields had been sown they flooded them, so everything went rotten." (27/12/44 - Poleno delle Chiane)

"Agricultural work is rather slack here on account of bridges and river banks being destroyed. Much wheat was left unsown, and this is also due to floods that turned the valley into a real sea." (1/1/45 - Monte S. Savino, Arezzo)

12. EMPLOYMENT.

Civilian mail became more gloomy about employment during the four weeks under review, and unfavourable comments outnumbered the favourable by 6.2 to 1 as compared with 4.3 to 1 during the previous period. The only centre which produced a majority of favourable comments was Leghorn. Naples became considerably more pessimistic; and Rome, where the adverse comments

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were in a majority of 13 to 1 during the previous period, increased this majority to 24.3 to 1. Military mail was silent on the subject.

The writers mentioned cuts in the staffs of offices, and offices being closed down. They tell of mines and factories that are closed indefinitely, and of the daily and weekly hunt for jobs, a search which, in many cases, they look upon as hopeless. Many people have been out of work for very long periods. The following comments are some examples:

"I feel so downhearted for many reasons, but principally because of my state of unemployment. Since my office was closed down I have not been able to find any work." (11/1/45 - Florence)

"From morning to night I rush about in all directions in order to find a job which may set my mind at rest about our future, but there have been no results up to now. After tomorrow I'll join a group of labourers who work in a store house for the Allies; but it is only a temporary job." (5/1/45 - Arezzo)

"Notwithstanding the numerous acquaintances of Carlos and her family, I have not been able to get a job. They make me many promises, but only for the distant future. (28/12/44 - Arezzo)

"I cannot give you a job now because I had to put off more than 600 of my employees who, for the time being, are only getting half their normal wages. All temporary workers have been dismissed." (28/12/44 - Florence)

"We have tried to find work, but in vain, because unemployment here in general. The mines are closed and so are the factories." (19/1/45 - Massa Maritima)

GORDON W. McLEAN,
Lt. Col. Cavalry,
Civil Censorship Officer.

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Report No. 94

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP, PUBLIC OPINION REPORT 24 Dec 44 - 20 Jan 1945

PROVINCE (VOLUME CENSORED)		FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION	
		F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
Ancona	7,255	19	61	2	11	1	15	2	11	2	4	0	2
Aquila	27,716	206	1028	24	655	25	164	20	51	0	1	0	4
Arezzo	13,442	27	256	1	55	0	44	0	10	1	4	0	25
Ascoli-Piceno	8,882	19	70	0	28	0	4	1	4	0	0	0	0
Florence	62,485	2	165	0	2	0	6	3	6	0	4	0	11
Foggia (CIV	12,544	8	96	2	37	1	18	3	4	0	1	1	5
(MIL	8,808	21	28	1	10	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	1
Grosseto	20,920	35	260	4	130	2	63	0	14	4	7	6	10
Leghorn	82,340	30	124	12	41	9	36	6	11	6	12	8	2
Macerata	6,203	34	63	0	34	0	2	5	3	0	2	0	2
Naples (CIV	143,960	54	1074	5	748	9	673	4	122	34	112	4	25
(MIL	29,080	720	102	232	334	176	495	0	0	2	15	0	0
Perugia	18,516	17	93	4	96	4	32	2	33	0	2	0	0
Rome (CIV	161,296	97	1499	13	557	13	425	16	830	58	167	12	61
(MIL	34,790	50	51	6	13	4	5	0	0	3	4	0	0
Siena	35,116	96	492	11	221	7	198	10	117	10	20	3	0
Terni	17,145	0	115	0	18	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CIVILIAN:	571,846	629	8243	88	2633	89	1689	74	1223	115	342	32	140
TOTAL MILITARY:	73,016	791	161	229	337	180	543	0	0	7	20	0	1
T O T A L S:	644,962	1420	8404	317	3010	249	2231	74	1223	122	362	32	150

This report is based upon 50 letters per censor being checked daily on a 6-day weekly basis. The number of censors employed each week averaged 315, making a total of 379,[illegible] letters examined for this tally.

