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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS, ITALY
SEPT. 1944 – MAR. 1946

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Form 553 (Old No. 490)
[illegible] 20, 1918

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Chief Commissioner

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ALLIED COMMISSION

From: 13 Sep 44
To : 26 Mar 46

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SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
70a	Cbl 1607 AFHQ	6 Mar 46	AFHQ G-5	Italian Local Elections
70b	Cbl 1701 Stone	8 Mar 46	AFHQ G-5	Italian Local Elections
70c	Cbl FX62271 SACMED	8 Mar 46	ALCOM	Italian Local Elections
71	Memo Loc Gov S/C	10 Mar 46	CC	List of Communes near Rome holding Local Elections
72a	Ltr AC/45/45/1	11 Mar 46	Civ Affs Sec	Local Elections of 10 March; Incl.
72	Ltr AC/45/45/1	12 Mar 46	Civ Affs Sec	Results of elections on 10 Mar
73	Cbl 1803 HQ Alcom	13 Mar 46	AFHQ G-5	Ital Admin Elects held 436 Commus
73a	Memo Temple	14 Mar 46	HQ Alcom	Report on Nat Elects in Bolzano
74	Cbl 1935 Stone	Mar 46	AFHQ G-5	Incidents at second communal Elect
75	Ltr Carr	18 Mar 46	CC	Local Elects.-Sunday Mar 17 1946
76	Cbl Torre Maggiore	Mar 46	Stone	Communist Interference
77	Cbl 2787 Lombardia	18 Mar 46	ALCOM Civ Aff	Elections Calm and Orderly
78	Telegram Bari	20 Mar 46	Stone	Disorders at Elections
79	Cbl Riesi	20 Mar 46	Stone	Info on electorial list sent by Repres. of Demochrist. Party
79a	Memo Temple	21 Mar 46	AC	Report on the Law for Elections
79b	Cbl H/1178 Livorno	25 Mar 46	Local Govt S/C	Voting in Toscana region
79c	Cbl 2794 Petrillo	25 Mar 46	Hancock	Voting in provs of Lombardy
80	Ltr 2806/356/EC	26 Mar 46	De Gasperi	Nat Elects in Prov of Bolzano
81	Cbl Democ Cardon		CC	Request for Police protect in commune of Lavelle

INSTRUCTIONS.—When papers on a subject become numerous they will be numbered serially and brief entries made on this form.

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SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
57	CC 204, Stone	25 Sep 45	Secy, ACI	Report to ACI on elections in Italy.
58	Report, Cripps	27 Sep 45	ACI	Rpt to ACI, subj "Background & Present Status of Plans for Holding Local & National Elections in Italy."
59	AC/45/14/LG, Cripps	28 Sep 45		Preparation of electoral lists, extension of time-limits.
60	AC/45/A/LG, Temple	4 Oct 45		Prep of electoral lists; appt of judges, Provincial Commissions.
61	AC/45/A/LG, Stone	10 Oct 45	AFHQ	Ital Local Govt Law of 1915.
62	AC/45/15/A/LG, Temple	15 Oct 45		Prep of electoral lists - electoral commissions.
+ 63	AC/45/12/LG Stone	19 Oct 45	Parri	Appoint't Spec. Com. for review of doubtful cases citizenship in Bolzano
64	AC/45/21/LG Williams	26 Oct.45		Comment on Preperations It. Elections.
65	Press Article			Concerning Elections
66	Ltr 12410.9/1.6.1. Parri	9 Nov 45	Stone	Citizenship of population Alto Adige
66a	Ltr Stone	7 Jan 46	Kirk	Thank-you ltr concrn prep of It elections in Genoa
67	Ltr Stone	7 Feb 46	de Gasperi	Elections in Istria
67a	Ltr AC/45/21/LG Temple	15 Feb 46	VP Civ Affs Sec	Analy of Prog of Elect Wrk fr Period Ending 31 Jan 46
68	Ltr Lush	25 Feb 46	Coun of Min	Bolzano Petitions
69	Ltr Temple	25 Feb 46	Civ Aff Sec	Progress of Electoral Work
70	Ltr Carr	28 Feb 46	info CC	Observation of Election

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SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
39a	Ltr, Alex Kirk	13 Aug 45	Stone	State Dept views on elections in It.
40	Cbl AMG XIII, 8/237	15 Aug 45	AFHQ,AC	Elections in Venezia Giulia.
41	Ltr, Stone	18 Aug 45	Alex Kirk	State Dept views on elections in It.
42	Ltr, Alex Kirk	20 Aug 45	CC	Electoral lists in Bolzano Province.
43	Ltr,Alex Kirk	20 Aug 45	CC	Elections in VG & Bolzano.
44	Ltr, Stone	21 Aug 45	Alex Kirk	Elections in VG & Bolzano.
45	Ltr, Stone	22 Aug 45	Alex Kirk	Electoral lists in Bolzano.
46	Cbl SECSTATE	?? Aug 45	Am Amb	US position on elections in Italy.
46a	Ltr, French Rep, 2242	24 Aug 45	CC	French election procedure.
47	Cbl AC LGT, 4270	25 Aug 45	Liguria Reg	Elections in Imperia Province,Lig.Reg
48	CC 204, Stone	28 Aug 45	Moullec	French election procedure.
48a	AC/45/4/LG, Temple	28 Aug 45	Dist	Preparation of electoral lists.
49	AC/45/B/LG, Stone	29 Aug 45	Parri	Early info on IG plans requested.
50	AC/45/A/LG, Carr	3 Sep 45		Preparation of electoral lists.
+ 50a	2806/EC, Lush	4 Sep 45	CC	Elections & redeployment Allied tps.
51	CC 204, Stearns	7 Sep 45	French Rep AC	French election procedure.
51a	Aide Memoire,45/20/LG	7 Sep 45	(Parri)	Cassellario Giudiziale Centrale,Rome
52	Ltr, Alex Kirk	7 Sep 45	CC	State Dept views on elections in It.
53	CC 204, Stone	10 Sep 45	Alex Kirk	State Dept views on elections in It.
53a	Memo, Alex Kirk	10 Sep 45	Parri	USG views on elections in Italy.
53b	Ltr, Alex Kirk	15 Sep 45	de Gasperi	USG views on elections in Italy.
54	AC/45/19/LG, Carr	19 Sep 45	AFHQ	Elections in Venezia Giulia.
54a	Parri, 37011	23 Sep 45	Stone	Cassellario Giudiziale Centrale,Rom
55	Ltr, Secy, ACI	24 Sep 45	CC	Report on elections to ACI.
56	CC 204, Stearns	25 Sep 45	Ex C	Report on elections to ACI.

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Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

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File under No. 204 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS, Italy

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26	Ltr 100/IRD Rome	12 Jul 45	CC	Special Information Campaign Prior to Italian Elections
27	Cml Emilia Reg F/452	15 Jul 45	AC	Preparation of electoral lists
28	Rome Stone	17 Jul 45	Ex Comm	Special info prior to elec. campaign
29	AC/45/M/LG, Upjohn	18 Jul 45		Preparation of electoral lists.
30	AC/45/M/LG, Upjohn	20 Jul 45	RCs	AC LOs to aid prep electoral lists.
30a.	Cbl Ven Reg	24 Jul 45	AC IG	Compilation in Venezie Reg proceeds.
31	AC/45/M/LG, Stone	25 Jul 45	Parri	Early reply to ltr 7 Jul requested.
32	Ltr, Stone	25 Jul 45	Parri	Twisted-up reports of AC interview on holding of elections - report.
33	Avanti! & Il Popolo	28 Jul 45		Parri rectifies messed-up report of AC interview on holding of elections.
34	Cbl Upjohn fr Bolzano	28 Jul 45	Ven Reg, AC	Bolvi to Bolzano to advise functions of commission on compilation of list.
35	Parri, 566	28 Jul 45	CC	AC views on elections correspond to IG program.
36	Cbl AC LG, 2715	28 Jul 45	AFHQ	Elections in Venezia Giulia.
37	Cbl AFHQ, F-30396	31 Jul 45	AC	Elections in Venezia Giulia.
38	PRB/103/, Brown	3 Aug 45	CC	USIS stories in Nuovo Mondo & USA on elections in Italy.
39	Cbl AC LG, 3200	5 Aug 45	Ven Reg	No time extension to be given on compilation in small communes.

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SECRET

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Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

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SECRET

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
15	Ltr Bonomi	1 Jun 45	Stone	Electoral lists for Florence, Pisa, Lucca, Pistoia, Apuania, Livorno provinces.
16	Memo, Insh	10 Jun 45	CC	AC told IC that AMG will not take up preparation of lists.
17	Cbl AC LG 9508	10 Jun 45	IV Hopkinson	Implementation of Decree 201 published in Gazzetta Ufficiale.
18	Cbl AC CAS 9724	13 Jun 45	RCs, SCAOs	CCAO urges efforts to compile by 1 July as target date.
19	AC/45/A/LG, Upjohn	13 Jun 45	Dist	Preparation of electoral lists in AMG territory.
20	AC/45/3/LG, Temple	18 Jun 45	Dist	Distr of material for preparation of electoral lists.
21	AC/45/A/LG, Cripps	21 Jun 45		Memo on Interior's draft bill for the Reconstitution of Elective Local Authorities in Communes & Provinces.
21a	Cbl AC LG S/C, 601	27 Jun 45	AFHQ, G, XIII	Elections in Venezia Giulia.
22	AC Exec Memo No. 5	1 Jul 45		Preparation of Electoral Lists (SOP)
22a	Ltr Marshall, Piemonte	2 Jul 45	Insh	Progress in prep of electoral lists
22b	Ltr 1560CL Parri	2 Jul 45	Prefects	Urging faster action by Mo. Communes
23	Cbl Troopers 57390 CA3(D) (From Insh)	4 Jul 45	AFHQ, AC	Foreign Office hold national election shd be held earliest.
24	Cbl AC CAS, 1266	5 Jul 45	AFHQ, Troopers	Position on national elections; even Nenni believes earliest is next Spring.
25	Ltr, Stone	7 Jul 45	Parri	Defects in plan for elections as fwdd by Signor Bonomi.

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Office of the
Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

LIST OF PAPERS

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SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
1	Memo Stone	13 Sept 44		Meeting with Bonomi on local elections. Bonomi opposed.
2	P/523 Lush	14 Sep 44	All Reg Comms	Comments pls on encl memo on local govt elections INCL: Memo, desirability of this
3	Cbl CCS, FAN 487	31 Jan 45	SACMED	New Directive fr CCS to AC; elections for local public offices in It Govt territory to be encouraged
4	AC/45/LG, Stone	6 Feb 45	Bonomi	AC requests info on plans for holding of elections & bodies to be elected.
4a	Aide-Memoire, Macmillan	24 Feb 45	Bonomi	New Directive: AC encourages LGE.
5	AC/45/LG, Stone	27 Feb 45	Bonomi	AC requests info on plans for holding of elections...(reminder)
6	Bonomi	27 Feb 45	Stone	Plan for holding elections....
7	AC/45/LG, Stone(Lush)	6 Mar 45	Bonomi	Thanks for plan of elections, & AC expects more info in due course
8	Ltr Bonomi	26 Mar 45	Stone	Unable to supply more info yet. Work going as fast as possible.
9	Ltr Bonomi	30 Mar 45	Stone	Text of article modifying decree on compilation of lists.
10	Memo, Dowling	18 Apr 45	CA Sec	US Dept State comments on IG proposed plan for elections.
11	AC/45/A/LG, Stone	19 Apr 45	Bonomi	Defects in plan for elections & changes recommended. AC cannot allow such elections in AMG territory
12	344, Bonomi	24 Apr 45	Stone	19 Signature of regulations adopted.
12a	18209, Bonomi	20 May 45	Stone	Further details of plan.
13	45/A/LG, Stone	23 May 45	Bonomi	Request specific answer to difference points brought up in 11.
14	CC 204, Stone	29 May 45	Kirk & Charles	Copies of 11,12,12a, for info.

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UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE

Ufficio Informazioni Stati Uniti

ROME, Via S. Basilio 45

Telef. 471471-2-3-4

March 30, 1946

To: Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission

From: G. Stewart Brown, Director USIS-Italy

Subject: Report on USIS elections program.

Attached is copy of a report on the above subject which I think may be of interest to you.

You will recall it was at your suggestion last summer that USIS and MOI begin an educational campaign on democratic electoral processes in the United States and Great Britain. The attached report explains what we have done to date.

I have sent you copies of several of the publications mentioned in the appended report. If other copies are needed by any members of the Allied Commission we shall be glad to furnish them.

G. Stewart Brown
Director, USIS-
Italy.

cc: Brig. Gen M. Lush, Executive Commissioner
Major Temple, Local Government S/C
Major Leacacos, PRB
J.W. Jones, U.S. Polad
A. Halford, British Polad

2001/c

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(96a)

Washington Tmp

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TRANSLATION

CC

INCOMING MESSAGE

Rome Lavello 300 48 29 15/20

To Admiral Ellery Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome.

Administrative elections in this Comune of Lavello in Potenza Province has been fixed for the 7th of April. Parties of the left threaten to upset the normal procedure of the elections. In defense of our liberty we ask that Allied observers be sent to this Comune with adequate police force for the Electoral Committee.
The Demochristian Cardone

2041/cc

ECDIST - 3 copy

DEPTOR - CA Sec (2)

INFO - CC 1893

- EC

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cc

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

16 March 1946

Sir,

I understand from information received from the Soviet and other sources, that it will not be possible to hold National Elections in the Province of Venezia Giulia owing to the fact that the compilation of the electoral rolls will not be completed in time.

I feel sure that you will agree that this is very much to be regretted. It is felt therefore that it would appear to be to hold the National Elections in the Province at the earliest possible date so that the representatives may take part in the work of the Constituent Assembly as much as possible. I am confident that you are fully alive to the undesirability of this and will take all the necessary measures to that end.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient, humble servant,

Chief Commissioner

The Right Honourable
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome.

Copy to: Local Government O/C
Poland (A)
Poland (B).

1992

30

CC

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

Ref: 2806/356/SC

16 March 1946

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I understand from information received from the Press and other sources, that it will not be possible to hold National Elections in the Province of Bolzano on June 2nd owing to the fact that the compilation of the electoral rolls will not be completed in time.

I feel sure that you will agree that this is very much to be regretted. All that remains would appear to be to hold the National elections in the Province at the earliest possible date so that its deputies can take part in the work of the Constituent Assembly to as great an extent as possible. I am confident that you are fully alive to the desirability of this and will take all the necessary measures to that end.

[redacted]
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

Sott. Alcide De Gasperi
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome.

Copy to: Local Government B/C
Polad (A)
Polad (B). ✓

1892

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

negotiated. All that remains would appear to be to hold the National elections in the Province at the earliest possible date so that its deputies can take part in the work of the Constituent Assembly to as great an extent as possible. I am confident that you are fully alive to the desirability of this and will take all the necessary measures to that end.

MANLY W. [illegible]
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

Hon. Alcide De Gasperi
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome.

Copy to: Local Government S/C
Polad (A)
Polad (B).✓

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(80)

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XXXXX H/1178

MAR 251605 B

MAR 260915 B

PRIORITY

CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER ALCOM LIVORNO

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION ALCOM ROME

UNCLASSIFIED.

Reference Italian election S voting very heav all over Toscana region. No disturbances. Report will follow.

AC DIST.

ACTION: LOCAL GOVT

INFO: CHIEF COMMISSIONER
LEGAL
CAS
FILE 2
FLOAT

22/402

(79b)

7

180

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RESTRICTED

NO 2794
MAR 251700 B

H/1192
MAR 260900
ROUTINE

CHIEF ~~XXXXXXXXX~~ LIAISON OFF LOMBARDIA REG~~XXXXXX~~ SIGNED PETRILLO
ALCOM FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT BRANCH FOR HANCOCK ~~X~~

RESTRICTED.

Voting took place yesterday without incident all provinces of LOMBARDY in ~~XXX~~ 334 Communes including provincial capitals CREMONA BERGAMO and important industrial centres GALLARATE VOGHERA

Perfect order prevailed in a customary Sunday atmosphere. Percentage voters over 80 percent. Unanimous opinion visiting Lo's well conducted elections.

AC DIST

ACTION LOCAL GOVT SC
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CIVIL AFFAIRS SEC
FILE 2
FLOAT

RESTRICTED

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MAR 22 RECD

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

REPORT ON NEW LAW FOR ELECTIONS TO THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

1. The Council of Ministers has now approved and published the final version of the Law for the elections to the Constituent Assembly. It is Lieutenancy Legislative Decree No.74 of 10 March 1946 published in a supplement to the Official Gazette No.60 of 12 March.

2. All criticisms of and suggestions as to earlier drafts of this Law which have been made by AC have been met in the law as enacted. This report is therefore informative only and is confined to a brief description and explanation of the more important features of the Law.

3. Compulsory Voting **Art.1.** enacts that "the exercise of the vote is an obligation from which no citizen can abstain without failing in his clear duty to the Country in a decisive moment of the national life". The legal duty thus imposed, however, lacks "teeth" in that by ignoring it the citizen incurs only two very mild sanctions, i.e. :-

(a) his name is posted on the town hall notice-board for a month ;
(b) for five years the entry "did not vote" will appear in his good conduct certificate.

Even these sanctions will not be incurred if the citizen can show good reason for failing to vote, e.g. illness, being more than 30 km from the polling place, for business, and so on. The Sindaco is the judge of whether the reasons offered for abstention are sound or not. There is an appeal from his decision to the Prefect.

4. Partial Elections. The Law also contains a provision for postponing the elections in those parts of the country where "exceptional "circumstances inherent in the present situation in certain frontier "zones renders the holding of elections in them impossible" Art.13. This will meet the cases of Bolzano and Venezia Giulia. In these cases, the Order fixing the date for the elections generally throughout the country can also postpone the elections in these areas. If the area in which it is desired to postpone the election forms part only of a constituency (as is the case with Bolzano Province) then the Order can divide the number of Deputies to be returned for the whole constituency between the part to vote with the rest of the country and the part in which the elections are postponed.

5. The Order fixing the date for elections will be published at the end of this week. This Sub-Commission has ascertained that, besides fixing 2 June as the date for the general election, the Order does in fact postpone the elections in Venezia Giulia and in Bolzano Province indefinitely and provides that in College VIII (Trento-Bolzano, returning 9 Deputies) only 5 Deputies shall be elected on 2 June by Trento Province, leaving 4 to be elected at a later date by Bolzano.

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4. All criticisms of and suggestions as to earlier drafts of this Law which have been made by AC have been met in the law as enacted. This report is therefore informative only and is confined to a brief description and explanation of the more important features of the Law.

3. Compulsory Voting. **Art.1.** enacts that "the exercise of the vote is an obligation from which no citizen can abstain without failing in his clear duty to the Country in a decisive moment of the national life". The legal duty thus imposed, however, lacks "teeth" in that by ignoring it the citizen incurs only two very mild sanctions, i.e. :-

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(b) for five years the entry "did not vote" will appear in his good conduct certificate.

Even these sanctions will not be incurred if the citizen can show good reason for failing to vote, e.g. illness, being more than 50 km from the polling place, for business, and so on. The Sindaco is the judge of whether the reasons offered for abstention are sound or not. There is an appeal from his decision to the Prefect.

4. Partial Elections. The Law also contains a provision for postponing the elections in those parts of the country where "exceptional "circumstances inherent in the present situation in certain frontier "zones renders the holding of elections in them impossible" art.15. This will meet the cases of Bolzano and Venezia Giulia. In these cases, the Order fixing the date for the elections generally throughout the country can also postpone the elections in these areas. If the area in which it is desired to postpone the election forms part only of a constituency (as is the case with Bolzano Province) then the Order can divide the number of Deputies to be returned for the whole constituency between the part to vote with the rest of the country and the part in which the elections are postponed.

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6. Electorate. The Law reproduces in substance the provisions of the previous Ministerial draft which in turn was based upon the provisions of the Law on the compilation of the electoral lists as to qualifications and disqualifications for voting. This subject was dealt with fully in para 7 and Appendix "A" of the Report submitted by this S/C on 28 October last.

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7. Eligibility. The provisions of the original Ministerial draft as to eligibility for election to the Constituent Assembly are likewise dealt with in para 8 of the Report of October last and the corresponding provisions of the Law as enacted do not differ in any material particular.

8. Deputies and Constituencies. The number of Deputies has been raised from 537 to 573. The size of the Colleges (election districts or Constituencies), however, is considerably reduced. The regional basis has been abandoned, except in the case of the smaller ones, i.e. Calabria, Lucania, Sardegna, Marche and Liguria. On the other hand the larger regions have been subdivided, e.g. Lombardia into 4 constituencies, Veneto and Toscana into 3 each and so on. In two cases the regional boundaries had been crossed. Rieti Province goes with Umbria to form Constituency XIX and Benevento and Campobasso Provinces form Constituency XXII.

9. A list of the colleges, their populations, the number of Deputies assigned to each, and the seat of the Court of Appeal or Tribunal which acts as the "central office" for the purpose of counting the votes and declaring the results, is given in Appendix "A". The colleges are further illustrated by the map in Appendix "B".

10. Time table. The period of 70 days between the date of the elections and the order fixing that date is maintained, but the time limit for every preliminary operation which has to take place during that period has been put back a few days, e.g. the last date for the nomination of the candidates is now the 45th instead of the 40th day before the election.

11. Method of voting and counting of votes. It has been thought best to set out a brief description of these in Appendix "C" because:-

(a) an alteration of substance has been made as to preference votes. All such votes will now count : the earlier Ministerial proposal was that they would not count unless they amounted to 20% of the ordinary votes given for the list ;

(b) a different system of proportional representation has been adopted.

The actual arithmetical processes now prescribed will, it is hoped, appear clearly from Appendix "C".

12. The Law which is the subject of this report deals only with the election of deputies to the Constituent Assembly and it has nothing to do with the referendum. The decree on this last subject has not been published and when it is published the detailed procedure for conducting the referendum will remain to be prescribed by subordinate legislation.

1330

Ralph R Temple

RALPH R. TEMPLE

0942

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 178515

boundaries had been crossed. Ricti Province goes with Umbria to form Constituency XIX and Benevento and Campobasso provinces form Constituency XXII.

9. A list of the colleges, their populations, the number of Deputies assigned to each, and the seat of the Court of Appeal or Tribunal which acts as the "central office" for the purpose of counting the votes and declaring the results, is given in Appendix "A". The colleges are further illustrated by the map in Appendix "B".

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1330

21 March 1946.

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

CGRM/...

Distribution: Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Vice President, C.A. Section
Poland "A"
Poland "B"
PRO
45/B/1
Fleet

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APPENDIX "A"

List of Colleges (i.e. Election Districts or Constituencies)

	College and Provinces comprised in each (1)	Population (2)	Seats Assgd. (3)	Seats of Central Offices (4)
1.	Torino - Novara-Vercelli	2,074,305	28	Torino
2.	Cuneo - Alessandria-Asti	1,348,374	18	Cuneo
3.	Genova - Imperia-La Spezia-Savona	1,466,915	20	Genova
4.	Milano - Pavia	2,667,703	36	Milano
5.	Como - Sondrio-Varese	1,040,909	14	Como
6.	Brescia - Bergamo	1,350,381	18	Brescia
7.	Mantova - Cremona	777,492	10	Mantova
8.	Trento - Bolzano	669,029	9	Trento
9.	Verona - Padova-Vicenza-Rovigo	2,150,100	29	Verona
10.	Venezia - Treviso	1,199,705	16	Venezia
11.	Udine - Belluno	938,003	12	Udine
12.	Trieste e Venezia Giulia-Zara	977,257	13	Trieste
13.	Bologna - Ferrara-Ravenna-Forli	1,819,659	24	Bologna
14.	Parma - Modena-Piacenza-Reggio Emilia	1,519,062	20	Parma
15.	Firenze - Pistoia	1,054,183	14	Firenze
16.	Pisa - Livorno-Lucca-Apuania	1,139,817	15	Pisa
17.	Siena - Arezzo-Grosseto	774,014	10	Siena
18.	Ancona - Pesaro-Macerata-Ascoli Piceno	1,270,071	17	Ancona
19.	Perugia - Terni-Rieti	897,505	12	Perugia
20.	Roma - Viterbo-Latina-Frosinone	2,479,963	33	Roma
21.	L'Aquila - Pescara-Chieti-Teramo	1,201,556	16	L'Aquila
22.	Benevento - Campobasso	691,503	9	Benevento
23.	Napoli - Caserta	2,241,708	30	Napoli
24.	Salerno - Avellino	1,151,689	15	Salerno
25.	Bari - Foggia	1,539,575	21	Bari
26.	Lecce - Brindisi-Taranto	1,102,593	15	Lecce
27.	Potenza - Matera	543,252	7	Potenza
28.	Catanzaro - Cosenza-Reggio Calabria	1,771,651	24	Catanzaro
29.	Catania - Messina-Siracusa-Ragusa-Enna	2,059,205	27	Catania
30.	Palermo - Trapani-Agrigento-Caltanissetta	1,940,873	26	Palermo
31.	Cagliari - Sassari-Nuoro	1,034,206	14	Cagliari
32.	Val d'Aosta	85,455	1	Aosta
	Totali.....	42,993,032	573	

100.

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1.	Torino - Novara-Vercelli	2,674,305	28	Torino
2.	Cuneo - Alessandria-Asti	1,340,574	18	Cuneo
3.	Genova - Imperia-La Spezia-Savona	1,466,915	20	Genova
4.	Milano - Pavia	2,667,703	36	Milano
5.	Como - Sondrio-Varese	1,040,909	14	Como
6.	Brescia - Bergamo	1,350,581	18	Brescia
7.	Mantova - Cremona	777,492	10	Mantova
8.	Trento - Bolzano	669,029	9	Trento
9.	Verona - Padova-Vicenza-Rovigo	2,150,105	29	Verona
10.	Venezia - Treviso	1,199,703	16	Venezia
11.	Udine - Belluno	930,005	12	Udine
12.	Trieste e Venezia Giulia-Zara	977,257	13	Trieste
13.	Bologna - Ferrara-Ravenna-Forli	1,819,659	24	Bologna
14.	Parma - Modena-Piacenza-Reggio Emilia	1,519,062	20	Parma
15.	Firenze - Pistoia	1,067,102	14	Firenze
16.	Pisa - Livorno-Lucca-Apuania	1,139,817	15	Pisa
17.	Siena - Arezzo-Grosseto	774,014	10	Siena
18.	Ancona - Pesaro-Macerata-Ascoli Piceno	1,278,071	17	Ancona
19.	Perugia - Terni-Rieti	897,505	12	Perugia
20.	Roma - Viterbo-Latina-Frosinone	2,479,963	33	Roma
21.	L'Aquila - Pescara-Chieti-Teramo	1,201,536	16	L'Aquila
22.	Benevento - Campobasso	691,503	9	Benevento
23.	Napoli - Caserta	2,241,708	30	Napoli
24.	Salerno - Avellino	1,151,689	15	Salerno
25.	Bari - Foggia	1,539,573	21	Bari
26.	Lecce - Brindisi-Taranto	1,102,503	15	Lecce
27.	Potenza - Matera	543,262	7	Potenza
28.	Catanzaro - Cosenza-Reggio Calabria	1,771,651	24	Catanzaro
29.	Catania - Messina-Siracusa-Ragusa-Enna	2,059,205	27	Catania
30.	Palermo - Trapani-Agrigento-Caltanissetta	1,940,673	26	Palermo
31.	Cagliari - Sassari-Nuoro	1,034,266	14	Cagliari
32.	Val d'Aosta	85,455	1	Aosta
	Totali.....	42,995,632	573	

A

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APPENDIX "B"

B

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APPENDIX "C"

Method of voting and of Counting the Votes

1. Nomination. 45 days before the election the parties (or combination of parties) nominate their candidates by depositing lists of them with the Court of Appeal (or Tribunal) of the capital of each college which is called "central office (see Col. 4 of appendix "A"). They may nominate not less than three candidates and not more than the number of Deputies to be elected by the College. The names in each list deposited must be progressively numbered. With the list must also be deposited its symbol or "countersign".

2. The lists of serially numbered candidates, as approved by the Court, are printed on notices to be affixed in the polling station for the voters to see. At the head of each list is printed its symbol, as likewise approved.

3. The ballot-papers contain only the symbols with a square opposite to each upon which the voter marks his vote. The ballot-paper also contains a space for recording "preference votes", as described below.

4. Voting. The voter can only vote for a whole list. He does this by putting a mark on the ballot paper opposite the Symbol of the list he wants to vote for. He cannot strike names out of the list, substitute names from other lists or vote for a candidate on another list.

5. Preference Votes. The seats eventually won by a list are filled by candidates in the order in which they are numbered -- see paras. 1 and 2 above This order may however be varied by the "preference votes" cast by the electors. A voter indicates that he wished a particular candidate to be preferred to the others by writing that candidate's name on the space provided for the purpose on the ballot paper. He selects the names, of course, from the lists affixed in the polling station, as noted in para. 2 above. The voter is limited to--

2 preference votes in the Colleges electing up to 15 Deputies
3 preference votes " " " " 16 or more "

Moreover, preferences can only be given to candidates on the list for which the voter gives his suffrage in manner described in para. 4 above. If he tries to give a preference vote to a candidate from another list, that preference vote is void and not counted.

6. Counting the Votes. The votes cast in each polling station are summarized by the officials and the summary sent up to the "central office" (see para. 1 above) which proceeds:-

(a) to allot seats to each list in proportion to the votes cast for it;

(b) to determine the candidates elected to the seats so allotted, according to the order of the names on the list but as varied by preference votes.

7. To allot seats among the lists, the "electoral quotient" must first be ascertained. This is the result of the following fractions:- 1880

(a) in Colleges returning up to 20 Deputies--
Total votes for all lists ... Electoral quotient;

At the head of each list is printed its symbol, as likewise approved.

3. The ballot-papers contain only the symbols with a square opposite to each upon which the voter marks his vote. The ballot-paper also contains a space for recording "preference votes", as described below.

4. Voting. The voter can only vote for a whole list. He does this by putting a mark on the ballot paper opposite the symbol of the list he wants to vote for. He cannot strike names out of the list, substitute names from other lists or vote for a candidate on another list.

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2 preference votes in the Colleges electing up to 15 Deputies
3 preference votes " " " " 16 or more "

Moreover, preferences can only be given to candidates on the list for which the voter gives his suffrage in manner described in para. 4 above. If he tries to give a preference vote to a candidate from another list, that preference vote is void and not counted.

6. Counting the Votes. The votes cast in each polling station are summarized by the officials and the summary sent up to the "central office" (see para. 1 above) which proceeds:-

(a) to allot seats to each list in proportion to the votes cast for it;

(b) to determine the candidates elected to the seats so allotted, according to the order of the names on the list but as varied by preference votes.

7. To allot seats among the lists, the "electoral quotient" must first be ascertained. This is the result of the following fractions:-

1882

(a) in Colleges returning up to 20 Deputies--

$$\frac{\text{Total votes for all lists}}{\text{No. of Deputies to be elected} + 1} = \text{Electoral quotient;}$$

(b) in Colleges returning 21 or more Deputies--

$$\frac{\text{Total votes for all lists}}{\text{No. of Deputies to be elected} + 2} = \text{Electoral quotient;}$$

The number of seats won by a list is then:-

$$\frac{\text{Total votes for the particular list}}{\text{Electoral quotient}} = \text{No. of seats won + remainder}$$

8. It is possible for the total of the seats so assigned to the various lists to be less than the total seats of the College. In that case the seats unfilled go to the "Single National College" as to which see paras. 10 to 14 below. It is also clear that the total votes given to a list will but rarely be an exact multiple of the electoral quotient: usually there will be an appreciable remainder or "resto" of residuary votes unused. The remainders are made use of ("utilizzazione dei resti") also through the medium of the Single National College.

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9. Having ascertained the number of seats won by each College, the particular candidates to fill them are ascertained by reference to the approved list of each party, already in the possession of the Court (see para. 1 above), and varying them according to the preference votes cast for individual candidates. All candidates who have received any preferences at all are transferred to the head of the list - the candidates with the highest number at the top and so in order. Those with the highest number of preferences are declared elected.

If the number of party candidates who have received preference votes is less than the number of seats won by the party list, then to fill the seats thus left over, regard is had to the order in which the remaining candidates have been placed and numbered by their party in the list.

10. The Single National College. This part of the election proceedings is controlled by the Court of Cassation, acting as the "national central office". Thirty days before the elections the parties lodge with the Court of Cassation lists of their candidates for the National College, using the same list symbol as they have done in the district colleges. They cannot submit more than 32 candidates i.e. a number equal to the total number of colleges. Every candidate for the National College must also be a candidate in some district college. The lists and symbols, as approved by the Court of Cassation, are published in the Official Gazette.

11. After the election the Court of Cassation receives particulars of the results in each district college from the central offices thereof, including especially the number of unfilled seats and the number of residuary votes (resti) for each list - see para. 8 above.

12. The Court then finds the "electoral quotient" for the National College by (a) adding together all the unfilled seats, (b) adding together all the residuary votes for all lists in all colleges and (c) dividing (b) by (a). It then adds together the residuary votes cast for each particular list in every college and divides this total by the electoral quotient. This gives the number of seats in the National College attributable to the list in question.

13. As in the case described in para. 8, this arithmetic may not succeed in filling all the seats left unfilled from the district colleges. A few of the seats may still remain vacant. There may also be remainders or unused votes left over from the process of division. If so, the seats still unfilled are distributed among those lists whose remainders are the greatest.

14. To determine which candidates fill the seats thus distributed, regard is had solely to the order in which the candidates are named in the National College lists. In this instance there is no question of preference votes altering the order pre-determined by the party.

15. Double elections. As a candidate may be nominated for more than one (but not more than 3) district colleges, it is possible that he may be returned for 2 or even 3 of them. In that case, he has to choose which college he will sit for, and failing this, lots are drawn. In the college (or colleges) which it is ultimately decided he is not to represent, the candidate next in order of preference (see para. 9 above) on the same list takes his place and is

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Thirty days before the elections the parties lodge with the Court of Cassation lists of their candidates for the National College, using the same list symbol as they have done in the district colleges. They cannot submit more than 32 candidates i.e. a number equal to the total number of colleges. Every candidate for the National College must also be a candidate in some district college. The lists and symbols, as approved by the Court of Cassation, are published in the Official Gazette.

11. After the election the Court of Cassation receives particulars of the results in each district college from the central offices thereof, including especially the number of unfilled seats and the number of residuary votes (resti) for each list - see para. 8 above.

12. The Court then finds the "electoral quotient" for the National College by (a) adding together all the unfilled seats, (b) adding together all the residuary votes for all lists in all colleges and (c) dividing (b) by (a). It then adds together the residuary votes cast for each particular list in every college and divides this total by the electoral quotient. This gives the number of seats in the National College attributable to the list in question.

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14. To determine which candidates fill the seats thus distributed, regard is had solely to the order in which the candidates are named in the National College lists. In this instance there is no question of preference votes altering the order pre-determined by the party.

15. Double elections. As a candidate may be nominated for more than one (but not more than 3) district colleges, it is possible that he may be returned for 2 or even 3 of them. In that case, he has to choose which college he will sit for, and failing this, lots are drawn. In the college (or colleges) which it is ultimately decided he is not to represent, the candidate next in order of preference (see para. 9 above) on the same list takes his place and is declared elected.

