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

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ITALIA
MAR. –

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ITALIAN RELIEF, INC., MEETINGS & REPORTS
MAR. – JUNE 1945

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

CC 950-1

LIST OF PAPERS

Office of the
Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

File under No. 950-1 ITALIAN RELIEF, INC. - MEETINGS & REPORTS

VOL. III

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35	Minutes	19 Mar 45		Mtg of Advisory Group, No. 19.
36	CC 950-1, Stone	29 Mar 45	Taylor	Thanks for minutes of 19th Mtg.
37	Minutes	23 Mar 45		Mtg of Advisory Group, No. 20.
38	CC 950-1, Stone	6 Apr 45	Taylor	Thanks for minutes of 20th Mtg.
39	Minutes	26 Mar 45		Mtg of Advisory Group, No. 21.
40	CC 950-1, Stone	14 Apr 45	Taylor	Thanks for minutes of 21st Mtg.
41	Minutes	8 Apr 45		Mtg of Advisory Group,No. 22.
42	CC 950-1, Stone	25 Apr 45	Taylor	Thanks for Minutes of 22nd Mtg.
43	Minutes	23 Apr 45		Mtg of Advisory Group, No. 23
44	Minutes	10 May 45		Mtg of Advisory Group, No. 24 (Sp)
45	Statement	24 May 45		Use of 54 ARI trucks in Svc Natl Com.
46	CC 950-1, Stone	28 May 45	Taylor	Thanks for minutes of 23,24,Mtg.
47	Statement	24 May 45		Use of 54 ARI trucks in Svc Natl Com.
48	Minutes	28 May 45		Mtg of Advisory Group, No. 25.
49	CC 950-1, Stearns	29 Jun 45	Secy, ARI	Thanks for Minutes of 25th Mtg.
50	**Report No. 4**			**Transportation Report, July 1945.**
51	**Report No. 5**			**Transportation Report, Aug 1945.**
52	Report No. 6			Transportation Report, Sept. 1945

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29 June 1945

CC 950-1

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Dear Sir:

Thank you for the copy of the minutes of meeting number 25 held May 25 by the Advisory Group concerning relief, and for the May 24th statement of the use of American Relief for Italy trucks.

Yours very truly,

/s/ [redacted] L. W. Herring

L. W. HERRING
Major, AGD
Staff Officer to CO

Secretary,
American Relief for Italy, Inc.
6 Via Lincoln
Rome

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JUN 29 RECD
Rome.

AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY

Meeting No. 25 May 28, 1945

Following are minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Group concerning relief held May 28, 1945, in the Office of Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy, Inc. In attendance were: Mr. Taylor; Brig. G. S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director of Public Health Subcommission, Allied Commission; Mr. Sidney Crawley, Deputy Director, Civilian War Relief, American Red Cross; Mr. S. M. Keeny, Chief, Italian Mission of UNRRA; Ing. G. B. Vicentini, Executive Director of National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy (ENDSI); Mgr. John P. Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services of Pontifical Relief Commission; Lt. Col. John McSweeney, Chief Welfare Officer, Allied Commission; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department of Ministry of Interior; Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor for American Relief for Italy, Inc.

Mr. Taylor: A statement has been prepared and circulated concerning the use of the 54 American Relief for Italy trucks in the service of the National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy. (Mr. Taylor summarized statement - see Attachment No. I).

I would like to say at this point that the office of American Relief for Italy has been moved from this Embassy Building to 6 Via Lucullo; the new telephone number is 47-8314. Mr. Barr will remain there. It is necessary for me to make a trip to America. I shall be leaving on the 12th of June, after which time Mr. Barr will carry on the work for American Relief for Italy.

Since our last meeting, conditions in the north have had primary consideration. When I was in Florence during the first part of May, Monsignor Carroll-Abbing met with me in respect to an emergency situation which arose in regard to former Italian prisoners-of-war returning to their homes from Germany and Austria. He has prepared the following report concerning the first phase of that matter:

"ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR RETURNING FROM GERMANY

"On Tuesday evening, May 8th, Mr. Myron Taylor and Mgr. Carroll-Abbing visited the Civilian Refugee Camp in Via della Scala at Florence. It is very clean and orderly and seems well run.

"From there they went to the Caserma delle Oblate in Via Oriolo, a small and delapidated ex-convent and courtyard. Here they found some 500 men, Italian ex-Prisoners of War from Germany, who were lying on the ground in the last stage of exhaustion. They had come down on trucks and a great number on foot, and the majority of them had not had any

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"Mr. Myron Taylor and Mgr. Carroll-Abbing then called on Colonel Lester Hensley, Provincial Commissioner of Florence, and explained to him the situation that had arisen in Florence overnight. All three returned to the Camp and

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Colonel Hensley gave orders for the men to be fed, releasing civilian rations for this emergency case. Colonel Hensley summoned the Capo di Stato Maggiore (Chief of Staff) of General Di Simoni, the Italian General in charge of the Florence Territorial Forces of the Italian Army, and complained of the situation of these ex-P.O.W.s. The Chief of Staff, Colonel Piccinini, explained that they had received assurances that the P.O.W's from Germany would be held in camps further north and would not be allowed to arrive in big numbers in Florence. Up to the day before only a few had arrived.

"Colonel Hensley arranged the question of feeding these soldiers and invited Colonel Piccinini to find larger quarters for the men.

.....

"On Wednesday, May 9th, a meeting was held in the Office of the Provincial Commissioner to deal with the problem.

"Later on in the morning a second meeting was held in the Office of the Prefect, at which the Allied Provincial Commissioner, General De Simoni, two other Italian Officers, the Provincial Doctor and Mgr. Carroll-Abbing were present. The Provincial Commissioner explained his point of view on the necessity of encouraging collaboration between the Italian Military and Civil Authorities to meet the emergency.

"Later in the day a site for a new camp was found in Via Tripoli. It was an old and partly ruined barrack, without toilet accomodation, kitchen facilities or other necessary qualities, but it was larger and if another empty building across the street were taken in, about 4,000 men could be accomodated.

"Colonel Hensley gave orders for the place to be cleaned and put in order.

"In the meantime Mr. Myron Taylor had discussed the problem with Colonel Kirkwood, the Regional Commissioner, and had spoken with Admiral Stone by phone.

"Mr. Taylor announced that the next day three E.N.D.S.I. trucks were leaving Rome for Florence, carrying blankets, canned meat, chocolate, soap and other relief material for the soldiers.

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"On Thursday, May 10th, Mr. Myron Taylor, Colonel Hensley and Mgr. Carroll-Abbing visited the new camp in Via Tripoli and found that it had begun to function. Soldiers were still coming in.

"The food problem had been temporarily solved, owing to the energetic action of the Provincial Allied Author-

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"The food problem had been temporarily solved, owing to the energetic action of the Provincial Allied Authorities. The E.C.A. of Florence (the municipal relief office) had helped out by assigning from their stores food to provide a second soup a day for the returning soldiers.

"In the evening the new kitchen in Via Tripoli - capable of providing food for 1,200 men at a time - was already being used.

"The most pressing problem now to be faced was the immediate one of transportation. Unless a very ugly situation was to arise in Florence the soldiers coming in

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would have to be carried nearer to their homes as soon as possible after their arrival. Mr. Myron Taylor spoke to General Mark Clark by phone and explained the situation to him.

.....

"On Friday, May 11th, the camp in Via Tripoli was in full swing. The soldiers were questioned on arrival; their papers were made out; they were given a sum of money - part of their pay on account - by the Italian Military Authorities; they were fed, and accomodated on straw in the upper rooms of the barrack. A medical service began to function.

"A meeting was held at 10 o'clock in the Palazzo Vecchio, in the office of Colonel Kirkwood, Regional Commissioner, attended by Mr. Myron Taylor, Colonel Montfort of General Clark's staff, Colonel Hensley and Mgr. Carroll-Abbing.

"Colonel Montfort informed Colonel Kirkwood that the 15th Army Group was anxious to help in the emergency situation that had arisen and stated that PBS had been authorized to loan food and equipment to meet the needs of the problem, and to lend 4,500 Italian officers and men for a period of thirty days. They would also try to help with transport. He asked Colonel Kirkwood to write out a statement of his needs.

"Mr. Taylor suggested that the only effective way of dealing with the whole problem was to have boats at Livorno and at Venice to take the men south. He had suggested this solution to Admiral Stone.

"In the afternoon Colonel Hensley left for Livorno to discuss the various problems of food, transport, etc., with PBS.

"The same afternoon the Allied Commission sent 40 trucks to help the Provincial Commissioner. They left about four o'clock for Rome, carrying more than 800 of the soldiers from Via Tripoli. This active measure helped to solve the immediate problem.

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"On Saturday, May 12th, Colonel Hensley returned from Livorno and it was found that PBS had not been authorized to release material as had been stated. It was the 5th Army and 15th Army Group which had been authorized to help. As a result, PBS would not release food or equipment.

"The camp in Via Tripoli had now had time to reorganize, and showers were being built, and the other arrangements already made were being improved on. Men were still coming in on foot; many of them were from Prison Camps near Vienna.

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"The Provincial Committee for Aid to the Returned Soldiers, had been organized and already had done good work. The citizens had made voluntary contributions in food and money to enable the Committee to give each parting soldier a food packet to take on his journey. The Committee was housed in the building in Via Tripoli, which is across the street from the soldiers' camp. Major Taffiorelli of the Italian Army had been named as go-between between the Committee and the Italian Military Authorities.

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"The F .D.S.I. trucks had alread rrived and the materia. stored in a warehouse in the Archbishop's Palace. These trucks now left, carrying 100 soldiers down to Rome.

"At 1300 hours five more E.N.D.S.I. trucks arrived carrying clothing, blankets, canned meat and other relief supplies for the returned soldiers. The population of Florence and the various authorities appreciated very much this practical interest taken by E.N.D.S.I. in their urgent problem. This material was stored in rooms provided by the Italian Military Authorities and will be administered by them, with the assistance of Mr. Monetti of E.N.D.S.I., who will remain in Florence for this purpose.

.....

"Although reference has only been made to the problem as it has manifested itself in Florence, a view should be taken of the general situation regarding the returned Italian soldiers.

"Hundreds of thousands of soldiers have crossed or are waiting to cross the Alps and enter Northern Italy. The main problem will be further north, but the minor problems of Livorno, Florence, Pisa, Ancona and other more southerly towns should not be forgotten.

"On Friday, May 11th, about 2,000 soldiers were sent south from Livorno. On Sunday, May 13th, about 2,600 arrived in the same town. On Monday morning more than 1,000 entered Livorno.

"It is obvious that the only way to prevent a more difficult situation from arising is to keep these men on the move towards the south.

"On Sunday morning four of the E.N.D.S.I. trucks left for Rome, carrying more than 120 soldiers to the south.

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The problem of finding additional hospital accomodations for the incoming refugees, both Military and Civilian, was solved by the Italian Red Cross putting their hospital at S. Maria Nuova in Via del Castellaccio at the disposal of the authorities for this purpose. The hospital can accomodate about 350 patients."

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Mr. Taylor: On the 21st of May before I left Florence, Mr. Barr, Dr. Canaperia, and Ing. Vicentini came to Florence, and they carried on with Mgr. Carroll-Abbing from that point. Mr. Barr prepared the following statement upon his return that continues where Mgr. Carroll-Abbing's report left off: 3321

"On the 9th of May Ing. Vicentini requested that a convoy of trucks be prepared to go to Milan and Bolzano carrying relief supplies requested by the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister and the Minister of Occupied Territories had called Ing. Vicentini to a special meeting

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"On the 9th of May Ing. Vicentini requested that a convoy of trucks be prepared to go to Milan and Bolzano carrying relief supplies requested by the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister and the Minister of Occupied Territories had called Ing. Vicentini to a special meeting and indicated that it was necessary that the Government make an effort to assist the North immediately. Two problems were apparent to the Government: (1) that of the returning internees from Germany, and (2), the complete absence of salt in the North as well as a shortage of vaccines. Ing. Vicentini stated that the Government would furnish fifteen tons of salt and some citrus fruit for the hospitals. He also stated that the Italian Red Cross and the Department of Public Health would furnish some critically needed vaccines and serums which were

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not present in the North. He also indicated that the Don Swisse organization had, through the Minister of Foreign Affairs, stated that supplies of medicines and milk were awaiting transfer from Lugano to Italy as a gift of that organization. Dr. Zanotti-Bianco, President of the Italian Red Cross, concurred in this and stated that during his recent visit to Switzerland it was agreed that this material would be transferred to Lugano for the disposition of the Italian Red Cross and ENDSI. To retain Switzerland's neutrality Switzerland did not feel that it could permit military vehicles to cross the border for the transfer of these materials but did feel that American Relief for Italy trucks operated by ENDSI could successfully effect this transfer.

"Considering these various requests, it seemed advisable to request permission for sixteen ARI trucks, loaded with the Italian Government salt and citrus fruit and medicinals from the Italian Red Cross and Department of Public Health and various men's clothing from American Relief for Italy sources, to proceed to Milano and the Bolzano area. It also seemed advisable to have the National Committee, ENDSI, establish itself in the North to prevent the recurrence of the creation of duplicating agencies experienced in the South. If ENDSI should display its ability to organize it would prevent the origination of agencies which in the future might cause some conflict with the already established and functioning distributive mechanism of ENDSI.

"Permissions for travel north were granted by the Allied Commission, and the convoy of sixteen trucks departed for Milan on the 12th of May carrying approximately fifty tons of materials.

"Accompanied by Ing. Vicentini, Director of the ENDSI, Prof. John Canaperia, Department of Public Health, and Ing. Carrega, who was to be charged with the responsibility for the organization of the headquarters in Milan, this representative departed for that area intending to conduct a survey in Milan, Turin, Genoa, Bolzano and to assist in the transfer of goods donated by Don Swisse from Lugano to Northern Italy. The group arrived in Florence the evening of May 12 and held a meeting with Ambassador Myron C. Taylor and Colonel Lester Hensley, Provincial Commissioner of the Allied Commission, Florence Area, and Monsignor John P. Carroll-Abbing to discuss the problem of returned internees from Germany.

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"Upon completion of the visit to the collection center, established at the request of Mr. Taylor in the cavalry barracks in Florence, a meeting was held with the Colonel (Italian) commanding this barracks and the Major (Italian) in charge of the welfare services of the Italian Army. The disposition of the nine truckloads of

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"Sunday, May 13, the group proceeded to Milan by way of Bologna, Ferrara and Brescia. Conditions observed in the Florence area and in the area between Florence and Bologna and immediately adjacent to the bridges crossing the Po led these representatives to believe that considerable effort on the part of ENDSI and ARI would be necessary in this area. This area is reminiscent

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of the conditions found in Frosinone and Littoria provinces and the Valley of the Sangro. Weather conditions, however, were favorable and within a month the food conditions should be somewhat alleviated when crops in this vicinity become available to the population returning to this recent battleground.

"Our arrival in Milan in the evening of the 13th after passing through the untouched Po Valley offered us an opportunity to see a commercial and manufacturing city relatively operative. Milan, although more than 50% destroyed as to living area, has seen no destruction for the past two years. All public services were functioning as to transportation, electricity, water, telephone and essential governmental services.

"The condition of the general population of the area is in marked contrast to the balance of Italy. Despite the extraction of finished goods from northern Italy by the Germans, this area, normally the production center of Italy, retained sufficient basic supplies to maintain life in far great proportion than had been anticipated. People were very well clothed and shod. Some industries were running, and there were no critical shortages of medicines to maintain general public health. The absence of sugar and salt are felt and there seemed to be no regular bread ration in the area since its occupation by the Allies. However, sufficient basic food, such as rice, vegetables, some meat and milk, permit a basic diet in excess of the caloric content of the ration presently in force in Southern Italy. Contact was made on May 14 with the offices of Colonel Charles Poletti, Regional Commissioner, and Colonel Bizzozero, Regional Health Officer, Allied Commission, to determine conditions to permit us to forecast future responsibilities of ENDSI and American Relief for Italy.

"Administratively the situation in Milan and in the North in general is considerably confused for two major reasons: the National Committee of Liberation has assumed the governmental function permitted under Allied Military Government and at this time had not recognized the authority of the Italian Government seated in Rome. Despite the success of the Italian liberation in the area, channels of administration were difficult to discern and true authority was not clear. In relationship to the Military Government the retention of authority by the 4th Corps has not permitted the Regional Allied Government teams to assume the responsibility normally identified with this group. The command of Colonel Poletti at this time was functioning in a limited way under the authority of Colonel Walker, Commanding Officer, Military Government, 4th Corps. Under these conditions no definite commitments or decisions were attempted with Colonel Poletti or Colonel Bizzozero in courtesy to their present administrative position.

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"Contact was made with the American Red Cross, Italian Red Cross and representatives of the Displaced Persons Subcommission to determine the conditions of need in regard to clothing and medicines and the problem of the returning internees from Germany. The general condition as reported by the Italian Red Cross, Mr. John Carney, Director of the 4th Corps, ARC Civilian War Relief, Miss Eve Gilmore, Regional Director, Lombardy Region, Civilian War Relief, and Mr. Harold Condict, Regional Director, Piemonte Region, Civilian War Relief, were that clothing was not a critical

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need in the area north of the Po. Resources were available from Italian supplies in sufficient quantity to meet the basic need of the entire population. The basic problems seem to be the organization of these resources to meet the need and the transport of such supplies to the areas in need.

"Discussions led this representative to believe that such supplies as shipped to Italy would not meet a real need in the northern area in relationship to the apparent and understood need in the South.

"In discussing the problem of returned prisoners from Germany it was generally felt by those concerned that the first surge of returned prisoners would cause some difficulty as they progressed south. We were informed, however, that all borders had been closed and that no such displaced persons would be let through the borders until the 25th of May. By this time the Displaced Persons Subcommission in cooperation with existing authorities states that it will have established transit camps and collection centers for the processing of controlled numbers of returned prisoners. Camps are being established at Treviso, Bolzano and Modena for the processing of these returnees. Preliminary surveys of resources in the north would indicate that clothing supplies could be collected by Italian Red Cross clothing drives in the provinces of Genoa, Turin, Milan and Venice for ultimate distribution by ENDSI. I was informed that a group of citizens under the Italian Red Cross in the city of Milan had guaranteed 250,000 pairs of shoes to the organizations processing returning prisoners and that clothing drives in the four cities would meet the most critical needs of the controlled groups. The American Red Cross seemed to feel that this supply in addition to the available stocks of American Red Cross clothing would be sufficient. The experience of this representative would lead him to believe that American Relief for Italy and ENDSI should be prepared to offer assistance in the area south of the controlled camps as in the past large numbers of refugees have not followed the established pattern and for that reason will not have been serviced. It is possible that considerable thousands of the more than one million anticipated internees will arrive in the southern cities without benefit of registration, disinfestation, medical screening and clothing issue. The recent experience in Florence and the present reports from Rome and Naples would indicate that such planning is essential.

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"Due to the confused conditions of the North administratively and militarily, this representative believed that he should not proceed to Genoa, Turin or Switzerland. American Relief for Italy has a stated position in Italy as an agency operating through an Italian Government,

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"Due to the confused conditions of the North administratively and militarily, this representative believed that he should not proceed to Genoa, Turin or Switzerland. American Relief for Italy has a stated position in Italy as an agency operating through an Italian Government, Vatican, Italian Red Cross and Confederation of Labor Agency. Until conditions are clarified and lines of authority recognized it would be best for American Relief for Italy to concentrate its efforts in the established areas of need south of the Po. This representative returned to Rome by air on May 16.

"CONCLUSIONS:

"1. Sufficient resources of clothing and critical supplies are available in the north of Italy when proper

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organization by the responsible authorities has been completed.

"2. The National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy (ENDSI) representatives were making progress towards recognition as the official distributing agency in the north of Italy.

"3. Conditions adjacent to the Po bridges and the vicinity of last winter's battleground area demand immediate attention and the full resource of supplies furnished through ARI.

"4. Considerable effort should be given to the communities of the South to assist the returning internee from Germany in transit to his home and at his ultimate destination.

"5. Until lines of authority and some governmental stability is apparent in the North, ARI should concentrate its efforts in the South, understanding that the National Committee as the established Governmental agency must establish its organization in the northern area.

/s/ Howard B. Barr
Deputy Chairman
American Relief for Italy, Inc."

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Mr. Taylor: Afterwards Ing. Vicentini, Dr. Canaperia and Mgr. Carroll-Abbing went on from Florence to Milan and elsewhere. During this period we also brought from Rome four trucks loaded with materials which discharged their cargoes of American Relief for Italy supplies at the camp for returning prisoners in Florence. Those trucks were loaded with prisoners and brought south. Five more trucks went to Florence the following day and followed the same routine. We left several trucks in Florence for service purposes. The next convoy sent from Rome consisted of 16 trucks. It went to Milan loaded with materials from the Italian Government.

Ing. Vicentini: Those trucks were loaded with supplies of salt and lemons from the Government. American Relief for Italy provided supplies of insulin and shoes, and the Health Department provided some medical supplies. The Italian Red Cross and the Vatican also provided some material for the prisoners.

Mr. Barr: Because rice is in surplus in the north and needed in the south, the trucks were to return to Florence carrying rice purchased by the Vatican. They were to discharge it in Florence, so that they could bring prisoners south on the trucks. However, when they got to Florence, they found that the prisoners were being transported by Allied Commission trucks and that the service was being continued to move about 400 to 500 a day. In view of that situation the ENDSI trucks were not needed to carry prisoners, so they did not unload the rice at Florence but brought it on to Rome.

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Mr. Taylor: I talked with Col. Kirkwood in Florence and had lunch with General Mark Clark at which time we discussed the broad question of displaced persons and refugees. On indicating to him the need to move these people from Florence quickly, his staff furnished trucks for this purpose. I telephoned also to Admiral Stone about the situation in the north and the inadequacy of the size of the staff of Col. Kirkwood in Florence. He promptly delegated four officers to join the staff of Col. Kirkwood, and they were sent after I left. This was an unexpected emergency situation for which no preparation was made, but I am informed an adequate

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staff and transportation have been increased to handle it from a military point of view.

I discovered also when I was north that there was a concentration camp having over 1,000 German women in it who had no medical facilities suitable to present and prospective needs. I took that up on the telephone with General McNarney at Caserta and sent him the following information:

> "WOMEN IN GERMAN PRISONER-OF-WAR CAMP NO. 334. There are 1,000 women in this camp. It is located at Sandicci and is under the control of P.B.S. Of these 1,000 women about 20 are pregnant, some of the babies being expected within the next month. The most urgent need at the moment is layettes. Other critical needs in this camp are sanitary facilities, medical treatment, separate hospitalization for women. Colonel Hensley stated that 1,000 women are being crowded into a building designed to house only about 400 or 500. Also needed is some place to put these children soon to be born. In addition, there are two or three children about three or four years of age in the camp with their parents."

In reply I received the following letter, dated May 21, 1945, from General McNarney:

> "My dear Mr. Taylor:
>
> "In reply to your letter of May 15, 1945, action is being taken to provide proper care for the pregnant women in the war camps and to furnish them with layettes.
>
> "Conditions in the camp are now reported satisfactory. I am having my Inspector General follow up on the action that has been taken.
>
> Very sincerely yours,
>
> /s/ JOSEPH T. McNARNEY
> General, U. S. Army
> Commanding."

It seemed at the moment that it would not look very well in view of German treatment of our people in prison camps that we should not give a reasonable amount of attention to German people in concentration camps in Italy. That has been cared for.

I would like to say that the Secretary of the Archbishop of Milan, acting under instructions from the Cardinal, came to see me last week with Ing. Galeazzi of the Vatican and a priest who had been confined in Germany. The substance of the statement was that the Cardinal wanted assistance in coordinating relief activities in Milan and the northern area. He had 400 trucks available that had no gas, and he stated that there was a lack of coordination among all the agencies in the north. There is a question of delousing incoming prisoners, providing hospitals for the sick, food, clothes, and so forth, that I suppose is giving concern up there. (Speaking of delousing and

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I made an appointment for the Secretary of the Archbishop and the priest from Milan to see Col. Findlay, Director of Displaced Persons and Repatriation Subcommission, Allied Commission, having talked with Admiral Stone on the telephone about it.

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Brigadier Parkinson was away, or I would have called him also at the first instance; he always gives us expert help in our problems. I then made an appointment with General Salzman of General Clark's staff in Florence to see the Milan representatives there, and they went to Florence to discuss the matter with General Clark. General Salzman called me on Saturday to say that they were impressed with the situation; General Clark had taken action, and Colonel Oldfield had been delegated to take charge, assisted by Colonel Walker in the area under the 15th Army Group. He said they were very much impressed and pleased by the attitude taken by the Cardinal of Milan and by his offer of assistance and cooperation. They said they were going to use every agency to the utmost. The Cardinal of Milan says the local organizations had food, clothing and trucks. They needed coordination and authority to do things, and they would do their part to a very large extent to relieve the situation. That is a hopeful outlook!

One problem was that trucks be sent to Austria and Germany to bring prisoners out to Bolzano and other places to be cleaned up and disinfected before they were sent south. I raised the question in the early days concerning the possibility of sending prisoners and refugees home by sea in order to relieve land transportation and to keep them out of cities where they might spread disease. My experience in Florence was unhappy in the sense that a very great percentage of the men returning from Germany had tuberculosis; I believe the figure was 80 or 90%! We found a barracks for a hospital, but when the Inspector General of the Italian Red Cross came, they found an existing hospital that was in operation--but not in a very clean condition. I arranged with the authorities to make use of that to the extent of 350 beds, so that the hospital situation in Florence as related to the prisoner influx there is arranged to that extent.

Monsignor Carroll-Abbing, will you state what happened after I left?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: From Florence we went to Milan, Turin and Genoa. We found that the situation in regard to relief supplies was the following: The food situation, although there are certain difficulties because of the crisis period just after the liberation, seemed to be satisfactory and promised to be satisfactory in the future. With regard to clothing the local authorities seemed to think that they could also deal adequately with any situation that might arise in any distressed area. They believed they would be able to deal with the situation by local appeals. We found at Milan that returning prisoners were being well cared for by voluntary agencies, especially by the Cardinal-Archbishop group. We saw the people working there to provide relief. The housewives were bringing in food in the morning, including cheese, eggs and flour--anything they had from the countryside. It was all being registered and stored ready to be distributed--the same with clothing.

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In Turin in regard to Italian returning prisoners we found similar activities were taking place, and they were even better organized. The local committee was ready to give 5,000 lire to each returning prisoner, a pair of shoes, a shirt and a suit of clothing from local resources. They seemed to have money collec-

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In Genoa also they seemed to be ready to meet the situation. The various agencies, especially the Auxillium, are dealing with the food problem of the returning prisoners by giving them hot meals.

In regard to relief supplies in the north we have the impression that the general situation is very good, and there is no need for ENDSI to extend its relief activities north of the Po.

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They have food, clothing and medicines as well, although they do need certain medicines, such as salicylate for the treatment of rheumatism. On the whole the general relief situation is good. The serious problem is the factories. They are short of coal and are unable to operate. The general situation is confused and has had its reaction on every aspect of public life; there is a general sense of confusion. All the authorities we met--army, ecclesiastical and governmental--expressed concern in regard to troubled areas on account of the lack of coal. They seemed to think it is a very serious situation. They people are not going to work in the factories; it seems impossible for the owners to continue to pay salaries if they cannot make the factories work. Coal seemed to be the crucial question--even more so than the raw materials. They have silk and certain products such as hemp, but they can't manufacture anything because of the lack of coal. Automobile plants are not operating. No big factories are operating.

Mr. Barr: The factories were operating until a few weeks ago, and then they ran out of coal. They seem to have supplies of steel. You can see the bodies of the automobiles on the assembly lines. The shoe factories can make shoes. The Crespi Cotton Factory can produce belt goods. All they need is coal. They need the industrial type of coal used in England and Germany.

Mr. Taylor: They might get some German coal, although I suppose there is an acute shortage there also.

Ing. Vicentini: 300,000 tons of coal a month would be enough to start the factories.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Barr, didn't you say the automobile factories were able to produce 50 cars a day in the north when they were operating?

Mr. Barr: Yes--50 Fiat sedans.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: Transportation is one of the present difficulties, but it is not insurmountable. They seem to have a fairly large amount of trucks and automobiles in the north. Tires are a shortage--but not on the same degree as in the south!