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24 - 30 Jan 1945

HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
2	35	2	35	2	4	0	0	18	41	2	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	0	4
28	168	20	51	0	1	0	4	28	2	6	2	2	0	30	68	42	72	77	858
0	64	0	20	1	4	0	28	20	35	5	5	0	1	5	30	46	37	10	98
0	4	1	4	3	0	0	6	33	2	0	0	6	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
0	6	2	8	0	4	0	10	16	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	3	10	14
1	12	3	4	0	1	1	0	22	10	0	3	0	2	2	0	2	4	5	37
0	0	0	0	2	3	0	1	26	2	12	5	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	1
3	62	0	14	4	7	0	10	48	8	1	3	0	0	4	11	24	12	1	17
3	56	3	21	6	12	2	5	58	3	17	2	2	3	30	18	10	12	27	18
0	2	3	3	0	2	0	2	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
3	675	4	122	34	312	4	28	577	72	67	72	22	18	32	128	26	82	28	278
72	835	0	0	2	18	0	0	72	2	225	123	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
4	32	2	28	3	2	0	0	28	3	0	0	2	2	3	3	10	3	2	18
23	526	16	330	58	167	12	61	253	25	68	58	8	32	22	76	30	37	16	283
2	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	10	1	18	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	18	10	117	10	20	3	0	30	21	12	26	12	18	28	32	107	66	6962	
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	11
89	1669	74	1225	115	362	32	140	1110	358	251	132	67	72	158	350	305	303	198	1154
80	513	0	0	7	20	0	1	136	12	328	154	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	1
49	1731	74	1225	122	382	32	150	1235	350	460	286	67	73	158	350	400	300	180	1155

Average daily pn a week previous 715.

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Report No. 34

APPENDIX A

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE COMMENTS ON CURRENT POINTS
(24 December 1944/20 January 1945)

		FOOD SITUATION		CLOTHING		HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUA
WEEK ENDING		F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F
30/12/44	CIV	1	14.7	1	42.1	1	26.7	1	27.8	1	9.4	1	11.7	4.5	1	1	1.4	2
	MIL	9.2	1	1	1.2	1	2.2	0	0	1	2.7	0	0	5.1	1	1	1	0
6/2/45	CIV	1	12.4	1	20.8	1	14.9	1	12.2	1	2.5	1	1.6	5	1	2.1	1	1.1
	MIL	7.1	1	1	3.2	1	4.5	0	0	2	0	0	0	21	1	1.1	1	0
13/1/45	CIV	1	12.2	1	41.7	1	16.8	1	12.6	1	2.4	1	3.7	4.9	1	1	1.5	1
	MIL	3	1	1	1.2	1	2	0	0	0	20	0	0	10.0	1	7.5	1	0
20/1/45	CIV	1	17.5	1	22	1	99.9	1	20.2	1	6.1	1	5.7	7.7	1	1.3	1	2.3
	MIL	3.2	1	1	1.7	1	4	0	0	2	1	0	1	37	1	4.3	1	0
AVERAGES FOR MONTH ENDING 20/1/45	CIV	1	13.1	1	30.1	1	24.4	1	16.5	1	3	1	4.7	4.7	1	1	1.1	1
	MIL	4.9	1	1	1.6	1	3	0	0	1	2.9	0	1	10.8	1	2.3	1	0

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APPENDIX A

RATIO TABLE BETWEEN FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE OPINIONS ON DIFFERENT POINTS
(24 December 1946/20 January 1947)

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	HOUSING		INCOME		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT		RELATIONS WITH ALLIES		PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION		FUTURE MILITARY SITUATION		INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS		AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS		EMPLOYMENT	
	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U
	1	26.7	1	27.8	1	3.4	1	22.7	6.5	1	1	1.4	2	21	3	2.7	1.7	1	1	4.2
	1	2.2	0	0	1	2.7	0	0	5.1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	14.9	1	12.2	1	4.5	1	1.6	5	1	2.1	1	1.1	1	1	2.0	1	1	1	4.0
	1	4.5	0	0	2	0	0	0	21	1	1.1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
	1	16.8	1	12.6	1	2.6	1	3.7	4.9	1	1	1.5	1	2.7	1	2.4	1.6	1	1	7
	1	2	0	0	0	20	0	0	34.5	1	7.5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	1	96.9	1	20.2	1	6.1	1	5.7	7.7	1	1.3	2	2.3	1	1	1.5	1.2	1	1	7.5
	1	4	0	0	2	1	0	1	157	1	4.7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
	1	24.4	1	16.5	1	3	1	4.7	1.7	1	1	1.1	1	1.1	1	2.2	1.3	1	1	6.2
	1	3	0	0	1	2.9	0	1	10.4	1	2.3	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	1