16. Similarly, seeing that candidates for the National College must also be candidates in a district College, a man may find himself returned for the National College and also for one or more district colleges. In that case, he has no choice. He is deemed to be returned for the National College and in the district college (or colleges) the candidate next in order of preference on his list takes his place.

17. The settlement of all electoral disputes and of double elections is reserved to the Constituent Assembly itself.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

INCOMING MESSAGE

Rtsd 290 253 20 24 20 MARCH, 1946.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEMOCHRISTIAN PARTY INFORMED DE GASPERI AND THE PRESIDENT OF CALTANISETTA ON THE 16 MARCH, OF THE FOLLOWING:- DEMOCHRISTIANS DECLARATIONS AND QUALUNQUISTI OF CALTANISETTA INFORMED THE PREFECT OF AN ELECTORAL LIST OF PERSONS EITHER UNDER-AGE, DEAD OR EMIGRATED. TODAY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT HAS SENT HERE SPECIALLY TO ASCERTAIN THIS SERIOUS VIOLATION AND THE PREFECT WAS TOLD NOT TO PUT OUT THE ELECTIONS LIST TO REMOVE THE RESPONSIBLE PARTIES. THIS HAS CAUSED SERIOUS TURMOIL AMONG THE DEMOCRATIC POPULATION WHICH DOES NOT INTEND TO BE SUBJECTED TO SO GRAVE AN INJUSTICE AND HAS DECIDED TO DESTROY THE BALLOT-BOX. WE INFORM YOU THAT THIS WILL CERTAINLY CAUSE AGITATION AND HAVE DRASTIC RESULTS, OF WHICH WE DECLINE EVERY RESPONSIBILITY. WE BEG THAT THE CITIZENS' RIGHT BE DEFENDED. NO PROVISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE COMPLACENCY OF THE AUTHORITIES, THE SOCIAL-COMMUNISTS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING VOTING SYSTEM:- IN THE EARLY MORNING OF MARCH 17, GROUPS OF SOCIAL-COMMUNISTS APPEARED BEFORE THE ELECTORAL SECTION PREVENTING THE FLOW OF THE POPULATION SO THAT AT 1630 HOURS ONLY A SIXTH PART OF THE ELECTORS HAD VOTED. THE POPULATION, FEARFUL OF THEIR LEGITIMATE RIGHT OF VOTING, WENT IN GREAT AGITATION TO THE ELECTORAL SECTIONS REQUESTING FURTHER APPEAL. NOT OBTAINING THIS THEY BURST INTO THE SECTIONS DESTROYING THE BALLOT-BOXES. PUBLIC ORDER OF THE SOCIAL-COMMUNISTS WAS DESTROYED WHEN THE UNDERSECRETARY OF WAR, PIETRO NOLFI, ARRIVED AT THE DIFFICULT MOMENT THAT THE MEETING WAS ORGANIZED AND WHILE SOCIALIST-COMMUNIST, ONOREVOLE CANTALUPO, WAS URGING THE CROWD TO BLOODY ACTION, AND PROVOKED THE MURDEROUS ATTACK OF LO GRASSO GIUSEPPE, DEMOCHRISTIAN, WHO WAS SHOT IN THE BACK. THIS IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND TO ASK THAT A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ALLIED COMMISSION BE SENT OUT HERE TO VERIFY THE SITUATION AND TO GUARANTEE THE LEGITIMATE RIGHT OF THE POPULATION. AMORIO LANZARA, GIUSEPPE LO GRASSO, GIUSEPPE BUTTERA.

ADMIRAL ELLERY W. STONE.
ALLIED COMMISSION
ROME.

(NO)

Re Cats-taking
Sicilian Police

1385

79

0952

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

E.C.

MAR 20 RECD.

TRANSLATION

TELEGRAM.

To:- Admiral Stone.
Rome

List of Democrtheral candidates, friends of America and veterans of Adelein (Reid) Elections 17 inst., protest strongly for the persistent head of list position of democristian mayor - report serious charges - abuses - arrogance - absolutely preventing free democracy taking place at Elections. We foresee disorders. Urge immediate nomination of Prefect Commissioner. We decline all responsibility. Beg for Intervention of Italian authorities.

Stricchiola, Cirillo, Bruno, Angiuli, Lacanelle, Vecchia, Jacobellis, Riccorso, Miccoia, Cozzoli, Scattaglia, Bell Bellusco, Rengone, Stengarone, De Santis, Monteleone.

E.C. DET - 19.3.46
Action: C.A.Sec
Info : C.C.
E.C.

(RH)

78

0955

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

2787
MAR. 181400

H/849
MAR. 190930B
ROUTINE

C.L.O. LOMBARDIA SIGNED PETRILLO
ALCOM FOR CIVIL AFFAIRS BRANCH FOR HANCOCK

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Complete calm and excellent order prevailed yesterday's elections in 220 odd communes of Lombardia. High percentage voters. Priests appeared active neighbourhood polling stations many communes. Presence A clo's in communes visited made favorable impression and welcomed.

AC DIST

ACTION C A Sec
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE 2
FLOAT

RESTRICTED

1881

(77)

0954

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

C. C.

MAR [illegible]

TRANSLATION

INCOMING MESSAGE

FORCE NAGGIORE 104 26 16 1125-

ARRANGEMENTS AND VIOLENCES BY LOCAL COMMUNISTS.OUR LIBERTY DURING MEETINGS AND FOR THE VOTING IS ATTACKED. WE INVOKE MEASURES BE TAKEN TO AVOID COMPLETE DEMOCHRISTIAN ABSTENTION

SEGRETARY DEMOCHRISTIAN SECTION

ADMIRAL STONE
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
ALLIED COMMISSION
ROME.

E.C. DIST - 19.3.46
Action: C.A. Sec
Info: C.C.
E.C.

(AG)

1951

76

0955

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

18th March, 1946.

To: Chief Commissioner.

Subject: Local Elections - Sunday, March 17th 1946.

From information received by mid-day Monday, March 18th the local elections held on Sunday, March 17th took place, in general, without incident with heavy polls as on the previous Sunday.

No information is available yet as to what are the results.

Only one incident has been reported and that was in Sicilly. At Riesi, a town of some 19,000 in habitants in Caltanissetta Province, some demonstrators broke into eight Polling places and broke ~~urns~~. ballot boxes Thirty-six persons have been arrested. The elections are being declared void in this Commune.

204/rc

M Cowburn

Executive Commissioner.

MC/jc.

1879

(75)

17

0956

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

13-Mar

FM ALCOM ACSCC FROM ADMIRAL STONE

AFHQ FOR GEORGE FIVE UNCLE SUGAR POLAD BRITISH RESMIN

1935

UNCLASSIFIED

SECOND

INFORMATION SO FAR RECEIVED INDICATES THAT COMMUNAL ELECTIONS HELD YESTERDAY WERE GENERALLY WITHOUT INCIDENT AND WITH HEAVY TURNOUT OF VOTERS AS ON PREVIOUS SUNDAY PD PARA TWO PD ONLY ONE INCIDENT SO FAR REPORTED IN TOWN OF RIESA POPULATION NINETEEN THOUSAND CMA CALTANISSETTA PROVINCE CMA SICILY WHERE DEMONSTRATORS BROKE INTO EIGHT POLLING PLACES AND BROKE BALLOT BOXES PD THIRTY SIX PERSONS ARRESTED AND ELECTIONS IN THIS COMMUNE HAVE BEEN OFFICIALLY DECLARED VOID

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POLAD (B)
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CC Files

PRIORITY

Chief Commissioner

222

ELLERY W. STONE, Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

2776

MAR 27 REC'D

Report as to the holding of National Elections in Bolzano Province

1. The last fortnightly report of the acting Prefect of Bolzano states that :-
   a) all the 91 communes of the province have compiled their male and female lists;
   b) in no commune have any lists, male or female, been approved by the Electoral Commissions ;
   c) the Electoral Commissions are proceeding by -
      (i) first examining the regularity of the Sindaco's proceedings ;
      (ii) then deciding the cases of those registered electors who are Italian speaking and whose citizenship is not in doubt ; and
      (iii) postponing cases of all German-speaking registered electors until after the Special Commission on citizenship has given a decision.

   In a recent interview the acting Prefect stated categorically that as result of this no part of Bolzano Province will participate in the elections for the Constituent Assembly to be held on 2 June.

2. It is true that the work of the Special Commission and the work of the Electoral Commissions could proceed simultaneously to some extent, but this does not take the matter very far. Nominations have to be lodged with the Court of Appeal 45 days before the elections, i.e. by 18 April. The lists of candidates so deposited have to be subscribed by not less than 500 and not more than 1000 registered electors. The deposited lists have to be accompanied by certificates that the subscribers are in fact registered electors. Therefore the electoral lists must be approved, ready and printed at the latest a day or two before 18 April.

3. It follows therefore that the Special Commission would have to complete its labours by the first few days of April to allow time for entries to be made in the lists in consequence of their decisions. This is obviously quite impossible. The Special Commission has not yet been appointed.

4. It may therefore be taken as certain that the Province of Bolzano cannot in any circumstances now participate in the elections to be held on 2 June.

5. This does not mean that representatives of Bolzano will never participate in the labours of the Constituent Assembly. The law governing the elections for the Constituent Assembly contains a provision to meet the case.

6. Article 13 of the law says that the order fixing the date of the elections may provide for supplementary elections in cases where exceptional circumstances inherent in the present situation in certain frontier zones makes it impossible to hold elections in them at present. Bolzano and Trento provinces form Constituency VIII, returning 9 Deputies. Article 13 makes it possible for the Italian Government to provide that in this Constituency only the Province of Trento shall vote on 2 June and only for (say) 5 deputies and that the remainder of the Constituency, i.e. Bolzano Province shall vote for the remaining 4 deputies at a later date.

7. It is understood that the law on the powers of the Constituent Assembly provides for it to meet 22 days after the elections, i.e. on 24 June and for it to have amaximum life of eight months, i.e. until 24 February 1947.

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Speaking and whose citizenship is not in doubt ; and

(iii) postponing cases of all German-speaking registered electors until after the Special Commission on citizenship has given a decision.

In a recent interview the acting Prefect stated categorically that as result of this no part of Bolzano Province will participate in the elections for the Constituent Assembly to be held on 2 June.

2. It is true that the work of the Special Commission and the work of the Electoral Commissions could proceed simultaneously to some extent, but this does not take the matter very far. Nominations have to be lodged with the Court of Appeal 45 days before the elections, i.e. by 18 April. The lists of candidates so deposited have to be subscribed by not less than 500 and not more than 1000 registered electors. The deposited lists have to be accompanied by certificates that the subscribers are in fact registered electors. Therefore the electoral lists must be approved, ready and printed at the latest a day or two before 18 April.

3. It follows therefore that the Special Commission would have to complete its labours by the first few days of April to allow time for entries to be made in the lists in consequence of their decisions. This is obviously quite impossible. The Special Commission has not yet been appointed.

4. It may therefore be taken as certain that the Province of Bolzano cannot in any circumstances now participate in the elections to be held on 2 June.

5. This does not mean that representatives of Bolzano will never participate in the labours of the Constituent Assembly. The law governing the elections for the Constituent Assembly contains a provision to meet the case.

6. Article 13 of the law says that the order fixing the date of the elections may provide for supplementary elections in cases where exceptional circumstances inherent in the present situation in certain frontier zones makes it impossible to hold elections in them at present. Bolzano and Trento provinces form Constituency VIII, returning 9 Deputies. Article 13 makes it possible for the Italian Government to provide that in this Constituency only the Province of Trento shall vote on 2 June and only for (say) 5 deputies and that the remainder of the Constituency, i.e. Bolzano Province shall vote for the remaining 4 deputies at a later date.

7. It is understood that the law on the powers of the Constituent Assembly provides for it to meet 22 days after the elections, i.e. on 24 June and for it to have amaximum life of eight months, i.e. until 24 February 1947.

8. The acting Prefect of Bolzano expressed no opinion as to when it may be possible to hold elections in Bolzano. This must depend on how long it takes the Special Commission to complete its work, and I do not think anyone could venture a reliable opinion on this. I would say this much myself, that I do not think we shall have any elections in Bolzano before the end of August and probably later. It therefore seems reasonable to assume that the Deputies from Bolzano will take part in the work of the Assembly in its later and possibly middle sessions.

73a

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9. The question arises as to what attitude this HQ should take upon the facts stated above and in particular whether any advice should be tendered or observations made to the Italian Government. To facilitate the consideration of this point, the previous correspondence between the CC and the PM has been summarised in Appendix "A".

10. It will be observed that, with the exception of the CC's last letter, all this correspondence took place before the "hand-over". Now that Bolzano Province is under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government, the policy of this HQ is understood to be:-

a) As to the Special Commission - "that this whole matter of citizenship is one for "it (i.e. the Italian Government) to deal with and that the Allies do not intend "to interfere. It was only because this Commission (i.e.AC) was asked for its "opinion that we advised the Italian Government ....." (quoted from EC's letter to CLO Bolzano of 25 February 1946).

b) As to the preparation of electoral lists and the holding of elections - "that the conduct of the elections is strictly a matter for the Italians to settle" (quoted from CA Section directive of 28 February 1946 to LOs as to their conduct in observing elections.)

11. It is submitted therefore that this HQ should not volunteer any advice to the Italian Government on the matter. It may however be considered desirable to communicate to the PM the observation that the Allies hope that the elections will be held in Bolzano Province as quickly as possible.

14 March 1946

R.R. Temple major

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director, Local Government S/C.

Distribution :- Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Polad A
Polad B
AC/45/12/LG.
AC/45/12/1/LG.
Float.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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14 March 1946

R. R. Temple major

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director, Local Government S/C.

Distribution :- Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Polad A
Polad B
AC/45/12/LG.
AC/45/12/1/LG.
Float.

(73a)

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APPENDIX "A"

Summary of previous correspondence.

1. About 3 July 1945 CC left an Aide-Memoire with Prime Minister PARRI. This drew attention to the nationality problem in Bolzano and asked for the views of the Italian Government.

2. Letter PM to CC - 23 July. This refers to the Aide-Memoire and states the views of the Italian Government, i.e. that there should be a Special Commission with power to conduct a fresh option. In the meantime the PM agreed that the preparation of electoral lists should proceed by registering only Italians and those of German blood who opted for Italy.

3. Letter CC to PM - 20 August. CC agreed with the PM's proposals as to the electoral lists, as in para 2 above, but stated that :-

a) the Special Commission should apply the existing law ;
b) a fresh option was considered highly undesirable until the Italian Government determined their future policy as to the Alto Adige.

4. Letter CC to PM - 21 September - urging the early setting up of the Special Commission as otherwise the embarrassment of all concerned in the preparation of the lists increases from day to day.

5. Letter CC to PM - 19 October - asking for an early reply and pointing out the danger of not being ready in time for the elections. This letter also referred to the possibility of the Special Commission being appointed by AMG if the Italian Government was not able to establish it in the immediate future.

6. Letter PM to CC - 9 November - stating that the Italian Government was studying a decree for establishing a Special Commission "to decide doubtful cases". Meanwhile the preparation of the electoral lists could proceed and the possibility would be considered of temporarily registering the German-speaking population and of subsequently cancelling registrations in those cases found not to have Italian citizenship.

7. Letter PM to CC - 18 November - enclosing a draft Decree and report as to the setting up of the Special Commission. In this letter the PM asked that the preparation of the electoral lists should be suspended.

8. Letter CC to PM (DE GASPERI) - 21 November - pointing out the discrepancies in the letter of 9 and 18 November and stating that instructions had already been given to RC for the preparation of the electoral lists to proceed : otherwise the lists may not be ready by the time of the elections.

3. Letter CC to PM - 20 August. CC agreed with the PM's proposals as to the electoral lists, as in para 2 above, but stated that :-

a) the Special Commissior should apply the existing law ;

b) a fresh option was considered highly undesirable until the Italian Government determined their future policy as to the Alto Adige.

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8. Letter CC to PM (DE GASPERI) - 21 November - pointing out the discrepancies in the letter of 9 and 18 November and stating that instructions had already been given to RC for the preparation of the electoral lists to proceed : otherwise the lists may not be ready by the time of the elections.

9. Further letter CC to PM - 21 December - relating to the draft Decree for the Special Commission. The letter reiterates that the Commission should ascertain the facts and apply the existing law and expresses the view that proposals which would deprive of their citizenship a number of persons who under existing Italian law are Italian citizens were inopportune.

10. Letter CC to PM - 28 January 1946 - which refers to a lengthy memorandum submitted from the PM's Offices upon the juridical aspects of the Italian Government's proposals as to the Special Commission and states that, while this memorandum has merit from a juridical point of view, the proposals are still considered unwise as a matter of policy.

(A)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

E.C.

Copy for Admiral Stone

SEP 17 PM
CC 1040

Rome, September 15, 1945

My dear Mr. Minister,

I refer to Admiral Stone's letter of July 7, 1945, to the President of the Council of Ministers recommending that the basic Italian electoral laws be amended in certain respects to ensure the possibility of holding an independent, free and secret vote in Italy. Certain of the more glaring defects of the Italian electoral law were pointed out. I understand that the Chief Commissioner has not received any assurances from Professor Parri that the Italian Government intends to enact the necessary legislation.

I have been instructed by my Government to support in the fullest possible manner the Chief Commissioner's previous representations to Signor Bonomi and to Professor Parri on this subject and to urge upon the Italian Government early and serious consideration of the defects in the existing electoral system. My Government has particularly stressed the desirability of

1) providing for the control of electioneering at the polling places;

2) making adequate provision for formal nomination of candidates prior to the voting;

3) making provision for official ballots to be furnished by the local or national government (depending upon the type of election);

4) Permitting non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Italian army, as well as officers and members of any other military corps in the service of the State, to vote.

The Honorable
Alcide de Gasperi,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Rome.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

In this connection I should like to recall my conversation with you on August 24, after I had been received by the Prime Minister, in which I expressed the earnest hope of the Government of the United States that communal elections will have been held throughout Italian metropolitan territory before the end of this year, and to refer to my personal letter to you of September 11 containing further observations of my Government in regard to the desirability of beginning to hold immediately administrative elections in Italy. While my Government is of the opinion that a modification of the Italian electoral system along the lines described above is highly desirable, it does not consider that the holding of local elections should be delayed by failure to enact promptly the necessary amending legislation. It is the view of the United States Government that, as I have had occasion to point out previously to you and to the Prime Minister, the Italian Government should begin immediately to prove to the world that Italy is a democratic nation where the normal democratic processes, expressed in local elections, exist.

Sincerely yours,

(53b)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

E.C. — Personal
To note & return.
Eus

Given To Peari by U.S. Photographer
Mich

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The Government of the United States desires to reiterate its views that administrative elections demonstrate the workability of electoral machinery and, therefore, in the opinion of the Government of the United States should commence at once and should precede national elections. Furthermore, the arguments sighted for the postponement of elections have not impressed the Government of the United States.* It is felt that a Government which insists upon its democratic character should take the initial step of seeing that at least local officials in some sections of the nation should have achieved their powers through election by their fellow citizens. Likewise, no reason is seen why local elections in such communes as were first returned to the administration of the Italian Government should be further postponed, while the Council of Ministers is debating the question of first holding national elections. It is noted in addition that the law for the Constituent Assembly is still being discussed, and that therefore the national elections could not be held immediately, while on the other hand local elections in some of the communes could begin at once, and it would thus seem most desirable to begin holding these local elections immediately in the light of the many previous statements on this subject by the Italian Government. In this connection, it is finally noted that if the decision is later taken that the national elections should be held at once, a suspension of local elections would be possible until such time as national balloting might be completed.

The Government of the United States, in conclusion, will watch with interest the steps taken by the Italian Government with regard to this matter.

* On August 24th the President of the Council of Ministers informed the American Ambassador that the Italian Government has not as yet been able to reach an agreement as to when the elections should be held and also indicated the danger of local uprisings and Government crises during the elections.

(530)

Return to
Chief Commissioner

0966

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CC 204 10 September 1945

Dear Mr. Kirk:

Thank you for your letter of 7 September 1945 relative to your official instructions from the U.S. State Department concerning elections and electoral procedure in Italy.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

The Hon. Alexander Kirk
The American Ambassador
119 Via Vittorio Veneto
Rome

cc: Exec. Commr.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

SEP 10 RECD

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Rome, September 7, 1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

I have received official instructions from my Government concerning elections and electoral procedure in Italy which will be of interest to the Allied Commission.

On the assumption that the Italian Government will proceed with its plans for electoral lists for communal and provincial elections and will hold such elections at an early date, my Government is of the opinion that the Italian Government should be permitted to hold elections anywhere in Italy whenever it is ready, provided, however, that in those areas where Allied Military Government is to be maintained, pending the official settlement of frontier questions, local elections must not be permitted to interfere with Allied Military Government administration.

My Government is of the opinion that the Allied Commission, operating through its Local Government Subcommission, should continue its function of rendering advice to the Italian Government to ensure that the procedure in local elections is fair, free and democratic, and, furthermore, that the Allied Commission should renew to the present Government of Italy the suggestions made earlier to the former government that the basic electoral law of 1915 be so modified as to provide for 1) adequate provision for nomination of candidates prior to the voting; 2) control of the electioneering of the polling places; and 3) the supplying of official ballots. Within these recommendations, however, it is felt that the Allied Commission should not insist on changes so elaborate that they would tend to place an excessive burden on the smaller communes and that the Allied Commission should be receptive to such views as may be expressed by Italian officials regarding Italian experience in democratic procedures in local elections.

It is the desire of the Government of the United States that local elections be held as soon as possible and, although

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone,
Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
Rome.

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though we must insist that the procedure be fair, free and democratic, technical objections to minor details should not be permitted to delay the calling of these elections. In any case it is probable that the procedure followed in the first elections in Italy will be subject to subsequent revision.

Sincerely yours,

A. Kirk

CC DIST:
Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section (2)
CC Files

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AIDE MEMOIRE

AG/45/20/16 7 September 1945

SUBJECT: Condition of Casellario Giudiziale Centrale - Piazza Firenze, Rome.

1. I wish to draw your attention to the condition of the Casellario Giudiziale Centrale. As you are no doubt aware, it is necessary in the compilation of electoral lists for provinces to refer to that office to obtain extracts of criminal records in cases where no record is obtainable in the pertinent Provincial Casellario Giudiziale.

2. The information of this Commission is that 1/3 of the Provincial Casellari Giudiziali have been destroyed, thus putting a very heavy burden on the Central Registry.

3. As a result of an explanation given by the Electoral Service in the Ministry of the Interior with regard to the apparent excessive time that it is taking to compile the electoral lists, which was attributed to the fact that considerable time is lost at the Central Registry in making extracts, one of my officers obtained permission to visit the Casellario Giudiziale Centrale.

4. This officer reports that the keeping of the registers is in an extremely bad condition. It appears that:-

(a) the original index cards are only completed up to the year 1930;

(b) that for the years 1930 to 1940, the documents are arranged alphabetically for each province in boxes and are scattered through in a large number of rooms;

(c) that for the years 1941 to 1945, the records are kept tied up in bundles arranged by provinces in yet other rooms.

5. It is therefore necessary for the clerks working in these offices to make 3 separate searches under conditions that in no way lend themselves to accuracy. It is reported that several million names have already been handled in this way, but at the present time there are some 700,000 names incompleted, and it is estimated by the officials of the Central Registry that it will take 3 months to complete the names at present outstanding without any additions that are to be expected.

Letter to Prefect
re copy of

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

6. I am considerably disturbed by this state of affairs, as you will appreciate if it is going to take so long for only one process of the electoral system to be completed, it is going to be a very considerable time before elections, either national or local, can be held throughout the country. The fact furthermore does not appear to be appreciated when statements are made by responsible government officials that elections can and will be held at an early date.

7. I earnestly request that you give this matter your personal attention, with a view to improving the conditions, and in this connection offer the following suggestions:

(a) that additional personnel be hired immediately;

(b) that more space be secured for housing these records until the task of making extracts for electoral lists is concluded;

(c) that all documents be put in wooden boxes and arranged alphabetically according to provinces;

(d) that boxes of documents mentioned be arranged to permit easy access by personnel in 3 or 4 rooms instead of 10 to 15;

(e) that if photographic material and machinery is available and can be procured that photostats of criminal records be made which could be sent to the Communes, thereby obviating the time-consuming process of making extracts by hand.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

RWC/pcc

Delivered to:
The President of the Council of Ministers.
20 September 1945

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CC 204 7 September 1945

Subject: Organisation of the French Elections

To: Le Capitaine de Vaisseau R. MOULLEC
French Representative to Allied Commission

46a

Referring to your letter RM/JG No. 2242 of 24 August, the Chief Commissioner thanks you for the two copies of the Official Journals of the Republic of France dated 23 and 29 March 1945. These papers have been noted and we are returning them herewith as you requested.

/s/ L. W. Stearns

L. W. STEARNS
Major, AGD
Staff Officer to CC

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2 Incls.

2 of 4

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

WD 1108
5 RECD

Tel: 735

Ref: 2806/EC.

4 September 1945.

SUBJECT: Attached Correspondence.

TO : S.C. to Chief Commissioner.

Attached letter and enclosures returned to you as requested. They have been noted by Civil Affairs Section and Local Government Sub-Commission.

for Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

Incl:
as above

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Executive Commissioner
LIAISON DIVISION
A P O 394

AUG 27 RECD
CC 0936

WEN/sem

Ref: 945.1/EC(L)

24 August 1945

SUBJECT: Organization of French Elections

TO : Office of the Chief Commissioner

1. As per request of French Representative to A.C., transmitted herewith is 24 August letter RM/JG No. 2242 with enclosure of specimens of election bills and vote bulletins.

W B Macomber
Officer-in-Charge
Liaison Division

1 Encl: As above

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

SECRET

CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Memo 2806/CC from Lush to Stone 4 Sept 45

1. Action for public statement on Allied troops remaining in Italy.

2. Extract:

"4. A further matter in which a decision is needed is the action now to be taken vis a vis the Italian Government in the light of their failure to reply to or act on our letter and constant reminders to Bonomi (27 February) and Parri (7th July and 29th August) with regard to electoral laws. The 1915 law which affects communal elections is very unsuitable. The 1912 and 1919 laws which affect the national election are less noxious, and we have not yet protested against them. We do not know if the Italian Government intends to use the latter laws. Constant verbal pressure has also been maintained on the Italian Government without success. Has the time arrived for the Allied Governments, urged by the Embassies, to take up the matter? While in process of framing the peace Treaty they must be fully acquainted with the situation about the elections, and it might be politic to bring pressure on the Italian Government in connection with the peace Treaty."

DOCUMENT FILED IN 1018/CC

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SEP 5 RECD

ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AG/65/4/AC

Tel: 478706

SUBJECT: Registration of electoral lists.

3 September 1945

TO : Distribution as below.

1. Para 19 of the Schedule attached to Executive Memorandum No. 5 of 1 July 1945 refers to the work of Provincial Commissions established under Article 8 of DLL 159 of 27 July 1944. The Ministerial Decree of 24 October 1944, in setting forth the rules governing the compilation of electoral lists, provides in Article 2, para 11, for the exclusion from the electoral lists of those found guilty of Fascist activity under the law.

2. By virtue of Article 2 of DLL 159 of 27 July 1944, as modified by Article 2 of DLL 2 of 4 January 1945, both of which have been duly implemented and are in effect in AMG Territory, the presiding officer of the Commission is a magistrate appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers after consultation with the Minister of Harbor and Justice and the High Commissioner for Sanctions Against Fascism. The Italian Government is at present selecting the Presidents of the said Commissions for each province, these names will be published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale and duly implemented so that they are to be effective in AMG Territory. You will be notified of these names as soon as they are appointed.

3. Inasmuch as said DLL 159 and DLL 2 do not specifically indicate who should actually appoint the other 2 members of the Provincial Commissions, but merely indicate that they shall be selected by lot from popular Judges referred to in Article 4 of said Decree, it has been agreed with the Italian Government that the following procedure for the appointment of the remaining 2 judges shall prevail:

(a) The Provincial Commissioner should request the First President of the Court of Appeals to nominate the members:

(b) the Provincial Commissioner should then by formal order appoint those persons as members of the said Commission from the date of the order.

4. This order referred to in the foregoing paragraph need not be printed. It can be mimeographed and handed to the necessary officials and authorities. A copy of this order in both English and Italian is appended hereto for use of Provincial Commissioners.

5. Pending receipt of the names of the President of each Provincial Commission, please instruct the Presidents of the Courts of Appeals of each province to nominate 2 popular judges, who should then be formally appointed by Provincial Commissioners. Names of those appointed for each province should be sent to this HQ for transmission to the Italian Government.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

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2. By virtue of Article 6 of BLL 159 of 27 July 1944, as modified by Article 2 of BLL 2 of 4 January 1945, both of which have been duly implemented and are in effect in AMG Territory, the presiding officer of the Commission is a Magistrate appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers after consultation with the Minister of Pardon and Justice and the High Commissioner for Sanctions Against Fascism. The Italian Government is at present selecting the Presidents of the said Commissions for each province, whose names will be published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale and duly implemented so that they are to be effective in AMG territory. You will be notified of these names as soon as they are appointed.

3. Inasmuch as said BLL 159 and BLL 2 do not specifically indicate who should normally appoint the other 2 members of the Provincial Commissions, but merely indicate that they shall be selected by lot from popular judges referred to in Article 4 of said Decree, it has been agreed with the Italian Government that the following procedure for the appointment of the remaining 2 judges shall prevail:

(a) The Provincial Commissioner should request the First President of the Court of Appeals to nominate the members;

(b) the Provincial Commissioner should then by formal order appoint those persons as members of the said Commission from the date of the order.

4. This order referred to in the foregoing paragraph need not be printed. It can be mimeographed and handed to the necessary officials and authorities. A copy of this order in both English and Italian is appended hereto for use of Provincial Commissioners.

5. Pending receipt of the names of the Presidents of each Provincial Commission, please instruct the Presidents of the Courts of Appeals of each province to nominate 2 popular judges, who should then be formally appointed by Provincial Commissioners. Names of those appointed for each province should be sent to this HQ for transmission to the Italian Government.

1875

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

M CARR
Brigadier
P CA Section

Distribution:

HQ Liguria
Lombardia
Piemonte
Venezia
} with copies for HQs

Chief Commissioner
Exec. Commissioner
Polad (A)
" (B)
Legal Sub Commission

AMG Commissioner - Bardonecchia
" " - Aosta
" " - Pisa-Livorno
CAO Pantelleria (through Liaison Officer, Palermo)
" Lampedusa. " " " "

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

_____ REGION PROVINCE OF _____

_____ September 1945

WHEREAS by virtue of Art. 6 of MLL No. 159 of 27 July 1944, as modified by Art. 2 of MLL No. 2 of 4 January 1945, it has been provided that the two members of the Provincial Commission therein mentioned shall be selected by lot from the lay judges described in Art. 4 of the said MLL No. 159 of 27 July 1944.

AND WHEREAS the said MLL No. 159 of 27 July 1944 and MLL No. 2 of 4 January 1945 have been rendered operative in AMG Territory

AND WHEREAS the President of the Court of Appeals of _____ has nominated _____ and _____ being two of the lay judges described as aforesaid to be members of the said Commission

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____ Provincial Commissioner of _____ in pursuance of authority granted to me by the Chief Civil Affairs Officer, Allied Military Government, for and on behalf of the Military Governor hereby order:

1. Whether or the said Art. 6 of MLL No. 159 of 27 July 1944 provides that the two members of the Provincial Commission shall be selected by lot, the same is hereby amended. The said two members of the Provincial Commission for the province of _____ shall be appointed by me as Provincial Commissioner of the AMG of the said province.

2. I hereby appoint _____ and _____ to be members of the said Commission from the date of this Order.

_____
Provincial Commissioner of _____

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GOVERNO MILITARE ALLEATO

REGIONE_____ PROVINCIA DI _____

_____Settembre 1945

PREMESSO che in virtu' dell'articolo 8 del DLL No.159 del 27 Luglio 1944 come modificato dall'articolo 2 del DLL No.2 del 4 Gennaio 1945 era stato disposto che i due membri della Commissione Provinciale di cui ai detti articoli siano sorteggiati tra i giudici popolari di cui all'art. 4 del detto DLL No.159 del 27 Luglio 1944;

E PREMESSO che detto DLL no.159 del 27 Luglio 1944 ed il DLL no.2 del 4 Gennaio 1945 sono entrati in vigore nel territorio del Governo Militare Alleato;

E PREMESSO che il Presidente della Corte di Appello di _____ ha designato _____ e _____ secondo casi due dei giudici popolari summenzionati, per essere nominati membri componenti della detta Commissione;

IO _____ Commissario Provinciale di _____ in virtu' dell' autorita' a me conferita dal Capo dell'Ufficio Affari Civili del Governo Militare Alleato in nome e per conto del Governatore Militare ordino :

1. Poiche' il detto articolo 8 del DLL No.159 del 27 Luglio 1944 disponde che i due membri della Commissione Provinciale siano tratti a sorte, detto articolo subira' la seguente modifica. I due membri della Commissione Provinciale della provincia di _____ saranno nominati da me, nella mia qualita' di Commissario Provinciale del Governo Militare Alleato di detta provincia.

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2. [illegible]

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

sorteggiati tra i giudici popolari di cui all'art. 4 del detto DLL No.159 del 27 Luglio 1944;

E PREMESSO che detto DLL no.159 del 27 Luglio 1944 ed il DLL no.2 del 4 Gennaio 1945 sono entrati in vigore nel territorio del Governo Militare Alleato;

E PREMESSO che il Presidente della Corte di Appello di _____ ha designato _____ e _____ quali due dei giudici popolari sorteggiati, per essere nominati membri componenti della detta Commissione;

IO _____ Commissario Provinciale di _____ in virtu' dell' autorita' a me conferita dal Capo dell'Ufficio Affari Civili del Governo Militare Alleato in nome e per conto del Governatore Militare ordino:

1. Poiche' il detto articolo 6 del DLL No.159 del 27 Luglio 1944 dispone che i due membri della Commissione Provinciale siano tratti a sorte, detto articolo subira' la seguente modifica. I due membri della Commissione Provinciale della provincia di _____ saranno nominati da me, nella mia qualita' di Commissario Provinciale del Governo Militare Alleato di detta provincia. 1810

2. Io nomino dunque _____ e _____ membri della detta Commissione a partire dalla data del presente ordine.

_____

Commissario Provinciale di _____

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AC/45/B/LG

29 August 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

With reference to my letters AC/45/B/LG of 7 and 27 July upon the subject of local elections, the matter was mentioned to you by Brigadier Upjohn, the Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section on 10 August, and I understand you told him that you thought you would be able to send me a reply very soon.

While I appreciate the difficulties which surround this question, I am anxious to have some indication of the intentions of your Government as to local elections. May I please be informed of the present state of the Government's plans at an early date?

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Professor Ferruccio Parri
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
R o m e

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/4/LG Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Preparation of Electoral Lists. 28 August 1945

TO : Distribution as below.

1. Reference is made to CA Section circular AC/45/A/LG of 18th July dealing with the extension of the Italian franchise to those who became 21 years of age during 1945.

2. The Decree referred to in para. 2 of that circular has now been published. It is in GU. 24 July 1945 No. 436 and it appears in a "Supplemento Ordinario" to the Official Gazette No. 96 of 11 August, 1945. The "Supplemento Ordinario" also contains the Order of this HQ putting the Decree into force in Military Government Territory.