Mr. Taylor: I suppose there are a good many German vehicles up there. The use of them will be helpful. From the discussion and reports I get this impression--that ENDSI does not need to go north of the Po with American Relief for Italy supplies. That part of the country will take care of itself. Incoming relief materials can be concentrated south of the Po River.

Mr. Barr: By saying that there is no need for ENDSI to go further north that means there is no need to place supplies sent by American Relief for Italy north of the Po, but so far as distributing facilities for relief are concerned, ENDSI will continue to help wherever it can.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: I believe one section that could use help [illegible] Adige Valley near Bolzano.

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Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: I believe one section that could use help farther north is the Adige Valley near Bolzano.

Ing. Vicentini: At the meeting we had with ecclesiastical and other authorities it was determined that there is a need of coordination in the question of aiding refugees returning from Germany. That was what the Cardinal of Milan told me, and the Italian Red Cross asked for help also in the matter of coordination. In Milan there is a great quantity of materials. The Cardinal told me he had 200,000 pairs of shoes ready for returning ex-prisoners, but that he did not know how to send these supplies to the camps. The Chief of the Provincial Committee of the Italian Red Cross said the same thing.

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Mr. Taylor: Do you think it possible that any of these large supplies in the north could be brought to the south?

Ing. Vicentini: Yes. I had an offer to buy 20,000 pairs of shoes in the north, if I had the money. They were 400 lire a pair. That is not much here now!

Mr. Taylor: What kind of shoes?

Ing. Vicentini: Heavy shoes--the kind used by workmen. I also received an offer to buy 10,000 pairs of pants.

Mr. Taylor: Would the Italian Government be able to do that, Dr. Canaperia?

Prof. Canaperia: I think so.

Mr. Taylor: Then why not put the proposal up to the Government?!

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Mr. Barr: On the question of returning prisoners we received a report from Col. Findlay which outlined the responsibility of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Subcommission in regard to refugees and ex-prisoners. They have established camps and places for disinfecting these people before returning them to their homes.

(Col. Findlay's report, dated May 17, 1945, from Headquarters, Allied Commission follows:)

"SUBJECT: Notes on the Italian Refugee and Repatriation Situation as at 16 May, 1945.

TO: THOSE INTERESTED

"1. (i) PRESENT PROBLEM

Repatriation :-
(a) Those who crossed before the Frontiers (with exception of North East) were closed.
(b) Those "Southerners" in the North and those "Northerners" in the South. ++
Approximate number to be dealt with at least 100,000.

(ii) FUTURE PROBLEM

Repatriation of those outside the Northern Frontiers. This, it is hoped, can be "controlled", but the condition of those north of the Austrian Frontier is not yet known. Approximate number to be dealt with on all Northern Frontiers 1,000,000.

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"2. MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES.

Movement of refugees from the North by means of

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"2. MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES.

Movement of refugees from the North by means of returning Army Transport is easy as far as EMILIA Region. This is the "Bottleneck" of the North, as the capacity of the railway lines is very limited. This "Bottleneck" should be eased when sea transport from Venice and Genoa is available. It is hoped shortly to obtain sea transport from Ancona to Bari and the South, and on the West Coast from Piombino to Reggio Calabria and Sicily. This will solve the second "Bottleneck" at ROME. Only one refugee train (1,000 persons) per day is available south from Rome. Five thousand Italians arrived on the 16th.

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"3. REFUGEE CENTRES.

Some 30 to 40 Refugee Centres have already been established in Northern Italy. Some with great capacity, such as TREVISO 20,000 and MODENA, 12,000 and several between 3,000 and 5,000. In addition there are many camps set up by the Provinces and Communes available for those walking or trucking East or West.

The standard of comfort dictated for any centre at present depends on the number of refugees handled. The criterion is the number to be moved. Accommodation and feeding may be primitive, but the rapid return of the refugee to his or her home is the factor which must determine the amount of comfort available. As and when conditions become more controlled the standards of refugee centres will improve.

"4. FEEDING ARRANGEMENTS

The food scale is laid down by Allied Commission and supplied, when possible, by SEPRAL from local resources, in order to save transport for other purposes. In cases where this is not obtainable Army or Allied Commission stocks are drawn on. Food stops are established on all railway lines and are the responsibility of the Prefect and Commune concerned. In addition to the food stops sufficient rations for the journey are put on each train.

"5. FINALLY

Many refugees are arriving in Rome--an average of at least 2,000 a day. Some of them have been away from their homes for many years and require a friendly welcome and a helping hand after the long journey. Many have walked from Berlin and Danzig to the Frontiers.

/s/ C. B. FINDLAY,
Colonel,
Director
(Displaced Persons & Repatriation Subcomm.)

"++ (a) The term "Southerner" indicates an Italian in Northern Italy whose home is south of the Appennines.
(b) The term "Northerner" indicates an Italian in Southern Italy whose home is north of the Appennines."

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Mr. Crawley: We have received reports from our American Red Cross field representatives that some camps have been set up for the purpose of serving prisoners, ex-prisoners and displaced persons. I have made two trips north myself. We have not gone into the prisoner-of-war program since that is strictly a military function; however, the American and British Red Crosses have made available advice on things to be done.

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Mr. Taylor: On your trips north, Mr. Crawley, have you found evidences of camps being set up?

Mr. Crawley: Camps for refugees, yes.

Mr. Taylor: Before we had found a place for the ex-prisoners in Florence, we visited the refugee camp there, and I was pleased to see that a refugee camp can be properly run! It is a very satisfactory operation. There were intelligent men directing it;

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they appeared to be young businessmen, men of experience in practical affairs. They were doing an excellent job! The whole camp was in order--not at all like these places around Rome. So that proves that it can be done. The camps can be made into clean liveable places--even though, as some have said, it is not wise to encourage the people to stay in the camps too long.

Col. McSweeney: I stopped in Fermo. They have a fine camp there holding about 300 refugees. They can take about 3,500 or 4,000 a day, if necessary. As Mr. Taylor says, it is well regulated. Young men are running it who seem to know their business.

Mr. Taylor: I don't know how it will be when the great influx of ex-prisoners comes. The people I saw in the refugee camp in Florence seemed to be staying there--not moving out. The thing is that because these various activities are so related, the pressure is being put on to establish some kind of coordination among the different activities. There is a definite drawing of lines between ex-prisoners of war and displaced persons, and the agencies in the field are not working together. That is one difficulty. That is the problem the Cardinal of Milan complained about. I should think it would be a great field for the American Red Cross to help coordinate activities.

Mr. Crawley: One of my trips north was prior to the capitulation of Germany. That was during the period when our people were going along with 4th Corps and 2 Corps, Fifth Army. Conditions in general were as reported today. There is need where devastation has been bad--and in other areas need is very limited and conditions are good. Nevertheless, I received the impression that it was a summer relief need. The situation impressed me as being somewhat like our entrance into Rome. Conditions seemed to be good here. Shops had material, and people seemed to have food. But as the weather got colder, the problem developed. I feel that will also be true of the north. There is a lack of fuel and woolen clothing, and coal will be hard to obtain for this winter. The general picture through the entire area from the French border to Trieste was good under present conditions, but what is forthcoming with cold weather is something I cannot tell you. I have been as far as Bolzano. The American Red Cross people are working right on the borders with the refugees coming in and with the health and welfare people in communities where they are organized. Fortunately, it has been warm; refugees have been able to sleep in the fields. Trucks have been available and used by a large number of agencies to transport these people. Fortunately also, the Italian Red Cross was not disrupted there and was able to do its work.

Mr. Barr: I would like to ask one question, and I don't want to sound critical. If these camps have been set up to aid returning Italian ex-prisoners, how do you account for the condition of these men upon arrival at Rome and Naples? If you go to the stations, you can see thousands of men who have come down from the north who have <u>not</u> been medically screened, have <u>not</u> been deloused, have no clothing and have <u>not</u> been registered. It is all very well to say there is a system--a pattern to do things, but thousands more are coming regularly from the north in that condition. In the City of Naples there were approximately 3,000

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Mr. Crawley: I received a similar report and sent field representatives out to look at that.

Mr. Taylor: We can testify these men arrived in Florence in a very low state as to food, clothing, cleanliness, everything. They had

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had little or no food for days. Except for the activities of Colonel Hensley, whom we enlisted in this service up there, nothing had been done; nobody had the power to do anything; nobody had the resources. I may have violated army regulations in the procedure to help them. Perhaps it doesn't mean anything, but I told Colonel Hensley that I would take the responsibility for taking food for these men from army civilian rations. We took four truckloads of bread to the men--the first food they had had in days. They had no facilities to wash, so we had a long line of watering troughs rigged up. You could see one man washing his feet in one trough, and another washing his face. It was a most unpleasant thing as applied to human beings. The situation has since been improved. There were no cooking facilities. They dragged in some bricks, put on a kettle and made a fire for some soup to eat with the bread. Colonel Hensley did a very fine job; he is just the type to deal with emergencies. He was an old New York subway builder, speaks workman's Italian, and is full of punch! We hope everything is coming along better now. This situation in Italy, I suppose, is a small thing compared with the one in Germany. I have said many times that I am very glad to see that Mr. Herbert Hoover has been invited by the President to give advice concerning the European food situation. He has had practical experience and has the kind of punch it needs. That ought to help UNRRA's activities, Mr. Keeny, if he is in the field.

Now we get to one of the main statements of the discussion, which will come from Brigadier Parkinson:

Brigadier Parkinson: I have very little to add except to endorse what has been said about this self-help in the north. I was very pleased with the condition I found the people in up there. More people seemed to be independent; nothing like what we have experienced down here. The price of food seemed to be more reasonable. I stopped, as I always do, and found out the price of flour and wheat compared with the prices down here, and the difference is amazing! The people you spoke to in the north didn't seem to have that want. What has been said by Monsignor Carroll-Abbing about self-help by local welfare, I think was very gratifying, because these people were taking matters seriously and doing first-class relief work. It is much better to have your own people help you! There was a tendency, as Mr. Taylor pointed out, for Florence to become a bottleneck in regard to these returning prisoners. When I got to Florence, sometime after Mr. Taylor had been there, the additional help had been gotten, and things were definitely improved. They were prepared to handle 1,000 men a day; they were not getting nearly that many when I was there. Conditions were definitely improved. It was gratifying to hear how much your trucks were appreciated. They made a great difference. Those vans seem to take unlimited numbers. They are one of the best things sent over!

3510

You touched on the question of dusting. The Public Health Subcommission has sent a typhus team up to AMG territory to see that the dusting is being done, as we want to prevent any people getting down here who have not had at least one dusting. That has been taken in hand.

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The matter of transportation by sea has been taken up, and the Displaced Persons Subcommission is concentrating on the question of such transportation from Ancona to Bari to relieve a certain amount of confusion and to by-pass certain places.

(18)

I think without wanting to make excuses for any inefficiency which may have appeared to exist, we must realize that the collapse was so sudden! One should be prepared--but the whole thing collapsed so suddenly that there was little time to prepare to meet the new emergencies which came up.

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I think it is quite true about this question of coal supplies. I talked about the problem at Turin and Milan of how to get those factories going. But I feel that, taking the situation as a whole, apart from prisoners and refugees, there is more to be done in the south than in the north of Italy. There is one place that does need a great deal of help in the north; that is Pianoro near Bologna. It has been flattened. If a number of shacks could be put up as the ones at Cassino, a certain amount of produce could be gotten in for these people. There are a great many mines, which present an element of danger. But all in all the conditions in the north are a relief to me after the south.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Crawley, will you take note of that particular place?

Mr. Crawley: We now have a special team of workers who are giving their time and attention to what they consider battle areas, which extend from the Adriatic to the Mediterranean, including the place which Brig. Parkinson mentioned. There are also some conditions of need in the northern part of Pisa Province.

Mr. Barr: Part of that area is being turned back to Italy on June 10.

Mr. Taylor: In the Government who is responsible for these various activities? Who has to do with the problem of returning men who have been prisoners? Is it part military and part civilian?

Prof. Canaperia: Military.

Mr. Taylor: I suppose these matters have been brought to the attention of the Minister of War. I think we should send him a copy of our reports, and I will write him a letter. As far as displaced persons are concerned, Zaniboni is in charge of that.

Brig. Parkinson: These statements Mr. Barr has made about the incoming prisoners are very important. You say they arrive in the station here in Rome?

Mr. Barr: Yes, they come in on every train--every day and night. The Vatican has set up a station as good as it can to feed them, and the YMCA is helping.

Brig. Parkinson: Could you see a group of these men if you went to the main station say at 3 o'clock this afternoon?

Mr. Barr: Yes, I am sure you could. There always seem to be a number there. The other big focal point is the Albergo dei Povero at Naples. The movement of these men is very informal. It is not controlled.

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Col. McSweeney: Do you think it is possible that many of these men by-pass the camps? They are in such a hurry to get home--do you think they try to get away from the camps?

Mr. Barr: Some of the men say they are put on trucks and taken a

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Col. McSweeney: Do you think it is possible that many of these men by-pass the camps? They are in such a hurry to get home--do you think they try to get away from the camps?

Mr. Barr: Some of the men say they are put on trucks and taken a few miles away from a town, dumped out, and told to keep going!

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: Some men had been brought down by the army authorities on army trucks from Modena. They had been taken to hospitals and discharged for treatment in their own home towns. They were brought down and left in Florence, and they hadn't had any food in two days. In Florence we found the situation very bad. The men had not been through any port of control, and I suppose no arrangements had been made for them.

(18)

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Col. McSweeney: There are a certain group who are so anxious to get home that they won't stop at the camps; they are just desperate to get home. It is unfortunate when they do stop, but no one can be blamed in that case but themselves.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: We didn't see any of the camps during our trip to the north. We went up there for the purpose of seeing what the relief supply situation was and what the people are doing up north. We saw the authorities of the Italian Red Cross, the Government, the Army and the ecclesiastical authorities. There is undoubtedly criticism everywhere and especially among the army authorities who have to deal with the problem. I am quite willing to believe that the camps do assist, but I think it would be comforting to know that some sort of arrangements and control had been made to remedy the situation.

Mr. Taylor: You get an impression from these reports that there is very little order in the north. They tell me eight or ten people are killed every night in Milan alone.

Brig. Parkinson: I believe things are better now.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Keeny, do you have any statement to make concerning UNRRA?

Mr. Keeny: We are very much concerned about this tuberculosis problem, and there has been some conversation concerning it with people in the north. Our Medical Division is consulting with Brigadier Parkinson, and we are ready to cooperate in any way requested. Our people think that the identification of the actual tubercular at the earliest point is desirable so that they can receive the necessary treatment. We are prepared to do whatever is necessary to cooperate with Allied Commission, to take whatever steps are necessary to get the tubercular cases under control and to provide necessary hospitalization for the men as soon as that can be done. They are working on it now, and we hope that we can cooperate immediately.

Mr. Taylor: I have received the following letter, dated May 20, 1945, from Admiral Stone expressing appreciation for the help we gave in the situation in Florence in the early moment when the confusion was the greatest:

"My dear Mr. Taylor:

"I thank you for your letter of the 16th May 1945 enclosing Mgr. Carroll-Abbing's report, and I am most grateful for the assistance which you and Mgr. Carroll-Abbing gave to the AMG authorities in Florence. It would appear that they were slow to appreciate the influx of Italian Prisoners of War into Florence (I suspect that the Italian Military authorities, who are responsible, gave them no information) but that, with your help, they handled the matter expeditiously and sympathetically once they realized the position.

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"As always, ENDSI came to the fore with generous help.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner."

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Mr. Taylor: And the following is a telegram from the Prefect of Trapani in Sicily, dated May 9, 1945, expressing appreciation for relief supplies:

"IN THE NAME OF THIS ENDSI PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE I AM GLAD TO EXPRESS THE FEELINGS OF DEEPEST GRATITUDE FOR THE PROVIDENTIAL HELP SENT BY YOUR MOST HONORABLE SELF IN THE ALLOCATION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO THE WAR DAMAGES OF THIS PROVINCE.

GULLOTTA
PREFECT OF TRAPANI."

.....

From these reports and discussions we have had it seems that coordination is the thing that is needed most in the relief field in Northern Italy. It seems to me that somebody ought to have the position of operating between the Army and the other agencies in this whole northern area. They should be prepared to use all the facilities that anyone has to offer in the places that would be the most useful and not have the feeling of independent action in emergency situations. We found that the women volunteers of the Italian Red Cross in Florence were very helpful and were quickly enlisted to serve. They found sandwiches and wine, and every man who was loaded into a truck was given a package of sandwiches and a bottle of wine.

Concerning the Italian Red Cross -- The one legacy that we can leave behind us when we go away would be a reorganized and strengthened Italian Red Cross as a permanent institution. I think I have sent you all a copy of the letter and chart we have prepared and sent to Dr. Zanotti-Bianco concerning what the Italian Red Cross, as seen through our eyes, ought to be in the sense of organization. This is a simple plan of organization. It is really more simple than the American Red Cross in that it has a lesser number of committees. It has a national committee which functions under the Prime Minister, and under the National Committee comes the President as its first officer. Under that officer is one which they do not have today--a director, a full-time, well-paid person, who administrates and leaves the President free to be the executive head of the enterprise. Today if anything is wanted, Dr. Zanotti-Bianco has to go to Milan and various other places himself. It seems to us that the most important person is the President, who is after all a diplomat because he has to deal with governmental and foreign officials; he has to be the proponent of policy--subject to the National Committee--and he should be free to devote himself to planning. The larger phases of the enterprise and the direction should be under the principal administrative officer. Likewise, the different agencies of the Red Cross, which come under the executive head, should each have a particular important head, and within that group of heads, of course, can be an operating committee or an administrative committee--so that they all come together to discuss and coordinate their activities and submit plans of operation to the director for approval. They have some functions in the Italian Red Cross that we do not have in America. We do not have hospitals under the Red Cross, nor do we have Public Health under the Red Cross.

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Regarding the supplies of milk, clothing and vitamins, as donated by American Relief for Italy, we have a definite area now in which we will operate that will extend as far north as Pisa and Florence and Bologna to the Adriatic. It will not be necessary for us to go beyond that. In that area we will concentrate in the future on the distribution of milk, vitamins and clothing. That will simplify the activities of ENDSI, so far as American Relief for Italy is concerned, and it will simplify requests in America for contributions. Everyone will know just what fields we are going into, and though we have no written arrangement with Mr. Keeny yet, it was the general impression UNRRA would supplement the milk and vitamin supplies American Relief for Italy is able to ship.

Mr. Keeny: We have had a number of meetings. I think the arrangement is being worked out satisfactorily.

Mr. Taylor: You ought to have Mr. Barr present at those meetings.

Mr. Keeny: I'm speaking of the discussions on milk. I think the program has been going very satisfactorily in Naples and will start in Rome.

Ing. Vicentini: ENDSI has been distributing UNRRA materials using American Relief for Italy trucks.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Barr, when do you propose to start the distribution of milk and vitamins in the north?

Mr. Barr: The milk and vitamins arriving will permit immediate shipment to the north and the starting of the full program. There is a sufficient quantity of both milk and vitamins arriving to permit the program to start immediately. Full concentration can be given in the south this side of the Po River. 100 new tires for trucks have arrived on the Mansfield, which permits us to make use of our trucks to the fullest capacity.

Mr. Taylor: We have in Leghorn a certain amount of clothing donated by the American Red Cross which has not been touched as yet.

Mr. Barr: Yes, it consists of some 700,000 new garments--a large percentage, fully 80%, of which is suitable for hospital use--bed jackets, pajamas, bed quilts, etc.. The general proposed plan was for it to be used in institutions and hospitals in the northern area where the American Red Cross has not made distributions.

Mr. Crawley: This shipment which you received from the American Red Cross includes many items which were not called for before, but which are very useful for institutions and hospitals.

Mr. Barr: It contains no material for general public distribution. It is specialized material to be handled in a specialized way.

3506

Mr Taylor: To go from that point on to our present position -- I think Ing. Vicentini indicated at our last big meeting that we had women's clothing but no more men's clothing at that time;

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Mr. Taylor: To go from that point on to our present position -- I think Ing. Vicentini indicated at our last big meeting that we had women's clothing but no more men's clothing at that time; we either had none of it or it had all been committed. Now do you again have a stock of men's clothing?

Ing. Vicentini: Yes, quite a big stock.

Mr. Taylor: Do you know the quantities now against which you have no commitments?

(48)

Mr. Barr: There is a new shipment coming into Naples today, but it is impossible to be accurate as to the amounts.

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Ing. Vicentini: We can get some 20,000 pairs of men's shoes from the Army in good condition. They could be used for the distribution in the division between Rome and Naples.

Col. McSweeney: I was in Ancona and found that the salvaged material to which Ing. Vicentini refers will be shipped to Naples and bid on there. The aviation fields have sent in very valuable new materials, fine for winter. Many of these supplies are needed right there in the area from where they are being shipped to Naples, and I believe duplication of shipping could be avoided if the materials could be bid on right there rather than shipping them to Naples and re-shipping them back to the same areas. If ENDSI could bid on the material and then later distribute it to where it is needed, we will be able to avoid duplication of transportation. There are also 20 or 30 tons of shelter halves that can be used for hospital sheets.

Brig. Parkinson: When Mr. Harold McMillan was here, he asked me to take up this whole question of bidding. As far as the Vatican, the Government and the Italian Red Cross are concerned, is it working reasonably satisfactory now?

Mr. Barr: It is a working reality. 35 tons of salvaged shoes have been delivered as a result of the bidding. Col. McSweeney sees that it gets to ENDSI.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Harold McMillan indicated here that 1,000 tons shipping space would be set apart for American Relief for Italy. We have had delays in shipping lately on account of the shipping for war emergencies. When the last big push was on, all ships delayed loading relief supplies.

Next week we are going to open the hospital at Cassino. That is the first of three hospitals donated by American Relief for Italy. We are not going to exploit it in a big way or a public way. We are going to ask members of this committee and anyone else you would like to ask to go to Cassino on the morning of the opening of the hospital. We will look at the building and give it some kind of a blessing.

.....

Col. McSweeney: Sir, I would like to mention a request that I have had from Public Health and Welfare Officers in the north in the AMG territory. They have set up relief committees on the idea of the ENDSI committees with similar representatives, including usually a representative of ECCA, which is governmental. These committees have been working for two or three months. We wanted to ask through you and Ing. Vicentini that whenever a distribution was made up there, these committees might be considered to help. They haven't had much to do, because they haven't had much to help with, but they have tried to do the welfare job as it appeared. We wondered if they could be brought into the picture with the ENDSI distributions.

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Mr. Taylor: I would advise you to discuss that with Ing. Vicentini, who is always most generous and cooperative.

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Mr. Taylor: I would advise you to discuss that with Ing. Vicentini, who is always most generous and cooperative.

In regard to the fund for foundling children--we have had two amounts transferred from America, one for $1,620 and the other $1,950, and the instructions were to pay the equivalent lire to ENDSI. The Italian Red Cross is supposed to be handling the operation of this project, but as my instructions were to pay it to ENDSI, I will give it to them, and they can re-transmit it to the Red Cross for the care of the children. When they checks were paid to my account in New York, they were designated for the benefit of the National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy (ENDSI).

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Mr. Taylor (cont.) Judge Marchisio sent us a telegram last week regarding shipments from America to individual groups in Italy; for example, a particular shipment for Cassino only. I don't think we can do that. It makes us a sort of postoffice delivering to particular places, because the donors in America have some affection for that place. I think all that comes from America should be for the general Italian relief supply and should be distributed where the need is greatest.

Mr. Barr: The only exception is when specific institutions in America send material to specific institutions in Italy.

Mr. Taylor: Yes, there is that exception--such as cloth for nuns' gowns and priests' robes, but I wouldn't let that involve the general idea.

The European Student's Relief Fund was furnished by American Relief for Italy $6,000 last year for the help in educating Italian students in Switzerland. Now they are going to help in Rome and ask us for contributions. Will UNRRA be able to help with that?

Mr. Keeny: Facilities have been arranged to check the health of students. We will provide film and aid in helping to check these students who are convalescing from illnesses or as refugees. We would be glad to make special efforts to help any projects that get underway.

Mr. Taylor: We have received the following letter (translation) from Australia in response to a telegram we sent to the Italian relief agency there answering a request they sent us some time ago:

"Australian-Italian Movement Central
Committee"

Sydney, February 26, 1945.

"To H.E. the President of ENDSI

"Excellency:

"We have received from American Relief for Italy, Inc., the constitution concerning the creation of LNDSI in Italy. Our agency, which was constituted about two years ago in order to unify the Italian community in Australia connected with the war effort of the United Nations, would like to organize shipments of food and relief supplies to the Italian people.

"We would be very grateful to you if you would help us in our effort, either by forwarding our request to the British authorities, so as to obtain some shipping space (we would like to ask for 2,000 tons for the first shipment) on ships leaving from Australia or by giving us direction on the course we should follow.

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"We await an answer to be forwarded by the quickest way possible, while we express our best regards.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) C. Alcorso."
(for the secretary)

Mr. Taylor: That is a very generous gesture! It should be in ENDSI's hands.

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Mr. Barr: There will have to be a specific request by the British for shipping space from the Theater.

Brig. Parkinson: I would think the Australians will want their names associated with it. They wouldn't want to be confused with American Relief for Italy or ENDSI if they sent supplies from Australia to Italy.

Mr. Barr: The name of the group is the Australian-Italian Movement Central Committee, and they should be given full credit for the supplies they send.

.....

Mr. Taylor: I think I reported in a recent meeting that the Allied Commission through Admiral Stone, Brigadier King, Brigadier Parkinson, Brigadier Russell and others, including Lt. Col. Elves, have approved the idea of requisitioning Italian naval vessels sold to Argentina. That goes through a long process from Allied Commission to the Supreme Council until it gets up to the President and the Prime Minister. We included a copy of Admiral Stone's letter, dated April 17, on this subject in the minutes of Meeting No. 23 of April 23, 1945.

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Mr. Keeny: I would like to bring up the problem of the status of Italians in other countries. Some of you may be able to help--particularly if you return to the United States--to have it clarified. AFHQ is now treating them the same as other displaced persons but giving them a lower priority on return that the Allied nationals. It is of the greatest importance to me, and I have had a number of discussions with the Foreign Office to the effect that the procedure should be changed. I have asked that the Central Committee of UNRRA review that matter and attempt to get in all UNRRA operations the same status for Italians as for U.S. nationals, and I have asked that there be a redefinition of displaced persons to make sure that we have included in that group all who must follow it. Such a cable has been sent, and I am told that the Central Committee has met today to start the process. I have taken the matter up with people in Yugoslavia and Greece, and I find our Greek representative is strongly supporting us, because unless we get that status, it is impossible to help Italians in Greece. Italians in Greece are not being helped by UNRRA now because of that doubtful status. Technically, Italians are still listed as ex-enemies and therefore not subject to aid outside Italy.

Mr. Taylor: Will you give me a copy of that?

Mr. Keeny: Yes. If the report from the Central Committee is favorable, it will be fine. If it is unfavorable, we will have a fight on our hands. That change in status is essential for the successful operation for return of Italians to their homes. I am having a session after lunch with a representative from Austria, and I am hoping we can unite our strength so that we can quickly get a classification that will enable us to use our resources to help people immediately in need. In its present doubtful stage it means delay in aid to these people. We are all agreed in principle, but we must achieve a definite change in the UNRRA

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Mr. Taylor: Do you want to make any report on UNRRA's activities?

(48) Mr. Keeny: Our work is going smoothly in the south, although internal transportation has not been so rapid as we desired. Our supply position is good--30,000 tons have been landed, and about 8,000 tons have been transferred to the Government for transmittal. We now have our first large shipment of medical supplies, which has just landed, so that we will be in a position to start

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weekly distribution on a sizeable scale. We have taken over refugee camps in the south and have considerable reserve space for additional persons. 2,000 are being added to the camps in the next three or four weeks. The first group coming in about the 10th of June will be stationed in Southern Italy. Some will return to Hungary. They had to be moved from Switzerland. There will be additional use of those camps for persons from the north. Our arrangements have been worked out so that we will operate in the territory as rapidly as that territory is turned over. As far as restricted territory, we are ready to aid in emergencies if we are asked by the Allied Commission, but only on the request of Allied Commission.

