

1918

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

785015

ACC

10000/136/104

MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMISSION & PRIME
SEPT. - NOV. 1944

10000/136/104

MINUTES OF MEETINGS, CHIEF COMMISSIONER, ALLIED
COMMISSION & PRIME MINISTER, ITALIAN GOVERNMENT
SEPT. - NOV. 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APU 394

EAS/dfe

13 November 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR FILES

In my meeting with the Prime Minister and Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs on November 9, I stated that I should like to explore with them the questions as to what functions of AC might be discontinued in territory under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government, what further withdrawals of AC personnel might be made from AC Regions as distinct from AMG Regions, and the various dates on which both steps might be taken.

It was agreed that the Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs and I would informally discuss the question of the suspension of functions on the following day. It was also agreed that we would discuss a relaxation of the present review of Governmental appointments which AC now exercises.

As to withdrawal of AC personnel from AC Regions, the Prime Minister reiterated the view which he expressed in September that he desired AC not to withdraw further from Sicily for the time being and until the political situation in Sicily had clarified.

As to the Mainland, he suggested that it might be satisfactory, as a start, to withdraw AC personnel in the area south of Salerno. He advised that the Undersecretary would propose a date when this might become effective at our subsequent meeting.

The Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs met with me on November 11. As to suspension of functions, he suggested that as a beginning we should discontinue any supervision of education in territory under the Government's jurisdiction and that this should become effective immediately. He stated that he was not prepared to recommend the elimination of supervision by any other Sub-Commission at this time.

As to withdrawing AC personnel in the area south of Salerno, he suggested January 1, 1945. I promised to advise him.

As to the relaxation of review of Government appointments, he submitted for consideration and discussion a list, herewith attached, of those appointments which the Government proposes should not be made without AC approval. With reference to the various Chief of Staff appointments, I told him that I felt the Commission was not prepared to relax its present supervision of the Army, Navy and Air Force in any degree, since these were essentially military matters and not political. He quite willingly accepted the point of view that our present degree of supervision of personnel in the Italian armed forces by the three Service Sub-Commissions would remain unaltered.

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During our discussion he suggested that we might both want to consider making the appointments of the High Commissioners for Sicily and Sardinia subject to AC approval.

I promised to give the Undersecretary our reaction to all his proposals as soon as possible.

The discussion was conducted in an atmosphere of the greatest cordiality.

ELERY W. STONE
Commodore
Chief Commissioner

See file 100/100

1 Incl: List

2180

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Ministri e Sottosegretari di Stato
Capo di Stato Maggiore Generale dell'Esercito
Capo di Stato Maggiore Esercito
Capo di Stato Maggiore Marina
Capo di Stato Maggiore Aviazione
Principali Rappresentanti diplomatici
Alto Commissario per l'Epurazione
Vice Alti Commissari per l'Epurazione
Direttore Generale della Pubblica Sicurezza
Comandante Generale dei Carabinieri.

Added Suggestion

High Commissioners for Sicily and Sardinia

*Paragraph "The discussion is question of
local elections" The right and
ELN*

THE PROBLEM OF LOCAL ELECTIONS

Memorandum of Commodore Steve, Acting Chief Commissioner ACC on
Conference with Prime Minister Bonomi, 11 September 1944*

* * * *

We discussed the proposal to dismiss civil service employees in
Classes I to IV and their re-hiring as a means of speeding up epura-
tion. He stated that for many reasons he was opposed to this and that
it would not be done. I told him that the Commission was also opposed.

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ACC Files, 10000/136/104

HEAD QUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

BWS/hj

13 September 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE:

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 Government 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.

We discussed the proposal to dismiss civil service employees in Classes I to IV and their re-hiring as a means of speeding up spuration. He stated that for many reasons he was opposed to this and that it would not be done. I told him that the Commission was also opposed.

He stated that he had not received my letter asking for the government's reaction to the request of General De Savin that the French Provisional Government be permitted to recruit 2,000 specialist workmen in Italy for employment in France. He promised to look it up and give me an early reply.