3. The Decree will actually come into force in each province by delivery to the Prefect in accordance with the usual procedure. The purpose of this circular is to draw the attention of the RC to the necessity of immediate delivery of the Gazette and Supplement to the Prefect in view of the fact that action under the Decree is already being taken.

for R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub-Commission.

CGRW/pgw.

Distribution:

RC Liguria, Lombardia, Piemonte, Veneto } with copies for RCs.

AC Liaison Officer, Bologna
AP Commissioner Naples
Ancona
Pisa-Livorno
CAO Lampedusa (through AC Liaison Officer, Palermo)
CAO Pantellaria " " " " "

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Polad (A)
Polad (B)
Legal Sub Commission.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

OC 204 28 August 1945

My dear Captain Moullec:

Thank you very much for your letter of the 24th concerning French election procedure. The two copies of the Official Journals of the Republic of France dated 23 and 29 March 1945, which you so kindly enclosed, I shall return within the next few days.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Le Capitaine de Vaisseau R. MOULLEC
French Representative to Allied Commission
Rome, Italy

cc: Exec. Comm.

1813

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CC 204

28 August 1945

Executive Commissioner,

Please pass the attached letter and inclosures to the Civil Affairs Section for their general information in connection with the coming Italian elections. It is requested that these papers be returned to the Chief Commissioner's Office as soon as possible.

L. W. STEARNS
Major, AGD
SO to CC

3 Incls:
1 - Ltr of 24 Aug 45 from French Rep, AC
2 - Official Journal, Republic of France, 23 Mar 45
3 - Official Journal, Republic of France, 29 Mar 45

0984

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

RC LIGURIA (FOR ACTION) PC LIBERIA (FOR INFORMATION)

4270 25 August 1945 ROUTINE

RESTRICTED PD

PARA ONE PD PREFECT OF LIBERIA HAS REQUESTED MINISTRY OF INTERIOR FOR TWO MONTHS EXTENSION OF TIME LIMIT FOR PREPARATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS IN TWENTY ONE COMMUNES IN PROVINCE OF LIBERIA PD

PARA TO FRO ACTION RC LIGURIA RPTD FOR INFO PC LIBERIA FROM HQ ALCOM CITE ACLGT PAREN

PARA TWO PD EXTENSIONS OF TIME LIMIT ARE RESTRICTED TO PERIOD OF THIRTY DAYS ONLY AS SET OUT IN OUR CABLE TWO EIGHT FOUR TWO DATED THIRTY ONE JULY PD

PARA THREE PD PLEASE INVESTIGATE REQUEST OF PREFECT OF LIBERIA AND ADVISE THIS HQ OF PERIOD GRANTED WITHIN RESTRICTIONS AS IN PARA TWO ABOVE PD

SEE OUR DIRECTIVE ABLE CHARLIE SLANT FORTY FIVE SLANT ABLE SLANT LOVE GEORGE PD

PARA FOUR PD PLEASE INFORM THIS HQ EARLIEST WHETHER ANY OTHER EXTENSIONS OF TIME LIMIT ARE REQUIRED IN LIGURIA REGION PD

PARA FIVE PD FORTNIGHTLY REPORTS ON PROGRESS OF ELECTORAL LISTS ALSO REQUIRED BY THIS HQ AS SET OUT IN ABOVEMENTIONED DIRECTIVE PD REPORTS OR THIRTY ONE JULY FOR LA SPEZIA AND GENOA ONLY RECEIVED PD

LOCAL GOVERNMENT S/C

478190

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO
CWO USA
Asst. Adjutant

1811

0985

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AUG 27 REC'D
CC 0936

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the French Representative
APO 394

ROME, 24th August 1945
RF/JG N° 2242

To : LIAISON DIVISION
A.C. H.Q.

Subject : Organisation of the French elections

P.J. 2

In the course of the 22d August meeting, Admiral Stone did me the honour of asking me several informations about the organisation of the municipal elections in France. Please find herewith, the answers to those questions :

1° Before the war, the candidates themselves were in charge of the printing and the distribution of the elections's bills and vote's bulletins ; in that concern, they were completly free.

2° As regards the last elections of April 1945, the shortage of paper and the difficulties of supply obliged the Government to ration the paper necessary for the publication of those elections's bills and vote's bulletins. Please, find enclosed, for information, the official texts concerning the allocations to each candidat of the paper ration necessary for the establishment of their vote's bills and bulletins.
I would be very grateful if you could send me back these two official papers of the French Republic as soon as the A.C. would be through with them.

Le Capitaine de Vaisseau
R. MOULLEC
French Representative ~~with the~~
to A.C.

Moullec

1810

25/466

0986

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

In keeping with democratic principles which the United States has consistently advocated, you are requested to call on the President of the Council of Ministers and express the interest of your Government in holding of fair and free elections promptly. As soon as honest balloting may be possible, the Government of the United States desires to see Italy commence the reconstruction of its government on an elective basis. With the view to holding national elections as soon as electoral machinery established for local elections is in operation throughout the country, it is felt that the Italian Government should consider immediately the holding of local elections, commune by commune, as quickly as preparations are completed. The United States Government advocates this course as the best guarantee of national democracy and as the most feasible in overcoming material difficulties precisely because the United States Government recognizes the serious responsibilities as well as privileges accruing to the Government of Italy in holding the first elections since the pre-fascist period. Such a course will provide already tested machinery for the national elections and would restore to the community, which is the foundation of the state, democratic responsibility. Although the Government of the United States is getting ready to conclude a treaty of peace with Italy, on the assumption that it is a democratic state, it is not possible up to the present time to point to a single commune which has a popularly elected organ of government, even in that territory early liberated and restored to Italian jurisdiction. Consequently it is the earnest hope of the Government of the United States that at least communal elections will have been held throughout Italian metropolitan territory before the end of 1945.

(4b)

A File - No (5)
US position
on Elections

15.8

0987

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

22 August 1945.

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

Thank you for your letter of 20 August 1945 informing me of the views of the Department of State regarding the preparation of electoral lists in the Province of Bolzano and the Italian Government's position with respect to those residents who may be eligible for registration.

The views of the Department of State will be made known to the Italian Government, and at the same time it will be pointed out that present discussions on this subject are without prejudice to the final disposition of this Province.

Sincerely yours,

cc Ec Comm.
CA Sec.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

The Honorable Alexander Kirk,
American Ambassador,
119 Via Vittorio Veneto,
Rome.

1855

0988

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CC

21 August 1945.

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

Thank you for your letter of 20 August giving the views of the Department of State regarding elections in the Compartment of Venezia Giulia and the Province of Bolzano.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

The Honorable Alexander Kirk,
American Ambassador,
119 Via Vittorio Veneto,
Rome.

Copy to: Exec Comm
VF CA Section

1807

0989

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AUG 21 RECD
CC 1616

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Rome, August 20, 1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

Regarding elections in the compartment of Venezia Giulia and the Province of Bolzano, the Department of State has expressed itself in favor of permitting the Italian Government to prepare, at this stage, electoral lists for communal and national elections in these areas. The Italian Government should be permitted, the Department feels, to hold communal elections anywhere and whenever it is ready, including Bolzano Province and the compartment of Venezia Giulia. Whenever the national elections come along it is felt that these areas should likewise take part therein on the same conditions as other Italian provinces.

Sincerely yours,

A. Kirk.

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone,
Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
Rome.

(44)

(43)

21/8
CC DIST:
Executive Commr.
Civil Affairs Sec.
CC Files

1836

0990

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

COPY

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Rome, August 20, 1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

Regarding our various conversations concerning preparation of electoral lists in the Province of Bolzano and the Italian Government's position with respect to those residents who may be eligible for registration, I am happy to inform you of the views of the Department of State which I have just received. The Department is of the opinion that we should accept the Italian proposal concerning those persons in Bolzano who may be inscribed in the electoral lists but that the Allied Commission should bring to the attention of the Italian Government that expulsion of persons from the province who opted for Germany, emigrated and subsequently returned to Bolzano, should be effected only after agreement with Allied authorities in Germany has been reached. With respect to the sending of an Italian commission to Bolzano to examine individual cases, the Department feels that this is an administrative matter for decision by you.

With respect to Professor Parri's comments on education in his letter of July 5, it is felt that Allied Military Government should not be bound by the views of the Italian Government, if, as appears probable, the measures contemplated are inadequate, with respect to German language and instruction, to meet the needs of the population of the Province. The Department has expressed the view that such instruction should be provided through high school grades at least. The Department also noted the lack of any reference in the letter from the President of the Council of Ministers regarding Italian epuration legislation affecting Nazis, such as was suggested in your letter of July 23, to complement similar AMG decrees which will lapse when the province is returned to Italian jurisdiction.

In

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone,
Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
Rome.

0991

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

In conclusion, the Department is of the opinion that, in present discussions on the Province of Bolzano, the Allied Commission should make it clear to the Italian Government that they are without prejudice to the final disposition of this Province.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ A. Kirk

0992

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

16 August 1945.

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

39 A

Thank you for your letter of 13 August enclosing a paraphrase of a telegram expressing the views of the Department of State on the holding of administrative (local) elections and national elections.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

The Honorable Alexander Kirk,
American Ambassador,
119 Via Vittorio Veneto,
Rome.

41

0993

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

SECRET

8/237
Aug 150900

F/4228
Aug 171455
ROUTINE

AMG 13 CORPS
AFHQ INFO HQ AIBOM

SECRET.

Your letter 11 August subject Elections in VENEZIA GIULIA.

It is not considered expedient to allow local elections at this stage. The new general order on Local Government is about to be implemented and it would be unwise to bring in new factors at present.

DISTRIBUTION:
Info-Action: CA Sec
Info: Chief Commissioner
Local Government
File 2
Float

SECRET

0994

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AUG 18 RECD
CC 094.

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Rome, August 13, 1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

With reference to the difference in opinion between several of the political parties represented in the government concerning the holding of administrative (local) elections and national elections, I believe that you should know the views of the Department of State on that question as expressed in a telegram dated July 11, 1945. I am enclosing a paraphrase thereof.

A copy of this paraphrase has, I understand, already been made available to the Vice President, Civil Affairs Section, by the Office of the American Political Adviser.

Sincerely yours,

A. Kirk

Enclosure

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone,
Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
R o m e.

File
390 Woodruff

1942

0995

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Paraphrase of telegram from Department of State,
July 11, 1945

Subject: Interval between local elections and national elections

The institutional question will be decided by the national election and the Allies are obliged to guarantee that that question will be decided in a fair and free manner. In order to accomplish this satisfactorily, the Department believes there should be a reasonable interval between local elections and the national election. There would thus be an opportunity for modification in electoral procedure or special preparations in case the Allies or the Italian Government feel this is warranted by the experiences of the local elections, which are held for the first time in twenty years. The Department for this reason feel that local and national elections should not occur simultaneously. The Department agrees, furthermore, that careful preparation of decree convoking Constituent Assembly is required. It is of no concern to the Department, however, if in future the permanent Italian Government wishes to establish simultaneous local and national elections for the sake of economy. The Italian Government should be urged by AC, as an initial step in preparation for national elections, to speed preparations for communal elections.

AMG VENEZIE REGION

3200 5th August, 1945 PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL PD

PARA ONE PD REFERENCE YOUR LETTER ROGER XRAY ONE ONE OBLIQUE ZERO TWO FIVE PERIOD ONE ONE ONE DATED TWO EIGHT JULY CMA MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ARE VERY ADVERSE TO GRANTING SUCH LENGTHY EXTENSIONS OF TIME FOR COMPILATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS PD

PAREN TO FOR ACTION AMG VENEZIE REGION FROM HQ ALCOM CITE ACCAS PAREN

THEY CONSIDER THAT THIRTY DAYS MUST BE THE LIMIT PD THIS COMMISSION AGREES CMA PARTICULARLY SO WHERE IT CONCERNS COMMUNES WITH A POPULATION OF UNDER FIVE THOUSAND PD PARA TWO PD YOU WILL PLEASE CURTAIL THOSE EXTENSIONS ALREADY GIVEN WHICH EXCEED THIRTY DAYS TO THAT LIMIT AND CONFIRM

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

478190

NICHOLAS FIORENO
CWO USA
Asst. Adjutant.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

3200 5th August, 1945 PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL FD

PARA ONE FD REFERENCE YOUR LETTER ROGER XRAY ONE ONE OBLIQUE ZERO TWO FIVE PERIOD ONE ONE ONE DATED TWO EIGHT JULY CMA MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ARE VERY ADVERSE TO GRANTING SUCH LENGTHY EXTENSIONS OF TIME FOR COMPILATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS FD

PAREN TO FOR ACTION AMG VENEZIE REGION FROM HQ ALCOM CITE ACCAS PAREN

THEY CONSIDER THAT THIRTY DAYS MUST BE THE LIMIT FD THIS COMMISSION AGREES CMA PARTICULARLY SO WHERE IT CONCERNS COMMUNES WITH A POPULATION OF UNDER FIVE THOUSAND FD

PARA TWO FD YOU WILL PLEASE CURTAIL THOSE EXTENSIONS ALREADY GIVEN WHICH EXCEED THIRTY DAYS TO THAT LIMIT AND CONFIRM

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

478190

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO
CWO USA
Asst. Adjutant.

LCC

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

0998

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AUG 9 1950

ALLIED [redacted] COMMISSION

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Reference attached magazines, FILE No. PRE/103/

August 3 1945

TO : Chief Commissioner

Your attention is called to the lead election story in Nouvo Mondo and the article on Page 13 of U.S.A., both of which are published by USIS. More of this type of material will appear in subsequent issues of these magazines and other periodicals being produced by USIS.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

1733

0999

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

SECRET

AUG 3 REC'D

F/30396
JULY 31/1708B

F/2089
AUGUST 1/0830B

PRIORITY

FREEDOM SIGNED SACMED CITE FHGEG

ALCOMM ROME

SECRET.

Your 2713 of 28 July. Elections in VENEZIA GIULIA. Subject was referred by political advisers to LONDON and WASHINGTON who are not as yet in agreement. Will inform you as soon as definite advice available

DIST

ACTION : LOCAL GOVT

INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CA SEC
FILE (2)
FLOAT

SECRET

1783

1000

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AFHQ (FOR ACTION)

2713 28 July 1945 PRIORITY

SECRET PD

SUBJECT IS ELECTIONS IN VENEZIA GIULIA PD

PARA ONE PD REFERENCE THIS HQ SIGNAL SIX EIGHT ONE OF TWO SEVEN JUNE CMA PAREN TO FOR ACTION AFHQ FROM HQ AICOM CITE ACLGT PAREN

REPLY IS URGENTLY REQUESTED PD

See 37

LOCAL GOVERNMENT S/C

478190

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO
CWO USA
Asst. Adjutant

1731

36

1001

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Ug u.24

C C FILES

1
CC 1000

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
566

Rome, 28 July 1945

(37)

Dear Admiral,

I am most grateful for your kind communication of July 25th. I am glad to see that, while it encourages a rapid summoning of the assemblies of electors, to rehabilitate the democratic methods abandoned by fascism, the Allied Commission means to refrain from expressing opinions and preferences for what concerns the character and the aim of the elections themselves. As you know, these instructions fully correspond to the program of the Government, which is actively working for the preparation of the elections, knowing that their aims and nature are the responsibility of the Italian people only.

I beg you to accept my thanks and I remain, my dear Admiral,

Yours very truly,

s. Ferruccio Parri

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome

trans. e/o
ec

(35)

EC DIST - 30 JULY 45

Action : G A Sec
Info : Chief Commr
Exec Commr
Polad (A)
Polad (B)
F R Br.

1002

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

R-4574
JUL 281045B

F/1641
JUL 281125B

ROUTINE

AMG BOLZANO

AMG VENEZIA INFO ALSOM

IN CLEAR.

R12/PE/123/1. PARRI suggested to UFJOHN on Monday last that BONVI should be sent to BOLZANO to advise on function of the proposed commission to settle difficulties of compilation of electoral list. SECRETARIAT and Prefect welcome this proposal and would like BONVI to come up as soon as possible. If you are agreeable will you signal ALSOM to send him up forthwith to report to PROVINCIO Commissioner. Signed UFJOHN.

DLT

INFO-ACTION: CA Sec
INFO: Chief Commissioner
Ex Commissioner 2
Local Govt
File 2
Fleet

1780

1003

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AVANTI, 28 July 1945

The Allied Comaission and the Costituente

A propos of the summoning of the Constituente, the President of the Council of Ministers read a letter of Admiral Stone in which the Chief of the Allied Commission rectifies a few opinions which have been attributed to him. The rectification states that the Allied spokesman quoted by Associated Press expressed no opinion about the character and date of the Italian elections. Instead of that, he stated that the armistice does not forbid the elections from taking place in Italy, and that, on the contrary, the A.C. hopes that they will take place as soon as possible.

IL POPOLO, 28 July 1945

The Allies and the Italian elections

For what concerns the recent statements to the press of so-called spokesmen of the Allied Commission concerning the elections in Italy, someone who is very close to Admiral Stone, Commissioner of the A.C., stated that the spokesman had been asked whether it was true that the armistice clauses prevented the elections from taking place in Italy. He answered in t 'it wasn't so', and that, on the contrary, the Allied Commission encouraged and helped the Italian Government to have the elections take place as soon as possible. This happens to be in accordance with the well known policy of the Allied Govts. according to which democratic methods should be, if possible, rapidly reestablished in Italy. Nevertheless, the Allied spokesman expressed no opinion about the character, aim or real date of the elections which are to take place.

trans. e.c.

1004

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

25 July 1945

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

My attention has been called to press reports concerning the holding of elections in Italy, distributed by the Associated Press, in which certain statements are attributed to a spokesman of the Allied Commission. Copies of the newspaper articles are attached.

Since these press reports contain certain statements not made by the spokesman of the Allied Commission and since the holding of elections in Italy is a subject of such vital interest to you and your Government, I hasten to inform you of the true facts.

The Allied Commission spokesman was asked whether it was true that the armistice terms prevented the holding of elections in Italy. He replied that this was not the case and that, on the contrary, the Allied Commission was encouraging and assisting the Italian Government to hold elections as soon as possible. This is, of course, in accord with the well-known policy of the Allied Governments that democratic processes should be restored in Italy as rapidly as conditions permit. The Allied spokesman, however, expressed no opinion with respect to the character, purpose, or actual date of the Italian elections to be held.

I thought you would wish to have this clarification of an article which has gone far beyond any statements the Allied Commission has made to the press.

Very truly yours,

cc: Educ. Commr.
CA Sec.
Pol. Adver. (A)
Pol. Adver. (B)
PRB
cc Files

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Professor Ferruccio Parri,
President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
Rome.

See 33

See 35

1734

1005.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

From "Il Giornale del Mattino - 7, 24, 45 -

GLI ALLEATI FAVOREVOLI ALLE ELEZIONI PER LA COSTITUENTE

Secondo "L'Associated Press" un portavoce della Commissione Alleata ha dichiarato che la Commissione incoraggia il Governo italiano ad indire le elezioni per l'Assemblea Costituente, al piu' presto possibile, affinchè essa possa pronunciarsi pro o contro la monarchia.

Il portavoce ha soggiunto che le condizioni di armistizio non proibiscono che siano tenute elezioni per la nomina dell'Assemblea, elezioni che la Commissione desidera, anzi, siano indette presto.

AC Supports Early Elections For Italy

ROME, July 24—An Allied Commission spokesman said today that it has been encouraging the Italian Government to hold elections for a Constituent Assembly as soon as possible, and that the Assembly can then decide whether it wants to retain a monarchy, it was reported by Associated Press.

This comment was made in reference to the speech in Milan on Sunday by Pietro Nenni, in which the Socialist vice premier urged the Big Three to scrap the Armistice terms to enable the Constituent Assembly to meet quickly.

The spokesman also said that the Milan meeting was "perfectly legal," inasmuch as the ban on political meetings in northern Italy was lifted some days ago, Associated Press said.

25 July 45 Stars and Stripes

1750

37 MP

1006

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AC/15/3/1G

25 July 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

I wrote to you on 7 July upon the subject of administrative elections, informing you of the previous correspondence in July between Signor Bonomi and myself and of certain definite views which the U.S. and British Governments have expressed in the matter.

I would again remind you of the great importance that the two Governments attach to this subject and I shall, therefore, be glad to receive a reply to my letter at the earliest possible date.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Professor Ferruccio Parri,
President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
Rome.

1782

1007

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

JUL 240930B

F/1139
JUL 250830B
IMPORTANT

VENEZIE REGION
HQ ALLIED COMMISSION LOCAL GOVERNMENT

IN CLEAR.

Reference your telegram nr 960 of 1 July subject compilation electoral lists. In confirmation of telephone conversation 24 July 0900 hours. CASSELLARIO GIUDIZIALE attached to PROCURA DEL REGNO are operating in all Provinces except VICENZA where duplicate copies of records have been requested from ROME and ROVERETO in TRENTO Province. Full information regarding BOLZANO Province follows shortly.

DIST

ACTION: L. Govt SC
INFO: Chief Commissioner
CA Sec
File 2
Float

1791

1008

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AC/45/A/LG

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Preparation of electoral lists.

20 July 1945

TO : RC Emilia
Liguria
Lombardia
Piemonte
Venezie

1. Reference is made to the meeting of RCs held at this HQ on 14 July under the presidency of the Executive Commissioner, and particularly to paragraph 17 of the minutes of that meeting.

2. In considering recommendations as to the Liaison Officers to be left in their Regions after Military Government ceases, RCs are requested to take into account the question of supervising the preparation of the electoral lists, and to advise the Executive Commissioner (a) whether in their opinion supervision by Allied officers of the preparation of the electoral lists would be desirable, (b) whether it would be practical and (c) the number and type of Liaison Officers that would be required for the purpose.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

G. R. UPJOHN, Brig.
VP CA Section

Copy to: Chief Commissioner
Exec. Commissioner
Polad (A)
" (B)

30

179

4595

JUL 19 RECD

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AC/45/A/LC

Tel: 478706

18 July 1945

SUBJECT: Preparation of electoral lists.

TO : Distribution as below.

1. As Regional and Provincial Commissioners are aware, the right to vote (or rather, to be inscribed in the electoral lists) has been granted to those Italian citizens who reached the age of 21 by 31 December 1944. As it now appears unlikely that it will be possible to hold elections until the late autumn, it follows that all those who reach the age of 21 during 1945 would be disfranchised. The Italian Government have therefore decided, in agreement with this HQ, to alter the franchise in this respect.

2. A Decree has therefore been prepared and agreed and will shortly be passed into law whereby those Italian citizens---men and women--who reach the age of 21 by 31 December 1945 will also be entitled to be inscribed in the electoral lists. It is intended to publish this Decree in a supplement to the Official Gazette and to insert in the same supplement the usual ordinance implementing it for Military Government Territory. In this way, the Decree will come into force in Military Government Territory at the earliest possible moment.

3. In Southern and Central Italy, where the electoral lists have been completed or nearly so, it will be necessary to prepare supplementary lists of those who reach 21 during this year. In Northern Italy, however, this can and must be avoided: and in the lists preparation of which commenced on 15 July there will be inserted the names of all those (a) who have already reached the age of 21 this year or (b) who will reach that age before 1 January 1946.

4. RCs will ensure that Prefects and Sindaci are instructed accordingly, and that they include these additional persons in the lists at once, and without waiting for the new Decree to be published and distributed.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

G. R. UPJOHN, Brig.
VP CA Section

Distribution:

RC Emilia
Liguria
Lombardia } with copies for PCs
Piemonte
Venezie

1789

1009
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

A Decree has therefore been prepared and approved which will shortly be passed into law whereby those Italian citizens--men and women--who reach the age of 21 by 31 December 1945 will also be entitled to be inscribed in the electoral lists. It is intended to publish this Decree in a supplement to the Official Gazette and to insert in the same supplement the usual ordinance implementing it for Military Government Territory. In this way, the Decree will come into force in Military Government Territory at the earliest possible moment.

3. In Southern and Central Italy, where the electoral lists have been completed or nearly so, it will be necessary to prepare supplementary lists of those who reach 21 during this year. In Northern Italy, however, this can and must be avoided: and in the lists preparation of which commenced on 15 July there will be inserted the names of all those (a) who have already reached the age of 21 this year or (b, who will reach that age before 1 January 1946.

4. RCs will ensure that Prefects and Sindaci are instructed accordingly, and that they include these additional persons in the lists at once, and without waiting for the new Decree to be published and distributed.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

G. R. UPJOHN, Brig.
VP CA Section

Distribution:

RC Emilia
Liguria
Lombardia } with copies for RCs
Piemonte
Venezia

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Polad (A)
" (B)
Legal Sub Commission
AMG Commissioner - Naples
" " - Ancona
" " - Pisa--Livorno
CAO Pantelleria (through Liaison Officer, Palermo)
" Lampedusa " " " "

1789

1010

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

1011

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

17 July 1945.

SUBJECT: Special Information Campaign Prior to Italian Elections.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

(26)

Referring to PWB's memo of 12 July, file 100/PWB, on the above subject, I approve the recommendation made in para 6 that the Executive Commissioner's office transmit copies of PWB's memorandum of 12 July, together with attachments, to all Regional Commissioners.

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Copy to: PWB

2044

1783

(28)

1012

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

RESTRICTED

E/432
JUL 15NFT

E/9781
JUL 151500B

ROUTINE

AMG EMILIA REGION

HQ ALCOM CITE ACIGT

RESTRICTED.

Subject is preparation of electoral lists. Mayors and deputazione officials appointed in all Provinces except BOLOGNA where 10 mayors not yet appointed. At MODENA appointment of deputazione officials will be completed by 17 July and appointment of Mayors completed by 21 July.

DIST

ACTION: Local Govt SC
INFO: Chief Commissioner
CA Sec
File 2
Float

RESTRICTED

(21)

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CC 1456
JUL 12 REC'D

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSP/mcw

100/PRB

12 July 45

SUBJECT: Special Information Campaign Prior to Italian Elections

TO : Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner

1. At the conference of Regional Commissioners on June 27 there was discussion concerning the need for an Allied program of information and education designed to guide and assist Italians toward democratic processes, especially in the matter of free elections.

2. Your paper to the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Theatre, on future policy toward Italy contained two paragraphs emphasizing the need for such an educational campaign.

3. It was suggested at the conference that the Director, PRB meet with the Directors in Italy of the United States Information Service, the Ministry of Information and the British and United States Press Attaches to ascertain what their respective agencies were doing in this field and what they planned for the future. It was suggested that periodic meetings be held to coordinate the efforts of the two information agencies and to plan future programs.

4. A meeting was held with the above mentioned agencies on July 7 at which the problem was discussed and analyzed. From the discussion it was apparent that both USIS and MOI already have done a great deal toward the desired objective and have extensive plans for the immediate future. I asked them to give me reports summarizing their plans. Attached hereto is a summary of MOI plans and a directive from USIS to its staff on this question. Both will give you a good idea as to how they are tackling this problem. I hope their plans meet with your approval.

5. USIS and MOI will not be able to establish effective offices in the cities of northern Italy for several months and will need the help of the Regional and Provincial Commissioners in the distribution of their material. At the conference of Regional Commissioners several commissioners indicated their willingness to assist USIS and MOI in carrying out their educational programs.

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6. It is recommended that the Executive Commissioner's office transmit copies of this memorandum and the attached reports to the Regional Commissioners with instructions to them to assist USIS and MOI in every way possible to carry out their educational and informational programs.

7. It is planned to have periodic meetings with the representatives of USIS and MOI on the development of plans for this educational campaign.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

Attachments (2)

Summary of MOI Plans
USIS Directive

(26)

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE

ITALY

July 9, 1945

Special Guidance on Italian Elections

The following Special Guidance on the Italian Elections was approved by the Coordinating Committee, USIS Italy, on July 9, 1945, and is now in effect.

The Special Guidance consists of two parts, a Background describing the informational task of USIS in connection with the forthcoming elections, and a Program section asking for specific action by USIS departments and branches. In view of the importance of the program, the Coordinating Committee would like to receive as soon as possible additional proposals from USIS departments and branches on ways of implementing the Guidance in the various media.

* * *

Background

A national election is planned in Italy to select a Constituent Assembly. The exact date of this election has not yet been determined, but it will probably be held during the coming winter or next spring.

The election, and the period leading up to it, will be crucial in Italian history. The country is emerging from twenty years of Fascism, and most Italians have virtually no knowledge of democratic thinking and procedure. Even before Fascism, there was little democracy in Italy, especially as regards the exercise of the franchise, as Americans or British understand that term.

The desire to see established a free and democratic Italy is basic in American policy. It is obvious that "democracy" cannot be imposed upon a country like Italy, but must arise naturally out of conditions favorable to it. It is also obvious that after so many years of authoritarianism, the creation of an environment

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The desire to see established a free and democratic Italy is basic in American policy. It is obvious that "democracy" cannot be imposed upon a country like Italy, but must arise naturally out of conditions favorable to it. It is also obvious that after so many years of authoritarianism, the creation of an environment favorable to the growth of democracy will require a broad program of re-education of the Italian people.

It is not the business of the American Government to tell Italians what kind of democracy or government they should have. It is not our function to state or imply that American democracy is better than any other kind of democracy. But we can try to help Italians in their political evolution by telling them about our political experience, with the thought that they

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can learn from both our mistakes and our successes. We believe that world security must be largely dependent upon mutual understanding between democratic, peace-loving nations, and one of our most urgent tasks, therefore, must be to explain the true character of American democracy and to give every possible aid to any people in need of information about how democracy works.

The months preceding the Italian elections offer an exceptionally favorable opportunity to bring to Italians information about democratic procedures. It will be a time of intense political debate and agitation. It should be remembered that a people without democratic political experience often do not understand some of the most basic principles of conduct in democracies, such as the principles of restraint, fair play, a willingness to abide by the will of the majority, as well as a respect for the rights of minorities. This means that our informational program should be broadly based, and include not only material on our electoral system and functions of government, but also material on the rights and responsibilities of the individual citizen, and the way in which democratic principles are applied in labor, industry, the school and the community, for example, as well as in State and national government.

Our information must also be broadly based in the sense that it should be designed to reach all classes of Italians. One important target is the class of government officials, administrators educators and other group leaders who should be provided with thorough and reliable information on the principles and machinery of democratic elections. The other important target is the mass of Italian people who, by their political competence as expressed in their use of the franchise, will determine the ultimate success of Italian democracy.

Program

I. Booklets:

1. Reprinting of "Elections in the United States". A few minor changes are required in the text to bring it up to date. A print run of 150,000 copies is required, distribution to include the mailing list for all technical bulletins, as well as distribution in the North through Civil Affairs Officers and elsewhere in Italy through USIS branch offices.

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2. Reprinting of the booklet "How the United States Government Works". A press run of 100,000 copies is suggested, with distribution to the list receiving the educational bulletins as well as through Civil Affairs Officers in North Italy and USIS branch offices.

3. Reprinting of the booklet on Documents of Liberty". A press run of 100,000 copies is suggested, with distribution as in #2 above.

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4. Reprinting of the booklet "Making the American Constitution", including a complete text of the Constitution and Amendments. A press run of 100,000 copies is suggested, with distribution as above.

Production of the four booklets should be undertaken immediately in Rome, with delivery in not longer than one month. A more attractive format is recommended for the new edition of the booklets, with the use of color on the covers. Suitable introductions should be prepared explaining the purpose of the booklets.

The Publications division has editorial responsibility for the new editions of the booklets. An Italian translation of "Making the American Constitution" is required; this should be done in Rome by the Publications section.

A letter should be prepared by the Publications section offering additional copies of the booklets in bulk to persons whose names are on the Complimentary List, such as Italian Government officials.

II. Books:

The Book Department should make an intensive effort to obtain and distribute to responsible Government officials authoritative books on electoral procedure.

A determined effort should be made to facilitate translation and publication, by Italian publishers, of good American books on government and politics.

III. Periodicals:

1. Nuovo Mondo - Regular publication of a series of articles on elections and other democratic processes in America and other democracies should begin at once.

2. U.S.A. and Victory - New York should be asked to give special emphasis to the same type of material in future Italian editions.

IV. Radio:

New York should beasked to prepare suitable material on elections and democratic processes for direct broadcasting in commentaries and other programs. The Radio Bureau should also be

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IV. Radio:

New York should beasked to prepare suitable material on elections and democratic processes for direct broadcasting in commentaries and other programs. The Radio Bureau should also be asked to prepare special series of recordings, such as one on the American election system, for re-broadcasting on local Italian stations.

V. Motion Pictures:

Suitable plans for both theatrical and non-theatrical distribution should be obtained from New York. The USIS film

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officer should begin as soon as possible to arrange for distribution in commercial theatres and by means of USIS 16-mm. projectors, working in cooperation with the British Ministry of Information.

VI. News and Features:

In addition to a continuing service of news, features and pictures on democracy in action, the News and Features Division should prepare a special background kit for editors on U.S. elections and political procedure.

VII. Special Projects:

This Division should undertake an investigation of possibilities for speakers, forums, exhibits, etc. in the field and submit specific proposals for action to the Coordinating Committee.

VIII. Library:

Special collections of books and articles on elections and political procedure should be assembled and prominently displayed in all USIS information libraries.

It is proposed that the program above should be carried out in consultation with the Allied Commission and particularly with the advice and counsel of the Civil Affairs Officers in northern Italy. It is contemplated that these officers will cooperate with USIS in the distribution of materials.

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told of about a dozen British dailies for commercial sale in Italy. The Press Office is attending to the details of local distribution. This is a most useful plan, but the number of newspapers ought to be at least doubled.

(g) Library Books

Supplies of standard reference books and British Stationery Office books for Rome and the provincial posts have been ordered and are expected. Should these books be out of print or in short supply, as many of them are, second-hand copies should be obtained, or else the books concerned should be withdrawn from other posts abroad, the importance of which has dwindled.

It should be added that one of the essentials in carrying out this programme is the obtaining of suitable staff and equipment which can often be done only with great difficulty and delay. Typewriters, roneographing machines, cars and filing cabinets may seem small matters, but no office can function without them. Representations are being made to the military authorities for assistance in these matters, and it is hoped that if Admiral Stone's memorandum is approved in principle, these representations will meet with success.

Yours sincerely

(Sgd)
D. Pemberton-Pigott,
Lt. Col.,
Assistant Press Attaché.

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DPR/CJ

BRITISH EMBASSY,
R O M E.

9th July, 1945.

Dear Stewart Brown,

The following is a summary of the Ministry of Information's present plans for the British side of Allied propaganda towards Italy, and of the proposals for intensifying this campaign which will be discussed by the Ambassador and by Mr. Stewart in London next week. I hope this will give you the information which you requested at the meeting on Friday.

The Ministry of Information's plans for the immediate future, which are at the moment being put into effect, are as follows:

(i) The Treasury have authorised seven provincial offices in Naples, Palermo, Florence, Milan, Genoa, Turin and Venice, in addition to the office in Rome. Those south of Rome are already established, and it is hoped to establish those in the north by the 1st August at the latest.

(ii) Each office, with the exception of those in Rome and Milan, which are larger, will be staffed by an Information Officer, an Assistant Information Officer and British and Italian clerical assistance.

(iii) The duties of the Information Officers will be to maintain in contact with the local press, to organise a news, feature and photograph service to the press, to attend to the distribution of limited supplies of English newspapers and books, to build up a reference library, and in two posts, probably Rome and Milan, to arrange when possible for relays and exchange programmes between the Italian radio and the B.B.C.