Mr. Taylor: As an illustration, take this camp of 1,000 German women and assume they are not war criminals. Would it be your function to return them to Germany?

Mr. Keeny: We have no authority to deal with citizens of enemy countries, except those who were against the government and fled as a result of persecution.

Mr. Taylor: How are you going to determine that?

Mr. Keeny: The screening is the responsibility of the military. We begin after the military reports have been received.

Mr. Taylor: Do you accept as eligible for return to Germany all Jewish people in Italy?

Mr. Keeny: The mere fact that they are Jewish is not enough. They also must be within the resolution. Within the statements of the resolution--yes.

Mr. Barr: We have had requests in the last two or three weeks from Yugoslavs, who were shocked that UNRRA would not give them assistance because they were not followers of Tito. The Lithuanians said they had appealed to the offices of UNRRA, but because they were not of the correct political party, they could not receive assistance. Polish people have come to us and said that because they were not supporters of the Russian policy in Poland, they could not receive help from UNRRA. We have helped some of them. We have also received request for help from American citizens who had gone to UNRRA for help. UNRRA sent them to the American Consul, and the American Consul sends them to us; the regulations prevent UNRRA from offering assistance to American citizens.

(Mr. Keeny made a statement off the record).

Mr. Taylor: Have you any further remarks to make about UNRRA?

Mr. Keeny: I think not, except that I shall try to work with Ing. Vicentini in this northern charter so that we get action as promptly as possible.

Mr. Taylor: I would appreciate it if Mr. Keeny, Ing. Vicentini, and Mr. Barr would get together before I go home and give me a

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Mr. Taylor: I would appreciate it if Mr. Keeny, Ing. Vicentini, and Mr. Barr would get together before I go home and give me a memo showing the proposed agreed relationship between American Relief for Italy activities and UNRRA.

.....

Mr. Crawley: I would like to say that during the past week the first of the ambulances sent by the American Red Cross to the Italian Red Cross have been received and given to that organization. They are all Internationals and Fords in very good condition. At the present time the Italian Red Cross is sending all those ambulances to the most needy areas.

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Brig. Parkinson: In the north I heard the other day that the 5th Army is giving German ordnance and trucks to A.M.G. I asked with regard to allotting some of those down here to go to the southern areas. We will get some.

Mr. Crawley: I had a discussion with Col. Sutherland about the trucks. He said they would try to send 50.

.....

Mr. Taylor: About the malaria situation--people generally seem to think that malaria is cropping up in a big way.

Prof. Canaperia: Any cases reported now are last year's; there are no new ones yet, because the season doesn't start until June. The spraying is being done, and the streams are being given attention. The work is going on in the Pontine Marshes.

.....

Mr. Taylor: I would like to know what plan you are going to adopt related to the distribution of the better class of clothing materials sent by American Relief for Italy.

Mr. Barr: We are working that out, sir, and we will give you the report.

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Mr. Taylor: Someone has requested that we put in the record the following article in an Italian newspaper:

"FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY"

Translated from IL SECOLO XX (The Twentieth Century) of April 18, 1945, a daily newspaper of Rome, Italy, (refers to text of broadcast made to the United States by Mr. Taylor on April 18, 1945) the following editorial is titled. "Words of Faith":

"The solemn and noble words of His Excellency Myron C. Taylor, even though they were addressed to citizens of the United States, go direct to the hearts of Italians and with their throb of human solidarity stimulate the eternal flame of hope which permits us to look over and beyond our untold ruins with a feeling of thoughtful trust in our uncertain future.

"Across the immense archway which forms an ideal link between the United States and Italy the words of Myron C. Taylor - the Ambassador of kindness, as one may properly describe the Representative of the President to the Vicar of Christ - take on a particular character of solemnity and comfort in that while they stem from the occasion of the first anniversary of American Relief for Italy they are uttered at a time when the mortal body of Franklin D. Roosevelt, after relinquishing the toils of this earth and surrounded by a halo of prestige and reverence, was rising towards glorious immortality.

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"The people of the United States will certainly be especially sensitive to the heartfelt remarks and appealing words of Myron Taylor. We in Italy know the sentiments which animate the great American democracy with regard to our country; such sentiments were again interpreted in a most authoritative way on last New Year's Eve by the now President of the United States, Harry S. Truman, who expressed himself with these noble words: "The American people also have faith that the Italian people will be able to help themselves and our people share with me the hope that in the peace which

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will follow the victory of the United Nations Italy will again occupy the place which she deserves in the assembly of Nations'.

"A new common ideal consisting of moral, and therefore also of political considerations, links up the auspicious words of the new President with those which have now been pronounced by His Excellency Myron Taylor.

"It is not without significance that bouth from Washington and Rome, namely, from the capital of the powerful and victorious democracy and from the cradle of Christianity and western civilization, almost with identical notes, there should have been emphasized so nobly the necessity for this unfortunate Italy, martyred by Fascism, torn to pieces by the Germans and exhausted by war, destruction, blood and tears, to arise again to a new life as she deserves.

"'The first step - His Excellency Myron Taylor said - toward a better understanding and neighborly relations among people consists in healing the wounds of war'.

"As the gentle hand of a merciful nurse soothes the agony and suffering of the wounded lying in the sorrowful wards of hospitals, so do the appealing and comforting words of those who know and see every day the festering wounds which are tormenting our people; those words are an inexpressible balm which can but promote heartfelt expressions of sincere gratitude and bring about for Italy from America, which is far away but near to our hearts, a corresponding feeling of understanding."

.....

Mr. Taylor: I want to thank you all for your patience and cooperation in this matter of relief to Italy. It has been a year since we first talked about relief matters in Italy, and something over a year since we talked about it in America and organized American Relief for Italy. Without the cooperation we have had in this little group, I don't think these things we have done would have been possible; nor do I think they could have been done with such efficiency and self-sacrifice. I am very grateful to everyone in this committee who has cooperated in its activities. Thank you very much!

(Mr. Taylor invited the members of the group to attend a dinner before his departure to the United States.)

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AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

May 24, 1945.

The following is the statement of the use of the 54 American Relief for Italy trucks in the service of the National Committee:

With the arrival of the first 4 trucks the program of transportation of relief supplies was begun with the National Committee. These first trucks were Ford Thornton 100 quintal (10 tons) tractors vans. As no spare tires were included with the vehicles it is necessary to rotate the trucks through the garage for preventive maintenance, using the tires from one truck as spares for the three trucks in service. With the arrival of the 50 Ford 2, 1/2 ton truck in March the program of transportation of the National Committee was expanded as rapidly as the vehicles were assembled and serviced. The 50 trucks were not accompanied by spare tires and so 10 of the vehicles are constantly in the garage, the tires of these vehicles being used as spares for the 40 operative vehicles. This does not necessarily mean a loss of utility in as great a proportion as it would seem as preventive maintenance requires that trucks be rotated through garage service to protect their operation. Although this report covers the period from the 15th of February to the 15th of May, a 3 month period, the arrival of the first vehicles and the gradual use of the second group of 50 do not give an average 3 month operation that can be expected in the future. It could be estimated that this 3 month's period activity would be approximately 50% of what could be expected in the next 3 months' period. The organizati of the National Committee Transportation Section has adopted a business basis for recording the services of the vehicles, putting the service in quintal kilometers and converting this into lira value, using the quintal kilometer rate established by national law. The use of the vehicles is in three categories:

1. Use for distribution of relief supplies furnished to ENDSI by American Relief for Italy and other contributing agencies;

2 Gratuitous transport of critical supplies of other agencies including Italian Red Cross, hospitals, orphanages, Department of Public Health, Department of Public Welfare, Protestant Welfare Association, Catholic Charities and Association of Jewish Welfare Groups.

3 The full use of back loading (return trips from hauls of the first two categories) to augment the food supply under the Ministry of Food and other public utilities. This includes the bringing of grain potatoes, rice, eggs and other foods into the metropolitan area from rural districts and the hauling of electric transformers, cement, wiring, water mains and other critically needed industrial reconstruction supplies on transport space which would otherwise be waste on return trips. At the request of the Ministries of Food and Industry repayment for this service was accepted by ENDSI by Government transfer of funds for this service. This income is then converted into maintenance service and labor cost of the National Committee Transportation Section.

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The following is the account of the three categories of service in quintal kilometer converted into lira value:

First category: - distribution of relief supplies - quintal kilometer 3,508,168, lire value 4,014,755.

Second category: - gratuitous service to indigenous agencies - quintal kilometer 1,623,624; lire value 2,160,613.

Third category: - transport on back haul for general public service under the Ministries of Food and Industry - quintal kilometer 1,951,034; lire value 2,319,889.

A total operation, for the 3-months' period of quintal kilometer 7,082,826, or lire value of 8,495,257.

It is anticipated that the quintal kilometer and lire value of transport for the next 3 months' period will be double as full use of the vehicles is anticipated within this period. To convert the total lire value of transport in the 3-months' period into dollars results in a value of $84,952.57.

Had the equivalent service performed by the National Committee been on a rental basis the cost to the National Committee (Category 1) and indigenous agencies (Category 2) would have been 6,175,368 lire or $61,753.68. It is apparent that the furnishing of 54 trucks by American Relief for Italy to the National Committee for the 3-months' period alone has effected an excellent economy and permitted the functioning of this vital agency.

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CC 950-1

28 May 1945

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of and thank you

for the following:

43 — Minutes of Meeting No. 23, 23 April 45.
held by Advisory Group concerning relief

44 — Minutes of Special Meeting No. 24, 10 May 45.
held by Advisory Group concerning relief

45 — Statement of the use of the 54 American
Relief for Italy trucks in the service of
the National Committee

Sincerely,

(s) Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

The Honorable Myron C. Taylor
The Personal Representative of the
President of the United States
To His Holiness the Pope
2 Via Doncompagnie
Rome

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May 24, 1945.

The following is the statement of the use of the 54 American Relief for Italy trucks in the service of the National Committee:

With the arrival of the first 4 trucks the program of transportation of relief supplies was begun with the National Committee. These first trucks were Ford Thornton 100 quintal (10 tons) tractors vans. As no spare tires were included with the vehicles it is necessary to rotate the trucks through the garage for preventive maintenance, using the tires from one truck as spares for the three trucks in service. With the arrival of the 50 Ford 2, 1/2 ton truck in March the program of transportation of the National Committee was expanded as rapidly as the vehicles were assembled and serviced. The 50 trucks were not accompanied by spare tires and so 10 of the vehicles are constantly in the garage, the tires of these vehicles being used as spares for the 40 operative vehicles. This does not necessarily mean a loss of utility in as great a proportion as it would seem as preventive maintenance requires that trucks be rotated through garage service to protect their operation. Although this report covers the period from the 15th of February to the 15th of May, a 3 month period, the arrival of the first vehicles and the gradual use of the second group of 50 do not give an average 3 month operation that can be expected in the future. It could be estimated that this 3 month's period activity would be approximately 50% of what could be expected in the next 3 months' period. The organizati of the National Committee Transportation Section has adopted a business basis for recording the services of the vehicles, putting the service in quintal kilometers and converting this into lira value, using the quintal kilometer rate established by national law. The use of the vehicles is in three categories:

1. Use for distribution of relief supplies furnished to ENDSI by American Relief for Italy and other contributing agencies;
2. Gratuitous transport of critical supplies of other agencies including Italian Red Cross, hospitals, orphanages, Department of Public Health, Department of Public Welfare, Protestant Welfare Association, Catholic Charities and Association of Jewish Welfare Groups.
3. The full use of back loading (return trips from hauls of the firs two categories) to augment the food supply under the Ministry of Food and other public utilities. This includes the bringing of grain potatoes, rice, eggs and other foods into the metropolitan area from rural districts and the hauling of electric transformers, cement, wiring, water mains and other critically needed industrial reconstruction supplies on transport space which would otherwise be waste on return trips. At the request of the Ministries of Food and Industry repayment for this service was accepted by ENDSI by Government transfer of funds for this service. This income is then converted into maintenance service and labor cost of the Nat[illegible] Committee Transportation Section.

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The following is the account of the three categories of service in quintal kilometer converted into lira value:

First category: - distribution of relief supplies - quintal kilometer 3,508.168, lire value 4,014,755.

Second category: - gratuitous service to indigenous agencies - quintal kilometer 1,623,624; lire value 2,160,613.

Third category: - transport on back haul for general public service under the Ministries of Food and Industry - quintal kilometer 1,951,034, lire value 2,319,889.

A total operation, for the 3-months' period of quintal kilometer 7,082,826, or lire value of 8,495,257.

It is anticipated that the quintal kilometer and lire value of transport for the next 3 months' period will be double as full use of the vehicles is anticipated within this period. To convert the total lire value of transport in the 3-months' period into dollars results in a value of $84,952.57.

Had the equivalent service performed by the National Committee been on a rental basis the cost to the National Committee (Category 1) and indigenous agencies (Category 2) would have been 6,175,368 lire or $61,753.68. It is apparent that the furnishing of 54 trucks by American Relief for Italy to the National Committee for the 3-months' period alone has effected an excellent economy and permitted the functioning of this vital agency.

* * * *

45

AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

May 10, 1945. Meeting No. 24

Minutes of a special meeting called at the request of Ambassador Myron C. Taylor in his office, presided over by Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy Chairman of American Relief for Italy, for the purpose of discussing plans for the immediate relief of the returning prisoners of war and refugees from Germany now descending upon Florence.

In attendance were the following: Mr. S.M. Keeny, Chief, Italian Mission, UNRRA; Mr. Antonio Sorieri, Director of Displaced Persons Section, UNRRA; Lt. Col. John McSweemey, Chief, Welfare Officer, Allied Commission; Ing. G.B. Vicentini, Executive Director ENDSI; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department, Ministry of the Interior; Mr. Guido Graziani, International Committee of YMCA; and Mr. Barr.

Mr. Barr: Ambassador Taylor called me and asked me to bring you gentlemen together to discuss the problem which has arisen in great force in Florence during the past week. Thousands of refugees are streaming into that city from Germany and Austria and Yugoslavia. They are in very bad condition, from the viewpoint of health and medical attention and housing and clothing. The Ambassador has found a building in Florence which is being used as temporary quarters for many of these people. But it is a very old building with stone floors, and the people have no clothing or bedding and no food. After he called I got to work and found bedding and clothing which was sent up this morning.

Mr. Keeny: How much were you able to send?

Mr. Barr: About 11 tons. About a ton of Argentine meat, and clothes and blankets and shoes. Mr. Vicentini has also been requested by the authorities and the so-called occupied territory, and the Presid of the Council of Ministers to do something about these returning people. At the same time ENDSI received a letter from the Minister of Refugees requesting them to do something. Mr. Graziani who represents the International YMCA concerning War Prisoners Aid brings this problem up. General Marini who is concerned with the returning prisoners of war and General Tommasini who is concerned with the Welfare Group of the Italian Army are training officers to send them into places of this character.

Mr. Graziani: They are really being sent to do welfare work for the Army but are willing to engage in this matter of more immediate necessity.

Mr. Barr: I believe a primary responsibility of UNRRA is with the returned Prisoners of War.

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Mr. Keeny: As POW's UNRRA cannot help. With displaced persons UNRRA can. There is a problem of finding that category and it is being worked on now. There is a conflict of definitions in that field. People who are invalided out would tend to get recognition, to be accepted much more readily as displaced persons than the physically fit. There is a definite conflict of definition that must be reconciled. There is a tendency on the part of the recipient government to get the aid they want. There is a tendency on the part of the military to adjust responsibilities as affecting the Geneva Convention

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to be a little indefinite as to where the line falls. In the case of Italy the status of the Italian returning prisoners is likely to be confused because of many circumstances under which people became prisoners. We have asked for clarification from our own headquarters.

Mr. Barr: Has any question been raised about returning slave labor taken into Germany for work, people who were formerly in the Italian army? After the armistice they were picked up and taken into Germany They may be able to be taken care of not as prisoners of war.

Mr. Keeny: There is no question about the people who were in concentration camps in Germany. There may be a question about civilian laborers, particularly if they were collaborators. Our plan is that civilians returning will be in need of help. There may be objections for political reasons to the general category of displaced persons; but I have urged that our treatment of Italians, either in Italy or beyond the borders, will be treated that way. Until the confusion is cleared it will be a problem in all countries.

Mr. Barr: The trend seems to be with the Allied Military that these people returning from Germany if found in Austria would be cared for by the Displaced Persons Bureau. Over the border there is no care prepared for them except the most immediate in the collection points as they filter south. In Florence there is no agency, either Italian or Allied, that has taken over responsibility or made preparation in this field.

Mr. Keeny: We met this morning with Colonel Fathergil, Mr. Vicentini and I, after a similar session yesterday. We came to two conclusions: 1. for the military territory the responsibility for that does rest in Colonel Findley's office and should be coordinated by him. He should see that the job is done or make such arrangements as are necessary; 2. in Florence where the responsibility has been turned over to the Italian Government already, the procedure for such requests should come from Zaniboni's office to our office. Our resources are available as needed for the Florence situation. But for the advanced station it should be cleared through the other offices. Mr. Vicentini has arranged for another meeting with Colonel Fathergil. I gather that the figures which come through do not take care of that part of the flow which does not come down through the formal channels of the central organization.

Mr. Barr: From past experience with refugees, the majority never go through channels at one point. The Italian branch showed a flow of 50,000 but the actual flow was 150,000.

Mr. Keeny: I have asked Mr. Sorieri who has just returned south to get in touch with Zaniboni's office to ascertain the nature of the needs and to work with Vicentini.

Mr. Barr: Where does Manerini come in in relation to Zaniboni?

Mr. Keeny: He has responsibility for Prisoners of War.

Mr. Barr: Your relationship would have to be with Zaniboni. To

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Mr. Barr: Your relationship would have to be with Zaniboni. To theoretically stick to the line of civilian relief.

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Mr. Sorieri: Returning prisoners of war should be cared for all in the same place.

Mr. Barr: Yes. There is now only one refugee camp. It is very well run. It is concerning itself mainly with women and children and normal refugees. But the soldiers who have been prisoners returning from Germany are just collected informally. Mr. Taylor has decided to stay on a few days.

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Mr. Sorieri: Who will operate the camp?

Mr. Barr: I don't know.

Mr. Keeny: Is this understanding that we reached this morning satisfactory?

Mr. Barr: American Relief for Italy is willing to supply materials such as we have wherever they are needed if we are not in competitic

Mr. Keeny: UNRRA supplies can be drawn on provided it is not in military territory. In territory under military control UNRRA will assist only after requests have come from the military, and that has been cleared through the appropriate office at A.C. At the same time we all recognize emergency situations. We do not want arrangements to stand in the way of prompt assistance. It takes no longer to get that kind of recognition. And when the request comes from the military, UNRRA will then send its personnel in to assist in the care of these people. It is natural and desirable for the Government to do what they can at once for their people who have been on the other side of the line. That is one problem. But it needs to be kept distinct from the problem of military administration. We need to keep our lines clear. Unless we do play according to the basic arrangements laid down we get into a bad state of confusion.

Mr. Sorieri: There is one point on which there should be no confusion. You use the word "personnel". We are not an operating agency. We do not have scores of personnel to throw in but we do have a volunteer staff attached to us. They are assisting in camps and distribution centers. That should be kept clearly in mind. The are engaged in very vital things.

Mr. Barr: The reason the Ambassador called us together is that ther are all these different people working on the same thing. The next step is to find out what Colonel Findley's organization and the American Red Cross are going to do.

Mr. Sorieri: We felt this morning that we should convene without de lay the representatives of all the agencies that have supplies and transport available. On the basis of their needs they should say 'this is what we need' and then it is up to us to fill it. That way there is no running around in circles.

Mr. Barr: There should be one central point where all could go for help. Composed of the American Red Cross and us and UNRRA and the Displaced Persons Subcommission. I believe the Welfare Section of A.C. has some salvage. I think within the very near future all of these agencies should be drawn into one center; so then we can say - here is what we need. What do you have?

Mr. Keeny: That is what we have agreed upon this morning.

Mr. Barr: Good. Then you have the Joint Distribution Committee. Maybe you have some food supplies available here. What is that man's name?

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Mr. Keeny: Resnik. He scrounged a jeep from me this morning.

Mr. Barr: Good for him. I am glad he got it. Are there any medica supplies available?

Mr. Keeny: Yes. We are unloading a ship at the present time. In fact we are unloading two ships - one at Naples and one at Civitavecchia. When we have the two manifests complete, in about two week we will know definitely the amount. I think it is about six thousand tons.

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Mr. Vicentini: Any men's clothing?

Mr. Koony: Yes, we have some. I think about 100 bales here in Rom I had a list prepared.

Mr. Sorieri: This is an additional thing. Precise information as to the needs in Florence are what we need as soon as possible.

Mr. Barr: Monsignor Carroll-Abbing is acting as Camp Commandant. He went up there for two days and got pulled into this thing.

Mr. Sorieri: He has my sympathy!

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AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

April 23, 1945 — Meeting No. 23

Following are minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Group concerning relief held April 23, 1945, in the office of Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy, Inc. In attendance were: Mr. Taylor; Brig. G. S. Parkinson, D.S.O, Director of Public Health Subcommission, Allied Commission; Mr. S. M. Keeny, Chief of Italian Mission of UNRRA; Ing. G. B. Vicentini, Director of National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy (ENDSI); Ing. Enrico P. Galeazzi, Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department, Ministry of Interior; Mr. John P. Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services of Pontifical Relief Commission; Dr. L. Lapponi of the Italian Red Cross Central Committee; Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor for American Relief for Italy, Inc. At the suggestion of Mr. Taylor, Mr. Keeny invited Lt. Col. D. A. Reekie, Director of Health for UNRRA-Italian Mission, and Dr. Elmer L. Sevringhaus, Director of Italian Medical Nutrition Mission, a part of the Italian Mission of UNRRA, to attend the meeting.

Mr. Taylor: I believe Brigadier Parkinson has something to discuss.

Brig. Parkinson: The people of Piemonte and Lombardia in Northern Italy--areas beyond the present fighting line--are asking when they can expect relief distribution by ENDSI to take place. The people preparing to go into that area are collecting material to take in with them. The welfare officer assigned to Piemonte is collecting blankets and clothing.

Ing. Galeazzi: Where is that collection taking place?

Brig. Parkinson: Collections are being made on this side of the front among the Italians. They mentioned also the need for dried milk.

Mr. Taylor: Ing. Vicentini will show us the position we will be in concerning supplies after we have satisfied our present commitments and how much surplus we will have, especially with clothing, to enable us to move north. We are dependent upon further supplies from America to continue the more or less permanent arrangements we have made in respect to the distribution of milk. In regard to clothing, as I understand it, ENDSI doesn't plan to repeat the full distribution next fall in the areas it has served. Therefore, with any clothing or surplus supplies that we may have, after we have satisfied the obligations that we have made, we can move farther north. The Allied Military Government has already requested us to

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Parkinson, D.S.O, Director of Public Health Subcommission, Allied Commission; Mr. S. M. Keeny, Chief of Italian Mission of UNRRA; Ing. G. B. Vicentini, Director of National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy (ENDSI); Ing. Enrico P. Galeazzi, Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department, Ministry of Interior; Mr. John P. Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services of Pontifical Relief Commission; Dr. L. Lapponi of the Italian Red Cross Central Committee; Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor for American Relief for Italy, Inc. At the suggestion of Mr. Taylor, Mr. Keeny invited Lt. Col. D. A. Reekie, Director of Health for UNRRA-Italian Mission, and Dr. Elmer L. Severinghaus, Director of Italian Medical Nutrition Mission, a part of the Italian Mission of UNRRA, to attend the meeting.

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Ing. Vicentini: As of the first of April, we had distributed relief supplies to the following provinces, which were 90% completed:

PROVINCES	PERSONS ASSISTED
L'Aquila	50,000
Chieti	130,000
Campobasso	46,000
Frosinone	163,000
Litteria	120,000
Pescara	55,000
Foggia	50,000
Napoli	94,000
Roma	123,000
Repatriated	10,000
Refugees	3,000
Assigned to institutions:	22,000

That makes a total of 876,000 persons assisted in the provinces named. In the provinces in which distribution has begun, 150,000 persons are being assisted as follows:

PROVINCES	PERSONS ASSISTED
Messina	60,000
Catania	20,000
Siracusa	4,000
Ragusa	4,000
Enna	4,000
Palermo	28,000
Trapani	22,000
Caltanisetta	4,000
Agrigento	4,000

In these provinces distribution is almost completed, because the clothing reached Palermo at the beginning of the month to be distributed to all Sicily.

In the third category clothing has been shipped to assist 165,000 people in the following provinces:

Cagliari	90,000
Sassari	20,000
Nuoro	20,000
Benevento	35,000

In the next category plans have been completed for the distribution, but the actual distribution has not taken place, to 95,000 people in these provinces:

Avellino	25,000
Cosenza	12,000
Catanzaro	12,000
Regio Calabria	16,000
Salerno	30,000

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Littoria	120,000
Pescara	55,000
Foggia	50,000
Napoli	94,000
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Salerno	30,000

In the last category the exact statistics are not yet known for approximately 100,000 people in:

Viterbo	20,000
Rieti	20,000
Teramo	20,000
Potenza	20,000
Matera	20,000

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Thus the totals for the distribution are: (1) Provinces completed, 876,000; (2) Provinces in which distribution has begun, 150,000;

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(3) Provinces in which the material is in the process of being shipped, 165,000; (4) Provinces in which the distribution plan has been completed, 95,000; (5) Provinces in which the statistics are yet unknown, 100,000. This makes a complete total of 1,386,000 persons who have been or will be assisted by the distribution of American Relief for Italy relief supplies through ENDSI in all the provinces now under the Italian Government up to the Allied Military Government lines.

Mr. Taylor: What effect does that have upon our supplies?

Ing. Vicentini: On the 15th of April we had left in the warehouses of Naples and Rome about 12,000 bales, 18,000 cases and 247 bags of coffee.

Mr. Taylor: Does that include the milk?

Ing. Vicentini: Yes, nearly all the cases contain milk. There are perhaps 2,000 cases of clothing and shoes.

Mr. Taylor: We have a ship arriving this week.

Ing. Vicentini: Yes, the Nathan Hale is arriving in Naples today. It is supposed to bring 200 tons of materials, but we don't know what it is.

Mr. Taylor: Judge Marchisio informs us in a telegram, April 19, that we had another ship being loaded in America a week ago. They loaded 100 tons on the ship but had to take it off because of urgent military needs. We can understand the reason for that with all the intensive fighting going on in many places. They said the relief supplies would follow shortly--perhaps a week later. The telegram also says: "EXPECT SHIPPING SPACE FOR AT LEAST TWO MILLION POUNDS SHORTLY".

Ing. Vicentini: I would stress the urgency of sending men's clothing, because the clothing left in our warehouses is nearly all for women and girls. With what is left we can end the distribution of men's clothing, but we cannot go north.

Ing. Galeazzi: Don't you think that before the next big clothing shipment it will be necessary for the national clothing campaign to be over in the States?

Mr. Taylor: There will not be a complete cessation of supplies, because in the meantime while the National Drive is being made, American Relief for Italy is processing materials they have previously accumulated which needed reconditioning. Besides the demand for clothing will not be so urgent during the summer months.

Ing. Galeazzi: It may be agreeable to suspend further distribution of clothing for the summer to the people in the south and help the people further north who are in such a bad condition. I think it would be a very important thing if ENDSI could appear active now in the north where there is a real need. We have always heard that the American Red Cross takes charge of relief in the first stages after the Allies have taken places. If ENDSI could appear to be

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Mr. Taylor: Judge Marchisio informs us in a telegram, April 19, that we had another ship being loaded in America a week ago. They loaded 100 tons on the ship but had to take it off because of urgent military needs. We can understand the reason for that with all the intensive fighting going on in many places. They said the relief supplies would follow shortly--perhaps a week later. The telegram also says: "EXPECT SHIPPING SPACE FOR AT LEAST TWO MILLION POUNDS SHORTLY".

Ing. Vicentini: I would stress the urgency of sending men's clothing, because the clothing left in our warehouses is nearly all for women and girls. With what is left we can end the distribution of men's clothing, but we cannot go north.