We discussed the question of establishing a refugee camp for Hungarian Jews in Sicily which had been submitted by Sir Heathcote-Smith. He said that he would like to discuss this with High Commissioner Al-diaio who is now in Rome. I suggested that he have the latter call on me since I would like to discuss amassing and other Sicilian problems with him before his return.

Just before leaving, he stated that the Council of Ministers desired to appoint General Pinna as Chief of Staff to General Piacentini, Minister for Aeronautics, but that Air Vice-Marshal Bowen Buncarlet had asked that the matter be held up. He desired to inform me that all six parties agreed that General Pinna was acceptable from an anti-Fascist viewpoint, notwithstanding the fact that he held the position of Deputy to General Valle, when the latter was Undersecretary of the Air Ministry.

2183

B.W.S.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 39A

RWS/bjp

4 September 1944

MEMORANDUM:

I had a conference with Premier Bonomi from 4:35 to 5:45 P.M. today. Dr. Montanari was present as interpreter.

I first mentioned for his secret information that the Greek Government was being brought to Italy beginning September 7th, stating that I imagined their residence here would be but temporary. I stated that since the question of requisitioning a villa near Cava had been raised in this connection, I imagined that the Greek Government would be located at Salerno or Cava. The Premier stated that he would welcome the presence of the Greek Government here and could only wish that they might have been brought to some which would have facilitated resuming their past friendly relations with that country. I replied that I believed the reason for not bringing them here was because of the housing and food problem in Rome.

I raised the question of the case of the frozen bank account of the Marchese Giacomo Medici del Vascello, stating that Marchese Visconti Venosta had raised it with the Political Section. Bonomi stated that he was not very familiar with the matter but that he did not have much sympathy for Marchese Medici del Vascello. I said that the Commission had no interest in the matter and would be guided by his views. He stated that he would like to discuss the situation with Sforza and would advise me further.

I then had a long discussion with Bonomi, presenting in detail to him General Weyer's program of August 16th recommending the appointment of a commission to bring forward as quickly as possible a concrete and detailed program of relief and rehabilitation, as set forth in paragraph 3 of General Weyer's letter of 16 August. Based on my discussions with General Weyer of this morning, I stated that the Commission felt that emphasis on relief should be placed on food and clothing (to be supplied by the Allies if necessary), rather than on increasing monetary payments which would do little good to alleviate distress but could do a great deal of harm in speeding up inflation. Bonomi agreed unreservedly with this viewpoint. He said that he would proceed with this problem and hoped to have a commission appointed within the next two weeks. I advised that the commission should be composed of industrial, medical and relief experts rather than politicians, and he agreed. I stated that the preparation of such a comprehensive program might well be helpful in supporting his government's request for external aid such as Lend-Lease. I stated that the program could well be divided into two parts--that which is necessary to see the country through the winter,

and a separate program directed toward long-term rehabilitation, but the emphasis should be on the first part of the program.

I asked his reaction to my personal views as to the most effective help which the Allies could give Italy after the ACC is dissolved, listing my preferences in the following order:

1. A group of say five U.S. and 5 U.K. experts in the industrial and financial fields to be made available by the U.S. and British Governments who would be hired by the Italian Government as advisors to the ten more important ministries. With such men on the payroll of the Italian Government, the government would not feel that they were being controlled or supervised by outsiders as is now the case. On the other hand, the presence of such experts in the Italian ministries would lend confidence to the Allies that any money or supplies furnished post-war would be effectively used. Thus we could hope to avoid our experience in Germany after the last war, and our experience in certain South American republics, where money supplied from the U.S. had not been employed in the best interest of either the local country or the U.S.

2. A joint economic mission of U.S. and U.K. personnel, similar to the North African Economic Joint Mission (NAJEM), which would look after imports and exports and the general economic needs of the country, similar to the agencies functioning in North Africa, Mideast, and French West Africa. Italian technicians should be included on the mission.