G. Stewart-Brown, Esq.,
Director of Public Relations,
Allied Commission,
ROME.

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(iv) Ultimately we hope to establish further information centres in other provincial cities, which will depend either on the Ministry's main provincial posts or on the Anglo-Italian Association. I do not, however, see any prospect of starting these on a general scale for several months, and perhaps not for a year or more.

(v) The distribution of films will remain the responsibility of P.W.B. until the commercial companies take over in September or October. Thereafter, the Ministry of Information will only concern itself with arranging for the exhibition of Government and Government-sponsored documentary films.

(vi) The Ministry of Information does not at present intend to publish its own daily or periodical paper, nor to print for sale or free distribution large quantities of its own or H.M.S.O. publications. It has, however, an arrangement whereby Italian publishers can obtain the Italian translation rights of certain English books against lire payments to the Press Office.

(vii) These plans are the outcome of proposals submitted by Mr. Stewart in March and May of this year. They were designed to give us a decentralized propaganda organisation, the working basis of which would be personal contact with newspaper editors and other controllers of organs of mass information, and the provision of certain specialized but limited services, i.e. facilities for obtaining translation rights, etc.

The following are Mr. Stewart's proposals for increasing the strength and output of this propaganda. For convenience they are listed under channels :

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(a) Distribution

We should accept A.M.G.'s offer to distribute our material and see that the offices of the provincial commissioners receive supplies of material for distribution to the press. These offices will be more numerous than ours, and can act as our distributing agencies in cities where we have no office.

We should also have a sixth provincial office north of Rome in Bologna.

(b) Italian Correspondents in England

The British Government have agreed to accept six Italian correspondents in England, but there is difficulty in financing them. It is suggested that the Government should pay them in sterling in England against lire payments to the Press Office in Rome.

(c) Publications and Periodicals in England.

Financial authority is required to spend up to £5,000 or £8,000 to print locally any publications which we might consider useful. The material would be selected by the Press Attaché or a member of his staff from any official or commercial material which appeared suitable. Locally printed material would be distributed free to newspapers and other useful organs of propaganda, and put on sale at a normal price to the public.

Special efforts should be made to continue the publication of IL MESE until at least March or April of next year.

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(d) Broadcasting

The B.B.C. Italian Service should be revised to give special emphasis to the points which we wish to put across, i.e. social services, educational reform, etc., and the Press Office Broadcasting Officer should arrange where possible for local relays and supply material to the Italian radio which would be useful to them in their programmes.

(e) Films

P.W.B. film distribution is excellent, and we may expect that when the commercial companies take over they will in their own interests try and maintain P.W.B.'s standard. The difficulty is the films. Practically the whole of British film production during the last five years has been devoted to war films: these, except as an indication of character and toughness, are not of immediate value in Italy. The commercial companies are presumably producing peace these films, but it is doubtful if any of these will be shown in Italy for many months. All we can do in the meantime to ensure that such films as we have at our disposal already and which serve our purpose are widely shown through the P.W.B. distribution units, and later through the commercial companies.

(f) British newspapers and periodicals

The Press Office is already receiving and distributing free to newspapers and other bodies a limited number of British newspapers and periodicals. This number must be increased to cover similar distribution lists in our provincial offices and an estimate of requirements has been prepared. In addition, the Ministry of Information has a plan for sending by air approximately 3,000 copies all

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7 July 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I desire to bring to your attention the correspondence which in recent months has passed between the former Prime Minister, Signor Bonomi, and myself upon the subject of administrative elections.

At my request, and knowing the great interest which the Allies take in the subject of democratic elections in Italy, Signor Bonomi was good enough in a letter of 27 February to give me an outline of what his Government had in mind with regard to the reconstitution of elective local authorities and the conduct of the elections for them. Premising that the definitive structure of local government is but a part of the institutional reforms upon which the Constituent Assembly will be called to determine, Signor Bonomi indicated that provision of a transitory nature should be made, so as to give immediate effect to the elective principle without, on the other hand, prejudicing the ultimate creation of a system of local government as a part of the new constitution.

The late Government, therefore, proposed to return to the Unified Text of 1915 and to reconstitute the elective Communal and Provincial Councils contemplated by that Text, and to revive those of its provisions which govern the method of voting for the Communal and Provincial Councillors. It was their intention, however, to make certain minor amendments and simplifications in the Text, as for example, a certain reduction in the numbers of the Councillors and the abolition of the separate Presidency of the Provincial Deputation.

After a careful examination of the relevant provisions of the Unified Text of 1915, I pointed out to the then Prime Minister, in my reply of 19 April that the voting measures which the then Government proposed to adopt did not provide sufficient controls and guarantees to ensure the possibility of holding an independent, free and secret vote. In particular, I indicated to Signor Bonomi that some of the principal defects in the system of the 1915 Text were:

(a) no formal nomination of candidates prior to voting;

(b) no official ballot paper;

(c) no control of electioneering at the polling places;

and I most earnestly recommended that the election law be amended prior to the holding of the elections in territory under the control of the Italian Government.

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As to territory under Allied Military Government, I had to state that because of these procedural defects the Allied Commission could not countenance the holding of elections according to the 1915 system.

On 20 May, Signor Bonomi answered my letter of 19 April, giving, however, only his personal point of view on the questions raised by me, which I may summarize as being that the provisions of the 1915 Text were, in his opinion, adequate.

So that you may have the fullest comprehension of the matter, I am enclosing copies of the correspondence in question.

In bringing to your notice the criticisms of the 1915 Law which I have already urged upon Signor Bonomi, I am representing to the Italian Government the official view of the Government of the United States of America, with which the Government of the United Kingdom is in agreement. I would therefore urge, with all the gravity which the issues involved demand, that the views of the Allied Governments be given the earliest and fullest consideration by your Government, and that I may be informed of the Italian Government's plans and intentions in the matter under discussion with all possible speed.

It may be advisable to indicate that the three particular defects named in my letter of 19 April are not exhaustive and that other points of criticism might be enumerated. Some of these may be susceptible of a reasonable explanation in the course of discussions between representatives of the Italian Government and the Allied Commission, entered upon with the common object of ensuring to the Italian people the fairest, freest, and most democratic method of recording their votes that can be devised. Others, however, are clearly not consonant with the spirit of modern democracy. As an instance, I may mention the provision of the Text of 1915 which, while permitting officers of the armed forces to exercise the franchise, denies it to non-commissioned officers and men - a provision to which the Allied Governments have taken particular objection.

Yours very truly,

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Professor Ferruccio Parri
President of the Council of Ministers
Rome

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AMAMBASSADOR
BR. "
U.S. POLAD.
BR. POLAD
CA SEC'T.

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AFHQ G-5 INFO TROOPERS

1266 5 July 45. OPS PRIORITY

SECRET PD

PARA ONE PD SUBJECT IS NATIONAL ELECTIONS PD SEE TROOPERS SIGNAL FIVE SEVEN THREE NINE ZERO CHARLIE ABLE TWO PAREN BAKER PAREN DATED FOUR JULY AND REFERENCE CONVERSATION HENN DASH URJOHN PD

PAREN TO AFHQ GEORDE FIVE INFO TROOPERS FROM ALCOM CITE ACCAS PAREN

PARA TWO PD THE POSITION IS NOT PRECISELY AS STATED IN SIGNAL PD THERE IS NOTHING IN ITALIAN LAW WHICH PREVENTS NATIONAL ELECTIONS TAKING PLACE AT ANY TIME AFTER COMPILATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS THROUGHOUT ITALY PD SUCH ELECTIONS COULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE OR AT ANY TIME AFTER LOCAL ELECTIONS PD

PARA THREE PD AS A PRACTICAL MATTER CMA HOWEVER CMA IT WOULD BE UNDESRIABLE TO HOLD NATIONAL ELECTIONS UNTIL DECREE HAS BEEN PASSED SETTING OUT POWERS CMA DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY FOR MEMBERSHIP OF WHICH THE PEOPLE WILL BE ASKED TO VOTE AT THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS PD

PARA FOUR PD MANY OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT THE PREPARATION OF THIS DECREE CMA ITS CONSIDERATION BY THE CONSULTA PAREN A BODY ITSELF NOT YET FORMED PAREN AND FINAL APPROVAL BY THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MAY TAKE FIVE OR SIX MONTHS PD IF THIS PERIOD IS SHORTENED THE ELECTIONS CAN BE HELD EARLIER PD

EVEN NENNI CMA WHO CMA AS YOU WILL RECALL CMA IS CHARGED WITH THIS TASK CMA DOES NOT SEE HOW NATIONAL ELECTIONS CAN BE HELD BEFORE SPRING

INT DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
POLAD (A)
POLAD (B)
Legal S/C
Local Government S/C
Civil Affairs Section

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
525
C.R. URJOHN, Brig.

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO
CWO USA
Ass Adjutant.

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CC

MAR 14 RECD

FM ALCOM CITY AGNXC

13 MARCH 46

AFHQ FOR G-5

1803

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT IS ITALIAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS WHICH WERE HELD IN
FOUR TOWNS SIX CON MISS SUMMARY PD
INITIAL REPORTS FROM ALLIED AND ITALIAN OBSERVERS SHOW THAT
VOTING TOOK PLACE WITHOUT INCIDENT PD POLLING WAS HEAVY
ESPECIALLY ON PART OF WOMEN PD BOTH OFFICIALS AND ELECTORATE
APPEARED TO BE CONSCIOUS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE OCCASION AND
CONDUCTED PROCEEDINGS WITH DIGNITY

GOI
U.S. Embassy.
British Embassy.
Polad (A)
Polad (B)
CA Rep

APPENDIX

Executive Commissioner

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N. W. HIND-SMITH

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MAR 14 RECD

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/45/1

Tel: 478706

SUBJECT: Results of Elections on 10 March

12 March 1946

TO : Civil Affairs Section

1. No further information is yet available from the Ministry of Interior upon which a report could be founded. A study has however been made of such results as have been reported in certain of the Rome newspapers. All papers emphasize the following points:

a. The entirely orderly character of the proceedings everywhere

b. The heavy poll--averaging over 75%

c. The expecially heavy poll of women

2. Results are reported in a number of communes varying from 130 to 192 out of the 436 due to vote. The figures given are partial and sometimes contradict themselves, and no correct picture can be obtained even as to those communes reported on. One paper however gives a list of 130 communes, naming the party which secured the highest number of votes in each and which it may be of interest to summarize as follows:

Socialists and Communists in majority (including Actionists and Republicans in the block in some cases)	46	communes
Actionists or Republicans in majority	6	"
Independents " "	9	"
Demo-Christians " "	55	"
Labour - Democrats - Democrats - Liberals - Liberals & UQ - or UQ - in majority	12	"
Veterans in majority	2	"
	130	

It does not of course follow that the party or block winning the highest number of votes necessarily has a majority on the Council.

3. Some papers give the votes cast in the [illegible] which held

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Demo-Christians " "	55 "
Labour - Democrats - Democrats - Liberals - Liberals & UQ - or UQ - in majority	12 "
Veterans in majority	2 "
	130

It does not of course follow that the party or block winning the highest number of votes necessarily has a majority on the Council.

3. Some papers give the votes cast in the 6 provincial capitals which held their elections on 10 March, which are summarized as follows:

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Commune and 1931 population	Comm./Soc.	Dem.-Christ.	Others	Remarks
Arezzo (60,284)	19,335	6,423	4,556	Heavy left majority
Enna (23,581)	No figures available; but papers report a clear majority for the "Republican concentration"			
Frosinone (18,447)	2,212	3,500	787	D.C. majority
Gresseto (26,428)	9,066	1,209	4,569 (incl. 3503 Rep. votes)	Heavy left majority
Rieti (34,769)	7,132	3,180	3,115	No clear majority
Teramo (33,796)	8,408	5,641	1,867	A left majority, but a balance or the Council

	Comm.	Soc.	D/C	Rep.	Lib./UQ
Seats won:	12	8	16	2	2

4. The above figures should not be taken as reliable in any way. In any case it is much too early and the results known are much too meager for any inference as to political tendencies to be drawn.

CGRW/rbe

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

1950

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majority

Teramo (33,796)	8,408	5,641	1,867	A left majority, but a balance on the Council

	Comm.	Soc.	D/C	Rep.	Lib./UQ
Seats won:	12	8	16	2	2

4. The above figures should not be taken as reliable in any way. In any case it is much too early and the results known are much too meager for any inference as to political tendencies to be drawn.

CGRW/rbe

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

1850

(72)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Brief Inside
to FTD See

MAR 12 RECD

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

FIRST LOCAL ELECTION DAY MARCH 10th 1946

From our own sources information will not be available until Officers of the Local Government S/C return to this Hd.Qrs and reports are received from Chief Liaison Officers.

As regards Officers of the Local Govt. S/C one Officer proceeded to the Como Area and another to CALABRIA.

Liaison Officers have instructions to report immediately after each election day and reports should come in during the week.

No information is available from the press on Monday morning, as no papers are issued.

Italian Government sources state that as regards results of the elections no information has yet come in. As regards Public Safety in general no disorders are so far known to have occurred in connection with the elections except in the small village of PENNA in TERAMO Province where there were some disturbances of a minor nature.

The report based mainly on that of a Liaison Officer who observed in FROSINONE Province is attached.

12 Encl.
11 March 46.

DISTRIBUTION: Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
PCLAD (A)
PCLAD (B)

71a

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/45/1

Tel: 478706

SUBJECT: Local Elections of 10 March

11 March 1946

TO : Civil Affairs Section

1. The information as to yesterday's results at the moment of writing (10.30 hrs) is as follows:

2. Ministry of Interior:

They have unofficial information of the results in one commune only--Montefiore dell'Aso (province of Ascoli), population 3591.

The polling was over 75% (I should estimate this at about 1500 votes cast). Number of councillors to be elected: 20.

Returned:-

4 Christian Democrats
16 Socialists
20

3. Official results will come in gradually during the week and will be tabulated and summarized by the Electoral Service. They don't expect a general picture of the situation before Thursday or Friday.

4. The Ministry have not been notified of any infringements of public order or irregularities.

5. AC Liaison Officer RAAC:

Lt Col MILLHOUSE visited the following communes in Frosinone province:-

Alatri
Ferentino
Fiuggi
Frosinone
Serrone

He reports heavy polling, especially by women--crowds in the street--everything quite orderly everywhere. Police arrangements excellent, the police keeping themselves well in the background in accordance with the Questore's orders.

6. As to nominations, combinations of parties were the rule, and usually only 2 or 3 lists put up, e.g.:-

) Democ Christian

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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He reports heavy polling, especially by women--crowds in the street--everything quite orderly everywhere. Police arrangements excellent, the police keeping themselves well in the background in accordance with the Questore's orders.

6. As to nominations, combinations of parties were the rule, and usually only 2 or 3 lists put up, e.g.:-

Alatri) Demo-Christian
) Liberals, etc.
) Communists/Socialists

Fuggi) Demo-Christian
) Communists

Ferentino) Demo-Christian
) Communists/Socialists

71a

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An exception was Frosinone, which had 5 lists:-

Demo-Christian	40	candidates
Communists	40	"
Socialists	40	"
Independents, about	20	" organised from all parties on area basis with object of securing representation for fractions.
~~Liberal~~ Labour Democrats, about	15	candidates.

This is because Frosinone has proportional representation.

7. Noteworthy incidents are as follows:

Ferentino: The printers had left a lot of completely blank sheets among the ballots. Voters receiving these nevertheless in their ignorance put them in the ballot box. This was discovered during the day and arrangements made to notify voters to demand a proper ballot if they should receive a blank sheet. Nothing could be done of course about those who had already put blank sheets in the ballot box.

Serrone: (2707 pop.) Election suspended by Prefect due to last minute discovery of irregularities in preparing electoral lists. The commune includes a fraction which has a greater population than the rest of the commune. No electors in this fraction had been registered at all in order (it is alleged) to secure control to the old village center.

Frosinone: Christian Democrats had a committee room close to one of the sections. A crowd assembled outside it. CCRR closed the committee rooms as infringing the law about no electoral propaganda within 200 meters of a section. Their decision was accepted without trouble.

Generally: considerable delay in beginning to take the votes due to the fact that officials did not start to prepare the ballot papers until after the poll had opened at 0800 hours. This meant considerable crowds and congestion and polling sometimes did not start until 1000 hours. Nevertheless, this is in accordance with the law.

The Prefect was out inspecting his province.

The general feeling seems to be that the Christian Democrats will win in most communes except Ferentino, where the Communists/Socialists will.

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

CGRW/rbe

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Major

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

CGRW/rbe

(48)

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MAR 7 REC'D

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

LIST of COMMUNES near ROME holding LOCAL ELECTIONS on SUNDAY, 10 MARCH 1946

Province of ROMA
Affile
Anzio
Carterano
Cave
Castel Gandolfo
Castel Madama
Cerreto Laziale
Filacciano
(a)Frascati
Lerr
Marcellina
Mentana
Monte Flavio
Monte Libretti
Moricone
Morlupo
Nazzano
Nerola
Nettuno
Palombara Sabina
Percano Romano
Rocca Cerberano
Licenza
(a)Roca Priora
Tolfato
S Vittoi
San Polo dei Cavalieri
Vallepietra

(b)Province of FROSINONE
Acuto
Alatri
Collepardo
Pevertino
(b)Fiuggi
(b)Frosinone
Fumone
Guarcino
Serrone
Trivigliano
Vico nel Lazio

Province of VITERBO
Arlena di Castro
Lubriano
Valentano
Vignanello

Province of LATINA
Castelforte
Formia
Gaeta
Lenola
Minturno
Spigno Saturnia

Province of RIETI
Rieti

Province of TERNI
Alviano
Banchi
Castel Viscardo
Lugnano in Teverina
Porano

2704

NOTES - (a) - An officer of the Sub-Commission (if available) will visit these two communes.
(b) - The AC Liaison Officer ZAF intends to tour Frosinone Province & will probably visit Fiuggi & Frosinone Communes.

Distribution :- Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
VP CA Section
Polad A (+ copy for Ambassador)
Polad B (+ " " ")
AC/45/30/LG
Float

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

C. C.

EX 62271
MARCH 081819A

H/370
MARCH 090910
PRIORITY

AFHQ,

13 CORPS NAFRD 2 DISTRICT EATS CAPODICHINO 3 DISTRICT 1419 AAFBU FOGGIA
SIGNED SACMED CITE FHQCT
ARMY AIR BASE RAAC ROME ATC PBS 58AACS NAPLES ALCOM 2677 REGT SSU ROME

CONFIDENTIAL:

1. Italian local elections will be held in approximately 5000 Communes on sundays 10,17,24 and 31 March and 7 April. Date will vary from Comune to Commune.

2. Personnel of all Military formations will be directed to avoid any kind of intervention or appearance of intervention in these elections.

AC DIST

INFO ACTION - LOCAL GORT
INFO - CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EX COMM
CAS
FILE

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

XX FROM MC ALOHE LIGHTED STORE OF TH ACKO

TO (ACTION) G-5, AMA

1701 XXXX

8 MARCH 46

Classification
XXXXXXXXX CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT IS ITALIAN DESIRE TO REPATRIATE ED

NUMBER TO BY ONE SIX AND SEVEN OF SIX PARTICULARLY SIX ED 10 11

LETTER JUST RECEIVED FROM ITALIAN GOVERNMENT EXPRESSING FEAR THAT

POLISH TROOPS MAY ATTEMPT TO DETAIN ITALIAN ACTIVISTS ED

THIS IS REFERRED TO THIS HQ FOR INFORMATION AND POSSIBLE SPECIAL ACTION

NECESSARY

CC: Poland (A)
Poland (B)
CA Sec

CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY

Executive Communications

1376

5

206

FROM HQ ALCOM SIGNED STONE CITE ACXXC 8 MARCH 46

TO (ACTION) G-5, AFHQ

1701 XXXX

Classification
XXXXXXXXX CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT IS ITALIAN LOCAL ELECTIONS FD

FURTHER TO MY ONE SIX ZERO SEVEN OF SIX MARCH HOUR SIX FD

LATTER JUST RECEIVED FROM ITALIAN GOVERNMENT EXPRESSES FEAR THAT

POLISH TROOPS MAY INTERFERE WITH ELECTION ACTIVITIES FD

THIS IS NOTIFIED IN CASE YOU CONSIDER ANY SPECIAL ACTION

NECESSARY

cc: Poland (A)
Poland (B)
CA Sec

PRECEDENCE: PRIORITY

Executive Commissioner

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

SUBJECT IS ITALIAN LOCAL ELECTIONS FD

FURTHER TO MY ONE SIX ZERO SEVEN OF SIX MARCH FOUR SIX FD

LETTER JUST RECEIVED FROM ITALIAN GOVERNMENT EXPRESSING FEAR THAT

POLISH TROOPS MAY INTERFERE WITH ELECTION ACTIVITIES FD

THIS IS NOTIFIED IN CASE YOU CONSIDER ANY SPECIAL ACTION

NECESSARY

cc: Poland (A)
Poland (B)
CA Sec

PRECEDENCE: PRIORITY

Executive Commissioner

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

1046

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

xxx FROM Hq AMCONSUL STATE CITY ADDR

TO (ACTION) G-5, APO.

1607 6 March 46 Classification xxxxxxxxx CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT I: ITALIAN LOCAL ELECTIONS PD

ABOUT FIVE HUNDRED CARABINIERI WILL HOLD LOCAL ELECTIONS ON SUNDAYS

DELETED DELETED SEVEN DELETED DELETED AND THREE ONE MARCH AND

SEVEN APRIL PD

WITH FULL AGREEMENT OF MINISTERS AND RULE BY OF INTERIOR I HAVE

ALLOCATED FOR ALLIED OBSERVATION OFFICERS TO OBSERVE PD

THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO DO SO INCONSPICUOUSLY AND AVOID ANY

APPEARANCE OF INTERVENTION OR DOMINATION PD

COPY BEING INSTRUCTIONS FOLLOWS PD

REQUESTED THAT ALLIED MILITARY MISSIONS BE INFORMED OF HOLDING OF

ELECTION AND BE ADVISED TO AVOID ANY KIND OF INTERVENTION OR

APPEARANCE OF INTERVENTION

cc: Poland (A)
Poland (B)
Dr. Lee

Precedence: PRIORITY.

Executive Communications

(10) a 300

1823

1047

XXX FROM HQ ALCOM SIGNED STONE CITE ACEXJ

TO (ACTION) G-5, AFHQ.

1607 6 March 46 Classification XXXXXXXXX CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT IS ITALIAN LOCAL ELECTIONS PD

ABOUT FIVE THOUSAND COMMUNES WILL HOLD LOCAL ELECTIONS ON SUNDAYS CMA TEN CMA ONE SEVEN CMA TWO FOUR CMA AND THREE ONE MARCH AND SEVEN APRIL PD

WITH FULL AGREEMENT OF EMBASSIES AND MINISTRY OF INTERIOR I HAVE ARRANGED FOR ALLIED COMMISSION LIAISON OFFICERS TO OBSERVE PD

THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO DO SO INCONSPICUOUSLY AND AVOID ANY APPEARANCE OF INTERVENTION OR SUPERVISION PD

COPY THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOLLOWS PD

RECOMMEND THAT ALLIED MILITARY FORMATIONS BE INFORMED OF HOLDING OF ELECTIONS AND BE ADVISED TO AVOID ANY KIND OF INTERVENTION OR APPEARANCE OF INTERVENTION

cc: Polad (A)
Polad (B)
CA Sec

Precedence: PRIORITY.

Executive Commissioner

1865

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ABOUT FIVE THOUSAND COMMUNES WILL HOLD LOCAL ELECTIONS ON SUNDAYS CMA TEN CMA ONE SEVEN CMA TWO FOUR CMA AND THREE ONE MARCH AND SEVEN APRIL PD

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THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO DO SO INCONSPICUOUSLY AND AVOID ANY APPEARANCE OF INTERVENTION OR SUPERVISION PD

COPY THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOLLOWS PD

RECOMMEND THAT ALLIED MILITARY FORMATIONS BE INFORMED OF HOLDING OF ELECTIONS AND BE ADVISED TO AVOID ANY KIND OF INTERVENTION OR APPEARANCE OF INTERVENTION

cc: Polad (A)
Polad (B)
CA Sec

Precedence: PRIORITY.

Executive Commissioner

1383

(90) a 300

1048

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Chief Commissioner

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

C o n f i d e n t i a l

AC/45/38/LG 28 February 1946.

SUBJECT : Observation of Elections of Communal Councils

DISTRIBUTION : see below

1. Over fifty per cent of the Communes in Italy will go to the polls to elect the members of their new Communal Councils on five successive Sundays: 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st March and 7th April. It is part of the functions of AC Liaison Officers to observe these elections in the same way as they do any other public activity in their area. This directive contains instructions as to how LOs are to proceed in observing such elections.

2. Appendix "A" contains a list of the Communes in your area which will vote on the four Sundays in March above mentioned. The lists for 10th and 17th March are final, but those for 24th and 31st March are not yet complete and no information has yet been received as to the Communes voting on 7th April. Supplementary lists will be supplied as information is received in this HQ.

3. Appendix "B" is a very brief statement of the procedure at the polling stations restricted to the main points likely to be of interest to LOs.

4. The policy of this HQ is that the conduct of elections is strictly a matter for the Italians to settle. Great care must therefore be taken to avoid any possible impression, which would be erroneous, that Allied representatives are interfering in or supervising the elections. The conduct of LOs in observing the elections will be as inconspicuous as possible. In particular an LO will on no account enter a polling station or any place where votes are being counted.

5. Within the general principles enunciated in the preceding paragraphs it is left to the discretion of LOs to determine how they should inform themselves upon this subject. They will of course make use of their usual sources of information such as the local Press and their normal contacts with Italian functionaries. LOs should visit a typical Commune or Communes on election day and observe the behaviour of the population in the streets and public places.

6. The Italian Government itself has appointed a number of officials from the Ministry of the Interior of the rank of Prefect or Vice-Prefect to be Inspectors-General for the purpose of observing the conduct of elections in various parts of Italy. A list of these Inspectors-General and their areas is given in Appendix "C". LOs should make contact with these Inspectors-General who can obviously be a useful source of information.

7. Reports are required after each election day from LOs on this

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 1049

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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2. Appendix "A" contains a list of the Communes in your area which will vote on the four Sundays in March above mentioned. The lists for 10th and 17th March are final, but those for 24th and 31st March are not yet complete and no information has yet been received as to the Communes voting on 7th April. Supplementary lists will be supplied as information is received in this HQ.

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7. Reports are required after each election day from LOs on this subject and should be addressed to the Local Government Sub-Commission at this HQ. They should mention very briefly what they have observed and draw attention to any special or unusual feature. In this connection Appendix "B" should be studied carefully. Among points which might be noted are the following: state of public order; any electioneering within 200 metres of polls; any election meetings in public places; any other type of political activity; any form of intimidation or bribery to influence voting; any unusual use of transport to bring people to the polls; etc.

(70)

8. As regards UDINE Province the attention of the Provincial Commissioner is drawn to the fact that although the Province is under AMG the elections are entirely an Italian matter and that they are being carried out by the Italians themselves pursuant to Italian law. The instructions contained in this directive apply equally as well to AMG Officers in UDINE.

9. The Officers of Local Government Sub-Commission will visit selected Communes to make a closer technical study of the elections. They will, when it is possible, contact the appropriate CLOs in the course of their visits. Such visits however are not in substitution for the observation of the elections by LOs in accordance with this directive.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR-GENERAL STONE

M.C.P.R.
Brigadier
VP Gn. Section

MRT/cw

Distribution : AC Chief Liaison Officers
Naples
Livorno
Bologna
Liguria
Venezia
Lombardia
Bolzano
Piemonte
Sicily
Bari
AC Liaison Officer - Milan
PC Udine

Copies for info. to : Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Polad A
Polad B
} less appendices A & C

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

A P P E N D I X "B"

Election of Communal Council - Procedure at polling station

1. Communes are divided into sections containing 100-1000 electors. Each section has its own polling station.

2. Only the officials and electors holding certificates of registration in the electoral lists may enter the polling stations. The police may not enter unless requested by the presiding official or in the case of disorder.

3. The polling stations are divided across the middle by a barrier : on one side are the officials' table and the voting booths, on the other side stand the electors waiting to vote.

4. The elector must first produce his identity card or otherwise identify himself as the person registered. He must also present his certificate of registration in the electoral lists. The Sindaco issues the certificate to all registered electors 5 days or more before the election. The presiding official then tears off and conserves a detachable strip from the certificate of registration and hands the voter a ballot paper and a pencil.

5. The ballot paper contains lists in parallel columns of the candidates nominated by the various parties . Candidates have to be formally nominated 30 days before the election. The names of those duly nominated have to be publicly posted in the Communes 15 days before the elections and also in the polling station (Note: Nominations for the elections on 10 and 17 March should therefore have been published by now or within a day or two).

6. The elector goes into one of the curtained polling booths, marks his paper, folds it and hands it (and the pencil) to the presiding official who places it in the ballot box.

7. In Communes of less than 30,000 inhabitants the candidates receiving the highest number of votes are elected , but the elector can only vote for four-fifths of the seats to be filled. The elector votes by putting a cross against the names of the candidates of his choice. He can also vote for a whole list by putting a cross on top of the column. In that case he may cancel names by striking them out and add names from other lists by putting a cross against them.

8. In Communes of 30,000 inhabitants or more or which (whatever their population) are provincial capitals, the voting is by proportional representation. In this case the voter must vote for the list by putting a cross at the head of the column of candidates chosen by him. He may however cancel names from the list. He may also put a cross against the names of particular candidates in the list voted by him to indicate that he prefers them to the others. He may give from 1 to 5 preference votes according to the size of the Council to be elected.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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9. Polling hours are from 0800 to 1900 hours - in large sections until 2000 hours. Electors actually within the polling station at the close of the poll may vote until 2100 hours.

10. The ballot papers are checked and votes are counted at the polling station immediately after the closing of the poll. The following day the presiding officials of all sections meet in one of the polling stations, add up the results of all the sections and declare the result.

11. All kinds of electioneering are forbidden within a radius of 200 metres of a polling station. No election meetings may be held in public places on the election day.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Chief Commissioner MAR 1 RECD

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/21/LG

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Analysis of Progress of Electoral Work for Period Ending 16 February 1946.

25 February 1946

TO : V.P. Civil Affairs Section

(See distribution below of copies)

(Note: For the purpose of this analysis territory is shown as Italian Government (I.G.) and Northern Provinces (N.P.) territory in accordance with the situation prior to 31 December 1945.)

PART I

A. ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TERRITORY

Total No. of Communes: 3585
No. reported on : 3585

1. Compilation of draft lists (Elenchi)

Male lists compiled :	3,460	i.e. 98% of all I.G. Communes have male lists compiled
Female lists compiled :	3,568	i.e. 99.5% of all I.G. Communes have female lists compiled
Total :	7,028	i.e. 98% of all I.G. Communes have communal lists compiled

2. Approval of definitive lists

Male lists approved :	2,375	i.e. 66% of all I.G. Communes have male lists approved
Female lists approved :	2,548	i.e. 71% of all I.G. Communes have female lists approved
Total :	4,923	i.e. 69% of all I.G. Communes have male and female lists approved

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 97% of lists were compiled up to 31 January.
98% " " " " " " 16 February.

b. 61% of lists were approved up to 31 [illegible]

1034

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

PART I

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No. reported on : 3585

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Female lists approved : 2,548 - i.e. 71% of all I.G. Communes have female lists approved

Total : 4,923 - i.e. 69% of all I.G. Communes have male and female lists approved

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 97% of lists were compiled up to 31 January.
98% " " " " " " 16 February.

b. 61% of lists were approved up to 31 January.
69% " " " " " " 16 February.

B. NORTHERN PROVINCES TERRITORY AS RECENTLY HANDED OVER TO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT (INCLUDING UDINE BUT EXCLUDING VENEZIA GIULIA)

Total No. of Communes: 3,629
No. reported on : 3,629

(69)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

1. Compilation of draft lists (Elenchi)

Male lists compiled	:	3,210 - i.e.88% of all Communes in N.P. territory have male lists compiled
Female lists compiled	:	3,544 - i.e.98% of all Communes in N.P. territory have female lists compiled
Total	:	6,754 i.e.94% of all communal lists compiled

2. Approval of definitive lists

Male lists approved	:	1,488 - i.e.41% of all Communes in N.P. territory have male lists approved
Female lists approved	:	1,623 - i.e.45% of all Communes in N.P. territory have female lists approved
Total	:	3,111 - i.e.43% of all Communes in N.P. territory have male and female lists approved

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 88% of lists were compiled up to 31 January.
94% " " " " " " 16 February.

b. 24% of lists were approved up to 31 January
43% " " " " " " 16 February.

C. I.G. AND N.P. TERRITORIES COMBINED

Total No. of Communes	:	7,214
Total No. reported on	:	7,214
Total No. of lists involved:		14,428

1. Total No. of draft lists (Elenchi) male and female compiled: 13,782 - i.e. 96% of all communal lists

2. Total No. of definitive lists male and female approved: 8,034 - i.e. 56% of all communal lists

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 93% of lists were compiled up to 31 January.
96% " " " " " " 16 February.

b. 42% of lists were approved up to 31 January.
56% " " " " " " 16 February.

1851

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Total :

1,623 - i.e.45% of all Communes in N.P. territory have female lists approved

3,111 - i.e.43% of all Communes in N.P. territory have male and female lists approved

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 88% of lists were compiled up to 31 January.
94% " " " " " " 16 February.

b. 24% of lists were approved up to 31 January
43% " " " " " " 16 February.

C. I.G. AND N.P. TERRITORIES COMBINED

Total No. of Communes :
Total No. reported on :
Total No. of lists involved:

7,214
7,214
14,428

1. Total No. of draft lists (Elenchi) male and female compiled:

13,782 - i.e. 96% of all communal lists

2. Total No. of definitive lists male and female approved:

8,034 - i.e. 56% of all communal lists

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 93% of lists were compiled up to 31 January.
96% " " " " " " 16 February.

b. 42% of lists were approved up to 31 January.
56% " " " " " " 16 February.

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(69)

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P A R T II

1. Between 10th March and 7th April the following 23 entire Provinces will hold municipal elections :

Bergamo	Campobasso	Cosenza	Enna
Grosseto	Modena	Piacenza	Pisa
Ragusa	Siracusa	Terni	Verona
Cagliari	Catanzaro	Brescia	Parma
Vicenza	Arezzo	Vercelli	Ferrara
Lucca	Pavia	Bologna.	