Ing. Galeazzi: Don't you think that before the next big clothing shipment it will be necessary for the national clothing campaign to be over in the States?

Mr. Taylor: There will not be a complete cessation of supplies, because in the meantime while the National Drive is being made, American Relief for Italy is processing materials they have previously accumulated which needed reconditioning. Besides the demand for clothing will not be so urgent during the summer months.

Ing. Galeazzi: It may be agreeable to suspend further distribution of clothing for the summer to the people in the south and help the people further north who are in such a bad condition. I think it would be a very important thing if ENDSI could appear active now in the north where there is a real need. We have always heard that the American Red Cross takes charge of relief in the first stages after the Allies have taken places. If ENDSI could appear to be so well organized to take action in those newly liberated provinces, it would be a fine thing.

Mr. Taylor: I think so, and I think we had anticipated that by making the survey in the Allied Military Government areas of Florence, Pisa and so forth.

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Prof. Canaperia: That survey is completed for all Tuscana.

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Mr. Taylor: ENDSI then is ready to follow the Army into the next sector insofar as studying and planning are concerned?

Ing. Vicentini: Yes. There is a great need in Leghorn, Pisa, Florence and Ancona. Those places are where the worst conditions exist.

Ing. Galeazzi: Instead of thinking of Regio Calabria, I think it would be better to serve the stricken sectors in the north.

Ing. Vicentini: But the situation in Calabria is bad, especially the refugee situation.

Ing. Galeazzi: The situation all over Italy is bad. They need clothing in Calabria, it is true, but--after all--they have food, and somehow they are in a better condition. To give them clothing would be to give them the only thing they lack, whereas the people in the north are in a much worse condition.

Mr. Taylor: The following letter, dated April 13, 1945, was addressed to Brig. Parkinson from Lt. Col. Elwes, Provincial Commissioner, Ancona Province, concerning the clothing situation there:

> "Mrs. Cora Battisti, Delegate of the Italian Red Cross has asked me to write to you on the subject of distribution of clothing for this province.
>
> "I understand that ENDSI has been entrusted with this work in areas devastated by the war. The need in this Province is very great.
>
> "Rather more than 50% of the city of Ancona is in ruins and of the remainder a large proportion has been damaged. Practically every house which is in good condition has been requisitioned with the result that the civilian population is, by the force of circumstances, living in miserable conditions in the remaining houses which are mostly damaged and very overcrowded. Other cities of the Province, i.e., Senigallia, Chiaravalle, Fabriano and surrounding districts are in a similar condition. The Welfare Officer and A.R.C. Field Representative has consistently stressed the great need of clothing, their requests having been made after careful investigation of the situation in this province.
>
> "The refugees of the province number 25,000 - the displaced persons 45,000.
>
> "Your assistance in this matter of allowing the clothing of the ENDSI committee to be distributed in this Province, even though for the time being it is still under A.M.G. control will be very much appreciated.
>
> "I do feel strongly that the distribution should be allowed.
>
> /s/ GUY ELWES,

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"I do feel strongly that the distribution should be allowed.

/s/ GUY ELWES,
Lieut. Colonel,
Provincial Commissioner,
ANCONA Province."

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Mr. Taylor: That is a part of the whole area we have planning to reach.

Col. McSweeney: We are sending 5,000 blankets to Ancona.

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(At this point Lt. Col. D. A. Reekie, Director of Health for UNRRA-Italian Mission, and Dr. Elmer L. Sevringhaus, Director of Italian Medical Nutrition Mission, a part of the Italian Mission of UNRRA, entered and were introduced by Mr. Keeny).

Mr. Taylor: The letter from Col. Elwes refers to a part of the area now under the control of the Allied Military Government in which ENDSI recently made a survey of the needs. If we go into that area at the request of the A.M.G., can the particular need of these towns be met with clothing from our present supplies?

Ing. Vicentini: From our present supplies we can send some women's clothing to Ancona, but not men's clothing. We will have to wait for the arrival of the next shipment.

Mr. Taylor: So that all the stock of men's clothing is exhausted before we reach the A.M.G. line, and we are dependent upon the next shipment for the men's clothing which will go into that area and farther north as the line progresses. We can immediately assist with women's clothing.

One community in that area has been a troublesome one--that is Arezzo. Early last December the Crown Prince spoke to me about Arezzo, saying a great many requests for aid had been received. I talked with the American Red Cross, and they agreed to start on shipment of clothing for children. They sent clothing for 20,000 children and found it very difficult to handle the situation in a simple way because, instead of the children being gathered together in institutions, they were scattered about. After a week or two, the report came that there was no relief in Arezzo. I contacted the Red Cross again, and they sent not only children's clothing, but 28,000 suits of clothing for adults. Shortly the complaint came again! I think there has been more material sent to Arezzo than any other part of Italy through the American Red Cross. Only last week, however, inspectors from the American Red Cross and Italian Red Cross went there, and one of the ladies associated with the Italian Red Cross indicated that it was still a troublesome situation. She reported the trouble is that the people in the community would not cooperate in their own interests.

Ing. Vicentini: There is a very strained situation in Arezzo. Many persons have been killed by Germans or partisans, and many villages have been ruined. There is no authority at all. There is a great need of reconstruction--politically and socially. We cannot go there officially. People of the Italian Red Cross, who have gone there, have informed us of the situation.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: There is no Prefect and no authority at all. They are trying to get on their feet again.

Brig. Parkinson: What is the connection between politics and clothing?

3485

Mr. Taylor: They are unable to organize a committee representative of the situation which can control the distribution of relief. Marchesa Origo has been up there for two weeks, and she said she

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Mr. Taylor: They are unable to organize a committee representative of the situation which can control the distribution of relief. Marchesa Origo has been up there for two weeks, and she said she was afraid of the situation. Isn't this a case where the Allied Military Government ought to step in, make inquiries and take action?

Brig. Parkinson: I will make inquiries. I did not know the difficulty was as acute as that. I thought Tierni was the great difficulty.

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Ing. Vicentini: I believe the Arezzo situation is the worst we have met until now. Tierni and Ancona are difficult but not so

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difficult as Arezzo.

Saturday night I had good news about the distribution in Sardinia. It is reported to be progressing quite well. The greatest need is in Cagliari.

Dr. Lapponi: The Italian Red Cross has the problem of the people in Zara, a community of about 6,000 Italian people on the other side of the Adriatic. The place has been almost completely destroye and the people are in great need of food, clothing and medical supplies, but we are not in a position to send them anything because of the military and political difficulties. The people in Zara are living in truly bad conditions, and the Italian Red Cross has the intention to ask for help for them through some neutral mission. There are so many political difficulties that it seems impossible for the Italian Red Cross to send a mission. We asked the International Red Cross to help this Italian colony, but nothing has been done as yet. Mr. Jefferson has given us the assurance he will do all possible. He assures us he will send someone to Zara, but even then they have no relief supplies to distribute. Our question is--If the International Red Cross could send someone to Zara to carry supplies to these Italians, could ENDSI furnish the necessary relief--some clothing and the things necessary for these Italian people? Do you think it would be possible to obtain permission to give supplies to Zara in Yugoslav territory?

Brig. Parkinson: I should think the best method would be for the Italian Red Cross to approach the International Red Cross.

Mr. Taylor: Did Dr. Zanotti-Bianco know about this before he went to Switzerland?

Dr. Lapponi: No, this came up after he left. I think after the Conference of Peace, Zara will still be considered an Italian territory, and we may have the right to have this population.

Mr. Keeny: I talked with the Secretary of the Italian Red Cross, and he asked me to forward an inquiry to our mission there to try to get the information concerning Zara. I did that, but I have not received a reply yet. We did hear there were 300 Italians who came over to Bari from Zara.

Dr Lapponi: After that repatriation, there are still at least 6,000 people left in Zara.

Ing. Galeazzi: Does UNRRA have activities in Yugoslavia?

Mr. Keeny: Yes, UNRRA has a mission there, acting as agents of the military, and the UNRRA people are just in the process of taking over responsibility. I hope that we can move together in this problem, because I have heard about it from several sources. The political situation makes it difficult. We are waiting for a further report.

3484

Mr. Taylor: How do you communicate with Yugoslavia, Mr. Keeny?

Mr. Keeny: We communicate through Bari where UNRRA has an advance mission.

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Mr. Keeny: We communicate through Bari where UNRRA has an advance mission.

Dr. Lapponi: The Italian Minister of Navy would offer the ships necessary to carry supplies from Bari or Ancona.

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Ing. Galeazzi: Due to the present delicate political situation in the Adriatic, it may be easier to use some international agency like UNRRA or the International Red Cross and arrange to send an Italian ship as a neutral vessel with the supplies. That would immediately attach some meaning and value to this action. The people are in terrible distress.

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Mr. Taylor: Still if you wait for an Italian ship to fly an international flag, you will wait a long time.

Brig. Parkinson: I would say that either UNRRA or the International Red Cross should handle this, because it is a delicate situation.

Mr. Taylor: I don't think it is possible to draw lines on maps concerning need. If these people are in need, someone should be able to help them.

Mr. Keeny: UNRRA is not as yet authorized to do anything except through military channels. We cannot go ahead and do anything of this nature unless the Army approves it.

Brig. Parkinson: I think you are quite right; everything should be cleared through AFHQ.

Mr. Keeny: If a practical method appears, and if there is a shortage of supplies, we ought to get together and see what is needed. I think the supplies can be found if the procedure is found.

Dr. Lapponi: The Red Cross could offer the material for a hospital in Zara, because there is a worse condition there than in any other place.

Ing. Vicentini: I suppose that UNRRA is getting some clothing supplies. If Mr. Keeny can tell us what his plan for UNRRA clothing is, we can make plans accordingly.

Mr. Keeny: Mr. Barr, Mr. Soricri and I have been working on this. Our clothing information is very scrappy indeed. We have been told that some amount will be in the ships coming in, but we don't know how much or what kind. As soon as we are able to get that information, we will share the information and work out a joint plan. We have also made inquiries about the possibility of getting items, such as shoes, but we have no assurance. We have put in a request for the next two quarters. Nearly all the supplies on their way are food and medical supplies.

Mr. Taylor: Your first obligation in respect to clothing is in the refugee camps?

Mr. Keeny: U.S. nationals and refugee camps are our first obligation. The next unit we are working on with Mr. Barr is to handle distressed Italian refugees, and beyond that we assume the clothing program is in ENDSI's hands.

Mr. Taylor: Have you been able to do anything with these camps around Rome?

3483

Mr. Keeny: Our food is just moving into position; none has been given to refugees. Some clothing has been brought forward. I don't know the exact amount. We have 93 trucks, not all assembled. Of those some go to the southern collection centers.

Mr. Taylor: Is it your intention to cooperate with ENDSI in the use

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Mr. Taylor: Is it your intention to cooperate with ENDSI in the use of those trucks?

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Mr. Keeny: Our plan is for the trucks that are needed for the camps and for other facilities of that kind to operate directly - and to make the others available to the Government for whatever purpose they indicate is the greatest need. We have requests from the malaria control people for a couple of trucks, and we must give a certain number for distribution of food at the provincial level.

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Mr. Taylor: I have never been quite clear on the food situation of UNRRA. Going back to the discussion in this group when the Minister of Food was here--you're not undertaking, I hope, to feed the population. You are undertaking to satisfy those who are ill, mothers and children, and looking at particular situations through the eyes of the medical fraternities rather than joining up with the Food Administration of Italy and adding your supplies to their food supply for a general distribution.

Mr. Keeny: Our food program is a supplementary food distribution for children and nursing and expectant mothers who need it, and it is being planned in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the High Commissioner of Food.

Mr. Taylor: I can understand your relationship with the Ministry of Health, but I cannot understand your being particularly coordinated with the Ministry of Food. If you get your food mingled with that of the nation in a general sense, and it is not strictly under medical control, Ithink you are going to lose your position.

Mr. Keeny: Our supplies are not turned into the general food supply but are directed to particular situations under arrangements in accord with UNRRA, as well as the Government.

Brig. Parkinson: What you are saying, Mr. Keeny, I believe, is that you are going to get help in finding out necessitous cases so that you can control your own distribution. That is the idea. You are only going to employ them to help you to find the greatest need. There will be no domination by the Ministry of Food.

Mr. Keeny: That is right. The arrangements are worked out with a joint committee in which various representative ministries and departments have their spokesmen, and we hope the plan that is adopted is satisfactory to all concerned.

Mr. Taylor: I think you have to be very definite about what you are going to do, or you may have difficulty. Who is the distribution to be done by particularly?

Mr. Keeny: It depends on which group it is. It may be done by ONMI, for instance, for the expectant and nursing mothers, or by ENDSI for the institutions. The plan will be developed locally by the committee and submitted for approval. Any plan, however, must be within the framework of our resolution.

Mr. Taylor: One thing I thought you might undertake is to set up different committees in the communes. We spent months setting up committees composed of the prefect, the church head, the medical head and the labor head in each commune--and it has worked very well. I should think that if you start by using the same group and expanding it where necessary through the help of the professional local people--doctors and nurses--you will have a very easy time meeting the emergencies. But I think if you start organizing a committee on a different basis, you will have to go through the difficulties we have had, and you will not have available the experience we have gained.

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Ing. Galeazzi: UNRRA is making use of these committees in Naples already. It is working very satisfactorily.

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Ing. Vicentini: Distribution is being made to institutions by our people (ENDSI) under control of UNRRA and the church and the government. Distribution should be finished by the end of the month to these institutions in the province of Naples. The town of Naples is finished, but we are now doing the distribution to the provinces. Mr. Keeny has been very kind.

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Mr. Keeny: The reports I had concerning the distribution were practically all good. The criticisms were what all of us have had--problems of delay--but as to the procedure, everyone seems to be satisfied.

Ing. Vicentini: We had some delay, because the local authorities could not give us the official figures for the distribution in the provinces. We could not go on immediately because we did not have sufficient indication.

Ing. Galeazzi: There is a necessity for keeping in touch with Italian authorities of the Food Commission.

Ing. Vicentini: We had to give several authorities one of our trucks to go around and collect these figures. We were obliged to stop three days with our distribution. But in any case I received assurance that all the distribution in the provinces of Naples would be complete. We had a meeting Saturday in the UNRRA office to plan the distribution of UNRRA food in the province of Rome, and we are waiting for a meeting of the provincial committee for the decision.

Mr. Taylor: We received the following copy of a letter, dated April 17, 1945, from Admiral Stone to AFHQ, G-5, concerning redemption of Italian Merchant Vessels sold to Argentina:

"1. By letter dated the 16th January 1945 and forwarded to you under cover of this Commission's letter P/350/385 of 26 January 1945, the Prime Minister expressed the desire of the Italian Government to secure the return from Argentina of eight Italian merchant vessels purchased by Argentina in 1941. The Prime Minister requested that the vessels, if returned, should be placed at the disposal of Italy and exempted from the Armistice obligation of being included in the shipping pool.

"2. The letter of the 16th January points out that the return of those vessels would to some extent be based on an option contained in the original contract of sale; that strictly such option does not become operative until after the war; and that therefore the Italian Government has no claim in law to the vessels. The Prime Minister feels, however, that on the grounds of humanity there is some prospect of success.

"3. The actual contract of sale has not been produced to this Commission, but upon the basis of the Prime Minister's letter, the United Nations are not in a position under the Armistice terms to require the Italian Government to exercise the option in order to obtain the vessels for the shipping pool.

"4. On the other hand the proposal of the Italian Government does involve a waiver, in respect of these vessels, of one of the clauses of the Armistice terms.

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"4. On the other hand the proposal of the Italian Government does involve a waiver, in respect of these vessels, of one of the clauses of the Armistice terms. Of this the Prime Minister is fully aware. It is to be observed, however, that unless such waiver is made, the Italian Government will not attempt to obtain the return of the vessels, which will not, therefore, be included in the shipping pool in any event.

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"5. This Commission strongly recommends that the request of the Italian Government be granted and that no corresponding reduction be made in the tonnage now allocated for shipment to Italy. Such a course will afford

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some measure of relief to the difficult economic condition of this country and will provide additional transportation which is so urgently required.

"6. During the last two months this problem has been referred to G-4 (Mov & Tn) Section, and by that Section to the Chairman, Mediterranean Shipping Board. It would appear, however, that no decision has been reached beyond the suggestion, which in the circumstances is not helpful, that the attention of the Italian Government should be drawn, as convenient, to the terms of the Armistice. Copies of the relevant correspondence are attached.

"7. This is a matter of urgency which involves a requested waiver of the rights of the United Nations under the Armistice terms and a consideration of the general allocation of shipping to this country. If required to be submitted to the Combined Chiefs of Staff, I recommend that this be done at as early a date as possible, together with the recommendations of this Commission, for an early decision.

/s/ ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR,
Chief Commissioner."

Mr. Taylor: That indicates the willingness of the Allied Commission to approve the plan to redeem the Italian ships now in Argentine hands. It is good news--rather late--but still good. It has been recommended to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Following is the translation of a telegram received on April 20, 1945, from Signor Battiati, Prefect of Palermo:

"TO HIS EXCELLENCY MYRON C. TAYLOR:

AT THE VERY MOMENT WHEN THE PROVINCE OF PALERMO IS RECEIVING THE PRECIOUS RELIEF MATERIALS SENT FROM AMERICA THROUGH THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF IN ITALY I AM PLEASED TO SEND YOUR EXCELLENCY THE POPULATION'S AND MY OWN THANKS.

BATTIATI, PREFECT."

We sent a request to Judge Marchisio for additional quantities of catgut for surgical needs, and we have a telegram from him saying that substantial donations of catgut have been procured. He says exray films are on the critical list. He speaks also of transferring funds under the plan of adoption. That is going to be rather complicated unless it is controlled by a few agencies both here and in America. People in America have been lead to contribute funds for the care of children in various institutions in Italy under the understanding that the Italian Government or

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Mr. Barr: The question is a little confused until the return of Dr. Zanotti-Bianco. There was some confusion whether it is a program of the Italian Red Cross or of the Commissioner for Refugees.

Mr. Taylor: How does the Commissioner of Refugees figure in it?

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Mr. Barr: He has been appointed the Government authority, liaison, and keeper of funds. I can't see why the Italian Red Cross doesn't have its own funds for this purpose. Donations of money in America should be kept there for the purchase of materials to get the benefit of foreign exchange. I should think the Italian Government would prefer to have it deposited in New York.

Mr. Taylor: Judge Marchisio refers to the method of transmitting funds for the Lithuanians. We had hoped that in America all these operations could be channeled through American Relief for Italy and at this end through the Italian Red Cross or some single agency. I suppose the answer is to discuss it with Dr. Zanotti-Bianco. That is not an UNRRA transaction.

Mr. Keeny: No.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Keeny, do you have anything to add to the discussion?

Mr. Keeny: I have nothing except to say that our food supplies are beginning to flow in now. We have four ships scheduled in for the next six months, which will fill our pipe line and give us an adequate fund of food supplies for the various programs. Our immediate problem is one of warehousing and locating transportation, which will be very difficult, because of the urgent military operations. We are, I expect, going to have some difficulty in getting rail transportation as quickly as we had hoped.

Mr. Taylor: Where will you start in the refugee camps?

Mr. Keeny: We are going concurrently. Naples first, for instance, and then wherever the Government requests in Italy.

Mr. Taylor: When you undertake supplementary food distribution in Naples, you have to begin the operation on the basis that you can continue it. You would not withdraw in an institution--but go on permanently?

Mr. Keeny: We are going on permanently as long as it is needed.

Mr. Taylor: You will not be short of supplies?

Mr. Keeny: Our purpose in planning is not to go into an institution except on the level that we can continue.

Mr. Taylor: Do you approach it on a province-by-province basis and expand as long as supplies permit?

Mr. Keeny: Yes.

Mr. Taylor: I went out last week with Mgr. Carroll-Abbing and saw some of the work that is being done on materials collected in America. There are many other things in the boxes and bales than clothing; there are window curtains, bed spreads and all sorts of items. Mgr. Carroll-Abbing has done a remarkable thing,

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Mr. Taylor: I went out last week with Mgr. Carroll-Abbing and saw some of the work that is being done on materials collected in America. There are many other things in the boxes and barrels than clothing; there are window curtains, bed spreads and all sorts of items. Mgr. Carroll-Abbing has done a remarkable thing, as have other Vatican people, in remodeling materials. Bed spreads and window curtains are reconditioned and made into clothing--everything is used! They were even pulling the thread out of garments to use again. In another place they were sitting on the floor separating buttons from material; there were thousands of buttons. Although some material is not useful for clothing purposes, every bit is used. It is a remarkably clever service they are performing. We want to express our appreciation for the great assistance these people have given through the treatment of this material in the Vatican organization.

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Mr. Barr: A great part of that material was salvaged after having had very bad water damage.

Mr. Taylor: I went to another institution with Mgr. Carroll-Abbing where there were 200 girls and boys--the children of criminals. They are being reconditioned to take their places in a community, and it is really one of the most remarkable places I have ever seen. They tell me after a period of education, these children develop into young men and women useful to society. They really come into life from a very unhappy background. They start with a great handicap and become useful citizens. It is a wonderful evidence of what can be done in reconditioning human beings. I asked if these activities only applied to Rome, and they told me this work is being done all over Italy. Mgr. Carroll-Abbing said that in Florence they are even farther advanced than in Rome, though it is hard to see how they could be.

Ing. Galeazzi: They are doing a wonderful job with very little means.

Mr. Taylor: I mention that institution, because we have talked here of the delinquents in the streets. One little child we saw there was a murderer's child--a wonderful little child. Many of these groups are being formed wherein a priest takes in a few children; among other monastaries and convents was a group from Greymoor on the Hudson. The sisters take children off the streets and care for them. There are many things being done, but there is much more to be done.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: The people in the institution Mr. Taylor mentioned got everything from American Relief for Italy materials--everything from the ground floor to the roof, including the carpets on the floor and the curtains on the windows. The children are all very neatly dressed in relief clothing from America. The institution was able to start, because it received these materials and had the possibility of starting off with useful equipment and full sets of clothing!

Col. McSweeney: We are getting a lot of salvaged P-X material, and thousands of dollars of this material is being reconditioned for relief which otherwise would be wasted. I want to thank Ing. Vicentini for the help of ENDSI and its trucks which were used to help distribute 182,000 blankets assigned to Brig. Parkinson for distribution. We had a call from Florence--a request from Brig. Hume to distribute blankets, and we have permits to go to Florence. We have distributed 8,700 blankets in Rome and vicinity with ENDSI trucks. I think you will be interested to know that some of the fine women of Rome were willing to jump on the trucks and work everyday in actually handling the blankets and helping with the distribution themselves. We are going to Ancona next week. The Jewish Joint Distribution Committee will help with the distribution. I want you to know how fine the contribution has been.

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Prof. Canaperia: The malaria control organization has already been doing work outside the city in the marshes. This is the group to whom American Relief for Italy through ENDSI gave clothing and

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Mr. Taylor: Last year 90% of the community in the neighborhood of Cassino was affected with malaria for the first time. It seemed that the mosquitoes propagated in shell craters in places where they had never been before. Dr. Canaperia and others said there

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would be a recurrence this year. They said the only way to treat these shell craters was to get a cub plane and fly over them with a spray of paris green or whatever the solution is that they use. I took this up with General Chauncey at Caserta over the telephone, and he said they were beginning to operate from the air this week and that the area around Cassino would be the first priority. This problem was also taken up with the authorities of the Rockefeller Institute. It has all been arranged to take preventative measures, and it is believed that they can prevent malaria from starting again in that area.

Brig. Parkinson: The situation is better this year. Last year the river was damned up, and it was a good place for mosquitoes to breed. This year there is quite a good flow on that stream.

Ing. Galeazzi: About this youth delinquency--it would be fine if something could be done in conjunction with the Public Safety authorities. If a coordinated effort could be made to take a lot of these boys away from the streets and an effort be made to help the institutions who might take these boys, the two efforts should be combined. When the police take a boy out of the streets now, all they can do is to keep him in jail a few days and turn him loose again. Somebody in authority should make an effort to find institutions to receive these boys--and at the same time make an effort through the police to take the boys out of the streets--combine the two actions.

Mr. Taylor: The institutions could be helped by contributions of money and materials.

Ing. Galeazzi: They need blankets, sheets, clothing and food. I am sure the Italian Government could help. Much has been done, but there needs to be a coordination between the police and the places to receive the boys.

Prof. Canaperia: There is a special committee in the Ministry of Interior to study this problem.

Ing. Galeazzi: There is no lack of committees. If there might be some authorities, just in order to give advice and at the same time to take action--I am sure Mgr. Baldelli and Mgr. Carroll-Abbing would help to coordinate in this effort. I am afraid not enough is done. You still see the same boys playing cards and shining shoes in the streets. If they only shined shoes, it would be all right! Mr. Taylor might try to take up this matter to coordinate the effort. If the problem is not taken care of now, Italy will have to deal with a worse problem as these boys grow up!

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: The main difficulty in institutions is the problem of food. I think UNRRA has helped greatly in Naples by giving food to institutions. I have heard things are much better there and that they are encouraged to take in more children.

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Mr. Keeny: I see no reason why we could not follow through with supplementary food and clothing. If we combine our efforts,

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Mr. Keeny: I see no reason why we could not follow through with supplementary food and clothing. If we combine our efforts, continuity can be maintained.

Mr. Taylor: In the last organization I described I saw bolts of blue and striped material being used for shirts. They were so clean and neat that they looked perfectly wonderful!

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Mr. Keeny: Dr. Sevringhaus has just arrived from America. I think it would be a good thing for him to give you some idea of what his work will be.

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Dr. Sevringhaus: Thank you. I am the Director of a specialized team of 14 people organized by UNRRA to come to Italy and see if we can perform a special function in the feeding program. Our work is based on the logic that since the supplementary relief food which is brought over cannot cover the entire need, the administration of such relief should be conducted according to medical need. Therefore, what we propose to do is to carry out tests in a typical community, limited perhaps to 1,000 individuals and determine one by one what each one needs most urgently. Then we shall try to meet those needs. We shall keep a case record of how much, as well as what we feed each person. In this way UNRRA may learn how much food is necessary to rehabilitate a child or an adult from a given kind of condition. We will work as an organic part of UNRRA to endeavor to determine how to use their supplies to the best advantage according to medical need. We will bring other supplies, such as special vitamins and flour, in order to make complete tests. It is our purpose to watch that test program for one year, feeling that in the course of one year we will be able to make complete, accurate tests and gain a knowledge to help distribute the correct food and medical supplies to the people who need them. We are quite aware of a report that there is a great increase of tuberculosis and other infectious diseases. We want to make careful studies of these as to the frequency of the disorders, the resistance to infections--and make studies of critical diseases of other kinds. Drs. Ernest Stebbins and James Perkins are going to conduct a systematic study. They will travel throughout Italy, seeing perhaps 100,000 Italians of all ages and sizes to see how frequently tuberculosis is occurring in 1945 and to determine just where the cases most in need are and what they will need for reconditioning. They can't feed 100,000 people, but the information they obtain can be made available very quickly by special statistical forms we have prepared so that we may indicate to the medical authorities of the Italian Government where the food can be placed most effectively. We are working with Col. Reekie and Mr. Solimene. Now it comes to what community we shall choose in which to make our tests. That was deliberately delayed until I got here to discuss it with Mr. Keeny and the Italians. It is our hope to go into a community and establish contact with a committee, such as you mentioned, so that we can arrange to have the local cooperation necessary to reach these people. With that in mind I wrote a letter to Mgr. Carroll-Abbing to ask the help of the Bishop and diocese.

Mr. Taylor: You will find the groups already organized will be a great help to you. Mgr. Carroll-Abbing, Ing. Vicentini and Mr. Barr have been through all these communities and are acquainted with the setup of each; I think you can save a great deal of time by asking them what they know about it.

Col. Reekie: I don't think that the statement by Dr. Sevringhaus should have been made right now. It is embarrassing to Dr. Canaperia. We have been talking with the Italian Departments of Health and Food. Last week we had a meeting to try to set up medical selection studies for people who have malnutrition to determine who should get UNRRA food. That discussion has been going on, and I didn't want to bring in these new issues until the Italian doctors could make these studies and come forth with the problem.