3. Either FEA or UNRRA. I stated that speaking purely unofficially, one could not be certain of continuity of operation in the case of FEA for political reasons in the U.S., and that as to UNRRA, I felt the reaction of the Italians would apt to be similar to that of the French--i.e., they would prefer not to receive relief in the form of charity.

Bonomi expressed himself as being in complete accord with my thinking which I stressed repeatedly as being purely personal and not official. I added that I had stated my preferences to General O'Dwyer this morning and informed Bonomi that he expected to see the President late this week. Bonomi asked if I could communicate to General O'Dwyer before he left the country that he was in complete accord with my views and I promised to do so.

I asked Bonomi's reaction to the proposal that the Regional Commissioner and his staff be withdrawn from Sicily, leaving only a handful of specialists and liaison officers, and giving Colonel Spofford's arguments for and Brigadier Lush's objections. He agreed emphatically with Colonel Spofford's point of view and said he would welcome it as an experiment.

WILEY H. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

LIST OF PAPERS

210/CC

Office of the
Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

File under No. 210 MINUTES OF MEETINGS, CHIEF COMMISSIONER,
ALLIED COMMISSION, & PRIME MINISTER, ITAL GOVT

Page 1

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
1	Memo for Files Stone	4 Sep 44		Greek Govt coming to Italy; bank account of Marchese Medici del Vescello; O'Twyer's proposal for relief etc; views on future of AC
2	Memo Stone	13 Sep 44		Local elections; It workmen in France; refugee camp; Pinna
3	Memo for files EWS	13 Nov 44		Functions of AC which might be discontinued.

2183

1930

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

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Q. M. C. Form 353 (Old No. 400)
Revised July 20, 1918

LIST OF PAPERS

File under No.

383.6.

Prisoners of War

2

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
7) Fargo 1467	Gen Mac F.	1 Mar.	Freedom	Asking Classification of 15
18) -	Maj Roe	1 "	Col Warrent	Cable trans. from Salzburg. Gen Orlando requesting permission to send food & books to P.W.
19) Freedom 576-1	Freedom (3/4). Also FLAMOR A20517 (3/4), EDM 54970 (3/4), FATIMAR 2306 (7/14) & EDM 48598 (2/1)	28 Feb	Fatima	Directive re unknowns held in Sicily.
20) Freedom 5752	Freedom	1 Mar	Freedom	Proposal to send Gen Rapp
21) G.I. 1252, A2, 1462 383.6	Gen. Col. Bandorff	13 Jan	15 G.S.	Designation of "Rokichup River" in case of Treaty of Statute P.W.
ARMG. 383.6. AD	Gen. Col. Bandorff	17 "	A.I.C.	
-	Gen. Col. Bandorff	28 "	"	
Note include 383.6.	Gen. Col. Bandorff	2 Feb.	Mexico	
22) Freedom 51406	Freedom	3 Mar	Fatima	Ref. 15, 17, & 20. Request sent Gen Rapp. no action only.
23) Fatima 1600	Gen Mac F.	-	Freedom	Re visit to Gen Rapp
24) Freedom 6071	Freedom	6 -	Gen Mac F.	Ref. 15 & 23 above
25) 40/150/0	Making	7 -	Gen Rapp	Ref. 15 & 23 above
26) Freedom 62769	Freedom	10 -	Fatima	Ref. 15 & 23 above
27) Fatima 2050	Gen Rapp	13 "	Ref. 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100	Asking instructions re agreement.
28) Fatima 2051	-	13 "	Troops, AFAC, Milano.	German representatives
29)				DRAFT OF ARMIST. BET. ITALY & BRIT. C'WEALTH. FIN. TREATMENT OF IT. PWS
30)				Plans suggested for manifest
31) Min. P.W. Affs #44	BADOLLO	5 JAN.	GEN. JOYCE	RE PIACENTINI & PWS IN INDIA
32) 383.6	GEN. TAYLOR	8 JAN.	CG, AFHQ	FWD (31).
33) 40/150/0	J. M. ADDIS	9 JAN.	CACCIA	RE DRAFT PW AGREEMENTS

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

1931