2. It is announced that 59 provincial capitals will be ready to hold municipal elections on the announced dates in March and April as hereafter indicated:

10th March :	Arezzo	Enna	Frosinone
	Grosseto	Nuoro	Rieti
	Teramo		
17th March :	Cagliari	Macerata	Vicenza
24th March :	Ancona	Asti	Bergamo
	Bologna	Campobasso	Cremona
	Novara	Padova	Savona
	Siena	Venezia	Vercelli
31st March :	Agrigento	Brescia	Brindisi
	Caltanisetta	Cosenza	Cuneo
	Ferrara	Forli'	Imperia
	Modena	Pesaro	Pescara
	Piacenza	Pisa	Potenza
	Reggio Emilia	Sassari	Siracusa
	Terni	Trapani	Treviso
	Verona.		
7th April :	Alessandria	Ascoli	Belluno
	Catanzaro	Chieti	Lucca
	Matera	Milano	Parma
	Pavia	Perugia	Ragusa
	Sondrio	Varese	Viterbo

3. It has been stated that a total of 4,835 Communes will be ready to hold their elections on the dates hereafter indicated :

10th March :	433
17th " :	1,074
24th " :	1,470
31st " :	1,429
7th April :	449

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	Grosseto Teramo	Nuoro	Rieti
17th March :	Cagliari	Macerata	Vicenza
24th March :	Ancona Bologna Novara Siena	Asti Campobasso Padova Venezia	Bergamo Cremona Savona Vercelli
31st March :	Agrigento Caltanisetta Ferrara Modena Piacenza Reggio Emilia Terni Verona.	Brescia Cosenza Forli' Pesaro Pisa Sassari Trapani	Brindisi Cuneo Imperia Pescara Potenza Siracusa Treviso
7th April :	Alessandria Catanzaro Matera Pavia Sondrio	Ascoli Chieti Milano Perugia Varese	Belluno Lucca Parma Ragusa Viterbo

3. It has been stated that a total of 4,835 Communes will be ready to hold their elections on the dates hereafter indicated :

10th March	:	433
17th "	:	1,074
24th "	:	1,470
31st "	:	1,429
7th April	:	449

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R. R. Temple Major

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

F 0 5 9

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MAR 1 [illegible]

6. Com

Ref: 535/47/GS 24 February 1945

SUBJECT: Bolzano Petitions.

TO : Secretariat of the Council of Ministers
c/o Foreign Office
London S.W.1.

1. I refer to my letter 535/46/GS of 11 February 1945.

2. I should please find a list of the Italian, German and Latin-speaking population in the Province of Bolzano, which has been compiled after much study by an [redacted] of this Commission, who has been Provincial Commissioner in Bolzano for several months.

3. Although these figures must of course be considered as approximate, it is thought they may be of assistance to you when you study the petitions forwarded in my 535/GS of 22 January 1945.

For the Chief Commissioner,

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Copy to: G-5 AFHQ
Polad 'A'
Polad 'B'
C.A. Section
A.C. IC Bolzano.

(68)

535/1064

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ITALIAN, GERMAN and LADINIAN SPEAKING POPULATION

IN THE PROVINCE OF BOLZANO

COMUNES	ITALIANS	LADINS	GERMANS
Appiano	1709		4742
Braies	21	1668	4
Barbiano	196	15	1016
Bolzano	57339	112	13514
Braies	13	5	570
Brentonico	930	3	1025
Brenzanone	4184	75	5119
Brunico	2020	50	3821
Calceo	4		191
Caldaro	1200		3170
Campo Trens	243	3	1926
Campo Tures	174	8	2522
Castelbello Ciardes	67		1712
Castelrotto	483	602	2627
Cavaso	158		513
Chiusa	142	24	1184
Chiusa	760	19	3139
Comeglio Tarvis	435		1666
Corvara Badia	7	473	4
Curon Venosta	238	1	2067
Dobbiaco	528	2	1778
Falzes	4		1121
Fie'	343	18	1327
Fortezza	859	40	238
Funes	153		1730
Gais	49		1475
Garniscone	241		312
Glorenza	126		633
Laces	420		2544
Laguzzo	698		1832
Laion	120	20	1680
Laives	4209	4	1372
Lana	1176	24	3312
Lana	200		2098
Luson	20		1110
Malles Venosta	591	12	3605
Marebbe	55	1997	16
Marlengo	338		1351
Martello	12		918
Meltina	1		1119
Merano	19435		7320
Mezzolfo	495		1374
Moso	320		1711
Nalles	135		962
Naturno	304	1	1799
Nav Selaves	141		915
Nova Ponente	151		2341

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Nova Levante	119		975
Ortisei	178	2041	125
Paroines	241		1254
Perca	19		738
Plaus	16		180
Postal	465		257
Prato Stelvio	289		3434
Racines	130	1	2508
Ponte Gardena	111	4	132
Rasun Valdaora	527	10	3260
Renon	703	17	4552
Rifiano	37	2	650
Rio Pusteria	210	18	2214
S. Candido	708	5	1729
S. Genesio	49	2	1919
S. Leonardo in Passiria	257		3402
S. Lorenzo in Sebato	135	156	1892
S. Martino Badia	20	2006	6
S. Cristina	84	982	32
Sarentino	230	34	4520
Scena	79		1739
Selva Gardena	253	1015	7
Selva Molini	2		1421
Senales	26		1097
Sesto	30		998
Silandro	568		2135
Sluderno	102		942
Terento	19		1048
Terlano	1150	12	860
Tesimo	66		1676
Tires	87	4	612
Tirolo	183	16	1166
Tubre	248		770
Ultimo	36		3926
Vadena	646		54
Val di Vizze	229		1352
Valle Aurina	50		4353
Valle di Casies	66		1333
Vandoies	173	89	1831
Varna	631	30	1286
Verano	9	1	584
Villabassa	202	7	896
Villandro	2		1330
Vipiteno	1090	15	2317
T O T A L	111.610	11.683	164.037

(68)

The figures of Italian citizens German speaking includes a certain number of south Tyrolese who, in accordance with the present law must be considered aliens and should not be included in the total figure. They are about 15,000 and are to be struck off the Population Census.

Civil Commissioner

FEB 19 RECD

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/21/LG

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Analysis of Progress of Electoral Work for Period Ending 31 January 1946

15 February 1946

TO : V.P. Civil Affairs Section

(See distribution below of copies)

(Note: For the purpose of this analysis territory is shown as Italian Government (I.G.) and Northern Provinces (N.P.) territory in accordance with the situation prior to 31 December 1945.)

PART I

A. ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TERRITORY

Total No. of Communes:	3586
No. reported on :	3585

1. Compilation of draft lists (Elenchi)

Male lists compiled :	3397 - i.e. 95% of all I.G. Communes have male lists compiled
Female lists compiled:	3551 - i.e. 99% of all I.G. Communes have female lists compiled
Total :	6948 - i.e. 97% of all I.G. Communes have communal lists compiled

2. Approval of definitive lists

Male lists approved :	2068 - i.e. 58% of all I.G. Communes have male lists approved
Female lists approved:	2282 - i.e. 64% of all I.G. Communes have female lists approved
Total :	4350 - i.e. 61% of all I.G. Communes have male and female lists approved

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

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...situation prior to 31 December 1945.)

PART I

A. ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TERRITORY

Total No. of Communes: 3586
No. reported on : 3585

1. Compilation of draft lists (Elenchi)

Male lists compiled : 3397 - i.e. 95% of all I.G. Communes have male lists compiled

Female lists compiled: 3551 - i.e. 99% of all I.G. Communes have female lists compiled

Total : 6948 - i.e. 97% of all I.G. Communes have communal lists compiled

2. Approval of definitive lists

Male lists approved : 2068 - i.e. 58% of all I.G. Communes have male lists approved

Female lists approved: 2282 - i.e. 64% of all I.G. Communes have female lists approved

Total : 4350 - i.e. 61% of all I.G. Communes have male and female lists approved

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 68% of lists were compiled up to 16 January.
97% " " " " " " 31 January.

b. 43% of lists were approved " " 16 January.
61% " " " " " " 31 January.

B. NORTHERN PROVINCES TERRITORY AS RECENTLY HANDED OVER TO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT (INCLUDING UDINE BUT EXCLUDING VENEZIA GIULIA)

Total No. of Communes: 3628
No. reported on : 3628

67a

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1. Compilation of draft lists (Elenchi)

Male lists compiled : 2963 - i.e. 82% of all Communes in N.P. territory have male lists compiled

Female lists compiled: 3448 - i.e. 95% of all Communes in N.P. territory have female lists compiled

Total : 6411 - i.e. 88% of all communal lists compiled

2. Approval of definitive lists

Male lists approved : 782 - i.e. 22% of all Communes in N.P. territory have male lists approved

Female lists approved: 968 - i.e. 27% of all Communes in N.P territory have female lists approved

Total : 1750 - i.e. 24% of all Communes in N.P. territory have male and female lists approved

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 62.5% of lists were compiled up to 16 January.
88% " " " " " " 31 January.

b. 7.9% of lists were approved up to 16 January.
24% " " " " " " 31 January.

C. I.C. AND N.P. TERRITORIES COMBINED

Total No. of Communes : 7214
Total No. reported on : 7214
Total No. of lists involved: 14428

1. Total No. of draft lists (Elenchi) male and female compiled: 13,359 - i.e. 93% of all communal lists

2. Total No. of definitive lists male and female approved: 6,100 - i.e. 42% of all communal lists

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 70.5% of lists were compiled up to 16 January.
93% " " " " " " 31 January.

b. 24.2% of lists were approved up to 16 January.

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Female lists approved: 968 - i.e. 27% of all Communes in N.P territory have female lists approved

Total : 1750 - i.e. 24% of all Communes in N.P. territory have male and female lists approved

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 62.5% of lists were compiled up to 16 January.
68% " " " " " " 31 January.

b. 7.9% of lists were approved up to 16 January.
24% " " " " " " 31 January.

C. I.G. AND N.P. TERRITORIES COMBINED

Total No. of Communes : 7214
Total No. reported on : 7214
Total No. of lists involved: 14428

1. Total No. of draft lists (Elenchi) male and female compiled: 13,359 - i.e. 95% of all communal lists

2. Total No. of definitive lists male and female approved: 6,100 - i.e. 42% of all communal lists

3. Comparison with previous fortnightly report:

a. 70.5% of lists were compiled up to 16 January.
93% " " " " " " 31 January.

b. 24.2% of lists were approved up to 16 January.
42% " " " " " " 31 January.

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PART II

The latest information received from the Ministry of the Interior on the 12 of February 1946 indicates:

1. Total No. of draft lists male and female compiled: 13,731 - i.e. 95% of all communal lists

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 1850 15

2. Total No. of definitive lists male and female approved: 7,274 - i.e. 50% of all communal lists

3. In March the following 12 entire provinces with a total of 699 Communes are expected to hold municipal elections:

Bergamo	Campobasso	Cosenza	Enna
Grosseto	Modena	Piacenza	Pisa
Ragusa	Siracusa	Terni	Verona

4. It is anticipated that 29 provincial capitals will be ready to hold municipal elections on the announced dates in March and April. These "capoluoghi" are:

Ancona	Arezzo	Ascoli Piceno	Asti
Bologna	Brindisi	Cagliari	Chieti
Cremona	Forli'	Frosinone	Imperia
Macerata	Novara	Nuoro	Padova
Pesaro	Pescara	Reggio Emilia	Rieti
Savona	Siena	Teramo	Trapani
Treviso	Venezia	Vercelli	Vicenza

5. It has been stated that a total of 4498 Communes will be ready to hold their elections. So far, 3953 Communes have fixed their dates for elections as follows:

10th March:	436
17th " :	1,074
24th " :	1,462
31st " :	936
7th April:	45

R. R. Temple
Major

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

JVV/ww/rbe

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Cremona	Forli'	Frosinone	Imperia
Macerata	Novara	Nuoro	Padova
Pesaro	Pescara	Reggio Emilia	Rieti
Savona	Siena	Teramo	Trapani
Treviso	Venezia	Vercelli	Vicenza

5. It has been stated that a total of 4498 Communes will be ready to hold their elections. So far, 3953 Communes have fixed their dates for elections as follows:

10th March:	436
17th " :	1,074
24th " :	1,462
31st " :	936
7th April:	45

R. R. Temple
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RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

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File

Ref: 2306/299/30. 7 February 1946.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter No.5/29 of 15 January concerning elections in Istria. I have taken the matter up with the US and British Delegates who will in all probability refer the matter to their respective Governments. It is a matter which is outside my jurisdiction and with which I can do little other than forward your letter to the appropriate quarters.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Dott. Alcide de Gasperi,
President of the Council of Ministers,
The Italian Government,
R O M E.

Copy to: CA Section.

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7 January 1946

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

Thank you for your letter of 2 January enclosing a copy of a despatch which you received from the American Consul General in Genoa regarding the progress of preparations for Italian elections in that city.

Sincerely yours,

ELLERY W. STONE,
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

H.E. Hon. Alexander Kirk,
American Ambassador,
Via Veneto 119,
Rome.

Acknowledge original ltr to be sent via diplomatic pouch
and to be typed for action
Has available at Leghorn

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284

NOV 13 REC'D
CC 1500

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
12410.9/1.6.1.

Rome, 9 November 1945

My dear Admiral,

Knowing that this matter is of great interest to you, and referring to your previous letters, I inform you that the Italian Government has been studying a decree regulating the matters regarding the citizenship of the population of the Alto Adige and near-by provinces.

The problems to be solved are complex from the legal as well as from the political point of view, and the people consulted expressed different opinions. This is why the study and preparation have been delayed. However, I gave orders to have the procedure hastened, so as to be able to issue the decree as soon as possible - after obtaining the agreement of the Allied Commission.

As you suggested, the said decree foresees the formation of special Commissions which will have to decide about doubtful cases, according to detailed rules.

The Italian Government agrees about the advisability of carrying on the work for the preparation of electoral lists, considering the possibility for citizens speaking a foreign language to be temporarily registered, with the reservation that they might be cancelled after the ascertainments and acknowledgement of citizenship to be made according to the law which is being prepared and will give to such a matter the organic regulation which is necessary, considering its importance and delicate character.

Yours very truly,

S, Pertucio Parri

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
R o m e

c/c

EC DIST - 13 NOV

ACTION - EC COM
INFO - C COM (2) ✓
POLAD (2)
CA SEC

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ITALIANS!

It has been given for granted that in the course of the next political elections the country will be called to vote with the system of the proportional representation, thus confronting the electoral body with lists prearranged and forced upon them by the various parties, instead of allowing them to choose their owns candidates.

Such a system, as the experience of the past has already proved, hinders the right working of the parliamentary institutions, and allows men and parties holding the power to consolidate their privileged positions, this without taking in account the poor quality of the elected especially condemnable in case of elections for a Costituent Assembly. This is evidently contrasting with the principle of "free expression of people's will", foundation of every real democracy, already acknowledged and granted by the Atlantic Charter.

The only system which, in the present conditions of our country, is apt to guarantee a representation truly indicated by the electoral body - and to reeducate the Italians in the use of their freedom - is still the uninominal constituency, already existing before 1919, with such modifications and emendments as eventually judged necessary.

However a decision in such a matter as electoral laws cannot be taken by a Government devoid of people's designation, but it must be submitted to the country through a referendum.

Emilio Storoni; Tito Zaniboni; Alberto Bergamini; Arnaldo Dello Sbarba; Ivanoe Bonomi; Luigi Einaudi; Augusto Mancini; Roberto Bencivenga; Arturo Labriola; Benedetto Croce; Mons. Pietro Barbieri; Dino Philipson;

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of allowing them to choose their owns candidates.

Such a system, as the experience of the past has already proved, hinders the right working of the parliamentary institutions, and allows men and parties holding the power to consolidate their privileged positions, this without taking in account the poor quality of the elected especially condemnable in case of elections for a Costituent Assembly. This is evidently contrasting with the principle of "free expression of people's will", foundation of every real democracy, already acknowledged and granted by the Atlantic Charter.

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However a decision in such a matter as electoral laws cannot be taken by a Government devoid of people's designation, but it must be submitted to the country through a referendum.

Emilio Storoni; Tito Zaniboni; Alberto Bergamini; Arnaldo Dello Sbarba; Ivanoe Bonomi; Luigi Einaudi; Augusto Mancini; Roberto Bencivenga; Arturo Labriola; Benedetto Croce; Mons. Pietro Barbieri; Dino Philipson; Armando Zanetti; Eucardio Momigliano; Angelandina Zottoli; V.E.Orlando; Nitti; Gustavo Ingrosso; Emanuele Finocchiaro-Aprile; Nicola Turchi; Giuseppe Scalso; Cesare Tallarico; Guglielmo Manfredonia; Panfilo Gentile; Ugo Giuffre'; Massimo Pallottino; Riccardo Freda; Ambrogio Canessa; Fernando Vignanelli; Raffaello Ferruzzi.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/21/LG

Tel: 478706

26 October 1945

Preparation of Electoral Lists--Report of M/INT for period 1-15 October 1945

1. The Prime Minister has called for a special report for ~~the first~~ 15 of October, a copy of which is at fos. 8, 8b, 8c and 8f.

2. The annexed Tables I and II summarize the figures in the report for Italian and for Military Government Territory, respectively.

3. Comment on Italian Government Territory (Table I)

a. Three more provinces are now reported on--Cosenza, Siena and the new Province of Caserta. The missing 15 provinces are Apuania, Lucca, Pesaro, Pisa, Teramo and the 8 provinces of Emilia Region.

b. The compilation of lists by the Communes continues to accelerate slightly--558 additional lists compiled in a fortnight as against 528 in the whole month of September. Inference: the bottleneck of the Casellari Giudiziali is being slightly overcome.

c. The rate of approval of lists by Electoral Commissions continues to decrease--319 approved up to the end of August--239 in September--and only 55 in the first half of October. The gap between the lists approved and the lists awaiting approval is widening. There are now 3,321 lists awaiting approval as against 2,820 at the end of September. Inference: the inertia on the part of the Electoral Commissions and lack of proper organization and staffing: the Ministry's pressure on the Prefects as to this point has not yet had effect.

4. Comment of Military Government Territory (Table II)

a. Five provinces are now reported on--two from Lombardia, one each from Liguria, Piemonte and Venezie.

b. The number of male lists compiled is the same as at 30 September--3. The female lists, however, (which do not now have to go through the Casellari Giudiziali) have jumped upwards--69 to 226. Inference: There are no signs of the Casellari bottleneck being overcome in the North yet, the Casellari naturally dealing first with the demands of Southern and Central provinces which would, generally speaking, have reached them before those from the North.

c. No lists have yet been approved by Electoral Commissions [illegible] position is static[illegible]

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3. Comment on Italian Government Territory (Table I)

a. Three more provinces are now reported on—Cosenza, Siena and the new Province of Caserta. The missing 13 provinces are Apuania, Lucca, Pesaro, Pisa, Teramo and the 8 provinces of Emilia Region.

b. The compilation of lists by the Communes continues to accelerate slightly—550 additional lists compiled in a fortnight as against 528 in the whole month of September. Inference: the bottleneck of the Casellari Giudiziali is being slightly overcome.

c. The rate of approval of lists by Electoral Commissions continues to decrease—319 approved up to the end of August—239 in September—and only 55 in the first half of October. The gap between the lists approved and the lists awaiting approval is widening. There are now 3,321 lists awaiting approval as against 2,820 at the end of September. Inference: the inertia on the part of the Electoral Commissions and lack of proper organization and staffing: the Ministry's pressure on the Prefects as to this point has not yet had effect.

4. Comment of Military Government Territory (Table II)

a. Five provinces are now reported on—two from Lombardia, one each from Liguria, Piemonte and Venezie.

b. The number of male lists compiled is the same as at 30 September—3. The female lists, however, (which do not now have to go through the Casellari Giudiziali) have jumped upwards—69 to 226. Inference: There are no signs of the Casellari bottleneck being overcome in the North yet. the Casellari naturally dealing first with the demands of Southern and Central provinces which would, generally speaking, have reached them before those from the North.

c. No lists have yet been approved by Electoral Commissions; the position is stationary.

5. Conclusions

As to Military Government Territory, the position is not unsatisfactory as far as one can judge from 5 provinces only. As to Italian Government Territory, the Electoral Commissions show signs of becoming a bigger bottleneck than the Casellari.

(64)

C. C. R. WILLIAMS
Major
Executive Officer
Local Government Sub Commission

CCRW/pec

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

TABLE I -- Analysis for Provinces in Italian Government Territory

(1)	At 31 August (2)			At 30 September Cumulative Total (3)			Difference between (2)&(3) (4)		Cu
1. Number of Provinces reported on		39			44		5		
2. " " Communes " "		2628			2845		217		
3. " " Lists compiled by the Communes: Male	960			1138					1406
Female	1890	2850	(55.7%)	2240	3378	(59.3%)	528		2528
4. " " Lists approved by Electoral Commissions: Male	141			230					258
Female	178	319	(6%)	328	558	(9.8%)	239		355

NOTE: The percentages in columns 2, 3 and 5 are percentages of the total number of lists to be prepared by the Communes reported on. As each Commune has to prepare 2 lists (male and female) the total number of lists required is twice the number of Communes.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

LE I -- Analysis for Provinces in Italian Government Territory

	At 31 August			At 30 September				At 15 October			
				Cumulative Total			Difference between (2)&(3)	Cumulative Total			Difference between (3) & (5)
		(2)			(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)
on		39			44		5		47		3
s		2628			2845		217		3023		178
e Communes:											
Male	960			1138				1406			
Female	1890	2850	(55.7%)	2240	3378	(59.3%)	528	2528	3934	(65%)	556
lectoral											
Male	141			230				258			
Female	178	319	(6%)	328	558	(9.8%)	239	355	613	(10%)	55

s 2, 3 and 5 are percentages of the total
ured by the Communes reported on. As
re 2 lists (male and female) the total
s twice the number of Communes.

3

1078

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

TABLE II - Analysis for Provinces in Military Government Territory

(1)	At 31 August (2)	At 30 September Cumulative Total (3)	At 30 September Difference between (2) & (3) (4)
1. Number of Provinces reported on		3	-
2. " " Communes " "		287	-
3. " " Lists compiled by the Communes: Male / Female		3 / 69 72 (12.5%)	-
4. " " Lists approved by Electoral Commissions: Male / Female		NIL	-

Note: The percentages in columns 2, 3 and 5 are percentages of the total number of lists to be prepared by the Communes reported on. As each Commune has to prepare 2 lists (male and female) the total number of lists required is twice the number of Communes.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

BLE II - Analysis for Provinces in Military Government Territory

	At 31 August	At 30 September		At 15 October	
		Cumulative Total	Difference between (2) & (3)	Cumulative Total	Difference between (3) & (5)
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
on		3	-	5	2
•		287	-	564	347
he Communes:					
Male		3		3	
Female		69 72 (12.5%)	-	226 229 (20%)	157
lectoral Commissions:					
Male					
Female		NIL	-	NIL	NIL

2, 3 and 5 are percentages of the
be prepared by the Communes reported
to prepare 2 lists (male and female)
required is twice the number of Communes.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AC/45/12/LG

19 October 1945.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

You will recollect that I wrote to you on 20 August 1945 as to the proposal to appoint a Special Commission for the Province of Bolzano and neighbouring territories for the examination of doubtful cases of citizenship, in connection with the preparation of the electoral lists. I wrote to you again on 21 September, pointing out the urgency of a decision, but I have not yet had any reply from you.

From reports submitted to me, it appears that the authorities in the areas in question will shortly reach the point at which they will be unable to make any further progress in the preparation of electoral lists, because of the unsettled problem of the citizenship of many of the inhabitants. Moreover, the nature of the duties which the Special Commission itself will have to perform is such as will require time. There is accordingly a danger that the electoral lists for Bolzano and the neighbouring areas may not be completed until a date considerably later than the rest of Northern Italy. Such a situation might in turn raise serious problems as to the date of the holding of elections.

The Allied Commission therefore considers that the Special Commission ought to be appointed and begin its labours immediately.

As an alternative to the appointment of the Special Commission by the Italian Government, it would be within the power of Allied Military Government itself to appoint the Special Commission and to define its functions and to ensure that it discharges its duties with all possible speed: and its acts would, of course, be binding on the Italian Government. It is much to be preferred that the Commission be constituted by the Italian Government with the approval of the Allied Commission. If, however, the Italian Government is not able to establish the Special Commission in the immediate future, it may be necessary for the Commission to be appointed and set in motion by the Allies. In my letter I also drew attention to the desirability of your Government making as full a statement as possible on its intention in respect of the Upper Adige.

I trust that the Italian Government will take immediate action in these matters and that you will reply to my letter very shortly.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

cc:
Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Polad (A)
Polad (B)
Regional Commissioner, Venezie Region. (Copy for Provincial Commissioner, BOLZANO)

1340

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

OCT 16 REC'D

AC/45/15/A/LG

Tel : 478706

SUBJECT : Preparation of electoral lists--Electoral Commissions.

15 October 1945

TO : Distribution as below

1. The enclosed Ministry of the Interior circular No. 1300-G is forwarded for delivery to the Prefect. For the information of RCs and PCs an English translation of the circular is annexed together with a translation of the Ministry's covering letter to this Sub Commission No.15600-G of 24 September, which sets out the reasons why this circular is necessary.

2. Recent indications received in this Headquarters show that in Southern and Central Italy the approval of lists by Electoral Commissions is proceeding far too slowly : and there is danger of a bottle-neck arising at this stage of the work similar to that which already exists in the Judicial Record Offices ("Casellari Giudiziali").

3. PCs should accordingly make immediate inquiry as to the position with regard to Electoral Commissions and Sub-Commissions in their provinces. They should ascertain whether all such bodies have been duly constituted, and, if not, insist that the Prefect, in conjunction with the Provincial Deputation, complete the necessary appointments at once. They should also satisfy themselves that the Electoral Commissions and Sub-Commissions have an adequate staff and that they are either proceeding expeditiously with the examination and approval of such lists as they have received or that they are in a position to do so as soon as they do receive any.

4. PCs will please also instruct their Prefects to include in their next and all subsequent fortnightly reports a statement of : --

(a) - the total number of Electoral Commissions and Sub-Commissions required by law to be appointed in the province : and

(b) - the number actually appointed at the date of each report.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER :

Ralph R. Temple

RALPH R. TEMPLE,
Major,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission

CGHW/cg.

Distribution :

PC L'AQUILA)

1081

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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(a) - the total number of Electoral Commissions and Sub-Commissions required by law to be appointed in the province : and

(b) - the number actually appointed at the date of each report.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER :

Ralph R. Temple

RALPH R. TEMPLE,
Major,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission

CGRW/cs.

Distribution :

RC LIGURIA
LOMBARDIA
PIEMONTE
VENEZIE
} With copy for PCs

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Polad (A)
" (B)
AC/45/15/A/LG
AC/27/27/LG
AC/45/7/LG
Float

(62)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

1083

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Ref : 15600 G

Rome, 24.9.45

From : Ministry of Interior
Dir. Gen. Amm. Civile
Electors Service

To : A.C. Local Govt S/C

Subject : Appointment members electoral commissions and sub-commissions.

1. From queries which have reached this Ministry it has been noted that often in the provinces of the Northern Italy, the electoral commissions and subcommissions have been constituted, as regards the appointment of the members by the Deputazioni Provinciali, from citizens residing in Communes other than those where the said Commissions meet.

2. Since such a procedure, which after all is not in contrast with the provisions so far issued, is causing not only a substantial burden of expenses on the State budget owing to the necessity of paying out to the interested parties besides the allowance for attendance also the reimbursement of travel expenses and billetting expenses, but above all is interfering with the normal functioning of said Commissions which on account of the volume of their tasks will have to meet daily until their mission has been fulfilled, it was deemed opportune to ask Prefects to constitute, if possible, the said Commissions and Sub Commissions from citizens residing in the same commune.

3. For this purpose we have prepared the enclosed circular which barring any objections on the part of your Commission, we are kindly requesting you to have it distributed with all dispatch to the Prefects of the provinces still under A.C. jurisdiction.

4. Kindly acknowledge.

FOR THE MINISTER
Viccdomini

62

19.x

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
DIREZIONE GENERALE AMMINISTRAZ. CIVILE
ELECTORAL SERVICE

TELEGRAPHIC CIRCULAR

To : Prefects of Provinces of
Northern Italy.

1300-C Electoral Service Stop. Following inquiries received wish to make clear desirability that member electoral commissions and sub-commissions to be appointed by Deputazione Provinciale be chosen among citizens residing in communes heads of Mandamenti not only in order to li it expenses charged to the State Treasury but above all in order to permit the regular functioning of said commissions which shall meet even daily until their tasks have been completed stop. Whereas commissions and subcommissions have already been met up contrary to present directives you are kindly requested to examine the possibility of proceeding to substitute members residing in different Commune stop. Kindly acknowledge stop.

FOR THE MINISTER
Vicentini.

MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO
DIREZIONE GENERALE AMMINISTR. CIVILE
Servizio Elettorale

CIRCOLARE TELEGRAFICA

Prefetti Provincie Italia Settentr.

1300-C Servizio elettorale alt. Seguito quesiti rivolti chiarisconi opportunita' che componenti Commissioni et sottocommissioni elettorali da nominarsi da Deputazione Provinciale siano scelti tra cittadini residenti comuni capoluogo mandamento non solo scopo limitare spese carico erario ma soprattutto consentire regolare funzionamento predetti consessi che dovranno riunirsi anche quotidianamente fino al completo e scrupoloso compiti loro affidati alt. Ove commissioni et sottocommissioni siano state gia' costituite contrario presenti direttive pregasi esaminare possibilita' procedere sostituzione componenti residenti Comuni diversi alt. Pregasi segnare ricevuta alt.

PEL MINISTRO
Vicentini

1085

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AC/45/A/LG

10 October 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Local Government Law of 1915.

TO : AFHQ (G-5)

1. I refer to your letter, reference G-5: 091.1 Italy, of 25 September, forwarding copies of the Deputy U. S. Political Adviser's letter of 10 September and the Deputy British Resident Minister's letter of 19 September, upon which you invite my comments.

2. My first comment is that the Allied Commission have been careful to refrain from taking "minor points" in its dealings with the Italian Government on this subject. The objections raised to the Law of 1915 relate to questions which, in my opinion, are fundamental to any democratic electoral system.

3. The criticisms made can be summarized as follows:

(a) the law of 1915 makes no provision for an official ballot paper. The voter may use any piece of paper, provided it is white in colour and of a specified size. In practice, the political parties issue printed lists of their candidates and the voter has to obtain one of these in order to exercise his franchise;

(b) There is no nomination of candidates prior to the voting. The voter therefore has no certain knowledge of those who are running for office and no opportunity to form a considered judgment upon their merits;

(c) No provision is made for the control of political propaganda in the vicinity of the voting places. In view of the past history of Italian elections and the present state of the country, a provision of this kind is essential to ensure full liberty of choice to the Italian people.

(d) The franchise is granted to officers of the armed forces, but denied to non-commissioned officers and men while actually serving--an indefensible instance of political privilege granted to a particular class.

4. These observations are approved by the United States Department of State, as has been pointed out in the letter of the Deputy U. S. Political Adviser, and the Government of the United Kingdom is in accord with the views of the United States Government. The Italian Government, however, has given

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

no indication of its policy on these points, although from a recent conversation with the Vice President of the Council of Ministers, Signor Manlio BROSIO, it appears possible that the Council of Ministers may consider them in the near future.

5. The objection that insistence on these points is delaying the elections does not arise, since the Italian Government is not, in any case ready to hold elections, or likely to be for some time, for the following reasons:

(a) Electoral Lists have not yet been completed, except in a small fraction of the total number of communes (actually only 6% of the lists, male and female, have been approved by Electoral Commissions);

(b) The Italian Government have not yet decided what local bodies or officials are to be voted for by the electorate.

6. I enclose a copy of a report which was presented on 28 September 1945 to the Advisory Council for Italy which sets forth the position with regard to the holding of local and national elections in Italy.

7. The action taken by the Allied Commission, and by the Local Government Sub Commission in particular, in connection with local and national elections in Italy has been:

(a) to endeavour to discover what are the intentions of the Italian Government;

(b) to encourage the Italian Government to hold its elections at the earliest possible date;

(c) to give assistance in the compilation of the Electoral Lists in Allied Military Government Territory;

(d) to urge the Italian Government to modify existing Italian electoral laws so as to assure a free and secret vote by the people.

8. The unreadiness of the Italian Government to hold local elections is accordingly in no way attributable to the Allied Commission. In fact, I have many times urged the Italian Government to come to a decision on questions which must be settled before such elections can be held.

CGRW/pec

Copies for: Chief Commissioner
Exec. Commissioner
Polad (A)
" (B)

(61)

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

OCT 8 RECD

ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/4/IG Tel: 47890

SUBJECT: Preparation of Electoral Lists. 4 October 1945

TO : Distribution as below.

1. Reference is made to Directive AC/45/4/IG dated 5 September 1945 on the appointment of Provincial Commissions under Art. 6 of DBL 152.

2. Some doubt has arisen as to the precise meaning of the reference to the "Presidents of the Courts of Appeals of each Province" in para 5 of the above-mentioned Directive.

3. This is not meant to imply that a Court of Appeals exists in each Province, but that Presidents of the Courts of Appeals serving each Province (one Court may serve many Provinces, and so be instructed to appoint 2 popular judges in each province under their jurisdiction.

RALPH K. SMITH
Major
Director
Italian Government Sub Commission

RM/pec

Distribution:

AC Liguria
Lombardia
Piemonte
Venezia
} with copies for CCs

Chief Commissioner
Asst. Commissioner
Legal (A)
" (E)
Legal Sub Commissioner

AC Commissioner - Naples
" " - Bari
" " - Pisa-Livorno
CAO Portoferraio (thro' Liaison Officer, Palermo)
" Lampedusa " " " "

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HEADQ. ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

SEP 29 RECD

AC/45/14/LG

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Preparation of electoral lists - extension of time-limits.

28 September 1945

TO : Distribution as below.

1. Some Prefects have in recent fortnightly reports referred to the fact that certain communes have compiled their electoral lists as far as they can and are now waiting for the return of penal certificates from the various Judicial Record Offices before they can forward the lists to the Electoral Commissions for approval. The Prefects have suggested that these communes might be authorized to send their lists to the Electoral Commissions at once (without waiting for all the penal certificates) and to send the certificates to the Electoral Commissions afterwards, as and when they come in.

2. As regards the male electoral lists, this procedure is NOT permissible. The estimated percentage of disqualifying criminality among men is such that the course suggested carries too grave a risk of unqualified persons obtaining the right to vote. The point has been dealt with in Ministry of Interior circular 15600 L. of 18 July, forwarded by this Sub Commission for distribution to Prefects on 20 September 1945.

3. As regards the female electoral lists, it is permissible to forward them to the Electoral Commissions without waiting for all the penal certificates to come in, seeing that the estimated percentage of disqualifying criminality among women is much lower than among men. This was authorized by DLL 12 April 1945 No. 201, Art. 3, published in Official Gazzette No. 59 of 17 May 1945.

4. The attention of Prefects should be drawn to the Decree and the circular above-mentioned. If for any reason they are not in possession of them, they should apply to the Ministry of the Interior for copies.

5. As regards extensions of time-limits generally, the cases when such are to be granted are strictly limited by two considerations:--

(a) Extensions are only applicable to the initial stage, i.e. the preparation of the "elenco", as to which see Ex. Memo. No. 5, paras 9 and 10 of the Schedule: extensions must not be granted in respect of any subsequent stage.

(b) Extensions of time for preparing the "elenco" must only be granted for reasons arising from the war: in practice this means only when communal records have suffered serious war damage.

R. R. CRIPPS
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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R. R. CRIPPS
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

Distribution:
RCs Liguria
Lombardia
Piemonte
Venezie
} with copies for RCs

Chief Commissioner
Exec. Commissioner
Polad (A)
" (B)

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10900

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Background and Present Status of Plans for the Holding of Local and National Elections in Italy. 27 September 1945

1. PRESENT SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT

The Fascist system of central and local government has been totally abolished. In the place of Fascist local authorities, the essential democratic bodies envisaged by the pre-Fascist Law of 1915 have been restored throughout Italy on an appointive basis. This system of local government is a temporary one, pending the restoration of elections. No elective national legislature is yet in existence.