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than he has indicated. This plan is something tangential to what has been discussed with the Italian doctors and can be placed as something extra after this thing has been discussed.

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Mr. Taylor: I want you to understand that this group here is not a committee; this is merely an advisory group. When we came here last June, we found that there was no way to distribute our supplies from America. Right away we recognized that the basic institutions in Italy without whom we couldn't make much progress were the Government, the Church, the Italian Red Cross and the Confederation of Labor. The Italian Red Cross was at a pretty low point at that time, but under Zanotti-Bianco it is undergoing a process of reorganization at the present time. We inspired the Pope and the Prime Minister to join in the formation of the National Committee for the Distribution of Relief in Italy, known as "ENDSI" -- (Ente Nazionale per la Distribuzione dei Soccorsi in Italia) as a distributing mechanism. One of the conditions we made clear at the very beginning was that there would be no one on the committee except Italians on the theory that we would help them to help themselves in their hour of difficulty. We met, as we are meeting now, to discuss these matters to help this committee and to gain further contributions. We do not call ourselves a Committee. We just meet and talk about these things and make suggestions to the National Committee for Distribution of Relief. This group is open to anyone who has a real interest to come in and talk about these things.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: Concerning the studies of children lacking in vitamins. Some months ago we got into contact with doctors in Florence and sent them certain supplies of vitamins. Several fine pediatrical surgeons in Florence are making a study of the malnutriti cases and the needs of the children with the help of the vitamins we sent to them.

Mr. Taylor: Dr. Sevringhaus, we have already begun the distribution of milk and vitamins to institutions and schools. That distribution began in February, and it extends principally in the area of Rome and Naples provinces. We are now giving milk and vitamins to 24,000 children in institutions and 64,000 children in schools. Perhaps you may observe what has already been done by American Relief for Italy, Inc. a little for your studies. You will have the right starting point, as records have been kept for each child concerning weight, etc., I think if the doctors were to see the records, it might be a help to your study.

If that is all, we will adjourn. Thank you for coming.

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25 April 1945

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Thank you for the minutes of the 22nd meeting held by the Advisory Group concerning relief on 3 April 1945.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

The Honorable Myron C. Taylor
The Personal Representative of the
President of the United States
To His Holiness the Pope
2 Via Boncompagnia
Rome

cc: Executive Comm'r (with copy of minutes)
CC Files

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APR 25 1945

AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

April 8, 1945 Meeting No. 22.

Following are minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Group concerning relief held April 8, 1945, in the office of Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy, Inc.:
In attendance were: Mr. Taylor; Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Hq. Allied Commission; Brig. G. S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director of Public Health Subcommission, A.C.; Ing. Enrico P. Galeazzi, Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department, Ministry of Interior; Mgr. John P. Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services of Pontifical Relief Commission; Mr. W. W. Jefferson, Director, Civilian War Relief, American Red Cross; Lt. Col. John McSweeney, Chief Welfare Officer, A. C.; Dr. L. Lapponi of the Italian Red Cross Central Committee; Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor for American Relief for Italy, Inc.

Mr. Taylor: I would like to discuss a few items so that we may get them in our records. One is in respect to Argentinian supplies to be shipped to the Vatican as a gift by the Argentine Government. There was a misunderstanding at one time regarding the use of Argentine ships for this purpose; a question arose whether any amount of food stuff shipped to the Vatican would be deducted from the totals alloted to the Vatican from other sources--which meant no no net gain. I think that has been cleared up by a further review of the case, and I think, as it stands, if the quantities are not too great, there will not be a point raised as to its being offset.

Admiral Stone: That is absolutely correct.

Mr. Taylor: In regard to Greek nationals living in Italy--there are about 150 nationals in need, mentioned to us by the State Department, who might come within the program of UNRRA. I took this matter up with UNRRA at the instance of the State Department and received the following answer on March 29 from Mr. Keeny of UNRRA:

"Dear Mr. Taylor:

This will acknowledge your inquiry of yesterday, concerning Pericles N. Iannoulis and approximately 150 other Greek nationals, concerning whom I understand you have received an inquiry from the State Department.

UNRRA is accepting responsibility for assistance to United Nations nationals displaced as a result of the war. This assistance will begin April 1st. I am enclosing a copy of the plan which defines conditions of eligibility for assistance.

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W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Hq. Allied Commission; Brig. G. S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director of Public Health Subcommission, A.C.; Ing. Enrico P. Galeazzi, Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department, Ministry of Interior; Mgr. John P. Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services of Pontifical Relief Commission; Mr. W. W. Jefferson, Director, Civilian War Relief, American Red Cross; Lt. Col. John McSweeney, Chief Welfare Officer, A. C.; Dr. L. Lapponi of the Italian Red Cross Central Committee; Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor for American Relief for Italy, Inc.

Mr. Taylor: I would like to discuss a few items so that we may get them in our records. One is in respect to Argentinian supplies to be shipped to the Vatican as a gift by the Argentine Government. There was a misunderstanding at one time regarding the use of Argentine ships for this purpose; a question arose whether any amount of food stuff shipped to the Vatican would be deducted from the totals alloted to the Vatican from other sources--which meant no no net gain. I think that has been cleared up by a further review of the case, and I think, as it stands, if the quantities are not too great, there will not be a point raised as to its being offset.

Admiral Stone: That is absolutely correct.

Mr. Taylor: In regard to Greek nationals living in Italy--there are about 150 nationals in need, mentioned to us by the State Department, who might come within the program of UNRRA. I took this matter up with UNRRA at the instance of the State Department and received the following answer on March 29 from Mr. Keeny of UNRRA:

"Dear Mr. Taylor:

This will acknowledge your inquiry of yesterday, concerning Pericles N. Iannoulis and approximately 150 other Greek nationals, concerning whom I understand you have received an inquiry from the State Department.

UNRRA is accepting responsibility for assistance to United Nations nationals displaced as a result of the war. This assistance will begin April 1st. I am enclosing a copy of the plan which defines conditions of eligibility for assistance.

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If the 150 nationals mentioned in the State Department come within the specifications, UNRRA will be able to assist them; if applicants are not able to meet the conditions, UNRRA will, of course, not be able to assist them. We are, however, sponsoring a plan with AFHQ for the issue of Army rations to United Nations nationals who do not fall within the conditions set forth by the UNRRA resolution.

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I trust that this information will enable you to reply to the cable. As soon as our pan is in operation, we shall be able to report to you further as to how many of the 150 have been aided.

In our preliminary investigation, we have discovered that Mr. Iannoulis has received for the month of March a grant of Lit. 4400 from the Greek Mission through the A.F.A. and that he has apparently been receiving a similiar amount previously.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ S.M. Keeny
Chief, Italian Mission."

Mr. Taylor: If the applicants are not able to meet the conditions of UNRRA, then some other request will be made of another authority, but the present opinion is that they come within the scope of UNRRA's activity and therefore will be cared for by them.

Admiral Stone: The Supreme Allied Commander, ~~General~~ Field Marshal Alexander, has ruled that, notwithstanding a protest from the present Yugoslav delegate Government, to the Advisory Council for Italy, all Yugoslav people in Italy will be fed regardless of politics or religion and regardless of whether they intend to return to Yugoslavia or not. I have passed a copy of the order to Mr. Keeny for his guidance.

Mr. Taylor: We have also been asked by telegram from Washington to discover the numbers of a group of Lithuanians in need and determine what relief measures can be taken in their behalf.

Mr. Barr: We found that there are less than 100 Lithuanians in need. A committee was formed for the Lithuanian people before UNRRA came into the field. Lithuanian Relief in America has requested American Relief for Italy to take care of them, and they will repay us. American Relief for Italy is taking care of their clothing needs, and will act as their agent in the transmission of funds.

Admiral Stone: Does that mean that American Relief for Italy would operate in an active sense here in Italy?

Mr. Taylor: No, we will merely act in that regard as the medium for transmission of funds.

Admiral Stone: How will that be paid to them?

Mr. Barr: I think it is to be transferred into lire here, and it will go through ENDSI.

Mr. Taylor: On the question of ambulances there has been no action. When we asked American Relief for Italy to try to provide 100 ambulances in America, two questions arose--first, where the funds would come from. The National War Fund was not able to grant the amount. It was thought that private contributions would cover it--

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"Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Concerning your request dated 16 February for permission from the Allied authorities to purchase 100 ambulances in the United States to be shipped to Italy for the use of the Italian Red Cross, the following information has been received from Allied Force Headquarters:

'It is not possible to allocate shipping space for any supplies which have not been advised to the theater as immediately available in the U.S. for shipment.

'It is suggested that at such time as the ambulances have been purchased and advice has been received that they are available for transfer to Italy, this section be informed and the specific reference notifying availability be cited. We will then examine the possibility of their being shipped and be in a position to arrange necessary transportation.'

It is suggested that the agency in the United States which is to purchase these ambulances be requested to inform you when the purchase is completed and the ambulances can be ready for shipment. At that time the matter of shipping space can be re-opened with Allied Force Headquarters.

Yours very truly,

/s/ E. B. McKINLEY
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Deputy Vice-President
Economic Section."

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Jefferson indicated that it would be difficult to find 100 ambulances.

Mr. Jefferson: I received a letter on Saturday saying that the American Red Cross had not yet been able to get all the ambulances which are to be sent to Italy as a gift to the Italian Red Cross.

Mr. Taylor: There is the other element to be considered: If the war in this area were to come to a close in a reasonable period, there would probably be enough second-hand vehicles obtainable from the Military to take care of the need for ambulances, and that might happen before the ambulances could be shipped from America. What do you think we should do, Admiral Stone?

Admiral Stone: My advice would be not to relax the efforts to acquire ambulances in America. It might happen that the war will end last in Northern Italy. But if it does develop that the war

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Admiral Stone: My advice would be not to relax the efforts to acquire ambulances in America. It might happen that the war will end last in Northern Italy. But if it does develop that the war ends here, and the War Department is able to turn excess used meterial over to the Italian Government, these ambulances so acquired in the United States could be made available to agencies needing them in the Japanese theater. I think it might be unwise to stop trying to acquire ambulances in America.

Mr. Taylor: They might be turned over to UNRRA in that case for use in some other country.

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Mr. Barr: If the funds were available in America for the ambulances, that would permit American Relief for Italy with its dollar credit to purchase surplus U. S. Army ambulances here.

Admiral Stone: That won't be necessary because the Army and the new Liquidation Board are prepared to sell a great many materials to Italy.

Mr. Taylor: We wrote to General Alexander on this question and received the following answer on March 25 from Brigadier General Hamblen:

"Dear Mr. Taylor:

The Field Marshal has requested that I answer your letter of 16 March in which you raise the question of the acquisition of certain excess stocks and supplies and materials by E.N.D.S.I. and the Italian Red Cross upon the termination of hostilities in Europe.

As you no doubt are aware, the disposition of surplus property is covered by rather detailed instructions from the War Department and the War Office. To insure as far as practicable uniform action by the two Governments, to assure the continued maximum use of the maximum amount of these materials for the war effort and to assure that the economy of the country is not upset by unwise release and for other purposes, organizations for disposal are being set up at AFHQ forthwith. The present indications from higher authority are that the maximum amount of materials will be transferred for the war in the Far East.

A copy of your letter is being furnished those sections of the United States and British Services whose primary function it is to dispose of surplus property. You may rest assured that, within the limitation of higher directives full and kindly consideration will be given to the relief organizations sponsored by you.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ A. L. HAMBLEN
Brigadier General
Assistant Chief Administrative Officer."

Admiral Stone: I don't know what the plans of the British are, but I know what the American plans are.

Mr. Taylor: I sent a copy of my letter to General Alexander and the reply from Brigadier Hamblen to Washington, and it will reach General Marshall as well as others.

Admiral Stone: I might suggest that a copy of that reaches the Naval authorities in Washington.

Mr. Taylor: I sent it to the President and to the State Department, and I am sure that it will be given to the Army and Navy

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Admiral Stone: I might suggrst that a copy of that reaches the Naval authorities in Washington.

Mr. Taylor: I sent it to the President and to the State Department and I am sure that it will be given to the Army and Navy officials. I want to tell you that I am not anxious to mention the name of the President in these affairs, but I have to do it in that he is the only reason for my authority here. My authority is from him--not from the State Department. That is why I often mention his name. 3470

On ambulances then we will continue to make every effort possible knowing they will be useful somewhere. There was another

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question concerning sheeting that I took up with Admiral Stone's office, and he delegated General McKinley to come and see me about it. Have you been able to get any sheeting, Col. McSweeney?

Col. McSweeney: Nothing, Sir, except those salvaged materials we got from army salvage at Naples.

Mr. Barr: That material is awfully think--really too thick for sheeting. I think Mr. Keeny mentioned in the last meeting that a considerable amount of sheeting had arrived for hospitals; that could be explored to find out how much sheeting they have and where they are going to use it.

Mr. Taylor: Has there been any relief in the sheeting situation in the hospitals?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: No.

Brig. Parkinson: We have asked for something to be sent from AFHQ. According to our information, there is a 60% shortage of materials such as sheeting, blankets, surgical instruments, exray. We took 60% as a reasonable basis.

Mr. Taylor: What is our position on surgical instruments?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: We have received physicians' instruments rather than surgical instruments. The sets are not complete.

Mr. Taylor: How many sets do we have left from the first shipment?

Prof. Canaperia: 15 are left from the original 50.

Mr. Taylor: Do you think we ought to apply for more?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: I think it might be wiser to apply for specific instruments.

Mr. Barr: Blood transfusion sets, especially, are badly needed.

Mr. Taylor: Will you work up a telegram to that effect with Mgr. Carroll-Abbing and Professor Canaperia?

Mr. Barr: Yes, Sir.

Brigadier Parkinson: The hospitals and clinics are very short of exray equipment and rubber gloves.

Mr. Barr: There were no exray supplies in this shipment, but I think we can prod them to send some--also rubber gloves.

Mr. Taylor: We have a letter from the Joint Distribution Committee thanking American Relief for Italy for the matzos which was sent from America and distributed for the Jewish passover period in Italy. They show a great deal of gratitude for it.

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The Department of State has written a letter in which they [illegible] in effect being made by FBI [illegible] or by the British Secret

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The Department of State has written a letter in which they describe an effort being made by UNRRA, or by the British Section of UNRRA, to clarify the relationship between private charitable organizations and the UNRRA organization. There is nothing especially to be mentioned in that respect, except there is a recognition of the fact that both are active in the field of relief and both are welcome.

The refugee camp question we discussed here with a group representing the Government and other agencies two weeks ago. We were speaking particularly of the four refugee camps in and around Rome which were very bad. I received the following letter on that subject from Mr. Keeny on March 27:

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"Dear Mr. Taylor:

Pardon my delay in replying to your letter of 16 March concerning the four refugee camps in and near Rome.

In confirmation of our conversation in your office yesterday--these camps do fall within the scope of UNRRA activities, and UNRRA will be happy to furnish, through the High Commissioner for Refugees, the necessary food and clothing for them.

As we agreed yesterday, it seems impracticable to distinguish between the refugees from other provinces and those from this province who may be living in the camps. We shall, therefore, be glad to assist the High Commissioner in the care of all those who are in these camps.

I am happy that this division of work is satisfactory to everybody, particularly because it will free your supplies for the "sinistrati" in the City of Rome who are said to be in even greater need.

Sincerely,

/s/ S.M. Keeny
Chief, Italian Mission."

UNRRA takes upon itself the full responsibility of the refugee camps.

Admiral Stone: That was by agreement. They were supposed to take over those camps when they came in.

Mr. Taylor: The refugee camps are the responsibility of the Government and UNRRA -- not ENDSI or American Relief for Italy -- that is very clear. The relationship of ENDSI, American Relief for Italy and UNRRA was clarified in those discussions to this extent--that American Relief for Italy assumes the responsibility of providing milk and vitamins, and such other supplies as it figures are useful to the purpose, to give to approximately 100,000 children in certain institutions in the area to the active front. I say the "active front" because the Allied Military Government in Florence, Pisa and elsewhere thought they did not have adequate supplies of milk, and they invited ENDSI to supplement their supplies in those areas. In the other areas where we supply the institutions with milk and vitamins, UNRRA will supplement rations and take on its shoulders the remainder of the population. That will be a very simple way of defining areas of activity, and it enables us to tell America exactly what American Relief for Italy is doing.

On the question of clothing--outside of refugee camps and refuge groups, as distinguished from refugees who form a part of the population of various communities, ENDSI with donated clothing performs the operation of distributing clothing. In refugee camps and groups, however, UNRRA takes the sole burden of supplying [illegible] feed, clothing and transportation for people back to their homes.

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"Dear Mr. Taylor:

I am writing to express my satisfaction at the way the working relationships with the American Relief for Italy and ENDSI are being cleared. The decision taken

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last Monday, whereby UNRRA will be responsible to help look after the needs of the four refugee camps near Rome, is one instance. Our discussions with Mr. Vicentini and Mr. Barr, whereby ENDSI and UNRRA will collaborate -- ENDSI to supply the milk and UNRRA the food for children' institutions - is another. In a similar fashion we shall arrange a meeting on the clothing problem for the latter part of this week after Mr. Barr's return.

As soon as definite arrangements have been made, I shall confirm them.

As the time for the joint clothing drive in the United States approaches, I should like to be helpful in any way possible in making the case for additional help for Italy. It is most important that the public in the United States understand that the UNRRA program for Italy in no way lessens the importance of the program of American Relief for Italy. This is particularly true in the matter of clothing where UNRRA is relying very heavily on the continuance of the good work that has been done with the thousand of friends of Italy who have participated in the work of your organization. I cannot speak too highly of the energy displayed by yourself and all your co-workers in getting desperately needed clothing into the devastated areas in Italy last winter. I trust that when you speak to the American public, either directly or through your associates in the United States, you will not fail to emphasize the fact that the imports through the Allied Commission, through UNRRA and through American Relief for Italy will together be far too little to meet the needs of this suffering country.

The supplies of clothing and milk that your organization will bring are desperately needed. Quite apart from the material help, however, it is extremely important that inter-governmental aid, such as that represented by UNRRA, should not dry up the private contributions that represent the personal expression of the good will of the people of the United States to the people of Italy. The task of rebuilding Italy must primarily be that of the Italians themselves. I can think of nothing to give them more encouragement in going about the job than the expressions of friendship that come through the thousands of personal gifts made through your organization.

Sincerely,

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Mr. Barr: In the places where American Relief for Italy furnishes milk and vitamins, UNRRA furnishes supplementary food such as peas, fish, etc.. So as not to complicate or duplicate transporta-

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Mr. Barr: In the places where American Relief for Italy furnishes milk and vitamins, UNRRA furnishes supplementary food such as peas, fish, etc.. So as not to complicate or duplicate transportation, UNRRA turns its food over to ENDSI, and ENDSI delivers it to the institutions in the trucks sent by American Relief for Italy. ENDSI gets a receipt from the institutions for the food and gives it to UNRRA. In that way there is no confusion between the two agencies, and in this way ENDSI takes care of the total needs of the institutions it supplies. It is working very well in Naples.

Mr. Taylor: Simplification is the rule and is very desirable. Mgr. Carroll-Abbing, will you give us an impression as to the extent distribution has taken place of the shipments which arrived in December and the arrivals in March?

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Mr. Barr: I don't think Mgr. Carroll-Abbing has the total picture of the clothing. At the present moment nine provinces are 90% complete - 875,000 people in those provinces have to be served. Distribution in nine other provinces has begun for approximately 1[illegible],000 people with approximately 530,000 garments. There are four additional provinces, including Sardinia, where the clothing has been shipped-approximately 500,000 garments for 165,000 people. There are five provinces in which the plans are complete, and the clothing is being shipped next week for approximately 95,000 people in need. Five provinces are presently being surveyed, and the original estimates are 100,000 people north of Rome to receive 350,000 garments. It means that at the end of the distribution in the area south of Rome all of our clothing except 60,000 pieces will be gone from the two shipments which have arrived from America. The next shipment will take care of the more northern areas above the military line where the Red Cross is working now. There must have been six or seven million pieces in the two shipments.

Mr. Taylor: The weather is helping the clothing situation. The urgent need of the winter is past, and we can look forward to next winter with the heavy material. We have a quantity of fine new material received from America that could not be successfully mixed with the used materials for distribution because of the feeling of discrimination it would cause. Has anything been arranged concerning that material?

Mr. Barr: A plan is being worked out to help people of more professional category who are at present unable to carry on in their work because of a shortage of clothing. The plan includes school teachers, nurses, doctors and medici provinciali in the field.

Col McSweeney: Will any more clothing be available for Sicily?

Mr Barr: We have just sent 19 more box cars to Sicily. Almost 200,000 people will be served.

Mr Taylor: Our next shipment may be here during this month. There will probably be a hiatus for a month because of the national drive for clothing in America.

Mr. Barr: That is all right, sir, because in the summer months the clothing needs are not so great, and besides the percentage of the results of the national drive to be given to American Relief for Italy will bring in a lot of material for the future distributions.

Mr. Taylor: We have 50 trucks and 4 big vans which are very useful. I was wondering, Admiral Stone, if the war situation undergoes a change, in what period of time would it be likely that the transportation facilities we have enjoyed through the courtesy of the Allied Commission might be reduced?

Admiral Stone: I can't answer that, but I don't think that is likely to occur for some time. The counterbalance would be given to the Italian Government, and materials would be coming in all the time. The sales would all be made to the Italian Government, and it would be through the Government that ENDSI would get materials.

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Mr. Barr: We have just sent 19 more box cars to Sicily. Almost 200,000 people will be served.

Mr. Taylor: Our next shipment may be here during this month. There will probably be a hiatus for a month because of the national drive for clothing in America.

Mr. Barr: That is all right, sir, because in the summer months the clothing needs are not so great, and besides the percentage of the results of the national drive to be given to American Relief for Italy will bring in a lot of material for the future distributions.

Mr. Taylor: We have 50 trucks and 4 big vans which are very useful. I was wondering, Admiral Stone, if the war situation undergoes a change, in what period of time would it be likely that the transportation facilities we have enjoyed through the courtesy of the Allied Commission might be reduced?

Admiral Stone: I can't answer that, but I don't think that is likely to occur for some time. The counterbalance would be given to the Italian Government, and materials would be coming in all the time. The sales would all be made to the Italian Government, and it would be through the Government that ENDSI would get materials.

Mr. Barr: Are your trucks coming in all right ,sir?

Admiral Stone: We have received several hundreds of the 1700 now.

Mr. Taylor: On the question of this new material--when will we be able to move in this field?

Mr. Barr: Very shortly.

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Mr. Taylor. Mgr. Carroll-Abbing, will you report on the results of the milk and vitamin distribution?

Mgr Carroll-Abbing: To summarize -- up the present time since January American Relief for Italy has been providing milk and vitamins for 137 orphanages in Rome and 16 in the province of Rome, making a total of 153 orphanages; in addition 18 children's hospitals are being served in Rome, which makes a total of 171 children's institutions. In the first two months the milk was given to 5.985 children in orphanages but in the second assignment the group has come up to 8,183 children, due to the fact that 1,300 children have been admitt to the orphanages. 878 children from institutions which had not had an assignment in the first two months have been admitted to the second assignment. In Naples we are assisting 56 orphanages in the city and 19 in the province, a total of 7,000 children in 74 institutions. Under the present scheme ENDSI will distribute milk an vitamins donated by American Relief for Italy and supplementary foods donated by UNRRA. As the age limit is being removed, and the distribution extended to all the orphanages in the whole province of Naples the total children benefitted will not be less than 20,000. At the present moment we have given milk to children under 10 years of age, but now the idea is to extend it and give it to all the children in the orphanages and to all the orphanages in the province of Rome and Naples, so that instead of 7,000 in Naples, at least 20,000 children in Naples will be assisted, and UNRRA will assist with supplementary food.

In regard to the moral effect of the distribution--the institution feel that they are being helped and that there is somebody who is looking after them. Incidentally, we have been able to assist them in many other fields as well. Our doctors have listened with great patience and have been able to assist them in many other fields. A public health officer has visited the institutions, In the clothing field we also have been able to solve some of their problems. In the last few days we found that they could admit 50 children if they had more sheets. We are going to give them sheets from salvaged material

Mr. Taylor: What effect on the health do the doctors report?

Mgr Carroll-Abbing: We have had several reports of a satisfactory nature from the doctors. They have spontaneously noticed an increase in weight--one doctor said 7%. It is hard to tell whether that is due to the milk and vitamins or not, because over a period of two months there would naturally be an increase. They do tell of various disorders that have been eliminated in this period--probably because of the vitamins. At the present moment a study is being prepared by two of our doctors, and they will make a report of their examination. The same thing is being planned in Florence on a more scientific scale. The Clinic and the University wish to study the effect of the vitamins and milk on the children. In the north at Florence and in the provinces of Pisa, Lucca, Grosseto and Arezzo we are planning the milk distribution, but we have to wait for the shipment this month before we can start on the milk distribution in those places, because we are giving to greater numbers of institutions in Rome for a greate number of children and have increased the ration from 40 grams of milk to 60 grams to meet the same assignment of UNRRA.

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Mr. Taylor: We can also give vitamins to the schools in Rome.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: 14,000 children in schools in Rome are receiving
vitamins.

Mr. Taylor: In this area up to the Florence-Pisa line, you feel you
will find 100,000 children, who are most in need, that we can adopt?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: There are 45,000 children in Rome and Naples
province, and 35,000 in those provinces north. The other children
will be selected later.

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Mr. Taylor: That looks as if we can help a very good percentage of the total.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: Concerning the arrival of insulin--while the Ambassador spoke of 4,000 vials of insulin, I actually find there is a greater quantity of insulin. There are eight cases containing a total of 4,000 vials of protamine-zinc insulin, each vial containing 800 units, making a total of 3,200,000 units. In addition there are five more cases containing a total of 2,360 vials of insulin each containing 400 units, a total of 944,000 units. There are also 52 odd vials containing a total of 20,800 units. This makes a complete total of 4,164,800 units of insulin. Calculating a medium dose of 35 units a day per person, this quantity will be sufficient for 2,000 people to receive insulin for two months.

Mr. Taylor: It will be given to those who need it entirely on a free basis. I talked with Col. Bizzozero, who is moving north very soon, I believe, with Col. Poletti--and I inquired if he had any materials in his clinic he could turn over to this purpose. He said he has some things we can have. He also has a woman who has been working as a prescription clerk who he says is very unusual and whom we might like to get for our laboratory. We are sending a truck to Col. Bizzozero's clinic to get whatever he has for this cause.

In the insulin distribution how do you control the question of whether a person can pay or cannot pay?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: It is very difficult. Even the certificate of poverty does not give a true idea of real need as many of the people who have those tickets are engaged in other "activities"; whereas other people in poor or reduced circumstances who are in need do not have a certificate. I believe that we might put up a notice saying that if anyone is able to pay, he might give a contribution to provide medicine for the poor. We have already given insulin to some people, who have spontaneously offered to contribute.

Mr. Taylor: We have other drugs coming from America, including a shipment of morphine coming by air which will be controlled in the laboratories.

Brig. Parkinson: It wants good control. You will have 100,000 2 grain tablets of morphine coming from America and this, in addition to the insulin, requires very careful control. I know you are aware of that.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: The Provincial Doctor is registering today the cases which will need insulin, and the amount of insulin each case will need. Each person to receive insulin will receive a card. Whenever a person receives his insulin, that will be prescribed on his card, and he will not be able to receive it from any other place.

Brig. Parkinson: What is the plan for handling the morphine?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: The hospitals will handle that.

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Mr. Taylor: Italian Red Cross activities have been subject to a considerable amount of discussion at one time or another in this group, especially in that branch of their activity which had to do with the drive for funds and materials. After some discussion it was finally agreed by the special committee that was operating the drive and the Italian Red Cross that the committee would be absorbed into the body of the Italian Red Cross into a special group for collecting funds and materials. That has been cleared. The Italian Red Cross itself has been the subject of a great deal of discussion

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during the last week because of its being disorganized as a result of the collapse of the Fascist Regime and some of us, including American Relief for Italy and the American Red Cross, have been anxious to assist in rebuilding the Italian Red Cross on a substantial basis. It is not set up on the lines of the American Red Cross in its official plan of organization, especially in its top officials. It has no governing committee; it has no Board of Directors. Before we leave the subject of the Red Cross, we are going to make a suggestion to Dr. Zanotti-Bianco along the lines of creating a national governing committee and for strengthening the administrative personnel of the Italian Red Cross. We have been assured that if that is done, there will be no further assistance brought by the American Red Cross and other institutions. I think the Italian Red Cross will have a revised charter. There is a difficulty because the north of Italy is soon coming into it, and no one can tell what that situation is.

Marchese Theodoli: The charter is being revised.

* * * *

Mr. Taylor: We received the following telegram from Judge Marchisio on March 20:

"HAVE AVAILABLE TRANSMITTAL TO E DSI SIXTEEN HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS DONATED BY GODPARENTS FOR ITALIAN WAR ORPHANS COMMITTEE SPONSORED BY ITALIAN WELFARE LEAGUE REPRESENTING THREE MONTH'S SUPPORT FOR ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY ORPHANS SELECTED FROM LIST SUBMITTED BY ALTO COMMISSARIATO PROFUGHI. AMBASSADOR TARCHIANI INFORMS ITALIAN RED CROSS WILL MATCH THIS CONTRIBUTION THUS MAKING AVAILABLE SIX DOLLARS PER MONTH PER ORPHAN. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ORPHANS SELECTED BEING FORWARDED MAIL. GODPARENTS COMMITTEE HAS ON DEPOSIT MONEYS NECESSARY FOR ADDITIONAL NINE MONTHS SUPPORT FOR THESE ORPHANS SAME BASIS BUT DEEMS ADVISABLE NOT TO FORWARD SAME NOW DUE TO WIDESPREAD RUMORS THAT LIRE WILL SHORTLY BE SUBSTANTIALLY DEVALUATED. IF AGREEABLE REGARDING TRANSMITTAL THIS SUM WILL FOLLOW SAME ARRANGEMENTS WITH YOUR OFFICE AS IN PAST. PLEASE NOTIFY.

JUVENAL MARCHISIO."

Marchese Theodoli: The part of the letter concerning Italian war orphans which I saw Friday, as far as I know, doesn't convey the right idea, because so far it is only the Italian Government which is matching the private contributions of individuals for the care of these children. The individual contributes a certain amount, and the Italian Government through the Alto Commissariato Profughi gives a similiar amount. It has been working very satisfactory. As a matter of fact, the amount contributed by the Government is larger than that contributed by the individuals.

Mr. Barr: I think the matter is being taken up with Zaniboni for a reply.

Marchese Theodoli: That reply from Zaniboni is on its way. It will reach me this afternoon, and I will inform you of its content.

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Mr. Taylor: The idea is to understand through which agencies these arrangements will pass. The object is simplification.

Apart from the orphans, there is another problem we might mention -the children in the streets, the so-called delinquent children. I saw a lady yesterday who said she knew a priest who is starting a plan to take the children off the streets. From the way she spoke, I thought it sounded similiar to Father Flannagan's "Boys Town" in America. Of course, the priest's plan could only take care of a small segment of the total, but "Boys Town" started with one house of boys and grew into a regular village run by the boys themselves.

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They were taught trades and turned out into the world as useful citizens. This delinquent children problem is such a big one that the Government ought to do something about it.

Admiral Stone: One of the causes of children in the streets has been the requisition of schools by the military authorities, the government and the civil agencies. I have pressed the Prime Minister to reexamine the situation concerning the number of schools that have not been de-requisitioned. It is essential that this problem be taken care of by the Italian Government. All we can do is to point it out to them.

Col. McSweeney: Dr Vallente has already made arrangements to take these children in. We had no supplies and were going to ask if ENDSI could give materials. I believe ENDSI could be of great assistance by furnishing clothing and vitamins and making it mechanically possible for the schools to function after the buildings are obtained. I think ENDSI should have a small group to encourage that program and act as a liaison. It is hard to get children who have no clothin to come daily to school, whereas if they tell the children they will get food and clothing if they come to school, the attendance will naturally be good.

Ing. Galeazzi: A Committee has already been formed to help these children. The Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Public Instructio are both represented. A representative of ENDSI should get in touch with the Committee. The first necessity is to find a full-time place for day and night quarters and also a temporary day quarters for the children. It would be well to help and use all agencies already in existence trained for this work. There are civilian institutions as well as religious institutions already trained. The institutions of San Michele and San Giovanni are two of the religious organization especially trained for taking care of the youth. That is the first part of the program--the permanent reception of youths in these house We should help these organizations to have more accomodations-more buildings- more possibilities of receiving these children. We have heard from Mgr. Carroll-Abbing that they have noticed a substantial increase of children in the institutions. That means they are doing their best to enlarge possibilities of receiving the children. Then there is the second aspect of temporary shelter in the daytime to take them away from the streets. Very often it is hard to find out what the family situation is. It is important to influence the family to urge their children to attend the school. It is a very important problem. The people who meet in this Committee will have to be very active and do their best.

Mr. Barr: I agree with you that the institutions already existing should be encouraged to take over the problem rather than have new little organizations springing up all over.

Ing. Galeazzi: In order that these children have the best training and the best moral possibilities the best solution would be to help those people and institutions already well-trained in this sort of work--both civil and religious. I understand that Mgr. Baldelli is already in the organization in order to establish a liaison with the Vatican.

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Mr. Barr: Our liaison is between America and ENDSI. ENDSI should

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Mr. Barr: Our liaison is between America and ENDSI. ENDSI should have a representative to act as the official coordinator with the Government, rather than having American Relief for Italy as a coordinating agency.

Mr. Taylor: We might be able to get another appropriation on another basis. There are many possibilities if the plan was developed.

Brig. Parkinson: This is an Italian problem for the Italian people. We have had our problem in this field--children of the "Dead End" and so forth, and we found that a very successful solution to the problem

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was the foundation of Boy's Clubs. People like us belong to it and pay five shillings a year to be a member--and to get these youngsters in and occupy and amuse them. It takes a lot of time and effort. Apart from merely housing them, you want to get their minds on other channels. The boxing matches, for instance, were found to be a healt athletic way to keep them absorbed and enthusiastic.

Ing. Galeazzi: The Boys' Club are being started here again. The problem is that there is a bad necessity for clothing. They can't find material for making their uniforms. Still there is a lot of enthusiasm, and you do see children dressed in uniforms. The best thing to do is to help these institutions to help themselves.

Mr. Barr: The Girl Scouts in America want to send material for uniforms to the Girl Scouts in Italy. The material could be sent through American Relief for Italy and turned over to ENDSI for distribution. In that case we can act as their forwarding agent.

Mr. Taylor: On the subject of donations, we have been told that an ambitious group in America has been trying to obtain agricultural instruments to ship to Italy. Our tendency has been to say that American Relief for Italy concentrated on emergency relief supplies of clothing, milk and vitamins. Farm materials are a different field

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Marchese Theodoli: I would like to mention another problem. The Italian Red Cross has been approached quite frequently lately about the situation of a community in Zara, a part of Dalmatia on the other side of the Adriatic--a freeland, now under the control of Tito. It is reported that there are from 4,000 to 6,000 Italian citizens, who are badly in need, living in the hills surrounding what is left of the city. An appeal has been made to the Red Cross to help them. The matter has many delicate political aspects that make it difficult for the Red Cross to take it up with the Governmental authorities. I tried the International Red Cross three months ago with no result. I have asked whether if the necessary means of conveyance can be obtained across the Adriatic, would ENDSI provide materials to ship over to these people?

Mr. Taylor: I suggest that these questions be discussed with UNRRA.

Marchese Theodoli: I have already approached Mr. Keeny, upon the suggestion of Dr. Zanotti-Bianco, not so much to get supplies as to ascertain facts. Mr. Keeny said he would get his collegue on that side to investigate the situation.

Mr. Jefferson: If we do anything at the present time, it would be through the forces occupying Yugoslavia and through the Yugoslav agencies. We have some Red Cross people in Yugoslavia, who can tell us about this situation. If it is a place that can be communicated with, I think something can be done through the Red Cross.

3461

Mr Taylor: Mr. Jefferson, will you take an interest in this matter along with Mr. Keeny and the ENDSI group?

Mr. Jefferson: Yes, sir.

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Mr. Jefferson: Yes, sir.

Brig. Perkinson: Mr. McMillan brought up the Italian Red Cross and ENDSI as agencies to make bids for materials that have been cleared through the Economic Subcommission. Through our welfare branch of the Public Health Subcommission we will get lists of materials available, and we will ask the Italian Red Cross and ENDSI what they are interested in. Bids will have to be made.

Mr. Barr: There is about a half ton of materials which have been donated in America for risoners-of-war--shaving cream, razor blades and towels. We have the problem of getting those things to the PW's.

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Admiral Stone: Are these repatriated PW's?

Mr. Eagr: I think these articles were intended for prisoners actually in prisoner camps, in French camps in Africa.

Admiral Stone: We have a Prisoner-of War- Subcommission at Allied Commission under Lt. Col. Campbell.

Mr. Jefferson: It might be a good idea to give some of those relief kits to repatriated prisoners-of-war on the coast.

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Mr. Taylor: After these discussions we have developed our pattern sufficiently so that it will not be necessary for us to meet every Monday, but one in two weeks. Special meetings will be called in case of any emergency.

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APR 25 1960

GARMENTS DONATED BY AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY AND DISTRIBUTED by E.N.D.S.I. as of April 1, 1945.

PROVINCES 90 % COMPLETED.

	Persons assisted.
L'Aquila	50,000
Chieti	130,000
Campobasso	46,000
Frosinone	163,000
Littoria	120,000
Pescara	55,000
Foggia	50,000
Napoli	94,000
Roma	123,000
Repatriated	10,000
Refugees	3,000
Assigned to institutions.	22,000
Total.	876,000

PROVINCES IN WHICH DISTRIBUTION HAS BEGUN.

Messina	60,000
Catania	20,000
Siracusa	4,000
Ragusa	4,000
Enna	4,000
Palermo	28,000
Trapani	22,000
Caltanisetta	4,000
Agrigento	4,000
Total	150,000

PROVINCES TO WHICH THE MATERIAL IS IN PROCESS OF BEING SHIPPED.

Cagliari	90,000
Sassari	20,000
Nuoro	20,000
Benevento	35,000
Total	165,000

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PROVINCES IN WHICH THE DISTRIBUTION PLAN HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

Avellino	25,000
Cosenza	12,000
Catanzaro	12,000
Reggio Calabria	16,000
Salerno	30,000
Total	95,000

PROVINCES IN WHICH EXACT STATISTICS ARE YET UNKNOWN.

Viterbo	20,000
Rieti	20,000
Teramo	20,000
Potenza	20,000
Matera	20,000
Total.	100,000

TOTALS

Provinces completed	876,000
Provinces in which the distribution has begun	150,000
Provinces in which the material is in procees of being shipped	165,000
Provinces in which the distribution plan has been completed	95,000
Provinces in which the statistics are yet unknown.	100,000
Total.	1,386,000

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EMS/dfe

OB 9504

14 April 1945

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I wish to acknowledge and thank you for the minutes of the 21st meeting held by the Advisory Group concerning relief on 26 March 1945.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

The Honorable Myron C. Taylor
The Personal Representative of the
President of the United States
To His Holiness the Pope
2 Via Bracciapagni
Rome

cc: Executive Comm'r (with copy of minutes)
CC Files

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AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

March 26, 1945 — Meeting No.21

Following are minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Group concerning relief held March 26, 1945, in the office of Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy, Inc. In attendance were: Mr. Taylor; the Honorable Harold Macmillan, President Allied Commission; Mr. S.M. Keeny, Chief, Italian Mission UNRRA; Brig. G.S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director Public Health Sub-commission, A.C.; Ing. G.B. Vicentini, Executive Director of E.N.D.S.I.; Marchese Ugo Theodoli, Secretary General, Italian Red Cross; Professor John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department, Ministry of the Interior; Lt. Col. John McSweeney, Chief, Welfare Officer, A.C.; Mr. W.W. Jefferson, Director Civilian War Relief, American Red Cross; Dr. Lapponi of the Italian Red Cross, and Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor for American Relief for Italy, Inc.

Mr. Taylor (After presenting those in attendance to the Honorable Harold Macmillan) : For Mr. Macmillan's information I will state briefly as I can what our objectives have been and what we have been able to accomplish. (Turning to Hon. Harold Macmillan) You, Sir have received some of the minutes of our meetings and I hope they have not been so voluminous that you could not scan through them. Our starting point was the discovery by American Relief for Italy, Inc. organized in April 1944 that there existed here no central agency constituted for the distribution of the products that were donated in America, or elsewhere. We talked with the Italian Government, the Vatican, the Italian Red Cross and other groups and individuals, and finally the plan of linking together the Italian Government, the Vatican, the Italian Red Cross and Labor Organizations into a single entity known as ENDSI (Ente Nazionale per la Distribuzione dei Soccorsi in Italia) was envolved. Each of these separate agencies has representation in the ENDSI: the Government, the Vatican, the Italian Red Cross have facilities for transportation or for distribution, but they were not, because of the war, in an organized and coordinated position and our aim was to link these facilities together in order to achieve free distribution and united action. This was accomplished. All commodities which have been donated are and have been, so far as ENDSI is concerned, distributed on a free basis so that it is a donated relief activity all the way through from the donors to the ultimate recipient. ENDSI is composed of representatives of the four groups I have mentioned, all of whom are Italian. We made it a condition at the outset that there should be no Allied representatives on the Italian committee, the objective being that ultimately when we have finished our part of the work in Italy the Italian Committee will continue in future as a definite Italian organization, and by making it such at the outset it would have worked its way through all the initial steps of organization and operation and would not be beginning

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Harold Macmillan, President Allied Commission; Mr. S.M. Keeny, Chief, Italian Mission UNRRA; Brig. G.S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director Public Health Sub-commission, A.C.; Ing. G.B. Vicentini, Executive Director of E.N.D.S.I.; Marchese Ugo Theodoli, Secretary General, Italian Red Cross; Professor John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department, Ministry of the Interior; Lt. Col. John McSweeney, Chief, Welfare Officer, A.C.; Mr. W.W. Jefferson, Director Civilian War Relief, American Red Cross; Dr. Lapponi of the Italian Red Cross, and Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor for American Relief for Italy, Inc.

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ment contributed money; the Vatican contributed money; the Italian Red Cross had nothing to contribute. Other individuals and representatives of some Foreign States, such as Brasil, Peru, Bolivia contributed sums of money to the fund of ENDSI in order that it might have sufficient means to carry on its activities. Brazil contributed coffee and canned meat. Ing. Vicentini was selected as Executive Director of ENDSI; the Prime Minister is Honorary Chairman Prince Doria-Pamphili is Permanent Chairman of the National Committee Prince Pacelli of the Vatican is Chairman of an Executive Committee of four with Dr. Zanotti-Bianco President of the Italian Red Cross, and a representative of the Labor Organization.

Now this group that you see here has developed from the fact that we met informally and talked about these things beginning last July, and have accomplished what I have just recited and in addition we have furnished assistance and suggestions to ENDSI in respect to its activities. This is a very informal group. The group itself has no corporate character: they come and go, everyone is welcome who can contribute to the activities. Latterly we have had Mr. Keeny with us when he was engaged in setting up his organization and making UNRRA contract with the Government we missed him for a while. Brigadier Perkinson has been constant and so have Mr. Jefferson of the American Red Cross, Col. McSweeney of the Allied Commission, Mr. Barr, my Deputy in American Relief for Italy of which I am Chairman. Ing. Vicentini is Executive Director of the National Committee; Prof. Canaperia is General Medical Inspector of the Italian Government Dr. Lorenzo Lapponi is of the Central Committee of the Italian Red Cross; Marchese Theodoli is General Secretary of the Italian Red Cross we have here then a cross section of those in Italy who are interested in these matters.

Not to stress too much American Relief for Italy, Inc. it has had a few shipments consisting of eleven shipments of materials which have arrived or are arriving, the last of which is being unloaded now. In addition we have four large vans - 12 ton vans, and there have now arrived fifty trucks which American Relief for Italy has loaned to the National Committee for their transportation.

Brazil has given us 60,000 lbs. of coffee and some foodstuffs.

We have blankets from a Committee that has organized a drive for blankets in Italy. We have received by purchase through the Italian Government 17,000 blankets and have turned them over to the Committee for distribution. These have all been distributed.

The American Red Cross has now donated 750,000 garments which are due to arrive very soon.

We have made an effort to get ambulances; there is a shortage of ambulances in America due to the war demand. There is also little chance of getting the funds privately to purchase them because there is an agency known as the NATIONAL WAR FUND which covers all these activities on a national wide scale and allows no private canvasing for funds. We could probably get 100 ambulances if we could get permission to finance them. Ambulances are very greatly needed in these several areas. It is quite likely that if an Allied Agency undertook to get them they could be purchased, don't you think so Mr. Jefferson?

Mr. Jefferson: We have been able to find some - we have been able to get few from the Army but they have had to be refitted.

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Mr. Jefferson: We have been able to find some - we have been able to get few from the Army but they have had to be refitted.

Mr. Taylor: That and the sheeting question in hospitals, and sheets in general in the community, but particularly in hospitals, are very serious. We have applied to Allied Commission representatives, Gen. McKinley began an investigation. Sheetings are under Government control in America so that no private agency can get them; but if the Allied Commission could somehow provide them it would fill a very great need in this city and in the country generally.

Mr. Macmillan: Wasn't it recommended on requisition, either A or B?

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Brig. Parkinson: I think so.

Mr. Taylor: This is one subject to give a little thought to, as we also the ambulances. The third one is a suggestion we have made of buying some uniformly designed cheap workmen's shoes that could be produced for the Italian people and we have a reply recently in which it is stated that by relasting, spraying, patching and cleaning they could produce a sturdy men's shoe at $1.19 per pair, but the National War Fund in America have not allocated any funds for such a purchase. We thought of buying 1,000,000 pairs but we have not been able to find the funds or any agency that will release funds to that amount. Shoes are a very important question here. We have, as you see, a very large number of shoes. (To Mr. Barr: you might show some specimen) We have given away two hundred pairs of these shoes to the workers in the malarial fields (shoes are produced and shown to Mr. Macmillan). These workmen in the malarial fields work under water and have nothing to protect them; in fact they cannot go to work because they lack shoes, so that we have supplied the need for the moment - with some 200 pairs. These then, are three items to which attention might be directed and all of which would be an immense assistance if there could be found a way of obtaining suitabl priority and for which adequate funds are needed.

You might be interested to know how we set up the distribution. A central point in each province was agreed upon as a warehouse which was made the center of distribution in the province and from it into the various communes the materials were transported and distributed. Each commune set up a local committee composed of the political head, the head of the church, the representative of the Italian Red Cross, the representative of the Labor Organization, following the pattern all the way through. Transportation was furnished largely by Allied Commission and I think without charge, isn't it so, Mr. Bar

Mr. Barr: Well, up to tis moment at any rate we have not paid any transportation charges.

Brig. Parkinson: There will be no question of payment.

Mr. Taylor: In our publicity we have given Allied Commission credit for free transportation: they get the honor and we pay no bills!.... This chart would indicate to you the most devastated areas (showing map to Mr. Macmillan). It shows the line of greatest devastation from the Tyrrhenian to the Adriatic. All these activities were taken up in consultation with Allied Commission authorities in these areas. The distributions which occured in December and January amounted to 6,000,000 lbs.; present shipments which are arriving and which are du to arrive are approximately 12,000,000 lbs. and in addition to clothi the principal items we have been interested in are evaporated milk an other forms of milk products and vitamins. We have a quantity of surgical kits which have been of great help in the communities. We have more of these coming.

Mr. Macmillan: Whom are they given to?

Prof. Canaperia: We gave them to temporary and permanent hospitals in the devastated areas as far north as Rimini. We are sending so up to Major McKenzie, medical officer A.C. Region VIII. We are giving them out during army occupation under the control of Allied

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Mr. Taylor: The first distribution covers an area in the devastated regions, as we intimated, as far north as a line from Rome to Pescara. We are now surveying the area between that line and the line of the Allied Military Government. We have a warehouse near Leghorn which we are going to use as a distributing center and we also have the use of facilities in Florence for distribution, and this distribution will

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begin very soon now from new stocks of materials. In between we made a survey of the institutions where children are living and in certain areas we began about a month or six weeks ago with the distribution of prepared milk to the institutions, giving to each child up to ten years of age - and I believe we have gone beyond that age limit - two glasses of milk per day and an adequate supply of vitamins. This involves in the Rome area something like 8 or 9,000 children; in the Naples area around 6,000 children. We made a suggestion to American Relief for Italy to undertake on a yearly basis to supply 100,000 children in institutions and we have a very large quantity which will enable us to carry on not only with what we have undertaken, but to go North to supplement even in the Allied Military Government zone at their request some of these milk product distributions which will take in Florence, Pisa, Lucca, Pistoia, Livorno. We of course have no idea what conditions are in Northern Italy beyond the active military front. We are not undertaking to visualize that as far as supplies donated by American Relief for Italy are concerned, but UNRRA undoubtedly will, through Mr. Keeny, carry on in this area as they would in other areas in Italy on the basis of an understanding with ENDSI as to what sections of the child population is going to be divided with UNRRA in respect to milk and vitamins. UNRRA has other material than those we can supply which they in turn in a cooperative way will furnish to the same institutions through ENDSI as well as in communities other than those served by American Relief for Italy, so that our combined distributions in respect to children which is on a free basis in institutions will be harmonious, I hope, and will be very successful. What do you think Mr. Keeny?

Mr. Keeny: I think that the plan which we discussed is entirely satisfactory where ENDSI has milk to give and UNRRA will add to the supply the other food conditions needed to bring them up to the level necessary, and ENDSI will want to supervise these institutions so that the whole plan will be checked against the total issue of food through Government measures so that there will be no overlapping and this will give full credit to American Relief for Italy for its supplies.

Mr. Taylor: We all think the plan will work out; we started it in Naples and as fas as we can see it seems to be a very good plan.

Mr. Macmillan: We are speaking of children and institutions; will there be other points of cooperation, clothing for example?

Mr. Keeny: We are working that out in the light of actual reserves available.

Mr. Taylor: In America, in the collection of clothing or other drive no agency other than American Relief for Italy is authorized to function in direct contact with the needs in Italy.

Mr. Keeny: There is no question that this is one of the great needs I hope that when it comes to such items as sheeting that we can work together with the Allied Commission to get the earliest production in this country. We will do everything we can to get cotton if we can get it processed here. I am very hopeful that this will be one of the items.

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Mr. Taylor: Are you not going into another field?

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Mr. Keeny: We want hospital supplies and we will do everything we can to get them, We will get the sheeting if we can, but there will be nothing to prevent processing in this country to supply sheets if we can get the cotton and the labor here. There has been a shortage of textiles and if we would work out a joint plan to buy sheets here that come from local mills it would be better for everybody concerned and would take some of the strain off American mills.

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Mr. Taylor: The medicines we are receiving have been donated and we have a plan of setting up a clinic or office which will fill prescriptions to persons who are certified by a medical authority to be unable to pay for them. We have a large shipment of insulin; we also have morphine and other materials which are to be dealt with very carefully and should get into the hands only of those who can use them properly and should not be used for those who can pay. We are trying to help the people who cannot pay. Even for those who can pay there is no supply to purchase, even if you were rich, there is no possibility to purchase. Brig. Parkinson sent me a letter the other day from an officer in Florence which indicated the method by which the distribution of medicines and drugs, etc., is taking place and I think it was an extremely good statement. If all people understood this there might be less criticism.
I think ENDSI should be very alert on the question of excess Allied supplies after the war and make itself a nuisance on the doorstep of everyone who has something to do with it --except Mr. Macmillan of course!

American Relief for Italy has made suggestions to ENDSI in respect to the four refugee camps which are located in and around Rome and which we consider to be in a very bad condition. We were taken to some of these refugee camps and found conditions highly unsatisfactory. Our suggestion was that we would donate additional supplemental supplies if the camps were put in order under better direction and supervision, that something be done to improve sanitary conditions. ENDSI took up with the Italian Refugee authorities and we have had some little discussion on it. In the meantime the UNRRA agreement was completed and I wrote Mr. Keeny a week ago; in view of UNRRA directive regarding refugee camps.

Mr. Keeny: I have referred the matter to my organization. I think our supplies are adequate to meet the needs of the camps which have been in difficult conditions. Sanitary conditions were bad in at least one of them .

Mr. Taylor: Prince Doria called me up, he being chairman of ENDSI, and asked if he could bring the High Commissioner Zaniboni and one other person to this meeting to discuss this question. If UNRRA is prepared to undertake the case of these camps ENDSI and American Relief for Italy should withdraw.

Mr. Keeny: It would simplify matters if you had for example milk available to additional institutions and let us supply milk in the camps where we have a definite responsibility. It would be necessary to swap our respective resources.

Mr. Taylor: Are you not suggesting to the Italian Government that before you agree to supply supplemental supplies they should place the camps under better management?

Mr. Keeny: We are now working with them to do that thing and I hope they will do so and the situation will improve. I did not want to make a flat statement about what we shall do because it rests with the High Commissioner of Refugees; our supplies are available and will be available.

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Mr. Taylor: There was an item in the paper last week which indicated that Minister Zaniboni had taken Minister Tupini to visit refugee camps. They selected probably the best one of the four and they gave it unqualified approval of everything they saw. This is another reason for our not wanting to get involved in it. They are coming here at 11 o'clock.

The Italian Red Cross was very much upset at the end of the Fascist Regime. We suggested last summer that the Prime Minister become honorary Chairman. The former President was named by the Badoglio Government, and Dr. Zanotti-Bianco was selected by the

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present Government, The Vice President I do not know. We believe Signor Zanotti-Bianco made great progresses towards reorganization but much remains to be done. American Red Cross and this group have indicated their willingness to assist in every way possible.

(There ensues a conversation between Mr. Macmillan and Mr. Taylor relative to the functions of the Italian Red Cross and its activities in connection with the present relief program).

Mr. Taylor: It was very good of you all to come and I thank you for attending

* * * * * *

(Following the Departure of Mr. Macmillan and Brigadier Parkinson there was a short intermission awaiting the arrival of H.E. Prince Doria Pamphili, Mayor of Rome, accompanied by H.E. Tito Zaniboni, Italian High Commissioner for War Refugees, Ing. E.P. Galeazzi, Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City, and Mgr. Ferdinando Baldelli of the Pontifical Commissi for Aid to Refugees. The meeting was then resumed).

Mr. Taylor: We have been having our usual Monday morning meeting to discuss our problems of distribution of supplies and planning a bit for the future. Among others, Mr. Macmillan, President of the Allied Commission was here, and we have been discussing in a preliminary way the attitude that ENDSI should take towards the Allies in respect to their surplus material after the war ends. ENDSI wants to be alert and to urge that the Allies cede to ENDSI (the Italian Government, the Church, the Italian Red Cross and Labor Organization) as much of their excess supplies as possible. Transportation, trucks and automobiles would be a tremendous help to this country. I sent a letter ten days ago to Field Marshal Alexander, with a copy of it to the Prime Minister, and to our Advisory Group requesting consideration and I hope that you will keep the subject very much alive because it would help this country more than any other item in its reconstruction efforts.

The question of the Refugee Camps is one that we are somewhat interested in. (Does Dr Zaniboni understand English ? If not will someone be kind enough to translate my remarks for him?) (Dr.Galeazzi hereafter acts as interpeter between Mr. Taylor and Dr. Zaniboni).

There are four refugee camps in the Rome area housing after a fashion eight thousand refugees. I would like to make it clear how we, as representing American Relief for Italy became interested in these refugee camps. We realize that this field is the responsibility of Dr. Zaniboni, representing the Government. People came to see us and asked if we could give them beds for their hospitals as they had no beds or cots. We had some beds which we intended to use in a hospital which we are putting up in the Cassino area and which we had made and paid for. In connection with operating room at the refugee camps in Rome and general health situation they had no ward with beds for sick people - the patients were laid out on the floor .. We gave them twelve beds with mattresses, beddings which were put in a ward about the size of this room, and this led someone to ask us if we would visit the camps - which we did, I must say the conditions

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(Following the Departure of Mr. Macmillan and Brigadier Parkinso there was a short intermission awaiting the arrival of H.E. Prince Doria Pamphili Mayor of Rome, accompanied by H.E. Tito Zaniboni, Italian High Commissioner for War Refugees, Ing. E.P. Galeazzi, Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City, and Mgr. Ferdinando Baldelli of the Pontifical Commissi for Aid to Refugees, The meeting was then resumed).