2. Before elected central or local governments can be established, the following preparations must be made:--

(i) Those who have the right to vote must be defined:

(ii) Registers of the electors must be prepared:

(iii) The type of elective local authorities to be established must be determined:

(iv) A procedure for voting for these local authorities must be laid down:

(v) The procedure for voting for the national legislature must also be determined:

(vi) The necessary mechanics for the actual holding of the elections, e.g. booths, urns, stamps, voting places, etc., must be provided.

3. FRANCHISE

By Italian law all Italian citizens, men and women, who have reached the age of 21 by 31 December 1945 are qualified to be registered. The law prescribes certain persons who may not be registered, some of whom are lunatics,

bodies envisaged by the pre-Fascist Law of 1915 have been restored throughout Italy on an appointive basis. This system of local government is a temporary one, pending the restoration of elections. No elective national legislature is yet in existence.

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(iv) A procedure for voting for these local authorities must be laid down:

(v) The procedure for voting for the national legislature must also be determined:

(vi) The necessary mechanics for the actual holding of the elections, e.g. booths, urns, stamps, voting places, etc., must be provided.

3. FRANCHISE

By Italian law all Italian citizens, men and women, who have reached the age of 21 by 31 December 1945 are qualified to be registered. The law prescribes certain persons who may not be registered, some of whom are lunatics, bankrupts, persons habitually receiving public assistance, persons sentenced to a number of specified crimes and persons found guilty of Fascist activity. The last named group includes high-ranking officials of the former Fascist Party, those persons convicted by regular Courts for Fascist crimes and those declared to be subject to loss of civil rights by special Provincial Commissions set up under Article 8 of Decree No. 159, as to sanctions against Fascism.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

4. PREPARATION OF ELECTORS LISTS

The voters lists are prepared from the register of permanent population kept in every Commune. From these the Mayor extracts the names of all over 21. He then obtains from the appropriate authorities lists of those disqualified and strikes them off. He then sends the lists for approval to the Electoral Commission, after which they become final. This procedure is enacted by a Decree of the Italian Government published in January 1945. A citizen is usually registered in the commune in which he has permanent residence and in whose register of permanent population he is inscribed. However, refugees and evacuees may be registered in the Commune in which they are temporarily living. Provision is also made for citizens to be registered in the commune in which they have their principal seats of business or interests.

5. In February 1945, the Italian Government began the preparation of registers of voters in the territory then under its jurisdiction. The Italian Decree, however, was so drawn up that the preparation of the lists could not be undertaken in territory under Allied Military Government. At the request of the Allied Commission, the Italian Government amended their Decree so as to permit this. Shortly after this had been done, July 15th was set for beginning the compilation in Military Government Territory. Before that time, however, necessary preliminaries were put in hand. Instructions were issued for the bringing up-to-date of the registers of the population and for completing the establishment of the temporary local government system so that the requisite officials and bodies would be available to perform the tasks assigned them. Some 125 tons of printed forms of instructions were distributed to the 4,000 Communes then under Allied Military Government and necessary information ex-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 1851 5

whose register of permanent population he is inscribed. However, refugees and evacuees may be registered in the Commune in which they are temporarily living. Provision is also made for citizens to be registered in the commune in which they have their principal seats of business or interests.

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6. The preparation of the lists themselves involves a complicated procedure and requires the intensive activity of many officials and bodies. The law sets forth a time table for the completion of each step, such as the preparation of initial lists, notification of disqualifications, time for appeal

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

review, etc. The publication of notice of deposit of the definitive electoral list is 110 days after the initial compilation. The time periods, however, are mere guides and indeed practice shows that circumstances prevent their being followed to the letter.

7. PROGRESS IN COMPILING ELECTORS LISTS

The electors lists are not yet complete in the majority of the Communes under Italian administration. The latest figures furnished by the Italian Government give a partial picture of the position as at 31 August 1945, as follows:

Total number of Communes under Italian jurisdiction 3,351

Total number of Communes reported on by the Government 2,628

Number ~~of Communes where~~ lists have been approved by Electoral Commissions 319

This is 6% of the number of Communes reported on by the Italian Government. No corresponding figures are yet available for Military Government Territory inasmuch as the preparation of the lists did not begin until July 15.

The only guide that can be used to estimate the time that it will take to compile the electoral registers in the North is the experience in the South. As has been indicated above, lists were begun in the Southern part of Italy in February and now, 7 months later, they have been completed in only a small percentage of the territory. Lists in the North were begun in July and presumably will take at least 5 months therefrom to complete, perhaps longer.

8. DELAYING FACTORS

Some of the factors which are delaying the completion of the compilation of the Electoral Registers are the following:

(a) Extensions of the time limits. The law provides that communes may request and be granted extensions of time for the commencement of the compila-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 1851 15

Total number of Communes under Italian jurisdiction 3,351

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Number ~~of Communes where~~ lists have been approved by Electoral Commissions 319

This is 6% of the number of Communes reported on by the Italian Government. No corresponding figures are yet available for Military Government Territory inasmuch as the preparation of the lists did not begin until July 15.

The only guide that can be used to estimate the time that it will take to compile the electoral registers in the North is the experience in the South. As has been indicated above, lists were begun in the Southern part of Italy in February and now, 7 months later, they have been completed in only a small percentage of the territory. Lists in the North were begun in July and presumably will take at least 5 months therefrom to complete, perhaps longer.

8. DELAYING FACTORS

Some of the factors which are delaying the completion of the compilation of the Electoral Registers are the following:

(a) Extensions of the time limits. The law provides that communes may request and be granted extensions of time for the commencement of the compilation of the Electoral Registers for reasons due to the exigencies of war, principally the destruction of records. In Southern Italy there has been much damage, as a result of which many communes began the actual compilation of lists a long time after others. In territory under Allied Control a stern attitude has been taken in the granting of extensions as a result of which only 67 Communes out of 3,625 have been granted extensions.

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(b) Return of Penal Certificates. Copies of electoral lists must be sent to Provinces in which the persons named therein were born in order to be checked in the criminal registries of the Province. Extracts of such criminal records are then sent back with the lists to the originating commune. Inasmuch as the registries of 14 Provinces have been destroyed as a result of the war, extracts of criminal records must be sought from the Central Criminal Registry in Rome. The inefficient functioning of that office has provided a bottle-neck in the completion of the lists as a result of which, according to its Manager, they do not hope to complete their registers until the end of November. Representations have been made by the Allied Commission concerning the conditions found and suggestions have been offered for their improvement to the end that this bottle-neck be eliminated. Fortunately, the Italian Government has approved a decree which will make it unnecessary for searches of criminal records of women to be made at the Provincial or the Central Registries. Since there is only 3% female criminality in the country it is felt that a record search in the police offices will be sufficient in the case of women.

(c) Work of the Electoral Commissions. Some delay has been incurred in the completion of the tasks of these Commissions due to the lack of judicial personnal, but principally due to the delay on the part of the Criminal Registries to send the lists to the proper authorities with extracts of penal certificates.

9. REVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM

The Italian Government has not yet decided what kinds of elective local bodies and officials are to be set up. Obviously elections cannot be held until people know whom and what they are to vote for. In June 1945 the Ministry of the Interior published a project for this purpose. It envisages the re-establishment of the elective Communal and Provincial Councils provided for in the pre-Fascist law

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10. VOTING PROCEDURE FOR LOCAL ELECTIONS.

The above-mentioned project also contains a procedure for voting at local elections likewise based on the local government Law of 1915. The Allied Commission has made representations to the Italian Government, (both to the BONOMI and PARRI Governments) criticising the methods of voting as provided for in the Electoral Law of 1915 and suggesting that this Law be amended. The points raised were:

(i) No prior nomination of candidates is provided:

(ii) No official printed ballots by the state:

(iii) No guarantee against electioneering at the polls:

(iv) No provision for voting by soldiers and non-commissioned officers while on service, although this right is afforded officers.

No response has been received from the Italian Government with regard to these criticisms, although the Allied Commission has recently been informed by the Minister of the Consultative Assembly that the criticisms would be submitted for consideration by the Council of Ministers.

11. VOTING PROCEDURE FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

No indication has been received from the Italian Government as to the voting procedure they propose to adopt for any national legislative body. The Minister for the Constituent Assembly has, however, established a Commission in his Ministry to study this subject and in particular the last pre-Fascist law as to national elections, that of 1919. Any Law as to elections for the national legislature will also have to be submitted for the opinion of the National Consultative Assembly.

12. PRIORITY OF LOCAL OR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

It should be noted that the Italian Government has not decided whether

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

(ii) No official printed ballots by the state:

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12. PRIORITY OF LOCAL OR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

It should be noted that the Italian Government has not decided whether national elections will precede local or vice versa. However, it will be possible to hold local elections at various dates as parts of the country, particularly, in Southern and Central Italy, have completed the necessary preparatory work. The holding of national elections, however, will necessarily be dependent upon the completion of all preparations in all parts of Italy. No elections can be held until decisions have been made on the foregoing important questions of local government system, voting procedure at local elections and voting procedure at national elections.

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13. MECHANICS FOR VOTING

No difficulty is expected in connection with provided urns, booths, stamps and premises, in spite of the lack of material. It has been stated that the actual making of urns and booths will be completed by the end of October in Central and Southern Italy. Allied Force Headquarters has ordered the making available for the holding of elections of premises requisitioned by the military. The work of dividing the communes into voting districts is proceeding on time and should not be a factor for delay of the elections.

14. ESTIMATED ELECTORATE

It is estimated that of the total population of 43,000,000 in the country, about 28,000,000 will be put on the Electoral Registers of 1945. Of these, 15,000,000 are women. By way of comparison it may be noted that at the last General Election held in 1921, based upon the 1920 electoral list, 11,500,000 or 31% of the total population were registered and approximately 6,500,000 took part in the election. The lists for 1945 are more than double the 1921 lists because for the first time women will have the right to vote.

R. R. CRIPPS
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

RRT/CGRW:pec

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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RRT/CGR/:pec

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CC 204

25 September 1945

Dear Mr. Goshie:

With reference to your letter of 24 September 1945 concerning the Russian Delegation's desire to have presented at the next meeting of the Advisory Council a report on the "Background and Present Status of Plans for the Holding of Local and National Elections in Italy," arrangements are being made to have such a report presented.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Mr. John L. Goshie
Chief of Secretariat
Advisory Council for Italy
Rome, Italy

cc: Executive Commissioner (2)
CC Files

1823

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

IMMEDIATE ACTION

CC 204

25 September 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Executive Commissioner (2)

1. The Chief Commissioner directs that immediate action be taken in regard to the attached letter, i.e., that Civil Affairs Section prepare at once the report on the "Background and Present Status of Plans for the Holding of Local and National Elections in Italy."

2. This report is to be presented at the 28 September meeting of the Advisory Council and the Chief Commissioner desires that Col. Cripps or another suitable officer from the Civil Affairs Section be prepared to give the presentation at the Advisory Council Meeting.

/s/ L.W. Stearns

L. W. STEARNS
Major, AGD
CC to CC

4 Incl:
Ltr, Secy, ACC
dtd 24 Sep 45.

(P.S.) Copies of the report are not to be distributed in advance of the meeting.

L.W.S.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

SECRETARIAT
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

Rome, September 24, 1945

URGENT

Sir,

The Russian Delegation of the Advisory Council for Italy has expressed the desire to have presented at the next meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy a report on the "Background and Present Status of Plans for the Holding of Local and National Elections in Italy".

In view of the foregoing, it would be appreciated if you would make the necessary arrangements to have this report presented at the September 28, 1945 meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy, which will be held under the chairmanship of the Jugoslav Representative.

Respectfully yours,

John L. Goshie
Chief of Secretariat

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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SEP 26 REC'D
CC 1541
CC FILES

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
Minister of the Interior

n. 37011 Rome, 23 September 1945

Dear Admiral,

I received your memorandum of the 7th, A.C./45/2/L.G. on the position of the Central Individual Record Office.

This important matter had already been the subject of the attention of my Ministry, which took action, for the part concerning it, to try and improve the working conditions of the above mentioned office, assuming the expense for the larger staff which is necessary.

We already knew that the Central Individual Record Office, of which the Government formed after the liberation of Rome had inherited in a very disorderly state, not yet reorganized, had great difficulties in functioning. On the other hand, from what our offices knew, it seemed that no delay for the summoning of the elections was to be feared for such a reason. However, after what you have told me, I have ordered that an ascertainment be made.

I have at once drawn the particular attention of the Minister of Justice on the mentioned inconveniences, asking him to take in consideration the suggestions made and at once take the necessary action to eliminate the said inconveniences.

Yours very truly,

s. Ferruccio Parri

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
R o m e

trans. e/c

EJ DIST - 28 Sep 45
Action : C.A. Sec (2)
Info: Chief Commr
Exec Commr

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

SEP 21 RECD

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AC/45/19/LC

Tel: 476190

SUBJECT: Preparation of electoral lists in Venezia-Giulia. 19 September 1945

TO : AFHQ (G-5)

1. Reference is made to your letter dated 11 August (subject--Elections in Venezia-Giulia) and to AMG XIII Corps signal 8/237 of 15 August to you, copy to this HQ. Your letters of 23 August to this HQ and 6 September to HQ XIII Corps are also relevant.

2. This HQ accepts the view of AMG XIII Corps that it is not expedient to allow local elections in Venezia-Giulia at this stage. It will be appreciated, however, that it would in any event be impossible to hold such elections until registers of voters or electoral lists have been prepared.

3. The British and United States Governments have stated through their Rome Embassies that they are in favour of the preparation of electoral lists at this stage.

4. For your information, electoral lists have been prepared or are in course of preparation in the remainder of Italy. In Central and Southern Italy, the preparation was commenced in February 1945: in the five northern Regions of Emilia, Liguria, Lombardia, Piemonte and Venezia the preparation of the lists was commenced by direction of the CCAC on 19 July. The franchise is defined and the procedure for preparing the lists laid down in a number of Decrees of the Italian Government, commencing with DLG 28 September 1944 No. 247. These Decrees have been implemented in the Regions above-mentioned by AMG Order.

5. It is considered that the procedure to be adopted for Venezia-Giulia should follow as closely as possible that adopted for the remainder of Italy. As however the Italian Government Decrees mentioned in para 4 cannot be implemented in Venezia-Giulia, the procedure must be defined in an AMG General Order.

6. A number of technical difficulties in the preparation of this order will arise, but these are all believed to be surmountable. It is essential, however, that there should be consultation with the appropriate officials of the Italian Government on the matter. It is not proposed to consult or even discuss with the Italian Government the policy involved or decisions taken, but merely to have the advice of Italian expert officials on technical questions of Law and drafting. **Have you any comments?**

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

M. Carr Brigadier

M. CARR
Brigadier
VP CA Section

CGR/pec
Copies to: SCAO Venezia-Giulia
Chief Commissioner
Asst. Commissioner
Pol (A)
(B)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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From HUGH.

At meeting today with British Ambassador at Foreign Office it was agreed it was most desireble that national elections should be held at the earliest possible moment. I explained the present law by which communal elections cannot take place until mid November earliest and national elections 3 months later. I have been asked to enquire from you whether it would be possible for Italian Government by legislation or otherwise to arrange for national elections to be held simultaneously with or immediately after communal elections. Grateful early reply.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

JUL 13 1945

THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
Direction General of Civil Administration
Electoral Service

File No.15600 In. Rome, 2nd July 1945

TO THE PREFECTS OF THE PROVINCES OF
NORTHERN ITALY

SUBJECT : Compilation of electoral lists.

As it is known, the Allied Authorities, who have shown an eager interest in the matter, have established that the time limits for the first compilation of the electoral lists in the Communes which have not yet been restored to the Italian Administration, shall begin on the 15th of this month.

Although the Ministry is quite aware of the short time available and of the many contingent difficulties, it is nevertheless confident that the prefects, the sindaci, the communal secretaries, the electoral commissions and all the others who are called to cooperate, will execute their respective tasks with the utmost effort, so that the necessary preliminary operations connected with the elections will be completed within the period set out by the ministerial decree of 24 October 1944.

It is particularly necessary to bear in mind that the work connected with the compilation of the lists has already reached an advanced stage in the Communes of Central and Southern Italy, and, owing to the absolute necessity of assembling the "consulta" without delay, the election machinery must be set up immediately throughout the national territory.

While bringing this directive to the attention of the agencies and bodies concerned, the Prefects will not fail to point out that the quick completion of the administrative work connected with the compilation of the electoral lists constitutes a great benefit to democracy, because it contributes to restoration of free representative institutions which are greatly desired by the entire country.

IL MINISTRO
Ferruccio Parri

(22) 6

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COPY

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

FILED
JUL 12 REGD

Office of the Regional Commissioner 2 July 1945.

My dear Brigadier Lush,

In reply to your AC/45/A/1G dated 22 June 45, please let me assure you that the preparation of electoral lists in Piemonte will have the personal attention of both the Regional Legal Officer and myself. The essential material is now in process of distribution throughout all the communes except for those limited areas where AMG is not at present in operation. The necessary machinery is being set up and the education of the Italian officials who are to function has been initiated. The importance of this work as the first step in establishing democratic processes has been impressed on all Prefects.

By reason of past experience I have some reserve as to the speed and accuracy with which the communal officials may be expected to function, but the compilation can start in Piemonte by 15 July, and we shall check carefully to see that the work is prosecuted vigorously.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Robert P. Marshall

Brigadier M. L. Lush,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ AC, Rome.

EC Dist - 10 July 45 (2706/EC)

ACTION: C A Sec

INFO: Chief Comm R
Exec Comm R (Orig)

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

JUL 2 REC'D

EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM)
NO. 5)

1 July 1945

PREPARATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS

1. The Schedule to this Executive Memorandum is a brief description of the procedure for preparing the electoral lists, with 2 Appendices.

2. The Chief Civil Affairs Officer has fixed 15 July as the date upon which the preparation of the electoral lists in Military Government Territory will commence. This excludes Venezia-Giulia Region, but includes the provinces of Bolzano and Udine for which supplemental instructions will be issued.

3. The Chief Civil Affairs Officer directs that the preparation of the electoral lists be completed as a first priority, and so as to conform to the utmost extent possible to the prescribed time-limits.

4. The actual work of compiling the lists is a matter for the Italian agencies concerned. It is the function of officers of Allied Military Government to ensure that the requisite Italian agencies are properly constituted and that they set to work promptly and proceed expeditiously.

5. At the same time, the lists must be prepared with impartiality and accuracy so that the Italian people can and shall have confidence in them. These considerations are emphasized by the number of political appointments to public office which the circumstances of the North have required. In this connection, special attention is drawn to para 4 of the Schedule as to disqualifications for Fascism.

6. RCs and PCs will give their immediate attention to the proper constitution of the local government agencies prescribed by Executive Memorandum No. 59, with particular reference to:--

(a) the Prefect. In those cases where the formal confirmation by Allied Military Government of the appointment of a Prefect has not yet been given, this must be forthcoming before 15 July:
(b) the Vice Prefect Inspector. The Prefect should make available adequate transportation facilities for this official.
(c) the Electoral Office in the Prefecture. A suitable and competent official must be available to be designated to take charge of it:
(d) Sindaci. In those cases where confirmation of any CLN appointment has been withheld in order to see if the appointee is really suitable, the formal appointment must no longer be delayed:
(e) Communal Secretaries. Where qualified officials are not available, the fullest use must be made of local candidates capable of discharging the office as "reggenti" and of the device of combining small communes under one Secretary:
(f) Provincial Deputation. The immediate appointment of this body is urgent.

7. PCs will require their Prefects to keep them closely informed of all action taken and to report progress to them at regular intervals. It will be noted from para 27 (a)(iii) of the Schedule that Sindaci must report progress to the Prefect every 15 days.

8. Any recommendations that the Prefect wishes to make for an extension of the

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6. RCs and PCs will give their immediate attention to the proper constitution of the local government agencies prescribed by Executive Memorandum No. 39, with particular reference to:--

(a) the Prefect. In those cases where the formal confirmation by Allied Military Government of the appointment of a Prefect has not yet been given, this must be forthcoming before 15 July:

(b) the Vice Prefect Inspector. The Prefect should make available adequate transportation facilities for this official.

(c) the Electoral Office in the Prefecture. A suitable and competent official must be available to be designated to take charge of it:

(d) Sindaci. In those cases where confirmation of any CLN appointment has been withheld in order to see if the appointee is really suitable, the formal appointment must no longer be delayed:

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7. PCs will require their Prefects to keep them closely informed of all action taken and to report progress to them at regular intervals. It will be noted from para 27 (a)(iii) of the Schedule that Sindaci must report progress to the Prefect every 15 days.

8. Any recommendations that the Prefect wishes to make for an extension of the time-limits in a particular Commune (see para 27(c) of the Schedule) must be in the PC's hands on or before 25 July. PCs will immediately transmit such recommendations to Regional HQ with their observations. Further instructions will be issued to RCs as to how these recommendations will be determined. Applications for extensions must only be recommended in cases of absolute proved necessity on account of war conditions.

9. Officers of Local Government Sub-Commission will visit every province during July (where they have not already done so) to advise further.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICER:

M. S. LUSH, Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Distribution overleaf

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SCHEDULE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION

Ref: AC/45/4/LG

25 June 1945

Preparation of Electoral Lists - Brief Description of the Procedure.

1. Annexed are :-

a) Appendix "A" indicating the action to be taken by the Italian Agencies involved and the time limits fixed for each step.

b) Appendix "B" giving a list of the local government and judicial agencies on whom duties are imposed, with notes on the more specialised ones.

The Appendices are intended as a convenient means of reference: the description set out below gives, it is thought, the information mostly required by RCs and PCs.

THE FRANCHISE

2. Before one can describe how voters will be registered, it is necessary to ascertain who are to be registered and how they are defined, i.e. the franchise. All Italian citizens, men and women, who have reached the age of 21 by 31 December 1944 are qualified to be registered. The phrase "qualified to be registered" is to be noted. The franchise is a qualification to be registered and NOT a qualification actually to vote. The right of an individual to vote is determined solely by reference to the Electoral Lists which are final and conclusive on this point.

3. To the broad and simple qualification described above there are a number of exceptions - lunatics, habitual drunkards, bankrupts, brothel-keepers, registered prostitutes, persons in receipt of public assistance, persons subject to police "ammonizione" or "confino" or to preventive detention, and those sentenced for quite a number of specified crimes and certain fascists.

4. The extent to which Fascism is a disqualification deserves special attention. There are three classes :-

a) Certain high ranking officials of the former NPF have been declared incapable of voting from the Secretary of the Party down to the "Federale" and to the "Segretari Politici" of Communes of 20,000 inhabitants or more. Officers of the MVSN in effective permanent service and above the rank of Centurione are likewise disqualified.

b) Those then the special Provincial Commissions

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b) Appendix "B" giving a list of the local government and judicial agencies on whom duties are imposed, with notes on the more specialised ones.

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b) Those whom the special Provincial Commission set up under Art.8 of DLL.159 has sentenced to ineligibility for public office or loss of civil rights.

c) Those Fascists convicted by the regular criminal courts for the fascist crimes found in Title I of DLL.159.

/These are the only.....

(27)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 1850/15

These are the only disqualifications on the ground of fascism: any tendency on the part of Prefects, Sindaci and others to exclude persons considered to be fascists on other grounds than these must be rigorously suppressed.

5. Let it be emphasized that the Provincial Commission set up under art.8 abovementioned is NOT the same as the Provincial Epuration Commission, which is an entirely distinct body with distinct functions.

6. It is also necessary to determine the particular Electoral List in which a qualified citizen is to be registered. The citizen must be registered in the list of the Commune in which he has his permanent residence and in whose register of permanent population or "anagrafa" he is inscribed. That is the rule; but there are the following exceptions to it.

a) Refugees and evacuees will be registered in the Commune in which they are temporarily living but they can opt for their Commune of permanent residence:

b) Apart from refugees, a citizen may be living in a Commune different from that in whose register of population he is inscribed. If he has lived in the Commune in question for at least 6 months, he can, if he wishes, claim to be registered there:

c) The citizen can also, if he wishes, claim to be registered in the Commune where he has the principal seat of his personal business or interests.

PREPARATION OF THE LISTS

7. With the foregoing rules in mind, the procedure for preparing the Lists is seen to be logical and comprehensible. It falls into 5 main stages :-

A. There has to be ascertained those who are prima facie entitled to be registered in the Commune. This is the task of the Sindaco and Segretario Comunale.

B. Those affected by one or another of the disqualifications have to be ascertained and struck out: this is primarily the task of a number of agencies in possession of the requisite information, who have to furnish it to the Commune.

C. The list of names so obtained has to be published as the Electoral Lists and then reviewed and approved by an independent authority, the Electoral Commission. The Lists now become definitive.

D. Steps must now be taken for registered electors to opt for another Commune under Para.6 (b) and (c) above. Refugees and evacuees who wish to do so under para.6 (a) must do it at Stage A.

E. Finally, the Commune has to be divided into Polling Districts

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b) Apart from refugees, a citizen may be living in a Commune different from that in whose register of population he is inscribed. If he has lived in the Commune in question for at least 6 months, he can, if he wishes, claim to be registered there:

c) The citizen can also, if he wishes, claim to be registered in the Commune where he has the principal seat of his personal business or interests.

PREPARATION OF THE LISTS

7. With the foregoing rules in mind, the procedure for preparing the Lists is seen to be logical and comprehensible. It falls into 5 main stages :-

A. There has to be ascertained those who are prima facie entitled to be registered in the Commune. This is the task of the Sindaco and Segretario Comunale.

B. Those affected by one or another of the disqualifications have to be ascertained and struck out: this is primarily the task of a number of agencies in possession of the requisite information, who have to furnish it to the Commune.

C. The list of names so obtained has to be published as the Electoral Lists and then reviewed and approved by an independent authority, the Electoral Commission. The Lists now become definitive.

D. Steps must now be taken for registered electors to opt for another Commune under Para.6 (b) and (c) above. Refugees and evacuees who wish to do so under para.6 (a) must do it at Stage A.

E. Finally, the Commune has to be divided into Polling Districts ("Sezioni Elettorali") and a Polling Place specified for each district. This will not be necessary in village Communes, of course. It is to be noted that Stage E, though the last to be enumerated here, is actually carried out contemporaneously with Stage C.

8. The Elector does not have to apply to be registered, but he may if he wishes. Provision has been made for this and for letting the public know, at the very beginning, of their right to put in such an application. It is wise to apply. It is a help to the authorities - and to the citizen - in ensuring that he will be able to exercise his vote.

/Stage A .....

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Stage A - Ascertainment of Qualifications :

9. The immediate tasks of the Sindaco are two:

a) he must publish a notice in the prescribed form at the Municipio and other public places stating that the preparation of the Lists has been started and that citizens can apply to be registered.

b) he must proceed to compile the "Elenco". (It is convenient to keep to the Italian word for this document, as the only adequate English translation is "list" and that word is required in another connection.

10. The "Elenco" is made up by copying from the register of permanent population particulars of all Italian citizens of the right age. It is evident that this automatically gives the names of those who are "prima facie" qualified, subject to (a) any defects in the register of population, and (b) the addition of refugees and evacuees. It will now be seen how the register of permanent population is the absolute root and basis for all subsequent operations and how important it is that it should be in order and brought up-to-date. If it is not, however, the Sindaco is allowed to refer to any type of official record, such as registers of births, marriages and deaths, conscription lists, etc.

Stage B - Ascertainment of Disqualifications :

11. Here the undermentioned bodies have to take the initiative :

a) Public Assistance Institutions and ECA have to send the commune a list of those chargeable to them who belong to that commune.

b) The Police Authority (i.e. the Questura) has to send a similar list of brothel-keepers and those subject to "ammonizione" or "confino".

c) The President of the Provincial Commission under Art.8 of DLL.159 has to send a similar list of those deprived of civil rights under that Article.

12. There is a fourth source of official information as to disqualifications, namely, the Judicial Records Offices (Casellario Giudiziale) of the various Tribunali, but in this instance it is the Sindaco who has to take the initiative. The reason is that convictions are registered according to place of birth. The Sindaco, therefore, has to make extracts from the "Elenco" according to birthplace and send these to the Records Office of the Tribunale within whose jurisdiction the persons enumerated in each extract were born. The Records Office returns the extract with the proper certificates of conviction, if any, annexed. In this way are ascertained disqualifications for ordinary criminal offences, for fascist crimes under Title V of DLL.159, declared heretical dumbness

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population particulars of all Italian citizens of the right age. It is evident that this automatically gives the names of those who are "prima facie" qualified, subject to (a) any defects in the register of population, and (b) the addition of refugees and evacuees. It will now be seen how the register of permanent population is the absolute root and basis for all subsequent operations and how important it is that it should be in order and brought up-to-date. If it is not, however, the Sindaco is allowed to refer to any type of official record, such as registers of births, marriages and deaths, conscription lists, etc.

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Stage C - Compilation and Approval of the Lists :

13. From his "Elenco", as amended by the various returns from the authorities just referred to - and after deciding upon any application to register he may have received - the Sindaco now constructs the Electoral List and sends it in duplicate to the Electoral Commission for examination and approval.

14. The Electoral Commission is very important. There must be one for every judicial district or "Mandamento" in the Province. Its President is

/ex-officio the President....

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ex-officio the President of the Tribunale, or if there is none, the Pretore. There are four other commissioners. One is appointed by the Prefect. The others are three citizens of the "Mandamento" to be appointed by the Deputazione Provinciale.

15. Sub-Commissions will also be appointed in the ratio of one for every 50,000 (or fractions of 50,000) inhabitants of the "Mandamento".

16. Before sending the Electoral List to the Commission, the Sindaco must deposit it at the Municipio and give public notice to that effect. During this time, objections to the entry or omission of a name may be made. The list is then sent up, with all applications to be registered, all objections, and a complete record of the Sindaco's proceedings.

17. The Electoral Commission examines all these documents and decides on the validity of the Lists. They can add names as well as strike them out. Its decisions are notified the commune and the Sindaco makes the necessary alterations in the list deposited at the Municipio. It is now deposited for public inspection at the Communal Secretary's office and public notice of this is given.

18. The Lists are now definitive, i.e. they cannot now be altered except by reason of (a) the death of an elector, (b) the loss of Italian citizenship, (c) conviction for a disqualifying crime, and (d) by decision of the Courts on an appeal.

19. There is, however, another class of alteration which may be made in the list even as late as 10 days before the date of an election, and that is in the case where the Provincial Commission, under art.8 of DLL.159, decrees a fascist ineligible for public office or to lose his civil rights. The reason for allowing such declarations to have effect on the Electoral List up to so late a date as 10 days before an election is to be found in the delays which are likely to be encountered in constituting these Provincial Commissions and the long time they are likely to take in completing their tasks. It is, however, most important that alterations in the Lists for this cause subsequent to their becoming definitive should be reduced to the absolute minimum, and that every effort be made to constitute the Commissions under Art.8 of DLL.159 and to get them to work immediately.

20. There is a right of appeal to the Courts against the decisions of the Electoral Commission by any citizen and by the Procuratore del Regno of the provincial capital.

Stage D - Transfer of Registrations :

21. The elector can now apply to have his registration transferred to:-

i) the Commune in which he has been in fact residing for the last 6 months - see para.6 (b); or

ii) The Commune in which he has the principal place of his personal business or interests - see para.6 (c).

All he has to do is :-

a) apply to the Commune where he is now registered for that entry to be cancelled and for the Sindaco to send him the proper Declaration of Cancellation

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ii) The Commune in which he has the principal place of his personal business or interests - see para.6 (c).

All he has to do is :-

a) apply to the Commune where he is now registered for that entry to be cancelled and for the Sindaco to send him the proper Declaration of Cancellation :

b) apply to the Commune where he wants to be registered, sending the Declaration of Cancellation with his application.

/ Stage E .....

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Stage E - Polling Districts and Polling Places :

22. As soon as the Sindaco has completed his Electoral Lists for submission to the Electoral Commission, he can - and must - take action on this subject. He is required to make and publish a "deliberazione" - or, as we might say in English, an ordinance - defining the boundaries of the polling districts and the polling place for each district. The ordinance is placed on deposit for 10 days so that any citizen who desires may file an objection. Then the ordinance and the objections are sent up to the Electoral Commission for approval or amendment.

23. Each polling district should include from 100 (in exceptional cases 50) to 1,000 electors. Up to 4 polling places (i.e. for 4 districts) can be had in one building: but not more than 2 may be accessible from the same street. The Prefect can dispense with this restriction as to access, where necessary; and he can also authorise up to 8 polling places in one building.

WOMEN

24. Women have the same qualifications as men but they must be entered on a separate Electoral List. The Lists for men and women should be prepared at the same time, however, and the procedure for them both should go forward contemporaneously. For practical purposes the Lists can be regarded as one List in two parts - one for men and the other for women.

TIME LIMITS

25. Appendix "A" shows that from the "fixed date", which the Chief Commissioner will determine as the day on which the preparation of the Lists is to start, to the date when the Lists become definitive is 100 days - provided, of course, that the time limits are strictly kept. This is not likely, and, in fact, the Prefect is empowered, within 10 days of the "fixed date" to propose extensions of the time limits for Communes which cannot possibly keep to them. Nevertheless, every effort should be made to adhere to the time-table prescribed, and extensions should only be allowed in cases of absolute and clearly-proven necessity.

26. The date for compilation of the Lists by the Sindaco ("Appendix .", para.14) is important. This must be done by 60 days from the "fixed date" at the latest. If, however, the compilation can be finished earlier, then subsequent time limits run from the actual completion of the Lists and the total time is thereby shortened.

THE PREFECT

27. The Prefect's main functions are :

a) to supervise generally the preparation of the Lists. This he does:
   i) through the Vice-Prefect Inspector;
   ii) through the Electoral Office, which must be constituted in each Prefecture under a Consigliere or 1st Segretario,
   iii) from the progress reports which the Sindaci must submit [illegible]

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   i) through the Vice-Prefect Inspector;
   ii) through the Electoral Office, which must be constituted in each Prefecture under a Consigliere or 1st Segretario,
   iii) from the progress reports which the Sindaci must submit 1721 every 15 days.

b) to determine alterations in the areas of the Electoral Commission.

c) to recommend extensions of the time limits for particular Communes.

d) to secure the proper and timely appointment of Electoral Commissions and Sub-Commissions.

e) to appoint a Comissario to take over from any Commune which falls behind the time-table.

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APPENDIX A

TABLE showing action to be taken by Italian agencies, with time-limits

Notes: (i) The figures in col. 4 are obtained by adding together, step by step, the maximum period al
from the "fixed day".
(ii) The citizen is not required to lodge the various applications, objections and appeals ment
he does, time-limits for doing so are fixed.

ACTION BY	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTION TO BE TAKEN	DA ALLO
	A - Ascertainment of qualifications	
1. Sindaco & Segretario Comunale	1. Publish Notice that application to be entered on Electoral List may be made.	Immed
2. Prefect	2. Recommend extension of time-table for Communes where, by reason of the war, adherence to time limits is absolutely impossible.	10 "fix
3. "	3. Decree variations in areas of jurisdiction of Electoral Comissions, where situation of places and difficulties of communication make changes advisable	
4. Sindaco & Segretario Comunale	4. Compile (from register of permanent population or other official records) the "elenco" of Italian citizens over 21 with permanent residence in Commune)	20 "fix
	B - Ascertainment of Disqualifications	
5. Public Assistance, Institutions & ECA	5. Notify Segretario Comunale of paupers belonging to Commune.	
6. Provincial Commission under DLL 159 Art. 8	6. Notify Sindaco of those Fascists disqualified from public office or exercise of political rights.	
7. Questore	7. Notify Sindaco of residents in Commune who are brothel-keepers - registered prostitutes - subject to "ammonizione" or "confino"	
8. Any qualified citizen	8. May make application to Town Hall to be entered on Electoral List.	
9. Sindaco & Segretario Comunale	9. Publish notice of applications received.	

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APPENDIX A

TABLE showing action to be taken by Italian agencies, with time-limits

The figures in col. 4 are obtained by adding together, step by step, the maximum period allowed for each step from the "fixed day".
The citizen is not required to lodge the various applications, objections and appeals mentioned below; but if he does, time-limits for doing so are fixed.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTION TO BE TAKEN	DAYS ALLOWED	CUMULATIVE DAYS FROM "FIXED DATE"
- Ascertainment of qualifications		
1. Publish Notice that application to be entered on Electoral List may be made.	Immediately	0
2. Recommend extension of time-table for Communes where, by reason of the war, adherence to time limits is absolutely impossible.	10 from "fixed date"	10
3. Decree variations in areas of jurisdiction of Electoral Commissions, where situation of places and difficulties of communication make changes advisable	"	"
4. Compile (from register of permanent population or other official records) the "elenco" of Italian citizens over 21 with permanent residence in Commune)	20 from "fixed date"	20
- Ascertainment of Disqualifications		
5. Notify Segreterio Comunale of paupers belonging to Commune.	"	"
6. Notify Sindaco of those Fascists disqualified from public office or exercise of political rights.	"	"
7. Notify Sindaco of residents in Commune who are brothel-keepers - registered prostitutes - subject to "ammonizione" or "confino"	"	"
8. May make application to Town Hall to be entered on Electoral List.	"	"
9. Publish notice of applications received.	"	"

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10.	Refugees & Evacuees	10. May apply to Commune of temporary residence, if they desire to be registered in Commune of permanent residence
11.	Sindaco & Segretario Comunale	11. Transmit applications of refugees and evacuees to Communes of permanent resident--note names for exclusion from Electoral Lists of Commune of temporary residence.
12.	Sindaco & Segretario Comunale	12. Send extracts from "Elenco" to the Judicial Records Offices ("Casellario Giudiziale") of the Tribunali, containing particulars of those born within the jurisdiction of each Tribunale--or, in case of difficulty, to the Central Judicial Records Office of the Ministry of Pardon and Justice.
13.	Judicial Records Offices of Tribunali and of Ministry of Pardon and Justice.	13. Return extracts to Commune, with certificates of disqualifying convictions, etc.
		C - Completion and Approval of Lists
14.	Sindaco & Segretario Comunale	14. Completion of Electoral Lists in duplicate.
15.	"	15. Notify applicants for registration whom Sindaco has rejected.
16.	"	16. 1 copy Electoral List to be deposited with Segretario Comunale -- notice thereof to be published and Prefect to be notified.
17.	Any citizen	17. May lodge with Commune objections against Deposited Electoral Lists (to be decided by Electoral Commission or Sub-Commission).
18.	Sindaco & Segretario Comunale	18. Forward to Electoral Commission (a) "Elenco", (b) 2nd copy Electoral List, (c) Applications to be registered, (d) Objections received and (e) Record of Commune's proceedings.
19.	Prefect, President of Tribunale, and Deputazione Provinciale	19. Constitute Electoral Commissions and Sub Commissions

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10. May apply to Commune of temporary residence, if they desire to be registered in Commune of permanent residence	20 from "fixed date"	20
11. Transmit applications of refugees and evacuees to Communes of permanent resident--note names for exclusion from Electoral Lists of Commune of temporary residence.	Immediately	—
12. Send extracts from "Elenco" to the Judicial Records Offices ("Casellario Giudizisle") of the Tribunali, containing particulars of those born within the jurisdiction of each Tribunale--or, in case of difficulty, to the Central Judicial Records Office of the Ministry of Pardon and Justice.	5 from completion of "Elenco"	25
13. Return extracts to Commune, with certificates of disqualifying convictions, etc.	15 from receipt of extract	40
F - Completion and Approval of Lists		
14. Completion of Electoral Lists in duplicate.	60 from "fixed date"	60
15. Notify applicants for registration whom Sindaco has rejected.	"	"
16. 1 copy Electoral List to be deposited with Segretario Comunale — notice thereof to be published and Prefect to be notified.	3 from completion of List; but within 60 days of "fixed date"	"
17. May lodge with Commune objections against Deposited Electoral Lists (to be decided by Electoral Commission or Sub-Commission).	10 from publication of notice of deposit of lists	70
18. Forward to Electoral Commission (a) "Elenco", (b) 2nd copy Electoral List, (c) Applications to be registered, (d) Objections received and (e) Record of Commune's proceedings.	5 from last day for lodging appeals	75
19. Constitute Electoral Commissions and Sub Commissions	within 75 days of "fixed date"	60

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20.	Electoral Commission	20. Hold first meeting of Electoral Commission or Sub Commission
21.	"	21. Amend and approve the Electoral List--notify Commune of decisions in individual cases and return the List.
22.	Sindaco & Segretario Communale	22. Make necessary amendments to Deposited Electoral Lists--notify electors affected by decisions of Electoral Commission or Sub-Commission.
23.	Sindaco & Segretario Communale	23. Publish notice of deposit of Definitive Electoral Lists.
24.	"	24. Deposit Definitive Electoral Lists with Segretario Communale for public inspection.
25.	Any citizen : and the Procuratore del Regno at the Provincial capital	25. May appeal to Court of Appeal and thence to Court of Cassation. (N.B. --the time limits for appeals are not stated here, because pending appeals do NOT affect the Definitive Electoral Lists, until finally decided)
		D - Transfers of Registration
26.	Any registered elector	26. May apply for cancellation of registration in Commune from which it is desired to transfer
27.	Sindaco & Segretario Communale	27. Cancel registration and send applicant a Declaration of Cancellation
28.	"	28. Send to Electoral Commission or Sub Commission a list of cancellations made
29.	The elector concerned	29. Apply to be registered in Commune to which it is desired to transfer, forwarding the Declaration of Cancellation above-mentioned

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first meeting of Electoral Commission or Sub Commission	5 from receipt of List, etc.	80
nd and approve the Electoral List--notify Commune of decisions in ividual cases and return the List.	15 from receipt of List, etc.	90
necessary amendments to Deposited Electoral Lists--notify electors ected by decisions of Electoral Commission or Sub-Commission.	10 from receipt of List from Communes	100
lish notice of deposit of Definitive Electoral Lists.	for 10 days	110
osit Definitive Electoral Lists with Segretario Comunale for public pection.	Immediately on completion of amendments in Deposited Lists.	----
ppeal to Court of Appeal and thence to Court of Cassation. B. --the time limits for appeals are not stated here, because ding appeals do NOT affect the Definitive Electoral Lists, until ally decided)	--	----
nsfers of Registration pply for cancellation of registration in Commune from which it is ired to transfer	15 from publication of Definitive List	115
cel registration and send applicant a Declaration of Cancellation	Immediately	----
to Electoral Commission or Sub Commission a list of cancellations ndo	10 from last day for applications for cancellation	125
ly to be registered in Commune to which it is desired to transfer, warding the Declaration of Cancellation above-mentioned	15 from last day for appli-	130

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30.	Sindaco & Segretario Comunale	30. In the Commune to which it is desired to transmit: -- (a) if the Electoral Lists have NOT yet been completed (see para.14 above) register the elector in the ordinary way; (b) if the Electoral Lists HAVE been completed (see para 14 above) register the elector by publishing a Supplemental List.
		E - Division of Commune into Polling-Districts ("Sezioni Elettorali") (N.B.-- This process is contemporaneous with Stage C, paras. 14-23 above)
31.	Sindaco & Segretario Comunale	31. Publish Decision as to division of Commune into polling-districts, boundaries of polling districts, and polling-places for each district--notify Prefect-- complete Electoral Lists for each District.
32.	"	32. Decision of Sindaco to be deposited for public inspection.
33.	Any citizen	33. May lodge objections to Sindaco's Decision at Town Hall, for transmission to Electoral Commission.
34.	Sindaco & Segretario Comunale	34. Forward Decision, Polling District Lists and objections to Electoral Commission
35.	Electoral Commission	35. Decide objections and approve Polling-District Lists.

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In the Commune to which it is desired to transfer: -- (a) if the Electoral Lists have NOT yet been completed (see para.14 above) register the elector in the ordinary way; (b) if the Electoral Lists HAVE been completed (see para 14 above) register the elector by publishing a Supplemental List.	Supplemental Lists to be published at monthly intervals	—
Division of Commune into Polling-Districts ("Sezioni Elettorali") (N.B.-- This process is contemporaneous with Stage C, paras. 14-23 above)		
Publish Decision as to division of Commune into polling-districts, boundaries of polling districts, and polling-places for each district--notify Prefect-- complete Electoral Lists for each District.	15 from completion of Lists	75
Decision of Sindaco to be deposited for public inspection.	for 10 days	85
May lodge objections to Sindaco's Decision at Town Hall, for transmission to Electoral Commission.	10 from publication of decision	"
Forward Decision, Polling District Lists and objections to Electoral Comdission	5 from last day for lodging objections	90
Decide objections and approve Polling-District Lists.	15 from receipt of Decision etc.	105

APPENDIX B

ITALIAN AGENCIES involved in preparation of electoral lists

Generally at all Stages

Sindaco
Segretario Comunale
Prefect
Vice Prefect Inspector
Electoral Office - to be organised in each Prefecture in charge of a specially designated official.

Stage A - Ascertainment of Qualifications

Public Assistance Institutions (e.g. hospitals, workhouses, orphanages, etc.)
Ente Comunale D'Assistenza (ECA)
Provincial Commissions appointed under DLL. 159 of Oct 8 - consisting of a Magistrate and two persons qualified to be jurors at Courts of Assize
Questore, and local branches of the Questure.

Judicial Records Offices at Tribunali

The General Judicial Records Office of the Ministry of Parlon and Justice

Stage C - Completion and approval of lists

Deputazione Provinciale - to appoint 3 out of 4 members of Electoral Commissions and Sub-Commissions
Presidents of Tribunali - to preside over Electoral Commissions and to appoint chairman of Sub-Commissions.
Pretori - to act instead of the President of the Tribunali where there is no such Court in the 'mandamento'
Magistrates, serving or retired - to preside over Electoral Sub-Commissions.

Appeals to the Courts

Court of Appeal
Court of Cassation
Procurators del Regno of the Provincial Capital.

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Public Assistance Institutions (e.g. hospitals, workhouses, orphanages, etc.)
Ente Communale D'Assistenza (ECA)
Provincial Commissions appointed under DPR. 159 of Oct 3 - consisting of a Magistrate and two persons qualified to be Jurors at Courts of Assise
Questore, and local branches of the Questure.

Judicial Records Offices at Tribunali

The Central Judicial Records Office of the Ministry of Pardon and Justice

Stage C - Completion and approval of lists

Deputazione Provinciale - to appoint 3 out of 4 members of Electoral Commissions and Sub-Commissions
Presidents of Tribunali - to preside over Electoral Commissions and to appoint chairmen of Sub-Commissions.
Pretori - to act instead of the Presidents of the Tribunali where there is no such Court in the Mandamento
Magistrates, serving or retired - to preside over Electoral Sub-Commissions.

Appeals to the Courts

Court of Appeal
Court of Cassation
Procuratore del Regno of the Provincial Capital.

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FHQEG REPEATED AMG EIGHTARMY AND AMG THIRTEEN CORPS FOR INFO

681 27th JUNE, 1945 PRIORITY

SECRET PD

SUBJECT IS VENEZIA GIULIA PD

PARA ONE PD INSTRUCTIONS ARE REQUESTED ON POLICY WITH REGARD TO ABLE NATIONAL ELECTIONS BAKER LOCAL ELECTIONS ON COMMUNAL LEVEL CHARLIE LOCAL ELECTIONS ON PROVINCIAL LEVEL PD

PAREN TO FHQEG REPEATED AMG EIGHTARMY AND AMG THIRTEEN CORPS FOR INFO FROM HQ ALCOM CITE ACSCC PAREN

PARA TWO PD ABLE NATIONAL ELECTIONS PD NEW ITALIAN GOVERNMENT INTEND TO SUMMON CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE PD ASSEMBLY MAY DETERMINE INSTITUTIONAL QUESTION AND MAY ALSO DETERMINE NEW ITALIAN CONSTITUTION IN GENERAL PD INQUIRY BY ITALIAN GOVERNMENT MAY BE EXPECTED IN NEAR FUTURE AS TO WHETHER PARTS OF VENEZIA GIULIA UNDER AMG WILL PARTICIPATE PD REFUSAL WOULD DENY TO INHABITANTS ANY SAY IN FUTURE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE PD BRACKET ONE BRACKET FROM WHICH THEY HAVE NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY DETACHED BY ANNEXATION AND BRACKET TWO BRACKET TO WHOSE JURISDICTION THEY MAY ULTIMATELY RETURN PD

PARA THREE PD BAKER LOCAL ELECTIONS IN COMMUNES PD IF YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT SETS UP ELECTED LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN THE AREA IT ADMINISTERS CMA DENIAL BY ALLIES OF THE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

478190

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO
CWO USA
Asst. Adjutant.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

RIGHT OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN THEIR AREA WILL CREATE UNFORTUNATE IMPRESSION PD ON THE OTHER HAND CMA POSSIBLE REFUSAL BY POPULARLY ELECTED LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO OBEY AMG ORDERS OR THEIR APPOINTMENT OF UNACCEPTABLE OFFICIALS WOULD CREATE COMPLICATIONS PD THERE IS NO PRACTICAL DIFFICULTY IN HOLDING SUCH ELECTIONS FOR ALL COMMUNES WHOLLY COMPRISED WITHIN AMG AREA PD ELECTION MACHINERY CONSTITUTION AND POWERS OF ELECTED BODIES WOULD CORRESPOND TO THOSE IN REST OF ITALY AND WOULD BE SET UP BY AMG ORDER PD YOU MAY CONSIDER IT DESIRABLE TO DEFER ISSUE OF INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS QUESTION UNTIL IT IS SEEN WHAT POWERS ARE CONFERRED ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN REST OF ITALY BY ITALIAN GOVERNMENT PD

PARA FOUR PD CHARLIE LOCAL ELECTIONS AT PROVINCIAL LEVEL PD SAME CONSIDERATIONS AS IN BAKER APPLY CMA BUT AMG AREA CONTAINS PARTS ONLY OF THE PROVINCES OF GORIZIA CMA TRIESTE AND POLA PD ELECTIONS ON PROVINCIAL LEVEL WOULD CMA THEREFORE CMA INVOLVE ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL TYPE OF LOCAL AUTHORITY FOR SUCH PARTS PD IT IS DOUBTFUL IF THIS IS ADMINISTRATIVELY PRACTICABLE PD

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

478190

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO
CWO USA
Asst. Adjutant.

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To the Chief of Commission

JUN 22 RECD

CC 1413

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/A/LG

Memorandum

on the Ministry of the Interior's "Draft Bill" for the Reconstitution of Elective Local Authorities in Communes and Provinces

SEE 204-2 FILE

1. On Tuesday, 19 June, there became available to this S/C a copy of the "Blue Book" submitted herewith. It has been given a preliminary examination and a few more copies obtained. It is in course of translation.

2. The "Servizio Elettorale" is a sub-division of the Direction-General of Civil Administration in the Ministry. The "Blue Book" is a purely technical production by professional civil servants. It does not state or indicate policy. It merely sets forth a Decree which could be made if certain policies were adopted. It is believed to be the work of M. M. VICEDOMINI, the Director-General of Civil Administration, and of the Vice-Prefect Dr. STRANO, the Head of the Electoral Service.

3. The "Blue Book" contains:--

(a) an explanatory Introduction:
(b) the "Draft Bill" or Decree: and
(c) a group of alternative clauses.

The Draft Bill deals with:--

I.- Organs of Communal and Provincial local government.
II - Eligibility for local government office.
III - Election procedure for Communal Councils.
IV - " " " Provincial "
V - Criminal offences.
VI - Miscellaneous, transitional and enacting clauses.

4. Organs of Communal and Provincial Local Government. The "Draft Bill" would revive the Communal and Provincial Councils of the Code of 1915 - the last before Fascism. It would also continue the respective Executive Committees (Giunta Comunale and Deputazione Provinciale) and Chief Citizens (Sindaco and President of the Provincial Administration) for which provision has been made in Ex. Memo. No. 39, save that these would be chosen by the Councils, instead of appointed by the Prefect. And the Councils would make decisions of policy or of major importance, a power which the Ex. Memo. has (in the absence of such

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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5. The number of members of the Communal and Provincial Councils is specified and varies with population. The "Draft Bill" appreciably reduces the numbers of the Code of 1915 in order (says the Introduction) to make the Councils more compact and business-like and to allow for the huge increase in urban population in the last 30 years. It is doubtful if this is a good thing. They propose 60 Councillors for cities over half-a-million population. In England, this would be the number for a town of about 80,000 population: Councils of 120 or 140 strong for larger cities are quite usual. Large Councils are not infrequent in the USA, it is believed. They certainly give a closer tie between Councillor and electorate. However, this appears to be a matter in which AC should not interfere.

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6. On the other hand, the Draft Bill would increase the membership of the Executive Committees. This is all to the good. The members of Giunte and Deputazioni act individually (as well as in a body) as assistants to the Sindaco or President and take charge of departments. The Sindaco and President needs all the help he can get, in these times. The largest would be a Giunta Comunale of 12 (with 6 substitutes) for cities of over half-a-million, which is not too large for a Committee.

7. Eligibility. The clauses of the "Draft Bill" as to qualification and disqualification for office call for no comment: they seem quite reasonable.

8. Election of Communal Councils. This part reproduces substantially the text of 1915 with, however, considerable simplifications and "stream-linings"--a literal translation of Sgr. BONOMI's word for it. But these amendments do not touch any point of principle: and they do not touch at all the questions raised in CC's letter of 19 April to Sgr. BONOMI (fo. 58). It is improbable that the correspondence between the CC and the late PM is known to the authors of the "Blue Book".

9. Election of Provincial Councils. The procedure for this is the same in principle as that for Communes and the same comment applies.

10. The remainder of the "Draft Bill" does not, it is thought, call for comment at this stage: although the examination of it, cursory as it has been, has brought to light further objectionable features. For instance, provincial and communal elections are to be held on the same day; but no provision appears to be made for keeping them distinct and for preventing e.g. provincial ballot-papers getting into the communal ballot-box and so going void. Another point is that to allow election petitions to be decided in the first instance by the very Councils which have just been constituted by that election is hardly a sound measure: such petitions should go to a judicial authority.

11. However, it will perhaps be felt desirable to keep to broad principles and to speak to the Italian Government in general terms at the present moment. Moreover, some of the criticisms which have occurred to the Sub-Commission may be susceptible to a reasonable explanation, if ~~only~~ the Italian Government will discuss the matter.

12. The alternative clauses provide for proportional representation in case it should be decided to have that system. The clauses provide for a list system with proportional representation on the quotient basis, as in Switzerland: and they have been worked out from:--

(a) the NITTI bill presented to the Chamber of Deputies in 1920:
(b) the counter proposals of the MATTEOTI bill presented to the same session; and
(c) the bill produced by the Committee of the Chamber to which the NITTI and the MATTEOTI bills were referred. This bill had reached the Senate when the session terminated; and nothing more was heard of it.

No comment is made on these clauses. The question of proportional

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No comment is made on these clauses. The question of proportional representation does not seem directly relevant to the questions of freedom and secrecy of voting now before the CC. Moreover, these clauses would require much more thorough study and consultation than there has been opportunity to give them in two days.

13. Apart from these alternative clauses the "Draft Bill" is therefore an accurate translation into legislative language of the proposals outlined in Sgr. BONOMI's letter of 27 February (fo. 50) and further clarified at the conference noted at fo. 52.

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14. As has been said, this is a technical study for the use of the political directors of Italy's government. It has not committed the late Government to anything--a fortiori the present one. While there can be no denying that this is the formal situation, yet the publication of the "Blue Book" is a step forward and does in fact import a certain hardening of the position. Its publication could therefore (it is submitted) properly be made an additional basis for further representations to the PARRI Government.

15. It may be useful to add a note as to Women serving on the Councils. The right to vote was granted on 1 February last to women over 21. The "Draft Bill" follows this up by making women eligible for the office of Communal or Provincial Councillor and for membership of the Giunta Comunale and Deputazione Provinciale. It excludes them, on the other hand, from the offices of Sindaco and of President of the Provincial Administration and from being elective members of the Giunta Provinciale Amministrativa--an important organ of the Prefecture with extensive powers of control over and approval of all major acts of the Communes and consisting of 6 official members and 4 elective ones to be chosen by the Provincial Council. It is difficult to see any reason in these days for a timid half-measure of this kind.

R. R. CRIPPS
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

21 June 1945.

CGRW/pec

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R. R. CRIPPS
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

21 June 1943.

CGRW/pec

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AC/45/1/LC

Tel: 476190

SUBJECT: Preparation of Electoral Lists.

13 June 1945

TO : Distribution as below.

1. Attention is drawn to Article 5 of DLL 12 April 1945, No. 201, published in the "Gazetta Ufficiale" No. 59 of 17 May. The effect of this article is stated in the next paragraph. The Decree has now been implemented for Military Government Territory by the order (No. 829) of Allied Military Government published in the "Gazzetta Ufficiale" No. 68 of 7 June 1945.

2. Although all the Italian legislation upon the preparation of the electoral lists has been given a formal implementation in Military Government Territory, its practical effect has hitherto been confined to Italian Government Territory. With respect to provinces under Allied Military Government, the Italian legislation provided that the procedure for preparing the lists was to be commenced in any such province 15 days after its return to the Italian Government: no provision was made for any steps to be taken during the period of Military Government. On the representation of this HQ, the Italian Government have altered this by the enactment of Article 5 of the Decree quoted in para 1, which provides for Allied Military Government to fix the date or dates for commencing preparation of the lists.

3. Authority to fix a date or dates accordingly for the provinces under AMG will be exercised by the Chief Civil Affairs Officer at HQ AC. The RCs through the SCAOs will advise the CCAO as to the earliest date that can be set. The purpose of this directive is to give an indication of the considerations to be borne in mind in this connection.

4. The existence of electoral lists is a condition precedent to any sort of elections--national or local. The preparation of the lists is the first practical step in the return of Italy to the basis of democratic government, namely, the election of representative institutions, and it is thus an implementation of one of the fundamental policies of the allies towards Italy.

5. The liberation of the whole of the country has brought the matter into even higher relief. Before that event, the lists could only be considered, for practical purposes, in connection with the holding of local elections in those parts of Italy that lay to the rear of our lines. Now, however, the holding of local elections throughout the whole of Italy more or less simultaneously is a possibility. The essential preliminary to local elections, the formation of the electoral lists, is already well under way in Southern and Central Italy: and the important one of not allowing the North to lag behind is obvious.

6. The preparation of the electoral lists and the necessary preliminaries thereto in Military Government Territory are, therefore, a matter of the highest priority and SCAOs and RCs will deal with the matter on that basis.

7. The work of preparing the lists is intricate and complicated. It consists of a series of formal steps--such as the publication of notices, the deposit of provisional lists, the receipt of and adjudication upon claims by citizens to be entered on the lists, and so on--for each of which a precise time-table is laid

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This Electoral Commission is presided over by the President of the Tribunal, or if none, by the Pretore, and is composed of four commissioners of whom one is appointed by the Prefect and three by the Deputazione Provinciale. The necessity for the institution of the mentioned local body is apparent. The re-organization of the Prefectures and of local government should, therefore, be completed with all possible speed. Any delay will postpone the work of compilation of the election registers.

9. As this re-organization proceeds, the newly appointed local authorities of the Communes should turn their attention at once to the revision of their registers of population. As is generally known, a register ("anagrafe") of the population in and always has been required to be kept at the Municipio of each commune, and this register is the basis from which the first draft electoral lists will be prepared. The bringing up to date of these registers must, therefore, be put in hand as soon as possible. A circular from the Ministry of the Interior to the Prefects, No. 7132L of 22 May 1945, has recently been distributed through the AF channels, whereby the Italian provincial and communal authorities are advised how to proceed with the bringing up to date of the registers of Italian population.

10. Finally, preparation of the lists cannot be commenced until each commune has been furnished with the forms and other stationery necessary for the purpose. The Italian Government is responsible for the printing of these and for supplying them to this HQ. It is expected that this printed material will be available within the next two weeks. This HQ will then arrange for the transport of the material (all packaged and labelled) to the HQ of the Regional Commissioners of the five Northern Regions. RCs in their turn will immediately distribute to Provincial Commissioners from which point the latter will be responsible for further distribution to every commune. The commencing date for the preparation of the lists cannot be earlier than a week after distribution of the forms to the last commune. Board Italian officials must have an adequate time to study the forms, the law and the procedure and to make their preparations accordingly. In advising us to the date which should be fixed, RCs must make full allowance for this.

11. In the actual fixing of the date, each Region must be dealt with as a whole. It would be possible to fix separate dates, province by province, according as each one becomes ready to begin. It is much to be preferred, however, that one single date be fixed for the whole of a Region. If possible, the same date will be set for all the Northern Regions, but in any event if there are different dates they will be not a few days apart.

12. Please give this matter your immediate consideration and inform this HQ how soon after receipt of the electoral material the compilation of electoral lists can commence in your Region.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

G. R. UPJOHN, Brig.
VP C. Section

Distribution:

Action

RCs Emilia (with copies to PCs)
Liguria " " " "
Lombardia " " " "

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how to proceed with the drafting of the [illegible]

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BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

G. R. UPJOHN, Brig.
VP C.A Section

Distribution:

Action
- LOs Baili. (with copies to POs)
- Liguria " " " "
- Lombardia " " " "
- Piemonte " " " "
- Venezia " " " "

Information
- SCAO 5 Army
- " 8 "
- " IV Corps
- Executive Commissioner
- Chief Commissioner
- Pol. Adviser (A)
- " " (B)

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/3/LG

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Distribution of material for preparation of electoral lists.

18 June 1945

TO : Distribution as below.

1. Over-leaf is set forth a statement of the number and weight of the parcels of the forms, instructions and other material required for preparation of the electoral lists in each of the provinces under your command. The statement also gives the date when the Italian Government have promised that this material will be packed and ready for dispatch from the State Printing Works in Rome.

2. The material will be dispatched to you as soon after that date as arrangements for transport can be made. In the last resort, air transport may have to be used for Lombardia, Piemonte and Venezia Regions. You will be advised by signal as soon as possible of the means of transport that are being employed and of the ETA of the material.

3. Will RCs please provide for the distribution of the material to Provincial HQs, and PCs (in consultation with their Prefects) for its distribution to Communes. No doubt PCs and RCs have already put in hand arrangements for this. It is urged that every available means of transport--civil or military--be pressed into service.

4. The Italian Government state that each parcel will be clearly labeled with the name of the province for which it is destined and that, in loading, they will arrange to keep all parcels for a particular province together. No re-sorting should, therefore, have to be done at Regional HQs.

5. For distribution from PCs to Communes, however, the position is different. The Italian Government state that it is not possible to sort and pack the material by communes here in Rome because (a) sufficiently accurate information as to the needs of each commune is not available in Rome but only at the respective Prefectures and (b) to pack in this way would greatly delay the process. Each parcel, therefore, contains a given quantity of one type of document only: a statement is enclosed within each parcel giving the description and quantity of the material it contains.

6. On arrival of the material at Provincial HQ, it will therefore be necessary for the staff of the Prefecture to open the parcels, to re-sort their contents according to the requirements of each commune and to re-pack and address them for dispatch. The Italian Government estimate it should take the Prefectures from two to three days to do this.

7. It is requested that this HQ be informed by signal as soon as the dispatch of the material has been completed (a) to all Provincial HQs and (b) to all communes in a province.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Rome.

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FOR THE DIRECTOR:

1725

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Deputy Director
Local Government Sub Commission

CCR:/pec

Distribution:

RC Liguria (with copies for RCs)
Lombardia " " " "
Piemonte " " " "
Venezia " " " "

SCAO 5 Army — Transportation S/C
" 8 Army — Executive Commissioner
" IV Corps — Chief Commissioner

Noted by CC

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIAL FOR PREPARATION
OF ELECTORAL LISTS

REGION and estimated date of readiness	PROVINCE	No. of Parcels	Total parcels for Region	Weight in Kgms.	Total weight for Regions in tons (Approx.)
LIGURIA	Genova	72		2160	
	Imperia	22		660	
18 June	La Spezia	26		780	
	Savona	27		810	
			147		4.5 tons
VENEZIE	Belluno	27		720	
	Bolzano	30		900	
20 June	Padova	48		1440	
	Rovigo	29		870	
	Trento	38		1140	
	Treviso	42		1260	
	Udine	57		1710	
	Venezia	47		1410	
	Verona	46		1380	
	Vicenza	43		1290	
			407		12.25 tons
PIEMONTE	Alessandria	44		1320	
	Aosta	27		810	
23 June	Asti	27		810	
	Cuneo	48		1440	
	Novara	39		1170	
	Torino	99		2970	
	Vercelli	38		1140	
			322		9.75 tons
LOMBARDIA	Bergamo	45		1350	
	Brescia	54		1620	
27 June	Como	42		1260	
	Cremona	34		1020	
	Mantova	36		1080	
	Milano	167		5010	
	Pavia	44		1320	
	Sondrio	21		630	
	Varese	37		1110	
			480		14.5 tons

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			147		4.5 tons
VENEZIE	Belluno	27		720	
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	Brescia	54		1620	
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	Cremona	34		1020	
	Mantova	36		1080	
	Milano	167		5010	
	Pavia	44		1320	
	Sondrio	21		630	
	Varese	37		1110	
			480		14.5 tons

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AMG LOMBARDIA RPTD AMG PIEMONTE CMA AMG EMILIA CMA AMG LIGURIA CMA AND VENEZIE CMA RPTD FOR INFO SUGAR CHARLIE ABLE OBOE FIVE ARMY CMA EIGHT ARMY CMA FOUR CORPS

9724 13 Jun 45 PRIORITY

IN CLEAR PD

PARA ONE PD SUBJECT IS COMPILATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS PD

PARA TWO PD ESSENTIAL THAT ALL POSSIBLE STEPS BE TAKEN TO START COMPILATION ELECTORAL LISTS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE PD THE ITALIAN DECREE NUMBER TWO ZERO ONE HAS NOW BEEN IMPLEMENTED FOR MILITARY GOVERNMENT TERRITORY IN THE GAZETTE UFFICIALE NUMBER SIX EIGHT OF SEVEN JUNE FOUR FIVE PD THIS ALLOWS THE LISTS TO BE COMPILED PD

PAREN TO AMG LOMBARDIA RPTD AMG PIEMONTE CMA AMG EMILIA CMA AMG LIGURIA CMA AMD VENEZIE CMA RPTD FOR INFO SUGAR CHARLIE ABLE OBOE FIVE ARMY CMA EIGHT ARMY CMA FOUR CORPS FROM ALCOM CITE ACCAS PAREN

PARA THREE PD CHARLIE CHARLIE ABLE OBOE DIRECTS THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO SET ONE JULY FOUR FIVE AS TARGET DATE PD

PARA FOUR PD THIS HEADQUARTERS IS URGING GOVERNMENT TO COMPLETE PRINTING OF THE FORMS AND TWO FIVE JUNE FOUR FIVE IS NOW GIVEN AS DATE OF FINAL DELIVERY TO THIS HEADQUARTERS PD FORMS WILL BE SENT FORWARD TO REGIONS AS SOON AS DELIVERED BY FASTEST MEANS AVAILABLE PD

Civil Affairs Section

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

9724 13 Jun 45 PRIORITY

PARA FIVE P[illegible]SSENTIAL PRELIMINARIES ARE THE APPOINTMENT OF SINDACI
CMA DEPUTAZIONE AMD QUESTORE PD EXECUTIVE HEAD NUMBER THREE NINE THEREFORE
NEEDS CLOSEST ATTENTION SO THAT THERE MAY BE NO UNNECESSARY DELAY WHEN
MATERIAL IS RECEIVED

Civil Affairs Section

437

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO
CWO USA
Asst. Adjt.

1753.

18

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ARE FOR OGRS FOR HOKITIKA

9923 10th June, 1943. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL FD

PARA ONE FD IMPERIAL CABLE ORS FOR TERMS OF REFS JTRS FD

PARA TWO AND FOUR (ORS) FOR HOKITIKA FROM FD ADVICE ALSO MADE FROM

PARA TWO FD INCLINATIONS OF CHIEFS AND HEAD ORS PERTAINING FOR CONSULTATION OF REGIONAL LAWS HAS NOW JUST BEEN PUBLISHED IN GAZETTE OFFICIAL FD INSTRUCTIONS TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS ARE BEING INFORMED TO REACH HERE TO FIX A DATE FOR COMMENCEMENT OF NEW CONSULTATION FD ONE FACTOR OVER WHICH AC HAS NO CONTROL IS AVAILABILITY OF REGIONAL FORMS AND OTHER MATERIAL FOR DISTRIBUTION TO REGIONAL BODIES FD CLOSE CONTACT IS BEING MAINTAINED WITH THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IN THIS AND ALL OTHER PHASES OF QUESTION FD SUGGEST THAT SUBJECT BE MADE PART OF AGENDA FOR FORTHCOMING REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS MEETING AT ROME

27/40

Internal Distribution:
Chief Commissioner.
Executive Commissioner.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
478706

1754

NICHOLAS PIGNATELLO
CMO USA
Asst. Adjutant.

AMG FOUR CORPS FOR ROBINSON

9508 10th June, 1945. PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL FD

PARA ONE FD REFERENCE SIGNAL ONE FOUR THREE OF NINE JUNE FD

PAREN TO AMG FOUR CORPS FOR ROBINSON FROM ED ALCOM SITE ACLGT PAREN

PARA TWO FD IMPLEMENTATION OF DEGREE TWO ZERO ONE PROVIDING FOR COMPILATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS HAS ONLY JUST BEEN PUBLISHED IN GAZZETTA UFFICIALE FD INSTRUCTIONS TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS ARE BEING PREPARED TO ENABLE THEM TO FIX A DATE FOR COMMENCEMENT OF SUCH COMPILATION FD ONE FACTOR OVER WHICH AC HAS NO CONTROL IS AVAILABILITY OF ELECTORAL FORMS AND OTHER MATERIAL FOR DISTRIBUTION TO NORTHERN PROVINCES FD CLOSE CONTACT IS BEING MAINTAINED WITH THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IN THIS AND ALL OTHER PHASES OF SUBJECT FD SUGGEST THAT SUBJECT BE MADE PART OF AGENDA FOR FORTHCOMING REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING AT ROME

20411

Internal Distribution:
Chief Commissioner.
Executive Commissioner.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

476706

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758015

PAREN 20 AMS FOUR CORPS FOR HOPKINSON FROM ED ALCOM OLIVE ACLOM PARTN

PARA TWO PD IMPLEMENTATION OF DECREE TWO ZERO ONE PROVIDING FOR COMPILATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS HAS ONLY JUST BEEN PUBLISHED IN GAZZETTA UFFICIALE PD INSTRUCTIONS TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS ARE BEING PREPARED TO ENABLE THEM TO FIX A DATE FOR COMMENCEMENT OF SUCH COMPILATION PD ONE FACTOR OVER WHICH AC HAS NO CONTROL IS AVAILABILITY OF ELECTORAL FORMS AND OTHER MATERIAL FOR DISTRIBUTION TO NORTHERN REGIONS PD CLOSE CONTACT IS BEING MAINTAINED WITH THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IN THIS AND ALL OTHER PHASES OF SUBJECT PD SUGGEST THAT SUBJECT BE MADE PART OF AGENDA FOR FORTHCOMING REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING AT ROME

2041/17

Internal Distribution:
Chief Commissioner.
Executive Commissioner.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
478706

(17)

1754

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO
CWO USA
Asst. Adjutant.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

10th June, 1945.