Mr. Taylor: We have been having our usual Monday morning meeting to discuss our problems of distribution of supplies and planning a bit for the future. Among others, Mr. Macmillan, President of the Allied Commission was here and we have been discussing in a preliminary way the attitude that ENDSI should take towards the Allies in respect to their surplus material after the war ends. ENDSI wants to be alert and to urge that the Allies cede to ENDSI (the Italian Government, the Church, the Italian Red Cross and Labor Organization) as much of their excess supplies as possible. Transportation, trucks and automobiles would be a tremendous help to this country. I sent a letter ten days ago to Field Marshal Alexander, with a copy of it to the Prime Minister and to our Advisory Group requesting consideration and I hope that you will keep the subject very much alive because it would help this country more than any other item in its reconstruction efforts.

The question of the Refugee Camps is one that we are somewhat interested in. (Does Dr Zaniboni understand English ? If not will someone be kind enough to translate my remarks for him?) (Dr.Galeazzi hereafter acts as interpeter between Mr. Taylor and Dr. Zaniboni).

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Dr. Zaniboni: There are about 52 refugee camps throughout liberated Italy, and the High Commission cannot possibly look after them individually. These camps are in charge and under the control of local prefects and more specially under the control of the Provincial Commissioners. The High Commission s moral responsibility is to return these people to their homes as quickly as conditions permit. When this work was undertaken by me, I had to begin with practically nothing

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at all. We started with Cinecitta' and Cesano, which had been under the control of the Allied authorities, and when they were released to us they were completely bare, having been stripped even of electric lighting fixtures, etc. We took them over without any facilities and are gradually beginning to improve them: we have done much but much remains to be done. Our principal attention has been devoted to sanitary conditions, to prevent the outbreak and spread of diseases among these people. However, beyond that we cannot overdo things in the Rome Refugee Camps, otherwise there will be too great a difference between these camps and those elsewhere in liberated Italy which might cause criticism among certain portions of the population. There are always people inclined to make a profession of their refugee status and we do not want to make their life here so comfortable that they shy at going back to their own places. I admit it is a hard problem.

Ing. Galeazzi: Dr. Zaniboni's chief concern is about sanitary conditions at the camps to prevent the spread of diseases. There was a case of smallpox at Santa Croce, and another case at Cinecitta' and every precaution was taken to prevent the spread of the disease. He pays special attention to the nutrition of children in the camps; they are getting special medical care by a physician in charge in order to improve their general health condition.

Mr. Taylor: There is no apparent organization in the camps that we are talking about. Cannot the refugees be made to clean the camps?

Ing. Galeazzi: The cleaning of the camps is done by the refugees themselves; the various services like kitchen, laundry, etc. are performed under the supervision of the camp's administration by the refugees.

Mr. Taylor: Can we begin as a starting point that conditions are not satisfactory?

Ing. Galeazzi: Dr. Zaniboni admits conditions are not ideal and repeats that when he had to take over the camps four months ago there was nothing to make a start, and that this chief moral concern is and has been to see these people returned to their homes as soon as possible, and not to make life so comfortable for them that they prefer living here indefinitely. He admits that in one camp conditic were so intolerable that he had to change the director four times in that many months; in another camp he dismissed the directors, the fourth appears to be satisfactory. Dr. Zaniboni adds that he is personally aware of the status of evry refugee and that he has acquir the conviction that most of them prefer to continue their refugee status here rather than return where they came from. The only thing would be to send them back forcibly.

Mr. Taylor: asks if Mgr. Baldelli who has had extensive experience in sending refugees back to their homes has any suggestion.

Mgr. Baldelli: It is my idea that the authorities are doing what they can in the present situation. It is necessary to separate the problem into one of refugees and one of displaced persons. Here in Rome the refugee problem does not exist ; it is a problem of displace persons. Whatever refugees are met with are merely passing through

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Mr. Taylor: That is an entirely different matter from the one we are discussing ? We have not been asked to consider that problem. Regare ding to refugees are we to assume that you believe it is not desirable to do anything in the way of improving the physical surroundings

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in the camps, or in providing additional clothing or food for childr as proposed in my letter to ENDSI? If it is not desired to make it attractive for the inmates and if it is desired to keep them on the lowest basis of nutrition, without clothing etc., nothing can be done

Ing. Galeazzi: Dr. Zaniboni states that as far as clothing for these people is concerned, they do their best to provide the refugees with under clothing. As to outer garments, suits, dresses, etc., they have done and continue to do what is possible, even going so far as distributing aviator's uniforms to some, but they cannot get clothing from anywhere. They had had substantial help from the American Red Cross, but at a certain moment the American Red Cross stopped its supply of clothing. So far they have had no distribution of clothing from ENDSI - in fact, they have no clothing from anywhere. Will ENDSI find a way of supplying clothing to these refugees if they do not receive anything more from the American Red Cross?

Mr. Taylor: What is your suggestion Mr. Keeny? Refugees properly come within the scope of your activities.

Mr. Keeny: If it is desired that UNRRA undertake to supply food and clothing from its supplies for this purpose, we will undertake it, with the understanding that if we are short of something we will talk with ENDSI as to supplement our material. It might be a simplified method of dealing with the problem. I have not had an opportunity of talking with Mr. Barr, but we are now prepared to go into this operation. We have some clothing here and enough food.

Mr. Taylor: I wrote a letter to Mr. Keeny about a week ago, after he had attended one of our meetings to ask if he would be prepared to take over the supplemental supply feature of the refugee camps, and I stated in that case the suggestions we had made in previous letters would be considered withdrawn because it was not necessary for two organizations to operate in this particular field.

Dr. Zaniboni: These Rome camps are a problem of time. We had substantial help from the American Red Cross; then ARC stopped giving help and we were told to get help from ENDSI, but we have not received over to yet another agency and that we will have to wait another few months. I want these people to return to their homes, but I want them to return at least decently dressed and cared for.

Mr. Taylor: I think this situation has changed because UNRRA has come into this field as a definite feature, and I think it would not be convenient to have two agencies involved in this particular field.

Mr. Keeny: We have clothing enough in Naples to make a distribution.

Mr. Jefferson: It seems to me in the discussion that is going on her we are not concerning ourselves with refugees, but with people who are residents in this area. It was said at the beginning that there was practically no refugee problem. What you have is a problem of twenty school buildings filled with Roman citizens. If the people who are in these camps should go home there would be no refugee problem at all, but a local problem of people who live in the provinces.

Mr. Taylor: No matter what their classification, should they

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Mr. Taylor: No matter what their classification, should they come within your direction, Mr. Keeny? 3449

Mr. Keeny: They do more or less, if they do not have their residence locally.

Mr. Jefferson: The ones that fill up these camps are not people who have moved into these camps recently: they have been there for a long period of time.

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Ing. Colleazzi: I think the problem started because ENDSI has not ye made any distribution in Rome. Dr. Zaniboni says that other refugee camps in other areas where there was a general distribution have already been served by ENDSI. If there were a distribution in Rome - even partial one - he is sure that these twenty schools and four refugee camps could be served. In the other provinces they were served by ENDSI. If the school question could be attached and a distribution made by ENDSI it would do a lot toward helping these people.

Mr. Barr: Sinistrati would come under the normal control of ENDSI and refugees in Rome province are the responsibility of UNRRA and of Dr. Zaniboni.

Dr. Zaniboni: repeated he was anxious to get the sinistrati out of the refugee camps and to get them out quickly.

MY. Taylor: I would like to say in closing if I may that I think the condition of the camps that I saw is dreadful: I do not care what the future of these people will be....if they stay in Rome or whether they move on: it is inhumane to maintain people under conditions in which they live in these camps.

Dr. Zaniboni: stated that he accepts any and all advices and is always glad to every cooperation, but that at the same time his chief concern is the return of these people to their homes. he repeated that the management is doing everything it possibly can. In these camps a distribution of coffee was made by ENDSI. Some one went on the spot to supervise the distribution which was made in a regular way and not a grain of coffee went astray, which shows there is an organization in respect to the activities of these camps and he is doing all that can be done and is improving it all the time.

Mr. Jefferson: How long is a person allowed to stay in a refugee camp in his own locality before being sent back to his own community?

Dr. Zaniboni: There is no rule; but it is their duty to see that they go back as soon as possible. As soon as there is a possibility to send them back to their own provinces we make it a point of sending them. There are some who are eager to return; some do not want to go back; they want to become professional refugees. In the end if they don't move we shall have to push them out. The refugee problem may go on indefinitely, and this is one of the reasons why we don't want to overdue things and make it attractive: our task is to see to it that they go back at the first opportunity.

Marchese Theodoli: Who determines the possibility and what constitutes a possibility of sending them back?

Mgr. Baldelli: Our two institutions together have brought 70,000 people back to their homes and this at times was done against the wishes of the Allied Authorities, who were at time against it. The High Commissioner has taken the initiative and it goes on.

The meeting is adjourned.

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/dfe

6 April 1945

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Dear Mr. Taylor:

I wish to acknowledge and thank you for the minutes of the 20th meeting held by the Advisory Group concerning relief on 23 March 1945.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

The Honorable Myron C. Taylor
The Personal Representative of the
President of the United States
To His Holiness the Pope
2 Via Boncompagni
Rome

cc: Executive Comm'r. (with a copy of minutes)
CC Files

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CC 950-1

6 April 1945

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AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

March 23, 1945 — Meeting No. 20

Following are minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Group concerning relief held March 23, 1945, in the office of Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy, Inc. In attendance were: Mr. Taylor, Mr. S. M. Keeny, Chief, Italian Mission UNRRA; Brig. G. S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director Public Health Sub-Commission, A.C.; Ing. G. B. Vicentini, Executive Director of E.N.D.S.I.; Mgr. John P. Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services of the Pontifical Relief Commission; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department, Ministry of Interior; Miss Phoebe Bannister and Signor Mieggi of UNRRA; Signori Darby and Zambrano of the Food Commission, Italian Government; Avvocato Montini, Deputy Commissioner for Food, Italian Government, and Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor for American Relief for Italy, Inc.

Mr. Taylor: It is important that we should start on the right basis in the relations between the agencies which furnish relief supplies in Italy. As ENDSI, the National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy, has a distributing and accumulating agency through its own authority and through the Italian Red Cross which is assisting in respect to accumulations of materials, and through the association with the Vatican, there are a group of agencies in the relief field, including UNRRA, which must be correlated in their activities. Otherwise there might be overlapping and confusion, and I am sure none of us want that. American Relief for Italy, which was the first donator of materials for distribution in Italy through the Italian National Committee, is accumulating relief supplies and will continue to accumulate. It has now received quantities of materials of various sorts on the second group of ships arriving in Italy from America. We will send to each of you a copy of the list of materials which have been received this month. It is quite an extended list, and it is unusual in the respect that a great many of the materials, such as clothing, shoes, blankets, shawls and stockings are new material. They present a different problem in distribution than used materials which, of course, are in a greater quantity, and we are casting about for a plan under which these new and varied materials can be distributed without creating a feeling of discrimination in any community. We have also received a large quantity of milk--838,000 cans of evaporated milk; 5,585 lbs. of evaporated milk; 4,176 lbs of powdered whole milk and 6,700 lbs of Dextri-Maltose B. We have also received 114 sets of physicians' instruments of the same type as the 50 we received in the original lot, most of which have been distributed in the areas where hospitals have been destroyed or instruments stolen. I assume UNRRA will have physicians' instruments

Mr. Keeny: Our medical program has not been decided, but there will certainly be physicians' instruments in it. There are altogether about $9,000,000 worth of supplies of all sorts for hospitals, including medicines. That list is now being compiled and will be

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Mr. Taylor: American Relief for Italy has sent 14 cases of medicines and drugs in this shipment. We have been discussing a plan to have a particular agency deal with all of those medicines. Has that been developed in its final stage, Mgr. Carroll-Abbing?

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Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: It hasn't been definitely decided, because we are awaiting to see what the medicines are.

Mr. Taylor: We know that there are 4,000 vials of insulin. The plan is to obtain a clinic where free service will be given on doctor's certificates.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: The Ministry of Health has issued certificates to diabetics for them to obtain insulin.

Mr. Taylor: Is the insulin distribution planned just for Rome?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: In every province too.

Mr. Keeny: Our plan is that there will be only one clearance for our medicines--through the Ministry of Health.

Prof. Canaperia: I am taking part in those plans. There is no danger of duplication.

Mr. Taylor: Some generous person has given 1,000 pounds of macaroni. We will probably turn it over to some of the soup kitchens and not involve it in the general plan. We have also received 51,000 pounds of soap.

Mr. Barr: We will treat it as a medicine, because it is really a small amount in comparison to the need.

Mr. Keeny: Soap is urgently needed. The scabies situation is bad everywhere, and we have been pushing to get all the soap we can as early as we can. It should be treated as a medicine. That will be no problem.

(Mr. Taylor read the complete list of supplies received in the second shipment --see attached.)

Mr. Taylor: All those things go through the usual channel of ENDSI and are distributed according to the plan on which we have been operating. The 60,000 pounds of matzos and matzos meal were brought over for the Jewish holidays.

Mr. Barr: The ships arrived about four days before the holidays, and we had to spread those supplies all over Italy.

(Mr. Taylor exhibited a chart prepared by ENDSI showing the central warehouses where American Relief for Italy has sent clothing and supplies with lines showing the communes at which distribution of relief supplies has been made.)

Mr. Taylor: It seemed to us in our discussions in the past that as far as milk is concerned it would be very helpful to the whole problem of milk distribution if American Relief for Italy would adopt certain institutions in which it will furnish milk. Our plan is based on serving 100,000 children. We are working on the list of institutions, which is not yet complete. Distribution is being made now at a number of institutions. The area of distribution does not go beyond the present active front. The Florence-Pisa-Livorno-Rimini line cuts off

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Mr. Keeny: That presents no problem. We would like to support your getting as much milk as possible. The shortage presents difficulties, particularly in the evaporated and condensed milk, and if you can get some in addition, it is all to the good! We will be very happy to cooperate. The Government will have to say what coverage it wants through UNRRA, but if you have a certain number of institutions in

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which you are placing milk, we will be glad to say that is your province for that purpose--and if the Government approves it, we wil be glad to add our food to those institutions and work through appropriate setups so that if that is under the Red Cross, or some responsible agency, we will be glad to work out a plan to protect that territory with you and add from UNRRA's stocks for these institutions. We have additional commodities, and if you have milk and clothing, the institutions will get everything they need. We wil be glad for you to have the supervisory relationship in those institutions in the distribution of relief supplies with the help of UNRRA's supplies if the Government wishes it.

Mr. Taylor: The thing we want to avoid is to have the milk which is distributed by American Relief for Italy become a part of the general food supply of the Government. We want to make sure it goes to these places on a free basis and that it isn't pooled into the mil supply of the nation and diverted to some other use through the Government.

Mr. Keeny: That wouldn't present any difficulty. All of our materia go through the Government, but that won't make a difference. The two will not be mixed, and the credit will not be taken from American Relief for Italy, because that would tend to dry up the sources of supply. You can count on us to help you. I would like to work with you in sending good reports to America in keeping this work before the public.

Mr. Taylor: Judge Marchisio wired the other day that he is reasonably certain American Relief for Italy can ship a minimum of eleven million pounds during the next six months consisting of approximately six million pounds of clothing, four million pounds of milk and one milli pounds of shoes, vitamins, medicines etc... He said it was impossible to give a monthly estimate as American Relief for Italy is totally dependent on collection drives. The value of keeping the activities of this organization before the eyes of the American people is proved in a case recently happening in Brooklyn; the labor people of one organization donated "200,000 cans of milk to American Relief for Italy."

Mr. Keeny: Would it help if we wrote a statement to the effect that the need for American Relief for Italy is not lessened now that UNRRA is here, supporting the idea that everybody should give to American Relief for Italy in response to its appeals and not allow the idea that UNRRA covers the need.

Mr. Taylor: Judge Marchisio has wired asking me to speak to the United States on the radio on April 12 on the first anniversary of American Relief for Italy. I asked him to postpone the broadcast to the 17th. If you could write a paragraph such as you suggest and get it in my hands before that broadcast, it will be fine. The broadcast will be on a nationwide hook-up. It is at a time when the National Drive for clothing is on.

Mr. Keeny: We can prepare a statement concerning the needs for clothin and milk. We will have to look to American Relief for Italy to get most of the clothing into the country.

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UNRRA's supplies if the Government wishes it.

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Mr. Taylor: I think our work will be more clear to the people of we designate a specific list of institutions to receive milk and medicine through the distributing facilities of ENDSI. We are not making drive for medicines particularly, but people offer it, and we are glad to accept it. I think with Ing. Vicentini, Mr. Barr and Mgr. Carroll-Abbing working with Avvocato Montini that everything will go along very well.

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Mr. Keeny: We will be very happy to sit down and work out the details of these plans so that when practical questions come up, we will be able to meet them.

Mr. Taylor: If you get in troubled waters, call on Brigadier Parkinson, who is always helpful in taking us out of difficulties.

The National War Fund refuses solicitation for private funds for ambulances. We cannot ask for money in America without their permission. We have "passed the hat" in the past to get the 50 trucks which we have now received. They won't let us do that at the moment, but we are going to protest. I sent a very strong telegram to the Chairman of the President's Committee urging that they allow this and asking for a reversal of the National War Fund's decision. They will allow us to make a sort of drive through the Italian language news paper within the limits of the city of New York on the condition that a third of what we receive be turned over to the National War Fund. This makes the task very difficult--for people in American Relief for Italy to collect funds for the National War Fund.

Mr. Keeny: Do you think that means that you will not be able to get any ambulances through this organization?

Mr. Barr: We requested 100, and the funds are available.

Mr. Taylor: Judge Marchisio says that American Relief for Italy can get the money if it has permission. If UNRRA had the money, it wouldn't have to ask permission from the National War Fund to buy ambulances.

Mr. Barr: They cost $2,500 each--a total of $250,000 for 100 ambulances.

Mr. Keeny: We have a request in for 100. The whole list has not been approved for actual procurement. This news of yours means that we ought to fight harder for them. I will press harder for ambulances knowing you have this difficulty.

Mr. Barr: With the needs so heavy 100 ambulances from UNRRA and 100 from American Relief for Italy will still not be enough!

Mr. Taylor: The Red Cross is expecting a certain number of ambulance

Mr. Barr: The American Red Cross is sending 50 ambulances to the Italian Red Cross as a gift. They are not new. They are Red Cross ambulances which were owned by chapters in America and which were called together and reconditioned to send to Italy.

Mr. Keeny: All of this indicates the necessity for our keeping in touch and reenforcing each others programs.

Mr. Taylor: That is what we have been proposing from the beginning.

Mr. Barr: I noticed in your last manifest that your shoes are either going to other countries or into refugee camps in Italy.

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Mr. Keeny: That is one point we must decide--how much we need for refugees and how much we have for general distribution.

Mr. Barr: There may be some things we have that you do not have.

Mr. Keeny: I should be very happy to get that information and to make plans. We will send further details as soon as we get the manifests. We have a ship on the ocean containing approximately 7,500 tons, mostly food. A number of other items are probably in

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the cargo,, but we won't know until we get the manifests. That means we are assured of a supply line of food for the next month or so.

Mr. Taylor: Two weeks ago we mentioned sending an inquiry sometime ago to American Relief for Italy concerning whether a sturdy rebuilt or new shoe could be made in large quantities at a low cost. The answer to that was by "re-lasting, spraying, patching and cleaning, they can produce sturdy rebuilt men's shoes at $1.10 a pair"--but, as stated, the National War Fund has refused solicitation of money. I wonder if UNRRA could spend money for that purpose?

Mr. Keeny: We are doing that. A plant in North Carolina is working on army salvage. It is to be done in the United States for the whole UNRRA program in all countries. What we can get for Italy is always a problem because of the fact that the United Nations gets first crack at it, and I have to take what is left or put on special pressure to get anything of that sort which is in short supply. We are still laboring under a very serious handicap in that our program for this year is guided by the decisions of the conference last September at Montreal. We are hoping at the next council meeting there will be a liberalizing of arrangements so that we can be more helpful, but for the immediate future about all we can get for Italy will be food and medicines. We will have to rely on American Relief for Italy as heavily as possible for milk and clothing. We will have some shoes--more than are necessary for the refugees and the United Nations, and we will work out a plan for distributing those. I have asked them to let us have all we can possibly get under the resolution.

Mr. Barr: We have just given 200 pairs of fine new heavy shoes with rubbers to the malarial workers in the Pontine Marshes.

Mr. Taylor: How did you distribute the shoes to those people? Are those men permanent employees in that work, or do some of them work today and go away tomorrow? If they did, there would be a great waste of shoes for that purpose.

Prof. Canaperia: They are permanent workers for the Department of Health, and they work for all the malarial season.

Ing. Vicentini: We gave 200 men each a pair of work shoes and rubbers, canvas coveralls and canvas jackets and a pair of pants.

Mr. Keeny: We have a special problem in that our clothing will be subject to certain limitations as to where it goes, but I think if we can sit down with Mr. Barr and the others, we can work out a practical plan to use our total resources to cover these needs and get the supplies to the places where they are most needed.

Mr. Taylor: I think resolutions are flexible in practice--because in reality people cannot sit down at a table in America and determine where relief is most needed in Italy; I don't think that is intended. I find more in your regulations passed by a committee in Washington that tie your hands than they were tied at Montreal;

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Mr. Keeny: We thought they were very reasonable considering those resolutions were passed in wartime. I don't think we will have any trouble deciding what to do with the supplies after they get here.

Mr. Taylor: On the shoe question--if UNRRA has the available supply under control in America and are producing shoes, there is very little we can do about that.

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Mr. Barr: The Italian Government may wish to make a purchase of those shoes.

Avv. Montini: The Italian Government has no foreign exchange. They have five billion lire, but that cannot be changed into dollars

Mr. Taylor: I made a suggestion that $50,000,000 credit be given to the Italian Government to purchase urgently needed relief materials in America and distribute them through ENDSI. That may happen sometime, but right now it is an urgent suggestion.

Ing. Vicentini: The National Committee was very glad to hear about your letter concerning shoes to be bought in America and decided to present the problem to the Italian Government to ask if it was possible to buy shoes.

Mr. Keeny: I think it is more practical at the earliest moment to get hides in here and have the shoes made in Italy. We ought to put the pressure for that through the Allied Commission. I think there is a grave danger in this next period in that we have opened the channels for relief and are sending in manufactured goods when Italy's greatest need is for employment. We should use all our influence to get raw materials in here and put ourselves out of business. We can be the greatest enemy of Italy, mainly by continuing to send in finished products.

Brig. Parkinson: As soon as we can, we are going to get raw material from the north and help with that program.

Mr. Keeny: I am going to ask Mr. Henderson of the Allied Commission to see if something like that can't be started. Personally I am much more in favor of getting raw materials into Italian mills rather than spending our money for new clothes. Of course, there are other problems of machinery and power.

Mr. Taylor: I agree with you, but there is an element of time in which you can buy raw materials and get them into usable products, such as shoes, which are urgently needed now.

Mr. Keeny: I am not speaking against getting in an immediate supply of essential finished products. The danger is, though, that we get so busy working on finished products that we don't take into consideration what will most benefit the country in six months or a year. The Allied Commission has raised the question many times, but nothing has been done, partly because of the short supply and competition with the military but partly because nobody pressed it in the United States.

Mr. Taylor: I'm not so certain of that latter statement, because I think the obstacle in all this matter of restoring Italy to production on a sizeable basis is one of lack of foreign exchange. I don't believe our people are going to furnish any adequate quantity of cotton or hides or anything else of that sort unless some sort of a credit agreement is made. The first obstacle is credit!

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Mr. Keeny: I don't agree with that. It is one of the problems, but credit is available for cotton right now. If that were the only problem, cotton could be moved in. But shipping is short--machinery is not in shape--there is not enough power to run the mills. It is because it is complicated that the problem gets pushed aside.

Mr. Taylor: You mentioned three other things besides the raw material transportation, machinery and power--so it is rather a chain of developments rather than the single element of foreign exchange or

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credit for raw materials.

Mr. Keeny: And for that reason I think we should all be urging that attempts be made to remedy that situation as well as carry on the present work, so that in six months or a year we will be shifting to another plan.

Mr. Taylor: I have been told many times how efforts have failed.

Mr. Barr: Has anybody been charged with the responsibility of industrial rehabilitation?

Mr. Keeny: It is an interest of Allied Commission and G-5.

Brig. Parkinson: But surely industrial rehabilitation is taking place all the time. All you have to do is to read the reports of the Industry Sub-commission of A.C. to know that industry is beginning to function. In regard to the shoes--there is a certain question of time in re-requisitioning of buildings and factories. We are trying to reorganize a tannery. We have the hides in the country and in Sardinia. We have been lacking the facilities for the tanning. There are a lot of things going on right now. It's sort of a "can't see the wood for the trees" proposition. I'm not over-optimistic, but it should be realized that there is a tremendous amount of rehabilitation taking place.

Mr. Keeny: I agree that that is going on--there is a 50% increase in power--but the tempo is too slow. Our function is to cooperate with A.C. and AFHQ to get things done rapidly--to push obstacles out of the way if all support the joint program.

Mr. Taylor: I agree with all that, but I was just wondering whether the directive of UNRRA includes the question of the rehabilitation of plants.

Mr. Keeny: Not in Italy.

Mr. Taylor: I thought you were acting under a limited scope. The second point--and in going back t o our starting point--the reason that the Italian Government does not buy those shoes in America is that it has no credit. I don't know how they could buy cotton without foreign exchange if they cannot buy shoes.

Mr. Keeny: The Allied Commission might be able to buy it for them as they buy wheat.

Mr. Taylor: The Allied Commission may be able to do it--I don't know. A.C. doesn't give anything away, so that raises another difficulty. American Relief for Italy makes free donations only. A great many of these people who need the shoes most cannot afford to pay for them

Mr. Barr: If the Italian Government got them from the Allied Commission, they could do what they pleased with the shoes.

Mr. Keeny: Even if they sold them for 200 lire, it would be a great help.

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Avv. Montini: Some of the workers would not have the means to buy the shoes when they do not have enough to eat. If they saw the possibility of buying shoes, they would have to have a larger salary-and that makes for inflation.

Mr. Keeny: At the present we are limited as to the amount of money we can spend for shoes and things of this kind and in the amount that will be made available to Italy, but we will press to get as many shoes as we can immediately and support your efforts--and we will

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support efforts to get raw materials into the country. We all shoul work together on this and move in the direction of getting the whole job back into Italian hands.

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Mr. Taylor: The 50 trucks have arrived, and part of them have been assembled and put into commission.

Mr. Barr: Six have arrived in Rome; ten will come tomorrow and ten every three days. They come in convoys, and we have to keep the numbers small because they must move at a slow rate of speed.

Mr. Taylor: American Relief for Italy has loaned the trucks to ENDSI, and ENDSI has established a garage for them.

Mr. Barr: We have a complete motor pool under complete Italian operation. In that way there is no strain on the Military; it is all run by Italian mechanics. Parts for the vehicles are being sent by American Relief for Italy.

Mr. Taylor: The trucks haul both ways.

Mr. Barr: For instance, we hauled clothing to Ancona and brought back ten tons of eggs to Rome. The trucks haul both ways.

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Mr. Taylor: On the question of future supplies, I wrote a letter to General Alexander on March 16 in which I said in part...."In the interest of the National Committee for the Distribution of Relief in Italy and the Italian Red Cross, supported by American Relief for Italy and other benefactors, I would like at this moment to bring to your attention the thought that upon the cessation of hostilities in Italy there will undoubtedly be large stocks of materials and supplies of all sorts, and I bespeak in their interest the first opportunity of acquiring adequate quantities of the same which would be of great benefit to the welfare of the nation and to the promotion of its reconstruction. ..... There is, of course, apart from the need for the usual materials and supplies, a great need for vehicles of all sorts, including passenger cars, trucks and ambulances. There is also a most crying need for tires, tubes and replacements for both Italian and foreign-made vehicles. Obviously the regeneration of rail transportation in Italy is a matter which will extend over a considerable period of time, and in the interim nothing can so helpfully bring about greater self-help and sufficiency in Italy than a sizeable distribution of transportation equipment which must necessarily follow the end of the war in this country."