Chief Commissioner.

The following matters appear to me ripe for early discussion:

(1) The situation in VENEZIA GIULIA. The Italian press has published full details of the Belgrade agreement. I have no knowledge of the area to be administered by Allied Military Government or whether AMG is to depend from the Allied Commission or from AFHQ.

Sec/1008/cc

(2) Preparation for a National Election in ITALY. I understand the present situation is that the existing Italian machinery is so cumbrous that we have indicated to the Italian Government that we do not propose to ask Regional Commissioners in AMG territory to prepare electoral lists. It is most important, in my opinion, that we do everything possible to prepare for an early election.

Who authorised this? Lists should be prepared.
/s/ EWS

(3) Recruitment of Partisans into the Italian Army. CADORNA in the North West has asked for the recruitment of up to 10,000. Brigadier Dunlop telegraphed to you on 1st June on the question of the recruitment of the "Nino Nanetti" Division.

Sec/3201/cc

(4) The Police Forces of ITALY. Should the recommendations of the Poletti Committee be followed up? Should we make recommendations for a special Allied Police Mission as recommended in my memorandum of May 31st? In my opinion the present police situation is serious and action is essential.

Sec/3615/cc

2/4/cc

Returned to EC with comments
EWS
cc

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

EYC. To follow up. Please. E.W.S. 8 C

(32)

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
Minister of the Interior

Rome, 1 June 1945

JUN 5 1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

Knowing your interest to the democratic renewal of my country, I want to bring to your attention a requirement which, I hope, will not meet with special difficulties.

After the recent passage of the provinces of Lazio, Umbria, and also of some of those of Tuscany under Italian civilian administration, the delay for the drafting of the electoral lists in the communes included in the said circumscriptions begins on the 20th of this month, for no regulation on this subject had been formerly issued by this commission, except for the province of Pesaro.

As the electoral material was already been distributed to the remaining provinces of Tuscany, and to avoid, in the same region, and what is more, in neighbouring provinces, a disparity of situation for what concerns the renewal of the election systems, it would be greatly appreciated if the Allied Commission allowed to fix as soon as possible the date on which it will be possible to start forming the lists for the Florence, Pisa, Lucca, Pistoia, Apuania and Livorno provinces. This according to art. 5 of the legislative decree 12 April, 1945, n. 201.

I think that this deserves your kind comprehension, and thanking you, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

S. I. Bonomi

EE DIST - 2 JUNE LL

ACTION: C A SEC'T (2)

INFO: CHIEF CAMMR — Ex CAMMR

B/U

6/6 Noted

Admiral Stone,
Allied Commission
Rome

E.C.

(15)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CC 204 29 May 1945

Dear Mr. Kirk:

I am enclosing for your information copies of correspondence exchanged with Prime Minister Bonomi on the subject of local elections in Italy.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone
ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

3 Incls:
1 - Ltr AC/15/2/CC, 19 Apr 45 — (11)
2 - Ltr 344, 24 Apr 45, fr H.E. Bonomi (12)
3 - Ltr 18209, 20 May 45, fr H.E. Bonomi — 12a

Hon. Alexander Kirk
American Ambassador
119 Via Vittorio Veneto
Rome

cc: Exec. Comm'r
CC Files

(14)

1751

1702

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CC 204

29 May 1945

My dear Sir Noel:

I am enclosing for your information copies of correspondence exchanged with Prime Minister Bonomi on the subject of local elections in Italy

Sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

3 Incls:
1 - Ltr AC/45/A/LG, 19 Apr 45
2 - Ltr 344, 24 Apr 45, fr H.E. Bonomi
3 - Ltr 18209, 20 May 45, fr H.E. Bonomi

CC Files
cc: Exec. Comm.
Sir Noel Charles, Bt., K.C.M.G.
British Ambassador
84 Via Venti Settembre
Rome

175a

1158

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AC/45/N/18.

23 May 1945.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister: (11)

In my letter of 19 April, I made some detailed observations concerning the voting methods proposed to be used by your Government in the holding of local elections. In your response of 24 April, you were good enough to summarize generally the position to date. (12)

Officials of the Ministry of the Interior have informed Local Government Sub-Commission that it is your intention to send me a specific answer, taking up directly the points mentioned in my letter. I shall be grateful for an early opportunity to study such a communication.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

(17)

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome.

(13)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Chief Clerk

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
Minister of the Interior

MAY 25 RECD
CC 1675

1809

Rome, 20 May 1945

Dear Admiral,

after my letter of April 23rd, and referring to the new verbal explanations asked about a), b), c) of your letter of the 14.4.45, concerning some modalities of the future administrative elections, I repeat what I already told you, i.e., that the details of the electoral procedure will have to be fixed by a special regulation, when the political problem of the choice of the system considered to be most adequate will have been solved. As you know, this problem is still the object of many discussions within the parties and the press is also debating about it, so that, as the Government hasn't yet a formed opinion or a determined purpose, it is impossible to give more precise information about the above mentioned points.

However, I can tell you that, for what concerns point a), the previous designation of the candidates in the administrative elections has never been foreseen in Italy, either in positive right or in the electoral custom, and except for the decisions which can be made on this subject as reform, I don't think there are no serious reasons for making innovations in the system which is in force.

For what concerns point b), the political electoral law always mentioned the type and characteristics of the poll-ticket to be used in political elections; for what concerns administrative elections, the official text of the communal and provincial law 4 February 1915, n. 148, states in art. 76, that 'the poll-tick t can be written, printed or partly written and partly printed', and adds that 'the poll-tickets must be made of white paper, without any sign which might help to recognize them'. To my mind, though this question, as well as that of the former point a), is still being studied, the limits and precautions stated by the law appear to be sufficient, on general principles, to guarantee the secrecy and genuineness of the vote.

For what concerns point c) it must be made clear that it is absolutely forbidden to make electoral propaganda in the place chosen for the poll, where the supporters of the various candidates are only allowed to distribute the poll-tickets, refraining from all forms of pressure on the electors. The obbligation to guarantee the respect of this law befalls the police authority, which is entrusted with the maintenance of order, and the regular development of the electoral operations.

I have given you, my dear Admiral, my personal point of view on the questions you asked me, which will certainly be adequately solved within the frame of the electoral system which will be definitively adopted.

EC Dist - 25 Mar 45

Yours very truly,

S. I. Bonomi

Admiral Stone
Chief Commissioner - Allied Commission

American Ambassador
British Ambassador

A.C.

1160

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

C C 11-58

APR 26 RECD

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers

3/4

Rome, 24 April 1945

Dear Admiral,

I must specify the nature of the regulations which have been up to now adopted for the elections.

Up to now, we have only made a series of regulations relative to the drafting of electoral lists and to the premises where the citizens will vote.

These regulations are:

1) law 24 October 1944, according to which all male citizens over 21 figure on the electoral lists;

2) law 1 February 1945 putting women also on the electoral lists.

3) Decree of April (which are being published) regulating some details about the lists, and prescribing that in the electoral sections men and women will vote together; when it will be possible, the electoral sections will see that there are two entrances, one for the men and one for the women.

The work for the drafting of the lists will take about five months.

As in the 36 provinces which are under Italian administration the work was begun in the first days of February, we figure that the administrative elections could only take place at the end of June. These could take place in various regions and on several Sundays for instance: one Sunday in all the Municipalities of Calabria, another in half Sicily; another Sunday in the other half, and so forth.

As for the provinces of Tuscany, Umbria and Marche which are still under Allied Administration, supposing that the said administration allowed to begin the drafting of the lists, these could only be ready toward the end of September.

Nothing can be said about North Italy. Supposing that in the North the drafting of the lists might start in June, the first elections could only take place in November.

As for the electoral system to be adopted, nothing can yet be said.

(12)

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome

12a

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

In Italy, various systems have been tried for the political elections as well as for the administrative elections. For the political elections, a law had been drafted which offered secrecy of vote and a possibility of control. It certainly was one of the best electoral laws in Europe.

But nowadays, no regulation can be made if we do not first solve the problem of the electoral system. You have certainly seen the polemics of the newspapers. For the administrative elections, some parties want the proportional system, other parties want the majority system.

I think this question will have to be solved with the help of the Consulta. Once the question of the system will be solved, we will have to find practical means to enforce it. Italy's experience acquired during the long period when she exercised a full and sound democracy will help to determine the modalities and procedure for the elections.

Hints and suppositions about future electoral laws are therefore quite premature. The government itself, which is formed of parties which disagree on this point cannot have formed an opinion, nor have definite intentions.

Truly yours,

A. I. Spinelli

A.S.

E C DIST — 26 APRES

ACTION : CA SECT (2)

INFO — CHIEF COMMR
EX COMMR
U.S. Ambassador
British Ambassador
Pol. Adver. (A)
Pol. Adver.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AC/15/N/1G

19 April 1945.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

Following the receipt of your letter of 27 February 1945, in which you gave me a general view of your Government's intention with respect to the holding of local elections, officers of the Local Government Sub-Commission conferred with officials of the Ministry of Interior in order to get a clarification and elaboration of your proposed plans. I cannot but feel that the voting methods intended to be used by the Italian Government based upon the 1915 Law do not provide sufficient controls and guarantees to ensure the possibility of holding an independent, free and secret vote. As described to us, the system lends itself too readily to corruption of the voters and electional officials, misuse of the ballot by the voters and unfair political party pressure.

Some of the principal defects in the existing system are:

(a) no formal nomination of candidates prior to the voting;
(b) no official ballot paper;
(c) no control of electioneering at the polling places.

Since the Allies are greatly interested in the rehabilitation of democratic institutions in your country, I feel that I must most earnestly recommend to you that the present election law be amended prior to the holding of elections in territory under the control of the Italian Government.

Furthermore, the Allied Commission could not countenance the holding of elections in Allied Military Government Territory under the 1915 system. Substantial improvements and amendments to the existing law, tending to establish more truly democratic procedures, would first have to be made in AMG Territory.

I wish to reaffirm my interest in this subject and my readiness to have the Allied Commission available for any assistance and advice which your Government may deem desirable.

Yours very truly,

cc: American Ambassador
British Ambassador
29/5/45

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome.

1743

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Copy for The Chief Commissioner

CC 1415
APR 19 RECD

Memorandum to Civil Affairs Section, A.C.

(9) +(6)

The Embassy now receives word from the Department of State that it is in accord with the Allied Commission's views regarding the defects in the voting procedure under law no. 148 of February 4, 1915. The Department refers to Bonomi's letter to the Chief Commissioner in which he mentions the possibility of suitable changes and renovations in the law of 1915 and is of the opinion that it would seem desirable for the Italian Government to make such changes in the law as would:

1) Make adequate provision for formal nomination of candidates prior to the voting;

2) Make provision for official ballots to be furnished by the Government, local or national;

3) Provide for control of electioneering at the polling places.

In this connection, however, the Department feels that both the Allied Commission and the Italian Government should keep in mind the possible excessive burden which too elaborate an electoral procedure would place upon the smaller communes.

Walter C. Dowling
Political Adviser (A)

(11)

Rome, April 18, 1945

(10)

1744

1164

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CC 943 MAR 3 1 1945

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
Minister of the Interior

Rome, 30 March 1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

In answer to your request, I am glad to be able to send you the text of the article which modifies the ministerial decree of October 25th, 1944, in the part concerning the delay for the drafting of electoral lists in the territories which havent yet been handed over, to the Italian administration.

I want to tell you that the said modification was made in accordance with the suggestions made by the Local Government Sub-Commission, greatly appreciated by me, to gratify as soon as possible the legitimate aspiration of the Italian nation for the re-establishment of free elective representation.

I think it advisable to point out that the Sub-Commission to which I communicated the same text, answered by letter n. 0/1, of the 26th, that it had no observations to make on the subject.

I take this opportunity to ask you to support the most useful and highly appreciated work that the Sub-Commission is doing so that the administrative elections may take place as soon as possible in the above mentioned territories. In reference with this, I must tell you that, courteously agreeing to the request made, some time ago, by the competent office of the Interior Department, the Sub-Commission has already taken action for the removal and distribution to the Prefetture of Umbria, Marche and Tuscany of the material required for the first drafting of electoral lists, and has said it would give orders to promote as quickly as possible the formation of the said lists in these regions.

Truly yours,

e. F. Bonomi

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome

E.C.

EC DIST - 31 Mar 45.

ACTION: CA SEC (2)
INFO : CHIEF COMMR
: EXEC COMMR

1165

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Chief Commissioner:

Reference the attached letter from F.M. Bonomi, Civil Affairs Section have advised that the decree (Electoral lists) has been approved and is awaiting publication in the Gazzette Officiale. Until it is published no further action can be taken.

L.W.S.

SAps

Where is the "Text of the article" mentioned in flash sentence?

(9)

1742

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Translation

Interior Department

The date for the formation of electoral lists in the municipalities included in the territories which have not yet been handed back to Italian administration starts from the day which will be fixed, for each province, by the Allied Military Government, or failing this, from the sixth day after the date of the reassumption of the powers by the Italian Government.

Art. 30 of the ministerial decree, October 25th 1944, was been abrogated.

C.C.

(9)

1167

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers

CC 816
MAR 28 RECD

Rome, March 1945

Dear Admiral,

I am not yet able to supply you with other particulars on the subject of administrative electorate, for the regulations which are to establish the suffrage system and the representationsof the territorial autarchic organizations to be created by the vote of the people, are still being drafted.

The work of the competent office is being done with speed and with a truly democratic comprehension, so that the practical application of these regulations may take place wit out delay; I know that their drafting is rather difficult, for, besides requiring a deep study, it implies the solution of complex questions of a practical and principally of a political order.

I am grateful for your kind interest for the rehabilitation of free institutions in my country, and will let you know as soon as possible about the concrete plans of the Italian Government in this very delicate sector.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

S. E. Bonomi

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief of the Allied Commission
R o m e

E.C. DIST - 28 Mar 45.

ACTION: CA Sec (2)
INFO: CHIEF COMMR.
: EXEC COMMITTEE.

1168

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

C.C.

AG/45/16 6 March 1945

My Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

I acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of your letter of 27 February 1945 and I am grateful for the general view that you have given me of the Government's intentions with respect to the question of holding local elections. My interest in the subject is wellknown to you and I shall be very glad to be kept informed of the progress that is being made and of the further details to which you refer in your final paragraph.

Yours very truly,

M. S. LUSH
Brigadier.
for HILARY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
ROME.

1739

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers

CHIEF CMMR

FEB 28 1945

CC-60A

Rome, 27 February 1945

(4)

Dear Admiral Stone,

I most willingly agree to your request, and I am glad to be able to give you one more proof of the sincerely democratic purposes which are inspiring the action of the Government which I preside.

As you well understand, the organization of the autarchic territorial institutions is framed in the greater problem of the institutional reforms which the constitutive assembly will have to realize by means of laws and institutions more suitable to the new conscience and to the greater political, economic and social requirements of the Italian nation.

The new discipline of the local self-government, in its numerous aspects concerning the organs and the modalities of their constitution as well as the powers, the functions, and relations, between themselves and with the central authority, will be that which the free expression of collective will and a good electoral law can and will assure.

Meanwhile, considering the exceptional circumstances of the country which isn't yet entirely liberated, and among whose citizens many are still deported, prisoners, or, somehow, far from the principal centres of their interests, it seems wise to chose a solution with a transitory character, which, without prejudicing the creation of better adapted constitutional institutions, would from now on fulfil the fundamental postulate of democracywhich entrusts the formation of local public powers to the body of electors.

Considering how matters stand, I think a suitable solution would be to go back to the one text of the municipal and provincial law 4 February 1915, n. 148, which, having been issued before fascism and having a clearly democratic tendency, might, with a few modifications, especially in what concerns the composition of the elective assemblies and the suppression of such institutional organs as are not strictly necessary, answer to the requirements of the moment and substitute all the temporary regulations established by R.L.D. 4 April 1944, n. 111, which though following the same lines as the above mentioned text, gives no concrete contribution to a return towards truly democratic systems.

The present structure of the subordinate organization constituted by the province and the municipality, institutions which have a legal personality, their own councils and executive organs, and elected representation within the councils themselves, i.e. the Provincial Deputation and the President, the 'Giunta Municipale' and the Mayor, would thus remain, even if only temporarily.

As for the procedure of the elections, the text of 1915 adopts the system of the majority. In fact, the elector is not allowed to write as many names on the bulletin as there are municipal counsellors, for a certain proportion of the posts is reserved for the representation of the minority. This regulation has the necessary guarantees and penalties, as well as the regulations concerning the secrecy of the suffrage.

1725

As for the place where and the date when the suffrage is to take place, as

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 18515

powers, the functions, and relations, between themselves and [illegible] authority, will be that which the free expression of collective will and a good electoral law can and will assure.

Meanwhile, considering the exceptional circumstances of the country which isn't yet entirely liberated, and among whose citizens many are still deported, prisoners, or, somehow, far from the principal centres of their interests, it seems wise to chose a solution with a transitory character, which, without prejudicing the creation of better adapted constitutional institutions, would from now on fulfil the fundamental postulate of democracywhich entrusts the formation of local public powers to the body of electors.

Considering how matters stand, I think a suitable solution would be to go back to the one text of the municipal and provincial law 4 February 1919, n. 108, which, having been issued before fascism and having a clearly democratic tendency, might, with a few modifications, especially in what concerns the composition of the elective assemblies and the suppression of such institutional organs as are not strictly necessary, answer to the requirements of the moment and substitute all the temporary regulations established by R.L.D. 4 April 1944, n. 111, which though following the same lines as the above mentioned text, gives no concrete contribution to a return towards truly democratic systems.

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1723

As for the place where and the date when the suffrage is to take place, as it is for the constitution of local representations, there is no need for the elections to take place at the same time in all municipalities; on the contrary, political elections have to take place at the same time. However, as the development of the electoral mechanism depends on the ex novo compilation of the lists, I can say in all safety that, as soon as this will have been done, the citizens will be called to vote, wherever circumstances will allow it. In spite of numberless difficulties, which you well know, the lists are being quickly made and I trust that, thanks to the goodwill of all and the interest of the Government, it will be finished, in the greatest part of the provinces which have already been handed over to Italian administration, within the date fixed by the ministerial decree of October 24th last.

(1) A

(2)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

With the return to the 1911 text, and in accordance with the recent law decree of the Lieutenant which grants suffrage to women, all citizens having the prescribed requisites will participate in the election of the municipal counsellors. The elections of the provincial counsellors will take place at the same time and with the same modalities, but separate official reports will be drafted. it must be remembered that the number of the provincial counsellors being divided by district the election will take place, on the same day, in all the municipalities within the circumscription of the district.

I have nothing to add about the participation of the political parties and independend candidates, it being implicitely deduced from the above mentioned majority system, except for the modifications which might be requested by the various political currents, especially for the election of the provincial counsellors.

I think I have given you, synthetically, a sufficient panoramic vision of the purposes of the Government for what concerns the administrative elections. I shall be glad to send you more particulars, as soon as possible, and all the informations which you might want about this subject.

I remain,

Truly yours,

I. Bonomi

e.c.

EC DIST - 28 FEB 45
ACTION: CASEC
INFO: CHIEF COMMR
EXEC COMMR

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

I think I have given you, synthetically, a sufficient panoramic vision of the purposes of the Government for what concerns the administrative elections. I shall be glad to send you more particulars, as soon as possible, and all the informations which you might want about this subject.

I remain,

Truly yours,

I. Pononi

e.c.

EC DIST - 28 FEB 45

ACTION: CASEC

INFO: CHIEF CONNR
EXEC CONNR

(6)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

1173

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Ref : AC/45/LG

27 Feb 45

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

On 3 Feb 45 I addressed a letter Reference AC/45/LG to you on the subject of the holding of local elections.

While appreciating that the matter is one for the Italian Government, this Commission has as you know been directed to encourage the holding of such elections and I write to enquire if you are now in a position to give me the information previously asked.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe BONOMI
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
R O M E

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

24 February 1945

AIDE MEMOIRE FOR COMMUNICATION TO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BY THE ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE CONTENTS OF THE NEW DIRECTIVE ON THE FUNCTIONS OF THE ALLIED COMMISSION

EXTRACT:

10. The Allies welcome the decision to hold local elections in territory under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government as soon as may be.

1175

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

AC/45/1G

6 February 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

In connection with the compilation of electoral lists to be used for local elections, I would appreciate being informed as to the plans your government has in mind with regard to the holding of elections and as well as to the bodies to be elected.

A number of points arise concerning the form of local government contemplated. Those include such items as: what organs are to be formed, their size, composition, powers, functions; the relationships between the provincial and communal bodies as well as the relationships involved with the central government agencies; the participation of the people in the local organs such as attendance at public meetings, etc. In short, what system will supercede R. D. No. 111, 4 April 1944?

With regard to the electoral proceedings and mechanisms themselves there are many aspects on which I would be glad of more information, particularly the system of voting plans, (such as proportional representation, single-member district or multi-member district, whether voting will be secret) when and where elections are to be held and the participation of organized political parties and independent candidates.

At a later date, I should like to be informed of the full details of the elections but at the present moment it would be of great assistance to me if you could give me an outline of your proposals to include such items as I have mentioned above.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

cc Files ✓
RRT/pec

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

SECRET

EXTRACT

FROM: ACSAN FOR THE COMBINED CHIEFS OF STAFF (DOCK MESSAGE)

TO: ALEXANDER FOR ACTION

REF. NO. THIS MESSAGE: WX 29633 31 January 1945

WAN 487 - Extract

DIRECTIVE FROM COMBINED CHIEFS OF STAFF

For File # 204/CC Subject Elections, Italy

* * *

2. ****

G. The US and UK Governments have agreed that in accordance with the terms of the MOSCOW declaration it is desirable to encourage the holding of elections for local public offices in territory under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government and you should be guided accordingly.

* * *

SECRET

Complete Directive filed in File # 102/CC New Deal

1734

204/CC

1177

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

CCC

303 : 670/33

Ref: 6/303 25 October 1944

Subject: Local Government Elections in Italy.

TO : Regional Commissioner, Ligurian Region.
" " " Emilian "
" " " Lombardy "
" " " Piedmont "
" " " Sardinian Region
" " " Tuscan "
" " " Venetia "

I enclose a copy of a memorandum which has been prepared by the Local Government Sub-Commission in consultation with the Political Section in regard to the desirability and practicability of holding local Government elections in Italy at the present time. As you are no doubt aware, proposals for the holding of such elections have from time to time been put forward in the Peninsula and Republican Agora. It has been decided that Regional Commissioners should be asked to furnish their observations on this proposal and I should be grateful for your urgent comments as far as your Region is concerned. In seeking any advice on the subject you should, of course, avoid any consultation with any Italian authorities.

M. S. Lush

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copies to:

Regional Commissioner, Piedmont Region
" " " Ligurian Region
" " " Lombardia "
" " " Venetia "
Senior Civil Affairs Officer, 5th Army
" " " " 8th "

(2)

1730

SECRET

CCC

Tel : 473725

Ref: Z/523

11 December 1944

SUBJECT: Local Government Elections in Italy.

TO : Regional Commissioner, Sicilia Region.
" " " Southern "
" " " Lazio-Umbria Region
" " " Abruzzi-Marche "
" " " Sardegna Region
" " " Toscana "
" " " Emilia "

I enclose a copy of a memorandum which has been prepared by the Local Government Sub-Commission in consultation with the Political Section in regard to the desirability and possibility of holding local Government elections in Italy at the present time. As you are no doubt aware, proposals for the holding of such elections have from time to time been put forward in the Communist and Republican Papers. It has been decided that Regional Commissioners should be asked to furnish their observations on this proposal and I should be grateful for your urgent comments as far as your Region is concerned. In seeking any advice on the subject you should, of course, avoid any consultation with any Italian authorities.

2544/CC

M. S. Clark

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copies to:

Regional Commissioner, Piemonte Region
" " " Liguria Region
" " " Lombardia "
" " " Veneria "
Senior Civil Affairs Officer, 5th Army
" " " " 8th " .

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

I enclose a copy of a memorandum which has been prepared by the Local Government Sub-Commission in consultation with the Political Section in regard to the desirability and possibility of holding local Government elections in Italy at the present time. As you are no doubt aware, proposals for the holding of such elections have from time to time been put forward in the Communist and Republican Papers. It has been decided that Regional Commissioners should be asked to furnish their observations on this proposal and I should be grateful for your urgent comments as far as your Region is concerned. In seeking any advice on the subject you should, of course, avoid any consultation with any Italian authorities.

204/cc

M. S. Clark

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copies to:

Regional Commissioner, Piemonte Region
" " " Liguria Region
" " " Lombardia "
" " " Veneria "
Senior Civil Affairs Officer, 5th Army
" " " " 8th ".

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SECRET

M E M O R A N D U M

AS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS IN ITALY AT PRESENT.

(I) FINAL PLAN

1. It has always been understood to be a part of the functions of the Allied Commission not only to secure the abolition of the Fascist local government structure, but to substitute for it a system distinctively democratic. Considerable experience along these lines was gained from the operations of AMGOT in Sicily. On the basis of what was done there, Orders were issued last January for the establishment by Allied Military Government of local authorities in occupied provinces and communes. With the transfer of Southern Italy to the control of the Italian Government, that Government continued the AMG system by a Decree of April 1944.

2. The Orders and Decree provided for the re-establishment in part of the local government system contemplated by the pre-Fascist law of 1915. In the absence of any possibility of elections at that time, the elective communal and provincial councils were not re-established. The standing executive committees and the executive and presiding heads of the local authorities were re-introduced on the basis of appointment by the Prefect.

3. It was made clear in both Orders and Decree that this legislation was purely temporary.

4. The temporary local government structure thus contemplated has been established almost in its entirety throughout Italy behind the battle line.

5. The next development was the promulgation by the Italian Government of a decree of 28 September 1944 for the compilation of electoral lists, which decree revived the law of 1919 on the subject.

(II) POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF THE ABOVE.

6. It is obvious that the Decree of April last contemplated a further step in the democratization of Italian local government; i.e. the establishment of elective local authorities and the holding of elections for them. The 1915 system was partially adopted as being the readiest democratic system to hand; but its adoption did not imply that the elective local authorities provided by it were the particular ones ultimately contemplated.

7. In fact, the Italian Government have this autumn established a commission of experts to study and make recommendations on the whole administrative system of the Italian State, including local government.

8. If, therefore, local government elections are to be contemplated in the near future, it is necessary first to decide what local government bodies are to be elected. The final and permanent form of Italian local government must obviously rest on the will of the Italian people freely expressed. Presumably, this can only be expressed through some form of national legislature or constituent assembly.

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(III) PRACTICAL FACTORS AFFECTING THE PROPOSAL

9. If the foregoing observations are held not to influence the present problem or that such problem is capable of solution, it would be necessary to give consideration to the following points:

(a) Electoral lists or registers must first be compiled. As stated above, a Decree for this purpose has been issued. It appears, however, that the compilation of the lists will take many months, in some provinces considerably longer than in others.

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(b) The scattered state of the population, for example, prisoners of war, refugees, those bombed or shelled out of their homes, members of the Italian armed forces. (The Decree of September makes provision for the registration of such people but there is no provision for absentee voting).

(c) Transport and communications. If unusual elections are to be held, these difficulties will be great, especially if elections are held in the winter. In certain country districts they will make voting almost impossible.

(d) Lack of material, e.g. paper, printing services, ballot boxes or urns, etc.

(e) The lack of qualified staff. There have been no true elections in Italy since 1926 at the latest. Trained State and local civil servants are in extremely short supply.

(IV) POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROPOSAL

10. Assuming that the practical difficulties enumerated above could likewise be overcome or at least overlooked, consideration should be given to what the possible results of the holding of local government elections in Italy now would be.

11. In the first place, it is uncertain whether these elections would produce a real expression of the popular will. The practical difficulties above-mentioned in themselves would militate against this. A more serious factor however, is the state of politics in the country generally:

(a) The victory at the election would go to the best organised party or body and not necessarily to the most representative one.

(b) The appearance of popular support thus created in favour of particular parties or organisations will influence in advance the eventual settlement of the new Italian constitution. Whether this is done by constituent assembly or by referendum, all taking part in the process cannot fail to be affected by the results of the preceding local elections.

(c) Parties may, therefore, feel it of vital importance to win the clearest possible victory at the local elections so that such elections might precipitate just those disorders that they are intended to avoid.

(d) There is a possibility that local government elections will be accompanied by a measure of disorder which may possibly even continue afterwards. Many factors suggest this including the following:

(i) Political passions are running high.

(ii) Hunger and lack of necessities of life strengthen the tendency.

(iii) Little confidence is felt in the ability of the Italian functionaries who will be in charge of the elections either to conduct them independently or properly.

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tremely short supply.

(IV) POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROPOSAL

10. Assuming that the practical difficulties enumerated above could likewise be overcome or at least overlooked, consideration should be given to what the possible results of the holding of local government elections in Italy next would be.

11. In the first place, it is unsafe to assume that these elections would produce a free expression of the popular will. The practical difficulties above-mentioned in themselves would militate against this. A more serious factor however, is the state of politics in the country generally:

(a) The victory at the election would go to the best organised party or body and not necessarily to the most representative one.

(b) The appearance of popular support thus created in favour of particular parties or organizations will influence in advance the eventual settlement of the new Italian constitution. Whether this is done by constituent assembly or by referendum, all taking part in this process cannot fail to be affected by the results of the preceding local elections.

(c) Parties may, therefore, feel it of vital importance to win the closest possible victory at the local elections so that such elections might precipitate just those disorders that they are pledged to avoid.

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(i) Political passions are running high.

(ii) Hunger and lack of necessities of life strengthen the tendency.

(iii) Little confidence is felt in the ability of the Italian functionaries who will be in charge of the elections either to conduct them independently or properly.

(iv) The morale and numbers of the forces of public order may not prove adequate to control the situation.

12. The disorders consequent on an election will be looked upon with a lenient eye as having at least a constructive object. Rioters would at least be rioting in order to obtain the local government they desire and not in order to force the authorities to provide food or boots from some unspecified but presumably existent source. There appears to be a military and a political element on this. From the military standpoint all disorder in a country which is a theatre of operations and a source and base of supply is objectionable, no matter what its purpose. Politically, all attempts to apply force to the settlement of questions of government are the negation of democracy, no matter how laudable the object. The example of Greece adds point to this observation.

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(V) POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSAL

13. (a) The holding of local government elections should raise the prestige of Italy by making it the first European country to get back to the basis of modern democracy. Even if the elections cannot be held till next Summer (see para. 12 (1) above) an announcement now that they were to be held would have an immediate effect. (As to being the first in the field, however, an indication has been observed in the press that the French are considering local elections in February.)

14. The elections would provide an outlet for the political feeling of the average Italian and may be a useful safety valve and a preventative of disorder.

15. They would give some sort of basis to Italian political parties, in that it could not then be said with absolute truth that they were "not hampered by having been elected by anyone". It is not suggested that the elections would prove anything as to the extent to which a political party represents Italian opinion. On the contrary there is sound reason to believe that the elections would not express the popular will, -- see para. 14 above. But the results would at least provide a measure of sorts which could be treated as a gauge of the relative strength of parties. At present there is none.

16. The announcement that local elections were to be conceded should raise the prestige of the Allies as a concrete proof of the character of their intentions towards Italy. The announcement would stand out in relief against the present situation in Greece and illustrate what could be done there - and in other countries - were it not for the forces of disorder.

(VI) PARTIAL ELECTIONS

17. The foregoing observations are based on the assumption that the elections contemplated would be held (a) throughout liberated Italy and (b) simultaneously in all communes, provinces or such other local government areas as may be determined. It might be thought desirable, however, to limit elections either to a part only of the country or to a certain class of local authority.

18. As to territorial limitation, it is fairly obvious that elections could not be held in the areas under the control of AMG 5th and 8th Armies. Not only would the practical difficulties enumerated in Section III be at their highest but the C-in-C could be expected to take strong objection to the diversion of the energies of AMG officers, Italian functionaries and the population generally away from tasks of military importance.

19. These objections have not quite the same force in Military Government Territory under Regional Control though they are still undoubtedly present. On the other hand, in this Territory, where Allied officers are governing directly, is to be found the best chance of the elections being really free and independent. [illegible] Military Government Territory, however -- whether under Regional or Army control -- it has to be considered whether elected local authorities would prove satisfactory instruments. If the Prefectures were to be substituted by some elective institutions, there might be something in this; but if only communal and provincial councils are envisaged, there is little reason to believe that their elective [illegible] prove

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19. These objections have not quite the same force in Military Government Territory under Regional Control though they are still undoubtedly present. On the other hand, in this Territory, where Allied officers are governing directly, is to be found the best chance of the elections being really free and independent. In Military Government Territory, however -- whether under Regional or Army control -- it has to be considered whether elected local authorities would prove satisfactory instruments. If the Prefectures were to be substituted by some elective institutions, there might be something in this; but if only communal and provincial councils or similar bodies are envisaged, there is little reason to believe that their elective basis would create any serious tendency to go contrary to Allied wishes. Moreover, if the 1915 law is adhered to, the executive heads (Sindaci in communes and Presidenti in provinces) and the standing executive committees (Giunte Comunali and Deputazioni Provinciali) would continue; and the law gives to those institutions such a wide measure of authority independently of their councils as would be sufficient for Allied purposes.

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APPENDIX

Local Government areas in liberated Italy as at 10/10/44.

Type of local authority	Military Government Territory		Italian Government Territory	Total
	Army Control	Regional Control		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Total Provinces	4	11	36	51
Total Communes	155	474	2,595	3,224
Communes of 50,000 pop and over	7	6	16	29
Communes of 20,000 pop and over and Provincial capitals if of less population	13	29	111	155

NOTE (1) For the purposes of this table it has been assumed that

(a) the whole of the following provinces are in our hands :-

LUCCA
PISTOIA

(b) no part of the following provinces are in our hands :-

BOLOGNA
RAVENNA

NOTE (2) The city of ROME is included among the appropriate figures in col. (4)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

13 September 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR FILES:

Extract

I had a conference with Prime Minister Bonomi on September 11th at 1630 hours.

We discussed the question of local elections. Bonomi stated that he was opposed to holding any elections prior to the end of hostilities. He agreed that the proposal of the French Provisional Government not to hold any elections until a substantial number of war prisoners were returned was probably the right approach to this problem. He also agreed that the Italian Governement should await the return to their homes of many refugees. On the other hand, he favored the beginning of work to review the election lists. I did not get the impression that he favored the demand for early elections.

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