"I am basing this statement on the assumption that used equipment will not be to any great extent transported elsewhere, nor should it be, in the light of the necessitous destruction that has followed the use of this country as the first and an important battleground between the Allied and the Germans, with the resultant destruction that has come to Italy in consequence. .....".

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Mr. Taylor: I sent copies of this letter to General McNarney, Mr. McMillan, Admiral Stone and others. There will come a moment when the war will stop--and ENDSI, being a permanent, national agenc; ought to be the first one in the field and ready to acquire through the Italian Government everything it can use for its relief activities.

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Mr. Keeny: Following the meeting, I think it would be advantageous if this smaller group got together and worked out the details on

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the matter of milk and clothing. We assure you that we will get our supplies to the places most needed as quickly as possible through the existing channels with a minimum of confusion. Will you call that meeting?

Ing. Vicentini: Yes.

Mr. Keeny: We will have our information available as to the items which are in question.

Mr. Taylor: If that is all, we will adjourn. Thank you for your attendance and your comments and suggestions.

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EWS/dfe

CC 950-1

29 March 1945

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I wish to acknowledge and thank you for the minutes of the 19th meeting held by the Advisory Group concerning relief on March 19, 1945.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

The Honorable Myron C. Taylor
The Personal Representative of the
President of the United States
To His Holiness the Pope
2 Via Boncompagni
Rome

cc: Exec. Comm (with copy of Minutes)

CC Files

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A[illegible]CAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC

March 19, 1945 — Meeting No. 19.

Following are minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Group concerning relief held March 19, 1945, in the office of Ambassador Myron C.Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy,Inc.
In attendance were: Mr. Taylor; Brig. G.S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director of Public Health Subcommission; A.C.; Marchese Ugo Theodoli, Secretary General of the Italian Red Cross; Mgr. John P. Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services of Pontifical Relief Commission; Ing. Enrico P. Galeazzi, Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department of Ministry of Interior; Ing. G.B. Vicentini, Executive Director of E.N.D.S.I.; Mr. W.W. Jefferson, Director, Civilian War Relief, American Red Cross, and Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor for American Relief for Italy,Inc.

(Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Hq. Allied Commission, and Dr. Zanotti-Bianco, Director of Italian Red Cross were unable to attend the meeting.)

Mr. Taylor: One of the questions we have discussed recently was in regard to the new committee for the accumulation of donations in Italy under the chairmanship of His Excellency Luigi Gasparotto. After some discussion among those concerned in the Red Cross and the voluntary committee that had been set up for that purpose, an arrangement was made--as Dr. Zanotti-Bianco reported to me--by which the Committee, which now bears the name of "Permanent Committee for the Relief in Devastated Regions", becomes a part of the Red Cross under the title "Permanent Committee for the Collection of Funds and Relief" and that all Italian Red Cross drives for funds and materials in the future will be solely under the name of the Italian Red Cross. Is that correct?

Marchese Theodoli: That is absolutely correct.

Brig. Parkinson: I believe the title of that committee needs clarification. "Relief for devastated area" had a special significance. The devastated areas have been designated as the areas up to Chieti and down to Littoria--specific patches with certain demarcations. That has been a field of activity for ENDSI, American Relief for Italy, and A.C. I understand that this new committee will cover any area.

Mr. Taylor: Yes, it should not be given too narrow a characterization. This committee as I understand it is going to take over that entire section in the Italian Red Cross for the collection of donations of money and clothing. It is not merely to furnish funds and supplies

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Mr. Taylor: Yes, it should not be given too narrow a characterization. This committee as I understand it is going to take over that entire section in the Italian Red Cross for the collection of donations of money and clothing. It is not merely to furnish funds and supplies for devastated areas--but for the whole of Italy. It is a special committee of Italian Red Cross for the purposes of these drives, and the funds can be used for any purpose needed in the Red Cross.

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Marchese Theodoli: The other title was given because the devastated areas must present the greatest portion of our activities in the future. The title must be taken with its relative value. We find villages entirely devastated, and the surrounding area might be in comparatively good condition; the idea is to give relief in all of Italy wherever there is any devastated area.

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Mr. Taylor: I agree with Brig. Parkinson in regard to the title. You're not going to operate directly through that committee; its purpose is to raise funds and materials through the Red Cross, and all drives should go through that particular branch of its activity. The title ought to be definitive to meet its specific duties--not carry on an old title that the group has created.

Marhhese Theodoli: We will revise the title to something broader.

Mr. Jefferson: I would assume this new committee would do the work that some committee would have to do anyway under any circumstances. You would have to have a fund raising committee in the Italian Red Cross. If this had been formed the usual way, the President would have appointed a committee; they would in turn have appointed a chairman, and he would have appointed a chairman to raise funds and materials. This group is self-formed and should fit right into Red Cross activities.

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Mr. Taylor: I asked in the last meeting if a chart of the Red Cross could be prepared, and this has been done. (See attached photostat). I think it is defective in at least one part--no Vice President is named.

Marchese Theodoli: The Vice President is Duke Tosti di Valminuta. The Vice President in the past was not active, but I think the idea now is to make use of him. The Duke is an active man. He has been connected with various general welfare institutions, and he has been Vice President of the Italian Red Cross since the downfall of Fascism.

Mr. Taylor: Does he plan to give full time to this work?

Marchese Theodoli: As Vice President, I don't think he will be expected to give full time.

Mr. Taylor: Have you made a chart of the proposed Red Cross organization for the future?

Marchese Theodoli: No, there is no chart as to the future organization--for the reason that until the north of Italy is liberated, we don't know what we are talking about or what we can actually work on. One thing is certain--that most of our activities will be taken up with sanitary assistance to the former prisoners of war returning from Germany. We have tried to draw a chart, but Dr. Zanotti-Bianco has come to the conclusion that it is premature.

Mr. Taylor: This chart should also show that the Prime Minister is the Honorary Chairman of the Red Cross. This indicates that several branches are under the special patronage of H.R.H. the Princess of Piedmont.

Marchese Theodoli: The Princess is the National Inspector of Nurses. Her duty is more than patronage--it is as effective inspector.

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(Mr. Barr brought up the fact that a drive for relief materials to distribute in the children's institutions in Rome is being conducted by PWB without consulting any of the groups already organized for that purpose. To avoid such duplication, it was suggested that a request be made for relief activities of organizations under the Military be cleared through a central point. Prof. Canaperia agreed to discuss with the Italian Government a means of control for the various mushroom activities springing up.)

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Mr. Taylor: We have received 200 rolls of material that can be used for making sheets. We also received the following special food:

Spinach	23 cases
Cocoa	1 case
Onion Chips	1 case
Raisins	8 cases
Spinach pureed	15 cases
Peas	7 cases
Tomato juice	25 cases
Pureed Beans	25 cases
Pureed Beets	13 cases
Peaches	25 cases
Pineapple juice	17 cases.

This is a total of 160 cases which will have to be distributed specially.

Ing. Vicentini: Some of that has been distributed already to American people over here who are in need.

Mr. Taylor: That should be distributed promptly. The Brazilian Ambassador mentioned to me last Saturday that he had an additional quantity of coffee and canned corned beef that he would like to donate to ENDSI, and I told him ENDSI would be very glad to have it.

Mr. Barr: We have some difficulty in that some commercial coffee came in for sale at the same time that our coffee came in. Before we had distributed any coffee through ENDSI, the coffee that came in commercially had already reached the Black Market, and so Ing. Vicentini was branded with all kinds of names. Fortunately, we were able to prove that none of our coffee had gone into the black market.

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Mr. Taylor: You are all familiar with the action we took with respect to the refugee camps. After ENDSI had considered the offer by American Relief for Italy to donate certain commodities if the camps were put under proper supervision and direction, they reported that the representative of the Government having those camps in charge, would call a meeting and ask some of us to be present. That was not done. According to the following translation of a newspaper item of last week, however, the camps have now been reorganized:

> "Rome, March 16 - Yesterday afternoon His Excellency Tupini visited the refugee camp of Santa Croce in which there are at present 2,5000 refugees from all parts of Italy. The Minister was welcomed by His Excellency Zaniboni, High Commissioner for War Refugees, and the Director of the Camp, Captain Giuseppe Sansoni. He visited the camp for the special purpose of inspecting the disinfection section, the dispensary and the kitchen and schools.
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"Measures have been taken to correct unbecoming conduct due to communal life, including promiscuity of sexes and dangers of infection. Ways are also being studied to help the refugees, who are waiting to return to their countries of origin, adapt themselves normal life again. They are being occupied in and outside the camp in tailor's workshops and carpenter and mechanic's work under the direction of Italian or Allied agencies.

"The order and cleanliness of the refugee camp is commendable. The food that is composed, among other supplies,

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of 300 grams of bread, 100 grams of pasta and 60 grams of meat per day is sufficient and well prepared.

"The Minister also visited the Chapel of the camp which is dedicated to S.Joseph and which will be inagurated on March Frecoes are being painted in the Chapel by a refugee of Acilia.

"Before leaving the camp, H.E. Tupini congratulated Captai Sansoni and his co-workers for their indefatigable activities to better the conditions of the refugees."

Mr. Taylor: I assume that all the difficulties have been corrected.

Brig.Parkinson: There is one point to clarify. The article reads "people who are awaiting the time to return to their own countries". Isn't there a mixup in the "displaced persons" and the "refugees"? If you go to Cinecitta'--on one side you will see the displaced persons camps, which is very well organized, whereas outside you wil find the Italin refugee camp, which is a quite different category.

Mr. Barr: I am sure this article is about the displaced persons camp.

Mr. Jefferson: The same things should be done to help the people wh are awaiting to return to their homes in various sections of Italy.

Ing. Galeazzi: I think from this meeting probably some great help might come in exchanging ideas, helping to surmount difficulties and seeing what can be done to reach an understanding and improve the situation.

Mr. Taylor: We had Mr. Keeny of U.N.R.R.A. hereat a time before the contract had been signed with the Government, and--if you will recall I asked him whether these refugee camps would fall within U.N.R.R.A. scope when the contract was completed. His answer was "yes". In view of the fact that the contract has been signed and in view of this item in the paper which commends the situation, I wrote him on Friday that I assumed from our conversation these camps will now fall within the scope of UNRRA's acyivity. If this is true, as I hope it is, we will desist from further activities in that respect. This committe hasn't any particular license to go into those refugee camps, except for reasons of human interest. We shouldn't have confusion. If UNRRA and the Government are assuming responsibility for these camps, we who are not in that particular field, should not continue to prod them to do this and the other things.

Mr. Jefferson: Mr. Keeny qualified his statement by saying that UNRRA would help with materials but not with the direction of these camps.

Mr. Taylor: Our position has been that American Relief for Italy offers through ENDSI to furnish certain materials for those camps--provided they are properly conducted. That's the issue--if there is an issue. ENDSI discussed it and showed interst. They are not in a position to force any action, and certainly American Relief for Italy isn't. It is only willing to find certain materials to help the situation. Evidently the displaced persons camps have been improved; the refugee camps are another question. Unless someone takes the responsibility to improve conditions, there is nothing we can do about it. Mr. Keeny will clear up the question when he replies to my letter.

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Prof. Canaperia: Santa Croce is not the worst of the camps.

Mr. Taylor: The one in Rome was much worse.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: Actually there is no change in the food ration; they still only get one meal a day--soup and bread.

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Mr. Taylor: In the meeting with Mr. Keeny we also asked regarding th future disposition of clothing, and he said that the clothing would be distributed through ENDSI outside of the refugee camps, so there will be no conflict there. If that be true, then the other main field in American Relief for Italy's interest would be supplying milk and vitamins for the children in the institutions. There may not be exactly 100,000 children, but it will approximate that. How far have you proceeded on preparing a list of institutions?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: We are waiting for the final lists from Pisa, Lucca and Leghorn. We have the list of the southern region and the east coast. We have taken the children up to 10 years as regards actual distribution. The lists are now coming in in two parts--the children up to 10 years of age and the children over 10 years of age in the institutions. The greater number are under 10, but there are some that have no children under 10 and some with a great number over 10 than under. The list will be nearly double if we take the children over 10 years of age.

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(A discussion was held at this point regarding the request by UNRRA f American Relief for Italy through ENDSI to agree to take the responsi bility of supplying all institutions with milk and foods with the help of UNRRA's ration. While it was entirely with agreemnt that UNRRA's rations should be distributed through ENDSI in this field, the point was brought up that publicity for American Relief for Italy should not be smothered under the publicity given UNRRA in America, but rather to further stimulate and encourage contributions from the donors to American Relief for Italy by informing them of the number of children being served in specific institutions. It was agreed that American Relief for Italy could not agree to supply any more than 100,000 children in specific institutions.)

Ing. Vicentini: Our plan was to supply milk and vitamins to all institutions in some towns; not to all institutions in Italy, as we are now asked to do ! We have no supply of milk in prospect from American Relief for Italy to take over all institutions; that is another thing!

Mr. Barr: I think there should not be any confusion in this regard. I think the total amount of milk coming in to UNRRA and American Relief for Italy should be considered and a definite plan be made for ONMI and ENDSI to get together and say:"The total amount of milk that American Relief for Italy brings will go to the following institutions. The total amount that UNRRA has to contribute to this field should go to the following institutions, etc". American Relief for Italy has turned over its milk to ENDSI and has stated its activities. We have agreed to that amount of milk for the specifi intention of supplying certain institutions. The distributing mechanisms are the question--not the sources of supply. In limiting the list of institutions that American Relief for Italy will furnish milk to, we should not at the same time limit the activities of ENDSI as an agency for distributing relief supplies in Italy. We should, however, be able to show the donor in America the specific institution getting help from American Relief for Italy.

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Mr. Taylor: The principle plan in forming ENDSI was that it should be the agency for the distribution of relief materials. The question is to keep the donations and their results in the eyes of the donors so that their interest will not be lessened. I think we should stick to the plan that American Relief for Italy will feed 100,000 children with milk and be specific as to what institutions it supplies. When we get the list, we can make it more clear in America. I believe a meeting should be held with the Government and UNRRA to make a specific plan at the earliest possible moment.

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Mr. Jefferson: When do you expect to start this milk program for the 100,000 children?

Mr. Taylor: That program is being carried on already and has been since February.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: We are actually distributing to 20,000 children now in institutions in Pisa, Lucca, Livorno and Pistoia.

Mr. Jefferson: The provinces of Pisa and Lucca are still in army territory and are able to get supplementary milk.

Mr. Barr: They are not getting it now; that is reason the Army asked ENDSI to come up and hold meetings. They no longer have supplemental milk rations in these provinces.

Mr. Taylor: The following newspaper article translated from a daily newspaper of Rome of March 16 illustrates the personal distinction regarding contributions to American Relief for Italy:

> "New York, March 15 -- 200,000 cans of evaporated milk have been gathered at Brooklyn and New York by the American Labor Union and the Labor Council of Free Italy and delivered to Judge Marchisio, President of American Relief for Italy. These 200,000 cans of milk will be sent to Italy with the first shipment bound for Mediterranean ports and will distributed by the special Italian organization for the distribution of relief."

Judge Marchisio has wired me requesting me to broadcast to the people of America concerning Italian relief on April 12; I have asked that t time be extended to April 17 -- at that time I would like to be able to state clearly the exact situation.

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Mr. Taylor: Concerning the child delinquent situation--we are not active in that field?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: I think we might be indirectly insofar as American Relief for Italy could help with supplies. Civilians are trying to tackle the problem and are being held up mainly through lack of clothing and blankets for the children. People who are really interested in the problem and who are making plans for summer colonies and homes find that their main problem is obtaining blankets and sheet for the children. It would be a great help to them if we could assist in part of the program.

Mr. Barr: It woudn't require any special effort on the part of ENDSI. The only thing you should suggest is that if a group is created for a summer colony or orphange or school for children, and when they prove that they are a legitimate institution, ENDSI will help them with thei plan.

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Mr. Taylor: In regard to medicines, we have some coming. Mgr.Carroll-

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Mr. Taylor: In regard to medicines, we have some coming. Mgr.Carroll-Abbing, I think you are making a plan concerning medicines.

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Mgr.Carroll-Abbing: We will have to see what medicines they are before we can make plans regarding them. We do know about the insulin coming in, and I think it would be a good idea to have a distributing center for proper distribution of medicines to the patients.

Brig.Parkinson: Don't you think that should be handled through the Department of Health?

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Prof. Canaperia: Yes.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: It ought to go into a dispensary--not a medicine pool.

Mr. Barr: I think an effort should be made to take care of all diabetes cases in Rome. All diabetes cases are registred with the Health Department. The diabetic is issued a card which says he has diabetes and states the amount of insulin required. He then goes to a dispensary created for commercial sale and buys insulin, if it is available--or he can go to the Order of Malta where the same thing is done. A ark is made on his card when the insulin is issued to him, and he cannot use that card anywhere else to get insulin. Am I right that there is at the moment no free distribution of insulin?

Prof. Canaperia: There is one place where it is free for the people.

Mr. Jefferson: The Italian Red Cross could be the administrators of the free insulin through its hospitals and ambulatories. If you already have centers set up which can distribute pharmaceutical supplies, why set up and have to pay operating expenses of another center?

Brig. Parkinson: I am given to understand that there is nothing which gets on the Black Market quicker than insulin. Italian doctors use insulin for other things besides the treatment of diabetes.

Mr. Taylor: Penicillin is also on the Black Market.

Mr. Jefferson: The Red Cross should keep a careful record of everybody they service, so that it can't get on the Black Market.

Mr. Barr: To avoid duplication, to avoid letting insulin get on the Black Market, and to be sure it gets to the right people, it is agreed that one functioning group should take care of the insulin and that it should be given on the spot or not be given to the people to take out.

Mr. Taylor: That is settled then, except for picking the group to make the distribution.

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Mr. Taylor: What is the present status of the clothing that was to be reconditioned?

Ing. Galeazzi: The Vatican people have been working on the reconditioning of that clothing, but the work will have to be suspended because of Easter activities. Immediately after Easter they will take it up again.

Mr. Barr: So far we have been able to salvage 99% of the material that has been damaged. We had very little pilferage or loss on the last shipment. We lost 34 cases of milk out of 17,000, which we feel is a very small percentage.. There was some collision damage to the milk; we feel that milk in damaged cases ought to be sonsumed [illegible] of milk in our warehouses.

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is done. A ark is made on his card when the insulin is issued to him, and he cannot use that card anywhere else to get insulin. Am I right that there is at the moment no free distribution of insulin?

Prof. Canaperia: There is one place where it is free for the people.

Mr. Jefferson: The Italian Red Cross could be the administrators of the free insulin through its hospitals and ambulatories. If you already have centers set up which can distribute pharmaceutical supplies, why set up and have to pay operating expenses of another center?

Brig. Parkinson: I am given to understand that there is nothing which gets on the Black Market quicker than insulin. Italian doctors use insulin for other things besides the treatment of diabetes.

Mr. Taylor: Penicillin is also on the Black Market.

Mr. Jefferson: The Red Cross should keep a careful record of everybody they service, so that it can't get on the Black Market.

Mr. Barr: To avoid duplication, to avoid letting insulin get on the Black Market, and to be sure it gets to the right people, it is agree that one functioning group should take care of the insulin and that it should be given on the spot or not be given to the people to take out.

Mr. Taylor:That is settled than, except for picking the group to make the distribution.

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Mr. Taylor: What is the present status of the clothing? that was to be reconditioned?

Ing. Galeazzi: The Vatican people have been working on the reconditioning of that clothing, but the work will have to be suspended because of Easter activities. Immediately after Easter they will take it up again.

Mr. Barr:So far we have been able to salvage 99% of the material that has been damaged. We had very little pilferage or loss on the last shipment. We lost 34 cases of milk out of 17,000, which we feel is a very small percentage.. There was some collision damage to the milk; we feel that milk in damaged cases ought to be sonsumed immediately, and there is no spoilage of milk in our warehouses. There was some water damage to the clothing, but the salvage work they hade done in Naples has been miraculous, and the clothing repair has been wonderful. About 250 tons of supplies have been moved to Rome warehouse; the balance has been securely warehoused in Naples. This past month we received 75,000 pounds of matzos and matzos meal for the Jewish holidays, and our trucks are now engaged in moving these supplies to Bari, Ancona and Rome. When that is over, we will readjust to our regular trucking routine. It will not be necessary to ship the materials intended for the north to Leghorn for

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warehousing. That warehouse will be saved for new shipments. We will ship supplies directly to Florence and the places where they are needed from Rome to avoid handling of them twice. We will have to haul it all by trucks, since rail priority is very high. Our truc are taking the material very well.

* * * * * *

We have about 17,000 pieces of new clothing. (Mr. Barr exhibited several articles of new clothing, including shoes and boots, cotton dresses and women's winter coats.)
These new clothing supplies were given by trade unions in New York-- the Jewish organization, International Garment Workers and others, as well as private companies. There is a tag attached to each article reading:

" THE
ITALIAN-AMERICAN
LABOR COUNCIL
offers
this fraternal token of faith
and affection to the People
of Liberated Italy."

It is written in Italian on the opposite side. New shoes have come as well from shoe industries. There are thousands of pairs, including men's work shoes. We have received also some of the most valuable thing needed in Italy --men's coveralls and overalls for boys.

Mr. Taylor: All of this new material presents a special problem. There isn't enough to make a general distribution and, therefore, it has to be considered in the light of certain people or groups of people. I think that those who are able to judge the appropriate distribution ought to tell us next week what they intend to do with this special class as of material.

Mr. Barr: I think it should be given with the special thought of the future rehabilitation of Italy in mind. We discussed the case of school teachers, many of whom are unable to teach because they do not have the clothing to wear; there are also people in the Vatican an in the Red Cross who are trying to perform a public service and do not have the clothing to wear. The medico provinciale, for instance, in the towns does not have a suit of clothes to wear. I think if the Department of Health could get a suit or clothes and a pair of shoes for the medici provinciali, it would build their morale and enable them to perform a greater public service. You would have to work through the Department of Education in regard to the needs of the school teachers. Starting from the medical end, Prof. Canaperia can supply a list of medici provinciali and their needs; then ENDSI will issue the clothing to them.

Mr. Jefferson: While Prof. Canaperia can do it intelligently, can they all do it intelligently?

Mr. Taylor: I can see that in a town as ruined as Subiaco those new clothes woudn't look very well at the present time, and it would really create a difficult situation if only a few people were wearing

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Mr. Taylor: I can see that in a town as ruined as Subiaco those new clothes woudn't look very well at the present time, and it would really create a difficult situation if only a few people were wearing new clothing. Incidentally, we visited Subiaco last week. We didn't go until the distribution had been largely made, because we insisted that it should be done in a different way than in some other places. Packages had been prepared for each individual, and as his or her name was called they came forward to get the packages. It was not crowded. It was a very successful way to make the distribution. In the former distribution the people must have felt it was a high price to pay when in some cases they had to stand in the rain and wait. Now they are servicing a certain number each day by turn. I think everyone was

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satisfied. An additional percentage is issued above that which the people in the community indicate is required in order to cover defect materials. I think I would increase that percentage a little bit--it is now 10%; I think 15% would be better.

Mr. Barr: We found that the meeting of need brings out a new need, and we have had to go back to towns we thought had sufficient. I think it is better to say: "If you do a good job in the distribution we will give you more." You gave them an object and an impetus to do better work.

Mr. Taylor: I asked the Major what the felt was desired in addition to what he had. The principle item in his request, which he subsequently wrote, was soap, which is a national need.

Mr. Barr: That's going to be distributed the same way the milk and medicines are. It will have to be treated as a medicine. We have received 26 tons. (Mr. Barr exhibited a sample of the soap).

Brig. Parkinson: The situation is improving gradually; industry is beginning to move.

Ing. Galeazzi: Don't you think the distribution of soap should be confined to institutions?

Mr. Barr: No, because some of the towns have an outbreak of scabies.

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Ing. Vicentini: In regard to Sardinia, the distribution is planned for 130,000 people in all the island, and the material will start to be distributed on the third of April. It will be shipped to Sardinia from the warehouses in Naples.

Mr. Taylor: If there is any material left in the warehouses from the first shipments, I suggest that you distribute that first.

Ing. Vicentini: Yes, we are doing that. We had to take men's clothing from the new supplies, however, since we have distributed all for former supplies for men.

Mr. Taylor: Are there many women in the distribution in Sardinia?

Ing. Vicentini: Yes, we are taking material left from the first warehouse stocks for the women.

* * * * * *

Prof. Canaperia: Concerning the trucks--I should like to state our necessities for trucks to help in the malaria campaign in the Pontine Marshes. I know Brig. Parkinson is going to try to help us in that work. Two trucks will be quite all right for the Pontine Marshes for six months in the malaria season.

Mr. Barr: We are going down tomorrow morning to get 10 of the 50 trucks which have been assembled. They are complete except for covers and spare tires. We won't need the covers immediately because the weather is mild, and the spare tires we have already sent for.

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Mr. Taylor: Have you heard anything about the ambulances Mr. Jefferson

Mr. Jefferson: We have sent a follow-up cable, but we have received no answer yet. We are trying to get 50 ambulances.

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Mr. Taylor:
If that is all,we will adjourn. Ing. Vicentini, will you make arrangements for a meeting with the Government and the UNRRA people?

Ing. Vicentini: Yes, as soon as possible.

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SECOND SHIPMENT OF AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC. SUPPLIES RECEIVED IN THE MONTH OF MARCH 1945.

16,452 pieces New Clothing
6,084 bales Used Clothing
36,577 pieces Women's New Clothing
3,777 pieces Girls' New Clothing
649 pieces Men's New Clothing
460 pieces Boys' New Clothing
484 pieces Infants' New Clothing
20,625 pieces Children's New Clothing
38,581 prs. Women's New Shoes
73,805 prs. Women's Used Shoes
11,206 prs. Men's New Shoes
5,444 prs. Men's Used Shoes
3,091 prs. Men's Work Shoes
625 prs. Boys' New Shoes
1,284 prs.. Boys' Used Shoes
10,277 prs. Children's New Shoes
7,986 prs. Children's Used Shoes
3,631 prs. Used Rubbers
8,614 Blankets
16,692 Shawls
13,886 prs. New Stockings
838,272 cans Evaporated Milk
5,585 lbs. Evaporated Milk
4,176 lbs. Powdered Whole Milk
6,700 lbs. Dextri Maltose B.

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114 sets Physicians' Instruments

14 cases Medicinals

2 cases drugs and surgical Instruments

267 First Aid Kits

4,000 vials Insulin

1,000 Macaroni

51,534 lbs. Hand and Laundry Soap

194,000 Needles

626 Thimbles

636 lbs. Cotton and Thread

827 lbs. Mixed Buttons

159 lbs. Assorted Children's Toys

146 cases Clothing for Religious

200 prs. New Shoes for Religious

50,000 lbs. Matzoth

10,000 lbs. Matzoth Meal

50 Ford Trucks

43 cases Foodstuffs for Institutions.

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1002-1/CC

LIST OF PAPERS

Office of the Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

File under No. 1002-1 POLITICAL COMMITTEE, AFHQ, MINUTES OF MEETINGS: MINUTES & AGENDA

MINUTES & AGENDA PART II

TOP SECRET

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
24	Minutes 35th Mtg	9 Dec 44		
25	Minutes 35th Mtg	9 Dec 44		(Corrigendum)
26	Agenda 36th Mtg	19 Dec 44		
27	Minutes 36th Mtg	19 Dec 44		
28	Agenda 37th Mtg	26 Dec 44		
29	Minutes 37th Mtg	30 Dec 44		
	+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +			
30	Agenda 1st Meeting	16 Jan 45		See new AGENDA dated 17 Feb 45 (folio 31)
31	Agenda 1st Meeting	17 Feb 45		
32	Minutes 1st Meeting	20 Feb 45		
33	Agenda 2nd Meet.	2 Mar 45		
34	Minutes 2nd Meet.	2 Mar 45		
35	Agenda 3rd Mtg	15 Mar 45		
36	Minutes 3rd Mtg	15 Mar 45		
37	Agenda 4th Meeting	22 Mar 45		